UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FIELD



The OHCHR Representative in Mexico speaks at a demonstration of families of victims of enforced disappearance. © OHCHR/Mexico

BACKGROUND

The deployment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in countries and regions through its field presences is central to implementing the High Commissioner's global mandate, under General Assembly resolution 48/141, to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all human rights, everywhere. The impartial work of field presences is critical to supporting the High Commissioner's independent, objective voice in her dialogue and advocacy on human rights with all counterparts.

OHCHR's field engagement is based on interaction, dialogue and cooperation with a wide range of actors, including governments, national institutions, civil society (including community and religious groups and the private sector), non-State actors (armed groups, de facto authorities), United Nations entities, international military coalitions, regional and subregional organizations, victims of human rights violations and abuses and other affected people and communities. As impartial interlocutors, OHCHR's field presences serve as conveners and foster dialogue among different stakeholders.

OHCHR field presences also contribute to broader United Nations efforts on human rights, peace and security and development (the three United Nations pillars), including through the integration of human rights across and within all pillars and by providing assistance in relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OHCHR operates through two main categories of field presences, namely, stand-alone offices and collaborative arrangements. The first category is composed of country and regional offices. The second category consists of human rights components of peace or political missions and Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in UN Resident Coordinator Offices and UN Country Teams (UNCTs).

As of 31 December, OHCHR was operating in **84** field presences globally, consisting of **17** country offices, **12** regional offices, **37** HRAs, **12** human rights components in United Nations peace operations and six other types of field presences. In addition, OHCHR closed its Country Office in Burundi, in March.

TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES



COUNTRY AND STAND-ALONE OFFICES

OHCHR country and stand-alone offices are established on the basis of an agreement between the host State and the High Commissioner. A mandate typically includes human rights monitoring and analysis, protection, interaction with and the provision of assistance to the host government, national authorities, civil society, victims and other relevant counterparts through targeted technical cooperation activities, capacity-building, as well as public reporting. These offices are primarily funded through voluntary contributions.

OHCHR has 17 country or stand-alone offices. This number includes 15 country offices in Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Mauritania, Mexico, State of Palestine⁵, Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut), Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen, one field-based structure in Seoul that covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).



REGIONAL OFFICES AND CENTRES

Regional offices cover multiple countries and are instrumental in integrating human rights into broader development, peacebuilding and humanitarian programming of the United Nations and Member States.

OHCHR maintains 12 regional presences, which includes 10 regional offices, one Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé) and one Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha). The regional offices are based in East Africa (Addis Ababa), Southern Africa (Pretoria), West Africa (Dakar) South-East Asia (Bangkok), the Pacific (Suva), the Middle East and North Africa (Beirut), Central Asia (Bishkek), Europe (Brussels), Central America (Panama City) and South America (Santiago de Chile). Regional offices are funded by the UN regular budget and voluntary contributions.

Regional offices focus on cross-cutting regional human rights issues, in close cooperation with UNCTs in the region, regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and civil society. In addition, they play an important role in supporting governments in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, specifically the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

OHCHR strengthened its regional offices, including by establishing early warning/emergency response teams in the Regional Offices for Southern Africa in 2017, South-East Asia in 2018 and West Africa in 2019 and integrating expertise, for example, on migration in Southeast Asia. OHCHR's efforts to strengthen its regional presence are consistent with the Secretary-General's plans to increase the UN's engagement at the regional level and reinforce cooperation with regional organizations.

⁵ Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.



HUMAN RIGHTS COMPONENTS OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS

The promotion and protection of human rights are a core mandate and function of UN peace operations (peacekeeping operations and special political missions). OHCHR facilitates the political, strategic and operational integration of human rights into the United Nations peace and security agenda and supports the implementation of Security Council mandates for UN peace operations.

The integration of human rights into peace operations is governed by a 2005 decision of the Secretary-General and the 2011 OHCHR/DPKO/DPA/DFS (now DOS) Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions. The latter recognizes the centrality of human rights in integrated and multidimensional missions, outlines the roles and responsibilities of mission leadership and human rights and other components in promoting and protecting human rights and assigns backstopping responsibilities to OHCHR.

In 2019, human rights components were integrated into 12 UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandated by the Security Council in order to promote and protect human rights in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo⁶, Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur). The

Head of the human rights component serves as the representative of the High Commissioner, with reporting lines to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner.

Human rights components in peace operations document, prevent and follow up on violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law through monitoring and investigations, by undertaking early warning analysis for the protection of civilians and reporting publicly. In addition to monitoring and reporting, human rights components conduct a wide range of activities, including building the capacity of civil society and national institutions, advocating for accountability, supporting transitional justice programmes, training military, police and law enforcement, advocating for legislative and rule of law reforms and supporting the implementation of peace agreements and the UN's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) by peace operations.



HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISERS IN UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAMS

HRAs are deployed at the request of RCs and UNCTs under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

HRAs are essential catalysts of human rights mainstreaming. Advisers support and assist the UN RCs, Heads of UN agencies and members of UNCTs to integrate human rights into UN programmes and activities at the country level and ensure coordinated UN responses to requests for technical cooperation and advisory services from State institutions.

HRAs provide human rights expertise in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which places human rights at the core of the UN's development efforts. They play a critical early warning and prevention role as part of UNCTs and when applicable, provide advice on integrating human rights into humanitarian response and post-crisis recovery processes.

In addition, HRAs provide support to State actors, advise and train NHRIs and build networks with and provide practical support to civil society actors in the promotion and protection of human rights, including with regard to follow-up on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

HRAs are funded through extrabudgetary contributions. In some instances, the posts are funded through cost-sharing agreements with UNDP or relevant UNCTs or

⁶ All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

with other UN entities at the country level. Since 2012, all deployments have been aligned with the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of HRAs. In addition, the Multi Donor Trust Fund established to support the deployment of human rights expertise to RC offices and UNCTs has been critical in ensuring the sustainability of this effort.

Requests for and the number of HRAs have steadily increased, including in relation to reform of the UN Development System and interest in supporting follow-up to the recommendations issued by the UPR. Support has also been requested with regard to the implementation of the SDGs, Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

By the end of 2019, the Office had deployed HRAs and/or undertook human rights mainstreaming projects in 37 countries supporting the respective RCs and UNCTs through the enhanced integration of human rights into their programmes. This included Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Serbia, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi and covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Zimbabwe. The consolidation of support to RCs and UNCTs is occurring at a critical juncture when the UN Development System is being reformed and the new CCAs and UNSDCFs are being implemented.

ENGAGEMENT IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

The Office maintained strong engagement in humanitarian action at the global and field levels, with a view to ensuring that the protection of human rights remained a central tenet of humanitarian action, in line with the UN's Human Rights up Front (HRuF) action plan and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Agenda on the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action. During the reporting period, OHCHR participated in global humanitarian leadership forums, including the Joint Steering Committee to Advance Humanitarian Development Collaboration and the IASC Principals, Working Group and Emergency Directors Group, as well as IASC subsidiary bodies, such as the Task Team on strengthening the humanitarian and development nexus with a focus on protracted crises and the Task Team on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

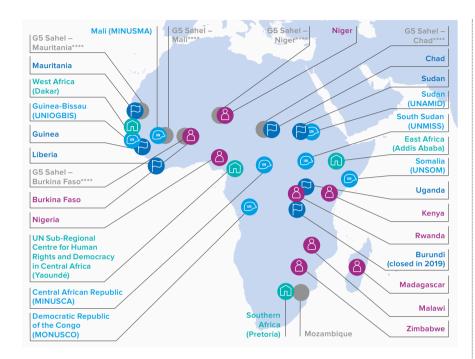
At the country level, OHCHR integrated human rights into the overall efforts of the Protection Clusters, Humanitarian Country Teams and related humanitarian coordination structures. OHCHR contributed to humanitarian action in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Comoros, DRC, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Ukraine, Yemen and the Pacific. It also contributed to the work of humanitarian regional networks in Central America (REDLAC) and East-Western Africa (RIASCO). It continued to lead the Protection Cluster in the State of Palestine, co-led the Cluster in

Guatemala and deployed three staff to support and advise the humanitarian leadership on the crisis in Syria.

In 2019, following Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas, OHCHR deployed surge capacity to the humanitarian response, inter alia, to ensure a non-discriminatory approach to humanitarian assistance and address protection risks related to undocumented migrants from Haiti. OHCHR continued to implement its World Humanitarian Summit commitments, including by strengthening national protection capacity and preparedness. Working in cooperation with the Asia Pacific Forum of NHRIs. OHCHR implemented a pilot project to strengthen the capacity of 11 NHRIs from South Asia and Southeast Asia to engage in humanitarian action.

During the reporting period, the Central Emergency Response Fund supported the Office's engagement in Ukraine. Moreover, the model of deploying regional Emergency Response Teams continued to be valuable in prevention efforts. Their delivery of early warning analysis informed preventive action and humanitarian response. In addition, the linkage between an information management officer and a human rights officer empowered the teams to engage UNCTs, RCs and other stakeholders with actionable evidence.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA



TYPE OF PRESENCE

LOCATION



Burundi (closed in March 2019), Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan, Uganda

Regional Offices/Centres

Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon), East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa), West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)

Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions

Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO/ UNJHRO), Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS), Sudan (Darfur) (UNAMID)

Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG Burkina Faso (under recruitment), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zimbabwe

Other types of field presences

G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project¹, Mozambique

LEGEND:

Spotlights:







Shifts:













Corruption



SDGs:































¹ Further to Security Council resolution 2391 (December 2017), OHCHR has been working with the G5 Sahel Joint Force to develop and implement a "Compliance Framework" to ensure that military operations to combat terrorism in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The OHCHR Africa programme covers 49 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and consists of 27 field presences. including four regional offices in Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa; six country offices in Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Sudan and Uganda; eight Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Burkina Faso (agreement reached in 2019 with the UNCT to deploy an HRA, which is under recruitment at the time of writing this report), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zimbabwe; and seven human rights presences in UN peace missions in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur).

In Geneva, OHCHR provides support to five special procedures country mandates, namely, Somalia (1993), Sudan (2009), Eritrea (2012), Mali (2013) and CAR (2013) and to the work of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi (2016), the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan (2016) and the Team of International Experts on the situation of human rights in the Kasai in the DRC (2017).

During 2019, in the horn of Africa, ethnic violence and extreme poverty were major challenges. Weak governance, corruption and marginalization, compounded by the effects of climate change, impaired the enjoyment of basic and fundamental economic and social rights and fuelled discrimination in the subregion. In West and Central Africa, considerable challenges were faced due to an increase in conflict and violence throughout the Sahel region, which was exacerbated by climate change and extreme poverty. Moreover, the African continent experienced widespread restrictions related

to political and civic spaces, including limitations on the exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association that were targeted at political opponents, journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs). Protracted armed conflicts in the CAR, the DRC, South Sudan and Somalia continued to expose the civilian population to extrajudicial executions, abductions, torture and unlawful detention carried out by violent extremist groups, State and non-State actors. A high prevalence of conflict-related sexual violence against civilian populations was also reported.

Violent extremism in the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin continued to be a major challenge for the security situation. Boko Haram and other violent extremist groups remained a threat in Cameroon, Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria, leading to the deaths of civilians and causing a dire humanitarian crisis with millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in need of assistance. Weak justice systems and the absence or limited implementation of transitional justice processes contributed to a high level of impunity for grave human rights violations. On a positive note, some steps were taken regarding the fight against impunity in CAR with the operationalization of the Special Criminal Court, the establishment of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Mali and the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia to enable victims to obtain justice for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

OHCHR field presences continued to support governments, civil society organizations and other actors to strengthen their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and address human rights concerns at the regional and country levels. Particular areas of focus included issues of violence against civilians, impunity, respect for the rule of law, discrimination and threats against fundamental freedoms and civil society. OHCHR also provided technical advice on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA).

OHCHR established an Enhanced Human Rights Monitoring Team from August to October to research and review information related to alleged human rights violations that were committed during the crackdown on protestors, in Sudan, on 3 June and immediately thereafter. This information guided OHCHR's strategy for Sudan and led to the establishment of a new OHCHR Country Office. OHCHR is present in Sudan through its Country Office start-up team and the Human Rights Component of the African Union (AU)-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur. On 25 September, the Government of Sudan and OHCHR signed a Host Country Agreement on the creation of the Country Office and a start-up team has been operating in Khartoum since 26 December. The Country Office is working on four key areas that correspond with the Government's priorities and vision for the transition period and are laid out in a constitutional document, namely, (1) social and economic rights; (2) legal and institutional reform and transitional justice; (3) civic and democratic space; and (4) monitoring and advocacy. As a follow-up to the High Commissioner's mission to Cameroon, in May, OHCHR sent a technical team, in September, to prepare an assessment of the current human rights situation in the north-west and south-west regions of Cameroon and to undertake a human rights needs assessment aimed at providing technical support to various State institutions.

As part of United Nations efforts in Burkina Faso, CAR, the DRC, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Nigeria, OHCHR contributed to early warning, prevention and resolution initiatives in collaboration with governments, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other stakeholders.

In the DRC and Sudan, OHCHR supported the national police in the development of an action plan to fight sexual violence. In CAR, it supported the establishment of a shelter for victims of sexual violence. In South Africa, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. In Liberia, OHCHR strengthened its activities to prevent and address violence against women and girls.

OHCHR worked on enhancing partnerships with regional and subregional organizations, including the AU and its human rights bodies, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States, the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community.

OHCHR also worked on strengthening cooperation with the AU for enhanced human rights integration in to conflict prevention and sustaining peace programmes and activities. OHCHR successfully led the process towards signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the ICGLR. It also concluded, with the Commission (AUC), the drafting process of the African Union-United Nations Joint Framework on Human Rights that complements the two existing African Union-United Nations frameworks on peace and security and development.

OHCHR provided substantive and programmatic support to further develop the Compliance Framework of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2391. The Compliance Framework is a mechanism of the G5 Sahel to prevent, investigate. address and publicly report violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law related to the Joint Force. It seeks to provide the Joint Force with guidance on planning and conducting its operations in a manner that respects international humanitarian law and international human rights law, thereby minimizing adverse consequences for local communities.

BURUNDI

Population size ¹ 11.53 million	Surface area ¹ 28,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.423 (rank: 185/188 in 2018) Status B, 2017		
Type of engager	nent	Country Office		
Year established Field office(s)		2015 (closed in March 2019) Bujumbura		
Staff as of 31 December 2019		1		

Total income US\$342.332 XB requirements 2019 US\$3,543,000 US\$2,134,585 **Total XB expenditure**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
65%	24%	12%
\$1,384,925	\$502,634	\$247,026

Key OMP pillars in 2019









- ¹ UN (2019), Statistical Yearbook 2019: Sixty-Second Issue, UN, New York.
- UNDP (2019), Human Development Report 2019, "Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century".
- Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), Chart of the Status of National Institutions.
 - 4 March 2019: https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/nhri/pages/nhrimain.aspx
- OHCHR, as part of the UN Secretariat, charges 13 per cent of Programme Support Cost (PSC) on all direct costs as per General Assembly resolution 35/217 of December 1980. However, for activities implemented jointly with other UN partners, the related indirect PSC is reduced to 7 per cent. This explains a lower PSC percentage average.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The justice system and the administration establish and apply laws, policies and practices that address human rights violations effectively, protect victims and others at risk, and ensure that human rights complaints are investigated.







OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards by building the capacity of lawyers in Burundi.

In November, OHCHR facilitated a training workshop for a group of 60 Burundian lawyers, including 20 women. As a result of the training, the participants were empowered to ensure the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk in judicial and non-judicial proceedings. During the training, the lawyers committed to using the Law of 27 June 2016 on the protection of witnesses, victims and other persons at risk to claim their right to protection as needed.



Participation (P)

P2 – Civil society actors participate freely in public life, including during election periods.



Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women, in selected public processes.

Within the framework of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, key actors discussed challenges hindering the implementation of the Law on the fight against gender-based violence of 22 September 2016. These actors also developed strategies on how to advocate with authorities and more actively involve them in the fight against gender-based violence. A strong stand was taken and authorities were called upon to ensure the widespread dissemination of the Law, combat impunity and facilitate remedial actions and the reintegration of victims facing intimidation for participating in judicial procedures. During the campaign, printed promotional materials that were developed by the Office were distributed to human rights NGOs, academic institutions, embassies, UN agencies and international organizations.

Development (D)

D3 -Civil society is more able to participate in the formation of development policies and in decision-making. Civil society organizations work to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights. Policies are in place that ensure that all stakeholders enjoy equal participation, access and opportunities with respect to education, health, food, land, and employment.



OHCHR provided technical guidance to stakeholders to support the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights and development partners, a road map was adopted, in September, on the implementation of and follow-up to recommendations issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in relation to Burundi. The road map provides details on concrete actions, timelines and the distribution of tasks related to monitoring this implementation. It also outlines actions to be taken to implement the SDGs.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the Office built the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee and other institutions to facilitate their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms and to follow up on the implementation of recommendations issued by the treaty bodies. As a result of these efforts, a road map was adopted that features concrete actions and a defined timeframe.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Total income

XB requirements 2019

Type of engagement	Regional Office	
Countries of engagement	Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Principe	
Year established	2001	
Field office(s)	Yaoundé, Cameroon	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	14	

US\$270.095

US\$555.000

Total XB expenditure	US\$321,880	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
35%	54%	12%
\$111,494	\$173,356	\$37,031
Total RB expenditure	US\$1,244,827	
Personnel		Non-personnel
84%		16%
\$1,039,433	·	\$205,394

Key OMP pillars in 2019







Please refer to	Data sou	rces and	notes or	p.208
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PILLAR RESULTS:



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to 'leave no one behind', including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



With OHCHR support, selected anti-discrimination policies were amended to increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office trained 81 journalists (26 women) from Cameroon on freedom of expression and international human

rights law, journalism and ethics; media, conflicts and conflict resolution: media and elections; and media and national legislation. A total of 26 participants established an internal self-regulatory mechanism against hate speech in the form a peer oversight mechanism. The mechanism was entrusted with ensuring that journalists and media organs abide by ethics. More specifically, a journalist or media outlet can be held accountable by peers in case of a failure to comply with journalistic ethics. OHCHR will continue supporting these journalists in the effective operationalization of this mechanism

by facilitating and hosting their meetings. providing technical advice and reviewing its terms of reference.



Development (D)

D8 - Relevant official institutions and civil society actors systematically collect and analyse data, particularly data that relates to natural resource exploitation and social expenditure.



















With OHCHR's guidance, oversight mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards were established in the region.

In Cameroon, the National Institute of Statistics, which is the cross-sectoral platform for economic, social and cultural rights and other concerned stakeholders,

established a mechanism to enhance collaboration on data collection and analysis on economic social and cultural rights, particularly regarding the level of realization of these rights. OHCHR will continue providing technical support for its operationalization and for the establishment of a similar mechanism in Sao Tomé and Principe.



Accountability (A)

A1 – The decisions of judicial actors increasingly reference human rights principles and standards. Law enforcement institutions are taking steps to comply with international human rights norms and standards, notably those that concern torture and ill-treatment and the deprivation of liberty.





In Cameroon and Gabon, selected State institutions improved their compliance with international human rights norms and standards, due in part to technical support provided by OHCHR.

In July, a new law was adopted in Cameroon to strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission and reinforce its mandate with new functions as the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). OHCHR provided

CAMEROON'S GOVERNMENT SHOWS OPENNESS AFTER OFFICIAL VISIT

"Less than a week after the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, conducted a visit to Cameroon, President Paul Biya requested his Prime Minister to conduct a dialogue mission to the conflict-hit north-west and south-west regions to find a political solution to the escalating violence and the ensuing humanitarian crisis.

The High Commissioner was invited by the Government to visit the country from 1 to 4 May. During meetings and consultations in the capital, Yaoundé, the High Commissioner had an in-depth discussion with the President on the human rights challenges facing the country, the initiatives being taken by the Government and their broader linkages with peace, security and development.

She also met with the Prime Minister, representatives of the Government, the President of the National Assembly and the Vice-President of the Senate, civil society organizations, members of the media, the National Commission of Human

Rights and Freedoms, members of the opposition and ruling party, senior leaders of religious communities and the diplomatic community. She engaged with the presidents of two new bodies, which were established by President Biya to tackle issues related to the crisis in the north-west and the south-west, namely, the National Commission for the Promotion of Bilingualism and Multiculturalism and the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Committee. Following her visit, staff of the Central Africa Regional Office facilitated difficult conversations within the country, including at a High-level Round-Table for political parties and other political actors on their role in the promotion of human rights, peacebuilding and democracy.

The High Commissioner's statement at the end of her mission underlined the importance of adopting a prevention mindset in order to halt violations and improve security. "I believe," she said, "that there is a clear – if possibly short – window of opportunity to arrest the crises."

advice and technical assistance during the drafting of the law to ensure its compliance with international standards. OHCHR will work to strengthen the capacities of the commissioners and staff of the Commission to enable them to effectively discharge their functions. In Gabon, OHCHR facilitated a consultation workshop and contributed with technical inputs for the drafting of amendments to the enabling legislation of the National Human Rights Commission, which will strengthen its institutional and operational capacities and bring it in line with the Paris Principles.

Additionally, under the Mechanisms pillar, OHCHR trained the members of seven national human rights committees on reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. Moreover, the Office provided technical guidance to the interministerial committees of Burundi, Cameroon and Sao Tomé and Principe for the development and adoption of road maps for the drafting of reports to the international human rights mechanisms.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (MINUSCA)

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹ 4.75 million 623,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.381 (rank: 188/188 in 2018)	
Type of engagement	Peace Mission	
Year established	2000	
Field office(s)	Bambari, Bangassou, Bangui, Berberati, Birao, Bossangoa, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Ndele, Obo, Paoua	
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	65	

XB requirements 2019

US\$129,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019





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PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The actions of judicial institutions and defence and security forces increasingly comply with human rights.





The Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSCA contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical support and advice on these standards.

The Government continued its efforts to gradually deploy defence and security forces and administrative and judicial authorities beyond the capital, which is expected to enhance the State's capacity to protect civilians and address impunity. To support these efforts, the HRD applied the United Nations Human

Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in response to 132 requests for support from the defence and security forces. This resulted in the production of risk assessments and proposals for mitigating measures to prevent human rights violations. The HRD screened 4,399 members of the defence and security forces who were to benefit from UN support. A total of 74 of those who were screened were excluded when it was determined that they were responsible for human rights violations. The HRD continued to provide technical support for the integration of human rights into security sector reform through trainings, workshops and expert advice. The HRD organized 60 training sessions and 10 workshops on international human rights law and international humanitarian law for 1,796 defence and security officers, including 287 women, in Bangui and the regions across the country.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS1 – As a component of CAR's national infrastructure for peace and human rights, the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination is fully operational. The Committee's capacity is strengthened to enable it to implement its road map. A national multifunctional mechanism to protect victims and witnesses is established: it is able to hold accountable those responsible for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and protect and assist victims of gender-based violence and sexual violence in conflict.



The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of national protection systems with international human rights standards by providing technical support to these mechanisms.

Since the 2018 nomination of the members of the Steering Committee, the HRD has provided technical support to ensure its full operationalization. The Steering Committee is composed of an Executive Board and a Technical Secretariat with 25 members from the Presidency, Government and Parliament of CAR, as well as political parties, CSOs and members of the international community, including MINUSCA and the AU. It is mandated to support the initiation of a truth-seeking process through the preparation of legislation on the organization and functioning of a Truth Commission in CAR. To this end, the HRD facilitated nine meetings of the Steering Committee, which led to the review of policy documents and the adoption of a framework for national consultations on the future Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The HRD continued to support the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on the elaboration of its three-year Plan of Action for the promotion and protection of human rights, a communication strategy, a complaints procedure and the review and adoption of its manual on administrative procedures. In June and July, the HRD supported the NHRC to organize a series of activities in line with the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation and contributed to the creation of local committees to support the work of the Commission.

The HRD also provided technical assistance to the National Committee on the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Discrimination during its field visits to 17 localities in the country. During these visits, members of the Committee raised awareness about international standards of human rights law and humanitarian law, the exercise of universal jurisdiction for serious international crimes, including genocide, prevention mechanisms and measures to be taken by the State and international partners.

PS4 – A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy is developed and implemented; it is gender-sensitive.



A comprehensive national transitional justice strategy continued to be developed by the Government with the technical support of the HRD.

The national consultative process on the draft law establishing the proposed Truth

and Reconciliation Commission in CAR was held in June. The consultation, which is a critical element of applying a human rights-based approach to transitional justice, enabled approximately 3,000 citizens to provide feedback on the design of the draft law, which is being finalized.

Furthermore, following the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, on 6 February, the Government established an Inclusive Commission composed of representatives of signatory armed groups and national authorities. The Inclusive Commission is mandated to develop recommendations on justice for crimes committed in the context of the armed conflict. Those cases will be transmitted to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission once it is established. The HRD supported the work of the Inclusive Commission by providing documentation on human rights, including reports on human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law committed by all parties to the conflict. Moreover. the HRD supported five field missions of the Inclusive Commission to gather information on human rights violations.

PS5 – National institutions and non-State actors increase their capacity to protect and promote human rights more effectively.



The HRD contributed to the increased compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards through its monitoring and reporting and by providing tailored recommendations to relevant authorities.

In 2019, the HRD conducted 164 field missions in all 16 prefectures in CAR to monitor and verify allegations of

violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses. These missions contributed to the protection of civilians through early warning monitoring and reporting, including tailored recommendations targeting perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses. The HRD also conducted 383 visits to detention centres that are controlled by the State and facilities that are controlled by armed groups in order to monitor the human rights situation for persons who are deprived of their liberty. During these visits, the HRD advocated with relevant authorities for compliance with international standards related to arrests and detention.

Finally, in 2019, the HRD documented 1.017 incidents of human rights violations and abuses, including 320 conflict-related civilian deaths, which affected 1.831 victims. In contrast, in 2018, the HRD documented 2,457 incidents against 4.266 victims and 688 civilian deaths. This decrease suggests that despite the grave human rights abuses and violations recorded in 2019, there is evidence of relative improvement of the situation, which can be partially attributed to the signing of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation and the efforts of facilitators related to its implementation.

CHAD

Population size ¹ 15.95 million		Human Development Index² NH 0.401 (187/188 in 2018) Sta	IRI (if applicable)³ atus B, 2009		
Type of engagement Year established Field office(s) UN partnership framework		Country Office			
		2018			
		N'Djamena United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021			
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	7			
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	7 US\$1,239,165			
Total income	s 2019	US\$1,239,165			
Total income XB requirement:	s 2019	US\$1,239,165 US\$1,847,000	PSC†		
Total income XB requirement: Total XB expend	s 2019	U\$\$1,239,165 U\$\$1,847,000 U\$\$1,350,313	PSC ¹		
Total income XB requirement: Total XB expend Personnel	s 2019	U\$\$1,239,165 U\$\$1,847,000 U\$\$1,350,313 Non-personnel			

123† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 - The National Human Rights Commission is established and functions in conformity with the Paris Principles.







OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in increased conformity with the Paris Principles, including by supporting the process for the selection of commissioners.

Following the approval of the 2018 Law for the functioning of the NHRC, commissioners were nominated in accordance with the Presidential Act of 15 August 2019. During the selection

and nomination process, OHCHR provided technical advice on the Paris Principles through participation in relevant meetings and briefings to the Ad Hoc Committee that was established for the selection of commissioners.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 - The Government, civil society organizations, women and other actors have become more familiar with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council.









OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of rights-holders across the country, especially women, in public processes by raising their awareness about the implementation of relevant international human rights instruments.

Through cooperation with the Women's Associations Liaison and Information Unit, OHCHR organized workshops and public awareness campaigns on CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325, in Mongo and Banda. The activities brought together approximately 2,680 people. including 1,000 women, from local governments, women's organizations, youth associations and local NGOs. Participants improved their understanding of the Government's obligations under these two instruments and local authorities committed to undertaking initiatives to increase respect for women's rights.



Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Chad submits six reports to treaty bodies that are due, in compliance with reporting guidelines.







In 2019, the Office provided technical support to the Government to ensure that at least 60 per cent of its reports to the human rights treaty bodies comply with reporting auidelines.

With OHCHR's guidance, the Government submitted its report under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), along with its common core document. Furthermore, OHCHR provided technical support to enable the Government to prepare and submit combined reports from 1998 to 2015 under the ACHPR. OHCHR continued to encourage the Government to draft an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the UPR.

Finally, under the Development pillar, OHCHR-Chad supported the UNCT to mainstream human rights and gender perspectives into strategic documents, such as the workplans of the Gender and Human Rights Cluster and the Protection Cluster.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE (UNJHRO)

Population size¹ Surface area¹ Human Development Index² NHRI (if applicable)³ 86.79 million 2.345.000 km² 0.459 (179/188 in 2018) Status A. 2018 Type of engagement Peace Mission Year established 2008 Bandundu, Beni, Bukavu, Bunia, Butembo, Dungu, Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kindu, Field office(s) Kinshasa, Kisangani, Lubumbashi, Matadi, Mbandaka, Mbuji-Mayi, Thsikapa, Uvira United Nations Development Assistance **UN** partnership framework Framework 2013-2018 Staff as of 31 December 2019 96

XB requirements 2019

US\$ 8,746,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



Participation (P)

P1 - The NHRC fulfils its mandate and is in compliance with the Paris Principles. Its mandate includes responding to complaints.



Due in part to technical assistance provided by the Office, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) worked to increase conformity with international standards. After being accredited with "A" status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, in 2018, in recognition of its full compliance with the Paris Principles, the NHRC stepped up its monitoring and awareness-raising activities in 2019. The UNJHRO organized six training sessions for the members of the NHRC to strengthen their skills in relation

to human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on human rights and elections; election observation; monitoring and reporting techniques of human rights mechanisms, including with regard to detention centres and monitoring the rights of specific groups, such as refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of sexual violence, witnesses and human rights defenders (HRDs). The NHRC also increased its institutional communication capacities and implemented its strategic communications plan, which was adopted in 2018. Thanks to support from the UNJHRO, the NHRC published five reports, including on visits to detention centres, the investigation of human rights violations in Yumbi

and alternative reports to CAT, CEDAW and the UPR.

Moreover, the UNJHRO provided technical and financial support to the organization of "NHRC Open Days" in five communes of the city of Kinshasa, in September. This increased the visibility of the NHRC mandate for HRDs among the general population. The NHRC received cases on human rights violations and recorded approximately 200 complaints.

P4 – With UNJHRO support, civil society networks assist a larger number of victims of human rights violations.





Through capacity-building initiatives, the UNJHRO helped to increase the knowledge and skills of civil society actors in relation to protective measures. In 2019, the UNJHRO conducted 76 capacity-building activities for 4,274 participants (945 women, 3,329 men) from CSOs, including HRDs, local protection committees, community leaders and local authorities. The objective was to foster collaboration and effectiveness in protecting and assisting victims of human rights violations, including in Bunia, Goma, Kananga, Kinshasa and Tshikapa.

As a result of the UNJHRO's advocacy, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of the Congo established a Human Rights Commission and its members benefited from an introduction to human rights to develop their skills as human rights advocates. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the adoption of four pending bills, the protection and responsibilities of HRDs, non-profit associations and public benefit institutions, the freedom of assembly and the right to access to information.

¹²³Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

A total of 426 HRDs, victims and witnesses of human rights violations or abuses, 31 of whom were women, benefited from protective measures, compared to 258 in 2018.

P5 - Citizens are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. The security forces show more respect for these rights and for human rights standards and principles.



Many human rights violations committed in the context of restrictions on democratic space were documented before. during and after the December 2018 elections. Following commitments made by President Tshisekedi to improve the human rights situation, there was a widening of democratic space. The most visible sign of this positive development was the release of political prisoners, the return of political exiles and the holding of several peaceful demonstrations. In this context, the UNJHRO observed a 26 per cent decrease in the number of human rights violations related to democratic space compared to 2018 (from 1,054 in 2018 to 778 in 2019).



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to "Leave No One Behind", including by addressing the root causes of inequality



The UNJHRO contributed to the establishment and functioning of protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards. For example, the UNJHRO facilitated several meetings between the Minister Delegate for Persons with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable Persons, a new position created within the Government, in August, and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, as part of its technical cooperation mandate for the development of a National Policy and Strategy for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, in order to raise awareness about vulnerable groups, the UNJHRO organized many activities, including Albinism Awareness Day, in collaboration with the Albino Network Association and national authorities. It also organized White Cane Awareness Day, with the participation of the Ministry for Persons with Disabilities and CSOs, such as the National Institute for the Blind and the NGO House of the Blind, to sensitize the general public about the human rights of people who are visually impaired.



D7 - The next UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2018-2023) integrates relevant human rights standards and principles and references recommendations by the human rights mechanisms.

The UNJHRO contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the Common Country Analysis (CCA), which served as a basis for the development of the United Nations Sustainable **Development Cooperation Framework** (UNSDCF). This latter framework was largely informed by reports from the UNJHRO. As a result, its outcomes and outputs are fully aligned with the recommendations issued by the human rights

mechanisms that are relevant for the DRC and the SDGs. This key achievement was possible thanks to the UNJHRO's large dissemination of a comprehensive matrix that set out this information in detail.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS5 - DRC security forces increase the number of mitigation and corrective measures they adopt, on the basis of risk assessments that comply with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.











To strengthen the fight against impunity within the country's security institutions, the UNJHRO continued its sensitization work and enhanced collaboration and dialogue with entities that provide support. This led to strengthened implementation and ownership of HRDDP clearance decisions. Through its mitigating measures, the HRDDP Secretariat advocated for the provision of support to DRC Defence and Security Forces in order to improve the human rights situation on the ground, encourage efforts to fight against impunity and establish channels of communication between the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and Congolese authorities regarding human rights and the protection of civilian concerns. In 2019, the HRDDP Secretariat conducted 53 comprehensive risk assessments through the screening of 1,117 officers who were to be deployed for air transportation service, joint MONUSCO-Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) military operations and to support the police. In 2019, the UNJHRO created a total of 784 profiles.

PS6 – Decisions made by MONUSCO in support of the political process or on the protection of civilians are guided by relevant human rights standards and principles. This is particularly true of the good offices of the mission leadership and provision of support to the security forces.





The UNJHRO contributed to the increased compliance of MONUSCO interventions with international human rights norms, principles and standards, through the handling of protection incidents during 59 joint civilian protection missions that were undertaken in 2019 (37 joint assessment missions and 22 joint protection missions) alongside Force deployments (rapidly deployable battalions or standing combat deployments) in priority protection areas. In addition, the UNJHRO trained 148 officers to sensitize MONUSCO components on the HRDDP, its main risk assessments, possible mitigation measures to prevent violations and potential leverage to improve cooperation on human rights protection.



M1 – The interministerial committee responsible for coordinating DRC's reporting to the Treaty Bodies has become permanent and operational.





The UNJHRO contributed to strengthening the capacity of the members of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights to fulfil their mandate. With the UNJHRO's technical, logistical and financial assistance to the Interministerial Committee, the DRC submitted its combined second, third, fourth and

fifth periodic reports on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). The Committee also benefited from the UNJHRO's support to draft and validate the additional report to the fourth periodic report to the Human Rights Committee.

M2 – The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), civil society organizations and human rights defenders submit reports on serious human rights issues in the DRC to the international human rights mechanisms more frequently.



The UNJHRO contributed to the submission of reports by CSOs, including by co-organizing two training sessions with the Carter Centre for the NHRC, CSOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights. The focus of the training was interacting with the UPR and the formulation of targeted recommendations. As a result, the NHRC and civil society submitted nine alternative reports to the international human rights mechanisms (human rights treaty bodies and the UPR) and followed up on several recommendations.

Furthermore, the UNJHRO provided financial and technical support, such as coaching, data collection and advocacy, to human rights NGOs and the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights for the organization of large consultations that were held prior to the drafting of the UPR report. The report was reviewed and adopted in 2019. Out of 267 recommendations made to the DRC, 239 were adopted and 28 were noted. In collaboration with the Carter Centre, the UNJHRO organized a workshop on the implementation of 239 UPR

recommendations, which were endorsed by the Government, for new members of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights in order to discuss their role in the implementation of the recommendations

EASTERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office			
Countries of engagement	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Tanzania			
Year established	2002 Addis Ababa 20			
Field office(s)				
Staff as of 31 December 2019				
Total income	US\$2,429,210			
XB requirements 2019	US\$4,181,000			
Total XB expenditure	US\$2,815,599			
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]		
55%	34%	11%		
\$1,555,978	\$948,793	\$310,827		
Total RB expenditure	US\$156,971			
Personnel				
100%				
\$156,971				
Key OMP pillars in 2019)		

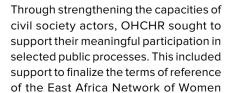
[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



P1 - CSOs, women human rights defenders (WHRDs), and other relevant stakeholders advocate for human rights. and especially women's rights, more often and more effectively. The African Union's manuals and guidelines, including those on elections, integrate human rights standards and norms.





Human Rights Defenders and facilitate their engagement with the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. The outcome of the consultative meeting will inform the thematic report of the Working Group on sexual reproductive health and rights in conflict settings and women in the workplace. The Office successfully expanded the Network by including young women from South Sudan and Uganda. It also supported women activists from Sudan to draft and present a statement before a session of the African Union Peace and Security Council. In addition, the AU finalized its election observation manual,

with guidance from the Office, which integrates regional and international human rights standards. Furthermore, OHCHR supported the Government of Ethiopia to revise its draft legislation on NGOs, which was adopted, in March, by the Ethiopian Parliament. This major achievement led to a significant widening of the space within which civil society can engage in human rights work. For instance, in May, OHCHR convened an unprecedented countrywide gathering of CSOs to discuss, among other issues, efforts to build a strong and effective constituent of human rights CSOs and to identify how the Office can enhance the capacity of CSOs to engage and work on human rights following years of repression of civil space in the country.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND6 – African Union policies and migration governance measures more fully integrate international human rights standards.







OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights standards into AU policies and migration governance measures and the compliance of protection mechanisms with international human rights standards on migration. In 2019, the Office supported the development of the AU's threeyear Implementation Plan of Action for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in Africa (2020-2022). In collaboration with UN agencies, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights considerations into the Plan of Action. Once adopted, it is expected to provide strategic direction and guidance to AU Member States

on the implementation of the GCM. Additionally, the Office continued to provide technical support to national human rights institutions in the region, specifically to the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions in the context of its work related to the GCM.

ND3 - In cases that concern women and girls, the decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms comply with international and regional human rights standards.



OHCHR assisted national justice mechanisms to apply international and regional standards in their decision-making in cases related to women and girls. In October, the Office supported the AU in training women CSOs and WHRDs in post-conflict countries to increase their skills and knowledge about gender equality and women's rights. In accordance with the recommendations outlined in the AU-OHCHR 2017 joint report on the rights of women in Africa, OHCHR, the AU, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UN Women prepared a groundbreaking report about women refugees, IDPs and returnees and a guidance tool for the AU on the integration of IDP women and girls in the AU Governance and Peace and Security Architecture to support the AU theme of the year. The report involved field visits to the Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Nigeria to gain first-hand knowledge about the experiences and situations faced by displaced women and girls in order to identify effective solutions. In 2020, the report and guidance tool will be submitted to the AU for endorsement and subsequent implementation.

ND4 – The decisions of national human rights and justice mechanisms increasingly promote gender equality and comply with international and regional human rights standards.



OHCHR facilitated compliance with international human rights norms by convening judicial dialogues with over 230 judges from supreme courts, courts of appeal, high courts, registrars and magistrates from Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, in partnership with the Centre for Reproductive Rights. The discussions focused on challenging judicial stereotyping and strengthening the capacity of African judges to vote or rule on issues related to reproductive rights.

The Office also provided technical support to the AUC of the Department of Social Affairs in the elaboration of a continental draft programme and Plan of Action 2019-2023 on eliminating female genital mutilation (FGM), known as the Seleema Initiative. The draft programme seeks to provide strategic-level policy directives to AU Member States on how to tackle issues related to FGM while also establishing a comprehensive multisectoral stakeholder prevention and response strategy to fight the practice.



A1 - Regional human rights mechanisms are increasingly accessible to all. Countries in the region increasingly domesticate and comply with international standards on capital punishment.



The Office contributed to the functioning of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by training law enforcement agencies and providing advice on related legislation and policies.

In 2019, following the signing of the MoU with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Office increased its advocacy with national and continental actors to engage with the Court. For instance. OHCHR convened members of the Pan-African Parliament to discuss their role in improving access to the Court for individuals and groups. Following the withdrawal of **Tanzania** from article 34(6) of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which allows individuals and NGOs to directly access the Court, the Office engaged with partners and relevant stakeholders to determine how to secure access to justice for victims of human rights violations in Tanzania. Subsequently, the Court decided to expedite cases filed against Tanzania. OHCHR continues to engage in advocacy with the government to strengthen its domestic judicial system and facilitate access to justice.

In 2019, the Office conducted workshops, meetings, dialogues and sensitization programmes, including through radio transmissions for justice sector officials. OHCHR provided training on the human rights of IDPs and human rights in peace building for: 60 police and public prosecutors in West Guji (three women, 57 men); 60 police and public prosecutors in Gedeo (13 women, 47 men); 49 militia members from West Guji and Gedeo (five women, 44 men); and 36 judges and prosecutors in Jigjiga, Somali region (two women, 34 men). As a result of this training, justice sector officials repeatedly reported an increased level of knowledge and understanding about the rights of IDPs, including vulnerable groups, and their duties and responsibilities as State actors. Furthermore, the training enabled the Office to identify emerging human

rights concerns, such as those arising within the context of displacement. In Ethiopia, the Office consistently referred cases of human rights violations, which primarily related to ethnic clashes and displacement, to the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. The Office strengthened its partnership with the Office of the Attorney General and the Agency for Civil Society Organizations and facilitated their participation in OHCHR activities involving CSOs.

A3 – Governments report, investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes more consistently.



OHCHR contributed to the increased reporting, investigation and prosecution of cases of gender-related crimes in the Eastern Africa region. This was accomplished by successfully including women victims in criminal justice processes and integrating a gender perspective into the work of prosecutors, judges and law enforcement officials in Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda and from ECOWAS countries and members of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). The Office also supported the Women, Peace and Security Programme of the AU Peace and Security Department to help integrate women's rights and gender into its training for AU troop-contributing countries and assessment missions in post-conflict countries and to improve the efficacy of AU operations related to conflict-related sexual violence.

The Office continued to provide support to the AU, national governments and UNCTs to integrate women's rights and gender into policies and programmes. The Office supported government authorities to integrate a gender

perspective into humanitarian responses and women, peace and security and gender dimensions into criminal justice responses on terrorism. It also supported engagement with the judiciary and actions to ensure women's access to sexual and reproductive health services, including in conflict settings and in relation to capacity-building for women CSOs. At the regional level, the Office identified new opportunities for mainstreaming women's rights into the AU's programmes and projects in areas such as early warning and prevention, comprehensive sexuality education and joint advocacy missions on the ratification and implementation of the Maputo Protocol and in collaborative activities on women, peace and security, including when providing support to the MNJTF. In Sudan, the Office facilitated the participation of women CSOs in the AU peace and security process. Moreover, it partnered with the AU to convene a capacity-building workshop and develop an online training package on how women CSOs can engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms on women, peace and security.



D4 – Sexual and reproductive health policies in the region increasingly comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of civil society and other actors to link human rights norms and apply an HRBA to their work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA and Ethiopia's Ministry of Health, OHCHR conducted a national analysis on the

application of an HRBA to maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity in Ethiopia. The outcome of the analysis is expected to generate transformative, evidence-based programming that will support the application of an HRBA in sexual and reproductive maternal child health interventions to accelerate the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity rates. The Office also paid particular attention to SRHR in conflict settings and, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), supported the development of a tool on discrimination between girls and boys related to the age of sexual consent. Specifically, the tool will assist CSOs, governments and the UN to assess the implementation of laws and regulations on adolescent SRHR in East and Southern Africa that promote the full realization of these rights, such as the criminalization of child marriage. Finally, the Office co-organized a panel on SRHR in conflict settings during the November session of the ACHPR. This resulted in a commitment from the ACHPR to begin elaborating a general recommendation on article 11 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol).

D7 – When they implement the SDGs, UN Country Teams and the Governments of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania take fully into account human rights principles, including the right to development, as well as recommendations that have been made by the UN human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of UN entities and relevant government actors to accommodate human rights, including the right to development and outcomes of human rights mechanisms in their programmes and strategies. The Office strengthened its engagement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) regarding trade and the implementation of the SDGs through the joint publication on human rights in digital space by OHCHR, UNECA and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Office. This was partially achieved by unpacking, in collaboration with UNECA, the human rights implications of the Continental Free Trade Agreement, including through a work stream on informal trade focusing on women along the Lagos-Abidjan corridor. In addition, OHCHR built the capacity of the AUC to integrate the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) into its policy framework and roll-out by providing technical support and helping to develop the draft Business and Human Rights Policy Framework.

D8 – State institutions pay increasing attention to discrimination (as defined in international law) when they collect, analyse and disseminate data.

2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11

OHCHR contributed to raising the visibility of the role of human rights in the implementation of the SDGs through country-level interventions directed at ensuring the rights-based planning and implementation of SDGs have gained impetus, including through collaborations with UNECA and others at the continental level. For instance, OHCHR and the Danish Institute for Human Rights organized a consultation on a rights-based approach to SDG implementation as a side event at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in April. The activity bolstered the visibility of the Office and opened avenues for further collaboration under this theme. There has been wide recognition by partners of the work of OHCHR, UNECA and others, to integrate human rights considerations into digital trade in Africa. OHCHR and the UNCT in Ethiopia co-organized briefings, which led to improved know-how and understanding among members about how to integrate human rights considerations into the design process and ongoing roll-out of the UNSDCF, including through the preparation of the CCA and strategic prioritization. OHCHR organized subregional trainings for UNCTs from 10 countries in the subregion, including the three focus countries, namely Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania. More specifically, participants were encouraged to consider innovative ways of forging synergies between the SDGs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and link them to their country programming.



M1 - National mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRFs) are established and strengthened in two countries in the sub-region; their mandates are comprehensive and clear. One to two States in the region improve their capacity to implement and follow up on the recommendations of international human rights mechanisms, including by submitting reports to the Treaty Bodies. Three to five outstanding human rights treaties or optional protocols are ratified without reservations.



OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of NMRFs in Diibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania to systematically pursue the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms and submit timely and quality reports to those mechanisms.

Following technical advice from OHCHR and its training workshop on reporting under CAT and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the NMRF in Ethiopia showed improvement in its capacity to prepare reports for the international human rights mechanisms. This was manifested in the submission of the State Party report under ICCPR, the draft report to CAT and the consultative report preparation process in anticipation of the country's third UPR cycle. The Office advocated for the development of implementation plans, including for recommendations issued by the UPR, as a more efficient conduit for systematizing the follow-up process beyond the National Human Rights Action Plan II (2016-2020) framework. The Office of the Attorney General, which coordinates the NMRF in Ethiopia, officially requested assistance from OHCHR to establish a National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) to strengthen its information management capacity. The Office is in the process of identifying the extent of the support that is required. OHCHR will continue providing support to the functioning of the NMRF, including the full set-up of the NRTD, based on an earlier analysis of needs.

In all of the abovementioned capacity-building efforts, the Office systematically advocated for and shared skill sets on leveraging synergies between the review procedures and the implementation of the SDGs and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. To this end, the Office reached out to numerous African countries at the Fifth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in Morocco, particularly during the speaking slot at the Voluntary National Review (VNR) workshop and at the side event on rights-based implementation of the SDGs.

In addtion, in 2019, the Office provided technical support to the AU on the finalization of the road map for the implementation of the AU Transitional Justice Policy.

GUINEA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 12.77 million 246,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.466 (175/188 in 2018)		
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2010 Conakry, Nzérékoré		
Field office(s)			
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	19		
Total income	US\$2,803,022		
XB requirements 2019	US\$3,244,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$2,992,575		

Key OMP pillars in 2019





32%



Non-personnel

\$956,909



PILLAR RESULTS:



Personnel

\$1,701,055

57%

Accountability (A)

A1 – The justice sector is reformed. National courts increasingly reference human rights principles and standards in their proceedings and decisions. They investigate and prosecute alleged perpetrators of serious crimes.





OHCHR contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings through advice and capacity-building sessions.

As a result of eight training sessions, on-the-job coaching and the facilitation of oversight by judicial inspectors and the Parliament, civilian and military

magistrates in Guinea are increasingly using human rights standards in their proceedings. The Office monitored six emblematic cases and observed that some rights were upheld in all of the cases. Four training sessions for civil society actors on the administration of justice and trial monitoring contributed to these improvements. In addition, the Office conducted an assessment of public access to justice and the perception of progress achieved. The results corroborated the reported improvements in respect for human rights in court proceedings. Efforts are still required, however, to ensure full respect for all rights in court proceedings. particularly as frequent staff turnover in

\$334.611

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

the sector demands continuous training and support for newly recruited magistrates and lawyers.



Participation (P)

P1 - A law that protects human rights defenders has been adopted.





OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies on gender equality, the rights of women and of the child with international human rights norms and standards, including through advocacy and technical and financial assistance.

With support from the Office, a new civil code was enacted to improve gender equality and human rights for women, the national policy on human rights was updated, a national strategy for conflict prevention was developed and a new Child Code was reviewed by the National Assembly. In cooperation with national NGOs and CSOs, and by providing information on relevant human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR advocated against envisioned amendments to a draft CSO Act that would have negatively impacted on the right of freedom of expression. As a result, the draft was not adopted. The Office also facilitated two working sessions with the NHRI and the Ministry for Human Rights and Public Freedoms and two working sessions with CSOs to advocate for the creation of a legal framework for the protection of HRDs. In December, the Ministry pledged to secure the adoption of a law as soon as possible.

P6 – By 2021, the participation in public life of discriminated groups, including women, youth, and people living with albinism, has increased. These groups are able to claim their rights.



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders in public processes, especially women and discriminated groups, including persons with disabilities, by raising their awareness about relevant human rights principles and standards.

The Office organized three workshops for youth on human rights and civic participation. The participants subsequently established a coordination group to channel their claims. Women also benefited from the Office's awareness-raising campaigns. For instance, following outreach activities on human rights and traditional practices that were held in the areas of Kankan, Faranah and Nzérékoré, leaders of local communities realized that most of their traditional practices were contrary to the human rights of women and girls and pledged to abandon these practices.

Furthermore, technical support provided by OHCHR contributed to the enactment, in May, of the Law on Gender Parity in Elective Positions. On the other hand, the expected enactment of the draft Law on the Rights of Persons with Albinism did not take place in 2019.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS1 – National authorities are regularly informed about human rights violations and take appropriate measures to investigate and prosecute them.



Through monitoring and sharing of information, OHCHR contributed to the increased investigation and prosecution, by national authorities, of cases of human rights violations.

The Office systematically referred observed violations to and discussed recurrent issues and potential remedies with the committee that is responsible for following up on these cases. As a result of these activities, 35 persons being held in unlawful detention were released, seven lactating mothers who were being detained in conditions that were harmful for their infants were provisionally released, redress was granted to 15 suspects who were being detained without case files, medical treatment was provided to sick inmates and attention was brought to the cases of 386 inmates being held in prolonged pretrial detention.

PS6 – The national plan for the security sector has been implemented by 2020.



By providing technical guidance, OHCHR contributed to the increased institutionalization of human rights modules in the academic curricula of defence and security institutions.

During meetings with the army's Chief of Staff and following an evaluation of the Office's security sector reform programme, the human rights modules developed by OHCHR were praised

for contributing to building a culture of respect for human rights among security forces. In addition, a decrease in violations accredited to the security forces may be partially attributed to the training sessions facilitated by OHCHR. The Office will train army trainers in 2020 and gradually hand over the training for security forces and other institutions.



Mechanisms (M)

M1 - Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including Treaty Bodies; overdue reports have been submitted.





Following two OHCHR training workshops and a report drafting retreat for members of the interministerial mechanism in charge of integrated reporting, a road map was approved for the drafting and submission of delayed and overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. The initial report under ICESCR and the report to the third UPR cycle were submitted during the reporting period.

GUINEA-BISSAU: UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED PEACEBUILDING OFFICE IN GUINEA-BISSAU (UNIOGBIS)

Population size ¹ 1.92 million	Surface area ¹ 36,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.461 (177/188 in 2018)
Type of engagement		Special Political Mission
Year established	ļ	2009
Field office(s)		Bissau, Bafata
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2016-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019		11

XB requirements 2019

US\$97.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







123† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Mechanisms (M)

M1 – Reports are submitted promptly to human rights mechanisms including treaty bodies; overdue reports have been submitted





The Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNIOGBIS contributed to the increased capacity of State officials and other stakeholders to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. More specifically, the HRS supported the Government in the elaboration and submission of its State report to the third UPR cycle, which was submitted on 1 October, in anticipation of its scheduled review on 24 January 2020. The HRS also provided technical advice and assistance to the UNCT and CSOs in the preparation of their reports, which included a

validation workshop for 50 representatives (18 of whom were women) from 27 CSOs.

M2 – Civil society provides information to the treaty bodies, special procedures and UPR.



Through collaboration with non-traditional actors, the HRS contributed to building networks for the exchange of information and resources while simultaneously building on existing engagements with CSOs and national institutions.

The HRS ensured cross-learning by convening a round-table on hate speech for members of the media. It also contributed to a radio programme on the role

of the media in the application of and respect for human rights. In the context of inflammatory remarks by presidential candidates and their supporters during the pre-electoral period, the HRS held seven advocacy meetings with members of the media, specifically the Monitoring Group, under the auspices of the National Council on Social Communication, Radio Africa FM, Radio Capital FM and Radio Bombolom.



P5 - OHCHR's case database is fully functional: national authorities address all cases that OHCHR brings to their attention. A protection mechanism for human rights defenders is in place.

The HRS contributed to the establishment of a protection mechanism for HRDs by producing a draft bill for the protection of witnesses and victims, which is yet to be validated by national stakeholders. This would offer protection to HRDs acting as witnesses. The issue was discussed, in December, at the Second Strategic Retreat of the Human Rights Defenders Network, which was established and formalized in 2017 with the support of UNIOGBIS.

P6 – The voice of people affected by decisions, particularly victims and those who face discrimination, is more clearly heard.

The HRS significantly contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes. Following the mentoring efforts of the HRS, which targeted a core group of 41 HRDs, including 19 women, on human rights monitoring and elections and early warning, the Human Rights Defenders Network monitored the presidential elections in all regions of the country, in November and December, to identify and address threats of human rights violations. In addition, six networks of CSOs were mobilized with the assistance of the European Union, UN Women, UNFPA and UNIOGBIS. The networks received support from the Peacebuilding Fund for the joint development and monitoring of an electoral Code of Conduct for the presidential elections, to establish a situation room to identify and monitor possible risks and provide early warning on threats to the electoral process. The situation room was set up during the first and second rounds of the presidential elections, in November and December. The civil society initiatives were lauded by stakeholders for their significant contribution to a peaceful environment for the presidential elections and the reduction in post-electoral social conflicts. Those capacities were also developed in relation to the legislative elections held in early 2019.



Accountability (A)

A1 – A national human rights institution is established that complies with the Paris Principles. Human rights training and education is institutionalized in the justice, health, education, and defence and security sectors. The Government adopts a national policy on human rights, a strategic plan to combat impunity, and a law that protects victims and witnesses.



The HRS contributed to reducing human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems. Specifically, the HRS carried out regular monitoring and advocacy related to the rights of persons deprived of their liberty. As a result, 194 out a total 338 detainees

(all adult men), who were being held in arbitrary/prolonged detention, were released in 2019 and the case files for 64 other detainees were referred to the Office of the Prosecutor General for a decision on pretrial detention.

Regarding the institutionalization of Human Rights Education (HRE) in the Defence Sector, targeted capacity-building efforts were undertaken to strengthen the competencies of armed forces officers. A training of trainers on human rights was held for 30 officers, including 14 female military officers, and trainers from the Ministry of Defence and the National Defence Institute. The Ministry of Defence subsequently committed to the inclusion of HRE in its ongoing training for the armed forces.

Building on the work initiated in 2018 in the Education Sector, various tools were finalized in 2019 for teaching human rights in the educational system, including referential manuals on Education for Citizenship and Human Rights and Peace for education professionals, such as primary school teachers. The HRS also trained six representatives from the National Institute of Education Development and 123 teachers across the country.

Furthermore, the HRS produced a draft bill for a Human Rights Institution that is compliant with the Paris Principles. The draft will be discussed with the Government in order to seek its support prior to its presentation to the Parliament in 2020.

KENYA

Population size¹S52.57 million5			Iman Development Index² 579 (143/188 in 2018)	NHRI (if applicable) ³ Status A, 2014
Type of engageme	nt	_	Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		_	2008	
Field office(s)		Nairobi		
UN partnership framework			United Nations Developm Framework 2018-2022	nent Assistance
Staff as of 31 December 2019			5	

XB requirements 2019

US\$1,070,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



A2 – Kenyan authorities strengthen and enforce measures to prevent human rights violations by police and other security agencies, including sexual and gender-based violence. Those responsible for violations are held accountable and prosecuted.







OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) in the collection of SDG indicators.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to KNCHR for the review of practices, methodologies and challenges in collecting data on SDG indicators 16.1.1, 16.1.3, 16.3.1, 16.10.1 and 16.b.1/10.3.1. In 2017, OHCHR played a key role in facilitating a partnership between the KNBS and the KNCHR on SDG data collection

and indicators. In the context of this partnership, a list of population groups that are frequently left behind was identified. OHCHR is the UN system's custodian agency for four official SDG indicators under SDG 10 and SDG 16. In Kenya, OHCHR focused on making two of these goals a reality, namely, 10.3.1/16.b.1 on the prevalence of discrimination and harassment and 16.10.1 on violence against HRDs. In 2019, OHCHR established a list of action points and outputs to operationalize its Guidance Note on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Data and the 2017 MoU between the KNBS and the KNCHR to mainstream a human rightsbased approach to the collection of data. The MoU aimed at improving data collection, disaggregation, dissemination and/or analysis of groups being left behind in relation to national censuses, household surveys and other sources. In this unique partnership, a statistics

institution and a human rights institution are collaborating to ensure that a human rights-based approach is being applied to data and statistics.

OHCHR also supported the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) to review its operational capacity, physical structures and resources to deal with cases of serious human rights violations. For the first time, a comprehensive review was undertaken to assess its capacity to prosecute serious human rights violations. The final report was presented to and fully endorsed by the ODPP, in June. The report highlighted the ODPP's capacity gaps and made recommendations to address structural gaps, develop its expertise with regard to focused prosecutorial strategies and strengthen data collection and crime analysis to enhance its newly established Civil Rights Division. Following the review, the ODPP requested additional support and prosecutorial advice for the Civil Rights Division on landmark cases of unlawful killings, test cases involving serious human rights violations, including the case of extrajudicial killings during the 2017 elections, and to assist with the establishment of standard operating procedures between the ODPP. the police service and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority.

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.



P1 – The Kenyan authorities put measures in place to protect civic space, including the Public Benefits and Organizations Act. The measures, and policies on public participation, comply with international human rights standards.







OHCHR contributed to strengthening the protection and empowerment of civil society actors, including journalists. Civic space continued to be a priority for Kenya and the Office conducted extensive advocacy on laws, including by securing a civic space component in the UNDAF. It also conducted a survey on the engagement of the UNCT on civic space, which provides a good overview of how OHCHR worked with other parts of the UN system on this issue.

In 2018, OHCHR provided substantive input to the draft Policy on Public Participation to ensure that it reflects the Human Rights Council's Guidelines on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs. In 2019, the draft was completed and endorsed by the Attorney General and it is currently awaiting adoption by the Cabinet before it is gazetted for implementation. Once adopted, OHCHR will support its implementation and a baseline survey on the status of public participation in selected counties.

The capacity of the Media Council of Kenya was enhanced following a round-table meeting held with CSOs working on freedom of information. The meeting provided a forum for discussions on practical ways of enhancing the safety of journalists and utilizing the international human rights mechanisms to advocate for the safety of journalists in Kenya. The event was convened

by OHCHR in response to unprecedented attacks on freedom of the media that occurred in the electoral period. Participants prepared a position paper geared towards securing the promotion and protection of media freedoms, including the safety and security of journalists, and ensuring that these concerns were adequately reflected in the reports submitted prior to Kenya's third UPR cycle, in January 2020, and CAT's review of Kenya's third periodic report, which is scheduled for April 2020.



Development (D)

D1 – Two landmark litigation cases are successfully completed, and victims receive remedies.











OHCHR helped to ensure that oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning in Kenya.

In 2019, the Centre for Justice Governance and Environmental Action (CJGEA) continued litigating a case on environmental rights. The case involves two companies that are being sued for polluting the environment. Specifically, the two companies were smelting lead as their core business in the Owino Uhuru community where 3,000 residents and 200 former staff members suffered lead poisoning. As part of its mandate to support the implementation of the UNGPs and protect civic space, OHCHR has provided technical and financial support for the case since 2016. In addition to securing a grant, OHCHR worked closely with Kenyan authorities to urge protection for the CJGEA and the members of the Owino Uhuru community when they were threatened for filing and pursuing the case. The Director of Public Prosecution took up the issue of threats and offered witness protection for the duration of the case. The case challenges the responsibility of the State and non-State actors to respect, protect and fulfil the right to a clean and healthy environment as provided by the Kenyan Constitution. The case sought declarations on procedural environmental rights, access to information, public participation and access to effective remedy. The case was concluded in November and thee decision is expected to be handed down in 2020.

D2 - The courts and State non-judicial mechanisms hold businesses and other economic actors accountable, in accordance with human rights standards and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16









Through consistent advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

Over the last three years, OHCHR has supported government efforts to put in place a National Action Plan (NAP) and Policy on Business and Human Rights in line with the UNGPs. As a member of the Government Steering Committee, OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of the NAP. This is the first of its kind in Africa and once adopted, it will provide a model for other countries in the region. The report of the Working Group on business and human rights, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council in 2019, provided timely recommendations and an impetus to the NAP as it entered its final phase. The NAP has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office and is awaiting adoption. OHCHR will support its implementation, including with the private sector and business associations.

D3 – Kenya implements the decisions of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights with respect to Endorois and Ogiek rights to land and housing.



OHCHR contributed to the strengthened capacity of State institutions to implement court decisions.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to a government-established Task Force on the implementation of the decision of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights issued against the Government of Kenya in respect of the rights of the Ogiek Community of Mau Complex and enhancing the participation of indigenous communities in the sustainable management of forests. OHCHR ensured that the Task Force partnered with experts on indigenous rights, such as Minority Rights Group International. In addition to its engagement with the Task Force, OHCHR partnered with the United Nations Programme on Reducing **Emissions from Deforestation and Forest** Degradation (UN-REDD) in developing countries. The Programme supports nationally-led REDD+ processes and promotes the informed and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders. including indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities.

EXPANDING CIVIC SPACE AND THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT IN KENYA

Over the last two years, OHCHR has worked with and supported the 27 social justice centres that have been functioning in informal settlements across Kenya since 2015. The centres are primarily formed by young human rights defenders to establish civic space where they can organize to advocate against human rights violations and promote social justice in their communities. This is done by documenting human rights violations and undertaking participatory action research, community dialogue, advocacy and campaigns on a variety of human rights issues, including police violence, extrajudicial killings and sexual and gender-based violence. They also focus on economic and social rights, such as the rights to water and adequate housing.

All of the centres are networked through the Social Justice Centres Working Group, which is comprised of two representatives from each centre, and functions as a collective voice for the social justice movement. OHCHR supports the engagement of the Working Group with the international human rights mechanisms, forums, donors and the diplomatic community to raise the profile of their work and the human rights issues affecting informal settlements. In 2019, the Working Group made its first submission in anticipation of Kenya's third UPR cycle. In addition, the Working Group and Wilfred Olal, their national coordinator, received the Human Rights Defender of the Year award for their community activism.

According to Olal, "because of OHCHR, we are now recognized by other players and we are participating in the Working Group on Human Rights Defenders. With the support of OHCHR, we engaged with the UPR process for the first time, which contributed to the capacity-building of our members. Without OHCHR, I don't know where we would be today."

As a result of this recognition and support and the tireless activism of their members, the social justice centres movement is flourishing and new centres are opening across the country. OHCHR will continue to support their human rights work, seek out opportunities to promote their efforts and amplify the voices of the communities they serve.



M1 – Kenva creates a formal national reporting mechanism and a recommendations database.



OHCHR played an instrumental role in setting up an NMRF, the National Committee on International and Regional Human Rights Obligations, which is composed of 17 government ministries, agencies and departments. The establishment of the NMRF follows two years of OHCHR's technical advice and robust advocacy efforts and represents an important achievement for OHCHR. In addition, it supported the drafting of the NMRF's terms of reference in compliance with good practices. The mechanism is a game changer for strengthening reporting, data collection and engagement with the international human rights machinery. The Government has indicated it is ready to develop a recommendations database, which has been included in the planned activities for 2020.

M2 – The Government, national human rights institution, civil society organizations and the UN Country Team regularly submit reports to the international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of the Government and civil society to prepare and submit reports in the context of Kenya's third UPR cycle. OHCHR worked closely with the Attorney General's Office, which is the main government entity responsible for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, and 67 civil society partners, which submitted a joint report to the UPR. A total of 22 CSOs submitted individual reports. For the first time, CSOs working on disabilities, sexual orientation and gender identity and sexual and reproductive health and rights participated in the preparation of the joint report. Other civil society partners included Grace Agenda, a network of survivors of sexual violence and social justice centres in informal urban settlements. Grace Agenda engaged in reporting to the international human rights mechanisms for the first time to highlight issues of extrajudicial executions and economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to water and sanitation.

LIBERIA

VP requirements 2019	US\$4 724 000		
Total income	US\$2,416,080		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	7		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2013-2019		
Field office(s)	Monrovia		
Year established	2018		
Type of engagement	Country Office		
4.94 million Size Surface area 111,000 km ²	0.465 (rank: 173/188 in 2018) Status A, 2017		

Total income	US\$2,416,080	
XB requirements 2019	US\$4,734,000	
Total XB expenditure	US\$3,100,864	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
37%	54%	9%
\$1,147,105	\$1,660,243	\$293,516

Key OMP pillars in 2019







^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



A4 – The Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) assists and advises members and committees of the Legislature and the Human Rights Legislative Association on human rights to prepare relevant bills, for example bills on domestic violence and on female genital mutilation.



With technical support for and capacity-building of relevant stakeholders, OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of selected legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

Following many recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, the Domestic Violence Bill was adopted, in August. The legislation is a landmark for gender equality in Liberia and seeks to address physical, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, dowry-related violence, offenses against the family and harassment, among other violations. Due to advocacy from traditional leaders, however, the criminalization of FGM was excluded from the Bill. OHCHR provided technical support to the INCHR during the drafting and consultation process. This support led to the establishment of the Working Group on FGM, which is advocating for the adoption of

legislation on FGM that is being reviewed by the Liberian Parliament.

A5 – The INCHR will implement the 2009 recommendation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia (TRC) to ensure accountability for crimes of the past.



By providing technical support to the INCHR, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms in conformity with international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical guidance to the INCHR to support the civil society Transitional Justice Working Group in the development and implementation of an engagement strategy to advocate with relevant ministries, agencies and commissions for the implementation of the TRC's recommendations. The Office further supported the INCHR to convene a national colloquium that brought together 200 Liberians, including 85 women, from all backgrounds to discuss how the Government should implement the recommendations. The participants produced a communique that requested the Government to take steps to implement the TRC's recommendations. including the establishment of a War and Economic Crimes Court. The Liberian National Bar Association was mandated to prepare draft legislation for the establishment of the Court, which was finalized and will be submitted to the Parliament for its review and approval.



P1 – Government ministries and the Parliament consult and cooperate with the Independent National Commission on Human Rights and National Civil Society Council of Liberia (NCSCL), including the Civil Society Organization Human Rights Advocacy Platform, when they draft legislation that relates to human rights and act to create a safe and enabling environment for civil society.



OHCHR advocated with relevant stakeholders for the compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards.

On 7 June, approximately 20,000 Liberians took to the streets to express their discontent over the economic and social situation of the country. It was the largest protest to have taken place since the end of the civil war. OHCHR and other UN agencies played an important role in ensuring that the Government complied with its commitment to respect the rights of protestors. Despite initial concerns about political instability and the Government's ability to police the protests while also respecting human rights obligations, the demonstration was peaceful and no serious human rights violations were reported. OHCHR provided technical and financial support to train and deploy 50 monitors from the INCHR and civil society to monitor the protest.



M1 – Liberia complies more fully with its international human rights obligations, including by reporting to the treaty bodies and the UPR and implementing their recommendations. To this end, the Government ratifies more human rights instruments, creates a national human rights action plan (NHRAP) and appoints a drafting committee and NHRAP steering committee.



The mechanisms for implementing and reporting on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms improved their functioning with OHCHR's technical support.

OHCHR provided INCHR with financial and technical guidance to support the preparation of its first UPR submission. To this end, the Office facilitated joint fact-finding missions to six counties, a regional consultation to validate the report and a technical session for the INCHR drafting team to finalize the report, which was submitted, in October. OHCHR also supported the Government of Liberia to draft its report for the third UPR cycle following organized regional consultations and the validation of the document prior to its submission, in March 2020.

Regarding the implementation of recommendations, OHCHR supported the reorganization of the NHRAP Steering Committee and the reactivation of its regular bimonthly meetings.

The Office provided advice on the drafting, validation and finalization of the new NHRAP for 2019-2024 that will be submitted for final endorsement and nationwide dissemination in 2020. The second five-year National Human Rights Action Plan was officially launched, on 10 December, during the official national celebration of Human Rights Day.

MADAGASCAR

•	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.521 (rank: 162/188 in 2018) Status A, 2019
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2011
Field office(s)	Antananarivo
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2019	4

XB requirements 2019 US\$474.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 – The Independent National Human Rights Commission is fully operational by 2020.





The Office contributed to the functioning of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC), in compliance with the Paris Principles, by strengthening the capacity of its members and providing technical support for its institution building.

The INHRC was accredited with "A" status by GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation. Following appropriate legislative amendments in 2018, the INHRC was tasked with the role of NPM. Since the swearing-in of the 11 commissioners in October 2016, OHCHR has been providing support to the INHRC to ensure that it is functioning in accordance with the Paris Principles, including by

advocating with State authorities on the measures that need to be implemented and the importance of developing an accurate budget. Technical support and guidance from OHCHR enabled the INHRC to establish a database and a manual on the handling of complaints, which are now being systematically used by the Commission.



D3 - National legislation and development policies comply more fully with international human rights norms and principles, notably in regard to land and housing.









By providing technical guidance, OHCHR sought to facilitate the development of policies and legislation in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In December, the Tripartite Charter for sustainable development and respect for human rights in the framework of private investments in Madagascar was finalized. Its signature ceremony will take place in 2020. With support from OHCHR, the Charter was drafted by representatives of civil society, the Government and mining companies to promote the integration of the principles of participation, transparency and accountability into law and policymaking and ensure that the Government's general policy and sector-based policies incorporate a human rights-based approach.



Mechanisms (M)

M1 - The government committee in charge of drafting State reports to the human rights mechanisms is effective. It has established a monitoring mechanism.







OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of an NMRF on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In February, at the request of the Minister of Justice and in preparation

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

for Madagascar's participation in the third UPR cycle, which took place in November, OHCHR facilitated two workshops to familiarize government officials, in particular members of the Interministerial Committee, with the UPR process. Participants included 20 staff members, including 12 women, from the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of Justice and 54 members, including 32 women, from the Interministerial Committee tasked with drafting State reports and following up on recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms. At the end of the two workshops, the participants developed action plans related to the establishment of a data collection system and report drafting schedules and adopted a road map for the preparation of the UPR report. This led the UNCT to provide financial and technical support for the organization of several workshops that were needed for collecting relevant information and drafting the State report to the UPR.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 - Madagascar's post-crisis reconstruction includes a genuine reconciliation process that complies with international transitional justice principles.





The Office contributed to the increased compliance of transitional justice mechanisms with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR cooperated with the National Reconciliation Council and the INHRC to support the Government in implementing a comprehensive human rights-based monitoring and prevention system during the elections.

A joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations was set up in the OHCHR Office, in Antananarivo, during legislative elections that were held, in May. A total of 15 persons, composed of staff from OHCHR and the INHRC, including its President, were present at the Centre to receive and compile information on human rights violations documented by 220 human rights monitors deployed across the country.

The Centre participated in the human rights monitoring strategy for the presidential elections that were held in November and December 2018. The strategy was shared with all key partners within the framework of the Gender and Human Rights Working Group, including CSOs, the INHRC, the National Reconciliation Council, the Bar Association, the Association of Journalists, the donor community and UN agencies. Each entity was solicited to appoint two monitors per region, which resulted in the designation of 220 monitors, including 140 women, across the country.

OHCHR developed a handbook for monitors, which was distributed to the participants during the training sessions that were held in six provinces. Each monitor was also provided with an introduction letter to facilitate their monitoring work and the means to enable them to communicate relevant findings in a timely manner.

OHCHR's collaborative work with the INHRC increased the visibility and credibility of the INHRC. Focus groups that were organized to assess human rights monitoring in the context of elections revealed that the monitors played a dissuasive role and that the monitoring strategy proved to be an effective tool in preventing electoral fraud and violence.

The presence of the monitors also helped to restore the population's confidence in the electoral process and served to strengthen the credibility of the monitors, primarily those who were members of civil society organizations working in remote areas.

First-hand information provided by the joint OHCHR-INHRC Human Rights Centre for Collecting, Compiling and Alerting on Human Rights Violations contributed to UNCT reports on the electoral process. The only other available information came from the National Independent Electoral Commission.

MALI: UNITED NATIONS MULTIDIMENSIONAL INTEGRATED STABILIZATION MISSION IN MALI (MINUSMA)

•	0.427 (rank: 184/188 in 2018) Status B, 2012	
Type of engagement	Peace Mission	
Year established	2013	
Field office(s)	Bamako, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka, Mopti, Timbuktu	
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	66	

XB requirements 2019

US\$74,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019





¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The internal oversight mechanisms of Mali's Defence and Security Forces (MDSF) are operational and comply with international human rights standards.



The Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD) of MINUSMA contributed to the increased compliance of the MDSF with international standards through technical cooperation and advocacy.

The HRPD facilitated the establishment of a mechanism for tracking missing persons who were arrested during counter-terrorism operations that were conducted by the MDSF. Thanks to this tracking system, the HRPD, in collaboration with the army's Chief of Staff, was able to determine the status of 27 reportedly missing individuals, thereby helping to prevent those persons from

being forcibly disappeared. In addition, the HRPD facilitated the deployment of legal advisers to the Chief of Staff to ensure the effective functioning of the tracking mechanism, particularly in the Gao and Mopti regions.

A2 – Criminal courts increasingly process human rights-related cases promptly and in compliance with international due process standards. Serious violations that occurred after 2012 are prosecuted, whether they involve members of armed groups or members of the MDSF.



The HRPD monitored the trials of human rights violation cases to determine if they were conducted in compliance with international standards.

Specifically, the HRPD monitored the two sessions of the Court of Assizes that were held in 2019 to ensure that international fair trial standards were observed. Out of 244 cases that were before the courts during those sessions, the HRPD monitored and assessed 19 cases of alleged terrorist acts and five cases of trafficking in persons. Although the HRPD reported an improvement in the observance of the three-year time limit for pretrial detention, it noted other human rights concerns regarding these cases.

In December, the Minister of Justice and Human Rights issued a letter to prosecutors in Mali that requested that they take "all necessary measures to engage appropriate criminal proceedings with due diligence and firmness against all persons" involved in any form of violence directed at anyone taking a stand against contemporary forms of slavery. The Minister also instructed prosecutors to regularly update him on actions taken to address this phenomenon, which is particularly prevalent in the Kayes region. This action follows sustained engagement by the HRPD with relevant authorities.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – Mali's defence and security forces and G5 Sahel Joint Force comply with international human rights law and humanitarian law when they conduct counter-terrorism operations.







Through information-sharing and advocacy, the HRPD contributed to the improvement in the compliance of State institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

The information-sharing mechanism with the army's Chief of Staff, initiated

by the HRPD, helped to facilitate significant advances in the protection of human rights and the fight against impunity. As a result of the HRPD's rigorous work in investigating, documenting and sharing information on human rights violations with the army's Chief of Staff, the armed forces significantly changed their behaviour with regard to allegations of human rights violations committed by elements of the Malian Army. While it was common for them to deny allegations of human rights violations presumably committed by the Malian Army, the HRPD noted that authorities began to seriously consider cases submitted by the HRPD, initiate investigations and request technical and logistical assistance from MINUSMA.

In June, the HRDP collaborated with United Nations Police (UNPOL), the Justice and Corrections Section of MINUSMA and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to organize a workshop on human rights and detention in relation to terrorism. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the personnel of the Pôle Judiciaire Spécialisé (PJS), the leading entity in the fight against terrorism, money laundering and transborder criminality in Mali. The workshop facilitated a debate on illegal detentions in relation to the fight against terrorism, as well as challenges faced by the PJS in handling the cases of persons arrested during counter-terrorism operations. Participants also explored possible avenues to improve detention conditions in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. As a result of this workshop and various visits and advocacy meetings that were conducted by the HRPD, 321 detainees who had been illegally detained in facilities under the responsibility of the PJS were released.

PS4 – The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission fulfils its mandate and issues its final report. The Malian authorities implement their key recommendations, prioritizing victims' rights, in accordance with Mali's international obligations.



With technical support from the HRPD, transitional justice mechanisms in Mali increasingly operate in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) made some progress towards the fulfilment of its mandate, which was extended until December 2021 and expanded to include acts committed between 1960 and 2019. The HRDP provided technical and logistical support to the Commission and was actively involved in the organization of the first public hearing. The hearing was held in Bamako, on 8 December, during which 13 witnesses (two women, 11 men) testified regarding the harm they had endured, including arbitrary detention and abductions. Moreover, the HRPD supported 14 victims' associations to increase their participation in various activities organized by the TJRC aimed at preparing victims' associations and other key partners for the hearing. To this end, the HRPD facilitated the participation of 70 persons (23 women, 47 men) in a public hearing workshop that was organized in Bamako, in May, by the TJRC. The workshop gathered together representatives of victims' associations, representatives of human rights organizations, commissioners of the TJRC, as well as advisers on reparations and reconciliation. The HRPD also contributed to the organization of a workshop on public hearings for women and child victims that was organized by the TJRC, in June,

which brought together 62 participants (28 women, 34 men) representing CSOs and associations on the rights of women and of the child.

In addition, under the Mechanisms pillar, the HRPD supported the Interministerial Committee in charge of reporting to the human rights treaty bodies in the drafting of two periodic reports under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

MAURITANIA

Population size ¹ 4.53 million		Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable 0.527 (rank: 159/188 in 2016) Status B, 2018		
Type of engager	nent	Country Office		
Year established Field office(s) UN partnership framework Staff as of 31 December 2019		2010 Nouakchott Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022		
			10	
			Total income	
		XB requirements 2019		U\$\$1,979,000
Total XB expend	liture	U\$\$1,113,321		
Personnel		Non-personnel PSC ⁺		

Key OMP pillars in 2019







\$392,795

PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 – Prison conditions increasingly comply with international standards due to monitoring and coordination of assistance efforts.



54% \$601,678

Through monitoring, technical support and advocacy activities, OHCHR contributed to the improvement of detention facilities in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR was able to undertake, for the first time, visits to a number of detention facilities, such as Selibali in the south and the women's prison in Nouakchott. The Office facilitated various trainings, alone or in partnership with

governmental institutions, that targeted members of the penitentiary system and magistrates to disseminate knowledge about human rights standards related to the treatment of prisoners. The Office continued engaging on a number of emblematic cases, including that of journalist Mohamed M'Kheitir, who was arrested in 2014, sentenced to death. then received a reduced sentence of two years in prison and a fine, which was followed by administrative detention. Mr. M'Kheitir was released in July. The Office also monitored the trials of nine men and two boys, who were tried in relation to demonstrations during and after the presidential elections. They were ultimately released.

\$118.849



Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 - The host population affected by the presence of Malian refugees and victims of other humanitarian emergencies are increasingly involved in the development and implementation of response strategies.



OHCHR supported the increased participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected processes in order to prevent conflicts between host populations and refugees. This was primarily done through capacity-building and awareness-raising activities.

OHCHR facilitated the creation of a women's network in host communities in Bassikounou. Furthermore, a number of women and girls in the network were identified and trained to become trainers on human rights. Their awareness was raised on issues such as gender-based violence, legal referrals, early and forced marriage and discrimination and other forms of human rights violations. OHCHR will continue strengthening this network through trainings, regular visits and by facilitating interactions between members of the network with relevant stakeholders at the local and central levels.

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.



M1 - The Interministerial Committee coordinates the preparation of State reports to human rights mechanisms and follows up on their recommendations. based on a national action plan. It adopts a participatory approach.



Through consistent technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NMRF on the implementation of recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

Mauritania prepared its submission to the UPR, which was shared with the Office in 2019. In addition, OHCHR collaborated with the Commission for Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Civil Society Relations to co-organize a number of trainings and workshops to monitor the implementation of the National Plan of Action to follow up on the UPR recommendations that were issued in 2015. A final assessment on the status of implementation of the recommendations will be made in 2020.

NIGER

Population size ¹ 23.31 million		Human Development Index NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.377 (rank: 189/189 in 2018) Status A, 2017	
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Niamey	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2021	
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	3	
XB requirements	s 2019	US\$538,000	

Key OMP pillars in 2019







123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A Non-discrimination (ND)

ND3 - Niger fully implements the National Policy on Gender, reduces discrimination against women, and increases the participation of women in public life.



Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR successfully engaged with the National Human Rights Commission and CSOs to advocate for enhancing the participation of women in public space in Niger. OHCHR's advocacy contributed to the adoption by Parliament, on 6 December, of the bill amending Law No. 2000-008 of June 2000 to establish the quota system in elective, government and State administration positions. The

revised legislation institutes a quota system for the participation of women in elective, government and State administration functions. The objective is to increase the quotas from 15 to 25 per cent for elective positions and from 25 to 30 per cent for appointments to senior government positions. It is anticipated that this legislation will strengthen the participation of women in public and political life in Niger.

ND6 - The Government and other relevant actors adopt a human rights-based response to combat migrant smuggling and human rights violations associated with irregular migration; particular attention is given to protecting women's and children's rights



OHCHR contributed to the protection of groups in vulnerable situations from human rights violations by supporting the establishment of appropriate protection systems and procedures.

OHCHR provided technical support to the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants to develop the National Plan of Action to combat the smuggling of migrants. This support primarily consisted of ensuring the integration of an HRBA into the strategic axes of the Action Plan. Specifically, OHCHR focused on enhancing national legal frameworks and policies on the protection of the human rights of migrants, in line with the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICMRW) and other international human rights instruments, and enhancing the national capacities in Mali and Niger to increase the protection of the human rights of migrants and their access to justice, in accordance with international human rights law and standards.

Furthermore, OHCHR analysed the conformity of the Labour Code with the standards established in ICRMW, which was ratified by Niger in 2009. The review demonstrated that the Labour Code is not in line with certain provisions related to non-discrimination in ICRMW, that it does not define migrant workers or refer to legal provisions relating to family reunification for migrant workers. As a result, the Office made proposals to the Government for corrective measures, which were integrated into the draft National Action Plan.



M1 - Niger submits reports promptly to the UPR and to the treaty bodies, engages with and responds to special procedures, and implements their recommendations.



OHCHR provided technical support to Niger to encourage the timely submission of its reports.

In 2019, Niger continued its efforts to submit outstanding reports to the human rights treaty bodies. As a result, the Government finalized and submitted its second periodic report on the implementation of ICCPR and its initial reports under CAT and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). OHCHR trained members of the NMRF on the drafting guidelines and provided technical support in finalizing and validating the reports and responding to the lists of issues.

M2 - UN agencies, civil society organizations, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and other key actors prepare and submit at least one contribution or shadow report to the UPR, Treaty Bodies or special procedures annually.





Technical guidance was provided by OHCHR to the NHRC and other actors to increase the substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR provided substantive guidance to the NHRC for the development of its report under CAT and to civil society organizations in the preparation of their joint alternative reports on the implementation of ICCPR. The report, which included OHCHR's inputs, was considered in November.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 – The Government promotes peace processes and justice reforms; these recognize the rights of victims and comply with international human rights norms and standards.





Through research and advocacy, OHCHR contributed to the establishment of national systems and procedures for protection from human rights violations.

OHCHR carried out a study to identify the profiles of victims of human rights violations in the Boko Haram conflict in the Diffa region. The main objectives of the study were to identify the types of human rights violations that occurred in the context of the conflict, determine the profile of the victims and propose means of compensation for the damage suffered.

Through the study, OHCHR sought to ensure that the rights of victims were taken into account in the context of the amnesty process that was initiated by the Government. In addition, OHCHR urged the importance of respecting the principles of human rights in conducting this process. As a result, the penal code was revised to exclude from amnesty the perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and all other serious crimes.

NIGERIA

Population size ¹ 200.96 million	Surface area ¹ 924,000 km ²	Human Development Index² NHRI (if applicable)³ 0.534 (rank: 157/188 in 2018) Status A, 2016
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser
Year established		2014
Field office(s)		Abuja, Lafia, Maiduguri, Makurdi
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019		1

XB requirements 2019

US\$ 1,300,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019





¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A2 – Nigeria domesticates at least one human rights treaty and accepts at least two additional individual complaints and inquiry procedures by 2021.



Through technical support and guidance, OHCHR contributed to the domestication and ratification of international and regional human rights treaties by the country.

In 2019, the President signed into law the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, which domesticated CRPD. This came about following advocacy that was undertaken by the UN, its partners and stakeholders. To prepare for this achievement, OHCHR organized a workshop on CRPD, in 2018, which brought together relevant stakeholders and government representatives.

Furthermore, in response to recommendations issued by the UPR, the President signed into law the Corrections Service Act, which reformed the Nigerian penitentiary system and brought it in line with current global practices that emphasize rehabilitation and establish mechanisms for non-custodial sentences.



Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The Government responds more swiftly to requests to visit by mandate holders and accepts 80 per cent of requests.





Through targeted advocacy and outreach, OHCHR encouraged the Government to increase its acceptance of special procedures visit requests.

As a result, the Government of Nigeria hosted two special procedures visits in 2019, namely, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, in August, and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in September. OHCHR provided technical and logistic support for both missions and will follow up with the concerned parties on the implementation of the recommendations resulting from these visits.

RWANDA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 12.63 million 26,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.536 (158/188 in 2018) Status A, 2018
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Kigali
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Plan 2018-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2019	2

XB requirements 2019

US\$ 488.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019



¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



D2 - By 2021, a law regulates the compliance of business with human rights. OHCHR and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) help to train corporations in human rights, with the objective of ensuring that all economic actors and businesses adhere to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.















OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of relevant legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical guidance and building the capacity of partners.

In 2019, the Office focused on building the capacity of business players and the NHRC related to business and human rights. The NHRC and its partners are familiar with the UNGPs, able to conduct investigations into human rights violations in the business sector and claim redress for violations of their rights. The Office further engaged in an analysis of existing policies, programmes and laws on business and human rights and provided inputs into the Labour Law, which is currently being revised, to ensure that the labour rights of individuals are better protected and that businesses are held accountable. The NHRC provided its inputs and views during the review of the National Employment Policy, which was promulgated in 2019 and addresses respect for human rights in relation to employment. OHCHR also monitored major development and infrastructure projects with regard to involuntary displacement, resettlement and compensation, with a view to ensuring that affected populations have relevant information and are supported in claiming their rights.

G5 SAHEL JOINT FORCE COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK PROJECT

Type of engagement	Project (Other type of field presence)
Year established	2018
Field office(s)	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger
Staff as of 31 December 2019	28

Total income	US\$6,170,158
XB requirements 2019	US\$10,300,000
Total XB expenditure	US\$6,687,738

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
54%	38%	8%
\$3,598,842	\$2,545,689	\$543,207

Key OMP pillars in 2019



[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has established mechanisms for the arrest, detention, interrogation and transfer of those apprehended during operations in accordance with international human rights and humanitarian laws and standards.



Through the provision of technical advice, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, which conform to international human rights standards.

In March, detailed standard operating procedures on capture and detention were finalized and signed by the Force Commander. OHCHR supported efforts

to ensure that they will be implemented by the G5 Sahel Joint Force, including through advocacy during workshops and trainings that led to their dissemination to sector and battalion officers before military operations were conducted. Furthermore, the Joint Force developed a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which sets out the immunities and privileges for the Joint Force troops and aims at ensuring compliance with international legal standards, including on the capture, detention and transfer of detainees. As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, the provisions of SOFA on the arrest and detention of suspects, screening and identification of soldiers and redress were brought closer in line to international standards. A provision on the non-execution of the death penalty was included as a requirement of the transfer of suspects between the G5 Sahel countries

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has integrated pre-deployment, preventative and mitigation mechanisms and measures.



OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training by providing technical support.

The OHCHR-G5 Sahel team in Bamako also contributed to the amendment of the Force Generation Protocol by encouraging the inclusion of criteria aimed at enhancing the selection process, namely, requiring that candidates do not have a criminal record or a pending case and that they have demonstrated good conduct and discipline. Military headquarters in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger are now following the same process as the United Nations screening procedures.

PS2 – Political and strategic support to the implementation and maintenance of the Compliance Framework is maintained.



Through advocacy and outreach, OHCHR helped to ensure that critical human rights issues were raised and taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

In 2019, the OHCHR-G5 Sahel team routinely engaged members of the Security Council, Member States of the UN and AU and other UN entities at strategic levels in order to provide consistent political and technical support for its work with the G5 Sahel countries. In May, briefings

were organized, in New York, for Security Council members and representatives of the G5 Sahel countries. At the end of March, the High Commissioner briefed the Security Council on the Compliance Framework during a ministerial meeting that was organized by Burkina Faso and France on the establishment of the G5 Sahel Joint Force. On 12 February, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights delivered an informal briefing to Security Council members, the AU, the G5 Sahel and some permanent representatives from the European Union on the Compliance Framework. In coordination with the UN Department of Peace Operations, OHCHR provided inputs to the Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on the G5 Sahel Joint Force, which was presented to the Security Council on 16 May. Following the presentation, 11 Security Council members referred to the Compliance Framework as a positive initiative. Recommendations were put forward to fully operationalize its measures and mechanisms. The Compliance Framework is increasingly considered by UN Member States to be a tool that can help mitigate harm to civilians in the context of conflict and counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel.

The Compliance Framework has been similarly identified as a positive approach in documents or policies of other partners, for instance, in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) policy paper entitled Building a culture of protection: 20 years of Security Council engagement on the protection of civilians. The paper documents the achievements and good practices that may serve as a foundation for achieving tangible protection for civilians in the years ahead.

PS6 – United Nations support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.



Through technical advice and training, OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights standards and compliance with the HRDDP by relevant actors.

Following the extension of the geographical scope of MINUSMA to support the G5 Sahel Joint Force outside of Mali, OHCHR provided technical and operational guidance to the Human Rights Division of MINUSMA for the organization of regional consultations on the implementation of the HRDDP. Pending the full deployment of the HRDDP team, tools, recommendations and a temporary plan for its implementation were shared with MINUSMA. Furthermore. a draft General and Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework on MINUSMA support to G5 Sahel Joint Force was finalized, in December, with technical quidance from OHCHR. This Framework will serve as the basis for required HRDDP risk assessments.

SOMALIA: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN **SOMALIA (UNSOM)**

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹ 15.44 million 638,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³
Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Mogadishu, Puntland, Somaliland, South West State
UN partnership framework	United Nations Integrated Strategic Framework 2017-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019	26

XB requirements 2019

US\$ 270,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







PILLAR RESULTS:



A2 – A functioning and independent National Human Rights Commission is established. It reports annually on the human rights situation. At least two functioning rule of law institutions with oversight and accountability powers are established.



The Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) of UNSOM contributed to the strengthening of existing protection mechanisms to promote their compliance with international human rights standards by building the capacity of national mechanisms.

In order to strengthen the capacity of national mechanisms providing redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, the HRPG facilitated two

workshops, one for the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and one for the Parliamentary Committee on Justice in the South West State of Somalia, on the implementation of recommendations issued by the UPR and accountability for human rights violations. Participants discussed topics such as the role of Members of Parliament in promoting and protecting human rights, accountability and the human rights obligations of the State as the primary duty-bearer. In Puntland, a total of 15 members of the Parliamentary Committee on Justice and Human Rights were supported by the HRPG in conducting outreach on prisons and IDPs. The findings on the human rights conditions of those being detained will be used to urge the Parliament to undertake effective measures to promote human rights and encourage policy development on compensation for victims of human rights violations.

In September, the HRPG contributed to a meeting on endorsing and implementing the draft IDP Policy, which involved 55 participants from the Parliamentary Committee on Refugees and IDPs, the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs and CSOs. Land rights, tenure security, development and social inclusion, political participation and access to services were among the topics discussed for inclusion in the draft. In addition, the State's role in adopting the policy and ending the suffering of refugees and IDPs was underscored. At the end of the meeting, State representatives recognized the responsibilities of national and local authorities to protect IDPs and create conditions for adequate and durable solutions.



P5 – Four thematic civil society networks are established or strengthened. Five civil society networks are able to monitor, report on and advocate for human rights effectively.

The HRPG continued to encourage the increased use of national protection systems by civil society actors through training sessions that were facilitated to enhance their capacity to advocate for their rights.

The HRPG facilitated a panel discussion, which took place in Mogadishu, in August, on increasing youth participation in political and economic development. Approximately 110 participants engaged in discussions related to the role of the Government in developing initiatives and ensuring the active participation of youth in ongoing political processes, including the constitutional review process, the national reconciliation dialogue

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

and preparations for the national elections in 2020. The meeting also enabled participants to identify impediments to their participation in the economic development of the country, such as high unemployment rates and an absence of national policies addressing youth issues.

Moreover, the HRPG contributed to awareness-raising activities for civil society, national authorities and the general public regarding CRPD. For instance, a seven-day community outreach was organized for six districts. Three schools for the deaf participated in the events and mobilized their local communities of parents, families and friends. The events reached over 100 persons and focused on the importance of the ratification of CRPD, which took place on 6 August.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 - Six risk assessments are conducted and at least 40 per cent of mitigation measures are implemented.



The HRPG contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of the Peace Mission.

In May, the United Nations-African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) Joint Working Group on the HRDDP met to discuss progress made on the implementation of agreed mitigation measures to address violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law. This included a presentation on the actions taken by AMISOM to monitor air asset mitigation measures. On 8 July, a joint assessment was carried out to support the implementation of these measures in view of the anticipated possible new air assets. Recommendations were made for further training on human rights and international humanitarian law for air crew, standard operating procedures for air assets and enhanced incident reporting.

The Joint Working Group met on 10 October to discuss progress and challenges in the implementation of key mitigation measures to prevent and respond to violations allegedly committed by security forces, including the role of AMISOM Boards of Inquiry, ex gratia payments and the work of the Civilian Casualty Tracking, Analysis and Response Cell. Progress was noted with regard to ex gratia payments for affected victims and relatives. In addition, AMISOM established Boards of Inquiry for two incidents involving the alleged killing of five civilians by AMISOM troops. The HRPG supported the implementation of mitigation measures by UN entities providing support to non-United Nations security forces, including the United Nations Mine Action Service, through training of trainers in Mogadishu and Puntland.



M1 – Support is provided for one annual visit by the Independent Expert on Somalia. Somalia submits one UPR report and at least one periodic report to human rights mechanisms.



The HRPG supported the increased engagement of the Federal Government with the international human rights mechanisms.

The advocacy and technical guidance provided by the HRPG contributed to the ratification of CRPD on 6 August, the

enactment of legislation that was signed on 31 December 2018 to establish a disability agency and the process of drafting legislation on the rights of persons with disabilities. The HRPG's technical support was also pivotal in the submission of the first UPR mid-term review report, in January, and the submission of reports under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and CAT, on 19 September and 10 December, respectively. In July, the HRPG provided support to the sixth visit to Mogadishu and Hargeisa of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia. This support included logistical, administrative and substantive support, especially in facilitating consultations with the Federal Government, Federal Member States, UNSOM, UN agencies, AMISOM, trade unions and humanitarian and civil society organizations.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Year established	1998
Field office(s)	Pretoria
Staff as of 31 December 2019	12

Total income	US\$864,800	
XB requirements 2019	US\$2,471,000	
Total XB expenditure	US\$969,842	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
51%	37%	12%
\$498,713	\$359,349	\$111,780
Total RB expenditure	US\$166,653	
Personnel		
100%		
\$166,653		

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



P6 - Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.



The Office continued enhancing the meaningful participation of civil society actors in public processes and the protection of civic space in Southern Africa.

In 2019, the Office supported the Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (SAHRDN) in developing strategies for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region. The SAHRDN is a network comprising representatives of human rights organizations in 10 Southern African countries.

OHCHR undertook strategic research relating to laws and policies that shrink civic space and conducted a survey to identify the challenges faced by CSOs and HRDs in the subregion, which will inform the future work of the Office.

The Office continued enhancing the capacity of CSOs and networks, particularly in Lesotho, Malawi and Mozambique, through its monitoring work, the development of new partnerships, trainings and technical advice.



PS5 - In at least four countries. UN Country Teams integrate human rights in their early warning, prevention. preparedness and response plans.









OHCHR strengthened the prevention agenda and operationalization of the Human Rights up Front Initiative in Southern Africa through support to Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UNCTs on early warning and prevention. This was achieved by conducting integrated human rights monitoring and analysis prior to and during elections (Comoros, Malawi and Mozambique) and after elections (Malawi and Zimbabwe), as well as through country visits, briefings, technical cooperation, remote monitoring and the establishment of cooperation platforms, such as integrated information and risk analysis mechanisms. The methodology used included open source media and social media monitoring, targeted data collection and engagement with RCs/UNCTs and networks of civil society partners.

OHCHR convened its partners working on early warning, early action and prevention in Southern Africa to discuss their experiences with prevention strategies in the region, review approaches, tools and practices for early warning and establish a regional knowledge-sharing network to exchange views and possibilities for enhancing early warning and early action. These experiences will feed into ongoing consultations on the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

Humanitarian Country Teams in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe incorporated human rights analysis into their discussions and strategies related to the response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth. including as a result of OHCHR inputs and participation. The Office also supported the integration of human rights in to Post-Disaster Needs Assessments in Malawi and Mozambique, with a focus on people with disabilities, older persons and persons with albinism. In Mozambique, the Regional Office for Southern Africa participated in the Operational Peer Review that followed the scale-up response to Cyclone Idai and recommended strengthening the Protection Cluster.

Following a marked increase in civil unrest throughout Malawi, which began in September, OHCHR contributed to designing a prevention strategy to address the most urgent gaps in human rights protection. The strategy was adopted by the UNCT and recommends the provision of support to help increase the capacity of the Malawi police to manage violent demonstrations and strengthen their internal professional standards and mechanisms to enable them to manage internal misconduct.



M1 – Three countries strengthen or legally establish National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up.





OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of States in the subregion to effectively engage with international human rights mechanisms and fostered initiatives to enhance the implementation of their recommendations in Southern Africa. With technical support from OHCHR, such as training of relevant government officials, technical guidance and advisory services, NMRFs and other structures have been strengthened in Botswana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia. The Office also supported **Eswatini** in the establishment of an NMRF. The mechanisms have been instrumental in building national ownership, empowering line ministries, enhancing human rights expertise in a sustainable manner, stimulating national dialogue on human rights and facilitating communication between the Government and the Parliament, the judiciary, NHRIs and CSOs.

The Office spearheaded work on an NRTD, an electronic system that facilitates recording, tracking and reporting on the implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from international, regional and national human rights mechanisms linked to the SDGs. Mauritius is the first country in Africa to have instituted an NRTD and subsequent support was provided to Botswana. Experience to date demonstrates that using an NRTD requires the institutionalization of existing structures and processes for engagement with human rights mechanisms and the implementation of recommendations issued by NMRFs.

OHCHR provided technical support to Botswana, **Lesotho**, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia to facilitate the preparation of their reports to the international human rights mechanisms. This resulted in greater appreciation for the simplified reporting procedure that is available for reports to the human rights treaty bodies. Support was also provided to States for the preparation of State Party reports in Botswana, Lesotho and South Africa. In addition, OHCHR provided support to Lesotho and Mauritius

for the preparation their respective State reports to the third UPR cycle.

OHCHR also provided support to States in the subregion to promote the ratification of the international human rights treaties, resulting in the ratification of CAT, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR on the abolition of the death penalty in **Angola**.

Some progress continued to be made with regard to State engagement with special procedures mandate holders in the subregion. Special procedures visits were undertaken in the region by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to water and sanitation to Lesotho (February), the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons to Mozambique (April/May), the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to Comoros (June, suspended midway), the International Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism to South Africa (September), the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to Zimbabwe (September) and the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to Zimbabwe (November).

Moreover, support was provided to governments and UNCTs in Angola, Lesotho and Madagascar in the preparation of their national reports to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR focused its efforts in supporting the National Human Rights Directorate in the Ministry of Justice in relation to their promotional activities and as Chair of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights.

M2 – More NGOs and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) engage with the UN human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR effectively engaged with CSOs to promote their interaction with the international human rights mechanisms. Progress was made in relation to the submission of alternative reports by CSOs in the subregion to the human rights treaty bodies. Representatives from CSOs are regularly invited to attend national trainings on State Party reporting in order to promote consultations with CSOs in the process of preparing State reports.

OHCHR enhanced the capacity of representatives of CSOs to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. A one-day subregional training on this topic was organized in the margins of the Southern African Human Rights Defenders annual meeting in South Africa. In addition, a three-day training was organized in Zambia to promote engagement with the mechanisms. As a result of these trainings, CSOs enhanced their understanding of the various mechanisms and their working methods, as well as the functions of the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

Support and quidance were also provided to UNCTs and CSOs in Lesotho in the preparation of their submissions to the UPR.

In Mozambique, OHCHR provided information and quidance to CSOs on treaty body engagement in the context of CEDAW's review of Mozambique's combined third to fifth periodic reports.



D7 - All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.

With support from OHCHR, four countries in the subregion, namely, Angola, Eswatini, Madagascar and South Africa, rolled out new UNSDCFs.

The Office participated in the development of new Cooperation Frameworks in these countries and played a leading role in ensuring that human rights were mainstreamed into the new UNSDCFs. In Eswatini and South Africa, recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms were incorporated into their respective CCAs. OHCHR will continue to provide technical support to the UNCTs in both countries to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed into the CCAs in 2020.

The Office collaborated with UNCTs in Mozambique and Zimbabwe by facilitating workshops and trainings on the application of a human rights lens to programme development, including through stakeholder mapping and consultations. This also addressed the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, integrating human rights and the SDGs into peace and development work on international human rights mechanisms and the role of the UNCTs in engaging with them, including in the implementation of their issued recommendations.

SOUTH SUDAN: UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN (UNMISS)

•	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.413 (186/188 in 2018)
Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2011
Field office(s)	Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Juba, Kuajok, Malakai, Pibor, Rumbek, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei
UN partnership framework	United Nations Cooperation Framework 2019-2021
Staff as of 31 December 2019	88

XB requirements 2019 **US\$940,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2019







¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The Government strengthens national human rights protection systems and the administration of justice.



Technical support provided by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of UNMISS contributed to the improved compliance of legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRD and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict provided technical support to the South Sudan People's Defence Forces. As a result, an Action Plan was launched, on 14 March, to address conflict-related sexual violence. The development and implementation of the Action Plan is a necessary step for a potential delisting of the South Sudan

People's Defence Forces from the annex of the Secretary-General's annual report on conflict-related sexual violence. Furthermore, the HRD supported the drafting of South Sudan's National Police Service Action Plan, which was launched on 19 November.

A1 – South Sudan authorities release individuals who are arbitrarily detained or held incommunicado; provide information on disappeared persons; and grant access to rule of law institutions, including detention facilities.



State institutions sought to improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards with the support of the HRD.

The HRD provided technical support to the national South Sudan Human Rights Commission to develop a checklist to facilitate its monitoring of detention facilities in Juba. Similar support was provided to the South Sudan Human Rights Defenders Network to undertake monitoring, investigation and reporting of conflict-related violations in Yei (Central Equatoria). Regarding its own monitoring, each field office of the HRD carried out an average of four weekly visits to prisons and detention facilities. During the visits, the HRD engaged and advocated with prison and justice authorities to ensure greater compliance with international human rights standards in the administration of justice and help secure the release of individuals being arbitrarily detained.

In addition, UNMISS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) agreed to coordinate their efforts on mobile courts to provide increased support to the national justice system. Mobile courts were deployed to Bentiu and Malakal in order to open a referral pathway for national authorities regarding suspected criminal incidents that are committed in UNMISS Protection of Civilian sites. This cooperation included assistance for the transportation of judges, prosecutors, defence counsel and investigators. In addition, UNMISS provided logistical support to facilitate court hearings and the HRD followed proceedings to ensure that fair trial standards were respected.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 – The Transitional Government of National Unity identifies human rights violations and takes administrative and legal action to hold perpetrators accountable. It establishes transitional justice institutions that comply with international human rights norms, standards and good practices.



The HRD contributed to the establishment of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards, including by facilitating capacity-building activities.

No significant progress was made in 2019 towards the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan or the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing. The Ministry of Justice was unwilling to carry out any sensitization or consultation activities related to the Commission until after the revitalized Transitional Government was formed. Since this was postponed twice in 2019, no technical support was provided during the reporting period.



M1 – South Sudan ratifies at least two human rights treaties or optional protocols without reservations.



Through outreach and advocacy activities, the HRD contributed to the increased ratification of international and regional human rights mechanisms.

As a result of continued advocacy and engagement with State authorities and

relevant partners, South Sudan ratified ICCPR and ICESCR and their first Optional Protocols, on 3 June. Throughout April and May, the HRD facilitated weekly meetings to advocate for the ratification of these treaties with the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee, as well as the Justice and Legislation Committee of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly. In addition, with the technical support of the HRD, the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Committee presented a report to the Legislative Assembly and recommended the ratification of the two treaties. Furthermore, the HRD supported the Legislative Assembly to hold public consultations with CSOs and other key stakeholders, including the Union of Persons with Disabilities, to pursue the ratification of CRPD and its first Optional Protocol, which is still pending.

M1 – South Sudan implements UPR recommendations that it has accepted.



Technical support was provided by the HRD to the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up and implementation of the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR to contribute to its adequate functioning.

In August, the HRD collaborated with the South Sudan Human Rights Commission and other partners to support the Government of South Sudan's Interministerial Committee on the UPR to provide training on the preparation and submission of the UPR mid-term review report in accordance with the South Sudan Matrix of Implementation of UPR Recommendations. The report was drafted and endorsed by the Government of South Sudan, in February. Similar

support was provided to CSOs to draft and submit their mid-term alternative report to the UPR.

SUDAN: AFRICAN UNION-UNITED NATIONS HYBRID OPERATION IN DARFUR (UNAMID)

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 42.81 million	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.507 (168/188 in 2018)
Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Addis Abeba, El Daein, El Fasher, El Geneina, Khartoum, Nyala, Port Sudan, Zalingei
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021
Staff as of 31 December 2019	33

XB requirements 2019

US\$187,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – Transitional justice and other mechanisms of redress are fully operational and comply with international human rights norms and standards.



Through technical assistance, the Human Rights Section (HRS) of UNAMID continued to contribute to the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

Specifically, through 20 meetings and four workshops, the HRS provided technical support for 195 participants (70 women, 125 men) from the National Commission for Human Rights, the General Prosecutor for Darfur Crimes and the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

Commission to broaden their human rights knowledge, enable them to more effectively discharge their mandates and strengthen the national transitional justice programme. The HRS also supported two workshops for 40 transitional justice personnel in Khartoum, in September, to assist transitional justice mechanisms and enable the National Commission for Human Rights to address past human rights violations and combat impunity. The second workshop for the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission targeted 40 persons and encouraged the Government to conduct a comprehensive disarmament process that is consistent with international standards. Furthermore, the HRS and UNDP provided support to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission to conduct a study tour in Liberia to share lessons learned on transitional justice mechanisms. These capacity-building activities led to a strengthening of the protection mandates of the respective entities. In addition, the workshops recommended that the National Commission for Human Rights review and update its transitional justice programme.

A1 – Courts and traditional justice mechanisms significantly increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.



By enhancing the capacity of judges and prosecutors on human rights, the HRS contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions.

The prolonged conflict in Darfur has had a negative impact on access to justice, including judicial infrastructure. As a result, courts continued to be affected by capacity constraints and undue delays. UNAMID and the UNCT supported the strengthening of the criminal justice chain by facilitating the construction of rural courts and police posts in Graida, Um Dafok, Wad Hagam, Al-Radoum and Sirba and Sisi localities and a child prosecution office and a child court in El Geneina. The construction of the rural courts provided essential facilities for the functionality of the justice chain. This consequently increased access to justice and made it easier for victims of human rights violations and abuses to pursue their rights to remedy.

The HRS continued to enhance the capacity of judges and prosecutors to mainstream human rights principles into judicial processes.

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.



P6 – An enabling environment has been established that is conducive to dialoque and respect for human rights. It includes the implementation of peace agreements.

The HRS sought to contribute to the increased meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

The HRS implemented capacity-building and awareness-raising activities for non-State actors to increase their knowledge about human rights. Particular emphasis was placed on vulnerable groups in camps forIDPs and rural communities at the frontline of localized violence between nomads and farmers. Such sensitization activities helped rights-holders in the exercise of their rights to freedom of assembly as manifested during and in the aftermath of the mass protests. There was also a more visible participation of women in public life, which was enhanced by the political transformation and stated commitment of the Transitional Government to promote women's rights. These developments helped to expand the civic space and promote an enabling environment for civilians to exercise their rights.



D7 – Human rights considerations are integrated in the post-2015 Development Agenda and actions to implement it.

By providing technical assistance, the HRS contributed to the increased compliance of selected policy areas with international human rights norms and standards.

The Transitional authorities adopted a Constitutional Document with strong human rights elements. It provides for legislative reform to enlarge freedom and prohibit all forms of gender-based discrimination, as well as a transitional justice agenda to promote accountability on the basis of investigating past crimes and bringing alleged perpetrators to justice. In addition, the Constitutional Document provides for the creation of 12 independent thematic commissions to consolidate a human rights and rule of law protection framework to promote and protect women's rights and combat all forms of discrimination against women. The HRS engaged with authorities on the realization of economic and social rights, including through the integration of the SDGs into the transition agenda, as well as the implementation of integrated activities under the "Sudan in Transition" initiative.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – The UN Country Team integrates human rights considerations in its policies and programmes for humanitarian action, early recovery, and security in Darfur.



UN common country programmes increasingly incorporated international human rights norms, standards and principles. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach and capacity-building activities, the HRS ensured a strengthened human rights presence in the operation areas of the State Liaison Functions (SLF). The SLF is a cooperation framework through which UNAMID co-locates staff with the UNCT to facilitate the joint implementation of programmes under peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives. Since January, HRS staff have been co-located with agencies, in particular UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in SLF operation areas to support their national partners, including government entities and civil society groups. Through the integration of a human rights-based approach, SLF programmes and activities contributed to the development of sustainable solutions to the drivers of conflict through joint analysis, planning and delivery on activities in order to avoid conflict relapse.

UGANDA

Population size¹ Surface are 44.27 million 242,000 km			
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2005		
Field office(s)	Gulu, Kampala, Moroto		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020		
	30		
Staff as of 31 December 201	9 30		
Staff as of 31 December 201 Total income	US\$646,547		
Total income	US\$646,547		
Total income XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure	U\$\$646,547 U\$\$5,108,000 U\$\$3,205,817		
Total income XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel	U\$\$646,547 U\$\$5,108,000 U\$\$3,205,817 Non-personnel PSC'		

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 - State and non-State actors enhance their capacity to institute legal and policy reforms and implement and enforce existing laws. They improve the investigation and adjudication of cases that entail human rights violations, including within their own ranks.



With technical support from OHCHR, selected policies were amended to more fully comply with international human rights norms and standards.

In February, in the absence of a national legal framework, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) launched the Witness Protection Guidelines and the Victims' Rights and Empowerment Guidelines, which are in line with international human rights norms and standards. OHCHR provided technical and financial support for the development of both of these documents, which will facilitate the establishment of a standard procedure for dealing with victims. It will also enable prosecutors to determine witness protection perimeters and the scope of protection and help them to recognize and implement victims' rights during investigations and during and after trials. In 2020, OHCHR will follow up with the ODPP to ensure that the Guidelines are disseminated and implemented and

continue to advocate for the adoption of the pending Witness Protection Bill.

The National Transitional Justice Policy (NTJP) was approved by the Cabinet. Over the last several years, OHCHR and its CSO partners and others advocated for the adoption of the NTJP and the Transitional Justice Bill, which is mostly in line with human rights standards, however it is still pending finalization and adoption.

Building on the momentum created by the adoption of the NTJP, OHCHR-Uganda produced a public report on national transitional justice processes, with a specific focus on survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in northern Uganda. The report will be published in the second quarter of 2020 and will serve as an advocacy tool in OHCHR's future engagements on the implementation of the NTJP and the adoption of the Transitional Justice Bill.

A2 – National justice and human rights mechanisms, including the Uganda Human Rights Commission and the judiciary, provide redress and accountability to victims in an increased number of cases reported.





OHCHR contributed to strengthening national accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure they are functioning in increased compliance with international human rights standards. These efforts included providing technical support for the review of guidance books used by the judiciary, and advocating for the implementation of relevant legislation.

Building on its work carried out in 2018, OHCHR and the Judicial Training Institute launched the Resource Book

on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for judicial officers and court users. The Resource Book compiles international and regional human rights treaties, general comments and domestic and international jurisprudence and offers guidance on the adjudication of economic, social and cultural rights. Following the launch, 30 judicial officers (13 women, 17 men) at a training discussed challenges and opportunities in taking forward cases on economic, social and cultural rights in Uganda. They also committed to using the Resource Book in their respective jurisdictions.

OHCHR collaborated with the Judicial Service Commission to produce a new edition of the Citizens' Handbook on Law and the Administration of Justice, which assists the general public to better understand the Justice, Law and Order Sector. To assess its clarity and user-friendliness for end users, OHCHR undertook pretesting in three target districts with 43 participants. The Handbook will integrate the received feedback and will be launched in 2020. Following the launch, it will be disseminated at local levels.

Participation (P)

P2 - The Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) increasingly fulfils its mandate in conformity with the Paris Principles.



OHCHR continued supporting the UHRC to strengthen its capacity to work in conformity with the Paris Principles, including by collaborating in joint monitoring missions. Monitoring missions were undertaken with the support of OHCHR on a wide range of human rights issues in Karamoja, northern Uganda and

Kampala, including remote areas. Information gathered from these missions was used to undertake action in relation to alleged violations committed by the State apparatus.

During the missions, the UHRC and OHCHR visited detention facilities and raised human rights concerns with relevant local authorities, including extended detention beyond the 48-hour rule, the lack of separation of female and male detainees and the number of minors being held in detention on charges of petty offences. Following the inspection of a police detention facility in West Nile, and as a result of joint UHRC and OHCHR advocacy, five juveniles were released who had been detained on minor theft offences. In Karamoia, information gathered from the field missions was used to initiate action in UHRC tribunals on alleged violations committed by law enforcement agencies, resulting in the payment of reparations to at least 26 victims. The report from the mission in the Lango subregion provided substantive information on mob activities. This informed a UHRC-OHCHR round-table discussion with key stakeholders from Justice, Law and Order Sector institutions, in Lira, on the increasing trend of mob activities in the Lango subregion. The dialogue identified strategies to minimize mob activities through real-time responses by the respective duty-bearers. Follow-up forums with the duty-bearers in areas most affected have been planned in 2020 to assess the extent to which different actions have been successfully undertaken by various actors

P4 - Civil society monitors more systematically and is in a position to raise human rights concerns. Women human rights defenders are able to raise concerns affecting them, and enhance their ability to seek redress for threats and attacks against them.



The Office helped to facilitate the increasingly meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in public processes. This was primarily achieved by training civil society representatives on human rights issues relevant to their work and supporting their monitoring and advocacy efforts.

During 2019, the Office continued increasing the capacity of HRDs, WHRDs and journalists to report and advocate on human rights issues to enhance their meaningful participation and engagement in monitoring and advocacy efforts.

Building on the 2018 establishment of the Women Human Rights Defenders Network-Uganda (WHRDN), OHCHR strengthened the capacity of 42 members of the Network to advocate on human rights issues and engage with the international human rights mechanisms and other networks in the region. OHCHR launched a project through which it will organize, in 2020, capacity-building activities for grass-roots members of the WHRDN in the Karamoja, Busoga and Rwenzori subregions.

In addition, through four training activities, the Office built the capacity of 145 HRDs, including 66 women, on the use of the updated version of the human rights case database, engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and advocacy regarding public freedoms in the context of elections.

OHCHR also trained 112 journalists and media professionals, including 61 women, to increase their understanding of public freedoms, the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, as well as on women's rights and gender equality, and to encourage reflection there of regarding editorial content and news reporting. Following the trainings, there was an increase in articles on human rights concerns in the print media.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - National laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights norms and standards on equality and non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons with disabilities, minorities and women's rights.





norms and standards.





OHCHR supported the development, through a consultative process, of a situational analysis on the human rights situation of persons with albinism in Uganda. The report, which was launched on 13 June on the occasion of International Albinism Awareness Day, recommends strategies to address challenges affecting persons with albinism. Building on the report, OHCHR cooperated with the Open Society Initiative for East Africa to launch a joint initiative to foster collaboration within the albinism community with a view to identifying future priorities and actions. In this context, the First National Meeting of CSOs of Persons with Albinism brought together 23 leaders, including eight women, from across the country to discuss common challenges and explore national strategic interventions targeted towards the promotion of their human rights. The participants identified eight priority areas for intervention and established a task force to develop a draft National Action Plan on Albinism. based on a national adaptation of the AU Regional Action Plan on Albinism. A draft was discussed at the second national CSO meeting, which was held in December. OHCHR will engage with authorities in 2020 to advocate for the adoption and implementation of the draft National Action Plan.

In February, OHCHR and the Uganda Equal Opportunities Commission launched the Report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Uganda. The report provides a legal analysis of Ugandan disability legislation in relation to CRPD, identifies gaps and makes specific recommendations to align national legislation with the Convention. The report was issued when the Parliament was deliberating on the draft 2019 Persons with Disability Bill, which failed to address major concerns and minimized the Government's obligations to fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities. Based on the findings of the report, the Equal Opportunities Commission presented its recommendations to the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development. The Committee included some of these views in the adopted 2019 Persons with Disabilities Act.



D2 - The Government has approved a dedicated National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights; national programmes and mechanisms are increasingly compliant with international human rights norms and standards on business and human rights, including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR convened meetings and facilitated consultations to contribute to the improved compliance of selected programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to develop a draft National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, in line with relevant recommendations that were issued by the UPR and accepted by Uganda in 2016. OHCHR supported the convening of several meetings of a resource group, composed of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UHRC and leading CSOs in the field. Furthermore, in order to inform the prioritization of issues in the draft Action Plan, OHCHR organized a series of regional consultations in Kampala, Gulu, Jinja, Masaka, Mbarara, Moroto and Soroti, bringing together more than 400 representatives from local governments, the UHRC, business actors and CSOs from nine districts in each region. The participants considered key human rights challenges resulting from existing business operations, prevailing gaps in the regulation of business activities and appropriate measures that need to be integrated into the draft in order to address these challenges. A further consultation was organized

for business entities and trade union leaders to share findings from the nine regional consultations.

In October, OHCHR assisted the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to hold an editing retreat to work on the draft. Participants included the Office of the President, the Office of the Prime Minister, the UNHC, the Equal Opportunities Commission, the national chapter of the UN Global Compact and CSOs. The draft outlines land-, environmental- and labour-related concerns. provides for access to remedies and identifies measures to address the impact of business operations on marginalized and vulnerable groups. It is anticipated that the draft will be finalized in 2020 and will be submitted to the senior leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development for approval.

D4 – Government offices increasingly apply a human rights-based approach to maternal health when they formulate and implement policies and programmes.



OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Health to develop a draft national multisectoral strategy that applies an HRBA to reduce maternal mortality rates. OHCHR facilitated five coordination meetings of the HRBA Working Group, composed of representatives from the Ministry of Health, the UHRC, CSOs, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women, which provided substantive inputs during the drafting process. In addition, OHCHR piloted the draft strategy in five different districts to solicit feedback from local government officials, CSOs and community members. Participants shared the specific challenges they face in providing maternal health services and noted the lack of access to adequate information

regarding sexual and reproductive health rights, among other issues of concern. It is expected that the strategy will be adopted by the Ministry of Health in 2020.

OHCHR joined the efforts of the Global Fund Technical Working Group on Human Rights and provided technical support for the drafting of the National Plan for achieving equity in access to HIV/ AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services. The plan was launched by the Ministry of Health, on 10 December, and sets out key interventions to address barriers that impede the enjoyment of human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Particular attention is paid to the needs of key populations, such as LGBTI persons, drug users and other vulnerable groups, with a view to ensuring that "No One is Left Behind." OHCHR provided inputs related to empowering communities to know their rights and demand services; strengthening legal aid providers to support women living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; creating a referral pathway to ensure people have access to legal, psychosocial and health services as required; and reviewing legislation that is discriminatory to key populations.

D8 – The State's statistical frameworks, including the national standards indicator framework (NSI) and the results and resources framework (RRF), increasingly comply with international human rights norms, standards and principles with respect to data for national development.



In its efforts to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Office advocated for the increased compliance of selected State programmes with international human rights standards, including by providing technical advice on an HRBA.

On 28 June, four key Ugandan national institutions signed a MoU on the application of an HRBA to data in order to "Leave No One Behind" when implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Uganda. The MoU, supported through training activities by OHCHR, establishes cooperation between the Office of the Prime Minister, the UHRC, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and the National Planning Authority. These four institutions committed to working cooperatively to apply an HRBA to data collection, analysis and dissemination to help improve the quality of service delivery by relevant stakeholders for the benefit of the general public. OHCHR will continue supporting the operationalization of the MoU, including with a view to addressing data gaps regarding marginalized and vulnerable aroups.

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The Government has approved a National Human Rights Action Plan and has access to sufficient data to enable it to report appropriately to human rights mechanisms, including by making effective use of the database on national, regional and international human rights recommendations.



Through technical support, OHCHR aimed to contribute to the effective functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR continued to build the capacity of government ministries, departments and agencies to track and report on progress made in the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. Since 2014, OHCHR has been progressively supporting the UHRC and the Government to develop a database/search engine, which consolidates recommendations emanating from the international. regional and national human rights mechanisms. After the database was updated to incorporate a monitoring and evaluation framework, a new version was launched, in March. The launch was followed by two trainings, in April and September, on the use of the database for the designated technical focal points.

Furthermore, as result of OHCHR's support, the Government made significant advances in submitting long overdue reports to the human rights treaty bodies. During 2019, OHCHR supported the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to collect data for the development of State Party reports under CAT and ICCPR. Furthermore, OHCHR and UN Women facilitated a validation meeting for the State Party report under CEDAW. In addition, technical support was provided for the validation of the draft initial report under ICERD. The four reports were finalized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and are awaiting Cabinet approval before being submitted to the respective human rights treaty bodies. In March 2020, the periodic report was submitted to CEDAW, with the others expected to follow.

WEST AFRICA

Countries of engagement	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo		
Year established	2007		
Field office(s)	Dakar		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	19		

XB requirements 2019		US\$8,665,000		
Total XB expenditure		US\$3,031,315		
Personnel	Non-personnel		PSC [†]	
28%	63%		9%	
\$847,316	\$1,924,719		\$259,280	
Total RB expenditure		US\$913,288		
Personnel			Non- personnel	
88%			12%	
\$805,124	•		\$108,164	

Key OMP pillars in 2019







PILLAR RESULTS:



88 Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - In the Economic Community of West African States, national laws, policies and programmes increasingly protect children from abuse and exploitation.







Through a series of activities, including capacity-building and technical cooperation. OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of national programmes and institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

A number of results were achieved in the context of a project to support the eradication of begging and child abuse in Senegal, including the development of standard operating procedures for the care of children in danger and a national action plan for child protection that has been endorsed by the Government. A Children's Code has also been finalized and is under consideration at the Ministry of Justice. Furthermore, a methodological tool that will be used in conducting a national survey on child begging in Senegal was developed with

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

the technical assistance of the Office and approved by the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection. The provision of equipment (bedding and medicine) for 10 reception centres that were established to promote access to protection services for 500 children in vulnerable situations is another significant achievement. Finally, the Office carried out three studies linked to the implementation of this project, including a mapping of actors and initiatives to combat begging and child abuse, an analysis of Senegal's international, regional and national legal framework on the rights of the child and the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of the child and a study on the status of data collection related to child begging in Senegal.

The Office also facilitated training to enhance the capacity of national actors to better protect the rights of children in Senegal. During the reporting period, OHCHR trained 60 members of the Departmental Child Protection Committees on research and data collection techniques related to child protection issues; 20 educators from Koranic schools ("daaras") on the psychosocial care of children to improve their practices in the protection of child victims of abuse; 90 child protection actors on the legal framework, human rights and human rights mechanisms; 70 actors from the judicial system on the legal framework for child protection and the international and national legal frameworks to combat trafficking in persons, including the exploitation of children through forced begging; and 20 community actors on the harmful consequences related to the persistent practice of begging and child abuse.

The project made progress at the regional level. In the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger and Senegal, national steering committees and technical committees, composed of key child protection actors, were established as main consultation mechanisms on the rights of the child. In Guinea-Bissau, the Office supported the drafting of the Children's Code, including by disseminating the recommendations issued by regional and international mechanisms on the rights of the child to relevant actors in Guinea and Niger. It is also supporting the development of national action plans for both countries and has helped care centres to strengthen their communication skills through the production of information materials on the services offered to children in danger.

ND6 – Legal frameworks and protection mechanisms protect and promote the human rights of migrants in their countries of origin and in transit.







Through enhanced coordination and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of protection mechanisms for migrants that conform to international human rights standards.

Significant progress has been achieved on the enhanced coordination and exchange of information aimed at increasing the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants. OHCHR was active in the establishment of the Regional Network on Migration. Its terms of reference were finalized and the Network began functioning in 2019. The Office similarly contributed to the establishment of the National Network on Migration in the Gambia.

In Niger, OHCHR and UNODC helped to develop an action plan to counter the smuggling of migrants. They also collaborated to enhance the capacities of judges and prosecutors on the application of a human rights-based approach to migration in their daily work. Furthermore, in the Gambia, Mali and Senegal, OHCHR and UNODC worked with national authorities to develop draft legislation and policies on the smuggling of migrants in line with international human rights standards.



Accountability (A)

A1 – In three countries, National Human Rights Institutions operate effectively, or have been strengthened, in accordance with the Paris Principles.



The Office contributed to the increased establishment and functioning of NHRIs, in line with international standards, including by providing technical advice and advocating with authorities for the reform of related legislation.

In Burkina Faso, following the 2018 adoption of legislation to increase the independence of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), OHCHR trained its staff to enhance its management capacities and skills to monitor and report on human rights violations. The NHRC carried out one fact-finding mission but did not produce a substantive report on the human rights violations that occurred in 2019. In Côte d'Ivoire, the National Council on Human Rights received technical assistance to develop a report on good practices for monitoring human rights violations and to submit its report to the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation in order to be accredited with "A" status. In the Gambia, OHCHR provided substantive support to the NHRC to strengthen its capacities to function in compliance with the Paris Principles. This led to the drafting and approval of a bill on the establishment of an independent NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles, followed by the operationalization of the NHRC with the appointment of its commissioners, in February. OHCHR supported the organization of an orientation retreat and the drafting of internal policies and provided office space, furniture and equipment for the functioning of the NHRC.

A2 – In three countries, transitional justice mechanisms are in place and functioning in line with international human rights norms and standards.



As a result of technical support from the Office, transitional justice mechanisms were established and/or strengthened in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In the Gambia, OHCHR supported the operationalization of the transitional justice process. The Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, established in 2017, began to implement its mandate, in 2019, and made use of the knowledge it had gained through the capacity-building activities that were facilitated by the Office. Between January and October, the Commission conducted a number of public hearings to enable the participation of 129 witnesses, 21 of whom were women and 31 of whom were alleged perpetrators. The Minister of Justice has not yet acted on a proposal to enact a government-led coordination mechanism on transitional iustice that would facilitate a more coordinated and shared effort to implement the transitional justice process, particularly now that a National Strategy on Transitional Justice and Resource Mobilization plan has been adopted.

In the Gambia, civil society organizations, victims' associations, media professionals, women and youth groups were provided with adequate training to participate in transitional justice processes. From June 2018 to January 2019, 28 media bodies, 44 representatives from victims' associations, 66 religious and traditional leaders and 119 youth leaders received training to enhance their participation in transitional justice processes.



M1 – In four countries, the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up is established or strengthened; NMRFs set out a plan for implementing recommendations.



Following technical guidance provided by the Office, NMRFs on the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR were developed or strengthened.

With support from OHCHR, the NMRF in Burkina Faso finalized its National Strategic Plan for the implementation of recommendations emanating from the treaty bodies and the UPR, in October. In Côte d'Ivoire, as a result of the strengthened capacity of the NMRF in relation to reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, the mechanism replied to the list of issues issued by CEDAW and CRC. In Senegal, the NMRF made good progress in reporting to the treaty bodies and, as of the end of 2019, it had finalized all of its outstanding reports, including a report under CEDAW. OHCHR enhanced the NMRF's capacity to draft a National Action Plan on implementing the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, under the Non-discrimination pillar, OHCHR continued to undertake activities to ensure that rights-holders, particularly youth and women, are sensitized to the importance of their participation in the public arena. In this respect, the Office worked closely with UNESCO and other partners to co-organize the third African Regional Youth Forum, in Banjul, the Gambia from 28 to 30 October. The Forum gathered together nearly 150 young leaders from across the continent, including 60 women, to discuss issues of common interest, including governance, gender, climate change and artificial intelligence. In the outcome document, the participants requested support to build their capacities and knowledge related to their rights and to learn how to use the recommendations issued from international human rights mechanisms to claim those rights.

Furthermore, under the Development pillar, OHCHR encouraged UNCTs to identify those furthest left behind on the basis of recommendations stemming from the international human rights mechanisms and advocated for the integration of these recommendations into all UN programmatic frameworks. In Senegal, OHCHR contributed to the UNCT's revision of the "Leaving No One Behind" strategy. In Ghana, at the request of the RC, OHCHR provided an analysis of the outcomes of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership as they relate to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

ZIMBABWE

Population size¹ 14.65 million	Surface area ¹ 391,000 km ²		elopment Index² 188 in 2018)	NHRI (if applicable) ³ Status A, 2016
Type of engagen	nent	Human R	ights Adviser	
Year established		2018		
Field office(s)		Harare		
UN partnership f	ramework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020		
Staff as of 31 Dec	cember 2019	1		
XB requirements	s 2019	US\$298	,000	
Key OMP pillars	in 2019	(A)	2 (55)	

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P6 – Civil society organizations are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.





OHCHR provided technical support to empower rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, to participate in public processes and engage with the international human rights mechanisms to claim their rights.

The Office provided support and technical expertise to CSOs regarding their engagement with the special procedures. This resulted in four communications that were issued by special procedures on behalf of individuals whose rights were alleged to have been violated by the Government and an increased number of inputs and reports that were shared with special rapporteurs in relation to human rights issues of concern in the country.

OHCHR briefed two civil society organizations that support victims of torture on how to access the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. One of the organizations received a grant from the Fund to support its activities.

OHCHR advocated with the Government and provided technical inputs for the drafting of a disability bill and policy that is compliant with CRPD and international human rights principles. More specifically, organizations of persons with disabilities were consulted during the drafting process of the draft bill and policy. The Government then launched countrywide consultations to collect feedback on the drafts.



D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt a human rights-based approach to programming; all link the SDGs to human rights standards.

In 2019, all UN common country programmes integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles resulting from workshops that were facilitated by OHCHR and tools that it shared.

With OHCHR's support and advice, the UN Human Rights Working Group was reactivated. The Office led the drafting of the Working Group's terms of reference and 2019 annual workplan, both of which were endorsed by the UN Country Team.

OHCHR also conducted a training session on human rights and the SDGs for civil society organizations. The objective of the training was to encourage CSOs to provide inputs for Zimbabwe's reporting process and engage in the implementation of the SDGs. Zimbabwe plans to submit a VNR at the 2020 Highlevel Political Forum on Sustainable Development and it is in the process of drafting a progress report that will feed into the drafting process.



M1 – The country strengthens or legally establishes a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up.

By providing technical support, OHCHR contributed to the functioning of an NMRF to facilitate the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR participated in the revision of the National Plan of Action and advocated for an inclusive approach to implementing and reporting on the UPR recommendations. While the Plan has not yet been formally approved, it has been published and is guiding the implementation of the UPR recommendations. Specifically, it lays out the planned actions and timelines for the implementation of the recommendations, and identifies the lead agencies and stakeholders. Furthermore, OHCHR conducted training sessions for CSOs and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission on reporting to CEDAW and how they can engage with the CEDAW Committee during its seventieth pre-sessional working group. Consequently, the Gender Commission, the Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association and the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe (with a membership of 116 organizations) made submissions to CEDAW.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AMERICAS



TYPE OF PRESENCE

Headquarters

Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions

Regional Offices/Centres

Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions

Human Rights Advisers
deployed under the
framework of the UNSDG

Other types of field presences

LOCATION

New York

Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico

Central America, Panama and Dominican Republic (Panama City, Panama)

South America (Santiago de Chile, Chile)

Haiti (MINUJUSTH until 15 October 2019; BINUH as of 16 October 2019)

Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay

Venezuela

LEGEND:

Spotlights:







Shifts:















SDGs:

































The work of OHCHR in the region covered 35 countries. The Office supported two regional offices (Central America based in Panama City and South America based in Santiago de Chile); four country offices (Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico); one Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in Jamaica; and nine Human Rights Advisers/Officers in Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay: and one human rights component in a United Nations Peace Mission in Haiti (MINUJUSTH until 15 October/BINUH as of 16 October). In 2019, the Office led operations towards the establishment of a new field presence in Venezuela.

The year was marked by social grievances that were exacerbated by persistent inequalities and weak institutional trust due to corruption, discriminatory policies and, in some places, by violence generated by organized crime and drug-trafficking. In the last four months of 2019, several countries in the region experienced an increase in social protests and observed patterns of excessive use of force against protesters. Despite some progress that had been made in recent years, impunity related to past and present human rights violations prevails and access to justice remains limited. Amnesty laws, a lack of independence of the judiciary and ongoing corruption continue to be obstacles to justice, redress and reparation.

The defence of human rights continues to be extremely perilous in the region. An alarming number of human rights defenders (HRDs) are reported to have been victims of homicides, attacks, threats, harassment, stigmatization and judicial persecution. There are more HRDs and journalists reportedly killed in this region than anywhere else in the world. Those involved in environmental rights, land

conflicts and members of marginalized groups, such as indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, peasants and LGBTI activists, are among those who are most at risk. OHCHR continued supporting authorities to strengthen national protection mechanisms and accountability.

During the reporting period, OHCHR continued supporting State institutions, civil society organizations and national human rights organizations (NHRIs) to adopt a human rights perspective to strengthen accountability systems, improve access to justice and reparations for victims of gross human rights violations, expand civic space and support technical cooperation and institution-building. OHCHR's early warning, monitoring and reporting mandate enabled it to identify and assess human rights protection gaps and shortcomings and make appropriate recommendations.

Given the important impact of non-State actors on the human rights situation in the region, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), OHCHR implemented the project "Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean." The overarching objective of the project is to promote inclusive and smart economic growth by creating enabling conditions for sustainable businesses and supporting target countries to make responsible business conduct a policy priority. Country-specific activities were implemented in nine countries of the region, namely, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

In addition, OHCHR continued to closely monitor and report on the deteriorating human rights situation in Venezuela. In June, the High Commissioner conducted an official visit to Caracas. In September, OHCHR and the Government of Venezuela signed a Letter of Understanding to establish a framework for cooperation and a presence in the country, including through the deployment of two Human Rights Officers to the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO). In compliance with Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 39/1, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation, in June, Oral updates were delivered in March and September. HRC resolution 42/4, which was adopted in September, requested that the High Commissioner present another report to the HRC in 2020. HRC resolution 42/25, which was also adopted in September, requested the presentation of a second report in June 2020 and the establishment of an independent international fact-finding mission on Venezuela.

The Regional Office for Central America continued to remotely monitor and report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua and engage with the State and national institutions. In line with Human HRC resolution 40/2, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua, in September. Oral updates were delivered in June 2019 and March 2020. Monthly bulletins on the human rights situation were also issued by OHCHR. The High Commissioner and the Office maintained a dialogue with senior government officials to obtain access to the country, address specific situations and provide technical assistance, including to the NHRI and National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).

During the period leading up to the 2019 general elections in Bolivia, OHCHR increased its remote human rights monitoring and reporting activities in the country. In response to increased violence and information received about human rights violations and abuses occurring in the electoral context, OHCHR deployed a small team to the country, on 11 November. The team continues to operate under the global OHCHR mandate and as part of the UN system's Peace Consolidation Initiative for Bolivia. OHCHR is working towards ensuring a sustained presence in the country in order to contribute to conflict prevention and the national dialogue.

The Office responded to emerging crises by strengthening early warning and prevention responses. Surge capacity was provided to respond to emerging situations in the Bahamas, Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador. Surge capacity was also provided to OHCHR-Mexico to assist in monitoring and documenting the rapidly evolving human rights situation for people on the move and to the OHCHR presence in Haiti to support the transition of the UN presence. OHCHR actively contributed to prevention mechanisms under the umbrella of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative, including in regional monthly reviews, meetings of the Deputies Committee on Prevention and meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. It identified situations in the Americas where there was a potential risk for the deterioration of the protection of human rights and recommended appropriate UN integrated responses.

The region experienced an unprecedented movement of migrants and asylum seekers from different countries/subregions, particularly Central America, Haiti and Venezuela, placing untenable pressure on already stretched resources and services. OHCHR continued to monitor the

impact on human rights of new migration policies, such as the "Safe Third Country Agreements" between the United States of America and several Central American countries. The Office coordinated the work on migrant rights of OHCHR presences, including to contribute to the Comprehensive Development Plan (Plan de Desarrollo Integral) developed by El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, with the support of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and other UN entities in the region. With regard to migration from Venezuela, OHCHR conducted missions to assess the human rights challenges being faced by Venezuelans on the move and the impact of national migration policies. It also cooperated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the implementation of capacity-building activities with civil society and NHRIs to address protection issues.

OHCHR maintained close contact with regional organizations, especially the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. This collaboration led to strengthened monitoring and reporting by and capacity-building of HRDs in the region, including two extended press releases on the situation of HRDs in the Americas, three joint meetings with CSOs during the HRC sessions and cooperation on the monitoring of the human rights situation in Nicaragua. During the reporting period, OHCHR also strengthened its partnership with ECLAC, focusing on two main areas. With regard to environmental rights, the Escazú Agreement (on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean) gained 22 signatures and 8 ratifications. The Office and ECLAC also launched a joint publication on Climate change and human rights: Contributions from Latin America and the Caribbean. With regard to

migration, a Comprehensive Development Plan is being developed in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador with partners from the UN system under the auspices of ECLAC, to address the root causes of forced human mobility by improving the economic and human rights situation in countries of origin. OHCHR advocated and provided input for the integration of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) into this plan.

BARBADOS

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser for English-speaking Caribbean	
Countries of engagement	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincen and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago	
Year established	2012	
Field office(s)	Bridgetown	
UN partnership framework	UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) in the Caribbean 2017-2021	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	1	

XB requirements 2019

US\$125,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







PILLAR RESULTS:



Mechanisms (M)

M1 - At least four Caribbean countries (Antiqua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Jamaica) have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.





The Office advocated for the establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including by raising awareness and building capacity on human rights reporting and implementation.

Building on 2018 efforts to establish and strengthen the NMRF, OHCHR convened a series of workshops for over 200 government officials working in social services, the judiciary, law enforcement, finance, child protection and gender affairs in Saint Kitts and Nevis. Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The focus of the workshops included human rights mechanisms and human rights reporting, examining recommendations from human rights mechanisms, methodologies for drafting reports to the human rights treaty bodies, good practices in establishing and managing the NMRF, linking human rights recommendations to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development plans and developing human rights action plans. These workshops resulted in the completion of reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee

on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and, in the case of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the development of an action plan to implement human rights recommendations. Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines requested support from the Office in developing a National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD).



Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - In at least three countries (Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago), laws and policies protect the rights of women, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV, LGBTI persons and religious minorities.









The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities in three countries of the subregion.

Building on previous efforts to support the rights of LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities in Barbados, the Office supported the first joint consultation on the socio economic and cultural inclusion of LGBTI persons in the Caribbean region, which took place in Bridgetown, Barbados, in October. The consultation was led by Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz, the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and Ms. Flavia Piovesan, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons. The consultation provided an opportunity for the experts to become familiar with good practices and many of the barriers people face in gaining access to education, housing, health,

employment and justice. It also provided a forum for LGBTI persons and other stakeholders to share their perspectives and experiences on these issues. In addition, OHCHR participated in the Global Convening on the Decriminalization of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, in Barbados, during which international participants discussed various litigation strategies that have been used to challenge anti-LGBTI legislation across the world. In Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Office provided technical assistance and advice to the USAID/UNDP project entitled "Being LGBTI in the Caribbean: Reducing inequality and exclusion experienced by LGBTI people." The project addressed LGBTI issues in the region from a development perspective. It also contextualized these issues against the backdrop of civil society capacity-development, community mobilization and government engagement.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, OHCHR provided training to government officials on their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and their implementation at the national level. In Barbados, the Office conducted a workshop for government officials and civil society representatives on CRPD, the rights of persons with disabilities and SDG implementation, with an emphasis on reforming discriminatory laws and practices. Regrettably, no progress was made in relation to the draft disabilities policy, which has been pending before the Cabinet in Saint Kitts and Nevis since the end of 2018. Similarly, no progress was reported regarding the pending legislation on disabilities in Barbados and Suriname.

Finally, OHCHR organized a photo competition for young people, in Barbados, to celebrate Human Rights Day. Young people were invited to submit a photo that depicted what the "Leaving No One Behind" (LNOB) principle meant to them within the human rights context of their respective countries in order to explore anti-discrimination and inclusion. The competition received over 40 entries from participants ranging in age from 10 to 19 years. Their photographs touched on the themes of racism, gender inequality, social exclusion, the rights of persons with disabilities and the elderly.



Accountability (A)

A1 – In at least one country (Jamaica), law enforcement authorities and the judiciary have adopted in-house training on human rights. Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have taken steps to provide human rights training to law enforcement officials.





OHCHR supported the institutionalization of human rights training in key human rights areas.

Within the framework of a larger effort to sensitize law enforcement officials about gender equality issues and to assess progress made in Saint Lucia and in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to address domestic and gender-based violence (GBV), OHCHR conducted capacity-building workshops for over 30 police officers and immigration officials on gender equality in national legislation and law enforcement. The workshops enabled participants to reflect and provide feedback on some of the cultural and institutional challenges faced in addressing family and domestic violence, sexual harassment and marital rape.

CENTRAL AMERICA, PANAMA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Type of engagement	Regional Office	
Countries of engagement	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama	
Year established	2007	
Field office(s)	Panama City, Panama	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	16	

Total income	US\$939,557			
XB requirements 2019	US\$1,990,000			
Total XB expenditure	US\$1,147,333			
Personnel		Non-personnel	PSC [†]	
68%		21%		
\$776,205		\$239,417	\$131,711	
Total RB expenditure	US\$1,052,858			
Personnel			Non- personne	
90%			10%	
\$949,098	•		\$103,760	

Key OMP pillars in 2019









[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A2 – The Attorney General's Office increasingly investigates and prosecutes cases of human rights violations to combat past and present impunity.







Through capacity-building, technical assistance and an exchange of experiences with public prosecutors offices, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacity of the Attorney General's Office in El Salvador to investigate and prosecute human rights violations as a means to combat past and present impunity, in compliance with international human rights norms. This was evidenced in a number of emblematic cases, such as the "Mozote's Massacre case."

In El Salvador, following the 2018 adoption of the Policy on the Investigation and Criminal Prosecution of Crimes against **Humanity and War Crimes Constituting** Serious Violations of Human Rights Committed in the El Salvador Armed Conflict by the Attorney General, in 2019, the Office developed an Action Plan to facilitate its implementation. This road map for the Attorney General's Office has

been crucial in combating impunity and guaranteeing redress for victims.

OHCHR also provided advice and technical assistance on transitional justice issues to CSOs through a "Platform to combat impunity" in order to coordinate efforts to address impunity and increase their capacity to represent the interests of victims in criminal matters.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR provided technical assistance and advice to the Legislative Assembly in the context of the consultation process on the proposed National Reconciliation Law to ensure its legitimacy and compliance with international human rights instruments. The draft has been the subject of public criticism, including in two statements issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. This was followed by a series of other statements from international/ national human rights organizations that indicated that the draft violated the decision of the Supreme Court's Constitutional Chamber and was not in line with international human rights law. The Legislative Assembly was granted an extension to revise the draft, until 28 February 2020, providing it with a second chance to fully address the concerns raised in the Court's rulings.

The visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence generated opportunities for significant advancements in the area of transitional justice. Following meetings with authorities, victims and CSOs, the Special Rapporteur issued a preliminary report with recommendations for State institutions. The report highlights that transitional justice is not an issue of the past, that violence and impunity in the present has its roots in impunity of the armed conflict and that the only way to build a society that is free of violence and to consolidate the rule of law is through the implementation of an adequate comprehensive policy on truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. It also addresses necessary institutional reforms.

The Public Forum entitled "Unearthing the truth: The search for disappeared persons in the context of the armed conflict in El Salvador," organized by OHCHR, in May, provided an opportunity to present and validate the National Plan for the Search for Disappeared Persons.

OHCHR's report on the Forced disappearance of persons in El Salvador in the context of the armed conflict, which was published and presented in January 2020, constitutes one of the main tools to enhance accountability for grave human rights violations. The report provides essential input to the elaboration of more effective plans, strategies and working methodologies related to the search for and identification of disappeared persons and the dignified return of the remains of those who are deceased to their families

A1 – A mobile monitoring team has been established that strengthens OHCHR's capacity to gather information on the human rights situation in countries of the region and report on cases and situations; its work enables the international community to make more effective representations to Government on a wide range of concerns.



OHCHR conducted remote monitoring on the human rights situation in **Nicaragua** and issued bi-monthly bulletins and regular updates to the HRC, in accordance with resolution 40/2. It also presented a public report to the forty-third session of the HRC and

addressed urgent individual cases and situations with the Government.

In **EI Salvador**, OHCHR conducted a study on due process and human rights violations linked to the rights of women facing trials for crimes related to abortion. As a follow-up to observations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR systematized information on the situation of HRDs, journalists, LGBTI activists, internally displaced persons (IDPs), migrants, persons in detention and other individuals and groups in situations of vulnerability.

OHCHR reviewed 20 judicial files regarding the cases of women serving long prison sentences for homicide convictions after suffering obstetric emergencies. It also engaged with key stakeholders to advocate for the release of women in cases where there is a lack of sufficient evidence and shortcomings related to international standards of due process. Due to coordinated efforts, five women were released after the Supreme Court of Justice commuted their sentences.

A3 – The decisions of judicial institutions increasingly reference international human rights standards and principles of gender equality in cases of feticide and violence against women.



OHCHR promoted the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards through capacity-building and advocacy efforts.

In **Costa Rica**, OHCHR cooperated with the Attorney General's Office to strengthen the capacities of public prosecutors, forensic experts, psychologists, police officers and social

workers to identify negative gender stereotypes and refrain from applying those stereotypes while conducting their investigative functions. These interventions paved the way for the development of a guide on national protocols for judges on judicial gender stereotyping, which was undertaken in coordination with the Gender Secretariat of the Judiciary and the National Bar Association of Judges.

In **El Salvador**, the Office collaborated with UN Women to support the Attorney General's Office in the elaboration of a draft Investigative Protocol on Femicide to ensure the effective investigation of femicide cases. The Protocol will constitute a new tool in tackling these cases and envisions increased cooperation between key institutions in charge of the investigation of these crimes, including public prosecutors, the police and forensic personnel. The final version of the Investigative Protocol is expected to be concluded during 2020.

During 2019, the Office continued to promote the Latin American Model Protocol for the investigation of the gender-related killings of women. Virtual training courses were available in **Costa Rica** and **El Salvador** to reinforce the capacities of key judicial authorities in the investigation of femicide cases. OHCHR continued its advisory role in UN regional inter-agency settings and in national inter-agency groups on gender in **Costa Rica, El Salvador** and **Panama**.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND5 – States, civil society and the public increasingly recognize that hate speech. disseminated via digital platforms such as social media, fuels discrimination and other human rights abuses, undermining efforts to achieve the SDGs.





OHCHR contributed to a significant improvement of the narrative on selected human rights issues.

OHCHR supported the global campaign #IStandWithHer to highlight the work of women's human rights defenders (WHRDs). A particular focus on women defenders of sexual and reproductive health rights in the Central America region, as well as women indigenous leaders in Panama, enhanced their visibility and contributed to their empowerment and leadership.

Similarly, under the UN Free & Equal campaign, the Office launched a subregional campaign, in May, that was aimed at raising awareness about the human rights concerns of LGBTI persons in Central American countries and advocating for the adoption of adequate public policies and legislation to tackle discrimination, stigma and violence against this population in Costa Rica, El Salvador and Panama. Furthermore, OHCHR partnered with EFE to produce and disseminate four videos that feature the stories of LGBTI activists from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras and Panama and promote their work in their respective countries.

The Regional Forum on emerging challenges to the human rights of LGBTI persons, which was organized by Fundación Iguales with OHCHR's support, highlighted the need to address the situation of LGBTI persons in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the importance of the inclusion of LGBTI persons in public development policies for the achievement of all SDGs under the LNOB principle.

Finally, in the context of the rampant discourse emanating from conservative religious and political groups opposing gender equality, OHCHR implemented activities aimed at countering the prevalence of hate speech and negative stereotyping directed towards women, LGBTI persons and groups that are frequently subject to discrimination. Within the context of Human Rights Day, OHCHR and Panama's Museum of Contemporary Arts co-organized a digital arts exhibition, which included a specific segment emphasizing the need to combat the use of harmful stereotyping and its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights of discriminated persons and groups.

ND6 - Official migration policies and programmes recognize the need to protect the human rights of migrants, especially those who are in situations of vulnerability, and have taken steps to do so.



OHCHR supported selected State institutions and programmes to significantly improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards on migration.

Through monitoring activities, in cooperation with the Defensoria del Pueblo, the Office documented the dire humanitarian situation of migrants in transit and their lack of access to health, food, water, sanitation and adequate shelter in the region. In addition, although migrants were regularly victims of robbery, assaults,

killings and sexual abuses during their transit in the deep rainforest bordering Colombia and Panama, the cases were not promptly investigated. OHCHR advocated with authorities for the human rights of migrants, including their fundamental right to access to justice. The Office also shared its findings with the UN Country Team (UNCT) to ensure the integration of a human rights perspective into the humanitarian response.

OHCHR enhanced access to justice for migrants who were victims of crimes during their transit in El Salvador. Specifically, the Office facilitated the engagement of CSOs and families of disappeared migrants with the Attorney General's Office, the National Migration Institution and the NHRI to raise awareness about the human rights violations that were committed against migrants and to involve them in the investigations and searching process of disappearance cases in the region.

In Costa Rica, OHCHR contributed to preventing the adoption of a draft bill that could have negatively affected the rights of migrants. It submitted a technical note detailing international human rights standards on migration and the Resident Coordinator (RC) presented the document to the Parliament.

The Office also contributed to raising the awareness of the international human rights mechanisms and special procedures about the human rights situation of migrants and asylum seekers in the region. The High Commissioner for called on the States in Central America to enhance the protection of migrants in transit and ensure the inclusion of international human rights standards in legislation and policy.

OHCHR strongly advocated for the inclusion of an HRBA in the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) for El Salvador,

Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. which is being prepared with the technical support of ECLAC. The Office collaborated with other UN agencies to develop a strategy to support the implementation of the CDP.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS5 - The Regional Office has increased its capacity to gather, analyse and manage information relevant to early warning, advocacy and response to critical situations of violence and insecurity; as a result, it has contributed significantly to key regional and national processes and discussions. Relevant security institutions receive political and technical advice enabling them to protect citizens' security in a manner that complies with international human rights standards.











OHCHR worked to significantly improve the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in specific policy areas, including by monitoring and reporting on human rights situations, providing technical advice and promoting human rights issues.

In Nicaragua, the Office issued monthly bulletins to inform the international community, Nicaraguan authorities and CSOs about patterns of human rights violations. This contributed to actions that were undertaken by the international community to prevent further violations, including the adoption of HRC resolution 40/2, in March. Remote monitoring activities provided essential inputs to oral updates and the drafting of a High Commissioner's report on the human rights situation in Nicaragua to the HRC. The information was used by the special procedures to initiate a number of targeted actions, including communications that were sent to the Government requesting information on specific cases. and informed a joint public statement. In addition, information was provided to the human rights treaty bodies, including in the context of the adoption of lists of issues prior to reporting. Based on this information, the High Commissioner and OHCHR publicly expressed concerns about particular issues, including an amnesty law and the rights of victims of gross human rights violations, through three press releases and at three press briefings.



Mechanisms (M)

M2 – Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and UN Country Teams have increased by at least 25 per cent the number of contributions they submit to the UN human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the number of substantive reports submitted to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the NHRI, CSOs, individuals and UN entities.

OHCHR reinforced its cooperation with the United Nations Development Coordination Office's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (DCO LAC) to strengthen the capacity of the UN to effectively prevent and respond to human rights violations and crises by supporting the mainstreaming of human rights into the work of DCO LAC with regional coordinators and UNCTs in the region. Specifically, OHCHR participated in the Peer Support Group to UNCTs to provide the necessary tools to introduce an HRBA into their planning and integrate international human rights recommendations into their planning processes, namely, the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and cooperation frameworks.

The Office also participated in the drafting group to update the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Common Learning Package to ensure that an HRBA is integrated into development so that it is in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This update is crucial as the Guidance for the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) identifies an HRBA as one of its six quiding principles.

In Belize, the Office provided inputs on the 2019 revision of the national implementation programme, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of key stakeholders to improve the compliance of legislation and policies with human rights obligations and standards.

In Panama, OHCHR supported civil society organizations and indigenous peoples' organizations to participate in the country's third UPR cycle by building their capacity to effectively use this mechanism and create spaces for dialogue and coordination in the preparation of CSO contributions. The NHRI of Panama was also trained on how to contribute to and participate in the third UPR cycle.

In El Salvador, the Office facilitated the process of discussing recommendations issued during the second UPR cycle with the UNCT, the Office of the Procurator for the Defence of Human Rights (the NHRI of El Salvador) and CSOs on issues related to citizen security, justice, women's rights and the LGBTI population. These three stakeholders submitted contributions to the third UPR cycle and actively participated in the follow-up to the interactive dialogue.

Furthermore, the Office contributed to the participation of non-traditional actors (organizational structures of indigenous peoples and committees of relatives of missing migrants) through the submission of information to the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures.

In Costa Rica, OHCHR, through the Regional Gender Adviser's participation in the UNCT's Interagency Gender Working Group, supported the UNCT to report to CEDAW, under the follow-up procedure related to the Committee's 2017 concluding observations on Costa Rica (under article 18 of the CEDAW Convention).

In the **Dominican Republic**, the Office strengthened the capacity of the Government and CSOs to prepare and submit reports to the Committee against Torture (CAT) and CEDAW and take better advantage of the UPR follow-up process through a workshop organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

COLOMBIA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 50.34 million 1,142,000 km ²	Human Development Inde 0.761 (78/188 in 2018)	x² NHRI (if a _l Status A,	
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	1997		
Field office(s)	Bogotá, Barrancabermeja, Barranquilla, Cali, Cúcuta, Florencia, Medellín, Mocoa, Neiva, Quibdó, Villavicencio; Apartadó, Buenaventura, Montería, Tumaco (satellite offices); Arauca, Amazonas (presences)		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	66		
Total income	US\$7,746,815		
XB requirements 2019	US\$14,543,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$9,028,750		
Personnel	I	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
70%		19%	11%
\$6,315,078	:	1,694,305	\$1,019,366

Key OMP pillars in 2019







^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Peace and Security (PS)

PS4 – Transitional justice mechanisms increase accountability for conflict-related violations of human rights and humanitarian law.



The Office contributed to strengthening the capacity of the transitional justice mechanisms to incorporate international standards on the participation of victims into the different procedures they have established.

Building on its cooperation with the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) in 2018, the Office continued to strengthen the internal operations of the JEP and its capacity to respond to the demands and expectations of victims. It did so by providing technical assistance to the JEP, which included reinforcing its analytical and methodological capacities to address and process serious human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law that constitute international crimes.

In addition, OHCHR continued to support the JEP Chamber for the Acknowledgement of the Truth and Responsibility in its preparations to open hearings on Case No. 003 relating to the practice of the Colombian Army to present extrajudicial executions as combatants killed in combat. OHCHR is currently working with four magistrates and their teams as they document cases in various military brigades and prepare their case management strategy. This support will help to strengthen their capacity to process serious human rights violations in prioritized cases.

Following the groundwork laid during the last reporting period for the substantive and operative implementation of the Commission for the Clarification of Truth, Coexistence and Non-Recurrence (CEV), OHCHR promoted and increased the capacity of the CEV to use analytical and methodological tools to comply with the State's international obligations and the mandate of the Commission through 17 technical assistance meetings. Furthermore, the Office provided risk maps, stakeholder mapping and context analysis from 27 regional meetings for the preparation of updated contexts and stakeholder maps that will enable the CEV to conduct more accurate risk assessments before undertaking activities and interventions in the regions. OHCHR periodically met with the CEV's regional and national teams in Arauca, Cesar, Cucuta, Magdalena and Meta.

OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance to the Search Unit for Persons Deemed as Missing in the Context of the Armed Conflict (UBPD) in order to increase its analytical capacities to design strategies and methodologies for the search, location, identification and dignified delivery of remains, as well as the delimitation of the universe of persons deemed to have disappeared.

In addition, the Office provided technical assistance to the UBPD for the inclusion of international human rights standards of victim's participation in the autonomous and independent process of selecting delegates from the organizations of victims of kidnappings and enforced disappearance to serve on the UBPD Advisory Board.

To support the work of the regional UBPD teams, OHCHR conducted a stakeholder mapping and context analysis exercise. To this end, it accompanied teams in the documentation of cases of disappeared persons and obtained contextual information from former FARC-EP members who are being held in reclusion centres.

OHCHR also contributed to improving the UBPD's strategy on prevention and protection by hiring an expert consultant to formulate relevant guidelines, develop procedures to guarantee safe conditions for the field operation and establish partnerships with other UN agencies, services or departments (UNMAS and UNDSS).



P2 – Institutions that are responsible for the protection of human rights defenders investigate and prosecute crimes against human rights defenders that are brought to their attention by OHCHR.



Relevant actors positively addressed an increasing proportion of human rights violations cases that were identified by OHCHR.

During the reporting period, there was a reported increase in the violations of the rights of HRDs that often led to their deaths. At the same time, the institution responsible for protecting

these groups has not demonstrated an increase in the delivery of effective protection measures.

OHCHR's contributions to the Committee for Risk Assessment and Recommendation of Measures (CERREM) during the reporting period aimed to strengthen the Pathway for Collective Prevention, which would enable government institutions to adopt informed measures in response to threats being faced by HRDs. To date, OHCHR has conducted 23 workshops for 952 leaders and HRDs across the country to explain and disseminate the legislation and characteristics of the protection route (requirements, procedures and responsibilities) to local authorities and communities. In addition, OHCHR continued to provide assistance related to requests for individual protection. The CERREM submitted information provided by the field presences to relevant institutions. In 2019, the Office participated in 58 sessions of the CERREM and presented a total of 7,214 cases for risk assessment to determine the level of risk (extreme, extraordinary, ordinary).

Between January and December, OHCHR received reports regarding 186 cases of homicides of HRDs. OHCHR confirmed that 103 of these victims were HRDs. In 73 cases, the victims were not carrying out human rights work when they were killed and 10 cases are being verified. The cases were reported to the Office of the Attorney General, prioritized by the Delegate for Public Safety and assigned an assistant prosecutor from the Special Investigative Unit. These actions were part of a strategy to promote the prosecution of cases of the homicides of HRDs.

P1 – Relevant national, regional and local institutions apply a human rights-based approach in public policies and programmes that result from implementation of the Peace Accords; they emphasize participation and accountability in particular.





OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards through technical assistance, guidance and monitoring activities.

Although the drafting of the National Action Plan on Human Rights (NAPHR) first began in 2018, under the direction of the Presidential Council on Human Rights and with support from OHCHR, the process has yielded limited results. The joint drafting of the document was suspended at the beginning of 2019. The Presidential Council then prepared its own document, in coordination with different ministries and other public institutions, which was presented to civil society organizations and OHCHR, in September, OHCHR reiterated its commitment to working with the State to improve the human rights situation in the country and will continue to offer technical assistance to the Government and civil society in the development of the NAPHR.

The Ministry of the Interior led the formulation of the "Public policy on respect and guarantees for the work of human rights defenders in Colombia." During the year, the Ministry convened 11 monthly meetings with human rights platforms and public officials from different government and State institutions. At the request of the parties, OHCHR provided advice during the processe. Regrettably, the regional processes that were supported by the Ministry of the Interior did not quarantee broad-based participation.

Consequently, the human rights platforms (i.e., the primary Colombian NGO coalitions) withdrew from the process and the Office decided to suspend its technical assistance until the dialogue is resumed between civil society and the Government.

The bills that were introduced in 2019 to revive the special transitory constituencies for peace suffered the same fate as those presented the previous year and the legislative process was not completed. The Office subsequently increased its support to the Office of the National Procurator, resulting in a joint analysis of the situation, which recommended that the Government guarantee the participation of victims in Congress. OHCHR will continue to monitor this issue.

OHCHR followed the social protests and mobilizations that took centre stage in the second half of 2019 and maintained contact with some of the protest leaders. The Office facilitated a unified front in response to the mobilizations, together with the country's control entities (National Procurator, National Ombudsperson, Municipal Ombudsperson), to generate increased protection and deter further violence. The Office is closely monitoring some of the paradigmatic cases involving allegations that the State response included acts of violence and an excessive use of force.

P6 – Victims, indigenous peoples and women participate more fully in decisions that concern them.



OHCHR strengthened the establishment of spaces for the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially victims, ethnic groups, women and LGBTI persons, in various public processes through advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building.

Building on its support in 2018, OHCHR implemented strategies to increase the capacity of victims, their families, civil society organizations and national and regional collective processes to participate in the mechanisms of the System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Recurrence (SIVJRNR). In this regard, the Office supported spaces and opportunities for direct dialogue with the SIVJRNR mechanisms, including through participatory assessments and collective and individual interviews. It also advocated for the establishment of additional spaces for training and a reflection on the scope and content of the SIVJRNR mechanisms, including through regional workshops. More concretely, OHCHR provided technical assistance to nine of the 10 organizations that attended the "Space for strategic litigation" workshop to facilitate their participation in the SIVJRNR mechanisms, thus increasing their capacity to present reports to the JEP. As a result, the organizations prepared one report for the JEP on 23 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Cesar, between 2007 and 2009, and one report on 158 cases of extrajudicial executions that were carried out in Antioquia. Furthermore, OHCHR strengthened the capacity of the Coalición contra la vinculación de niños, niñas y jóvenes al conflicto armado en Colombia (COALICO) to actively participate in the SIVJRNR mechanisms. COALICO subsequently presented one report to the JEP, which in turn contributed to the opening of Case No. 007 on recruitment and the use of children in the Colombian armed conflict.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the indigenous round-table of Putumayo that was organized to prepare

15 indigenous peoples from Putumayo to participate in the SIVJRNR. This enabled the participants to directly engage with the JEP and learn how the ethnic approach is being incorporated into its work, thereby providing them with tools and methodologies to present recommendations to this organism.

Building on the results achieved in 2018, the protocols of indigenous peoples on interactions with third parties were further consolidated as tools to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples and Afrodescendant communities to participate in the decisions that affect them and to strengthen the special indigenous jurisdiction. More specifically, after two communities of indigenous peoples and one community of Afrodescendant persons presented these protocols to the Ministry of the Interior as a viable option that would guarantee their rights, the Ministry provided support to the three communities for the formulation of the protocols. This action was in compliance with recent recommendations issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the UPR to promote the implementation of the protocols.

OHCHR promoted and strengthened six processes with women's organizations and two with LGBTI organizations to improve their capacity to engage with the State and society to demand the realization of their rights and overcome the barriers stemming from discrimination and gender-based violence in the departments of Antioquia, Bolívar, Córdoba, Huila, Putumayo and Tolima. In Bolívar and Meta, municipal and departmental institutions took steps to guarantee the participation of women in amending procedures to access and uphold the rights of women who are victims of sexual violence and/or enforced disappearance.



D4 – The policies and programmes of the comprehensive health assistance system (MIAS) and the comprehensive indigenous intercultural health system (SISPI) increasingly comply with human rights standards.



OHCHR supported the Government to ensure that SISPI and the model for integration action in the territories (MAITE), which replaced MIAS, in October, increasingly comply with human rights standards, therefore enabling populations in situations of vulnerability to more fully participate in realizing their right to health.

The Ministry of Health presented a draft resolution on MAITE as the framework for the integrated health care policy. This change in policy raises concerns, including with regard to the transition of some projects from one system to the other and the lack of coordination of MAITE with SISPI in ethnic territories. such as Chocó.

OHCHR has been working with indigenous peoples and Afrodescendant communities in Amazonas, Chocó and Putumayo to document the impact of MAITE on the right to health, drinking water and the environment. It has also been providing technical assistance to develop strategies to address the negative consequences. In particular, OHCHR has sought to ensure that this information is reflected in different public policies, such as SISPI, MAITE, the National Mercury Plan and the Mercury Plan for the Health Sector.

In addition, OHCHR has coordinated with the regional offices of the Office of the Ombudsperson and the Delegate Ombudsperson on Collective and

Environmental Rights to monitor and make recommendations on compliance with judicial rulings, which ordered the adoption of measures to address environmental damage. These decisions include the Constitutional Court rulings T-730/2017 and SU 128/18 on contamination caused by hydro-carbons and Sentence 2018-00319-01 (4360), of 5 April 2018, of the Supreme Court Cassation Chamber, which declared the Amazon region as a subject of rights.

OHCHR conducted an assessment of the implementation of MAITE in Bolívar and Meta in relation to women's rights, especially women victims of sexual violence and/or enforced disappearance. On the basis of this assessment (lack of basic knowledge of proceedings, conflict of competencies, barriers to women in rural areas reporting incidents of GBV). OHCHR proposed a plan to work with the Fundación Saldarriaga Concha to disseminate MAITE among authorities and advance the implementation of the RIAS (pathways for integrated health care).

GUATEMALA

17.58 million	Surface area ¹ 109,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable 0.651 (rank: 127/188 in 2018) Status A, 2018
Type of engager	ment	Country Office
Year established	d	2005
Field office(s)		Guatemala City
UN partnership	framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	29
Total income		US\$5,266,379
Total income XB requirement	s 2019	U\$\$5,266,379 U\$\$5,133,000
XB requirement Total XB expend		U\$\$5,133,000 U\$\$4,291,918
XB requirement Total XB expend Personnel		U\$\$5,133,000 U\$\$4,291,918 Non-personnel PSC [†]

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The Attorney General's Office, the Public Defence Institute, the judiciary, the Constitutional Court, Congress, and key State institutions increasingly integrate human rights standards in their policies and decisions. National and international civil society organizations, the Congress, and other actors, advocate for abolition of the death penalty and ratification of the second optional protocol of the ICCPR.



OHCHR contributed to the compliance of five State institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the judiciary and prosecutors on transitional justice. Specifically, the Office assisted the Judicial Studies School to finalize the development of a training module on transitional justice. This module aims at building the capacity of justice system operators, primarily judges and prosecutors, to tackle systemic issues of impunity for human rights violations that occurred during the internal armed conflict.

In addition, the Office monitored the first hearings of two emblematic cases on genocide committed during the internal armed conflict. OHCHR provided technical assistance to justice operators

and victims' legal representatives on relevant international human rights standards. OHCHR closely cooperated with the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the National Human Rights Commission (the NHRI) and NGOs to promote the right of victims to access to justice. This has increased the capacities of victims to claim their rights to justice, truth and reparation and to fight for guarantees of non-recurrence.

OHCHR collaborated with the NHRI, the AGO and NGOs to support the preservation and protection of the Historical Archives of the National Civil Police, which contains over 80 million documents and critical information on severe human rights violations that were committed during the internal armed conflict. The Archives are crucial for both the litigation of transitional justice cases and the historical memory of the country.

OHCHR organized a series of training courses for the AGO, the Constitutional Court, the Public Defence Institute and the judiciary, thereby enhancing the capacities of the participants to effectively apply international human rights standards in cases involving indigenous peoples, women and vulnerable groups.

With technical assistance from OHCHR. the Court and the Ministry of Education developed and implemented a training programme for teachers and children about the human rights of the child in the Constitution. The Court also collaborated with OHCHR to present a child-friendly version of the Constitution in the Garifuna language in Livingston, Izabal. Following up on this work, the Court developed and launched a policy for access to constitutional justice for populations in situations of vulnerability.

OHCHR closely monitored the election process of judges to the High Courts and provided technical assistance to relevant actors, including members of the nominating commissions and CSOs on international human rights standards. OHCHR supported the Judicial Career Council on international standards related to the performance evaluation of judges.

Furthermore, OHCHR monitored congressional discussions on various law initiatives and raised awareness at the national and international levels about serious risks of regression if certain bills under consideration were adopted due to their lack of compliance with international human rights standards. In January and March, the High Commissioner issued public statements denouncing the proposed reforms to the National Reconciliation Law, which would grant general amnesty for crimes committed during the internal armed conflict. The Office similarly denounced amendments to the Law on Non-Governmental Organizations for Development, which would introduce requirements and administrative controls for NGOs that could be applied in a discretionary or arbitrary manner to limit the activities of CSOs and curtail their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. Other bills of concern would place limits on the sexual and reproductive rights of women and the right to freedom from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Finally, the Office monitored the discussions of the 2020 budget in light of serious concerns about a further reduction in the allocation of resources for the social sector. The budget was not adopted.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - Indigenous peoples, women, and other groups subject to discrimination make use of strategic litigation to demand their rights and hold to account individuals and institutions that violate human rights.









OHCHR provided expert methodological and legal support to increase the knowledge of 37 organizations working on the rights of indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants, women and girls and persons with disabilities about relevant international human rights standards and the potential for strategic litigation.

The Office also developed and shared a practical tool for lawyers on strategic litigation based on emblematic cases related to the defence of the rights of indigenous peoples to land, territory and natural resources. As a result of these efforts, organizations and communities initiated legal proceedings to claim their rights. For example, the National Council of Women Weavers brought a claim against the Guatemalan Tourism Institute, in February, for cultural appropriation and the misrepresentation and inappropriate use of the imagery of indigenous peoples and their cultures in advertising.

Following the tragic volcano eruption in 2018, OHCHR provided technical assistance on access to housing and land to the victims of the affected indigenous communities. In coordination with the victims' lawyers, the Office provided support on the integration of international human rights standards into reparation agreements.

OHCHR continued providing technical assistance to the three organizations working with the families and survivors of the tragic 2017 orphanage fire, "Hogar

Seguro Virgen de la Asunción," in order to prepare legal, psychosocial and communication strategies for the case. The Office monitored the public hearings of the case throughout the year and met with survivors and their families to enhance their knowledge of human rights and ensure their active and informed participation in all decision-making processes.

Building on work it had undertaken in previous years, OHCHR provided technical assistance to 11 indigenous organizations, including those representing indigenous women and communities, with regard to litigation cases on the rights to land, territory, natural resources, intercultural education, health and collective intellectual property. This support contributed to favourable judicial decisions being handed down in all 11 cases. Three of the cases led to positive policy changes. In all 11 cases, OHCHR's technical assistance helped to strengthen the capacity of rights-holders to advocate with relevant State institutions at the national and local levels and ensure their participation in the implementation of judicial decisions.

For example, after the Constitutional Court recognized the right of the community of San José Poaguil to administer their own land and territories, OHCHR worked with the Indigenous Authorities of San José Poaquil to strengthen and enhance their capacities to fully exercise this right, including through the development of a census and a community-led cadastre.

Furthermore, OHCHR contributed to building a network of community radios, while strengthening their advocacy skills and developing strategies to prevent criminalization. Technical assistance was provided on legislative reforms to ensure the right to freedom of expression of indigenous peoples.

INDIGENOUS MIDWIVES IN GUATEMALA: DEFENDERS OF LIFE

Indigenous midwives in Guatemala play a fundamental role in the integral health and ancestral health system of indigenous women, their families and communities. Indigenous peoples account for 43.6 per cent of the population.

The Ministry of Health estimates that the maternal death rate of indigenous women is more than double that of non-indigenous women. They face multiple challenges due to linguistic and cultural barriers, extreme poverty and long distances to public health services.

It is within this context that midwives provide culturally relevant family planning services, prenatal, childbirth, postpartum and neonatal care, in their own languages.

"The beneficiaries are women, children and the general population because the public health system does not reach them," says Fermina López, coordinator of Asociación Ixmucané, an indigenous women's NGO.

Despite their crucial role, indigenous midwives have documented multiple human rights concerns, including discrimination, ill-treatment and disqualification by the public health system. Their patients have reported acts of obstetric violence in that system.

Since 2014, with financial support from Canada and Norway, OHCHR has strengthened the capacities of indigenous midwives to claim their rights.

In 2016, indigenous midwives initiated strategic litigation to demand the sexual and reproductive rights of indigenous women, recognition and respect for their work and an end to the discrimination and violence they face in the public health system. They also requested basic care materials, such as alcohol, scissors and stethoscopes.

On 27 March, the Constitutional Court established nine reparation measures to be implemented by the Ministry of Health, in consensus with midwives, to ensure the customs, languages and traditions of indigenous women are fully integrated into maternal health care services in their communities. OHCHR is working closely with the NHRI and midwives organizations to promote the implementation of the ruling.

Finally, with OHCHR's support, indigenous midwives of the Quiché and Totonicapán regions developed an advocacy plan on protocols and procedures to facilitate their inclusion in the provision of obstetric and gynaecological and neonatal care in the public health system. In 2020, the strategy will be piloted in Quiché and Totonicapán before being implemented across the country.

ND1 - National laws, policies and practices take a human rights-based approach, and in particular respect the rights of indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, women, LGBTI persons, and other groups that experience discrimination







Through technical assistance, OHCHR contributed to increasing the capacity of 14 key State institutions to apply international human rights standards in relation to the collective rights of indigenous peoples and the rights of persons with disabilities, women, LGBTI persons and vulnerable groups and to eliminate all types of discrimination.

In December, the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) adopted a ministerial agreement for the implementation of the intercultural bilingual education model in 13 communities in Antiqua Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, Sololá. This ministerial agreement is the direct result of a strategic litigation case that was supported by OHCHR. Building on the favourable decision handed down by the Constitutional Court, in 2016, the Office provided technical assistance to the MINEDUC, indigenous authorities and affected communities regarding the design and implementation of the abovementioned intercultural bilingual education model, which includes a carefully prepared curriculum for indigenous children and scholarships for students.

OHCHR provided technical assistance and capacity-building to the Congress Board on Indigenous Peoples (CBIP), including the revision of proposed legislation on the collective intellectual property rights of indigenous women weavers. The CBIP is composed of representatives from the Presidential Commission against Discrimination

and Racism, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Economy, the NHRI and indigenous women weavers. The legislation was introduced in response to a decision handed down by the Constitutional Court in a strategic litigation case that was brought by indigenous women weavers, in 2017, with the support of OHCHR. Throughout 2019, the Office provided technical assistance for the revision of the legislation and strengthened the knowledge of the CBIP on international human rights standards and collective property rights. In order to ensure their effective participation in this process, OHCHR supported the national movement of women weavers, strengthened the local councils of women weavers and built alliances with indigenous authorities at the local and national levels.

OHCHR supported a strategic litigation case in which the Constitutional Court ruled in favour of indigenous Mayan midwives, in April. In the Court's decision, the Ministry of Health was instructed to apply an intercultural approach when reporting on the implementation status of its internal policies for the provision of sexual and reproductive healthcare. Furthermore, it ruled that the Ministry of Health must provide indigenous midwives with the tools and utensils they need to ensure quality, accessible and dignified reproductive healthcare. The Court ordered the Ministry of Health to develop adequate legal, technical and operational measures to ensure the effective inclusion of and respect for the customs, languages, practices and traditions of Maya, Garífuna, Xinca and Ladino women in the provision of maternal health services.

In June, OHCHR prepared guidance on the international standards related to decent work and the labour rights of persons with disabilities (PwDs). This document is a practical tool designed to assist public servants. In addition, the Office conducted a survey on access to work for PwDs, in August, to identify good practices and gaps within the NHRI, the Ministry of Labour and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities. A specific assessment was prepared for each institution on the basis of the survey results, which in turn formed the basis for suggestions and recommendations on internal reforms to improve accessibility for workers with disabilities.



Development (D)

D3 – Selected State institutions incorporate international human rights standards more consistently in their interventions and policies on land, housing, poverty and related rights.





OHCHR contributed to improving the

compliance with international human rights norms and standards of five policy areas.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the AGO, the Presidential Commission on Human Rights (COPREDEH) and the NHRI to develop their institutional protocols on forced evictions, in line with international human rights standards, and to carry out an assessment of the human rights impact of forced evictions, with a focus on serious human rights violations.

With OHCHR's technical assistance, the NHRI and national organizations developed a strategy to monitor the implementation of a judicial decision on the violation of the right to food of five children affected by malnutrition in Camotán, Chiquimula (https:// bit.ly/2M9uCOo). In October, the first follow-up joint report on monitoring the implementation of the judicial decision was presented to relevant State authorities.

Throughout the year, OHCHR documented eight cases, involving at least 4,000 agricultural workers, of labour exploitation in the agricultural sector (particularly in palm tree plantations). The Office provided technical assistance to local organizations in the presentation of complaints to the International Certifiers Organization. Likewise, the Office documented child labour cases in the coffee and sugar sectors, as well as other possible violations of human rights and labour standards in monoculture plantations of the western regions of the country. OHCHR followed up on these cases with relevant State authorities. In addition. OHCHR documented 47 cases of the contamination of rivers caused by the activities of the agricultural industries.

D7 - The SDG strategies of UN entities, the evaluation of the 2014-2019 **UN Development Assistance Framework** (UNDAF), and the design of its successor (2020-2024), integrate a human rightsbased approach.

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which specific programmes of UN entities apply the UN's Common Understanding on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Development Cooperation.

As the lead of the Inter-Agency Human Rights Group in 2019, OHCHR provided inputs, suggested substantive revisions and advocated for the application of a human rights-based approach through the analysis and planning of the CCA.

The Office developed a specific section in the CCA about the rights of indigenous peoples and relevant international human rights law and standards. In coordination with other UN agencies of the Human Rights Group, a section on migration and people on the move was included in the CCA to raise awareness about the significant protection needs of all people on the move and to enhance the work of the UNCT in this regard.

OHCHR substantively contributed to the drafting of the new UNSDCF 2020-2024. Between October 2018 and December 2019, the Office participated in at least 15 multisectoral meetings and events with government officials, as well as consultations with the UNCT and various sectors of society, including six consultations that were held to discuss the application of an HRBA with rights-holders and CSOs, such as indigenous peoples, youth and CSOs working with people on the move. The Office and the UNCT participated in the presentation of the UNSDCF to over 30 members of the Government. Furthermore, OHCHR contributed to the review of several drafts of the theories of change and suggested the inclusion of specific human rights considerations, issues and priority population groups.

As part of the Inter-Agency Group on Economic and Financial Statistics, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Government and the National Statistical Institute to present disaggregated data, with a focus on human rights, in the second Voluntary National Review (VNR) (2019) of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

Finally, the Office provided extensive contributions for a confidential report to the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) in its review of Guatemala's

second periodic report, in coordination with a number of UN agencies.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – The policies and conduct of State institutions that are responsible for the security of citizens increasingly comply with international human rights standards: they give special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples, women, children, migrants and other groups subject to discrimination, as well as civil society organizations.





OHCHR worked to increase the capacity of State institutions to comply with international human rights norms and standards by providing technical assistance and support and documenting human rights concerns.

The Office provided technical assistance to the National Civil Police (PNC), in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and COPREDEH, for the integration of human rights standards into the development of the Protocol on the Use of Force, with a view to improving the performance of their duties in the upcoming elections. The Ministry of the Interior adopted the Protocol, in June, prior to the general elections, during which the PNC played an important preventive role. The Office monitored the implementation of the Protocol during the elections and will continue to do so in all relevant situations, including demonstrations, protests, detentions and all other forms of police intervention.

Furthermore, OHCHR provided support to the PNC through capacity-building workshops and the development of three additional protocols on public demonstrations, road blockages and evictions.

Specifically, OHCHR coordinated with the PNC's Division on the Protection of Persons and Security to implement protection measures for HRDs. The Office monitored cases of allegations of human rights violations and intervened with the PNC to help de-escalate conflict situations, including in the context of forced evictions.

Moreover, the Office documented the internal situation of the PNC, with the arrival of new authorities in the Ministry of the Interior, which resulted in the dismissal of more than 180 staff members and the irregular promotion of 80 staff members, in August.

Finally, OHCHR monitored legislative activities related to proposals on pretrial detention and the penitentiary system, in coordination with civil society, the NHRI and the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards.

HAITI: UNITED NATIONS MISSION FOR JUSTICE SUPPORT IN HAITI (MINUJUSTH)

Population size ¹ 11.26 million	Surface area ¹ 28,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.503 (rank: 169/188 in 2018) Status A, 2013
Type of engager	nent	Peace Mission
Year established	i	2004 as MINUSTAH; as MINUJUSTH since 2017; BINUH since July 2019
Field office(s)		Port-au-Prince
UN partnership	framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2021
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	5

XB requirements 2019 US\$1,534,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The Inspectorate General for Police and the Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire (CSPJ) function effectively and consistently investigate and prosecute serious violations.





OHCHR supported the General Inspectorate of the Haitian National Police (IGPNH) to further improve its compliance with international human rights norms and standards in its investigation and prosecution of human rights violations.

The Human Rights Service (HRS) of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) supported the IGPNH in its ongoing efforts to standardize criteria for the definition of human rights violations committed by the national police in order to improve

accountability. In cooperation with the HRS, the IGPNH regularly followed up on human rights violations allegedly committed by officers of the Haitian National Police (HNP) and on actions taken, including investigations and the implementation of administrative sanctions levied against HNP officers. The IGPNH conducted administrative investigations in about 76 per cent of reported cases of alleged human rights violations. A total of 12 per cent of the investigations were transferred to the judiciary.

In addition, the HRS provided expertise and financial support for the creation of a database to enable the IGHNP to more effectively manage the investigation of cases. The HRS will monitor the use of the database in the context of the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH).



P1 - The Office de la Protection du Citoyen (OPC) retains its legal standing and receives the resources it requires to operate independently in all departments.





By providing technical assistance, MINUJUSTH contributed to the effective functioning of the OPC, in conformity with international standards.

The HRS continued to provide technical assistance to the OPC, including by deploying two expert consultants to support the institution in the preparation of a manual on internal rules and regulations and the elaboration of its 2019-2024 strategy. The strategy aims at improving the management of cases received by the NHRI and identifies the broad lines of its thematic priorities, such as economic and social rights, with a view to developing national and international partnerships.

In April, the OPC retained its "A" status under the Paris Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, the benchmarks for assessing NHRIs that was developed by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).

The OPC released a report on the November 2018 events of La Saline, highlighting the positive actions taken by the national police and the judicial system. It also issued its annual report in 2017-2018. The report includes 20 recommendations to State authorities on a broad range of human rights issues, including prolonged pretrial detention, the protection of detainees and LGBTI rights. The report is the first of its kind produced by the OPC since 2012.

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

The head of the OPC attended the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council and intervened in the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities.



🕰 Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - Laws criminalize sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). No laws are discriminatory with respect to LGBTI persons. Incidents of SGBV and acts of violence against LGBTI persons are investigated and prosecuted. Women's groups and associations that represent LGBTI persons and children are entitled to advocate on behalf of those they represent.









To reduce discrimination, the Office endeavoured to improve the compliance with international human rights norms and standards of legislation and policies relating to the rights of women, LGBTI persons, persons living with disabilities and other minorities.

The HRS provided capacity-building activities to CSOs representing persons living with disabilities, the voodoo community and LGBTI persons. This enabled CSOs to engage in a range of advocacy activities, including promoting the rights of women living with disabilities, access to justice for LGBTI persons, the participation of women in political life and assistance for women who are victims of GBV. Although State authorities participated in these advocacy activities, particularly the Ministry of Women's Affairs, which was actively involved in initiatives to fight gender discrimination, this has not translated into concrete outcomes at the policy or legislative levels.

Furthermore, the HRS supported the OPC in the organization of a national contest on human rights essays for youth and journalists.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 - Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) implementation mechanisms and procedures have been established; these ensure that the HRDDP is implemented fully.



MINUJUSTH increasingly integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles into its work.

The HRDDP, in compliance with the standard operating procedures adopted in 2018, proved to be an effective tool for accountability and protection in the context of the peacekeeping mission and within the work of the UNCT.

The HRS contributed to the assessment of the support that the UN mission. agencies and programmes provided to national security forces, thereby placing the HRS in a strategic position to help ensure the accountability of UN interventions with national partners.



Mechanisms (M)

M1 - The Inter-Ministerial Committee meets regularly and, basing itself on a national action plan, takes action to implement recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.





OHCHR enhanced the capacity of the NMRF by providing specialized training.

The HRS organized a workshop for members of the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights (IMCHR) and representatives of other national institutions,

including the OPC and the IGPNH, to draft a government implementation plan on recommendations that were accepted during Haiti's second UPR cycle, in 2016. This implementation plan was included in a national human rights action plan, which was finalized by the IMCHR, in December. The HRS also trained CSOs on the vulgarization of UPR recommendations and access to judicial remedies in order to make them more accessible.

In addition, the HRS delivered training sessions for NGOs on human rights monitoring in seven departments. As a result, national NGOs provided reliable and critical information on human rights violations that were committed during the social and political unrest between September and November, This enabled the HRS to provide an accurate analysis of the human rights situation at the national level through a press briefing that was widely covered by national and international partners.

HONDURAS

Population size ¹ 9.75 million	Surface area ¹ 112,000 km ²	Human Development Index² NHRI (if applicable) 0.623 (rank: 133/188 in 2018) Status B, 2016
Type of engagem	ent	Country Office
Year established		2015
Field office(s)		Tegucigalpa
	ramework	United Nations Development Assistance
UN partnership fr		Framework 2017-2021
Staff as of 31 Dec		16
Staff as of 31 Deco	ember 2019	16
Staff as of 31 Dec	ember 2019 2019	16 U\$\$3,125,129
Staff as of 31 Deco	ember 2019 2019	U\$\$3,125,129 U\$\$3,446,000
Staff as of 31 Decoration Total income XB requirements Total XB expendit	ember 2019 2019	U\$\$3,125,129 U\$\$3,446,000 U\$\$2,332,100

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



D2 - The Government and businesses take steps to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Labour and the business sector with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) through capacity-building and the establishment of channels for technical cooperation and advocacy.

In 2019, within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights, in December 2018, the Office continued to promote the implementation of the UNGPs in Honduras by using the multi-actor approach to build the capacities of State institutions, unions, CSOs, the private sector and staff members of the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Labour. The country visit of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, in August, which was facilitated by the Office, provided an excellent opportunity to continue advocating for the prioritization of this topic on the national agenda. For instance, OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights successfully organized a national forum on business and human rights that was attended by over 200 participants, including CSOs, indigenous peoples, environmentalist groups, the business sector and government representatives. Furthermore, OHCHR provided ongoing technical assistance to the Ministry of Human Rights to conduct several multi-actor workshops to discuss and propose strategies to implement the recommendations emanating from the Working Group on business and human rights, especially on how to build trust among relevant actors. These workshops, attended by 95 participants (62 women, 33 men) were conducted in coordination with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and key stakeholders from CSOs, the private sector, academia and the Government.

OHCHR continued to closely monitor social unrest caused by the lack of consultation with indigenous communities in the approval and execution of hydroelectric and other types of development projects, such as the construction of a dam in Reitoca. The Office held regular meetings with "Espacio ACI," a network of CSOs working on business and human rights to ensure an exchange of information. OHCHR held bilateral meetings with key stakeholders, such as unions and the private sector, to gather their perspectives on opportunities and challenges presented by the upcoming National Action Plan (NAP) on business and human rights and to review comparative experiences from the region.

Finally, OHCHR started preparing a report on the accountability of business associations, which will be published in 2020. The report will assess the current legal framework and identify gaps in the response to conflicts arising in the area of business and human rights.

It will also provide important guidance for the elaboration of a baseline for the NAP on business and human rights.



M1 – An effective national monitoring and reporting mechanism is established.



The Office continued supporting preparations for the establishment of the NMRF.

Although the Ministry of Human Rights continued to reaffirm the Government's interest and readiness to rapidly set up the NMRF throughout 2019, the NMRF was not formally established during the reporting period. OHCHR continued providing legal advice on the draft decree for its establishment and provided technical cooperation to help develop the capacity of the institutions that will form part of the NMRF to enable them to effectively assume their responsibilities once it is in place.

To this end, OHCHR continued implementing a training programme for government officials nominated as agency focal points for the NMRF. The programme was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Human Rights between November 2018 and May 2019, and was attended by 50 participants (34 women, 16 men). It was comprised of 10 modules on human rights and public policy topics, including international human rights mechanisms, a human rightsbased approach to budgeting, human rights indicators and training of trainers. In June, 36 out of the 50 focal points had completed the course and received a positive evaluation of their work.

In order to strengthen the capacity of the focal points to participate in the third

UPR cycle of Honduras, scheduled for May 2020, a two-day workshop was conducted to focus on the preparation of the national report and link recommendations with public policies and indicators.

In an effort to link the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with human rights obligations, OHCHR worked with the Ministry of Human Rights to develop an online platform that connects the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Honduras with the National Agenda for Sustainable Development (adopted in December) and the National Action Plan on Human Rights, which are included in SIMOREH, a software system developed to monitor the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that is not yet functional. The link between SIMOREH and public policies represents an innovative practice in the region to promote the human rightsbased development agenda.

In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Human Rights in developing guidelines, mainly with regard to the technical criteria for reviewing human rights and the National Agenda or Sustainable Development. Authorities agreed to promote dialogue among different stakeholders in the context of a dialogue group that is composed of 17 CSOs and supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The establishment of the dialogue is pending finalization of the SIMOREH software platform.

M2 – The national human rights institution, civil society organizations, and UN agencies send information to UN human rights mechanisms and use their recommendations, guidance and jurisprudence in advocacy.



The Office contributed to the increased engagement of relevant stakeholders with the international human rights mechanisms by raising awareness, building capacity and providing technical support.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to raise awareness, provide technical support and promote engagement with international human rights mechanisms by relevant stakeholders. To strengthen the capacity of civil society partners to contribute to the third UPR cycle of Honduras, OHCHR convened an information session for approximately 25 CSOs on the 2030 Agenda and its links with international human rights standards. Participants discussed challenges related to the monitoring of and follow-up on UPR recommendations and ideas for advocacy actions.

To prepare stakeholders for the upcoming CAT review, in August 2020, OHCHR organized a workshop for civil society organizations, CONADEH (the NHRI) and CONAPREV (the NPM) to explain the reporting process and their respective roles in reporting to the human rights treaty bodies. Additionally, OHCHR provided advice and practical information on how to prepare written submissions for the lists of issues prior to reporting.

Nearly 80 young students from the National University of Honduras increased their knowledge and capacities in relation to international standards on the rights of LGBTI persons at a workshop that was co-organized by OHCHR

and the CATTRACHAS lesbian network, in August. At the workshop, OHCHR presented the students with information about international standards, including relevant recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Honduras. In the framework of the commemoration of International Day against Violence against Women, in November, OHCHR and the Embassy of Canada organized a dialogue with 11 women journalists working in the local media. During the event, the Office shared its analysis on violence against women in Honduras and highlighted the international recommendations on violence against women that have been issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition, OHCHR organized a round-table on "A rights-based approach to monitoring and evaluation of public policies implementing the 2030 Agenda." The 32 participants (18 women, 14 men) included UN agency leads and UNDAF focal points. The round-table linked the UNDAF with relevant SDGs and human rights standards and provided examples of good practices of the application of an HRBA to monitoring and evaluating public policies. OHCHR also facilitated a working session on the UPR for 18 representatives of UN agencies and UNDAF focal points. The objective of the working session was to elaborate a plan of action for preparing the UNCT report prior to the third UPR cycle of Honduras. As a result, a joint UN Working Group was established to develop the report, with the support of OHCHR. The report was completed and submitted in September.



P6 – Rights-holders, especially women, indigenous peoples and other underrepresented groups, participate in selected public processes at local and national level.



OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in various public processes by accompanying rights-holders in social mobilization processes at the national and local levels.

Rights-holders, especially those who are often marginalized, such as women, LGTBI persons, indigenous peoples, Garífunas (Afrodescendants), rural populations and persons with disabilities, continued to face difficulties in effectively participating in public processes and spaces. To strengthen their capacities throughout the year, OHCHR designed a capacity-building strategy that included a national forum, training, missions and campaigns.

On 11 and 12 June, the first National Forum for Human Rights Defenders was organized by OHCHR and brought together more than 100 HRDs from across Honduras to exchange experiences and create a civic space agenda for future advocacy initiatives. Based on the agreements reached at the Forum, OHCHR began coordinating follow-up activities, including public forums, work meetings and joint missions with groups of rights-holders, particularly those in vulnerable situations because of multiple/intersecting identities such as women, indigenous peoples, LGTBI community members and youth. OHCHR will convene a follow-up forum in 2020.

From 1 September to 10 December, OHCHR conducted a campaign called "#SomosPersonasDefensoras." The main objective was to raise public awareness about the work of HRDs and to encourage those who defend human rights to self-identify as defenders. The campaign included the dissemination of informative postcards/infographics on social media platforms, short videos and testimonies from HRDs, key messages that were communicated through radio broadcasts and press releases, participation in public events and joint activities that were undertaken in partnership with other stakeholders. OHCHR ensured the participation of underrepresented groups, such as WHRDs and LGBTI community members.



ND6 – The human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations, are protected.

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OHCHR contributed to protecting the human rights of persons in the context of mixed migratory flows, particularly those in vulnerable situations, with a primary focus on disappeared migrants, monitoring missions and internal displacement.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to help strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Human Rights and the five committees of the relatives of disappeared migrants to prevent and address the human rights violations of disappeared migrants. In April, a technical committee consisting of OHCHR and members of both ministries was established. In the context of this work, the Office focused on promoting

dialogue and conveying information between the different stakeholders. In collaboration with the ICRC, the Office advocated for the establishment and implementation of a protocol for relatives of disappeared migrants; participated in the working group for disappeared migrants established by the ICRC; provided technical assistance to the five committees of the relatives of disappeared migrants; and provided inputs into the *Information Guide for the Relatives of Disappeared Migrants*.

During 2019, OHCHR undertook eight missions to monitor the human rights situation of people on the move, including the mass migration to Mexico and the United States of America, and the returns and deportations of Hondurans. These missions enabled OHCHR to identify human rights trends and patterns relating to people on the move in the region, and provided important inputs for the OHCHR internal report on the situation of "migrant caravans." Within the framework of the inter-agency response strategy that was adopted by the UN Honduras Protection Group to cover the departures, returns and deportation of migrants, OHCHR coordinated the monitoring of human rights violations, identified and referred people with international protection needs: prepared various analyses on the human rights of migrants; and monitored returns, deportations and public policies for returnees and their impact. In addition, the Office led the inter-agency coordination on dissemination of information to the general population. In cooperation with UNHCR, OHCHR developed key messages for CONADEH and the Directorate for Children, Youth and Family to promote the human rights of migrants and highlight key issues related to the migration route.

OHCHR and the Ministry of Human Rights agreed on a workplan to provide technical assistance to the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons Due to Violence (CIPPDV). This assistance was aligned with the four priorities identified in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (GP 20) Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, During 2019, OHCHR acquired a permanent adviser status before the CIPPDV and provided technical assistance to help develop and implement an advocacy plan for the approval of the draft Law on the Prevention and Care of and Protection against Forced Displacement. Furthermore, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the CIPPDV on integrating a gender perspective into actions related to forced displacement.

JAMAICA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 2.95 million 11,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.726 (rank: 96/188 in 2018) Yes
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2013
Field office(s)	Kingston
UN partnership framework	UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) in the Caribbean 2017-2021
Staff as of 31 December 2019	1

XB requirements 2019 US\$227.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 - In at least one country (Jamaica) law enforcement authorities and the judiciary have adopted in-house training on human rights. Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have taken steps to provide human rights training to law enforcement officials.





The Office supported the institutionalization of human rights training for the judiciary and the police in Jamaica by providing technical assistance to build and strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

As part of its efforts to tackle police violence, and building on training support that was provided in 2018, OHCHR and the National Police College co-organized

three training sessions to educate 453 police officers (126 women, 327 men) on human rights approaches, standards and requirements that are pertinent to their roles in law enforcement. Additionally, these trainings aimed at challenging the attitudes and biases among police officers towards marginalized and vulnerable groups, such as LGBTI persons, persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with disabilities.

In April, OHCHR collaborated with the Judicial Education Institute of Jamaica (JEIJ) and the Court Management Services to organize a workshop for the presentation of an online training platform on international human rights for the judiciary in Jamaica, which was developed and launched in 2018. The workshop presented the main elements of the training course and provided guidance on how trainers/judges can use the

online platform as a consultation tool. During the training, responsibility for the online course was officially handed over to the JEIJ, which will now manage the site and provide access to all members of the judiciary.



Development (D)

D7 - In all five Caribbean UN Country/ Sub-regional Teams (Jamaica, Barbados and OECS, Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, Suriname) a HRBA is integrated in MSDF CIPs/M&E framework, interpretation of SDGs.



OHCHR worked closely with other UN agencies to ensure that an HRBA is applied to and integrated into UN programmes and activities.

The Office participated in the development of Jamaica's Country Implementation Plan (CIP) 2019-2020, which was based on the UN MSDF, ensuring the full integration of human rights and gender considerations.

In cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), OHCHR finalized an emergency preparedness and response plan for Jamaica. The plan focuses on hurricane and earthquake scenarios and the mainstreaming of human rights and gender, with the participation of other UN agencies, such as UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in the implementation of the plan.

OHCHR cooperated with the UN Theme Group on Gender and Human Rights and the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS to conduct a comprehensive review of four parliamentary acts, namely, the Sexual Offences Act, the Child Care and Protection Act, the Domestic Violence Act and the Offences against the Person Act. In December, the RC presented a memo to the Parliament and key government ministries in order to highlight key issues of concern, such as abolishing outdated definitions of sexual intercourse and rape, including marital rape, and the criminalization of HIV transmission and to propose a gender-neutral understanding of sexual offences.

OHCHR also organized a number of trainings for UN agencies on human rights, gender, migration and the rights of persons with disabilities.

database project. The database seeks to facilitate recording, tracking and reporting on the national-level implementation of human rights recommendations emanating from the international, regional and national human rights mechanisms. It is anticipated that the database will enhance the Government's capacity and efficiency in reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR. At its end-of-year meeting, the Interministerial Committee informed OHCHR that it had approved the database project, which is expected to be operational in 2020.

Finally, the Office continued to build the capacity of the Interministerial Committee through a training on the use of the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI).



M1 – At least four Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Jamaica) have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.







In Jamaica, OHCHR contributed to enhancing integrated and efficient reporting and follow-up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms by building capacity and raising awareness about existing tools.

In 2018, the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights was established as the official national entity of Jamaica for reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. At the same time, OHCHR presented its NRTD. Since then, OHCHR continued to advocate with the Interministerial Committee to encourage Jamaica to join the pilot phase of the

MEXICO

127.58 million		Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.767 (rank: 76/188 in 2018) Status A, 2016
Type of engager	nent	Country Office
Year established	I	2002
Field office(s)		Mexico City
UN partnership	framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2014-2019
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	24
Total income		US\$2,611,118
XB requirements	s 2019	U\$\$2,611,118 U\$\$2,997,000
XB requirements		US\$2,997,000
XB requirements Total XB expend		U\$\$2,997,000 U\$\$2,784,758
XB requirements Total XB expend Personnel		U\$\$2,784,758 Non-personnel PSC ¹

¹²³⁺ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 – Mexico has adopted a national regulatory framework on the use of force that complies with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of security sector authorities with international human rights norms and standards on the use of force.

During his visit to Mexico, in 2015, the High Commissioner recommended that Mexico adopt legislation on the use of force. Since then, several special procedures have issued similar recommendations. In addition, the Office

was fundamental in ensuring the constitutional reform on security. This led to the creation of the National Guard and established an obligation to draft a National Law on the Use of Force (LNUF), which was finally adopted, in May. An agreement signed by the Government and OHCHR following the High Commissioner's 2019 visit to Mexico, in April, which deals with the provision of technical assistance on capacity-building and operational protocols, as well as accountability mechanisms of the National Guard, was drafted at the beginning of the year.

Following the adoption of the LNUF, the Office began monitoring its

implementation, documented cases of human rights violations and advocated for the security forces to fully comply with the LNUF. During the congressional debates related to the preparation of the draft, OHCHR presented a document outlining the international standards that needed to be incorporated. Many of these standards were included in the final version. In May, the Office issued a statement acknowledging the positive aspects of the Law, while also underscoring its shortcomings, particularly regarding the lack of regulation on the use of lethal force and accountability.

Since the LNUF failed to comply with international standards in some areas, OHCHR shared its concerns with the NHRI, which later filed a constitutional challenge (acción de inconstitucionalidad) before the Supreme Court. Finally, the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee on Mexico, issued on 7 November, reiterated some of OHCHR's concerns regarding the LNUF.

A2 – At least four public policies have been adopted that protect the rights of individuals who are subject to search and identification (with respect to search commissions, registries, protocols, national plans, etc.). At least three public policies have been adopted that address prosecution, sanction and reparation in cases of disappearances of persons, torture, and other human rights violations. These policies are implemented at federal and local level in compliance with international human rights standards.



The Office contributed to the establishment of oversight and accountability mechanisms on torture, the search for missing persons and exhumations and

the identification of human remains in compliance with international human rights standards.

During the reporting period, OHCHR collaborated with several NGOs to create a system to monitor the implementation of the General Law on Torture. In the first half of 2019. OHCHR coordinated with partner organizations to gather information that was used to develop 240 requests that were submitted to authorities. OHCHR and its partner organizations used that information to create a website, sintortura.org, which was launched, in November, to monitor the implementation of the General Law on Torture. The website includes information on the status and number of investigations: the number of convictions for torture and forensic torture exams. It is also used for advocacy before the authorities across the country.

OHCHR contributed to the planning and elaboration of the National Programme for the Prevention and Sanction of Torture and other Forms of Ill-Treatment, which was established in accordance with the General Law on Torture. OHCHR worked with CSOs and international partners to produce the final version of the National Programme, which has been reviewed by federal and local dependencies since August. It is anticipated that the National Programme will be published at the beginning of 2020.

Following the High Commissioner's visit to Mexico, the new Government requested additional cooperation, which led to the signing of an agreement that concerns cooperation with the newly established Commission for Truth and Access to Justice in relation to the Ayotzinapa case (the enforced disappearance of 43 male students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers' School in 2014). In March 2018, OHCHR published

a groundbreaking report on the torture of detainees and other violations of due process. As of January 2020, more than 61,000 enforced disappearances have been reported in Mexico. The Government has committed to addressing enforced disappearances, including the Ayotzinapa case, as a priority issue.

To advance the implementation of the General Law on Disappearances, OHCHR supported the process the design of various tools established by the General Law, i.e., the National Search Programme, the Regional Search Programme for the Northeast, the Protocol for the Search of Missing Persons and the National Exhumations Programme, OHCHR supported these processes through meetings with authorities, providing international human rights standards and helping to maintain the dialogue between relatives of people disappeared, authorities and international experts, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the ICRC.

In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance and political support to CSOs and victims' groups to promote the creation of an Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism, including by holding periodic meetings with government stakeholders and diplomatic missions to identify opportunities for collaboration. On the occasion of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, in August, the President declared its commitment to creating this Mechanism. After several months of dialogue, an agreement was reached between the various actors involved in the process and the Extraordinary Forensic Mechanism was formally established on 5 December.

A3 – Relevant authorities take account of international human rights norms and standards in at least four prosecutions for violence against women, femicide, or denial of sexual and reproductive rights.



The Office contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence on violence against women by providing ongoing technical assistance to GBV alert mechanisms in eight states.

Following the assistance provided to the mechanisms in five states (Jalisco, Veracruz, Ciudad de México, Estado de México and Chiapas), in 2018, the Office assisted three additional mechanisms in the states of Nuevo León, Chihuahua and Guerrero, bringing the total number of supported mechanisms to eight. In addition to participating in the meetings of each alert mechanism, OHCHR introduced international women's rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms as a foundation for analysis related to violence against women in the local context. The Office also helped the alert mechanisms to revise their public policies to ensure that they better integrate gender perspectives and women's rights obligations.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to accompany and assist victims and CSOs in relation to cases of violence against women, focusing on three femicide cases and one sexual violence case. During that time, two cases on femicide were concluded with the support of the Office. Additionally, OHCHR provided CSOs and judicial authorities with technical expertise on human rights standards, due process of law and sexual and reproductive rights with regard to a wide range of cases.

Furthermore, OHCHR collaborated with civil society partners to contribute to discussions on the modification of the General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free of Violence, which would strengthen the efficacy of the alert mechanisms. The initiative was approved by the Deputies Chamber, in December, and was discussed by the Senate, in January 2020, which included comments from OHCHR.

In partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, state-level human rights commissions and other partners, OHCHR coordinated a training course on substantive equality and the rights of indigenous women. In an effort to decentralize knowledge on human rights, the course was conducted over 10 sessions in eight states (Chihuahua, Ciudad de México, Estado de México, Veracruz, Jalisco, San Luis Potosí, Chiapas, Puebla), which were live streamed to all enrolled students.



P1 – The relevant authorities take effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders (HRDs) in at least 10 per cent of the cases raised by OHCHR-Mexico.



The Office contributed to investigating cases of human rights violations of HRDs and journalists with relevant judicial and executive authorities.

During 2019, OHCHR documented a significant increase in the number of suspects arrested with regard to cases of aggression against HRDs and journalists, especially against indigenous and WHRDs. OHCHR's public position and dialogue with authorities helped to maintain a high level of pressure.

Among the cases where some progress was achieved is the case of Isidro Baldenegro, an indigenous HRD who was awarded the Goldman prize in 2005. He was killed in 2017 and his assassin was finally sentenced in 2019. In the case of journalist Amir Ibrahim, an individual was sentenced for threatening him. This constitutes a landmark case as threat complaints are usually dismissed by authorities and because most grave human rights violations against HRDs and journalists take place within a context of complete impunity.

Moreover, all of the cases of HRD disappearances that were documented by OHCHR in 2019 have now received the attention of the National Search Commission. At least three disappeared HRDs were consequently located, two of whom were released by their kidnappers. The human remains of the third HRD were located and identified by authorities, and subsequently returned to the family.

During the year, the number of homicides and disappearances of HRDs, particularly indigenous HRDs and journalists, was the highest since OHCHR began its systematic documentation in 2015. A least 18 HRDs were killed (four women, 14 men, 10 of whom were indigenous persons) and at least 12 journalists were killed (one woman, 11 men, one of whom was an indigenous person). The whereabouts of at least two HRDs who were disappeared in 2019 remain unknown.

At the request of the Mexican Government, OHCHR carried out an in-depth assessment of the National Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists during the reporting period. The assessment includes 104 recommendations that have been fully accepted by the Minister of the Interior, the Federal Prosecutor, the Vice-Minister

of Security, the Ombudsperson and the representatives of the 32 states. Among the main recommendations highlighted by OHCHR are the need to effectively integrate a gender perspective into the activities of the Mechanism; focus on groups facing significant risks; adopt preventive measures to avoid the most violent attacks; and prevent aggressions committed by civil servants and politicians, which account for approximately 55 per cent of all violations. In light of the Government's commitment, OHCHR is supporting the process to strengthen the Mechanism. Improvements have been reported, including the implementation of a new methodology for risk assessment and the early development of an information system that incorporates indicators to measure human rights impact. Moreover, initial preparations are underway, with the support of the Office of the President, to launch a permanent public campaign to fully recognize the fundamental contribution of HRDs and journalists for a vibrant democracy.



M1 – By the end of 2021, Mexico has ratified two international or regional human rights treaties and recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider individual communications.

As of the end of 2019, Mexico had ratified two Inter-American conventions and made progress towards recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) to receive and consider individual communications. More specifically, following Senate approval, the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance and the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of

Discrimination and Intolerance were ratified, in November.

In 2019, OHCHR continued promoting the importance of recognizing the competence of CED to receive and consider individual communications. This was further emphasized by the High Commissioner during her country visit, in May. As a result, the Government publicly declared, on 30 August, that it would recognize the Committee's competence and accepted the corresponding UPR recommendation on this topic. As of December, however, no steps had been taken to formally conclude the process and the recognition of the CED remains under the review of the Supreme Court.

OHCHR strongly encouraged the Government to recognize the competence of the Committee on Economic and Social Rights (CESCR) and CRC to receive and consider individual communications, particularly since the Government had accepted the relevant recommendations that were issued during the UPR. The Senate, which is empowered to internally ratify international treaties, exhorted the Executive to recognize the competence of CED, CESCR and CRC, with technical assistance from OHCHR.

#QUEREMOSAOBTILIA CAMPAIGN HELPS RELEASE INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In February, Obtilia Eugenio Manuel and her colleague, Hilario Cornelio Castro, both of whom are indigenous women human rights defenders, were victims of enforced disappearance after denouncing corruption in their community. As soon as OHCHR received information about their case, the Office established contact with federal and state authorities and launched a campaign to demand their release under the hashtag #QueremosAObtilia (meaning "we want Obtilia to be free"). After several days, Obtilia and Hilario were released. This is an unprecedented situation as most cases of disappeared human rights defenders remain unsolved or they are found deceased.

After her release, Obtilia heard about the social mobilization that took place in relation to her case and declared:

"The OHCHR team supported my fight for the rights of indigenous peoples. This was especially important when I was a victim of enforced disappearance and it used alerts to advocate for me to be found. Thanks to OHCHR and other human rights defenders, my captors released me. OHCHR's support continued after my liberation, which helped me to obtain protection measures from the authorities."

In December, Obtilia was awarded the National Human Rights Prize.

M3 – The workplans and activities of national and local institutions of the executive, legislative and judiciary, and other relevant actors, have integrated at least four recommendations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and related mechanisms. The judiciary references international human rights standards more frequently in its decisions and activities; it does so in cases where OHCHR has submitted a legal brief.



The Office contributed to the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and judicial decisions in various areas,

including in relation to child marriage, the legal capacity of persons with disabilities, the legal interruption of pregnancy, enforced disappearances and migration.

In this context, the Office submitted three legal briefs to the Supreme Court of Justice containing information about these issues. The Office also collaborated with the Supreme Court to disseminate and promote the use of international standards on human rights in judicial decisions. One of their projects is the Legal Search Engine on Human Rights (BJDH), www.bjdh.org.mx, which is an important tool that facilitates the dissemination of information about international standards on human rights to the judiciary, students, academics, human rights officers, government officials and others interested in researching

human rights cases. In 2019, OHCHR and the Supreme Court began to systematize and categorize information on special procedures for inclusion in the search engine.

OHCHR continued collaborating with the Supreme Court on the television programme "Tus derechos," working closely with the Court's team throughout the planning and coordination process for the 22-episode broadcast in 2019. The main goal of the programme was to promote discussions on relevant topics related to human rights, such as enforced disappearances, torture, gender and migration.

Development (D)

D2 – Businesses, especially businesses in the energy sector, increasingly apply the UN Guiding Principles, notably in their due diligence procedures.

OHCHR made progress in the consolidation of the business and human rights agenda in Mexico by promoting a broader agenda on the subject. It also provided technical advice to businesses on the application of international human rights standards.

In this context, OHCHR and the Secretariat of the UNGPs, co-organized a regional consultation on incorporating gender perspectives into the UNGPs, in Mexico City, in February. The consultation increased awareness about the international standards among the 50 participants, including academics, NGO representatives from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru, companies from Mexico and national-level NHRIs from Guatemala and Mexico and the NHRI from Mexico City.

In a continuous effort to disseminate the UNGPs, OHCHR facilitated capacity-building activities for private sector companies from the construction and energy sectors, with a focus on the UN human rights system, the rights of indigenous peoples, the UNGPs and due diligence procedures. As a result, approximately 20 companies from different sectors demonstrated a willingness to understand the concepts and work together with authorities, CSOs and communities on human rights issues. OHCHR also continued providing technical assistance to the private sector company, Grupo Mexico, the largest mining company in the country, to help them implement human rights policies in all of their business activities and to operationalize the company's complaints and remedy system.

Within the framework of the project "Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean," the Office continued advocating for the elaboration of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights after the process was discontinued by the Ministry of the Interior in 2018. As a result, OHCHR contributed to the development of the National Human Rights Programme to ensure the incorporation of a business and human rights agenda. The Programme is due to be presented to the public in April 2020. As part of the development process, OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of the Interior to organize a national consultation, which was held for 107 participants representing private companies, CSOs and communities and state and federal authorities (47 women, 60 men), in Monterrey, in August. OHCHR also participated in the regional consultation on business and human rights in Chile, in September, which was crucial to strengthening partnerships with OHCHR Offices in Chile, Colombia and Mexico, and with ILO and OECD.



ND6 – National laws recognize the rights to liberty and judicial guarantees of migrants, who enjoy stronger legal protection through national judicial and non-judicial protection mechanisms.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11 13 16 %

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of legislation with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of migrants.

During 2019, OHCHR focused its efforts on legislative reforms addressing the rights of migrants and access to services for asylum seekers and the harmonization of the Migration Law and the General Law for the Protection of Girls, Boys and Adolescents concerning the prohibition of the detention of migrant children. OHCHR also advocated for guaranteeing access to justice by allowing public defenders to enter migrant detention centres. Although many forums and activities have been organized to discuss these legislative reforms, limited progress has been made towards their adoption. The Office will continue to promote these guarantees in 2020. OHCHR carried out several missions to document the situation of people on the move, including both migrants and IDPs, and their ability to access their rights. The OHCHR team travelled to Chiapas, Baja California, Chihuahua, San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, Tabasco and Mexico City as part of their efforts to ensure the protection of people on the move. Specifically, OHCHR carried out a rapid deployment mission to the northern and southern Mexican borders and contributed its findings to a report entitled Situación de los derechos humanos de las personas en contexto de movilidad en México on access to justice, detention, criminalization of HRDs, access to social, economic and cultural rights, women's rights and the rights of the child. The report contained several recommendations to authorities and institutions on addressing human rights violations in the context of migration. Its main findings were shared with the Deputy Minister for Human Rights in the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

OHCHR undertook an active role during the first steps of the investigations concerning two extrajudicial killings of migrants by providing technical advice to the authorities on corresponding human rights standards.

SOUTH AMERICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
Year established	2009
Field office(s)	Santiago, Chile with Human Rights Advisers in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
UN partnership framework	n/a
Staff as of 31 December 2019	tbc
	US\$779,000 US\$1,311,000
•	U\$\$1,311,000 U\$\$818,983
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 79% \$648,580	U\$\$1,311,000 U\$\$818,983 Non-personnel PSC [†] 9% 11%
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 79% \$648,580 Total RB expenditure	U\$\$1,311,000 U\$\$818,983 Non-personnel PSC' 9% 11% \$76,359 \$94,044 U\$\$1,136,866

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



Participation (P)

P1 – Indigenous peoples, women, LGTBI rights advocates, human rights defenders, and people of African descent have increased capacity to make use of national, regional and international human rights mechanisms to protect their rights. Human rights defenders and indigenous peoples participate more actively in public affairs and consistently monitor decisions that affect them.



The Office contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, in reporting to the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacities of CSOs to interact with international human rights protection mechanisms.

In **Bolivia**, the Office organized a seminar on the UPR for 20 CSOs, highlighting

the advantages of working in coalitions and the tools that can be used to achieve results. In addition, OHCHR provided technical support to the Government to socialize its report for the third UPR cycle in the main cities of the country. Through a series of workshops, more than 250 civil society representatives were informed about the Government's report that has been submitted to the UPR Working Group. The workshops provided an opportunity for CSOs to express their observations and opinions regarding the report.

In **Ecuador**, the Office held information sessions for 120 civil society representatives on the preparation of alternative reports to CESCR and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). As a result, the two committees received 18 alternative reports and three oral interventions on the rights of persons with disabilities, which enabled them to broaden the spectrum of issues that were addressed in their recommendations.

In **Uruguay**, OHCHR supported CSOs to contribute preliminary information that was used for the CEDAW list of issues prior to reporting. Based on this list of issues, Uruguay will present its official report to CEDAW in July 2020. Furthermore, the Office provided support to CSOs on the use of human rights mechanisms and the preparation of proposals to various funds, which led to a successful application to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture by a Uruguayan NGO.

In **Brazil**, the Office partnered closely with indigenous organizations, which have been among the main stakeholders combating climate change and deforestation. In August, OHCHR co-organized and co-facilitated a workshop with the primary national indigenous networks

of the country and the NGO Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (Amazon Cooperation Network) for 30 indigenous leaders. Participants were trained to identify UPR recommendations related to the rights of indigenous peoples and assess their status of implementation. They also enhanced their knowledge of international human rights mechanisms, the main international platforms for indigenous and environmental action and the linkages between human rights, sustainable development and climate change.

The Office continued to work towards integrating sustainable development and human rights, especially with regard to protecting environmental HRDs and civic space. OHCHR has been coordinating the UNCT's Interagency Subgroup on Human Rights Defenders since its establishment in 2017 and developed strategic partnerships with the United Nations Environment Programme and UN Women. A human rights-based approach has been consequently integrated into the UN Women's project on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights in Brazil (2019-2023). OHCHR is a member of the technical advisory team.

In Paraguay, OHCHR cooperated with the Plurales Foundation, Tierraviva, Grupo Sunú, Mujeres Rurales and Fundación Hugo to organize a workshop entitled "Human rights, indigenous peoples and gender: Strategies for advocacy in global spaces," which was held in October. The workshop brought together 25 indigenous women leaders of community organizations to strengthen their understanding about the international human rights system and its mechanisms. The participants also learned about preparing alternative reports for the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

In **Peru**, the Office contributed to a seminar, organized by the Ombudsperson, with HRDs and staff from the Office of the Ombudsperson, to review the final draft of the Office of the Ombudsperson's Action Guidelines on registering, investigating and monitoring cases of human rights violations committed against HRDs. OHCHR raised awareness about the role of the UN in the protection of human rights defenders.

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support. Discrimination and gender equality laws comply with international human rights standards. Judges and prosecutors are better equipped, in terms of law and training, to prosecute discrimination and gender crimes successfully. State policies protect indigenous peoples against discrimination; consultation protocols have been adopted. Schools are increasingly running awareness-raising campaigns and education programmes on human rights and diversity, to combat discrimination, bigotry and hate.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards with regard to the rights of persons with disabilities, women, migrants and LGBTI persons.

In **Chile**, the Office contributed the international human rights law perspective on inclusion, specifically in relation to the rights of persons with disabilities, in a course entitled "Capacity-building for inclusion." The course was jointly organized by ILO and the National Disability

Service for 50 leaders of the three Chilean trade union centres. It also forms part of the strategy to train various actors to intervene in favour of the inclusion and full enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

In cooperation with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility, OHCHR participated in the discussion "Women, maternity and disabilities in Chile," organized by the Corporation Circle of Women and Girls with Disabilities. The event was attended by 20 State officials and representatives of CSOs. OHCHR noted that despite universal and regional human rights protection instruments, violations of the rights of women with disabilities continue to persist. Stereotypes, myths and social prejudices around disability and motherhood must therefore be identified and eradicated.

In Uruguay, OHCHR, UNFPA, WHO and UN Women continued to successfully implement the joint disability fund project called "The right to equality and non-discrimination for persons with disabilities." The project is in its second year of contributing to the national debate on disability issues. Moreover, the UN system and the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation advocated for the establishment of an inter-institutional working group to discuss the feasibility of a national disability assessment system that is based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and is in compliance with CRPD.

The defence of the human rights of transgender persons was a priority issue for the RC and the UNCT in Uruguay. After receiving a request for assistance regarding the repeal of the Comprehensive Law for Trans Persons on the grounds that it could violate the rights of transgender persons.

the UNCT issued a public statement, in July, outlining the State's obligations and international human rights standards visa-vis transgender persons. The initiative was dismissed the following month. For the first time in Uruguay, resources were mobilized by the UNCT, under the leadership of the RC and in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and the Municipality of Montevideo, to launch the first UN Free & Equal campaign, which ended in February 2020, against transphobia and homophobia.

In Argentina, OHCHR participated in the first human rights editing marathon that was jointly organized with Wikimedia Argentina. The event, which was called "Editatón," focused on content related to women's rights and sexual diversity. It gathered together academics, activists and people interested in human rights, specialists in editing Wikipedia content and people without experience in the management of the digital encyclopaedia. A total of 19 Wikipedia articles, in Spanish, were updated during the day, using official sources from the UN. The conference also included a workshop on international human rights mechanisms, with an emphasis on women's rights and sexual diversity.

In Bolivia and Paraguay, the Office developed two workshops on negative gender stereotypes for approximately 80 judges from both countries (65 women, 15 men). The workshops aimed at identifying and addressing gender stereotypes in line with international human rights standards and strengthening the role of the judiciary in the defence of women's rights by considering the impact of illicit gender stereotypes on these rights. The Office used participatory methodologies, theoretical presentations and practical exercises to stimulate exchanges on follow-up actions and good practices in the region with national and international

experts. Furthermore, the Office organized a discussion on the impact of harmful gender stereotypes on the administration of justice, in September, within the framework of strengthening the work of the Ministry of Public Defence in Paraguay. The event was attended by the Minister of Public Defence and more than 40 public defenders (25 women, 15 men) who were specialized in the protection of women's human rights.

In **Brazil**, 23 students graduated from the "Trans-Formation" project, which was coordinated by OHCHR, the Public Ministry of Labour, the Bahia Government and CSOs in the context of the UN Free & Equal campaign. The project creates opportunities for dialogue, seeks political training and the empowerment of trans, non-binary and transvestite activists. The students also gained professional experience as community volunteers in the framework of the United Nations Volunteers Programme.

In collaboration with the Afro-Chilean Lumbanga Organization and the Chilean Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage, the Office organized a three-day regional forum on the International Decade for People of African Descent. More than 30 representatives of Afrodescendant organizations from South and Central America worked together to design a proposal assessing progress made during the International Decade for People of African Descent with regards to recognition, justice and development. This regional activity opened new opportunities of engagement with Afrodescendant organizations in Argentina and Peru.

The region faced a crisis regarding regressive measures against Venezuelan citizens in several countries. In this context, the Office in Chile elaborated a document on international human standards on migrants to contribute to UNCT

discussions on the status of Venezuelan migrants. In **Ecuador**, OHCHR sent a communication to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlighting international standards and submitted an amicus curiae to the Constitutional Court, which expressed its appreciation, on a case regarding regressive measures against Venezuelans. The crisis provided an opportunity to engage with local partners, specialized UN agencies and NHRIs on a more regular basis.



M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) function effectively in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the effective functioning of NMRFs by providing technical support through its Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme (TBCBP).

The regional work undertaken by the TBCBP contributed to progress made towards the establishment of NRMFs in Argentina and Peru. In both countries, OHCHR organized seminars during the reporting period to train focal points, mobilize political will and support the strengthening of institutions. In Argentina, Paraguayan authorities provided valuable support and shared their experiences with the SIMORE Plus online platform and OHCHR provided technical expertise. In Peru, OHCHR enabled the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to use the UHRI and the NRTD as tools for comprehensive follow-up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, the SDGs and Human Rights Action Plans. The Office participated in sessions to analyse the feasibility of considering the use of the NRTD by the public sector.

The establishment of both mechanisms is expected to be finalized in 2020.

In Bolivia and Ecuador, OHCHR's foundational work in 2018 provided an opportunity to engage authorities in revamping the NMRFs that both countries had begun developing in previous years, namely, SIPLUS in Bolivia and SIDERECHOS in Ecuador. While the Office responded positively to formal requests for technical cooperation from these two countries, the political and electoral crisis in Bolivia and the political crisis in Ecuador necessitated a suspension of these activities until 2020. The Office conducted the first seminar for the establishment of an NMRF in Venezuela and set up a road map for 2020.

In **Bolivia**, OHCHR organized a three-day workshop to strengthen the State's knowledge about the UPR and CED in preparation for the interactive dialogues with both mechanisms in 2019. The activity was attended by 30 public servants and was facilitated by the HRAs from Bolivia and Uruguay, with online collaboration from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay and the Ministry of Justice of Peru, as part of the South-South Cooperation practice in the region.

M2 – Civil society organizations report regularly to UN mechanisms, participate in sessions (including through the use of technology), and use concluding observations and reports for advocacy and follow-up purposes.



During the reporting period, the Office facilitated the submission of 222 substantive regional reports to the international human rights mechanisms (126 to the human rights treaty bodies, 96 to the UPR and one to the special

procedures), including 16 from NHRIs, 195 from CSOs, three from individuals and seven from UN entities.

In 2019, the Office continued to build the capacity of civil society and other actors on strategically engaging with the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR worked with stakeholders in all countries covered by the Regional Office on South America to provide training on how to prepare and submit reports and notify them of opportunities to engage with the mechanisms. The work of the Office has been crucial in supporting the development of UNCT joint submissions to the mechanisms.

In the case of the UPR, the Office set up an alliance with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Foundation in **Uruguay** to conduct six preparatory workshops for State institutions (through the NMRF), CSOs, the NHRI and the UNCT in Uruguay in relation to the review in January 2020. In total, more than 150 persons were trained, 20 reports from non-State actors and one comprehensive report from the UNCT report were submitted and four organizations participated in a pre-session training that was organized by UPR-Info, in Geneva, in December.

In **Chile**, eight workshops were organized throughout the country and a dialogue session was held, in Santiago, in preparation for the UPR. At least two members from CSOs participated in a December UPR-Info pre-session workshop. A total of 272 individuals were trained and 37 individual submissions and 30 joint submissions were sent to the UPR Working Group. For the first time, alternative reports from regional organizations, indigenous peoples, Afrodescendants and rural communities were submitted in relation to Chile's third UPR cycle.

Development (D)

D7 – States implement the 2030 Agenda using national development plans that integrate recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms. States' procedures for reviewing and follow-up make increasing use of national human rights mechanisms, and adopt a human rights-based approach to data. State institutions responsible for data collection apply human rights-based methods to address patterns of discrimination and inequality, enabling Governments to target their interventions more precisely.

OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions with international human rights standards in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through technical guidance and support to the UNCTs.

In Argentina, the Office conducted an internal study on the impact of austerity measures on economic, social and cultural rights in the short- and medium-term, specifically in the areas of health, nutrition, education, economic welfare, access to social security, employment and social programmes. The study also sought to identify the vulnerable groups most affected by these measures and outlined a local monitoring process and recommendations for the UNCT on how to address prevailing human rights concerns, which was found to be a useful tool for the CCA.

In **Brazil**, in addition to monitoring cases involving HRDs, OHCHR provided human rights analysis to support the UNCT's response. The Office participated in the Thematic Group on Race, Gender and Ethnicity, the Youth Advisory Group and the UN Communications Group and convened multi-stakeholder meetings on human rights matters to promote the integration of human rights into UN policies and programmes.

In Chile, both the 2018 CCA and the new UNDAF (2019-2022) integrate an HRBA into all outcomes. In 2019, OHCHR led the UN Inter-Agency Group on human rights and gender, which actively promotes the mainstreaming of human rights standards and contributes to other interagency groups, such as the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues, the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela and the Task Force on Business and Human Rights. Since the social protests first began, in October, the Office cooperated with the RC and the UNCT to lead the UNCT's work on addressing the crisis. This was achieved by facilitating a technical mission and following up on its recommendations, organizing highlevel meetings with public authorities and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms. Through OHCHR's support, the UNCT strengthened its partnerships with civil society across the country, generating a network for early warning, monitoring of protests and follow-up actions on recommendations.

In Ecuador, the Office focused on strengthening the strategic interaction of the State, CSOs and the UNCT with the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR built the capacity of 120 members of civil society to prepare confidential alternative reports for these mechanisms. As a result, the human rights treaty bodies received 18 alternative reports during the year on economic, social and cultural rights, thereby broadening the spectrum of issues that were covered in the recommendations for Ecuador. The Office also provided support to the OHCHR mission, which was deployed at the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to monitor the human rights situation in the context of the October protests. Economic, cultural and social rights were among the root causes. Finally, the Office contributed to strengthening the

UNCT's capacity for monitoring human rights situations in 2019. The nascent NHRIs Early Warning and Response System on the northern border was set up and the UN personnel involved with the system were trained on early warning and monitoring. A total of 50 officials from Quito and the northern border benefited from the training provided by OHCHR. The RCO prioritized the establishment of an early warning mechanism in the UNCT in 2020, which should help to improve the readiness of the system to identify and respond to a crisis.

In **Uruguay**, the Office supported the UNCT in incorporating the international human rights framework into the new CCA and Cooperation Framework. A human rights and gender dimension was integrated into a project co-led by the RCO and UNDP. The project called "Structural transformations needed for the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda" aims to identify the bottlenecks that hinder the transition of the country to sustainable development around three major areas, namely, finances and intergenerational solidarity; productivity, resilience and sustainability; and hard exclusions, social segregation, coexistence and the multidimensionality of poverty. OHCHR, UN Women and UNDP worked together on the elaboration of a strategy to mainstream human rights and gender empowerment approach into the three areas of work.

Finally, a bi-national meeting of UNCTs from Argentina and Uruguay, held in December, brought together almost 60 UN staff members from both countries, including RCs, regional representatives and Heads of UN agencies. The objective of the meeting was to discuss issues related to the application of the LNOB principle within the context of the CCA and UNSDCF in each country. The participants also analysed the LNOB principle in connection with the concepts of non-discrimination and equal access to services.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASIA-PACIFIC

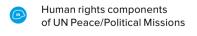


TYPE OF PRESENCE LOCATION

Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
Regional Offices/Centres

South-East Asia (Bangkok), Pacific (Suva)

Cambodia, Republic of Korea (Seoul)



Afghanistan

Human Rights Advisers
deployed under the
framework of the UNSDG

Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste

Other types of field presences

Myanmar (based in Bangkok and Cox's Bazar)

LEGEND:

Spotlights:







Shifts:







Climate change

Inequalities

New technologies

People on the move

SDGs:



























^{**} Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.

The Asia-Pacific region is the largest in the world, both in terms of its geography and population. The work of OHCHR covered 39 countries in the region, bordered by Afghanistan to the west, Mongolia to the north, Kiribati to the east and New Zealand to the south. In 2019, the Office supported one country office in Cambodia; Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) or national officers in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste: two regional offices for the Pacific and South-East Asia: one Human Rights Service (HRS) in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan: and one field-based structure, based in Seoul, which covers the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). OHCHR continued to deploy staff working on Myanmar.

In 2019, OHCHR developed a broader, regional approach with more emphasis on cross-country thematic issues, including torture prevention, accountability and transitional justice, civic space, climate change, business and human rights and migration. For instance, a number of activities were conducted between the two regional offices to enable local actors to respond to the human rights impacts of climate change.

OHCHR continued to oversee the implementation of Human Rights Council (HRC) resolutions on Afghanistan, Cambodia, the DPRK, Myanmar, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. OHCHR engaged with the Government of the Philippines, national institutions and NGOs in the context of the implementation of the first HRC resolution on the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines, which was adopted, in July. OHCHR also assisted the special procedures country mandate holders for Cambodia, the

DPRK and Myanmar and supported the visits of a number of thematic mandate holders to countries in the region.

In Cambodia, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, OHCHR continued to provide support to the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to ensure the implementation of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Initiative, the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) and the application of a human rightsbased approach (HRBA) to programming, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Various activities were undertaken to support the incorporation of human rights principles into UN programming, including training on an HRBA and technical advice for the development of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) in all roll-out countries, increase communication with UN entities to cement partnerships and enable broader access to information with regard to civic space, political participation, access to justice and non-discrimination.

OHCHR conducted numerous human rights capacity-building and technical assistance activities for a wide variety of international and national stakeholders, including UNCTs, national human rights commissions and civil society organizations.

In Cambodia, OHCHR supported the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) review and the examination of Cambodia's reports under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). OHCHR also strengthened its support to the Resident Coordinator (RC) and the UNCT in working with the authorities and other stakeholders to assist in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OHCHR substantially strengthened its work on Myanmar to respond to the additional reporting requirements arising from the implementation of HRC resolution 42/3 and created opportunities for technical cooperation and closer engagement with the UNCT on several initiatives. Pursuant to HRC resolution S-27/1 on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, the High Commissioner prepared a comprehensive report on the human rights situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar, which was presented at the HRC's fortieth session, in March.

In South Asia, the High Commissioner issued an update on the human rights situation in Kashmir. In addition, OHCHR increased its technical assistance on the development of human rights indicators in Pakistan and actively engaged with national stakeholders on the transitional justice process in Nepal. In Sri Lanka, OHCHR collaborated with the UNCT and the RC to provide advice and support related to various aspects of transitional justice. Following the adoption of HRC resolution 40/1, OHCHR monitored and assessed progress made by the Government in the implementation of the

transitional justice agenda and produced a written update that will be presented at the HRC's forty-third session. OHCHR continued to support the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka as the designated domestic mechanism to conduct the human rights screening of Sri Lanka military personnel who are nominated for deployment to UN peacekeeping missions. Moreover, OHCHR deployed a rapid response team to strengthen the UNCT's capacity to monitor the human rights situation before and during the presidential elections that were held in November.

In Bangladesh, OHCHR provided support to the UNCT by contributing inputs throughout the drafting process of the Common Country Analysis (CCA), in support of the UN's engagement with the Government on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/SDGs. OHCHR also supported the review by the Committee against Torture (CAT) of the initial report of Bangladesh, which was submitted 20 years overdue. Following the Government's expressed commitment to develop a national implementation plan for recommendations emanating from the UPR, OHCHR provided support, along with the UNCT, through training and technical cooperation. OHCHR continued to engage with the Maldives, including through the deployment of a Human Rights Officer to the UNCT. An HRA will be deployed from early 2020.

In Northeast Asia, the absence of an in-country presence continues to limit OHCHR's engagement in this region. As a result, OHCHR explored entry points to strengthen existing partnerships with authorities, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs, including through UPR follow-up. Nevertheless, OHCHR secured a number of promising

entry points in 2019, most notably in Mongolia. At the Government's request, in July 2018, OHCHR secured financial support from the UPR Trust Fund and partnered with the Government, the National Human Rights Commission and the UNCT in Mongolia to implement the UPR recommendations in the areas of torture prevention, development of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, launching of the Free & Equal campaign, finalization and adoption of the Human Rights Defenders Law and use of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). In July, an HRA was deployed to the UNCT to support the implementation of the project. As of December, all of the targets envisaged under the UPR follow-up support project had been successfully achieved, including the Government's use of the NRTD.

OHCHR continued to pursue its work with regard to the DPRK by developing possible areas of technical cooperation. while at the same seeking ways to ensure accountability for gross human rights violations. The field-based structure in Seoul continued to monitor and document human rights in the DPRK, including within the framework of the implementation of HRC resolutions 34/24 and 40/20, which strengthened the capacity of OHCHR's work on accountability for human rights violations in the DPRK. Through the "Accountability project for the DPRK," OHCHR continued to develop a central information and evidence repository, assessed all information and testimonies collected by the field-based structure in Seoul from an international criminal law perspective and developed a number of strategies to be used in future accountability processes, including through the exploration of international and domestic avenues. In the area of technical cooperation,

OHCHR and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) cooperated to organize a workshop that was held in Geneva, in May, for members of the DPRK's delegation to the UPR. In addition, OHCHR continued to enhance its engagement with the People's Republic of China while seeking mutual opportunities for dialogue to address human rights issues of concern within China, including with regard to the situation in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and in Hong Kong SAR.

In the Pacific, OHCHR delivered technical assistance to a number of countries across the region. To this end, the Office conducted a number of capacity-building and awareness-raising sessions with national partners from across the region on the issue of human rights and climate change. Furthermore, OHCHR continued to engage with the Government of Australia on the issue of the offshore processing centres of migrants in Nauru and Papua New Guinea. Finally, the Office engaged with the co-Chairs of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime in an ongoing effort to obtain membership status.

The High Commissioner visited Australia, Japan and Malaysia in 2019.

AFGHANISTAN: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN (UNAMA)

•	km ² 0.496 (rank: 170/188 in 2018) Status A, 2014
Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Kabul
UN partnership framewor	k One UN for Afghanistan 2018-2021
Staff as of 31 December 20	019 72

XB requirements 2019 **US\$391,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2019







¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p. 208

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A2 – Inclusive and accountable peace and reconciliation processes are established that conform to international human rights standards and internationally recognized principles of transitional justice. They include mechanisms for vetting ex-combatants and for identifying potential violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.



The HRS of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan contributed to the functioning of transitional justice mechanisms, in line with international human rights standards, by advocating with and supporting civil society, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) and the Government to promote

the increased participation of civil society actors in reconciliation processes.

The HRS continued to support the Government, the AIHRC and civil society in the promotion of increased democratic space, the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs), anti-discrimination work, the promotion of inclusive and human rights-compliant peace and reconciliation processes, transitional justice and accountability for human rights violations. Specifically, the HRS organized 45 events countrywide, including trainings, dialogues and public awareness campaigns that involved 1,069 HRDs (267 women, 802 men) journalists, government officials, AIHRC staff and local community leaders, and supported the nationwide broadcast of thematic radio programmes.

To better inform UNAMA's work on peace and human rights, the HRS supported a two-week visit, in February. of a Senior Mediation Adviser from the Mediation Support Unit in the DPPA. The Adviser provided recommendations in the areas of transitional justice, the promotion of human rights in peacemaking and inclusiveness and participation in peace-related processes. To follow up on these initiatives, the HRS organized 10 workshops with local scholars on the protection of human rights under Islamic law. In November, an internal paper was finalized summarizing the main issues arising from the discussions. In August, the HRS and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Afghanistan established an informal "Group of Friends" on transitional justice to better coordinate efforts on this topic.

During the reporting period, the HRS documented 29 cases where HRDs were targeted, including journalists, due to their work. Four of these individuals were killed and three were injured. The remaining 22 cases involved threats or intimidation, temporary arrests or deprivation of liberty, assault or other ill-treatment that was attributed to governmental, pro-governmental or antigovernmental elements. While abuses against HRDs continued in 2019, there were fewer casualties than in 2018 when 10 journalists were killed and 15 were injured.

A1 – Cases of torture and ill-treatment at detention facilities are increasingly investigated promptly, impartially, independently and thoroughly. Accountability and protection mechanisms are strengthened.



The HRS contributed to the increased compliance of detention facilities with

international human rights standards, including in their treatment of conflict-related detainees, by advocating with authorities, providing technical support, monitoring detention facilities and compiling data.

In April, the HRS issued its biennial report on the treatment of conflict-related detainees, covering the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018. The report provides an analysis that is based on interviews with 618 persons that were being held in 77 governmentadministered detention facilities in 28 provinces. The report notes an overall reduction in the custody of Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, from 39 per cent to 31.9 per cent, compared to the previous reporting period. The decrease is attributed to concerted advocacy efforts and technical support provided by the HRS, which also led to the adoption of specific measures by the Government, including the implementation of the National Action Plan on the Elimination of Torture following the 2018 enactment of the Anti-Torture Law.

The HRS continued to monitor detention conditions across the country, visiting places of detention that are administered by the Ministry of Interior Affairs (Afghan National Police (ANP), Correction and Prison Directorate), the National Directorate of Security (NDS), the Ministry of Justice (Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre) and the Afghan National Army. The preliminary findings based on 388 interviews undertaken between 1 January and 30 September indicate that the rate of allegations of torture or ill-treatment in nationwide NDS custody declined to 15 per cent compared to 2018. The rate also declined to 19 per cent in nationwide ANP custody (compared to 31 per cent in 2018). Nevertheless, the significant increase of allegations in Herat, Kandahar and

Kunduz provinces is a cause for concern. The rate remains exceptionally high in Kandahar at 64 per cent. Children remain at higher risk of being subjected to torture both in NDS and ANP custody.

In 2019, the HRS began compiling data on the respect for and fulfilment of procedural safeguards that are critical for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment, such as informing persons deprived of their liberty about their rights, allowing them to have access to lawyers, enabling them to maintain contact with their families and providing them with medical check-ups upon their arrival at detention facilities. Preliminary analysis of the collected data indicates that many of these procedural safeguards remain insufficiently implemented.

Due to concerns about allegations of torture and the ill-treatment of people in the custody of anti-government elements, the HRS interviewed 23 individuals who had been released from detention facilities run by the Taliban. In May, UNAMA released a press statement expressing grave concerns about credible accounts that the Taliban had been subjecting detainees to ill-treatment and torture and allegations that some detainees had been killed. The detainees were reportedly held incommunicado, in poor conditions, in underground facilities.

A1 – The Government establishes an independent national mechanism to prevent torture, which has powers to: conduct regular unannounced visits to all places in which individuals are deprived of their liberty; monitor impartially and transparently the treatment of detainees by Afghan security officials; and strengthen implementation of legal and policy frameworks and national protection systems.



The HRS contributed to the increasing use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards following the enactment of the Anti-Torture Law in 2018.

The HRS engaged with internal monitoring mechanisms, such as human rights officers of the NDS, which play a key role in ensuring the rights of individuals deprived of their liberty. According to detention monitoring conducted by the HRS, 23 per cent of detainees being held in NDS custody were visited by NDS human rights officers who received complaints regarding torture, ill-treatment and lack of access to legal counsel. The Office engaged with the Attorney General's Office, which plays a critical preventive role through its Detention Monitoring Directorate and ensures accountability through its Anti-Torture Commission. The Anti-Torture Commission, established under the 2018 Anti-Torture Law, began its operations in 2019 and is composed of members of key security agencies, including the NDS and the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

While the HRS continued to advocate for the establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), as of the end of 2019, this had not yet taken place, despite Afghanistan's accession to OP-CAT in April 2018.

A3 – The Government adopts measures to improve implementation of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women. It effectively investigates cases of violence against women, prosecutes perpetrators and introduces measures to support victims.



As a result of advocacy and technical support provided by the HRS, various State institutions and programmes improved their compliance with international human rights standards, in particular for the promotion and protection of women's rights.

The HRS continued to support the Government's efforts to advance the promotion and protection of women's rights. The Legislative Committee of the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) continued its review of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW Law), for which the HRS provided detailed technical inputs as a standing member of MoWA's Legislative Committee. The HRS also provided support for the development of regulations on funding for victims of violence against women and girls and in relation to guidelines on raising public awareness about combating violence against women and girls.

Throughout the reporting period, the HRS supported efforts to fully implement the Anti-Harassment Law, including by providing advice on an implementation plan during meetings with the Women's Empowerment Executive Committee, chaired by the Minister for Women's Affairs, and in discussions with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

The draft Family Law seeks to articulate human rights-compliant provisions pertaining to marriage, divorce, matrimonial property, inheritance and child custody. The HRS provided technical advice to the Ministry of Women's Affairs with respect to legislation on the registration of marriage, which aims, among other things, to prevent forced and underage marriage.

The HRS supported the AIHRC and the advocacy efforts of CSOs for the prohibition, in law and in practice, of forensic "virginity testing," provided for in the 2017 Penal Code. Specifically, the HRS participated in a civil society forum dedicated to repealing the provision and eliminating this practice. During the reporting period, the forum began establishing committees at the provincial level. In a setback, the Cabinet Legislative Committee proposed an amendment to the Penal Code that would permit forensic "virginity testing" pursuant to court order. The Office will continue to advocate against the proposed amendment.

From January to November, the HRS documented 221 cases of 13 serious crimes of violence against women and girls, including 60 cases of murder, 16 cases of honour killing and 50 cases of rape. Furthermore, the HRS undertook 312 advocacy and outreach activities to promote the elimination of violence against women with State and non-State partners and conducted 36 awareness-raising activities on the EVAW Law and the prevention of harmful traditional practices with community and tribal elders across several provinces of Afghanistan.



P1 – The AIHRC works in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles) especially in the areas of independence and improving female representation and access to adequate resources for independent functioning.



The HRS contributed to the independent functioning of the AIHRC in conformity with the Paris Principles through regular engagement, the coordination of activities and information-sharing.

During the reporting period, the HRS continued its long-standing engagement with the AlHRC. On 17 July, following a selection process that took more than one year, the President appointed nine new commissioners (four women, five men), including the new Chair, Shaharzad Akbar. The HRS continued to cooperate with the AlHRC on issues related to its pending re-accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). As a result, the AlHRC was re-accredited with "A" status by the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation, in November.

The AIHRC held public hearings across 33 provinces, in March and April, as part of its National Inquiry on the Role of Women in Peace and Security in Afghanistan. The hearings provided women in these provinces with an opportunity to raise their concerns regarding political participation and peace-related processes. The AIHRC produced a summary of these concerns, as well as recommendations to policymakers and other stakeholders. The HRS attended hearings in Kabul, Bamyan, Herat, Helmand and Kandahar provinces, where it advocated for the promotion of human and women's rights in peace and security efforts.

The HRS continued to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice in the drafting of anti-discrimination legislation, sharing information regarding applicable international human rights standards and good practices in this area. It also translated into English and provided initial feedback on an early draft of the Anti-discrimination Law.



PS1 – The Government and armed opposition groups formulate, revise and strengthen policies, mechanisms and regulations to protect civilians and prevent civilian casualties; these comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights standards.

The HRS contributed to the establishment and functioning of mechanisms to protect civilians in line with international human rights standards through monitoring and advocacy efforts.

In 2019, the HRS documented 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 killed and 6,989 injured) due to the armed conflict. Women and children continued to suffer disproportionately, with 1,202 women casualties (345 killed and 857 injured), representing an increase of four per cent compared to 2018 and 3,149 child casualties (874 killed and 2,275 injured), representing a three per cent increase from 2018. Women casualties made up 12 per cent of overall civilian casualties while children made up 30 per cent of casualties. Children continued to be recruited and used by the Taliban, Afghan national security forces and pro-government armed groups.

The majority of civilian casualties, 62 per cent, were attributed to anti-government elements, with 47 per cent attributed to the Taliban, 12 per cent to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan Province and three per cent to undetermined

actors. Pro-government forces caused 28 per cent of civilian casualties in 2019, with 16 per cent caused by Afghan national security forces, nearly eight per cent by intra-national military forces, nearly two per cent by pro-government armed groups and just under three per cent by undetermined or multiple pro-government forces.

UNAMA documented attacks against voters, campaign workers, candidates and others involved in the electoral process leading up to and during the presidential elections in 2019, which were primarily perpetrated by the Taliban. Their widespread use of indirect fire in populated areas on polling day caused significant levels of harm, striking civilians, including children, in their homes. Improvised explosive devices placed at or near polling centres exposed voters to extreme risk.

During regular civil-military discussions that were held at the national and provincial levels with parties to the conflict, the HRS shared its findings on civilian casualties and advocated for respect of international humanitarian law and accountability measures. The HRS also engaged in a human rights dialogue with the Taliban and emphasized the importance of protecting civilians during the armed conflict.

The HRS continued to encourage the Government to promote the implementation of the action plan of the National Policy for Civilian Casualty Prevention and Mitigation and adopt a mechanism on the implementation of Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and other relevant measures to reduce and mitigate civilian casualties. The first governmental investigations have begun in relation to at least three cases involving civilian casualties that occurred during pro-government search operations.

On 5 May, UNAMA and OHCHR issued a joint special report on airstrikes carried out by Initial United States Forces Afghanistan on alleged drug processing facilities in Farah province, following a joint mission with the AIHRC. The special report points out that 39 civilian casualties were verified and notes that the drug facilities and associated workers were not legitimate military objectives. It urges US authorities to start an investigation, cease aerial bombardments on drug-related targets, review its targeting policies and strengthen the responses of Afghan law enforcement.

The HRS continued its monitoring and advocacy regarding children and armed conflict. After ongoing advocacy, together with partners, the Child Act (Child Rights Protection Law) was enacted through a presidential decree on 5 March. The Act includes provisions prohibiting recruitment and the use of children and bacha bazi, which involves the sexual exploitation of boys. Through trainings delivered by the HRS, 113 interlocutors, including teachers, judges, prosecutors and NDS forces, were sensitized on the protection of children in armed conflict, specifically in relation to the prevention of sexual violence against children.

BANGLADESH

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹ 163.05 million 148,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.614 (rank: 136/188 in 2018) Status B, 2015
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2018 (following earlier deployment 2014-2016)
Field office(s)	Dhaka
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019	1
XB requirements 2019	US\$239.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



M1 – The Government regularly submits reports to the treaty bodies.







The Office contributed to increased engagement with the international human rights mechanisms by supporting the first review under the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), building the Government's capacity to develop an implementation plan for the recommendations issued by the UPR in 2018 and facilitating civil society and UN contributions prior to the review by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) of the Government's initial State Party report, scheduled for 2020.

Bangladesh submitted its initial report to CAT, in July, before its review by the Committee, nearly 20 years after the report was due. In cooperation with the UNCT's Human Rights Working Group, coordinated by OHCHR, information exchanges were organized between civil society, development partners and the Committee. The Committee's recommendations provide clear guidance to the Government and include a request that it submit a follow-up report in August 2020. Follow-up discussions were initiated on the implementation of key recommendations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and other partners.

A high-level conference organized by MoFA, in February, provided an opportunity for the Government to reiterate its commitment to the development of an action plan for the implementation of the 2018 UPR recommendations and

enabled OHCHR to engage with key interlocutors. The capacity of line ministries to develop the action plan was built through a workshop, held with OHCHR's support and participation, in June. In December, an agreement was reached to organize a series of consultations to finalize the plan in 2020.

Engagement with the CRPD Committee was enhanced through consulting and providing a platform for Bangladeshi CSOs to engage with the Committee's Pre-Sessional Working Group, in March. In addition, a joint UN report was submitted in anticipation of the adoption of the list of issues.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS5 - The UN system systematically integrates a human rights-based approach in humanitarian programming in response to the needs of Rohingya refugees.













OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights into the humanitarian response for Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. OHCHR continued to facilitate the engagement of the UNCT and local actors with the special procedures and international human rights and accountability mechanisms who visited the country, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar (FFM) and the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar. The engagement established a better understanding and appreciation of the accountability work being undertaken by the UN system in response to the atrocities committed in Myanmar in 2016-17.

The Office supported the RC, as requested, in her high-level human rights engagements regarding the Rohingya response. The primary focus of this assistance was at the policy level and in her engagement with the UNCTs in Bangladesh and Myanmar. OHCHR participated in the joint UNCT meeting in Bangkok, in October, and contributed to a preparatory analysis for the meeting.

OHCHR was also engaged in policy-level discussions around protection issues in Cox's Bazar that arose due to restrictions on communications and freedom of association imposed on the Rohingya refugees in the camps and due to plans for their planned relocation to Bashan Char.



A2 – The National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh increasingly meets international standards (the Paris Principles).



The High Commissioner, the RC, and key development partners advocated for the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to increase its compliance with the Paris Principles to advance from its current "B" status. Conducting highlevel engagement with key actors in the selection process of a new Commission, namely the Speaker of Parliament, the Minister of Law and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the development partners encouraged a review of the NHRC Act and procedure and support for the active participation of civil society. The selection of the new Chair and members of the Commission, however, fell short of the Government's accepted recommendations issued by the UPR on ensuring the independence of the NHRC. In December, at a high-level event organized by the NHRC to celebrate Human Rights Day, which was attended by the

Prime Minister, the RC encouraged reform of the NHRC Act and urged the newly constituted Commission to broadly interpret its mandate and tackle challenging issues, including human rights violations allegedly committed by law enforcement agencies.

Development (D)

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other development and poverty eradication efforts; and the UN supports them in these purposes, integrating human rights in its own development work.



In the context of reform of the UN Development System, the UNCT in Bangladesh was one of the first in the region to start developing its new UNSDCF. OHCHR contributed to the integration of an HRBA into the Common Country Analysis, the analytical framework underpinning the new UNSDCF, which will begin in 2021.

CAMBODIA

Population size ¹ Surface area ² 16.49 million 181,000 km ²	Human Development Index NHRI (if applicable) 0.581 (rank: 145/188 in 2018) NA
Type of engagement	Country Office
Year established	1993
Field office(s)	Phnom Penh
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2019	38
Total income	US\$2,332,324
	· · ·
XB requirements 2019	U\$\$2,597,000
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580 Non-personnel PSC [†]
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 42%	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580 Non-personnel PSC ¹ 49% 8%
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 42% \$879,882	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580 Non-personnel PSC ¹ 49% 8% \$1,025,204 \$175,493
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 42% \$879,882 Total RB expenditure	U\$\$2,597,000 U\$\$2,080,580 Non-personnel PSC' 49% 8% \$1,025,204 \$175,493

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P5 – International, regional and national protection mechanisms responsive to the protection needs of civil society organizations and individuals, particularly but not only in the context of political participation.



The Office contributed to enhancing the compliance with international human rights standards of legislation and

policies related to protection for HRDs, oversight of civil society participation in public life, the rights of ethnic minorities and access to information.

OHCHR followed up on protection cases of HRDs and political activists and brought them to the attention of the international human rights mechanisms and the diplomatic community in Cambodia. The Office documented 200 cases of violations of human rights of persons believed to be members of the Cambodia

National Rescue Party (CNRP). The Office drafted four communications for the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, which were sent to the Government. In addition, the Office issued six public statements about the human rights situation in the country. Through these communications, authorities became more aware of the links between their actions and their human rights obligations. OHCHR also published statements made by the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia regarding the shrinking space on social media for freedom of expression and association. These statements were welcomed by CSOs. In 2019, OHCHR completed the Handbook on human rights protection and security of human rights defenders, which will be shared in print format. In 2020, it will be released as a smartphone application.

OHCHR continued coordinating and building the capacity of civil society organizations to better engage with international protection systems and noted positive results during the reporting period. More specifically, OHCHR built the capacity of over 20 teams from eight CSOs consisting of 70 individuals to monitor rights violations.

In 2019, OHCHR focused its advocacy efforts on imprisoned opposition members and contributed to the Government's decision to release 75 of 88 opposition CNRP members. The Ministry of the Interior responded to a letter from OHCHR outlining reported acts of intimidation against local CSOs by issuing a communication to local authorities reminding them that the requirement to provide notice for activities had been lifted. Although OHCHR contributed to progress in this area, the context of fundamental freedoms for HRDs remains challenging.

The Office continued to identify and raise the awareness of authorities of the stateless ethnic Vietnamese communities. Following OHCHR's advocacy efforts and the targeted recommendations of the Special Rapporteur, the forced eviction of approximately 10,000 ethnic Vietnamese living on floating houses on the Tonle Sap Lake in the Kampong Chhnang province was prevented. Instead, provincial authorities allocated plots of land measuring 5 metres by 20 meters to 780 ethnic Vietnamese families (approximately 3,302 persons) in the Chhnok Tru commune, in October. The plots are situated along a canal with access to the lake. As of the end of December, 374 families had already moved to these plots of land. The remaining families from other communes were granted permission to settle on river shores of their choosing where they rent land. The lack of formal identification documents remains a key challenge in terms of access to education, work and other economic, cultural and social rights for ethnic Vietnamese. OHCHR continued to raise awareness about these issues with national, provincial and subregional institutions.

P7 – Youth networks increasingly recognize the value and importance of human rights and accountability and their contribution to development and peace.

1 2 3 4 5 10 16 86

The Office enhanced the level of engagement of young persons in supporting human rights messages by conducting a targeted competition on human rights for youth.

Five groups of young people, composed of 23 individuals, participated in the **OHCHR Youth Human Rights Champion** Competition. Various activities were

conducted to encourage the youth to exercise their right to participation. The competition entries were filmed and posted on the OHCHR-Cambodia Facebook page. As of November, five posted videos had received 11.200 engagements (reactions, comments, shares). In addition, 40 young individuals, including the 23 mentioned above, from youth organizations and informal networks were trained by OHCHR on human rights and the international human rights mechanisms. A total of 12 youth organizations and informal youth groups requested 1,550 copies of the Human rights questions and answers booklet for distribution to their members and target communities and at their offices and school libraries. The youth participants also shared human rights messages on their Facebook pages, which triggered more discussion on the topic. The Office conducted research on the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of youth on human rights and participation. The findings, which were made available in January 2020, provided information for the Office and other relevant stakeholders that will enable them to effectively design their youth human rights programmes.



A1 – Laws and policies in the areas of justice and prisons increasingly comply with international human rights standards.



The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of prevention of torture and ill-treatment, including in detention facilities, with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office's support to the Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Cambodia in

relation to its Operation Unchained project has had an important human impact. The project aims to treat and rehabilitate persons with psychosocial disabilities who have been locked up by family members due to poverty, lack of access to treatment and stigma. In the cases monitored by OHCHR, the intervention resulted in a significant improvement in their conditions and the treatment they received from their families and communities. Many have been unchained by their relatives and have regained some of their dignity as members of their families and communities.

Capacity-building activities undertaken by the Office contributed to an increased compliance with international human rights law, in particular to prevent torture and ill-treatment. Three deaths were investigated by three official bodies, namely, the local police, the National Committee against Torture (NCAT) and the local prosecutor. The outcomes of the investigations were made public. The local Office of the Prosecutor concluded that the death in custody was a suicide. Despite the investigations, no one was held accountable for the deaths.

Using OHCHR prison monitoring tools as a reference, the NCAT developed its own monitoring tools for visits to places of deprivation of liberty, including police custody facilities and social affairs centres. As a result of a joint investigation that was undertaken by the Office and the Cambodia Human Rights Committee (CHRC), three prison officials who had verbally abused detainees received disciplinary action.

Detention authorities also benefited from the Office's monitoring visits, recommendations and follow-up. In 2019, the Office carried out 45 visits to 27 prisons, two visits to a social affairs centre and one visit to a drug rehabilitation centre that is being

used as a detention facility. The Office's findings, recommendations and interventions related to detention conditions and the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty were discussed with the management of the facilities. It conducted further follow-up visits, interviews with current and former detainees, as well as with their families and NGOs working in the facilities.

As a follow-up to the 2018 national workshop that formally launched the NCAT and sensitized more than 200 senior officials about its roles and duties, the Office sensitized authorities during four joint awareness-raising sessions with NCAT on the prevention of torture and ill-treatment at the provincial and district levels. Over 300 participants from local prisons, the social affairs department, the police and gendarmerie increased their awareness at the sessions that sought to prevent the commission of torture and ill-treatment in their daily work. The participants showed their willingness to cooperate with the NCAT in their future visits to detention and prison facilities.

During the reporting period, OHCHR took various steps to address the issue of mob violence. For instance, on 18 July, OHCHR launched a report on the subject. OHCHR also engaged in discussions with the CHRC. These efforts were undertaken to prevent cases of "popular justice" and ensure that adequate investigations are undertaken. The national police asked OHCHR to provide copies of the report for dissemination at trainings for the judicial police. A communications campaign launched by the Office generated significant attention from media outlets and resulted in a high rate of national engagement on social media. As a result of this awareness-raising campaign, a youth group participating in OHCHR's youth campaign on political participation chose mob violence as the subject of their video clip.

A1 – Allegations of torture and ill-treatment and cases of mob violence are promptly investigated; perpetrators are prosecuted and sanctioned.



The Office raised awareness about cases of human rights violations in order to increase access to justice for persons with disabilities.

The implementation of the project on access to justice for persons with disabilities progressed during the reporting period. Following the targeted trainings for judges and pre- and post-training, tests showed that judges had an increased knowledge of international human rights norms and standards. Little change was reported on the practical application of that knowledge.

OHCHR undertook a needs assessment of disabled persons' organizations (DPOs) and delivered a training on documenting cases of human rights violations. The Office also carried out follow-up missions with the DPOs who were trained in 2018-2019 and had no previous knowledge about human rights monitoring and advocacy. Based on their questionnaires and interviews, OHCHR noted a definite increase in the knowledge of participants, as well as some progress achieved in the application of their acquired skills. Further follow-up and potential coaching will be required to reinforce the impact of the training.

Due to the ongoing anti-drug campaign launched by the Government, the prison population has significantly increased, thereby exacerbating problems of overcrowding. Some aspects of the treatment of prisoners have, nonetheless, improved as a result of OHCHR's continued prison monitoring visits. For example, the monitoring visits documented an increased access to food, fresh air, library resources,

vocational training and rehabilitation. Moreover, stronger engagement was noted by government departments, including the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training. Several NGOs working in prisons, such as Sipar Cambodia, This Life Cambodia, Caritas and others, consistently reported positive changes.

The Police Academy of Cambodia included a module in three separate four-month trainings for newly recruited prison staff, following OHCHR's advocacy on policy reform. As a result, 289 new prison staff from all 28 prisons increased their awareness and understanding of the rights of persons with disabilities.

The prisoner case management database started to be upgraded through cloud computing services. The database, which is interfaced with the court database, is being supported by OHCHR. Once the upgrade is completed, existing challenges are expected to be addressed with regard to multiple cases wherein individuals are being detained without a trial, appropriate court documents or opportunities for sentence reduction.

In 2019, OHCHR engaged in trial monitoring and observed a marked improvement in judges referring to fair trial rights and the Code of Criminal Procedure during hearings and trials. In some of its monitoring visits to provincial courts, OHCHR noted more openness from judges and prosecutors compared to 2017-2018, although at a couple of meetings in Phnom Penh, judges asked that the request for a meeting with OHCHR representatives be submitted to the Ministry of Justice. Nevertheless, in light of remaining knowledge gaps, there is a need to continue training and technical assistance, including in relation to legal reasoning.

OHCHR continued to focus on accountability for cases of violence against women and initiated a partnership with the Cambodian Centre for Human Rights regarding trial monitoring of cases of gender-based violence (GBV), which will begin in 2020. OHCHR continued disseminating the Annotated Code of Criminal Procedure in 2019. The guide on fair trial rights was not finalized and therefore postponed until 2020. Four meetings on police, courts and prisons were organized in Pursat, Kampong Speu, Oudour Manchey and Battambang provinces. Although there was more openness to OHCHR convening and participating in the meetings than was demonstrated in 2017-2018, some prosecutors were reluctant to have OHCHR present and providing support. The meetings provided a valuable opportunity for inter-institutional dialogue at the local level.

With regard to the legacy of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), a legal dialogue was undertaken, in December. This raised the awareness of over 30 practicing lawyers about fair trial rights in the ECCC's practice. A training course for 25 law students will focus on the same subject.

A1 – The criminal justice system, and particularly judges, prosecutors and lawyers, become increasingly professional. Prison staffing is professionalized in a manner that accords with international human rights standards.





The Office contributed to increasing the compliance of the legal aid policy and other relevant legislation with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR and the Ministry of Justice signed the Joint Monitoring Indicators for 2019-2023, which includes recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms to harmonize national legislation, policies and programmes with international human rights standards. More specifically, it emphasizes the need to amend legislation (Criminal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Anti-Corruption Law), approve and implement the legal aid policy, conduct a judicial integrity study and expand the courts of appeal.

OHCHR cooperated with development partners to conduct ongoing advocacy on the adoption of the legal aid policy. The draft was developed, in 2018, with support from the Office, however, the Ministry of Justice delayed its adoption due to political pressure. OHCHR will continue strengthening its strategic partnership with CSOs and government officials to ensure that the policy is adopted. As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, the legal aid budget was increased and two more legal aid groups were established.

OHCHR continued to support rights-holders through the provision of grants to legal aid organizations, with a particular focus on land cases and prolonged pending appeal cases. In the context of the project on access to justice for persons with disabilities, OHCHR identified six cases of persons with disabilities requiring legal aid and referred them to Legal Aid of Cambodia. The NGO provided legal advice to 12 persons with disabilities and legal representation in court in 11 cases, four of which have been finalized. OHCHR's publications on rights upon arrest were used as reference tools by Legal Aid of Cambodia while it was developing its own guidelines on legal aid for persons with disabilities.

In 2019, OHCHR suspended its analysis of the draft law on surrogacy as the interministerial working group was unable to reach a consensus due to differences in position among the line ministries. OHCHR prepared background information, set up meetings and provided briefings to the University of Chicago team that produced a report on the subject. The report was disseminated to UN agencies. CSOs and government officials and follow-up meetings will be organized in 2020. The Office also participated in an expert consultation on the draft principles for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of surrogacy and provided inputs directed at addressing the challenges faced in surrogacy cases in Cambodia.

The General Department of Prisons (GDP) produced a final draft on the minimum standards on prison construction, which was based on previous recommendations issued by OHCHR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). OHCHR's advocacy and support concerning international human rights norms and standards were reflected in the draft GDP Guidelines. The draft Guidelines include various requirements regarding the land used for prisons, including that: it shall not be susceptible to flooding or foreseen natural disasters; it has an adequate water source; a separate detention facility must be in place for newly admitted detainees; separate rooms are created for women/men/adult/ juvenile prisoners and for prisoners with disabilities; there is an area for children accompanying their incarcerated mothers; and there is a larger minimum space for sleeping and movement.

Although the Office has worked with the GDP since 2014, no progress was noted in relation to the draft Royal Decree on sentence reduction and pardons or the draft prison procedure.



D2 – Business actors increasingly implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including by engaging with local and national authorities, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities and other stakeholders.



The Office contributed to increased knowledge in the business sector to positively address human right violations by engaging with relevant actors, creating networks with civil society partners and providing technical support.

As a result of OHCHR's interventions, selected business actors increased their knowledge about and capacity to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

In 2019, a platform was created to focus on the finance sector that was composed of members of the private sector and CSOs. At the initiative of Oxfam and Fair Finance Asia. OHCHR contributed to the assessment and discussion of the Fair Finance Coalition and its road map to ensure that the activities of financial institutions are more socially responsible, fair, sustainable and respectful of international human rights principles. Following OHCHR's advocacy, the UNGPs were incorporated into the assessment. The existing Corporate Social Responsibility platform has come to a halt while its coordinators develop a new strategy.

OHCHR teamed up with the UNCT to present a project to the Human Security Trust Fund. The project, which was approved by the Fund to start in 2020, will focus on the impact, including the human rights impact, of foreign

investment in the Sihanoukville province. OHCHR supported similar research by CSOs that specifically focused on the human rights impact of foreign investment. The report should be available in 2020.

Some progress was achieved in resolving land disputes through non-judicial mechanisms. OHCHR's support to and observation of a mediation process between the Socfin Company and Bunong indigenous peoples' communities (IPCs) regarding traditional land that was granted to the company as an economic land commission (ELC) in 2007 contributed to solving most land-related disputes for the collective land parts, which will now be included in the applications for communal land titles (CLTs) submitted by IPCs. OHCHR has been providing support to the dispute resolution process since 2015. In 2017, the Independent Mediation Group launched a mediation process. To counter the power imbalance between the company and the IPCs, OHCHR financially supported Legal Aid of Cambodia to train community representatives in mediation skills and act as their legal advisers during the mediation process. The mediation on communal lands and family farming contracts was completed with positive results. Individual financial compensation will be discussed in April 2020, when the mediation formally ends.

D3 –Laws, policies and strategies on land, housing and property increasingly comply with human rights standards. Their implementation by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Rural Development and sub-national authorities similarly complies with international standards.



The Office advocated for better compliance with international human rights norms and standards of legislation and policies regarding the land rights of indigenous peoples.

In 2019, no new laws or policies relating to land and/or housing rights were discussed by the Government. Following extensive consultations in 2018, the draft Environmental Code was discussed at the ministry level, however, it has not yet been adopted.

With the support of OHCHR, and following advocacy undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, the five concerned ministries refined a discussion paper on the simplification of the CLT process. OHCHR and its partners have been raising concerns about the complexity, length and cost of the CLT process for several years. While the simplification process is pending, authorities have continued implementing the CLT process with the support of OHCHR. As a result, in 2019, 11 IPCs were formally recognized as indigenous peoples (step one of the CLT process), three IPCs progressed to step two and one IPC progressed to step three, the final step before a land title is issued. In addition, OHCHR published

a government-sanctioned manual on the three-step CLT process, which was developed through a consultative process with the five concerned ministries. The manual was designed to help local authorities and IPCs more efficiently progress through the CLT steps. OHCHR also published a research paper on credit opportunities for IPCs in possession of a CLT.

As a result of training workshops that were organized by OHCHR and NGOs, local officials in Kep/Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap and Preah Vihear provinces increased their knowledge about the UNGPs and eviction and resettlement standards. This knowledge is anticipated to assist them in carrying out their duties to better protect and respect the rights of communities affected by business and development projects in their areas.

At the request of the Ministry of Justice, and in partnership with CSOs, OHCHR organized a training of trainers for the Ministry's Department of Mediation and Local Justice. The training provided practical instructions on how to use non-judicial grievance mechanisms with a special focus on gender and land-related disputes. Follow-up trainings will be organized in 2020 at the provincial level.

As a follow-up to its monitoring of land disputes related to ELCs, OHCHR coordinated with NGOs to organize a multi-stakeholder dialogue to identify gaps in the implementation of the ELC legal framework. It also outlined suggestions on how the Government can fill those gaps. As a result, local authorities in four provinces committed to resolving land disputes involving private companies. OHCHR will follow-up on these commitments in 2020.

The findings and recommendations of OHCHR's study on the impact of six

social land concessions (SLCs) on rural livelihoods in Cambodia served as a basis for follow-up with relevant national and local authorities for the improvement of the Government's SLC programme. In 2019, OHCHR conducted follow-up visits in four provinces, during which OHCHR presented the findings of its study to residents and local authorities and followed up on the development of the sites. Participants were also introduced to the Open Development Cambodia (ODC) SLC interactive map, which was developed with OHCHR's financial support to assist users who are working with SLCs. In turn, ODC obtained information from the participants about the sites that will be reflected in the map. In December, OHCHR organized a final national consultation with all relevant stakeholders from the sites (community representatives, communal, provincial and national authorities, CSOs, UN agencies and donors) to discuss lessons learned and ways forward. The government officials who participated in the joint visits and the final consultation announced specific actions that will be taken to respond to the concerns raised by the SLC recipients. These commitments include the re-measurement of land and the issuance of land titles. After the follow-up visit to the Kampong Speu SLC, the Government issued land titles to all SLC recipients. OHCHR will follow-up on these commitments in 2020.



M1 – Cambodia submits five reports to treaty bodies that conform with reporting guidelines, as well as its report to the UPR. It adopts an integrated and participatory approach to preparing and following up on these reports.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the submission of two periodic reports to the human rights treaty bodies that fully conformed with their respective reporting guidelines.

More specifically, in 2019, Cambodia submitted periodic reports to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. During consultations on the draft reports, the Office provided the CHRC with training on the reporting process and missing contents. As of December, some government agencies had not yet submitted their respective inputs for a report related to CAT's list of issues prior to reporting and a report for the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

OHCHR supported the preparations of the government delegations for the reviews by CEDAW and CERD. For the CEDAW review, OHCHR and UN Women organized a mock preparatory session. For CERD, OHCHR provided a briefing to the members of the CHRC delegation.

With regard to the follow-up to the UPR, OHCHR and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) organized a joint workshop that raised the awareness of over 150 participants from all branches of the Government and all line ministries. civil society and development partners/ embassies on the UPR, good practices on the implementation of UPR recommendations and the role of civil society throughout the process. The workshop enabled CSOs and the Government to engage in open and constructive dialogue and for CSOs to build relationships with government representatives that are responsible for relevant human rights issues.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Population size ¹ Surface area 25.67 million 121,000 km ²		plicable) ³	
Type of engagement	Field-based structure		
Year established	2015		
Field office(s)	Seoul, Republic of Korea		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Strategic Framework 2017- 2021		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	9		
Total income	US\$152,698		
Total Income	033132,096		
XB requirements 2019	US\$171,000		
XB requirements 2019	US\$171,000	·I PSC [†]	
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure	U\$\$171,000 U\$\$118,026	I PSC ⁺ 12%	
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel	U\$\$171,000 U\$\$118,026 Non-personne		
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 83%	U\$\$171,000 U\$\$118,026 Non-personne	12%	
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 83% \$97,533 Total RB expenditure	U\$\$171,000 U\$\$118,026 Non-personne 6% \$6,915	12% 5 \$13,578	
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 83% \$97,533	U\$\$171,000 U\$\$118,026 Non-personne 6% \$6,915	12% 5 \$13,578	

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A2 - National institutions in DPRK curb violations of human rights in response to international pressure.



OHCHR contributed analysis and raised awareness about human rights concerns in the DPRK, including among the DPRK leadership, through public reporting and strategic media engagement.

In May, OHCHR launched a report on its accountability work entitled The price is rights: The violation of the right to an adequate standard of living in the DPRK. The report highlighted the Government's failure to provide basic rights or establish the conditions that are necessary for the full realization of these rights and the consequential impact this has on civil and political rights. The report was widely covered by national and international media. It also led to greater awareness of the Government as a duty-bearer.

OHCHR continued to interview escapees from the DPRK upon their arrival in the Republic of Korea (ROK) for the purposes of documenting grave human rights violations, including violations that appeared to amount to crimes against humanity. Of the 75 escapees who were interviewed, 63 were women. The information was reviewed, analysed and entered into the Human Rights Case Database and a separate database, which was established in 2018, to enable analysis under international criminal law as part of the accountability project.

A2 - The international community continues its efforts to hold perpetrators of crimes against humanity accountable.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which critical human rights issues have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

OHCHR continued its efforts to hold perpetrators of crimes against humanity accountable. In March, the Deputy High Commissioner presented an update on the implementation of the recommendations related to accountability under HRC resolution 34/24. The HRC passed a resolution to strengthen the monitoring and documentation capacity of OHCHR, including its field-based structure in Seoul, for a period of two years, until March 2021, and requested that the High Commissioner provide an oral update on this progress at the forty-third session of the HRC and submit a written report to the forty-sixth session.

The team continued to collect and assess information from an international criminal law perspective. It collaborated

with relevant CSOs working on documentation to facilitate the sharing of information stored in the comprehensive repository and assess methodologies for conducting interviews and documenting human rights violations on crimes against humanity.

OHCHR advocated with the diplomatic missions based in the ROK regarding the need to keep human rights on the agenda of the Security Council. A discussion in the Security Council on human rights in the DPRK, which was scheduled for 10 December, was cancelled. A report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, which was issued in October, provided momentum for advocacy on human rights in the DPRK.



P4 – Human rights principles, norms and language are embraced by civil society organizations that work with the DPRK government or with DPRK escapees.



OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights principles, norms and language into media narratives on human rights issues in the DPRK.

The Office continued to broaden its constituency by reaching out to North Koreans living in the ROK, academics working on issues related to the DPRK and other relevant actors. Through these activities, the Office sought to raise awareness, increase the interview base for monitoring and documentation, facilitate the participation of escapees from the DPRK in relevant UN meetings and engagements and build their human rights capacities. The Office organized several meetings with escapees from the DPRK and established a core group

of North Korean civil society actors with whom the Office can systematically engage on human rights issues. The Office also provided opportunities for the core group members to interact with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea during a high-level visit by the Chair of the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in North Korea, at OHCHR workshops and the launch of the report The price is rights.

The Office regularly used websites and social media accounts, both in Korean and English, to disseminate human rights messages to its broader constituency and strengthen human rights advocacy. These tools featured reports that had been shared or published by the Office. which were then covered by major international and ROK media outlets. In January, a video on separated families was published and, in May, a feature story was posted on the OHCHR website about an escapee from the DPRK who had engaged in market activities and fled to the ROK. The Office also posted to Twitter to promote human rights issues. The Twitter office in Seoul provided OHCHR with training and helped to create hashtags and emojis in the Korean language for Human Rights Day.

Finally, the Office continued to brief youth and university students on human rights and its the work. More specifically, in October, the OHCHR organized a series of lectures for students attending Hongik University in Seoul. A number of representatives from the Office delivered speeches at Model UN sessions and events organized for youth by the Korean Cultural Association.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 - International approaches to the DPRK integrate human rights as a cross-cutting issue and recognize the centrality of human rights in the promotion of peace and security in the DPRK.



OHCHR consistently raised critical human rights issues and advocated for them to be taken up in international forums.

The Office continued to engage with humanitarian actors operating or planning to operate in the DPRK and advocated for the integration of human rights into their programmes. More specifically, the Office contributed to the 2019 DPR Korea Needs and Priorities Plan which to some extent reflected to some extent, protection and human rights concerns in relation to humanitarian programmes of the UNCT. The Office participated in a number of humanitarian and peace forums to raise awareness about human rights issues in the DPRK and advocated for the integration of human rights into humanitarian activities. In February, the Office moderated a session on the Human Rights, Humanitarian and Peace Nexus at the Pyeongchang Peace Forum, which was held to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Olympics. It also participated in the International Forum on Peace Economy, in August, and in the same month, at the 2019 Korea Global Forum for Peace, in a Track 1.5 multilateral dialogue that was organized by the Ministry of Unification. In addition, OHCHR continued to meet with humanitarian agencies and diplomatic missions providing humanitarian assistance in the DPRK to advise and encourage them to take key human rights issues into consideration in their engagement in the DPRK. Finally, a briefing to the Security Council on human rights in the DPRK, scheduled for December, was postponed.



M1 – The Government of the DPRK submits reports to two treaty bodies and participates in the UPR process.



OHCHR aimed to contribute to the development by local actors of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Together with the European Union (EU) delegation in the ROK and the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Office provided technical support and training to CSOs. In particular, the Office offered practical assistance to defector-led organizations in relation to the drafting of stakeholders' reports, engaging with the diplomatic community, prioritizing recommendations and advocating at the national and international levels.

Following this support, a number of CSOs submitted their stakeholders' reports to the UPR. Key human rights recommendations made by the CSOs in these reports were raised by Member States during the UPR review of the DPRK, in May. The Office also supported the screening of the UPR live review for CSOs and engaged with the EU and the NDI to develop plans for follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations emanating from the UPR. Following the review, the Office translated into Korean and disseminated the UPR outcome document.

Finally, with financial support from the DPPA, OHCHR organized the first human rights training, in Geneva, in May, for the DPRK's UPR delegation on the international human rights mechanisms, reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, migration and labour standards of the International Labour Organization.

MYANMAR

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³	
54.05 million 677,000 km ²	0.584 (rank: 146/188 in 2018) Status B, 2015	
Type of engagement	Human Rights staff (Other type of field presence)	
Year established	2014	
Field office(s)	Bangkok, Thailand and Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh	
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	3	
Total income	US\$1,531,025	
XB requirements 2019	US\$2,163,000	
Total XB expenditure	U\$\$924,688	

Key OMP pillars in 2019

Personnel

\$608,152







Non-personnel

\$106,181

\$210,355

123† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A5 – UN policies and practices comply with human rights standards and UNDAF guidance (2017); they focus on accountable institutions, access to justice, and the participation of civil society in planning and monitoring.



OHCHR contributed to incorporating rights-based approaches into the work of the UNCT, through strategic support, early warning reporting and by co-chairing the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group (HRTG).

In 2019, the Office provided strategic support to the UNCT. This was done by establishing, in consultation with the RCO, UN agencies and NGOs, a regular monthly early warning reporting system. The overarching objective was to facilitate communication and information-sharing within the UNCT and inform the RCO, the High Commissioner and the UN leadership about concerning human rights developments, while also suggesting early actions to address and mitigate these developments. The first early warning report was issued in October. Since

then, the early warning monthly reporting system helped to ensure that human rights were maintained as a standing item for discussion on the UNCT agenda.

Following the release of the report of the FFM, in September 2018, and the report on the economic interests of the Tatmadaw (armed forces of Myanmar), in 2019, OHCHR took steps to support the UNCT in the establishment of its human rights due diligence framework, which would enable the UNCT to strategically assess and continuously review whether UN action is supporting or hindering the protection and advancement of human rights in Myanmar. More specifically, the framework seeks to develop interventions in line with these objectives, modify or correct its course of action as needed and strengthen its standing as a credible, principled and effective actor.

Furthermore, following the FFM's recommendations to the UNCT to develop a comprehensive human rights strategy in line with the HRuF Action Plan, OHCHR worked with the RCO to initiate and finalize the strategy, which is scheduled to be approved by the UNCT in 2020. The HRTG, which was established in 2018. will be mandated to ensure the implementation of the UNCT human rights strategy as it is the only forum focused on human rights discussions and initiatives within the UNCT.

In 2018, the Office had a leading role in a working group that was struck to assess the level of implementation of the FFM recommendations issued by the UN, the international community and the Government. In 2019, OHCHR presented the working group's outcome report to the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for endorsement. The report recommends that the HRTG explore new avenues to monitor the implementation of the recommendations, including those

issued by the FFM in 2019, and ensure a continuous human rights dialogue between the UN, donors and international and national NGOs.



Participation (P)

P2 – Human rights principles, norms and language are embraced by civil society organizations that work with the DPRK government or with DPRK escapees.





UN agencies, the UNDG Human Rights Network and the reprisals focal point cooperate with national human rights institutions (NHRIs) (where they exist), making it possible to more promptly and effectively protect individuals and CSOs. The international community promotes an increasingly safe and enabling environment for civil society and effectively protects both individuals and organizations.

OHCHR helped to ensure the protection of civil society organizations and victims of human rights violations by training CSOs on security and protection for HRDs and advocating for all documentation actors in camps to be bound by a "do no harm" policy.

Despite its lack of regular access to the country, OHCHR continued to expand its network of local organizations in order to obtain information and receive case referrals to substantiate its analysis. Given the risks involved in this area of work, OHCHR trained 18 CSOs on issues related to documentation of human rights violations, protection of HRDs, information management and physical and digital security.

In its work in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, OHCHR advocated for the adoption of a "do no harm" policy for all actors carrying out documentation work in the camps. Concerns initially arose after learning that victims, particularly victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence, had been subjected to several rounds of interviews by different people, including journalists, NGOs and academics, without any protection strategy in place. OHCHR worked with the Protection Cluster, headed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to produce a sound policy document on protecting victims of serious human rights abuses from being re-traumatized.

Together with the Protection Cluster. OHCHR carried out a specific risk assessment for members of the Rohinava community who had been chosen to travel from the camps in Cox's Bazar to the HRC, in March. The risk assessment focused on the potential risks for reprisals by other community members or Bangladeshi actors, with particular reference to organizations aimed at promoting women's rights.



PS3 – Relevant intergovernmental fora, processes and mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council, UN General Assembly and Security Council, integrate human rights concerns when they address situations of conflict and insecurity in the sub-region.

The Office supported the missions of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and contributed to her reports, communications and statements.



The Office continued raising human rights issues in several relevant UN forums, including at the national and global levels.

In spite of lacking regular access to the country, the Office continued to provide written and oral inputs by participating in remote or in-person meetings, where possible, thereby providing substantive advice and policy positions in relation to various processes involving Myanmar's UNCT and its sub-entities, including the HRTG and HCT, and to some extent, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, which is operating in Cox's Bazar.

The RCO and UNCT were provided with authoritative advice on the recommendations of the FFM report, which addressed alleged human rights violations in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states, including on adherence to the HRuF Initiative and the HRDDP

Furthermore, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-27/1 on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, the High Commissioner presented a comprehensive report on the human rights situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar at the Council's March session. The Office also prepared the High Commissioner's oral update, which was delivered to the Council, in July.

ROHINGYA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ADDRESS THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

From 8 to 15 March, two Rohingya HRDs, Muhib Ullah from the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights (ARSPHR) and Hamida Khatun from Shanti Mohila, visited Geneva to attend a session of the Human Rights Council. The trip was funded and facilitated by the Myanmar team and marked the first time that representatives from the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar spoke at an international forum to detail the crimes and violations committed against the Rohingya, including during the campaign of violence that began in August 2017. A staff member provided them with assistance throughout their visit.

In their speeches, the two HRDs spoke about their experiences and described the impact that decades of persecution and violence perpetrated by Myanmar authorities had taken on them, their families and their communities. They spoke about the need for accountability for those crimes and underlined what the international community needs to do to support the Rohingya community in Cox's Bazar and Myanmar, including undertaking direct consultations with those affected. They also expressed their eagerness to return home, but only after their rights and Myanmar citizenship have been guaranteed.

During the week, the HRDs attended side events, participated in a press conference by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Myanmar and met with various government representatives. They also had the opportunity to meet with officials from international and regional bodies and NGOs. Finally, the two HRDs were interviewed by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar.

As there is a widespread perception within the Rohingya community that the international community is not taking steps to alleviate their plight, both representatives expressed their surprise at the number and extent of activities underway at the national and regional levels that are focused on Myanmar and the situation faced by the Rohingya.

Since returning to the camps, Muhib Ullah has held a series of debriefing discussions with leaders from the camps in Cox's Bazar to talk about his trip and inform the wider community about the many efforts being undertaken to address the Rohingya crisis.

THE PACIFIC

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Year established	2005
Field office(s)	Suva
UN partnership framework	United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019	8

Total income	US\$1,114,605 US\$1,807,000		
XB requirements 2019			
Total XB expenditure	US\$1,089,476		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]	
52%	37%	11%	
\$565,243	\$401,728	\$122,505	
Total RB expenditure	US\$88,341		
Personnel		Non-personnel	
99%			



[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



M1 – Special procedures mandate holders make at least two visits each year to the Pacific region.



During the reporting period, OHCHR encouraged countries in the region to accept visit requests from the special procedures.

OHCHR supported the country visits of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights to **Tuvalu** and the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health to **Fiji**. The latter Special Rapporteur noted that while Fiji has good opportunities and a strong political will that can contribute to realizing the right to health, the achievement of that goal

necessitates that violence, discrimination and inequalities are addressed and that investments are made in its healthcare system. The report stresses that more attention should be paid to violence against women and children, including by implementing existing laws, and highlights that the mental health of the Fijian population is an emerging priority. In June 2020, the Special Rapporteur will present his full report on the findings of the visit to the HRC.

M1 – More Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) ratify at least one core international human rights treaty.



\$713

OHCHR advocated for the increased ratification of international and regional human rights treaties by countries in the region. In 2019, three ratifications/accessions of core international human treaties were recorded.

In 2019, **Kiribati** ratified CAT, without any reservations. **Samoa** acceded to the Convention, which entered into force on 27 April, although reservations were made to articles 14, 20 and 30. OHCHR, regional partners and civil society actors jointly advocated for the ratification of CAT in these countries.

The **Marshall Islands** acceded to ICERD in April, without any reservations. In doing so, it became the fourth Pacific Island State, after Fiji, Solomon Islands and Tonga, to become a State Party to ICERD.

M1 – States in the region submit on time a higher proportion of the reports that are due to the treaty bodies and UPR.



OHCHR engaged with and provided technical assistance to countries in the region to support their timely submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Fiji was reviewed during its third UPR cycle, in November. OHCHR provided technical support to the Government, the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission and civil society to help them prepare their reports and submissions. Between June 2018 and January 2019, OHCHR held several briefing sessions for government officials and civil society on the UPR process. The Government of Fiji sent a strong delegation to Geneva to participate in the UPR process. During the interactive dialogue, 97 delegations made statements and a total of 138 recommendations were issued to the Government, 122 of which it accepted.

M1 – Kiribati, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu establish National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs) to coordinate reporting and implement recommendations made by the treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council, and the UPR.



The Office provided technical assistance in relation to the establishment and functioning of NMRFs and the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

OHCHR contributed to building the capacity of State officials on treaty body reporting procedures and the effective implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations issued by various international human rights mechanisms. Discussions also focused on transforming the Working Group on Treaties (WGT), Nauru's NMRF, into a functioning body. The WGT is led by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Justice and Border Control. It lacks a comprehensive plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and lacks a database to track any progress achieved. As a result, the WGT expedited the drafting and finalization of Nauru's initial reports to CAT and CRPD and intensified its advocacy with political leaders regarding the ratification of the remaining international human rights treaties, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). In addition, a plan was developed for the implementation of existing recommendations.

In November, through the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the work of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR organized a workshop for the Pacific region. Participants included the HRC President, marking the first time that a sitting HRC President had visited the region, 33 representatives from LDCs/ SIDS, three former Trust Fund beneficiaries from Africa and the Caribbean and representatives from the Forum of Small States and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The workshop provided a unique opportunity for interaction and

the exchange of experiences, information and ideas and for the identification and documentation of good practices to enhance and strengthen effective participation in the HRC and its mechanisms. The event concluded with the adoption of the Nadi Declaration Towards 2022, which sets out a series of recommendations and priorities looking towards 2022, when OHCHR will produce a report outlining the activities of the Trust Fund. Among the priority recommendations agreed up on are undertaking concerted efforts to improve the functioning of the Trust Fund, which has been operational since 2014, and ensuring that topics relevant to the Pacific SIDS are discussed at the Council.

Accountability (A)

A1 - The Cook Islands and Vanuatu establish national human rights institutions and existing national human rights institutions in Fiji, Samoa and Tuvalu are further strengthened in full respect of the Paris Principles.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which an NHRI has been established and is working in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

OHCHR contributed to the establishment of an independent NHRI in Tuvalu, the third Pacific Island State to establish an NHRI. Throughout 2019, OHCHR regularly provided technical advice to the Office of the Ombudsperson of Tuvalu, which led to the establishment of an independent NHRI. OHCHR will continue to work to bring the Ombudsperson's Office of Tuvalu in line with the Paris Principles, with a view to facilitating accreditation with GANHRI as per existing international guidelines.

In coordination with the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, the Regional Rights Research Team of the Pacific Community and UNDP Pacific, OHCHR facilitated a dialogue to assist the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission to regain its "A" status.

In September and October, in cooperation with key partners from the Asia Pacific Forum and the Pacific Community's Regional Rights Resource Team, OHCHR concluded two successful scoping missions regarding the establishment of an NHRI in Kiribati. The Office advocated for this objective with senior government representatives, Members of Parliament, the Office of the Public Defender and representatives of civil society. Extensive engagement with national stakeholders was key in preparing the ground for discussions on the value of having an NHRI in Kiribati.

Finally, at the request of the Government of Vanuatu, and as a direct outcome of its third UPR cycle, OHCHR provided advice to the Government for the establishment of an independent NHRI.

A1 – The police academies and penitentiary services in Fiji and Vanuatu include human rights training in the curriculum of pre-service and in-service training.



OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training in key human rights areas by providing technical advice, training police and law enforcement staff and advocating with authorities.

In May, at the invitation of the Fiji police force, OHCHR provided a substantive submission in support of the review of the Fijian Police Act 1965. The submission focused on recommendations to incorporate international human rights standards and good practices into a new bill to bring it in line with Fiji's international human rights obligations. OHCHR also advocated for a modern and effective police force that is respectful of the rights and dignity of all human beings, especially women, juveniles, children, members of the LGBTI community and other vulnerable parts of Fijian society. The consultative session was facilitated by the Assistant Commissioner of Police and included the participation of more than 45 senior police officials.

In July, the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights of the Parliament of Fiji invited OHCHR to provide expert advice on the review of the Sex Offenders Bill No. 34 of 2018. OHCHR submitted written suggestions on how to bring the Bill into conformity with international human rights law. The most recent draft of an amendment follows OHCHR's interventions over the past two years with the Office of the Attorney General and training and capacity-building activities that were delivered to law enforcement officers and CSOs regarding the treatment of sex offenders.

At the request of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Parliament of Fiji, OHCHR made an oral submission to the Committee, on 18 April, with a view to encouraging governments in the region to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED). The Parliament requested that the Standing Committee conduct a review related to both of the conventions and submit a review report for its consideration. Fiji accepted the recommendations issued during its second UPR cycle to ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties by 2020.

In September, the Regional Office for the Pacific conducted human rights training sessions for 27 INTERPOL officers in Singapore, which included two days of substantive discussion on torture, the use of force and the deprivation of liberty. Participants were consequently equipped with the tools to deal with related gueries from INTERPOL member countries and advocate for the inclusion of and respect for human rights when carrying out law enforcement functions in over 100 countries. Some action plans were specifically developed to more fully integrate human rights into the law enforcement training curriculum of INTERPOL countries. The primary areas of focus of the action plans include a review of training courses as they relate to human rights, the incorporation of human rights topics into recruitment examinations and reinforcing links between the academy and operations.

OHCHR conducted high-level meetings with the Fijian Police Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners, which led to the establishment of a human rights cell within the internal affairs department of the Fiji police force. Educational materials were provided during these trainings, including the Pocketbook on human rights for law enforcement officers 2018 and the Manual on human rights training for law enforcement officers 2018.

A2 – Judiciaries, law enforcement and oversight mechanisms in the region uphold human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights. They take measures that provide protection to victims of climate change, abusive business practices and unsafe migration.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms with international human rights standards by building the capacity of the police, parliamentarians and civil society partners.

Through a training of trainers for 40 high-ranking police officers on international human rights from the perspectives of law enforcement, OHCHR contributed to the integration of good practice models into their own practice. Extensive discussions were held on the human rights obligations provided in CAT and ICCPR. Sessions focused on how to deal with individuals who may be in vulnerable situations, such as children,

women, sex workers, migrants, LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities.

OHCHR also provided training and technical support to Fiji's Office of the Attorney General in relation to CAT and ICERD and conducted a consultative seminar on existing legislative gaps with regard to the prohibition and prevention of torture. During the week-long regional capacity-building programme on human rights and business and the SDGs, OHCHR advocated for the rights and responsibilities of civil society organizations when monitoring, reporting on and advocating against torture. This was followed by sessions on the prohibition and prevention of torture as part of the human rights training provided to the Fijian Parliament.

To this end, OHCHR made a total of five written submissions and oral presentations to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Fijian Parliament, in addition to extensive submissions that proposed the ratification of ICRMW and ICPPED in Fiji. OHCHR reviewed the 1965 Police Act and proposed the inclusion of good practice models, especially in relation to women, juveniles, children, members of the LGBTI community, older persons and persons with disabilities. This was followed by oral presentations that were delivered at a consultative seminar with a team of over 45 senior police officers.



D5 – Tuvalu and Vanuatu strengthen the legal framework of their labour migration and climate finance policies and adopt a human rights-based approach. The Marshall Islands develop a human rights plan. Under the joint human security project, States in the region develop a draft regional legal framework on climate change and migration that complies with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of the legal framework with international human rights norms and standards.

In Fiji, OHCHR organized the Human Rights and Climate Change Conference, which brought together more than 35 representatives from governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, international organizations and NHRIs from Pacific nations. The Conference enabled climate change practitioners to gain valuable knowledge from leading human rights experts, discuss how to mainstream human rights into international and global forums and prepare Pacific-related key human rights and climate change messages for the Pacific so that they can speak with one voice, and therefore amplify that voice, at the global level.

OHCHR conducted field research in the Vunidogoloa and Naviavia communities on the emotional and psychological difficulties that are arising due to climate change in Fiji. In a set of recommendations, OHCHR highlighted the responsibilities of States and other duty-bearers to recognize the importance of addressing the mental health impacts of climate change. OHCHR concluded that there is an urgent need

to adopt an integrated, inclusive and uniform approach for public medical and mental health services, taking into account the overlap between these two areas, and for governments, stakeholders and UN organizations to collaboratively work together to frame objective mental health policies, adopt an HRBA and ensure its effective implementation. Moreover, in implementing programmes for mental health in the context of climate change, States, the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders need to ensure the availability of comprehensive programming and that full consultations are being carried out with all relevant stakeholders.

PHILIPPINES

XB requirements 20 Key OMP pillars in 20		U\$\$283,000
Staff as of 31 Decem	ber 2019	1
UN partnership fram	iework	Philippines-United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (2019-2023)
Field office(s)		Manila
Year established		2014
Type of engagement	t	Human Rights Adviser
Population size ¹ Sur 108.12 million 300	face area ¹ 0,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.712 (rank: 106/188 in 2018) Status A, 2012

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



D7 – The UNCT integrates human rights norms, standards and principles when it formulates and implements programmes and projects.



OHCHR substantially contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles during the first year of the implementation of the Philippines-United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (UNPFSD) (2019-2023).

Partially owing to sustained advocacy by OHCHR, the UNPFSD (2019-2023) is grounded in human rights through the application of the "Leave No One Behind" (LNOB) principle, gender equality and women's empowerment approaches and the identification of vulnerable and marginalized groups. The UNPFSD provides a strong starting point for enhanced implementation of an HRBA in relation to agency programming. As a result of OHCHR advocacy, the UNCT agreed to establish a theme group on the LNOB principle and a focal point network on human rights, both of which are led by the Office. The Government's institutional counterparts agreed to organize a series of training sessions on LNOB, an HRBA and follow-up to recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The first session was held in November while the remaining two are scheduled for 2020. OHCHR also participated in various workshops and briefing sessions with civil society in order to suggest strategic interventions and develop specific elements for a plan of action to

further the human rights agenda. As a result of these activities, participants had a better understanding of the need to increase engagements between human rights actors and social and economic actors. In addition, a process was initiated to facilitate the engagement of the Commission on Human Rights and the Statistical Authority in monitoring the implementation and achievement of the SDGs in terms of human rights, thereby ensuring that an HRBA is applied in the collection and use of data.



M1 – An institutional mechanism is established to integrate reporting to human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.







OHCHR contributed to the extent to which NMRFs were in place.

Building on discussions that were initiated in 2018 to help the Government develop an holistic and coordinated approach to engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR continued to advocate with the Presidential Human Rights Office during the reporting period for the creation of this process. This also became an item for consideration in the context of the discussions on the National Human Rights Action Plan. To this end, further work and initiatives will be undertaken in 2020.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 8.78 million 463,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.543 (rank: 155/188 in 2018) NA
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Port Moresby
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019	4

XB requirements 2019

US\$985,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P6 – Disenfranchised male and female youth, and persons with disabilities, participate meaningfully in the 2019 Bougainville referendum.



The Office promoted the meaningful participation of rights-holders during the Bougainville independence referendum, which was held in June, by enhancing the capacity of the Government and civil society to address human rights issues in that context.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of civil society and HRDs, including DPOs, women and youth networks in all three regions of Bougainville. The Office provided trainings to monitor and report on human rights issues leading up to, during and after the referendum. The Office provided technical assistance to

develop and use a simple human rights checklist, which enabled stakeholders to monitor and advocate for the effective participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups at all stages of the referendum. In March, the Office trained 67 police officers (18 women, 49 men) from northern, central and southern regions of Bougainville and government officials on human rights. In May, 26 government officials (12 women, 14 men) were trained on human rights in the context of the referendum. Also in May, 22 HRDs (14 women, 8 men) were trained on human rights monitoring. Finally, in separate workshops that were held in September, October and November, OHCHR trained 107 HRDs (56 women, 51 men) in Wakunai, Tinputz, Halia, Selau, Arawa and Bui.

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND6 – Civil society organizations and the Government increasingly monitor and address human rights violations suffered by refugees, migrants and targeted vulnerable groups, advocate on their behalf, and produce regular public reports.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11

The Office advocated on behalf of and raised awareness about the rights of refugees and asylum seekers in compliance with international human rights standards. To this end, it produced public reports and engaged in advocacy with national authorities.

With technical assistance and support from OHCHR, the RC continued to advocate at the highest levels of the Government for the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Papua New Guinea. In November, the RC wrote a letter to the Deputy Prime Minister raising concerns around the legality of the detention of 47 men with negative refugee status determination decisions who were being held in the Bomana Immigration Centre in Port Moresby. The letter followed strategic meetings with the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, with technical support and coordination from relevant key UN partners, including OHCHR, UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). OHCHR also provided technical advice and support to CSOs and HRDs advocating for the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Papua New Guinea.

The Office provided technical assistance to the RC to engage with and respond to supporters of the Free West Papua movement. Following the 17 August incident, in Surabaya, where Indonesian militias

allegedly racially abused indigenous West Papuan students, the supporters of West Papuans, including high-profile influential political officials, increased their advocacy efforts and pressured the UN system to provide support to this case.



D2 – Government regulatory bodies increase oversight of extractive industries to prevent and mitigate adverse human rights effects of their activities.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

₩

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of human rights and business, especially the extractive industries, with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacity of 30 key stakeholders in the Government and civil society on human rights, business and the SDGs. A business and human rights network was established in Papua New Guinea following a training that was delivered by OHCHR, in partnership with the Diplomacy Training Programme, the University of New South Wales, the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations and the Business and Human Rights Network. As a result, the 30 participants urged potential investors and members of the extractive industries at the 2019 Business and Human Rights Forum, held in Geneva, in November, to respect the rights of indigenous persons in Papua New Guinea and to practice due diligence and accountability in line with the UNGPs. The participants recorded a joint video, which was played at the Forum's special session on advancing

the business and human rights agenda in the Pacific. In 2020, OHCHR and regional partners, including the Diplomacy Training Programme, will host a national dialogue on business and human rights in Papua New Guinea, which would be the first of its kind to be held in-country. The dialogue would include representatives from the Government, business, civil society and members of the diplomatic corps, as well as development partners.

The Office also contributed to strengthening the capacity of 40 HRDs and civil society partners to monitor, document and report on human rights that are impacted by the extractive industries. The training targeted active members of civil society involved in advocacy around human rights abuses related to the Barrick Gold Mine in the surrounding communities in Porgera, including sexual violence and abuse against women, arbitrary detention, destruction of property, extrajudicial killings and environmental pollution affecting the rights of those communities to health, clean water and food.

D7 – The UNCT actively works with the Government and civil society to address the latest UPR recommendations to PNG by integrating the recommendations into the implementation of UNDAF.

OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the UN common country programmes.

OHCHR supported the integration of human rights and gender into UN programming in Papua New Guinea, including through the establishment of Human Rights and Gender Focal Points and the adoption of a strategy on mainstreaming human rights and gender by the UNCT in 2018. OHCHR and UN Women co-chaired the Working Group on mainstreaming human rights and gender. Through the Working Group, focal points in all 12 resident UN agencies in Papua New Guinea developed an action plan to address the recommendations that were issued following the 2016 Gender Audit of the UNCT and supported all staff in their respective agencies to strengthen their understanding of and capacity in relation to human rights and gender equality, including through online mandatory trainings.



M1 – PNG ratifies at least two additional human rights conventions (including CAT and one or more of the optional protocols to ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, and CRC). The Government strengthens its reporting to treaty bodies, coordination of its reports, and its engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR supported the Government in the preparation of its first report to the Human Rights Committee and advocated for the establishment of the NMRF.

The Office provided technical assistance and support for the development of Papua New Guinea's first report to the Human Rights Committee, which is scheduled for review in 2020. This included consultations with civil society and HRDs from across the country and the solicitation of inputs from key government departments. This resulted in the strengthened capacity of key officers within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Justice and Attorney General, to support

the establishment of an NMRF to coordinate engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

The increased capacity of national officers and the establishment of an NMRF will be critical when Papua New Guinea participates in the third UPR cycle in April and May 2021. The country will also receive the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in 2020. Although the Government has issued a standing invitation for all special procedures mandate holders, this will be the first country visit of a special procedure to Papua New Guinea in five years and the second visit of this mandate holder.

Finally, OHCHR provided technical support to the Department of Community Development and the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission on the draft bill on disability, which aims to domesticate CRPD provisions into law. In collaboration with UNICEF, OHCHR reviewed the draft bill and provided inputs. At the end of 2019, the draft was awaiting approval by the Government before being submitted to the Parliament.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Type of engagement	Regional Office		
Countries of engagement	Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam 2002 Bangkok 21 U\$\$4,055,075 U\$\$\$4,129,000		
Year established			
Field office(s)			
Staff as of 31 December 2019			
Total income			
XB requirements 2019			
Total XB expenditure			
	US\$3,864,506		
Personnel	US\$3,864,506 Non-personnel	PSC [†]	
Personnel 53%		PSC†	
	Non-personnel		
53%	Non-personnel 38%	9%	

93% \$691,470 \$51,529

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



Development (D)

D5 - Laws and policies on the environment, climate change, extractive industries and urban planning comply with international human rights standards and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. National institutions and civil society organizations act to ensure that rights-holders can participate in decision-making processes on the environment and climate change and engage with duty-bearers and the private sector on these issues.



In 2019, the Office significantly advanced its work on climate change and human rights, with a focus on economic, social and cultural rights, strengthening the capacity of regional actors, notably NHRIs, environmental HRDs, civil society, journalists and business actors. This was achieved through workshops, field missions and providing regular support on effective engagement with international human rights mechanisms.

In October, OHCHR brought together NHRIs from across South Asia and Southeast Asia for the first dialogue held on the transboundary impact of climate change on human rights, which included an exchange on key lessons learned from a variety of actions taken in the subregion. In November, a meeting co-organized with UNEP brought together environmental CSOs, members of the media and the private sector to raise awareness about and strengthen engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office continued to closely monitor emblematic cases of environmental HRDs and community activists targeted by governments, private companies or State-owned enterprises. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that was signed by OHCHR and UNEP in 2019 provided the initial scope, which will be further broadened in 2020, for jointly engaging with stakeholders in the region on the environment and climate change. In addition, OHCHR participated in the global meeting that was held in Nairobi, in November, to discuss the implementation of the MoU and develop a joint regional workplan for 2020.

D7 - UN Country Teams and UN agencies in UNDAF roll-out countries (2018-21) and countries that support separate SDG planning or programming have adopted a rights-based approach to development planning and implementation that complies with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

8,8

Through capacity-building activities, OHCHR aimed to mainstream human rights into the work of the UN system to support the preparation of CCAs and UNSDCFs for countries of the region.

The Office contributed to a 7 workshop organized by for countries in the Asia-Pacific region that were

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

scheduled to undertake their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in 2019. This engagement led to closer collaboration with ESCAP on the VNRs. During the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, held in March, the Office co-organized two side events entitled "Empowering the most marginalized and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: Realizing the SDGs through human rights," together with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and "Ensuring women's inclusiveness and equality in land rights and management of natural resources: The role of women human rights defenders," with UN Women.

In 2019, the Office co-facilitated workshops with UN Women and UNFPA on gender equality and the application of an HRBA for UNCTs in Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malavsia and Viet Nam, Each of the workshops included sessions on the interlinkages between the SDGs and international human rights frameworks, how to apply human rights principles in the context of SDG implementation and reporting and the operationalization of the LNOB principle. OHCHR actively contributed to the development of the respective CCAs in Indonesia, Malaysia and Timor-Leste. In Indonesia, OHCHR contributed to the elaboration of the UNSDCF 2021-2025 in accordance with international human rights principles.

At the request of UNEP, OHCHR participated in the **Thailand** Stakeholder Consultation on reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in Southeast Asia, which was held in June. OHCHR led a session on applying an HRBA to the environment.



PS5 – UN country policies and programmes, including UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), successfully integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles, including the recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.



The Office contributed to the stronger integration of human rights norms, standards and principles into the UN development and humanitarian cooperation mechanisms at the regional and country levels, including by building capacity and providing analysis and technical expertise.

In November 2018, the Office strengthened its information management capacity, thereby enabling OHCHR to expand its work on early warning, prevention and humanitarian action in the region. The Office also used its strengthened information management capacity to contribute to the work on climate change and civic space by developing visuals to support their work.

The establishment of a light and flexible early warning system for the UN, in **Myanmar**, in September, was an important step to supporting improved analysis and responses to emerging human rights concerns in Myanmar. The early warning system provides regular updates to the UNCT.

During 2019, the Office trained 20 focal points (10 women, 10 men) in 11 NHRIs in the region to strengthen their capacity to engage in human rights work in humanitarian settings. The capacity-building programme was undertaken in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum and included the development of an online training and the delivery of a workshop

and training in Bangkok. The participants expressed an interest in furthering their work and developed post-training action plans in order to put their learning into practice. These trainings with NHRIs is the first step in a comprehensive plan to provide them with longer-term strategic support. This would enable them to play a more prominent role in humanitarian preparedness and response and ensure enhanced protection for human rights in the context of increasingly national-led humanitarian action in the region.

The Office engaged in the regionallevel mechanisms of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee (IASC), such as the IASC Sub-Working Group on preparedness, the IASC Regional Network Regional Directors Meeting and the Disaster Displacement Working Group, resulting in the inclusion of human rights protection on the agendas of the respective working groups. OHCHR facilitated a training session on human rights in humanitarian action at the annual regional meeting of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) meeting, which brought together national and international NGOs from the Asia-Pacific region. The Office also contributed to panel discussions at the ICVA Global Advocacy Officers annual meeting and at a regional meeting on the Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus, which was organized by The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in December.

Participation (P)

P1 – Civil society can operate more freely; civic space is more fully protected both in practice and by laws and policies. Civil society organizations engage more often and more deeply with UN human rights mechanisms; the communications of special procedures highlight more often the challenges that civil society faces in the region.



In Indonesia, the Office provided systematic support to strengthen the capacity of local CSOs in Indonesia to monitor, document and report on human rights violations in situations of conflict and insecurity, as well as on environmental and land rights. The Office also supported the UNCT's engagement with the Government on draft legislation and proposed amendments to the Criminal Code that would violate international human rights law, in particular the rights of women, religious minorities, LGBTI persons and indigenous peoples.

In Thailand, in the context of the general election that was held, in March, the Office provided training to HRDs on monitoring human rights in the electoral context, including by contributing to monthly reports from the UNCT on human rights in elections and coordinating the UN's monitoring of human rights during the election. OHCHR held two planned training sessions for HRDs, which included operational-level staff from the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT). OHCHR included staff members from the NHRCT in its briefings for WHRDs in the Southern Border Provinces.

In July, OHCHR held a regional workshop with 23 CSOs and technology companies in order to identify opportunities

and challenges in Southeast Asia in relation to digital technologies and civic space. This led to enhanced engagement among key partners in the area of technology and human rights.



A5 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



Through technical cooperation, the Office aimed to contribute to the increased compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

In **Malaysia**, the Office engaged in discussions with the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia on institutionalizing police training. It is envisaged that a long-term project will be agreed upon in 2020.

In **Thailand**, the Office interacted with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in August, on issues related to the evictions of rural communities, including by undertaking field visits to areas of concern to meet the communities and discuss onsite human rights issues. The Office also continued to engage with CSOs and different government actors on the promulgation of a national law criminalizing torture and enforced disappearances and amendments to the 2003 Witness and Victim Protection Act.

SRI LANKA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 21.32 million 66,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.780 (rank: 72/188 in 2018) Status A, 2018
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2004
Field office(s)	Colombo
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Framework 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019	3
XB requirements 2019	US\$597,000
Key OMP pillars in 2019	

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A2 – Fulfilling Human Rights Council resolution 30/1, Sri Lanka implements a comprehensive transitional justice strategy that is victim-oriented, gender-sensitive and complies with international human rights standards. It establishes an Office for Missing Persons, a truth and reconciliation commission, a reparations programme, and a credible special judicial accountability mechanism in which foreign experts participate.



OHCHR supported established accountability mechanisms in their compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance to transitional justice and related bodies and processes, in particular the Office on Missing Persons, the Office for Reparations, the Human

Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) and the Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms. Following the presidential elections that took place in November, OHCHR engaged with the new Government on its policy approach and with other national stakeholders on how to advance the agenda of the Human Rights Council.



P6 – New laws establish transitional justice mechanisms and take into account the results of consultations held in 2016. Wherever necessary, victims of violations, women, and groups with specific needs are consulted in more detail about each element of the transitional justice agenda.

OHCHR advocated for the increased participation of rights-holders, especially

women and discriminated groups, in the process of reparations for the victims.

OHCHR assisted the Consultations Task Force (CTF), tasked with conducting nation-wide consultations on transitional justice issues, with the archiving of their materials, which was completed in 2019. The CTF participated in consultations with the Office for Reparations in Sri Lanka and OHCHR to advocate for the inclusion in the CTF report of the expectations of victims, especially women and groups with specific needs.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 – All Sri Lanka military or police personnel proposed for deployment in UN peacekeeping operations undergo a stringent screening process, led by civilians.



OHCHR supported the HRCSL, the UN and the Government to integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles into their work.

In 2019, the HRCSL continued to use the standard operating procedures for the screening of candidates that were developed in 2018, with OHCHR's assistance, for the screening of peace-keepers. In 2019, an individual who is the subject of serious allegations of human rights violations was appointed as the Army Commander, prompting the UN to revise the participation of the Sri Lankan Army in peacekeeping operations. As of December, the review process was still ongoing.

Under the Mechanisms pillar, OHCHR continued to support the establishment of the NMRF. In addition, the Office provided support to the visits of two special procedures that took place in 2019,

namely, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief. The visit of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity had to be rescheduled due to terrorist attacks. The standing invitation remains in place.

TIMOR-LESTE

Population size ¹ 1.29million	Surface area ¹ 15,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.626 (rank: 131/188 in 2018) Status A, 2018
Type of engager	nent	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	İ	2013
Field office(s)		Dili
UN partnership	framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019
Staff as of 31 December 2019		3

XB requirements 2019

US\$515.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019











123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – The police and army comply with human rights standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment.





The Office supported the police and the army in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment by providing technical support and targeted capacity-building.

More specifically, OHCHR provided technical support for a high-level seminar with the national and municipal command of the police, which was led by the Office of the Provedoria for Human Rights and Justice. The seminar included the active involvement of civil society and Timor-Leste's follow-up institution to the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It consolidated lessons learned from the human rights training programme that can be used in seeking policy changes and securing a stronger commitment to improving respect for human rights, reducing human rights violations particularly due to the excessive use of force, ill-treatment, torture and killings and increasing accountability.

The human rights training programme for the national army, which was launched in 2018, continued to be available throughout 2019. The training was led by the NHRI, in partnership with OHCHR, as well as trainers from the army and the Ministry of Defence and Security. Fiveday trainings were conducted in March, May and June for a total of 91 officers (9 women, 82 men). The training was based on a manual that was prepared with support from OHCHR and focuses on the obligations of the army to respect and protect human rights in times of crisis, during arrests, in the use of force and when conducting searches. An extracurricular session on the rights of LGBTI persons was facilitated as part of each training programme and was delivered by the NHRI and members of the LGBTI community in Timor-Leste.

In November, two training sessions were conducted for police officers. One police trainer was part of the training team. A total of 43 police officers (2 women, 41 men) in two municipalities learned about human rights when using force, during arrests and in relation to detention.

In 2019, OHCHR requested participants from a 2017 human rights programme, which was conducted by the NHRI in close collaboration with the national police, to provide post-training evaluations. Positive changes in attitude and behaviour were reported by participants and commanders alike (77 police force members, 10 women, 67 men). Yet, much remains to be done in a country that emerged from violent conflict less than 20 years ago and where impunity is rife, police training is limited and investment in policing is low. Moreover, public support for the use of strong measures against those who break the law remains high.



P6 – Youth, women and discriminated groups, and those who represent them, regularly advocate for human rights.

The Office contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of youth, LGBTI persons and women in selected public processes by providing technical expertise, funding and support for advocacy campaigns.

The Human Rights Defenders Network, established in 2015 with a grant from OHCHR, supported 20 street vendors who had been forcefully removed by civil security personnel and police from the park where they were selling their goods. The HRD Network drafted and submitted a written complaint to the NHRI, requesting mediation on the case. Following a meeting that the NHRI facilitated between the street vendors, the municipal authority and the Dili police commander, temporary sales areas were identified in the park for use by the vendors. With a view to increasing accountability for alleged violations by the police, the network met with the national police commander and learned that eight cases in which the police had used lethal force over the past few years were still under investigation. The Network continued to conduct joint public advocacy activities, focused on addressing impunity and called for security forces to respect human rights when carrying out their duties.

The Network, supported by OHCHR, organized a conference with parliamentarians, government officials, the NHRI and civil society in order to take stock of progress made since the 1999 referendum that led to the country's independence, including in relation to justice, women's rights, the situation of persons with disabilities and freedom of the media. Two Timorese women gained in-depth knowledge about human rights, the UN system and its human rights mechanisms and developed their advocacy skills to demand respect for and the realization of their rights. They also learned about human rights challenges in the region, together with 19 other civil society activists (10 women, 11 men) from 11 countries, by taking part in a twoweek diplomacy training programme. The training, held in Dili and Balibo, is

organized every August by the University of New South Wales and is often held in Timor-Leste. OHCHR delivered one session on human rights in the UN system. OHCHR funded the participation of the two Timorese women, one of whom was the Head of an established women's rights organization and will join the Office of the Prime Minister. The second woman is a member of several youth groups that advocate for sexual and reproductive health rights, women's rights and the rights of LGBTI persons.

Furthermore, OHCHR enhanced the knowledge of 31 secondary school students (15 women, 16 men) from different schools in Dili about human rights, the rights of LGBTI persons and the rights of persons with disabilities. They also learned about the work of the NHRI to protect human rights and the advocacy efforts for human rights that are being carried out by inspiring young women in Europe (Greta Thunberg) and Asia (Malala Youssef). OHCHR and the Movimentu Feto Foin Sa'e Timor-Leste (the Movement of Female Youth, also known as MOFFE) organized a twoday session for this group, in Dili, in September. The Head of an organization of persons with visual impairments and the staff of the NHRI addressed the youth. In addition, 31 youth representatives from the community police force increased their knowledge on basic human rights, the rights of LGBTI persons, the rights of persons with disabilities and the work of the NHRI.



Anniem Non-discrimination (ND)

ND7 - The public supports a human rights-based approach to disability; the public opposes discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.







The Office contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste by providing expert advice on compliance with international human rights law and supporting advocacy campaigns.

Following the 2018 design phase, the Association of Persons with Disabilities in Timor-Leste (ADTL) implemented a national campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities, with technical support from OHCHR. The campaign was based on a strategy that was drafted after consultations with persons with disabilities in three municipalities, interviews with organizations conducting behavioural change campaigns and desk research. The campaign featured inspiring persons with disabilities who are positive role models that embrace inclusion and make use of traditional and social media. Radio talk shows on the rights of persons with disabilities went on the air, in May, and preparations for three short videos/films commenced in November. One of the three short videos, which highlighted terminology that should be used to respect the rights of persons with disabilities, was launched on International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The national campaign aims to raise awareness about the equal rights of persons with disabilities and reduce the use of stigmatizing language and discriminatory behaviour. It also emphasizes the importance of ratifying CRPD. The ADTL received financial support to carry out the campaign under the joint UN agency project entitled Empower for Change in order to reduce discrimination and violence against persons with disabilities. The campaign was funded by the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Among the various activities that are planned to celebrate the seventy-first anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the NHRI, the Anti-Corruption Commission and OHCHR organized a series of events, including a speech competition for secondary schools students, a human rights quiz and drawing competitions for primary schools students. Human rights information was also disseminated in the Ermera Municipality. The HRD Network and MOFFE organized a seminar, a televised debate and other activities on human rights issues in different locations.

The third Pride march, which was held in Dili, in July, was organized by members of the LGBTI community and youth groups under the theme "visibility." The Pride march included the participation of approximately 3,000 people, including Timorese and international individuals. as well as members of the UNCT. OHCHR took part in the Pride march and used the occasion to distribute Free & Equal campaign materials. On the same day, the sitting President of the Republic made a public address, for the first time in history, that called on everyone to embrace diversity. At a seminar that was held in Liquica Municipality, on 30 July, more than 60 members of the LGBTI community and their families shared their experiences of discrimination and violence and emphasized the need for acceptance and full respect for the equal rights of LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste.



Development (D)

D3 – New policies and laws on housing, land and evictions are adopted that comply with human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of one selected policy area with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the knowledge of government officials about international human rights standards related to land, adequate housing and forced evictions. Specifically, OHCHR conducted a one-day workshop for 19 officials from the Ministry of Justice's Legislation Department (6 women, 13 men), who were drafting a subsidiary decree under the country's first law on land ownership, which was adopted in 2017.

OHCHR increased the knowledge of civil society members on how to incorporate human rights standards in law and policies on land and in their implementation. OHCHR engaged in discussions with the civil society land rights network and provided technical and financial support for a training on land-related legislation, land disputes and gender for 27 participants (7 women, 20 men), including local authorities, civil society and land defence groups. It also disseminated information on land rights to the 108 community members (36 women, 72 men) of the Viguegue Municipality. The network actively engaged with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples before and during her visit to Timor-Leste, in April. While there, the Special Rapporteur underlined serious human rights concerns regarding the land registration process employed by the Government over the past four years. As a result of the network's advocacy, the Special Rapporteur called on the Government to suspend the registration process and conduct an independent evaluation.



Mechanisms (M)

M2 - The NHRI, the UNCT, and civil society coalitions that work on emerging human rights issues submit reports for each scheduled treaty review; NGOs submit information to the special procedures.



OHCHR provided support to NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals in the development of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

Although there has been limited engagement with the special procedures to date, OHCHR has been working to change this fact. For instance, OHCHR worked closely with members of the HRD Network to prepare relevant information for various special rapporteurs on the alleged use of excessive force by security forces that resulted in deaths and injuries since late 2018. In June, three special rapporteurs sent a joint communication to the Government. A second communication was submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers by a family member of an individual (an ex-Minister who was convicted of corruption) concerning alleged violations of the right to a fair trial. OHCHR guided the family throughout the process. The Office will continue supporting submissions in 2020 as part of a strategy to make better use of the opportunities that these mechanisms present for swift interventions in relation to government actions.

Civil society members and the NHRI gained better knowledge about the opportunities that the special procedures offer for raising human rights concerns as a result of their active involvement before and during the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, including through written and oral interventions on issues concerning customary land.

M1 - Reports are submitted in accordance with guidelines and include adequate information.



OHCHR supported the submission of the VNR report, which conformed to reporting guidelines and integrated a human rights-based approach, including in reporting on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR provided technical and financial support to the drafting of Timor-Leste's first report under the VNR on the implementation of the SDGs for the High-level Political Forum, in July. This presented an excellent opportunity for raising awareness about the complementarity of SDG reporting and reporting to the international human rights mechanisms. The report identifies five steps that must be taken to advance the implementation of the SDGs, including the Government's commitment to consider piloting integrated reporting to the various bodies of the UN. The VNR report recognizes that such a mechanism could also play a role in supporting follow-up on recommendations issued during the UPR process. The VNR report also refers to the first recommendations issued by the UPR on LGBTI rights and notes that they were accepted by Timor-Leste.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



TYPE OF PRESENCE

LOCATION



Headquarters

Geneva



Country/Stand-alone Offices/ **Human Rights Missions**

Ukraine (HRMMU)



Regional Offices/Centres

Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic) Europe (Brussels, Belgium)



Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions

Kosovo* (UNMIK)



Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG Belarus, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi, covering Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia)



Other types of field presences

Russian Federation

LEGEND:

Spotlights:







Shifts:



Global constituency



Prevention



Civic space



Climate change









SDGs:

































^{*} Hereinafter, all references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

In 2019, the work of OHCHR in Europe and Central Asia comprised 54 countries and nine disputed territories. OHCHR expanded its presence in the region by deploying two new human rights advisers to UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Montenegro and Moldova. The Office strengthened its engagement with regional organizations and national authorities through its Regional Offices for Europe and for Central Asia: Human Rights Advisers (HRAs) in North Macedonia, Serbia and the South Caucasus: the project team in the Russian Federation; the Human Rights Office in the UN Mission in Kosovo*; and the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU). OHCHR maintained a non-resident agency status in Turkey, contributing to the Common Country Analysis, the forthcoming United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) process and a joint **OHCHR-United Nations Development** Coordination Office (UNDCO) strategy to address human rights issues across the UN system in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During the reporting period, the Europe and Central Asia region faced multifaceted challenges to human rights. These included actions to restrict civic space, including criticism of State policies and the activities of human rights defenders (HRDs); attempts to limit or discourage the holding of peaceful assemblies; challenges to the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary; persisting tensions stemming from unresolved frozen conflicts and disputed territories. including challenges related to the protection of human rights of populations living in territories controlled by de facto authorities.

Other reported challenges included discrimination and attacks affecting

vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as Roma, people of African descent, persons with disabilities, migrants and sexual minorities; the arbitrary deprivation of liberty and the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment against persons in detention: and insufficient accountability for human rights violations committed by State agents creating a sense of impunity. The Office further noted the continued expression and exploitation of racism and xenophobia by some political leaders: limitations to the enjoyment of socio-economic rights, including non-discriminatory access to services; gender inequality and domestic violence; and important development disparities.

To address these challenges, OHCHR carried out monitoring and assessment missions to Italy (racism and incitement to racial hatred and discrimination) and Bosnia and Herzegovina, accompanying the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. The Office also promoted principles for human rights engagement with non-State armed groups and de facto authorities through mandated reports on the question of human rights in Cyprus, on cooperation with Georgia and through quarterly thematic reports to the Human Rights Council (HRC) on the human rights situation in Ukraine. Inputs were provided to the annual reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on internally displaced persons in Georgia/ Abkhazia/South Ossetia and to the report to the General Assembly on the human rights situation in Crimea.

OHCHR continued providing advisory services, technical cooperation and training for governments, regional organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), equality bodies, civil society, human rights defenders, UN peacekeeping operations and UN country or regional teams in their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, including through a training for 16 UNCT members from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. Furthermore, the Office advanced the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to data by training stakeholders from Albania and Kosovo. In October, OHCHR and the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) delivered a human rights training course for the police component of UNFICYP.

Through direct engagement and communication with Member States, remote monitoring and public advocacy, the Office identified early warning signs of potential human rights violations and impending crises and encouraged the development and implementation of recommendations to address such situations. In line with the Secretary-General's prevention agenda, OHCHR analysed situations carrying risks of human rights violations and ensured real-time reporting through regular updates and submissions to the United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre. The Office also actively supported the implementation of the Secretary-General's Western Balkans Action Plan, adopted in June, by expanding human rights presences in the region (Montenegro) and organizing a workshop for Western Balkans country presences in order to streamline efforts and prepare for a scoping mission on transitional justice in 2020.

OHCHR supported the roll out of 12 UNSDCFs in the region by providing support to the UNCTs to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. This included participation in the Istanbul Regional Workshop on the new UNSDCF and input into the Common Country Analyses of Azerbaijan, Belarus,

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, among others

During the year, the Europe and Central Asia Section strengthened cooperation with regional organizations, notably through close cooperation with the European Union (EU) institutions and Council of Europe, participation in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and in meetings with other regional groups and organizations. This included a workshop on the role of NHRIs in peacebuilding in Europe; the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) accreditation procedure involving NHRIs from Finland, Hungary, Russia and Ukraine; the High Commissioner's meeting with the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency and a retreat on UN reforms in Central Asia, organized by the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and Resident Coordinators in Bishkek.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR ensured that targeted support was provided to missions of the High Commissioner, including to Amsterdam/the Hague, Berlin, Dublin, Ljubljana, Luxembourg, Porto/Lisbon, St. Petersburg and Stockholm. Support was also provided to other high-level missions, including those of the Deputy High Commissioner to Belfast, Copenhagen, Scotland and the Hague.

BELARUS

Population size ¹ 9.45 million	Surface area ¹ 208,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.817 (rank: 50/188 in 2018) NA
Type of engager	ment	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	I	2018
Field office(s)		Minsk
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	1
XB requirements	s 2019	US\$275,000
Key OMP pillars	in 2019	

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A1 – Strengthened provision of legal aid to groups in vulnerable situations, including women victims of violence, Roma, persons with disabilities. Strengthened use of oversight mechanisms for places of detention and increased use of alternatives to detention.



The Office contributed to improving the compliance of drug policy and legislation, oversight mechanisms for detention and the use of alternatives to detention with international human rights standards.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR continued advocating for bringing drug policy and legislation in line with international human rights standards. The Office prepared an advocacy strategy on the drug policy in Belarus, which the UN

Resident Coordinator (RC) and UNCT used systematically during the reporting period. The Resident Coordinator significantly increased advocacy in this area, including by sending two letters to the Parliament, meeting with civil society representatives and convening a joint UN briefing for the diplomatic community. Following advocacy that was undertaken by the UN and civil society on the inclusion of drug offenders in the Amnesty Law, those convicted under article 328 (1), (2) and (3) were included in the draft law that was eventually adopted. According to its provisions, minors convicted under article 328 (part 1-3) of the Criminal Code of Belarus were granted a reduction of their sentences.

In July, the Office organized a study visit on drug policy for Belarussian authorities. The objective of the visit to Lisbon,

Portugal was to introduce participants to progressive Portuguese practices in the field of anti-drug legislation, in particular relating to alternatives to detention and the use of a people-centred approach in medical services and rehabilitation. Sixteen participants representing a broad range of authorities involved in decision-making on drug-related issues visited the General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of the Interior. They also observed the implementation of the Mobile Low Threshold Methadone Programme and other successful practices that are being applied in Portugal. Following the study tour, OHCHR organized a consultation for the participants in the study visit and other relevant stakeholders on the "Implementation of drug policy in Belarus based on the

experience of the Republic of Portugal: Basic approaches and practices" to discuss the potential for their implementation in Belarus.

In addition, the Office organized consultations on the elaboration of the effective functioning of social rehabilitation centres for ex-offenders, in Belarus. in October. The three-day consultation brought together representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, local governments, NGOs, faith-based organizations and ex-offenders to develop a baseline assessment of the national system of re-socialization of ex-offenders. Based on the results, and in consultation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, OHCHR developed a road map determining the mechanisms for effective programming, including the functioning of the social adaptation centres for ex-offenders.

Furthermore, OHCHR organized a round-table, in November, on "The use of alternatives to imprisonment: International and national mechanisms and best practices" to increase the knowledge of international standards by representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor's Office, UNICEF, the Confederation of European Probation. local NGOs and other stakeholders.

In December, the Office conducted a series of trainings for different target groups on the mechanisms of assistance that are available to offenders and ex-offenders in Belarus in order to strengthen the system of psychological assistance. The different target groups included staff from the Ministry of Internal Affairs with a background in psychology, psychologists of local departments of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and relevant NGOs and faith-based organizations. In conjunction with the trainings, OHCHR facilitated an exchange of experiences between government authorities and NGOs. The findings formed the basis of a final report that was presented to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. The report contains training modules that will be used by the Ministry for further training.



M1 – A National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) is existing and working to a substantial extent.



The Office supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in establishing a temporary mechanism, pending the establishment of a fully-fledged NMRF and contributed to the increased capacity of State officials to report to the Human Rights Committee.

Throughout 2019, the Office engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the establishment of an NMRF. While little progress was made towards its establishment, the Office assisted the Ministry in setting up an informal group of focal points on human rights that will support the reporting and follow-up process, consult with civil society and assist with other reporting and follow-up tasks.

The Office facilitated a number of technical meetings on engaging with and reporting to the Human Rights Committee. In May, a member of the Human Rights Committee met with government and civil society representatives to discuss follow-up to the concluding observations that were issued by the Committee in November 2018. In July 2019, a technical-level online meeting was held between

government legal experts and two members of the Human Rights Committee to discuss cooperation challenges. Finally. OHCHR experts delivered a tailored training to State officials, in December. regarding improved reporting to the Human Rights Committee.



P6 - UN and Government consistently consult with human rights and gender equality civil society when planning, implementing and evaluating programming.



The Office facilitated the participation of stakeholders representing various rights-holders in dialogue with government and UN partners on key human rights issues, including LGBTI rights, migrants' rights, rights of persons with disabilities and the prevention of torture.

Throughout the reporting period, the Office facilitated dialogue on key human rights issues in Belarus between stakeholders representing different groups of rights-holders, government and UN partners. In January, OHCHR convened meetings between LGBTI groups and UNICEF, between migrants' rights organizations, IOM and UNHCR and between medical rights NGOs and WHO. OHCHR organized consultations with human rights civil society organizations on the Government's Concept of the National Sustainable Development Strategy, and a meeting of human rights CSOs with the UN Resident Coordinator. In April, a round-table was organized for government and civil society participants in relation to a draft law on the rights of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, the Office and civil society partners co-organized a round-table discussion

on torture prevention and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) that was held on 26 June, International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. In addition, OHCHR supported a training on non-discrimination for police officers and law enforcement officials in mass sporting events, held in May. The training was specifically tailored to the second European Games hosted by Belarus, in June. It covered practical aspects of a human-rights based approach to law enforcement during mass sporting events.

CENTRAL ASIA (BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN)

Type of engagement	Regional Office	
Countries of engagement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	
Year established	2008	
Field office(s)	Bishkek, with field offices in Nur-Sultan, Almaty (Kazakhstan); Osh (Kyrgyzstan); Dushanbe (Tajikistan) and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia in Ashgabat (Turkmenistan)	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	12	

Total income	US\$475,181	
XB requirements 2019	US\$2,005,000	
Total XB expenditure	US\$666,741	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
38%	51%	10%
\$255,512	\$342,128	\$69,100
Total RB expenditure	US\$722,383	
Personnel		Non-personne
87%		13%
\$629,473		\$92,911

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



Accountability (A)

A1 – Institutions that train judges, law enforcement officials, the staff of security-related agencies, or lawyers, and other educational institutions, include human rights in their training as a matter of course.



The Office contributed to institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials and State authorities involved in criminal justice processes. Lawyers received training on the right to peaceful assembly, criminal justice and non-discrimination.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, as a result of capacity-building initiatives and training of trainers by the Office, 29 staff (16 women and 13 men) of six State training centres increased their capacity. Trained participants from three of those centres initiated training on human rights

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

norms and standards for their staff. With OHCHR support, 29 trained staff of the six training centres developed their own training manual for Kyrgyzstan in Russian and translation into Kyrgyz will be completed in 2020. Furthermore, 29 participants (16 women, 13 men), including judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers, representatives of the State Security Committee and the Penitentiary Service, completed a training programme on international human rights standards with a focus on ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups.

Following a commitment expressed by the State Training Centres, in 2018, to institutionalize a comprehensive training programme on non-discrimination in Kyrgyzstan, OHCHR secured a preliminary agreement, in 2019, to do so. The Academy of the Ministry of the Interior designated a separate room to be used as a resource centre for human rights and OHCHR supported the centre with promotional materials on human rights-related topics. Starting in 2020, the manual on human rights and non-discrimination developed by the 29 staff of six training centres will be used at the centre for teaching international human rights law to police inspectors and officers.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR's primary national partner, the Union of Lawyers, committed to integrating human rights into the training programme of the Lawyers' Training Centre. The Office supported the First Penitentiary Forum of Tajikistan, which was conducted in cooperation with the Main Directorate for the Execution of the Criminal Sentences of the Ministry of Justice, UNODC, Penal Reform International, the OSCE, the EU and other partners. The Forum issued recommendations for legislative and practical measures for a comprehensive reform of the penitentiary system of Tajikistan.

Participants called for establishing a NPM, promoting the application of an HRBA to reforming the prison system and applying alternatives to imprisonment.



Development (D)

D7 – When they implement the SDGs and other development plans, more Central Asian States and UN Country Teams adopt a human rights-based approach and the recommendations of human rights mechanisms.



The Office contributed to the satisfactory integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the national frameworks for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Central Asia.

In 2019, OHCHR continued contributing to the integration of human rights into national frameworks for the SDGs by supporting the establishment of appropriate structures and defining indicators at the national level in all five Central Asian countries for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the SDGs.

Disaggregated and quality data remains a primary challenge in the region, due in large part to the lack of sufficient quality and inclusiveness of its collection, monitoring and evaluation, coupled with the insufficient knowledge and skills of professionals at the national level. To this end, the Office continued its efforts to strengthen the capacity of national stakeholders through the organization of training sessions for State officials, the NMRFs, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), CSOs and UN staff on the application of an HRBA in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

All capacity-building activities related to international human rights mechanisms included a session on human rights in the context of the 2030 Agenda with the aim of decreasing the burden of State reporting, improving data gathering, enhancing the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights machinery and achieving SDG targets. It also contributed to leveraging synergies between human rights reporting. improving the quality and human rights and gender sensitivity of national SDG indicators and their introduction into national policy documents on sustainable development.

In Kyrgyzstan, OHCHR organized three capacity-building sessions, including for the NMRF on human rights in the 2030 Agenda, "Leaving No One Behind" within the framework of trainings on reporting to CESCR, CRC and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and for a coalition of CSOs on CEDAW. In Turkmenistan, the Office supported the elaboration of a road map on the implementation of recommendations issued by CEDAW, CESCR and the UPR. In addition to the activity-specific indicators, the road map contains appropriate SDG indicators, which will enhance the mutual reinforcement of human rights and SDG reporting, thereby setting an example of a good practice for other Central Asian States. In Uzbekistan, the Office through the UNCT, advised State authorities on developing national SDG indicators and advocating for the development of supplementary human rights indicators to strengthen the implementation of the SDGs that are aligned with international human rights law. OHCHR delivered a separate training for members of the expert group of the national SDG coordination body, representatives of legislative, judicial and executive branches, NHRIs and NMRFs on an HRBA to SDGs, focusing on indicators and data disaggregation. The training session helped to enhance expertise at the national level and encouraged discussions about improving national SDG indicators from the human rights perspective.

During the reporting period, the Office provided necessary expert support for the implementation of the current United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and the development of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that will start in 2021, to ensure that an HRBA is applied to programming in all five countries. This support included the organization of information sessions on the application of an HRBA to data, the participation of the Office in all main working groups and retreats at the national level, the provision of inputs and expert support regarding the elaboration of Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and the organization of consultation processes with civil society. It also provided expert and technical support to UNCTs on how to achieve the SDGs at the national level, including though comments on national development policy documents, suggested legislative amendments and contributions to or the organization of awareness-raising and capacity-building events. In Kyrgyzstan, OHCHR contributed to the UNCT Roadmap on SDGs and the UNCT Action Plans on the Voluntary National Review and the SDGs for the National Statistical Office.

The Office continued to support all five UNCTs in the region with technical guidance on outcomes of their past cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms and potential future opportunities, including possible avenues for advocacy on the implementation of their recommendations at the national level. The Office facilitated

the engagement of the UNCTs with the international human rights mechanisms inter alia, by providing assistance with the preparation of joint UN submissions to a number of mechanisms, namely, the UPR in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The Office also supported the organization of UNCT briefings or delivered its own briefings with relevant committees prior to the adoption of their respective lists of issues and constructive dialogues.

In light of the administrative challenges faced in accessing UMOJA in the field, it was not possible to carry out the planned training of trainers for UNCT members or the Resident Coordinators at the subregional level in 2019. Instead, the Office incorporated HRBA sessions into a training for UNCTs on cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms that was held in Uzbekistan. in May, at a Central Asian retreat for Resident Coordinators, in June, and at a stand-alone training for UNCT members and national partners that was held in Kazakhstan, in October. Similar training sessions will take place in 2020 to cover all countries in the region.

As part of a cooperative effort between OHCHR and the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub on an HRBA to Data, OHCHR delivered a session on human rights indicators and the Universal Human Rights Index for 14 women and seven men representing the SDG Coordination Group and civil society organizations from Armenia.



M1 – National mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRFs) successfully fulfil their mandates; they engage with international human rights mechanisms, and coordinate reporting and follow up, and to that end consult with relevant national actors and share information with them and with the public.



The Office contributed to strengthening national mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the HRC and the UPR.

During the reporting period, the Office continued providing assistance aimed at strengthening the mandate and capacities of NMRFs, as well as their cooperation with civil society in the region. This included sharing expertise on the ratification of outstanding treaties, strengthening legal frameworks on NMRFs and capacity-building for NMRF staff, ministerial focal points, NHRIs and civil society members on how to improve government engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and improve the efficacy of follow-up to recommendations. Expert support was also provided in relation to the elaboration of implementation plans and advocacy for the National Recommendations Tracking Database in all five countries.

OHCHR advocated for the ratification of outstanding human rights treaties by Central Asian States, particularly CRPD and OP-CAT, both directly and through UNCTs and Resident Coordinators. As a result of OHCHR's sustained advocacy, **Kyrgyzstan** ratified CRPD, in May. To support the implementation of CRPD, OHCHR contributed to UNCT comments

on the CRPD National Action Plan with regard to immediate actions to be taken following the ratification. It also provided its comments to the draft Decree on the Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and will continue providing further post-ratification support in 2020. The CRPD ratification process advanced in Taiikistan and Uzbekistan. where high-level discussions took place in October and December, respectively. Several events were carried out in Uzbekistan to promote the ratification of OP-CAT and develop preventive monitoring by the Office of the Ombudsperson in cooperation with civil society.

Following advocacy that was undertaken by the Office, a Decree on the Coordination Council on the Human Rights under the Government of Kyrgyzstan (CCHR) was amended in February, in order to enhance its work in relation to reporting. More specifically, to eliminate the problem of late reporting, OHCHR assisted the NMRF to develop a draft Decree on reporting and follow-up to the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR, which will be adopted in 2020. In Uzbekistan, after the President's Decree was adopted in December 2018. the Office provided advice on the implementation of the new provisions and shared relevant good practices from other States in the region and around the world. Following OHCHR's suggestion, the National Human Rights Centre (NHRC) visited Georgia, in December, to exchange examples of good practices on cooperation with the Parliament. OHCHR's advocacy led to the adoption of the Presidential Decree of 13 December 2019, which enhanced the capacity and role of the NHRC in monitoring, implementation of human rights obligations and reporting to international human rights mechanisms.

In Tajikistan, the Office supported the Government in developing the draft National Human Rights Strategy 2030 by facilitating inclusive consultative meetings of members of the governmental Working Group (WG), CSOs and international organizations. A draft strategy covering 23 thematic areas was developed in accordance with an HRBA. The draft seeks to prioritize human rights and freedoms in public policy, which has the potential to influence the direction of legislative development and law enforcement practice. The WG and CSOs that are supported by OHCHR will start drafting a National Action Plan at the beginning of 2020 to implement the draft strategy. It is anticipated that once the documents are finalized, they will be adopted in 2020.

Capacity-building and expert support that was provided in relation to reporting to international human rights mechanisms in Central Asian countries included assistance with reports to CESCR, CRC, the Human Rights Committee and the UPR. In addition, expert support was provided for Kyrgyzstan's report to CMW, Tajikistan's follow-up report to CAT and in two training sessions on CEDAW reporting for HRDs and the NRMF Working Group from Uzbekistan. As a result of capacity-building and advocacy work undertaken by the Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA), the rate of late reporting to the treaty bodies significantly decreased. By the end of 2019, Kyrgyzstan had finalized its only outstanding report to the treaty bodies (CCPR), which should be submitted at the beginning of 2020.

In Uzbekistan, ROCA contributed to building the capacity of a national working group tasked with drafting the sixth periodic report to CEDAW during a training workshop that was held in March. The workshop improved cooperation and coordination between relevant State

bodies, the NHRI and civil society on the implementation and systematic monitoring progress achieved with regards to CEDAW's concluding observations that were issued in 2015 and the related national action plan for 2017-2020. In December, a total of 31 NHRC staff members and human rights focal points in various State authorities (16 women, 15 men) were trained on the individual communications procedure during a two-day training session organized by the Office. OHCHR will continue its advocacy on establishing an effective follow-up to the Human Rights Committee's Views on individual communications. Currently, there is no institutionalized approach or relevant legal provisions to provide guidance on the implementation of the Human Rights Committee's Views.

Participation (P)

P1 – Civil society organizations, human rights defenders, and marginalized groups increasingly claim their rights and promote the rights of their constituencies, and can participate more freely in public life.



The Office contributed to the increased use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by building the capacity of stakeholders on using strategic litigation, supporting training programmes for underrepresented minorities in State institutions and human rights defenders.

In **Kazakhstan**, OHCHR enhanced the awareness of and the capacity of stakeholders to use strategic litigation by providing technical assistance in relation to access to information, organizing training for lawyers and representatives of civil society organizations facilitated by two international experts, organizing a workshop for strategic litigation practitioners and producing a draft manual on strategic litigation. Development of the manual will be completed in 2020.

In Kyrgyzstan, participants of an OHCHR Strategic Litigation School have taken up 14 strategic cases as of the end of 2019. Five of these cases relate to discrimination in various spheres and seven relate to other human rights issues. One participant won a case at the Constitutional Court in relation to recent legal reforms, which had been initially discussed during the school sessions with a programme mentor. As a result of this case, the Constitutional Chamber declared the norm of the new Code of Violations to be unconstitutional, according to which the decision of the court of first instance

is final and not subject to appeal. Another case relating to the murder of a prosecutor was handled by a judge who was undergoing pretrial investigation. Although he was not legally competent to hear criminal cases at the time, he reviewed the case and handed down a sentence. Overall, 32 participants (17 women, 15 men), including lawyers and civil society activists, benefited from interactions with international experts on various topics and long-term support from two national experts. All international trainers agreed to remain available as a "pool of experts," enabling participants to contact them with follow-up questions and obtain feedback on litigation strategies regarding public interest cases.

In 2019, as part of an ongoing OHCHRsupported programme to address the underrepresentation of certain rights-holders in public administration in Kyrgyzstan, 82 interns (55 women, 35 men, seven persons with disabilities) completed four-month internship programmes in State and local administration departments in three southern regions of the country. A total of 50 per cent of the interns were from ethnic minorities and 50 per cent were women. Seven individuals identified as persons with disabilities. Within the context of the programme, OHCHR worked with the State Personnel Service of Kyrgyz Republic to increase awareness about the need for specific measures to address underrepresentation. As part of the internship programme, the interns participated in a four-day training on human rights, equality and non-discrimination. OHCHR also trained 54 programme mentors (24 women, 30 men) on the same topics. Representatives of State agencies and civil society discussed the right of minorities to participate in public life and the institutionalization of the

internship programme at a round-table, "Sustainable mechanisms for internships in the national and local government in the Kyrgyz Republic" on 21 November in Bishkek.

Kyrgyzstan continues to develop the Concept of National Identity "Kyrgyz Jarany". In December, the draft Concept was amended and made more compliant with human rights as a result of technical expertise on human rights issues, in particular the principles of non-discrimination and protecting minority rights, that OHCHR provided to the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations. Furthermore, the Office facilitated the coordination of comments from UN partners on the structure of the abovementioned Concept of National Identity, which included basic guarantees of minority rights, access to justice and equal participation in public life. OHCHR will continue to offer support and guidance in 2020.

In 2019, an OHCHR course on multicultural education was made an elective item in three universities in Kyrgyzstan. Capacity-building was provided in other locations and was available in six higher educational institutions as of the end of 2019. OHCHR adapted its training manual for two professions, namely: law-related (such as lawyers and police officers) and public administration. The course has been institutionalized at the Osh State University through mentorship hours, which involve professional personal development activities aimed at broadening the outlooks of students, and through selective courses.

OHCHR raised awareness about the existence of discrimination in the labour sphere and existing gaps in legislation and law enforcement practices. The NGO Adilet, with the financial and expert support of OHCHR, completed its analysis

of legislation and law enforcement practices in the field of labour in Kyrgyzstan. Results were shared with various government bodies, NGOs, trade unions, experts and journalists, at a round-table event organized by the NGO Adilet together with OHCHR. In Kyrgyzstan, at least 866 individuals received legal advice and 107 legal cases were brought before the courts as a result of assistance provided by OHCHR to CSOs and legal clinics at third-level institutions. This support enabled them to provide free, qualified legal assistance, with a focus on cases of non-discrimination and violent extremism. Four legal analyses, which assess the compliance of national legislation with international human rights standards, have been produced as a result of the initiatives.

In **Tajikistan**, six human rights defenders received expert advice from OHCHR regarding the possibility of submitting their cases to the international human rights mechanisms. The cases related to the use of torture, unfair trial, arbitrary detention and kidnapping.

In Uzbekistan, the Office continued supporting civil society organizations to participate in public life and claim the rights of their constituents. In 2019, the Office facilitated the participation of civil society representatives in expert consultations that were jointly organized with the International Commission of Jurists on CRPD and the rights of persons with disabilities regarding the right to adequate housing. The Office also ensured inclusion of independent human rights activists into public hearings on ratification of the CRPD organized jointly with OSCE. Moreover, the Office supported training for human rights defenders from Uzbekistan on UN human rights standards relating to the rights of women and the rights of the child, the rights of persons with disabilities, advocacy with

State authorities, freedom of association and assembly, human rights monitoring and reporting and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The trained participants received continuous online mentoring and information on human rights standards throughout the year. The Office promoted the participation of the trained human rights defenders in national consultations with civil society on the new UNSDCF for 2021-2025 and advocated for the constructive engagement of human rights defenders with various State authorities, including the Office of the Ombudsperson.

In July, OHCHR collaborated with the Open Society Foundations and the Soros Foundation in Kyrgyzstan to enhance networking among Central Asian NGOs working on the right to adequate housing. The Office supported the participation of five Uzbek civil society members who built their capacity in relation to applying an HRBA to adequate housing, relevant UN mechanisms to advance housing rights and with regard to advocacy and communication strategies at the national and international levels. A joint strategy for the regional network of NGOs was developed and will be further promoted by the Office during 2020.

EUROPE

Regional Office
European Union and Member States of the European Union
2009
Brussels
n/a
8

Total income	US\$958,300	
XB requirements 2019	US\$1,038,000	
Total XB expenditure	US\$863,642	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]
39%	49%	12%
\$337,778	\$426,456	\$99,408
Total RB expenditure	U\$\$940,011	
Personnel		Non-personnel
82%		18%
\$772,953	<u> </u>	\$167,058

Key OMP pillars in 2019







PILLAR RESULTS:



D7 – EU institutions further integrate human rights and a human rights-based approach in EU external development programming. The EU and UN Brussels team further integrate a human rights approach in their work on the Sustainable Development Agenda.



The Office contributed to improving the compliance of the EU institutions with international human rights norms and standards.

During 2019, the Office continued to promote a rights-based approach into the

work of the EU institutions and the UN Brussels Team (UNBT).

In March, OHCHR co-organized a panel at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region entitled "Leave No One Behind: Driving policies through data and a human rights-based approach," to present and illustrate the linkages between human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To sensitize and engage the incoming European Parliament on the Sustainable Development Goals and its linkages with human rights, the UNBT, composed of 25 UN entities, including the Regional Office for Europe in Brussels, invited candidates standing for the European Parliament elections, to sign a 10-point pledge to "Leave No One Behind". By the end of 2019, 67 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) had signed the pledge to personally defend human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights. Many more joined the pledge as it remained open for signature throughout 2020.

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

At the request of the European Commission and the External Action Service of the European Union (EEAS), the Office continued to invest in human rights training of EU delegations and staff of the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO). Following the 2018 launch of the manual "Making a difference: An introduction to human rights", it was reprinted in 2019 in English and French, and translated into and printed in Spanish. A total of 275 copies, in all three languages, were provided to DEVCO for distribution to development staff in EU delegations and to participants of the twenty-first EU-NGO Human Rights Forum, which was held in December.

In addition, 30 staff members from EU delegations, the UNECE and the EEAS increased their knowledge about trade and human rights through a training delivered by the Office. During 2019, the Office also collaborated with DEVCO, three briefings for EU staff and the general public: on the G5 Sahel's human rights compliance framework; OHCHR's work in Syria; and, jointly with UN Women, women human rights defenders.



ND3 – EU legal and policy frameworks increasingly protect women and girls from violence in the digital space.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of EU legislation and policies in the area of violence against women in the digital space with international human rights norms and standards through advocacy and by providing expert legal advice.

The online harassment of HRDs, in particular women human rights defenders, was a key concern raised at the Office's conference on "Protecting Civic space in the European Union" in October, which included the participation of the UN Special Adviser on Hate Speech, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU, representatives of the European Commission and human rights defenders from across the region. For the first time, social media companies Facebook and Twitter joined an open discussion about online harassment of human rights defenders in Europe. This enabled an exchange of views on finding a balance between protecting freedom of expression and combating hate speech and online bullying and the need for social media companies to develop a response in accordance with human rights standards.

The conference recommended that any new legislation in the EU relating to online civic space should strictly define what constitutes prohibited content in accordance with ICCPR and ICERD. It was also suggested that consideration be given to the adoption of EU legislation to combat violence and abuse against women online. As a result of its

participation in the conference, the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency expanded its survey on civic space as a follow-up to its 2018 report entitled "Challenges facing civil society organizations working on human rights in the EU", to include questions about online harassment of HRDs in general, and women in particular, In November, OHCHR's Regional Office for Europe was invited to highlight the human rights-based perspective at the Women's Network of European Socialist Parties event on "Breaking the silence on online violence against women." which focused on the consequences of women withdrawing from political life on account of online harassment. The then incoming European Commissioner for Equality attended the event and pledged to take action to tackle online violence against women.

In October, the Regional Office's first public event, jointly organized with the European Network of Equality Bodies on the post-#MeToo era, and the subsequent joint conference on the role of European equality bodies in combating sexual harassment at work, with the participation of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequence, helped to take stock of progress, identify obstacles, and empower equality bodies to take up individual complaints.

Through an Infopoint open to the public, the Office worked with DEVCO and UN Women to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the rights of women HRDs globally and highlighted the work of OHCHR field presences to create more space for women human rights defenders through reporting, advocacy and the facilitation of dialogue between State institutions and civil society.



P5 – National, regional and international actors act promptly and more effectively to protect civic space, especially in Hungary and Poland.



Critical human rights issues raised by OHCHR were taken up to a greater extent and in a timely manner by EU institutions.

The Office continued its sustained advocacy to respond to challenges to the rule of law and threats to civic space in the European Union. In 2019, the report of the Secretary-General on Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights highlighted cases of intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations in three EU countries (Hungary, Poland and Malta). The concerns about legal restrictions on freedom of association, excessive administrative requirements, reduction in funding, the criminalization of solidarity, and the judicial harassment and stigmatization of dissenting voices are not limited to these countries. Throughout the year, the Office consistently raised its concerns with its EU counterparts, as well as through public pronouncements in numerous forums. The Office also maintained reaular contact with civil society and media organizations on the ground.

In the second half of 2019, OHCHR worked closely with the Finnish EU Presidency to place concerns about civic space and the erosion of democracy on the agenda of EU decision makers. As a result, the Finnish presidency proposed stronger language on protecting civic space in the EU Justice and Home Affairs Council Conclusions, which were adopted in October. In the Conclusions, the Council recalls the importance of

removing and refraining from any unnecessary, unlawful or arbitrary restrictions on civil society space and acknowledges that transparent, sufficient and easily accessible funding is crucial for civil society organizations.

In October, the OHCHR regional conference on "Protecting civic space in the EU" created a platform for dialogue on civic space between EU decision makers and civil society and proved to be a key step in the process. The conference brought together 32 human rights defenders from 11 countries of the region with the Vice-President of the European Parliament, the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the EU, various EU officials and social media companies. It brought to light common stories of intimidation, defamation, hate speech, smear campaigns and legal proceedings across Europe and called for increased protection. The conference helped CSOs to connect directly with EU policy and decision makers. The programme also enabled participants to share successful experiences with mobilizing popular support for human rights and using positive narratives, including through the effective use of social media, all of which are essential for the promotion of civic space.

Furthermore, the Office successfully worked towards strengthening the engagement of rights-holders, civil society, national human rights organizations and equality bodies with the international human rights mechanisms. In 2019, civil society organizations, NHRIs and equality bodies in Europe increasingly reached out to special procedures, which led to 64 communications sent to EU member states, compared to 57 in 2018 and 32 in 2017. This increase reflects both a greater awareness and understanding of the UN human rights mechanisms, as well as growing human rights concerns within the EU region.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

XB requirements 2019	US\$1,208,000
Staff as of 31 December 2019	3
UN partnership framework	United Nations Partnership Framework 2018- 2022
Field office(s)	Chisinau
Year established	2008
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Population size1Surface area14.04 million34,000 km²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.711 (rank: 106/188 in 2018) Status A, 2018

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



P6 – Vulnerable rights-holders, notably individuals with disabilities, participate more frequently and more fully in forming public policy and drafting laws, including by taking public office.



OHCHR advanced meaningful participation of vulnerable rights-holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

In 2019, OHCHR mobilized approximately 70 civil society organizations to join a national platform established by OHCHR in 2019 for monitoring international human rights recommendations. The online monitoring platform contains all of the recommendations that the Republic of Moldova has received from the international human rights mechanisms. The platform will be used

to assess the implementation of the recommendations by civil society, the NHRI and State actors, in order to generate an implementation rate index. During the reporting period, the Office facilitated the first assessment round, which resulted in the review of 50 per cent of all recommendations during 17 meetings of the 15 thematic monitoring groups of civil society organizations.

The Office also created a network for a group of 15 mothers of children from across the country with various types of disabilities, empowering them to advocate both for the rights of their children and for their own rights as caregivers. The mothers supported by OHCHR benefited from psychological counselling sessions with a professional psychologist to help them process any difficulties of having a child with disabilities and to

feel empowered about conducting advocacy actions. Several capacity-building events that were conducted by OHCHR enhanced their capacity to advocate for the rights of children with disabilities. The group of mothers became a genuine platform for promoting human rights by engaging in dialogue with State authorities, making television appearances and drafting advocacy documents to raise kev issues faced by children with disabilities and their family members. In particular, the members of the platform highlighted some of their challenges in exercising the right to health at an event that included participants from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and 11 mass media outlets.



A1 – Law enforcement institutions have substantially improved systems and procedures that protect the human rights of women, persons with disabilities, victims of torture and ill-treatment, and Roma and other minorities.



OHCHR contributed to improving systems and procedures to protect the human rights of Roma and victims of torture by raising awareness, providing expert legal advice and enabling the functioning of international human rights mechanisms.

Based on research that was conducted by OHCHR in 2018 on the protection of the rights of victims of sexual violence, 56 lawyers increased their knowledge of legal strategies for working with victims of sexual violence. At the request of the National Institute of Justice, OHCHR delivered tailored information sessions on international standards on the rights of persons with disabilities, equality and non-discrimination for at least 50 judges, prosecutors and judicial and prosecutor's assistants.

In 2019, a manual for Roma community mediators was co-produced by the Office and the National Association of Roma community mediators and drew on information gathered during multiple consultations with the two stakeholders of the Roma mediator system, namely, Roma community mediators and State authorities. In total, 31 Roma community mediators and State representatives (26 women, five men) were subsequently trained on the basis of the manual in 2019. As a result of this work, the network of Roma mediators strengthened their knowledge and skills in providing assistance to Roma and their association is now fully functional.

OHCHR partnered with social care staff from four temporary placement centres for adults with (primarily intellectual) disabilities to advocate for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. In this context. over the past year, OHCHR conducted a training needs assessment of the 400 staff members from the four residential institutions. Based on the results. 64 employees (49 women, nine men) from the four institutions and the National Social Work Agency enhanced their knowledge on preventing and combating torture and ill-treatment. Furthermore, the Office initiated engagement with the law enforcement agency, the Moldovan General Inspectorate of Carabinieri, given their role in policing and in light of an absence of structured training on the use of force and the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. As of the end of 2019. two initial trainings, an analysis of the reporting mechanisms of torture cases and proposed improvements to those mechanisms had been drafted with support from the Office.



M1 – A national mechanism implements and reports on outstanding international human rights commitments in an integrated and participatory manner.



OHCHR continued supporting the two key national human rights mechanisms established in 2018 by facilitating learning and knowledge transfer in relation to engagement with human rights monitoring mechanisms.

Following the 2018 approval of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) and the establishment of the Permanent Human Rights Secretariat as the mechanism for the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Plan, the Office continued building the capacity of the Secretariat, staff of the Ministry of Justice and local authorities throughout 2019. To this end, numerous capacity-building initiatives were conducted by OHCHR during the reporting period, including trainings, support for developing a mid-term evaluation of the NHRAP and a study visit to Georgia, during which the participants learned about good practices in establishing a fully-fledged NMRF.

In addition to the above, OHCHR continued to work towards promoting a more inclusive and non-discriminatory national media narrative under the Non-discrimination pillar.

REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹ 2.08 million 26,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.759 (rank: 81/188 in 2018) Status B, 2011
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Skopje
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019	1

Key OMP pillars in 2019







¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



M2 – Civil society organizations engage systematically with the international human rights mechanisms.



The Office significantly contributed to the substantial increase in the level of engagement of civil society organizations with the international human rights mechanisms through consistent capacity-building and advocacy efforts.

OHCHR continued working with civil society organizations to strengthen their capacity to systematically engage in the reporting process and follow up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in an increasingly coordinated manner. In 2019, a record number of joint and individual reports were submitted in anticipation of North Macedonia's third UPR cycle. As a result, civil society organizations nominated a representative to attend and address the Working Group on the UPR, in January, and the Human Rights

Council, on 4 July, for the adoption of the Working Group's final outcome report.

The Office brought together civil society representatives for constructive quarterly meetings to discuss their experiences, outcomes and follow-up strategies related to the third UPR cycle. Participating organizations agreed to establish an informal follow-up coalition in order to collectively consider all recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The coalition presented its preliminary work at a workshop organized by the NMRF, with support from OHCHR, in May. The coalition has organized itself according to the clusters of recommendations that already frame the work of the NMRF. Two civil society organizations allocated their funding to the coordination of the coalition's activities and to support the preparation of joint, integrated inputs for the NMRF consultations on the draft Recommendations Implementation Plan, which were held at the end of December. These results were largely due to OHCHR's capacity-building efforts over many years.

M1 – The NMRF regularly gathers and disseminates information for purposes of reporting and implementation, and uses information management tools effectively. Its procedures ensure that it consults meaningfully with stakeholders, including civil society and people who are "left behind."



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which mechanisms are functioning for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

As part of a joint project with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), OHCHR supported the NMRF's Expert Working Group (EWG) involved in reporting and implementation tracking. This project received financial support from the 2018-2019 UPR Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance and the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme.

Despite a delay in the implementation of the project, the EWG strengthened its capacity and significantly contributed to improving the performance of the NMRF. Specifically, the NMRF supported the participation of a high-level State delegation in the third UPR cycle, in January, and the preparation of consolidated views from the Government on the recommendations. It also obtained the Government's approval for publishing the report of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture following its 2017 visit to the country, thereby enabling

monitoring of the follow-up. Based on the EWG's recommendation, North Macedonia joined the "Group of Friends of NMRFs," in July. In October, North Macedonia completed the ratification process for the 1961 UN Convention on Statelessness, as a follow-up to one of the recommendations issued during its third UPR cycle.

With OHCHR's support, following the completion of the third UPR cycle, in July, the EWG updated the list of integrated recommendations and drafted a new Recommendations Implementation Plan. For the first time, the NMRF shared the draft with civil society and organized a consultation at the end of 2019. The EWG also developed a proposal for the NMRF to request a dedicated page on the Government website and sought to introduce a system of annual and ad hoc consultations with civil society for reporting and follow-up tasks.

At the EWG's initiative, linkages were established between government coordination bodies concerned with human rights, namely, the National Sustainable Development Goals Council, the CRPD implementation mechanism and the national coordination body on non-discrimination, which were established in 2018. As a result, the Secretariat of the National SDG Council will use State reports and observations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in the preparation of the 2020 VNR of North Macedonia.

At the end of November, the Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme subregional training for UN Country Teams (UNCTs) on Engagement with and Follow-up to Recommendations from International Human Rights Mechanisms was conducted in Skopje, in cooperation with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the Human Rights

Adviser. Eighteen staff members from the new RCOs and UN agencies from five Western Balkan countries participated in the training.



AB Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 – Anti-discrimination and gender equality laws comply with international human rights standards and ensure effective protection from all forms of discrimination.





The Office contributed to the improved level of compliance of the newly adopted legislation on prevention and protection against discrimination with international human rights norms and standards, including by providing expert legal advice and advocating for compliance

with recommendations issued by the

international human rights mechanisms.

The Parliament adopted a new Law on Prevention and Protection against Discrimination, in May, after long political debates. OHCHR used the opportunity of the State's third UPR report, in January, to liaise with and support civil society organizations to raise this issue with other Member States during the review. The resulting eight recommendations that were issued to expedite the adoption of the Law, coupled with advocacy undertaken by civil society after the review, contributed to the Parliament's decision to adopt the Law.

An assessment of the compliance of the Law with international human rights standards will take place in 2020. The adopted text, however, appears to fully incorporate OHCHR's comments and comply with international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that urged the State to address

the deficiencies of the 2010 Law. The new Law includes provisions related to persons with disabilities, explicitly lists sexual orientation and gender identity among the prohibited grounds of discrimination and clarifies definitions. Most importantly, it also strengthens the mandate and provisions for ensuring an independent and effective Commission for prevention and protection against discrimination, which were the weakest elements of both the previous Law and the national anti-discrimination framework.

Since the adoption of the Law, OHCHR has continued working with civil society to encourage their ongoing engagement in promoting and monitoring its implementation. As a result, civil society strongly reacted to the failure of the Parliament to appoint the new Commission by the August deadline, and publicly called upon the Parliament to respect the Law and the human rights standards incorporated in the text.

ND1 - National mechanisms to implement the Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons (CRPD), and monitor its implementation, are effective, adequately resourced, and comply with international standards.





OHCHR contributed to the extent to which oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning.

The Office continued to build the capacity of the "National Coordination Body for the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" (NKT CRPD) in order to clarify the requirements and practical aspects

of coordination, based on the NMRF's model and experiences. OHCHR also provided technical guidance to both the NKT CRPD Secretariat and its members and participated in all key discussions it had organized. These efforts increased the understanding of the members about the Convention, while the participatory and transparent working methods strongly contributed to the NKT CRPD's recent achievements. In 2019, the NKT CRPD undertook several important initiatives that had been recommended during the initial CRPD review of North Macedonia, in August 2018. More specifically, it pushed forward the previously delayed application of the assessment conducted by the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health to record information on the functioning and disability of individuals at both the national and regional levels; took steps to amend legislation on construction with a view to upgrading the national physical accessibility standards and strengthening the oversight of their application; facilitated the Government's decision to make all public websites accessible; promoted the integration of inclusive education as a foundational principle in the development of new legislation on primary education; ensured that concerns of persons with disabilities are reflected in the Operational Plan of the National Strategy on the Implementation of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention; and established a system of annual reporting related to the Operational Plan for the Implementation of the CRPD Recommendations, which was adopted in 2018. The first such annual report was published in October 2019.

Additional efforts are needed to improve the monitoring framework. The Ombudsperson was designated to perform the monitoring functions, together with persons with disabilities and their

organizations (OPDs), in August 2018. OHCHR advocated with civil society, UN and other partners to encourage the Ombudsperson to comply with the CRPD requirements. Consequently, in November 2019, the Ombudsperson agreed to start the process to fully establish the CRPD monitoring framework. OHCHR and the OSCE co-organized activities to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities, during which it clarified CRPD requirements for the national monitoring framework and publicly promoted the Office of the Ombudsperson as the entity designated to operationalize the monitoring framework. The aim was to ensure better understanding among potential future members and the wider public about the functions of the monitoring framework and emphasized the necessity of the full participation of persons with disabilities and their civil society organizations in the framework, including in its development. In 2019, OHCHR translated into local languages, printed and disseminated the OHCHR publication Monitoring the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – Guidance for Human Rights Monitors and the CRPD Committee's Guidelines on independent monitoring frameworks and their participation in the work of the Committee. OHCHR will undertake capacity-building activities for the CRPD monitoring framework in 2020.

ND3 – National laws on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) protect women from SGBV and comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of the Law on Prevention and Protection against Gender-Based Violence with international human rights norms and standards.

The first draft of the Law, which has been open for public comments since late November, incorporates most of the international human rights standards and addresses relevant recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. As a result, it is anticipated that the final draft, which is expected to be adopted by mid-2020, will be compliant with international human rights standards and ensure that effective protection is available to women victims of gender-based violence.

The drafting process began in December 2018, under the lead of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, which established a participatory Working Group of representatives from relevant government offices and civil society, independent experts and international organizations, including three UN agencies, namely, UN Women, UNFPA and UNHCR. The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy kept OHCHR informed and solicited guidance during the key stages of the drafting process.

While the primary aim of the Law is to facilitate the implementation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention), ratified by North Macedonia at the end 2017, OHCHR has ensured that the Working Group is also aware of the relevant international human rights standards and obligations of the State, including CEDAW Committee's guidance and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In addition to supporting the UN members of the Working Group, the OHCHR Human Rights Adviser provided comprehensive comments on the "0" draft of the law produced by the Working Group, in

August. This helped the Working Group to sharpen its focus on compliance with international human rights standards and ensure the inclusion of provisions on effective prevention and protection. OHCHR will continue to support the drafting and adoption process throughout 2020.

ND4 – Increased public recognition of the need to combat child marriage as a harmful practice.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of engagement of selected groups supporting human rights messages.

The 2019 focus of the UNCT and UN agencies on early marriage shifted when preparations began for the new Common Country Analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Following the OHCHR briefing on the joint CEDAW-CRC General Recommendation/General Comment on Harmful Practices, the UNCT Human Rights and Gender Theme Group discussed possible options for joint UNCT advocacy and action. UN colleagues agreed that it would be best to address the issue through the new UNSDCF. Since CCA preparations began in December, further contributions could not be made.

Civil society used the occasion of North Macedonia's third UPR cycle, in January, to lobby other UN Member States about this issue. As a result, two specific recommendations were made to the Government to eradicate the phenomenon of early marriage as a matter of priority. In June, the State accepted both recommendations and assigned their implementation to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. Despite

OHCHR's support and civil society advocacy, no concrete measures have yet been put in place. After the Government accepted the UPR recommendations and agreed to amend legislation to prohibit marriages for individuals under 18 years of age, no further action has been taken by partners or requested from OHCHR.



D8 – The State collects reliable data systematically and in a timely manner on the situation of women and groups at risk of discrimination.



OHCHR contributed to the improvement of the compliance of two selected State institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

The UNCT, government partners and the NMRF became more familiar with the rights-based approach to data and the benefits of its application. Technical advice on human rights indicators was provided for the UNCT activities supporting the national SDG process and the VNR of the SDGs implementation. The UNCT decided not to conduct the mid-term review of the current UNDAF in light of the fact that it is required to evaluate the UNDAF while preparing the CCA for the new UNSDCF 2021-2025.

To support a rights-based preparation of the CCA and the new UNSDCF, the Human Rights Adviser updated the internal matrix for the UNCT to reflect the most recent UN human rights recommendations that have been issued, including the outcome of the third UPR cycle and the recommendations outlined in the reports of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, which were made public in 2019. To further support the UNCT and its partners to effectively

make linkages with the SDGs, the Human Rights Adviser indexed all of the recommendations with respective SDGs and added a new cluster for SDG-specific recommendations.

OHCHR used several opportunities to familiarize its partners with the OHCHR Guidance Note on data collection and disaggregation and noted how it could support programming and implementation of the SDGs and human rights obligations. Notably, these opportunities included a training on the preparation of the VNR that was organized by UNDP for the Government, in August, and a training for the NMRF, in April. As a member of the Government-led National Coordination Body on Non-discrimination (NKT AD). the Human Rights Adviser presented the OHCHR Guidance Note at the NKT AD's thematic forum, in March, As result. the NKT AD used the OHCHR Guidance Note to conduct analysis on data collection. The results and recommendations were presented to the Government in November.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

•	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.824 (rank: 49/188 in 2018) Status A, 2014
Type of engagement	Human rights staff (Other type of field presence)
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Moscow
UN partnership framework	n/a
Staff as of 31 December 2019	5

XB requirements 2019 **U\$\$988,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2019









PILLAR RESULTS:



M2 – Awareness and knowledge about use of human rights mechanisms increased among NHRIs and government representatives.



OHCHR supported greater awareness and use of international human rights mechanisms by NHRIs and government representatives from the Russian Federation.

In November, OHCHR organized and hosted the seventh edition of the annual human rights orientation programme, in Geneva, for Russian civil servants. The 12 participants (five women, seven men), from the Ministries of the Interior, Foreign Affairs, Justice, the Office of the Prosecutor General, the Federal Penitentiary Service and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson, increased

their knowledge about the role of the international human rights mechanisms through interactive sessions with members of CAT and experts from OHCHR.

During the one-week programme, participants enhanced their understanding of the international human rights norms and standards on torture. They were also introduced to various OHCHR tools that outline the essential role of the international human rights machinery in preventing and combating torture and ill-treatment, including by strengthening the practical implementation of international norms at the national level.



P6 – Human Rights High Education Programmes expanded and institutionalized in the regions of Russian Federation and selected CIS countries.



OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on human rights by raising awareness about and integrating human rights into university curricula across the Russian Federation and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries.

The Human Rights Master's Programme is the first Master's programme in the field of human rights in Russia and is supported by OHCHR. Building on the progress achieved in the past five years, the curricula of the Human Rights Master's Programme were enhanced through the elaboration of new teaching materials. In 2019, three new courses were developed, including one on the SDGs and human rights, a second on the international protection of social, economic and cultural rights and a third on the international legal aspects of limitations on human rights. As of the end of 2019, all three courses were available in distance-learning format.

In 2019, the Human Rights Master's Programme Consortium finalized two new collective authorship textbooks on the international protection of social, economic and cultural rights (printed at the end of 2019) and on international protection of the rights of children.

The Consortium explored possibilities for a further expansion of the Programme to the south of Russia and CIS countries. In Uzbekistan, 36 representatives (11 women, 25 men) from Uzbek law schools, relevant line ministries and State agencies learned about OHCHR's experience of developing the

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

Human Rights Master's Programme with the Consortium of Russian universities. Participants also learned how human rights education can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In June, the VII Summer School on Human Rights, the largest annual human rights education event in Russia, was held in Perm and was hosted by the Consortium, with the support of OHCHR. The week-long Summer School was dedicated to the SDGs and the role of human rights in their achievement. Participants included 212 students from nine universities based in seven Russian regions, 30 eminent national and international professors, the Director of the OHCHR Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, human rights defenders and experts from the UN human rights treaty bodies. As part of the Summer School, a round-table on business and human rights was jointly organized with the Global Compact Local Network in Russia. The event focused on promoting respect for human rights by businesses in compliance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The sixth European Moot Court competition, held in partnership with "Plaider les droits de l'homme" and the International Human Rights Film Festival "Stalker", was an integral component of the Summer School outreach programme.

In addition, the Consortium organized its tenth anniversary celebration event with the participation of rectors of the Consortium, the Federal Ombudsperson and different regional ombudspersons and representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education. The event emphasized that the success of the Human Rights Master's Programme is due to the fruitful cooperation between Russian universities, OHCHR, NHRIs

and the Government. It also provided an opportunity for the Consortium to present its achievements and for programme alumni to share their stories.



A Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - NHRIs and civil society organizations significantly strengthen their anti-discrimination work, giving particular regard to domestic violence, gender equality, disability, and the rights of indigenous peoples. This work complies with international human rights standards.

5 10 16

The Office contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples and minority rights.

OHCHR continued to build the capacity of indigenous peoples to undertake human rights advocacy and facilitated the selection of eight fellows (six women, two men) from five regions of the Russian Federation for the Russian-language component of the OHCHR Indigenous Fellowship Programme. In 2019, the fellows improved their knowledge about the international human rights mechanisms, including how they apply to climate change and SDGs. As part of the programme, the fellows had the opportunity to exchange views with government officials, including representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Duma, the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson and staff from OHCHR and the UN Information Centre (UNIC).

Led by OHCHR, the UN Gender Theme Group in the Russian Federation organized two major events to commemorate International Women's Day and International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, respectively. Representatives of UN agencies, the

Council of Europe, the State Duma, NGOs and lawyers, academics, human rights defenders, medical doctors and journalists exchanged experiences regarding means of countering violence against women following the 2017 amendments decriminalizing violence in domestic settings. Participants reiterated the critical role of treaty body recommendations and the need for relevant stakeholders to join efforts regarding their ongoing monitoring and implementation.

In collaboration with the UNIC, OHCHR organized a round-table, in December, on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The focus of the event was the role of mass media in covering disability-related issues, protecting the rights of persons with disabilities and the interaction between organizations of persons with disabilities and the media community. Over 30 representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities and journalists interacted with representatives from the State Duma, the CRPD Committee and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson. Participants learned about the latest legislative changes related to the rights of persons with disabilities and the increased number of individual complaints that have been submitted to address the lack of accessibility in Russian regions.

Following anti-discrimination work that was undertaken before and during the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, OHCHR finalized the "anti-discrimination legacy package," which is pending official approval by the Ministry of Sport. Together with UNESCO, the Office followed up with Moscow city authorities regarding their declared decision to join the Coalition of Cities against Racism, a network of cities interested in sharing their experiences to improve their policies to fight racism, discrimination and xenophobia.



D8 - National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for advancing human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.

2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11

In May, in Moscow, OHCHR and the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson co-organized an expert round-table for the presentation of OHCHR's publication Human rights indicators: A guide to measurement and implementation, which was translated into Russian. Participants, including over 30 representatives of the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson, various offices of regional ombudspersons, the Federal State Statistics Service, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, civil society and FAO, learned about developing indicators to measure progress in the implementation of international human rights norms and principles. Participants welcomed the translation of the publication into Russian, enabling regional ombudspersons to use a uniform UN methodology to prepare their reports. Following the round-table, the Office of the Federal Ombudsperson organized the dissemination of the publication through a network of regional ombudspersons in more than 80 constituent units of the Russian Federation.

As a follow-up to the Moscow launch of the publication, OHCHR and the Office of the Ombudsperson in St. Petersburg co-organized a workshop, in October, entitled "Human rights indicators and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." Participants included over 30 representatives from offices of regional ombudspersons from the North-West and the Central Federal Districts

and the St. Petersburg branch of the Federal State Statistics Service. The workshop increased the awareness of national stakeholders about quidance on human rights indicators and highlighted links between the SDGs and the human rights indicators frameworks. The sessions focused on addressing gaps in data collection, disaggregation and analysis and developing more systematic collaboration between human rights and national statistics institutions. This was followed by exchanges on the feasibility of human rights and SDGs indicators, the human rights approach to data and opportunities to strengthen collaboration with statistics institutions in the regions of the Russian Federation.

SERBIA

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 8.77 million 88,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.799 (rank: 65/188 in 2018) Status A, 2015
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	1996
Field office(s)	Belgrade
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Partnership Framework 2016-2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019	2
XB requirements 2019	US\$606.000

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



A1 – The judiciary more often and more comprehensively references international human rights law in domestic decisions.



OHCHR successfully promoted the increased use of international human rights law and jurisprudence in court proceedings and decisions. It did so by providing technical advice on the implementation of the first national curriculum for the application of international human rights law.

Following the piloting of this national curriculum, the Office continued its cooperation with the Judicial Academy and external experts to make the curriculum widely available to members of the judiciary operating in varied jurisdictions and with different affiliations. The online database to support the direct application of international human rights law,

first initiated in 2018, was further developed to provide a more comprehensive cross-referencing scheme, including in relation to the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights and well-systematized national legal sources, and to ensure that the database can be easily used by all levels of the judiciary on a daily basis. A second round of trainings on international human rights standards were provided to over 65 members of the judiciary (basic, higher and appellate courts and prosecution offices). Finally, four thematic manuals were published on the rights of persons with disabilities, asylum/migration, the rights of the child and non-discrimination and were distributed to courts across the country.

The follow-up to the trainings and OHCHR's online resources are case law markers, which for the first time enable the monitoring of court decisions that

directly apply UN treaty norms or refer to them in their narrative. The Supreme Court of Cassation and the Constitutional Court are developing the markers with the support of the Judicial Academy and OHCHR, which will ensure that trends in direct application of international human rights law are captured and measured over time.

Following the decision issued by the UN Committee against Torture, in August, related to the extradition from Serbia to Turkey of a Turkish political activist, two consultations were held in Belgrade and Nis with prosecutors, and judges of higher and appellate courts. The objective of the consultations was to gain first-hand knowledge about the importance of the decisions issued by the international human rights treaty bodies, encourage the revision of procedures and enhance the knowledge of acting judges regarding extradition and the non-refoulement principle.

In addition, the Office supported the monitoring of strategic cases in non-contentious proceedings concerning legal capacity. In 2019, an increase in the number of legal capacity reinstatements was reported. This can be attributed to a better understanding of the international human rights framework, the promotion of the universal right to legal capacity in capacity-development activities for the judiciary and direct support that was provided for those who were directly affected through regular cooperation with the CSO that provides free legal aid, with crucial support from OHCHR for several years. Furthermore, in 2019, the Supreme Court of Cassation handed down its first historic decision in a legal capacity case, through the extraordinary legal remedy of revision, with support from OHCHR.

¹²³ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.



M1 - The National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) verifies that recommendations made by human rights mechanisms are implemented; it uses human rights indicators.



OHCHR contributed to the enhanced functioning of the mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

In addition to OHCHR's provision of consistent advisory and technical support for the Government's ongoing activities regarding reporting and follow-up during the year, the Office helped to strengthen the capacities of the NMRF in Serbia and advance the processes of cooperation between national mechanisms, civil society and other relevant actors. Moreover, tangible progress was made in the measurement of implementation, transparency, promotion and UPR follow-up.

OHCHR facilitated the participation of CSOs in regular sessions of the NMRF and their engagement with issues of particular relevance, such as the prohibition of torture, specific reporting exercises and follow-up to individual decisions. At the request of CSOs, the Office organized a series of thematic sessions between relevant line ministries and members of the NMRF that are focused on follow-up and the exchange of insights and information about accountability regarding specific processes or outcomes, thereby enabling greater systemic cooperation between the CSOs and the NMRF. OHCHR demonstrated that it continues to play a convening role that is key to bringing relevant actors to

the same table and securing outcomes that are acceptable to all parties.

Furthermore, with expert and technical support from OHCHR, the Government of Serbia, together with CSOs, developed a set of human rights indicators. An original online database was produced to reflect nearly 400 recommendations received from the international human rights mechanisms. The database includes an interactive feature that ensures that all indicators that measure progress, their level of implementation and all relevant collected data can be easily updated and monitored by the general public.

Serbia's NMRF model, which was developed with continuous guidance and support from OHCHR, is an example of a good practice for other States developing their national mechanisms.

Serbia's NMRF has subsequently committed to developing a UPR Implementation Action Plan, a Mid-Term Report on UPR implementation and a set of indicators for the thematic clustering of recommendations. These activities will commence in early 2020, with coordinated support from OHCHR.

Non-discrimination (ND)

ND1 - The Government adopts or reforms five policies, laws or practices that prevent or sanction discrimination in a manner that ensures they comply with human rights standards; in doing so, it pays particular attention to the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, Roma, and migrants and refugees.



The Office contributed to improving the level of compliance of policies and legislation with international human rights norms and standards in five specific policy areas, including by providing expert legal advice to key partners.

More specifically, a proposal for the new National Strategy on Disability for 2020-2024 was finalized and, in December. the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy coordinated official public discussions on the Strategy. It is anticipated that it will be adopted by the Government in early 2020. A draft of the National Anti-Discrimination Strategy for 2020-2025 and the respective Action Plan were finalized. An official public discussion is expected to begin in January 2020. A proposal was drafted for the Action Plan on Roma Inclusion, which followed a set of intense consultations with the Roma communities across the country. Amendments were also drafted for various sections of the Family Law, including those concerning the legal capacity deprivation regime, which are expected to be presented in a public discussion in early 2020. Finally, OHCHR was requested to provide specific guidance on the creation of the National Strategy on Combating Domestic Violence. The Office produced a background document that was informed by recent recommendations issued to Serbia by CEDAW and the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence as well as collected inputs from CSOs and women's organizations that were submitted in response to a set of questionnaires. The drafting of the policy is scheduled for January 2020 and will include expert and technical support provided by OHCHR.



P6 – Organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), organizations of national minorities, and other human rights civil society organizations are more visible, are included consistently in relevant policy and decision-making, and engage more frequently with UN mechanisms and Agenda 2030.



OHCHR enhanced the level of meaningful participation of rights-holders, especially women and persons with disabilities, in selected public processes.

OHCHR contributed to achieving this result by helping to create space for CSOs in policymaking processes. For instance, over 30 OPDs and CSOs contributed to public discussions on the drafting of the new National Strategy on Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2020-2024. The drafting of the new Anti-Discrimination Strategy relied on inputs from CSOs through discussions and guestionnaires; consultations that were held between CSOs and the Government on the draft Anti-Discrimination Law in 2019: consultations that were held between the Government. CSOs and women's organizations on the parameters of the new Strategy on Eradicating Domestic Violence; and the coordination and framing of the critical inputs of OPDs to the Family Law amendments regarding the legal capacity regime.

THE RIGHT TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY IN SERBIA: DONA'S STORY

Dona was born in 1954. Over the last 25 years, she has experienced violations of the right to a fair trial, the right to a private life, the right to legal capacity, the right to an independent life in a community and the right to dignity, all of which are guaranteed by the Constitution of Serbia and international human rights treaties.

It all began in 1993, when Dona was fully deprived of her legal capacity and the right to decide and make choices about her life, health and finances. For more than a decade, she was forced to live far away from her family, in a closed group home for persons with disabilities. In this institution, individuals reside against their will and experience inhumane treatment and conditions, due to a lack of support in their communities.

In 2015, with the help of her daughter and a CSO that partners with OHCHR, Dona was able to leave the institution and live independently, in her home, in Belgrade. She received regular check-ups from her doctor, made friends and enjoyed her freedom.

Yet, because she was still living under a guardianship, she did not have the legal right to make independent and autonomous decisions.

In 2019, through a programme coordinated by OHCHR in Serbia, and with the assistance of a lawyer, Dona claimed her rights before the court. Based on a long-standing medical approach in Serbia, of advocating for the removal of the legal capacities of persons with disabilities, psychiatrists involved in the case were hesitant to support the reinstatement of the legal capacity of a woman who had been diagnosed with a mental health problem. Nevertheless, her lawyer's arguments, which included references to international human rights law, and the topical knowledge of the judge, which was strengthened during OHCHR's judicial training workshops, resulted in a judicial decision that defied that approach.

In September, after 25 years, Dona was finally granted the right to make all decisions about her own life as a subject, not an object, of human rights law.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser based in Tbilisi, Human Rights staff in UNCT Azerbaijan
Countries of engagement	Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Tbilisi, Georgia and Baku, Azerbaijan
	UN Partnership for Sustainable Development 2016-2020 (Georgia)
UN partnership framework	UN Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020 (Armenia)
	UN-Azerbaijan Partnership Framework 2016- 2020
Staff as of 31 December 2019	8

XB requirements 2019

US\$1,080,000

Key OMP pillars in 2019





PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability (A)

A5 – The UN assistance efforts in the justice sector of the South Caucasus substantially integrate international norms and standards and the processes for discussing these issues are further institutionalized by the UN and the governments of the region.



OHCHR contributed to integrating international human rights norms and standards, as well as the recommendations of the human rights mechanisms, into the UN common country programmes in the region.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR continued leading the UNCT thematic group on human rights, and in August, coordinated and

supported the preparation of the joint UNCT report that was submitted to CESCR for its list of issues in anticipation of its consideration of Azerbaijan's fourth periodic report. The submission highlighted major concerns regarding the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Committee's concluding observations in 2016. Jointly with UNFPA, OHCHR provided support in updating the assessment of the implementation status of the recommendations issued by the UPR on sexual and reproductive health and rights, which will serve as an input for the Government's Beijing+25 National Review Report in 2020.

OHCHR actively participated in the formulation of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) for Azerbaijan and provided significant inputs related to the human rights situation in the country, including in the concluding observations issued by various international human rights mechanisms regarding Azerbaijan. OHCHR played a major role in ensuring that HRBA was applied in the process of the preparation of the CCA.

In May, the Office of the State Inspector was established in Georgia, following five years of advocacy efforts that were undertaken by OHCHR before the executive and legislative branches in co-operation with the NHRI and NGOs. The Office of the State Inspector has been designated as the independent institution responsible for the investigation of serious human rights abuses allegedly committed by law enforcement agencies. To this end, the State Inspector has taken over responsibility for the functioning of personal data protection that was formerly exercised by the Personal Data Protection Inspector. OHCHR presented a case study on the establishment process during the launch of the Office of the State Inspector that was held in June. The case study described the advocacy work that had been carried out by OHCHR, the NHRI and NGOs for the creation of the independent investigative mechanism, the criteria they had developed for the effective operation of the mechanism, earlier legislative efforts and the adequate financial resources that would be necessary for the investigatory function of the State Inspector's Office. The investigatory function of the State Inspector's Office was formally launched, in November, when the Office received sufficient funds from the State. In 2020, OHCHR will focus on building the capacity of the newly hired investigators and monitor the performance of the Office.

It will also monitor other factors affecting its performance, such as State funding and cooperation with other State institutions, especially the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice's Penitentiary Service.

During 2019, OHCHR worked closely with other UN agencies, notably UN Women, to continue assisting the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) of Georgia. The Department was created in late 2017 and OHCHR was one of the first international actors to engage with the Department in order to strengthen its capacity and knowledge about international human rights standards. In March 2019, the Minister of Internal Affairs decided to expand the mandate of the Human Rights Department beyond the supervision of investigations into hate crimes, domestic violence and juvenile crimes to include supervision of the quality of the investigation of crimes against life and health. In June, OHCHR organized and facilitated a workshop for the MIA, the Office of the Prosecutor and NGOs on international human standards to assist the MIA Human Rights Department with this new function. The workshop established a common understanding about achievements, gaps, practical challenges and coordination needs. The participants agreed on the operational structure and the methods to be followed by the new Department, as well as a number of guidelines to be developed by OHCHR for the Human Rights Department for investigators and its staff tasked with monitoring the quality of the investigations of crimes against life and health. OHCHR will continue to engage with the Department and monitor its performance in fulfilling its mandate.

OHCHR participated in the initial stages of formulating the CCA for Georgia after attending a workshop on the validation

of the results of the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support mission and a retreat on launching the formulation process. At both events, OHCHR highlighted the human rights situation, recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, existing gaps and other factors that must be taken into account in the CCA.

A1 – The National Human Rights Action Plan in Georgia continues to comply with international human rights standards and is periodically updated to reflect recommendations of international and regional human rights mechanisms. The High School of Justice, the Police Academy and the Legal Affairs Committee in Parliament, as well as the Bar Association and its Training Centre in Georgia, deepen their knowledge of international human rights standards.





The Office contributed to increased compliance of Georgian national institutions with international human rights norms and standards, including with regard to the use of new technologies in the context of the right to privacy and international standards on the prohibition of torture and the right to a fair trial.

OHCHR continued its engagement with several key institutions in **Georgia** to increase their awareness about international human rights standards. During the year, the most significant progress was made in OHCHR's engagement with the MIA and the police academy. In January, OHCHR finalized the development of the human rights module for the police academy. The 180-page module, developed by OHCHR, aims to increase the knowledge of MIA investigators on human rights-related internal and international standards. The module was discussed

with the leadership of the academy and the Head of the Ministry's Human Rights Department. Their mandates to ensure that human rights are respected in investigative processes and in preliminary detention were reinforced in 2018. The module was highly appreciated by the leadership of the police academy which pledged that all 1,100 investigators in the Ministry of Internal Affairs would receive training on the module. It was planned that OHCHR would begin by training the police academy lecturers in a training of trainers and joint trainings would be subsequently delivered to the 1,100 investigators. In March, OHCHR conducted the first training on the use of the module for 23 trainers from the police academy, three of whom were women. The training covered international human rights standards relevant to the investigation of criminal cases in the areas of domestic violence, torture and ill treatment, discrimination and the right to a fair trial. Following the training, the Human Rights Department presented OHCHR with statistics that indicated that the use of the module throughout the training period and during investigations led to improvements in the investigation process. It also reportedly resulted in an increased number of charges laid against suspects in cases of domestic violence and hate-motivated crimes that were often dismissed or classified as lesser crimes in the past. OHCHR conducted two further capacity-building workshops for the Human Rights Department and supplied it with materials on international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued its long-standing efforts to increase the knowledge of defence lawyers regarding international and applicable regional human rights standards. For all members of the Georgian Bar Association, completion of OHCHR's workshops counted towards

fulfilling their mandatory requirements for continuous professional training. In 2019, OHCHR conducted five capacity-building workshops for 86 members of the Bar (31 women, 55 men) to increase their knowledge of international standards on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the right to a fair trial, prohibition of torture and ill-treatment, freedom of religion or belief and combating discrimination. The success of the workshops was evidenced during continuous trial monitoring that was conducted by a respected national NGO. Available data on the cases accepted by the European Court of Human Rights also suggests an improvement in the quality of submissions by Georgian lawyers.

Due to the increased engagement of other international actors with the judiciary, OHCHR was able to begin reducing its training activities on human rights awareness for the judiciary and their assistants/clerks. Nevertheless, OHCHR cooperated with the Council of Europe, USAID, the EU, the High School of Justice (Judicial Academy) and the Supreme Court to co-organize the third annual winter school for judicial assistants. During a week-long school session, a total of 36 participants (26 women, 10 men) improved their knowledge of international human rights standards, especially with regard to freedom of expression and the prohibition of discrimination. The increased knowledge of judges was documented by the Georgian Young Lawyers Association during their ongoing monitoring of trials.

In 2019, OHCHR continued cooperating with the Bar Association in Azerbaijan and providing assistance in building the capacity of newly admitted members of the Bar. On behalf of the UNCT, OHCHR monitored a number of written admission examinations that were organized by the State Examination Commission and the

Bar Association throughout the year. OHCHR provided newly admitted members with the Azerbaijani translation of specific OHCHR publications, including a compilation of key general comments and general recommendations issued by CAT, CEDAW, CESCR, CMW, CRPD and the Human Rights Committee in addition to the most recent concluding observations issued by the human rights treaty bodies. In April, OHCHR cooperated with the management board of the Bar Association, the Office of the Ombudsperson and civil society organizations to organize and deliver a seminar on the "United Nations human rights system and protection mechanism in the administration of justice." Participants included 40 practicing lawyers and newly admitted members. The training raised their awareness about the UN human rights mechanisms, international human rights standards in the administration of justice and the role of civil society and the lawyers' community in protecting human rights. Moreover, OHCHR supported the Bar Association in developing the lawyers' handbook, which provides legal practitioners with guidance on professional responsibilities and an overview of legal resources and information on governmental, legislative and judicial structures, directories of national legal resources and international human rights resources, such as the UN human rights mechanisms, the lawyers' code of ethics and the UN human rights system and its mechanisms.



P4 – In at least one country, persons with disabilities make increasing use of national protection systems.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards by persons with disabilities in **Azerbaijan**.

Within the framework of the project on "Enhancing the capacity of national actors in promoting and effectively protecting human rights," which was supported by the EU delegation to Azerbaijan, OHCHR continued providing free legal assistance services through the legal aid resource centre that was established in 2018. As a result, 403 individuals (181 women, 122 men) representing members of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, low-income populations and victims of gender-based violence, received legal assistance during the year on a broad range of matters. Specific focus was placed on social and economic rights, such as social security rights, property rights, family law and labour rights. The number of applicants in 2019 increased from 355 in 2018 to 403 in 2019.

In addition to legal services rendered in Baku, OHCHR worked closely with the Ombudsperson to organize monthly onsite legal services in the western, northern, north-eastern and south-eastern regions of Azerbaijan, namely, the regions of Ganja, Guba, Jalilabad, Shaki and Tovuz. Out of 403 cases handled by the Resource Centre, 201 cases were handled in the regions. Of the registered applications, 45 per cent related to social security rights, 19 per cent related to family law rights, 14 per cent related

to housing and property rights, 10 per cent related to labour rights, nine per cent related to civil disputes and the rest related to criminal cases.

In 2019, OHCHR continued supporting the legal aid resource centre that facilitated outreach activities, access to national legislative data, international human rights instruments and other human rights-related educational materials for CSOs and members of the lawyers' community. OHCHR hosted 27 onsite capacity-building events, including seminars, round-table talks, trainings and workshops. These trainings brought together 281 participants (165 women, 116 men), compared with 154 participants that received training in 2018. Out of 281 participants trained in 2019, approximately 65 per cent represented CSOs working in areas related to the rule of law, the rights of women and the rights of the child, social work and sustainable development. Approximately 15 per cent of the participants were lawyers and nearly 20 per cent represented social workers, teachers, journalists and youth. The trainings covered a range of topics, such as inclusive education and the rights of persons with disabilities, women's rights and women's empowerment, gender-based violence, the rights of the child, youth participation, human rights advocacy, social work, research and civil society, Sustainable Development Goals, human rights and the environment, international human rights mechanisms and the development of submissions to the international human rights mechanisms. The participants received over 2,000 copies of human rights and educational materials that were available at the legal library of the resource centre. OHCHR translated the materials into the national language and printed the documents for dissemination.



ND7 – Officials, journalists, lawyers, university and high school students increasingly advocate for, and work to create, inclusive and diverse societies.



The Office contributed to increasing the level of engagement of parliamentarians and government officials in supporting the right to freedom of assembly and combating discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In 2019, OHCHR focused on advocacy to increase the protection of the rights of religious minorities as one of the priorities in Georgia. The Office used the meetings of the Parliament's Human Rights Committee on issues of freedom of religion to bring together members of various religious communities, Members of Parliament, government officials, NGOs and OHCHR to advocate for the freedom of religion and highlight the situation of religious minorities. This was the first time that religious minorities were able to express their views and challenges in the Parliament. Ultimately, the meetings failed to find a resolution related to the July 2018 decision of the Constitutional Court that the financial and tax advantages enjoyed by the dominant Georgian Orthodox Church were discriminatory to other religious groups. The Parliament was instructed to either remove the advantages made available to the Orthodox Church or extend them to other religious groups. As of the end of 2019, the Parliament had not changed the legislation, however, the meetings provided an opportunity to challenge the ideas of certain MPs regarding limitations on freedom of speech related to "blasphemy" and publicly highlight difficulties in obtaining building permits for new mosques. OHCHR helped

to clarify a number of questions related to international human rights standards and provided confidence for NGOs and members of minority groups to raise their issues of concern. OHCHR maintained contact with meeting participants, including in relation to the ongoing lawsuit regarding a building permit for a mosque in Georgia's third largest city, Batumi.

At the regional level, OHCHR engaged in discussions about freedom of religion at a conference that was held in Yerevan, Armenia, in May, entitled "Contemporary issues of freedom of religion in Armenia, Georgia and beyond", which was organized by Armenian NGO Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Religious organizations, NGOs and government organizations from Armenia and Georgia, as well as experts from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and international NGOs, took part in the conference. Discussions focused on key policy and legislative challenges and gaps in Armenia and Georgia and ways to address them. OHCHR moderated a session on "Global challenges in the field of freedom of religious belief and the situation in Armenia and Georgia." The conference provided an opportunity to demonstrate the international community's interest in freedom of religion and minority issues in the region.

Combating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation was another priority in 2019. OHCHR assisted in the preparation of a meeting of the diplomatic community and representatives of the Government with the Georgian LGBTI community in the UN House, in May, to commemorate International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

Many of the challenges experienced by the LGBTI community, including those identified by the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity during his autumn 2018 country visit to Georgia, were discussed. OHCHR helped to develop common advocacy points in order to call for changes to policy and in the narrative with regard to LGBTI persons, in particular in statements made by politicians to promote the inclusion and implementation of existing anti-discrimination legislation.

In June, OHCHR participated in a meeting convened by the Minister of Internal Affairs, in Georgia, with selected members of the diplomatic community in order to discuss preparations for the first Tbilisi Pride march, which was scheduled to take place later that month. The diplomats insisted on the highest level of police protection for the participants, particularly in the face of threats by conservative and homophobic groups, to fulfil Georgia's international obligations and constitutional provisions on the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, OHCHR participated in a number of subsequent consultations on a possible Tbilisi Pride march, with the participation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the LGBTI community and the diplomatic community. The Pride march was postponed due to unrelated protests that took up much of police resources. Nevertheless, consistent advocacy undertaken by the international community made it clear to authorities that they were responsible for protecting the rights of the LGBTI community to hold peaceful assemblies, despite threats from conservative elements of the society. A small Pride gathering took place in Tbilisi, on 8 July. OHCHR continued to emphasize the rights of LGBTI persons in its discussions with the Government and the Parliament, in particular with regard to strengthening the protection of social and economic rights, such as the right to health, of sexual minorities.

OHCHR'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO CAPACITY-BUILDING BEARS FRUIT IN GEORGIA

OHCHR has been engaged in capacity-building for members of the Georgian Bar Association (GBA) for approximately 10 years. Several times a year, OHCHR offers a short course on international human rights standards and mechanisms, which is one of the courses that satisfies the mandatory requirement of continuing education for GBA members.

In that time, the Office retained contact with many defence lawyers who had taken the course in order to get feedback on how they have used the knowledge they gained. Recently, OHCHR received feedback from two female lawyers who participated in the course in 2017 and 2018, respectively. Both individuals indicated that the course had led to an improvement in their skills and enabled them to better defend the rights of their clients. In addition, they reported that they regularly applied international standards and the case law of the human rights treaty bodies and the European Court of Human Rights in their own cases, which has helped to advance the promotion and protection of human rights in the justice system.

In a powerful example, one of the lawyers noted that she had successfully applied these principles and international standards in a case on the right to housing of a minor. The dispute was related to property that the minor owned, which had been mortgaged to benefit a microfinance organization. The house was forcibly sold at an auction and the new owner demanded the eviction of the minor. The lawyer challenged the validity of the mortgage agreement and indicated that the right to housing had been violated since the mortgage was detrimental to the best interests and because the signatories did not have the right to mortgage the property of a minor.

The judge accepted the arguments and restored the minor's housing rights. The lawyer emphasized that she would not likely have won the case had it not been for the OHCHR course.

As the lawyers concluded, the OHCHR course is making a significant contribution to the development of justice and human rights protection in Georgia.

UKRAINE

Population size ¹ Surface area ¹ 43.99 million 604,000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.750(rank: 88/188 in 2018) Status A, 2014
Type of engagement	Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU)
Year established	2014
Field office(s)	Kyiv; field offices in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kramatorsk, Luhansk, Mariupol and Odesa
UN partnership framework	United Nations Partnership Framework 2018- 2022
Staff as of 31 December 2019	55
Total income	US\$6,706,216
XB requirements 2019	US\$6,735,000
Total XB expenditure Personnel	US\$4,676,440 Non-personnel PSC ¹
76% \$3,543,111	15% 9% \$694,950 \$438,37
Key OMP pillars in 2019	

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 – State institutions hold to account a higher proportion of those who are responsible for grave violations of human rights or humanitarian law.





The Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) contributed to increasing the compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards by advocating for accountability for human rights violations and providing expert legal advice on human rights issues.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the 2014 killings and violent deaths at the Maidan protests and in Odesa, the HRMMU published briefing notes summarizing accountability procedures and shedding light on the lack of progress made to date. It also called for the political will that is needed to address these concerns, hold perpetrators accountable and deliver justice to victims and their families. During 2019, the HRMMU extensively advocated for the investigations of these cases, which coincided with the consideration of amendments to the Law on the State Bureau of Investigations

(SBI) and eventually led to the transfer of the investigative team to SBI, in line with HRMMU's recommendations that the investigations are not interrupted.

During the reporting period, the HRMMU continued to advocate for the proper classification of hate crimes to ensure the accurate reflection of the gravity of such crimes and their impact on victims and the wider community. As a result of these activities, the national police changed its approach in the investigation of hate crimes and began to gather statistics that indicated an increased investigation of relevant cases under hate crimes charges, as compared with 2018.

Following sustained advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU to reduce unlawful pretrial detention in conflict-related criminal cases (prosecutions for crimes against national or public security), including through the submission of amicus curiae to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, the Court declared, in June, that article 176.5 of the Criminal Procedure Code was unconstitutional. Under the article, which was originally adopted in 2015, if there were grounds to impose restrictions against individuals being prosecuted for crimes against national or public security (conflict-related cases), only pretrial detention could be imposed (instead of bail or any other lesser measure). The quasi-automatic application and extension of pretrial detention in conflict-related cases, combined with protracted trials, frequently led to extreme cases of pretrial detention lasting more than four years in violation of the rights of defendants.

As part of its advocacy, the HRMMU supported the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to explore the root causes of violence and discrimination

and consider the impact of social prejudice and the rise of intolerance among extreme right-wing groups in Ukraine. The HRMMU highlighted the issue of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity with local authorities and facilitated contact between security forces and civil society organizations working on these questions, thereby advocating for the protection of human rights defenders and on behalf of the LGBTI community. The HRMMU participated in the global Free & Equal campaign to raise awareness, counter misconceptions and hate narratives and encourage acceptance and inclusion of the LGBTI community, including among police officers. This advocacy, coupled with consistent public reporting, contributed to the successful coordination and sufficient policing of the peaceful assemblies that took place during LGBTI Pride marches in Kyiv (June), Odessa (August) and Kharkiv (September).

The HRMMU also continued to provide expert advice and technical support to relevant stakeholders on the issue of torture and ill-treatment. Specifically, the HRMMU took steps to increase the knowledge of monitors from the National Preventive Mechanism, the State Bureau of Investigation, the Civil-Military Cooperation Unit and civil society regarding the international standards for the treatment of prisoners and the investigation and documentation of torture and their capacity to advocate for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment in places of deprivation of liberty. As a result, the HRMMU noted a decrease in the number of such cases (in conflict-related cases) observed since 2015.



PS3 - State authorities and non-State actors protect and promote the human rights of populations living in territories affected by conflict.





The HRMMU contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation/ policy with international human rights norms and standards on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including the payment of pensions to residents of non-Government-controlled territory, remedies and reparations for civilian victims of the conflict and the facilitated movement of civilians across the contact line.

The HRMMU contributed to significantly enhancing the knowledge of State and civil society actors to address violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. The HRMMU issued four periodic public reports in 2019, containing recommendations on human rights and humanitarian law challenges, including in conflict-affected eastern Ukraine and Crimea. The monitoring and reporting activities of the HRMMU on both sides of the contact line informed decision and policymakers, as well as the Ukrainian population at large, about the human rights situation, including the socio-economic conditions in areas controlled by armed groups and in proximity to the contact line. In addition to the public reports, the HRMMU carried out 1,266 individual follow-up and advocacy interventions with a broad range of national and local key stakeholders, such as the Ministries of Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons, Social Protection, Defence, Justice and Foreign Affairs and the Security Service of Ukraine, the Civil-Military Administration in the conflict-affected areas and armed groups. These interventions were undertaken to support the Government and non-State actors in their work to address human rights violations and improve their understanding of the challenges being faced.

Advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU, combined with awareness-raising through its monitoring and reporting activities, enabled relevant stakeholders to develop informed responses, such as the draft National Strategy for the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, pending approval in 2020, and the Cabinet of Ministers' Resolution on Compensation for Property Destroyed Due to Hostilities that was adopted in July. In August, the Government adopted a resolution regulating the movement of individuals and the transfer of goods across the contact line, taking into account comments and suggestions provided by the HRMMU and its partners. The resolution prescribes the establishment of a list of goods that are prohibited for transfer, replacing the list of goods that were permitted for transfer, and notes that children under 14 years of age will be able to cross the contact line without a passport. Lastly, advocacy undertaken by the HRMMU and partners contributed to the registration of two draft laws in the Parliament. The first relates to the payment of pensions to residents in non-Government-controlled territories and the second relates to the provision of remedies and reparations to civilian victims of the conflict. If adopted, the laws would make a meaningful difference in the well-being of tens of thousands of conflict-affected civilians.

The HRMMU remained the only entity (both national and international) that maintained a comprehensive record of conflict-related civilian casualties in Ukraine throughout the conflict period. Relevant data was disaggregated by sex. age, place of incident, the weapon/type of incident and the entity/ies controlling the place of the incident. The record was used to regularly inform State and non-State actors about the human costs of the conflict. Such awareness-raising, coupled with consistent HRMMU advocacy aimed at the mitigation of civilian casualties, enabled the Mission to focus on life-saving activities in the east of Ukraine, including by providing a wider "protection by presence." The HRMMU was able to reach victims and witnesses of violations, visit remote sites, shelled areas, grey zones, hotspots, checkpoints and vital civilian infrastructures; and record civilian casualties. As a result of HRMMU reporting and advocacy, which were coordinated with complementary efforts by other key actors, such as the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, in 2019, conflict-related civilian casualties were 40 per cent lower than in 2018, and reached their lowest levels for the entire conflict period. Furthermore. project activities, including advocacy related to the provision of remedy and reparations to civilian victims of the conflict, benefited communities located in the active conflict zone (within five kilometres of the 'contact line' of the armed group-controlled area), reaching approximately 400,000 people.

PS3 - State authorities adopt and implement laws and programmes that prevent sexual violence from occurring in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity: they investigate and prosecute cases of sexual violence that occur.



The HRMMU helped to strengthen oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards through the provision of technical assistance and expert legal advice on conflict-related sexual violence.

Throughout 2019, the HRMMU continued to develop joint advocacy initiatives to combat sexual and gender-based violence. This advocacy was based on findings contained in the HRMMU's periodic reports, which provided assessments and recommendations regarding sexual violence in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity, including accountability, respect for fundamental freedoms, women's rights and conflict-related sexual violence. To reinforce its advocacy work, the HRMMU provided technical assistance to military personnel that were scheduled to be deployed to the conflict area as part of a Civil-Military Cooperation Unit and CSOs to address conflict-related sexual violence, including through relevant capacity-building activities.

Moreover, this advocacy, coupled with technical assistance for relevant stakeholders and efforts to build on the findings of its 2017 thematic report on conflict-related sexual violence, enabled the HRMMU, in partnership with other stakeholders, particularly UN Women, to successfully encourage the Government to strengthen its commitment to address all aspects of conflict-related sexual violence. Some of the legal gaps

in the definition of rape and sexual violence, identified in the thematic report, were addressed in amendments to the Criminal Code of Ukraine, which entered into force on 11 January.

PS3 – The UN's early warning systems and strategies in Ukraine integrate and update human rights information and analysis.





The HRMMU advanced the application of human rights-based approaches to the implementation of the UN Partnership Framework (UNPF) and the formulation of the Ukraine Multi-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) by providing technical advice and data that informs on human rights and gender equality in key thematic areas.

To contribute to the integration of human rights into early warning and other UN strategies, the HRMMU continued advising the UNCT on the implementation of the UNPF with Ukraine, with an emphasis on applying UN programming principles related to human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, sustainability, resilience and accountability and the supply of data that highlights human rights and gender equality in specific thematic areas.

The HRMMU co-led Pillar 3 of the UNPF, "democratic governance, rule of law and civic participation," thereby helping to formulate its outcomes and indicators. As part of its own work in this area, the HRMMU issued a thematic public report on civic space and fundamental freedoms ahead of the presidential, parliamentary and local elections in Ukraine in 2019-2020. It also actively participated in Pillar 4, "human security, social cohesion and recovery with a particular focus

on eastern Ukraine," facilitating the coordination of efforts of all UN agencies in Ukraine. The HRMMU worked with the UNCT, the Humanitarian Country Team, the Gender Theme Group, the Protection Cluster and the gender-based violence sub-Cluster platforms to promote its findings and recommendations, thus helping to shape policies in response to human rights violations beyond its own capacity.

In 2019, the HRMMU led the UNCT's Human Rights Working Group. As part of these activities, it coordinated joint UNCT submissions to the CRPD Committee in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues related to its consideration of Ukraine's combined second and third periodic reports. Similarly, a joint UNCT submission, coordinated by the HRMMU. was sent to the Human Rights Committee in anticipation of its preparation of the list of issues prior to its consideration of Ukraine's eighth periodic report. Finally, the UNCT filed a joint submission to supplement Ukraine's follow-up report to the concluding observations issued by CEDAW. In coordinating these submissions, the HRMMU promoted a unified UNCT approach and ensured that the major human rights issues affecting Ukraine were brought to the attention of the UN human rights mechanisms.

The HRMMU contributed to the renewal of the joint UN Social Cohesion Campaign by updating two of four briefing notes (on payment of pension and birth registration) and providing comments in relation to the other two (on freedom of movement and the inclusion of internally displaced persons). Furthermore, as part of the humanitarian agenda, the HRMMU analysis strongly supported the development of joint rapid response actions to address the disruption of basic services in conflict-affected areas, together with IOM, OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO. The HRMMU also helped to shape and

provide key data on the conflict-affected areas for the HRP 2019-2020, which was adopted in January.

During 2019, the HRMMU reports were quoted by the European Court of Human Rights, the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, as well as by the OSCE Election Observation Mission. The consistent and detailed documentation of civilian casualties and reported human rights violations served multiple purposes, including early warning and support for conflict resolution activities at a high level in the peace processes (the Trilateral Contact Group on Ukraine in Minsk and the Normandy Four) and in the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna. the Security Council and the Human Rights Council. It also served to inform and influence the design of humanitarian and development responses by both national and international stakeholders.



M1 – The Government of Ukraine implements recommendations by the human rights mechanisms that affirm international human rights principles, standards and best practices.



The HRMMU supported the review and strengthening of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) as a national mechanism for integrated reporting and the implementation of outstanding recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms by conducting a technical review and providing concrete recommendations.

In 2019, the HRMMU continued advocating for the revision of the NHRAP, which is due to expire at the end of 2020. As a result, the HRMMU provided advocacy interventions to build the capacity of new human rights counterparts in the Government, which took over the respective national institutions and ministries following the 2019 presidential and parliamentary elections.

As a result of consistent advocacy to facilitate the implementation of international human rights principles, standards and recommendations, the Government took steps to integrate human rights recommendations into its policies and laws. For example, while reaffirming the general rule that any document issued in the armed group-controlled areas is null and void, an exception has been made, since 2019, for birth- and death-related documents that "shall be attached to the applications for registration of birth or death," as outlined in the Law "On particular aspects of public policy aimed at safeguarding the sovereignty of Ukraine over the temporarily occupied territory of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine." After the HRMMU's analysis and advocacy was shared, the final version of the Law "On ensuring the functioning of Ukrainian as the State language," was amended between the first reading in October 2018 and second reading in April 2019. It now reflects a more balanced approach, particularly with respect to language proficiency requirements for running for public office and in relation to linguistic requirements in the electoral process, the media and commercial spheres. While the Law ensures the availability of adequate educational opportunities, such as preparatory language training programmes, it does not fully provide sufficient quarantees for the protection and use of minority languages.

Following a 2018 request for assistance from the Ministry of Justice to implement the newly designed methodology for the monitoring and evaluation of the 2015-2020 NHRAP, OHCHR provided technical advice to the Ministry to support its implementation. The HRMMU also coordinated joint UN efforts and prepared plans for further engagement in relation to the development of Ukraine's next NHRAP.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



TYPE OF PRESENCE

LOCATION



State of Palestine***, Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut, Lebanon), Tunisia, Yemen

Regional Offices/Centres

Middle East and North Africa (Beirut, Lebanon), UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)

Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions

Iraq (UNAMI), Libya (UNSMIL)

8

Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG

Jordan

Other types of field presences

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

LEGEND:

Spotlights:







Shifts:















SDGs:

































^{***} Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

The work of OHCHR in the Middle East and North Africa region covered 19 countries. The Office supported two regional offices/centres, the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) and the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region; four country offices (State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen): one Human Rights Adviser (HRA) in the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Jordan; two human rights components in UN Peace Missions in Iraq and Libva: and a project presence to build national capacity in human rights-related fields in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Office provided support to two special procedures country mandates, namely, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967 and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. It also served as the Secretariat to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, mandated by the General Assembly.

During 2019, human rights abuses and violations and breaches of international humanitarian law continued to be reported in a number of States in the region within the context of violence and armed conflicts, including mounting civilian casualties, damage to civilian infrastructure and large-scale displacements. Concerns regarding the administration of justice remained a key issue in some States in the region in light of multiple reports of arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and trials, which do not meet the standards for a fair trial. The death penalty was applied in a

number of States, including for juvenile offenders. Restrictions on the freedoms of opinion, expression, religion or belief, assembly and association continued to have a negative impact on civic and digital space and generated serious concern, particularly in relation to protests that took place in 2019 in a number of States.

Discrimination in law and in practice continued to be reported against women and groups in vulnerable situations, including people on the move, ethnic and religious minorities and the LGBTI community. Concerns also persisted in relation to incidents of incitement to hatred and violence. Restrictions on economic, social, and cultural rights were also documented in the context of access to social services, education and employment leading to the marginalization of women, youth and minority communities across the region.

During the course of the year, OHCHR field presences supported regional governments, civil society organizations, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other actors to prevent violations and strengthen the protection of human rights. To this end, the Office continued to monitor, publicly report and ensure strategic advocacy on the human rights situation, in parallel with increased engagement, technical cooperation and capacity-building with States. In this regard, the Office called for the promotion of human rights and the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict, including through the preparation of reports and briefings to the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council.

In the context of encouraging increased engagement with and providing capacity-building support to key partners, the Office organized four study visits that were attended by more than 50 government representatives from over 15 States from the Middle East and North Africa, as well as civil society and NHRIs. The study visits sought to increase their understanding of and engagement with the human rights mechanisms and the work of OHCHR. The Office also provided grants to 10 NGOs working on projects that reach a total of 13,000 rights-holders in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, oPt. Tunisia and Yemen. These projects contributed to achieving the priorities set out in the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP), such as raising awareness about gender equality in classrooms, promoting the participation of persons with disabilities in local, regional and national political life and advocating for the rights of minorities, preventing violent extremism and promoting peacebuilding based on respect for human rights, raising awareness about the linkages between the realization of human rights and the protection of the environment, improving the reintegration of former women detainees and building the capacity of journalists to report on international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with the Police Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPO), OHCHR undertook an initial human rights training for the peacekeeping training center of the Public Security Directorate in Jordan.

Dialogue and engagement with new and existing partners continued in 2019. Examples include supporting a training for 60 lawyers in Morocco, organizing a multi-stakeholder dialogue on business and human rights in the MENA region, supporting workshops for women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in Morocco, organizing an expert workshop for faith actors on human rights education, as well as a regional workshop on civic space and hate speech in social media, in Tunis,

and coordinating a project on the protection of religious minorities in the region (see textbox on the "Faith for Rights" framework on p. 47).

Further engagement with regional organizations was undertaken. MENA partnered with the League of Arab States (LAS), including by supporting a workshop that was organized by the Doha Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region for 45 officials of the LAS, in Cairo, on engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

With the aim of facilitating region-wide dialogue and engagement, MENA co-organized an international conference on national, regional and international mechanisms to combat impunity and ensure accountability under international law, in Doha, in April, with the Qatari National Human Rights Committee, the European Parliament and the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI). The conference brought together more than 200 governmental and non-governmental organizations and international experts to discuss mechanisms that could be used to combat impunity for gross violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and ensure accountability. Recommendations focused on the need to have a victim-centred approach in all processes related to ensuring accountability, including access to information and adequate dissemination of this information at the national and international levels.

In April, a one-day retreat was organized with the High Commissioner and Arab Group Ambassadors, in Geneva, in order to discuss human rights issues, challenges and opportunities

for engagement. During her visit to Tunisia, in June, the High Commissioner delivered keynote speeches at the RightsCon Summit on the need to keep digital spaces open, inclusive, safe and just and at an event to commemorate the 1857 Fundamental Covenant "Ahd El Aman" and the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Prior to the High Commissioner's visit, the Office and Access Now co-facilitated an interactive session with the UNCT to raise awareness about the issue of human rights in the digital space and the relevance of taking part in RightsCon. The Office briefed the UNCT on the UN's global contribution to RightsCon and facilitated its access to the Conference. Following the Conference, Access Now held regular briefings for OHCHR, the Resident Coordinator (RC) and representatives of the international community in Tunisia on internet governance and human rights in the country. Moreover, the Office supported a visit of the Deputy High Commissioner to Iran to promote enhanced engagement with relevant institutions, including the judiciary and relevant government ministries in order to bring an end to executions of child offenders. These efforts were strengthened through advocacy initiatives and public reporting, including two Secretary-General reports on the situation of human rights in Iran.

IRAQ: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR IRAQ (UNAMI)

Population size ¹ 39.31 million		Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.689 (rank: 120/188 in 2018) Status B, 2015
Type of engagen	nent	Peace Mission
Year established	I	2004
Field office(s)		Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul
UN partnership f	ramework	n/a
Staff as of 31 Dec	cember 2019	44

XB requirements 2019 US\$494.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019









123 Please refer to data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P1 - Iraq citizens have full and equal access to basic services, including clean water, electricity, healthcare, housing, and education. The rights of freedom of expression and freedom of assembly are fully respected and protected in law and policy. The role of journalists and media professionals is respected and protected by law and policy, and they are protected from threats, intimidation or violence when they carry out their professional duties. Parliamentary and democratic procedures are consultative and participatory, notably with respect to women, youth, ethnic and religious minorities, persons with disabilities, and LGBTI persons.



The Office contributed to increasing the protection space related to freedom of

expression and freedom of peaceful assembly, minority rights and the right to life by documenting and publicly reporting on human rights violations.

As part of its efforts to preserve civic space and protect civil society, including human rights defenders (HRDs), journalists and media outlets, the Human Rights Office (HRO) of UNAMI engaged in extensive monitoring, documenting and reporting of serious human rights violations, particularly regarding the abovementioned rights and freedoms.

Widespread demonstrations started in central and southern Iraq on 1 October. From 1 October to 31 December, the HRO documented at least 436 deaths and 8,761 injuries, including among members of the Iraqi security forces. The injuries include those who were injured by live ammunition, rubber bullets, tear gas

canisters, shrapnel or any projectiles in attacks that were recorded by the HRO. This does not, however, include the thousands of demonstrators who received 'on the spot' medical treatment for tear gas inhalation and those with minor injuries. The numbers, primarily of persons treated for excessive tear gas inhalation, are estimated to have reached 19.000 by the end of 2019. The deaths and injuries were caused by the excessive use of force by security forces, which included live ammunition to disperse demonstrators, the inappropriate use of less lethal means, such as tear gas, and deliberate shootings by armed elements. There were also circumstances of less lethal means that were used appropriately, including as crowd control and self-defence by security forces who were attacked by demonstrators with Molotov cocktails and rocks. During the first wave of demonstrations, unidentified gunmen (who were believed to be politically-affiliated armed groups) targeted peaceful demonstrators in multiple locations, with no effective intervention by State security forces.

The HRO issued three special public reports confirming human rights violations and abuses, including of the rights to life, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. In addition, the HRO's engagement with the special procedures led to the issuance of two urgent appeals that in turn resulted in the release of two civil society activists. The activists had been allegedly abducted by the Government of Iraq and militias in the context of demonstrations. In 2019, the HRO provided information to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED), resulting in 10 urgent actions that were issued by the Committee. The HRO's monitoring, public reporting and advocacy activities were supplemented by respective statements issued by OHCHR and UN human

rights experts, in October, which may have resulted in a reduction in the use of live ammunition by Iragi security forces, in Baghdad, from late October onwards. Moreover, Internet access was restored and criminal charges that were brought against demonstrators, which carried a mandatory death sentence under the Federal Anti-Terrorism Law, were instead brought under the Criminal Code.

Over the course of the year, the HRO continued to promote and protect the human rights of minorities. In support of the Government's efforts to implement the recommendations that were issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), in January, the HRO organized 12 round-tables, between March and August, to address various issues facing minority communities. The round-tables brought together government officials, the Independent High Commission for Human Rights, NGOs and representatives of minority communities across the country.

As a result of the HRO's advocacy and engagement initiatives and a commitment to implementing the concluding observations issued by CERD in November 2018, the Government issued a directive to issue identification cards for members of the Roma community in Iraq. The issuance of these unified identification cards, which began in March, marks the end of decades of discrimination against the Roma community in Iraq and grants them equal access to the rights to education, health and other basic services. Additionally, in August, the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers established a seven-member committee that is mandated to establish plans and policies to remove the negative effects on the Faili Kurds (who were stripped of their citizenship in the early 1980s by the Ba'athist regime) and guarantee that their rights are reinstated, including

through compensation for the properties they lost, the review of all cases and complaints related to their claims and finding suitable solutions. The recommendations proposed by the committee include: (1) the review of laws and policies that negatively affect Faili Kurds; (2) the appointment of the Faili Kurds in ministries and other governmental entities; and (3) rebuilding and developing the conflict-affected areas of the Faili Kurds. The Ministry of the Interior will facilitate the re-instatement of their citizenship.

Accountability (A)

A3 – Women and children who are the victims of SGBV/CSRV or honour crimes (including women from Irag's ethnic and religious minority communities) have access to justice and appropriate support services.



To promote accountability and judicial and legal reform, the HRO significantly increased its engagement with the High Judicial Council on fair trial standards. The HRO monitored 794 investigative and trial hearings in criminal courts, including juvenile courts, across Iraq, focusing primarily on trials of those charged under Irag's counter-terrorism laws. Continued concerns about violations of fair trial standards include over-reliance on confessions often obtained under duress, the fairness of hearings, ineffective legal representation, a lack of adequate time and facilities to prepare cases and excessive numbers of death or lifelong imprisonment sentences in terrorism cases.

In 2019, the HRO closely collaborated with the Ministry of Justice, including by establishing a systematic detention monitoring programme that included 49

visits to places of detention across Iraq since mid-2019. The programme aims to support the Government's efforts to strengthen the protection of the rights of persons in detention and identify avenues to effectively prevent torture and ill-treatment.

The HRO provided technical expertise to ensure the increased compliance of the draft Yazidi Survivors Law, which calls for conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) crimes committed against Yazidi women and girls to be considered as genocide and for the perpetrators to be held accountable. The draft also outlines the payment of reparations and calls for 3 August to be recognized as a national day of remembrance.

Furthermore, the draft addresses the issue of children born of sexual violence. While this is a welcome development and a clear indication of the Government's commitment to seeking accountability for the atrocities committed against the Yazidi community, the draft fails to mention survivors of CRSV from other communities and does not extend to boys or men. Finally, the draft's definition of sexual violence does not cover the full range of CRSV crimes, such as forced marriage and sexual slavery.

On 7 April, the Iraqi Presidency submitted the draft to the Council of Representatives of the Iraqi Parliament for review and adoption. The draft had the first reading on 2 July and it is currently pending in Parliament.

The HRO strengthened the documentation of CRSV cases, particularly in North-Central Iraq, in order to improve victims' access to justice and support services. The HRO documented past CRSV cases from January to November, particularly in the North-Central region. The reported incidents included 13 incidents that took place in 2015, three in 2016 and five in 2019. Most of the survivors are internally displaced persons (IDPs) residing in camps located in the Kirkuk Governorate.

To promote the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and CRSV. the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) and the Monitoring Analysis Reporting Arrangements (MARA) Working Group signed an addendum on informationsharing, in October, which retroactively came into effect on 1 January. The purpose of the addendum is to provide guidelines on the sharing of information between the GBVIMS and the MARA Working Group regarding incidents of CRSV. The addendum complies with the 2015 Provisional Guidance Note on intersections between the GBVIMS and MARA.



ND3 – The Law on domestic violence and other relevant laws and policies protect and provide care for women and children who are victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. The Government holds to account those responsible for SGBV and CRSV.



The HRO contributed to the increased compliance with international standards on the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) of the draft Anti-Domestic Violence Law and other legislation by providing technical expertise and facilitating dialogue between relevant stakeholders.

The draft law, however, remains pending and has two competing versions. One version was submitted to the Council of Representatives by the President's

Office, in September, while the other from the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers is awaiting submission to the same body. During the review of the second version by the Shura Council, at the end of 2019, the HRO supported consultations with civil society, women's organizations, government and relevant UN partners to ensure that the views of all relevant stakeholders were included. The HRO also provided technical expertise to the High Judicial Council during the review of the draft. With support from other UN partners, the HRO and OHCHR-MENA co-facilitated a technical workshop in Beirut, in September, with members of the Council of State to ensure that the draft conforms to the Iragi Constitution and international human rights standards and norms to protect victims of domestic violence and those at risk. This enabled the inclusion of provisions that relate to safe shelters, protection orders, restrictions on the entry of perpetrators into the family home and the prosecution of perpetrators.

In September 2016, the Government and the UN signed a Joint Communique on the Prevention and Response to CRSV (the Joint Communique), which is a framework through which the UN can help strengthen the Government's capacity to address CRSV. As part of the implementation of the Joint Communique, the HRO facilitated a two-day workshop for representatives from NGOs in Kirkuk City, on 29 April, which focused on their role in furthering the implementation of the Joint Communique. A total of 15 participants (11 women, four men) attended the event. Over two days, the participants engaged in interactive discussions about the challenges facing survivors of sexual violence in conflict, including the difficulties they encounter in reintegrating into society.

In 2019, the Gender-Based Violence Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Prevention and Response, which were endorsed in 2018 by the Government, with the UN's support, continued to be rolled out across Irag, including in the Kurdistan region. The aim of the GBV SOPs is to strengthen the Government's capacity to address GBV issues in a manner that complies with international good practices. At the federal level, the initial roll-out took place under the leadership of the Women Empowerment Department, together with related ministries and the GBV Sub-Cluster. The document serves as a reference for quiding principles, referral mechanisms and the roles and responsibilities for each sector in preventing and responding to GBV. The HRO engaged with UN partners, including the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to organize a series of training workshops on GBV prevention and response for uniformed and armed actors across Iraq.

ND7 – Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of ethnic and religious minority communities through awareness-raising and research initiatives.

In 2019, the HRO continued implementing a two-part project aimed at promoting protection for the human rights of religious minorities, with a particular focus on prevention through non-discrimination.

Between March and August, the HRO organized a 3By3 Film Festival on Minorities and Human Rights to support

efforts for ending discrimination. A total of 36 short film festival events were held in 17 of the 19 governorates and were attended by 4,158 Iraqis (https://www. voutube.com/watch?v=IHRVJNYTINQ). Social media and television coverage ensured that the event reached thousands more. The film festival events played a critical role in facilitating discussions, promoting the rights of minorities and supporting measures to end discrimination against minorities. Furthermore, the 3By3 events empowered Iraqi writers, filmmakers, directors and actors to showcase their talents by drawing attention to challenges faced by religious minorities and raising awareness about human rights issues.

The HRO conducted research that highlighted the situation of the Sunni Arab community, which was subject to the ISIL occupation. The research focused on access to education by adolescents and documented the experiences of persons who had lived in territories formerly controlled under ISIL, and are perceived to be affiliated with ISIL. Following the research, the HRO published one report, The right to education in Iraq, Part One: The legacy of ISIL territorial control on access to education, which was released in February 2020. The report serves as an advocacy tool to find practical solutions for the identified challenges by first, ensuring that all children have access to civil documentation necessary for formal school enrolment and second, by providing quality education.

Also, in September, the HRO produced a comprehensive review of the Bill on Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance that was first tabled at the Council of Representatives (Iragi Parliament) in June. It was shared with a wide range of legislative bodies and officials, including the Speaker, the Parliamentary Human Rights

Committee, the Ministry of Justice and the Secretariat to the Council of Ministers to promote its compliance with the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICPPED).



Peace and Security (PS)

PS1 – Civilians are protected to the greatest extent possible from the effects of armed conflict. They can leave areas affected by conflict in safety and dignity, they can return to their homes in full compliance with humanitarian principles (voluntarily, and in dignity and security when it is safe to do so), and they can access basic humanitarian assistance at all times.





The policies of the Government and the Iragi security forces that combat terrorism, armed violence and conflict fully respect and protect human rights at all times and in all circumstances and comply with international humanitarian law standards.

The Office contributed to monitoring and reporting on violations of human rights by producing and disseminating relevant information on these violations and abuses in order to inform the responses of key stakeholders.

The HRO continued to monitor the impact of security-related incidents causing harm to civilians and other protection concerns caused by the actions of armed groups or pro-Government militias in Iraq. In 2019, the HRO documented 754 security-related incidents that resulted in 907 civilian casualties (341 deaths, including 39 children and 14 women, and 566 injuries, including 65 children and 21 women), representing a 39 per cent decrease compared to the same period in 2018.

The HRO also engaged with the Iragi High Commission for Human Rights and government institutions to promote accountability for enforced disappearances, one of the most pressing human rights issues in Irag, and to secure reparations for the families of victims. In addition, the HRO initiated a pilot monitoring project in the Anbar governorate, which focused on documenting the extent of enforced disappearances. Based on its monitoring, the HRO prepared an internal report about enforced disappearances by pro-Government forces in the Anbar governorate, which was completed in September. The report aims to promote accountability for alleged enforced disappearances in Iraq, the provision of reparations to victims and the adoption of a comprehensive and institutional approach to address past disappearances and prevent their recurrence in the future. The HRO has now extended its monitoring to the Mosul, Sallah Al Din, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates where high numbers of enforced disappearances took place during the campaign to recapture territory from ISIL.

As part of its efforts to enhance engagement between the international human rights mechanisms and the Government, the HRO interacted with CED and the Secretariat of the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances, in October, to promote accountability for enforced disappearances and support measures to determine the fate of those disappeared. This engagement helped to enhance communications with the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures mandate holders, resulting in the timely submission of petitions related to enforced disappearances and the transmission of at least 10 urgent appeals from the Committee to the Government, including in the context of demonstrations in Iraq that began in early October. Subsequently, six of the disappeared persons who were the subject of urgent actions were located. One of the individuals was found in detention and the other five were released. While the Government has yet to investigate the circumstances of the abductions and disappearances, available information suggests that the alleged perpetrators in the majority of cases were armed men described as militia



M1 – Iraq develops a plan to implement the recommendations of treaty bodies and UPR recommendations that it accepts. By the next reporting deadline, Iraq is implementing all Treaty Body and accepted UPR recommendations.



The HRO continued building the capacity of the Iraqi Parliamentary Human Rights Committee, other relevant government entities and CSOs to ensure their increased engagement and compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, HRO organized 13 capacity-building sessions with at least 230 participants representing CSOs, networks and HRDs in the Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul, Najaf, Ninewa, Sulaymaniya governorates. The sessions increased the engagement of the participants with the international human rights mechanisms with a focus on drafting stakeholder reports for the human rights treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In September, the HRO collaborated with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Foundation to organize a UPR pre-session dialogue, in Baghdad. The event, which was attended by 26 CSOs, provided an opportunity for dialogue with representatives of 12 UN Member States on critical human rights issues in Iraq. It also facilitated the formulation of specific and targeted recommendations in advance of Iraq's third UPR cycle.

Finally, in September, the HRO organized a technical workshop with Kurdistan regional members of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee and other parliamentary committees, in Erbil. The workshop strengthened the capacity of the Committee to engage with the human rights treaty bodies and special procedures with the objective of improving the implementation of the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Iraq.

LIBYA: UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN LIBYA (UNSMIL)

Population size ¹ 6.78 million		Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.708 (rank: 111/188 in 2018) Status B, 2014
Type of engagen	nent	United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)
Year established	I	2011
Field office(s)		Tripoli and Tunis, Tunisia
UN partnership 1	framework	UN Strategic Framework 2019-2020
Staff as of 31 Dec	cember 2019	13

XB requirements 2019 US\$ 390.000

Key OMP pillars in 2019







123 Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Peace and Security (PS)

PS6 - The Human Rights Due Diligence Policy is used to conduct risk assessments of all the main national security forces (as well as non-State actors and de facto authorities where applicable). The UN provides support and appropriate mitigation measures are adopted and acted on.



The UNSMIL Human Rights, Rule of Law and Transitional Justice Service (HRS) continued to monitor the impact of the armed conflict on civilians, with at least 287 civilians killed and at least 369 others who were injured in the last year alone. Airstrikes accounted for 60 per cent of those casualties.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced integration of international human rights norms and standards into the work of UNSMIL by providing technical expertise

on the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on UN support to non-United Nations security forces and approved mitigation measures related to the Libyan Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration and the Libyan Coast Guard.

In 2019, the Human Rights Service continued implementing the HRDDP by providing advice and assistance to Libyan security forces in order to mitigate identified risks of grave violations of international humanitarian law, international human rights law or international refugee law by non-United Nations security forces that received United Nations support.

Within the framework of the UNSMIL-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Joint Programme's support to the Ministries of Justice and of the Interior. the UNSMIL HRS provided technical

assistance to the judicial police to organize a training for 14 police trainers, in March. The objective of the training was to review the latest curricula for new recruits to ensure their relevance and practicality.

In relation to United Nations support to the Libyan Coast Guard and the Libyan Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration, the Libyan Task Force on HRDDP endeavoured to review relevant risk assessments and related mitigation measures, particularly in light of ongoing reports of grave violations and abuses of the human rights of migrants and refugees.

In this regard, under the auspices of the Task Force on HRDDP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) initiated a risk assessment, in November, in accordance with the HRDDP, on a planned project that seeks to dismantle criminal networks in Libya that are involved in migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, including by building the capacity of non-UN security forces to undertake this work.



Participation (P)

P1 - National and international stakeholders strengthen their networking and coordination. Civil society organizations provide assistance, including legal aid, to human rights defenders and victims of torture and other violations.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the participation of rights-holders, especially women and members of discriminated groups, in selected public processes. This was achieved by building networks and alliances to extend human rights promotion and protection and advocating for changes to relevant legislation.

In April, UNSMIL organized a consultative meeting, in Tripoli, bringing together 30 human rights activists and civil society actors to discuss ways to address key protection concerns affecting them in Libya. The discussions focused on proposed revisions to the legal framework concerning CSOs and the development of a protection strategy in response.

UNSMIL advocated with authorities regarding the Regulations of the Presidential Council on the Civil Society Commission, issued in March, to express its concerns about burdensome registration and notification requirements. This includes the requirement to have all documents inspected by the Commission and its extensive powers to maintain stringent controls over foreign funding. which may result in the cancellation of the registration and work permits of foreign civil society organizations on seven broad grounds. All of these provisions are inconsistent with Libya's international human rights obligations on freedom of association.

Accountability (A)

A1 – Detention centres operate legally and under the control of the State. Trained judicial police officers and procedures are in place to prevent torture and ensure that individuals who are unlawfully detained are released.



The HRS contributed to advancing oversight and accountability for unlawful and arbitrary detention by advocating for the implementation of the recommendations in its report on detention and providing training on international norms and standards.

UNSMIL AND OHCHR TRAIN LIBYAN WOMEN ACTIVISTS ON THE INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW¹

In collaboration with OHCHR, UNSMIL completed a three-day training on the integration of gender into the UPR process. The training targeted 15 geographically diverse women activists working on issues related to gender equality, combating gender-based violence and promoting human rights. It aimed to maximize knowledge among participants about undertaking gender-sensitive analyses, monitoring and formulating tailor-made and action-oriented recommendations to address gender-related human rights violations. On the last day, participants conceptualized a robust advocacy and outreach campaign strategy to build momentum for the upcoming UPR cycle review of Libya's human rights record, which is scheduled for May 2020.

Libya's third UPR cycle represents a key opportunity for the Government to provide a frank assessment of the human rights situation and challenges it faces and the steps it has taken since 2015 to address these challenges. Civil society organizations, human rights and women's rights defenders play an essential role in standing up for human rights and gender equality, including monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the commitments made by the Government at the previous UPR cycle and Libya's international human rights law obligations.

Dr. Saliha Sdaga, a law professor at the University of Omar Almukhtar, Albayda, noted that "despite my extensive knowledge in human rights mechanisms, this training delivered crucial information and provided participants with tools on how to amplify engagement and the use of international human rights mechanisms to promote human rights and gender equality."

Libya's recent election to the Human Rights Council creates an additional responsibility on the State of Libya to uphold human rights standards.

¹This article was published on the UNSMIL website at https://unsmil.unmissions.org/unsmil-and-ohchr-train-libyan-women-activists-integration-gender-perspective-universal-periodic in December 2019.

In 2019, UNSMIL continued to provide advice to and advocate with the Government of National Accord, the judicial police and armed groups on how to improve the judicial process, including by ending arbitrary detention, transferring detainees from unlawful places of detention to official prisons, ensuring due process rights and granting human rights monitors unimpeded access to places of detention.

In particular, UNSMIL and UNDP expanded their tripartite cooperation with Libya to support the prison reform efforts of the Ministry of Justice and the judicial police. In August, the Ministry of Justice reopened the Derna and Ain Zara A prisons, with a view to addressing overcrowding, and established a new prison in Mellitah, Tripoli. The Ministry also established a clinic in the Al-Jdaida prison to improve the healthcare conditions for prisoners.

Finally, under the Mechanisms pillar, UNSMIL collaborated with OHCHR to organize two separate workshops on the UPR process for civil society representatives and government officials from the Ministries of the Interior, Justice and Foreign Affairs.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office	
Countries of engagement	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwa Morocco, Oman, Kingdom of S United Arab Emirates	
Year established	2002	
Field office(s)	Beirut	
UN partnership framework	n/a	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	33	
Total income	US\$1.908.319	
Total income XB requirements 2019	U\$\$1,908,319 U\$\$4,377,000	
XB requirements 2019	US\$4,377,000	nel PSC†
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 70%	U\$\$4,377,000 U\$\$2,347,588 Non-person	11%
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel	U\$\$4,377,000 U\$\$2,347,588	
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 70%	U\$\$4,377,000 U\$\$2,347,588 Non-person	11%
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 70% \$1,654,262	U\$\$4,377,000 U\$\$2,347,588 Non-person 18% \$424,530	11%
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure Personnel 70% \$1,654,262 Total RB expenditure	U\$\$4,377,000 U\$\$2,347,588 Non-person 18% \$424,530	11%

† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:

Key OMP pillars in 2019



Participation (P)

P1 – National and international stakeholders strengthen their networking and coordination. Civil society organizations provide assistance, including legal aid, to human rights defenders and victims of torture and other violations.



The Office contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation and policies with international human rights norms and standards related to the protection of civic space.

In March, the Office collaborated with the Maharat Foundation to organize a round-table on "Renewing adherence to international standards of the right to freedom of opinion, expression and the press." The event brought together parliamentarians, academics, media professionals and civil society representatives and was covered by 16 national media outlets. It concluded with a set of recommendations that were outlined in the "Beirut Affirmation," which has proven to be a useful advocacy tool

for OHCHR and other actors seeking to strengthen the rights to freedom of opinion, expression and the press.

On the occasion of International Youth Day, the Office organized a seminar on "Political participation and decision-making" at the UN House. Participants included 110 university students from across Lebanon. The seminar encouraged students to engage in a dialogue about how to interact with the international human rights mechanisms and provided a safe space for them to build a youth network for future partnerships and cooperation. They also had an opportunity to interact with the youngest Member of Parliament.

During the reporting period, the Office cooperated with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to produce a study examining women's presence in judicial institutions in Arab countries. The study's regional analysis was complemented by case studies that were conducted in five countries with a comparatively high ratio of women in the judiciary (Jordan, Lebanon, the State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia). The study establishes a base line for women's presence in the judiciary and will be a useful advocacy tool for increasing the number of women judges in order to develop strong, independent, accessible and gender-sensitive judicial institutions and, more broadly, to help achieve gender justice within society.

P4 – Further strengthened network of Women Human Rights Defenders in the region who have increased their capacity to address areas of concern and to participate.



The Office continued to build the capacity of a network of WHRDs from the Arab region to increase women's participation in human rights defence and engagement with international human rights mechanisms.

In October, the Office and the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), in Morocco, co-organized a workshop entitled "Towards legal protection for the safety and protection of women's human rights defenders." For several years, OHCHR and the Doha Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region worked closely with a group of 40 WHRDs from the Arab region to build their capacity to engage with the international human rights mechanisms. This work resulted in the 2019 establishment of the Regional Network for Women Human Rights Defenders. This year's workshop included a group of female and male lawyers who were encouraged to collaborate with the WHRDs and use the international human rights complaint systems. The WHRDs were also introduced to two human rights activists who use art as a means to communicate messages about women's rights.



ND3 – At least two Governments enhance legal and policy frameworks that address gender-based violence (GBV) and promote women and girls' autonomy and choice. They eliminate legal provisions that discriminate against women in matters of inheritance, nationality, employment, and access to credit, legal standing or other matters.



Throughout the year, OHCHR undertook advocacy efforts related to women's rights that were founded on a human rights-based approach (HRBA), launched capacity-building initiatives for authorities and activities to address legislative gaps and revised legislation that promoted SGBV and discriminated against women.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Office launched a campaign entitled "Giving my nationality to my spouse, daughter and son is my right." The campaign, which lasted for the month of March, focused on inequalities between women's and men's nationality rights in the region. The campaign was promoted through visual materials, such as posters and videos, that were published on the ROMENA website and its social media platforms, and during an interview with the regional representative of one of the leading TV stations in the Middle East. The campaign was supported by civil society and resulted in two reform proposals that were presented to the Lebanese Parliament.

In **Morocco**, the ROMENA Regional Gender Adviser collaborated with the NCHR and the Presidency of the Public Prosecution, in Rabat, to organize a workshop entitled "Law on combating violence against women in Morocco:

Between reality and prospects." The workshop sought to strengthen the legal protection of women who are victims of violence in Morocco. To this end. several topics were discussed, including the effective implementation of Law No. 103.13 on violence against women in Morocco, the importance of strengthening measures to prevent violence against women in the public and private spheres. the extent to which this Law can be used to combat violence against women and its compatibility with international standards. Participants also learned which international standards relate to combating violence against women.

Furthermore, in anticipation of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (on 25 November), the Office participated in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. OHCHR collaborated with UN partners to develop regional and country-specific public messages to address this year's theme of "Orange the world: Generation equality stands against rape!" Social media platforms were used to 'boost' some of these messages. One of these messages, which addressed constitutional provisions that criminalize violence against women (VAW) in Egypt and Tunis, reached more than 70,000 people and resulted in 4,000 engagements. It also triggered discussions on related laws and procedures that could be put in place to help end VAW. The entire campaign reached more than 1.4 million individuals and created thousands of engagements.

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices combat discrimination more effectively, particularly discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants, and women. Authorities in at least three countries work actively to "leave no one behind", addressing the root causes of inequality, and linking implementation of the SDG agenda with human rights.

5 10 16 A

Two governments in the subregion promote and defend freedom of religion and religious diversity among ethnic minorities, in accordance with articles 5 and 6 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

The Office initiated a comprehensive study of the standards and practices across the region to identify the root causes of discrimination and inequalities faced by various ethnic and religious groups. The study also seeks to address gaps in their protection, participation and access to rights.

In September, the Office began another study to provide a legal and sociocultural mapping and analysis of the current situation of ethnic and religious groups in the Middle East and North Africa. It specifically applies a gender lens to identify forms of intersectional discrimination and inequalities faced by women and girls belonging to ethnic and religious groups in accessing their rights and participating in society. The study contains an assessment of constitutional and legislative provisions on the protection of ethnic and religious groups and an analysis of the practices and jurisprudence of domestic courts in ensuring adherence with international human rights standards. The study will include recommendations for amendments of existing national laws, policies and practices to ensure the protection of ethnic and religious groups. The findings and recommendations of the study are expected to be finalized and launched in 2020.

ND6 – Three countries take steps to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW). Member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) take steps to abolish the Kafala (sponsorship) system.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11 13 16 %

OHCHR supported selected State institutions and programmes to significantly improve their compliance with international human rights norms and standards on migration.

The Office translated into Arabic the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders and widely disseminated this document during capacity-building activities and discussions with governmental and nongovernmental partners in the region.

The Office also organized a training programme on these Guidelines and conducted training sessions on the protection of migrants across borders for the Lebanese General Security (GS). As a result of the programme, 150 GS officers were trained on human rights principles and guidelines for border management, trafficking and due process in border management. The programme assisted OHCHR to further to engage with GS and relevant UN entities to uphold the rights of people on the move.

In November, the Office participated in one of the sessions of the second

"Regional dialogue on counter-trafficking response in humanitarian settings across the Levant region" that was organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in Turkey. The meeting brought together delegations from four countries, including representatives of governments, the judiciary and CSOs, as well as representatives of the UN system. Participants in the meeting validated the draft framework to develop SOPs for crisis-sensitive anti-trafficking responses across the Levant region. The SOPs will provide useful guidance and reference the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders.

In December, the Office contributed to a capacity-building workshop on migration governance that was organized by ESCWA, IOM and the League of Arab States, in Cairo. The workshop served to sensitize government participants about the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and emphasized how OHCHR can better advise and support States in implementing the GCM in line with its guiding principles, all of which are grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the core international human rights instruments.

Finally, the Office continued its close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the wider UN system and the International Committee of the Red Cross to raise concerns with authorities about cases of detention and impending deportations and the Government's non-refoulement obligations in relation to Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



PS2 – Steps are taken to improve compliance of civilian and military efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism with international human rights law.



OHCHR supported NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals as key stakeholders by raising awareness and building their capacity for meaningful engagement with international human rights norms and standards.

In Saudi Arabia, the Office provided technical assistance through a three-day training workshop on "Protecting human rights while countering terrorism," for various State actors from the security sector and representatives from the Saudi Human Rights Commission (SHRC). The workshop was held to promote the importance of respecting and protecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and to raise awareness about the need to apply international human rights standards in the context of countering terrorism. To do so, the workshop focused on a wide variety of issues, including the international legal framework for respecting human rights while countering terrorism, the definition of terrorist crimes, restrictions on the use of force and arms, detention and investigation practices that respect human rights, rights that can be restricted during a state of emergency and special investigative techniques.

In Lebanon, the Office established contact with the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW), which aims to enhance the status of women and ensure equal opportunities between women and men in Lebanon. The Prime Minister assigned the NCLW to act as

the focal point in preparing the report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). At the request of the NCLW, the Office provided advice for the preparation of the national report that was submitted to the Committee in compliance with the submission guidelines. The Office also engaged with the NCLW to develop Lebanon's first National Action Plan on Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which was endorsed by the Government on 12 September.

Furthermore, the Office organized a panel discussion, in May, to capitalize on the momentum created by the Lebanese Parliament's adoption of Law No. 105 on Missing and Forcibly Disappeared Persons, in November 2018. The panel brought together parliamentarians and representatives of families of missing and forcibly disappeared persons, NGOs, academics, the Government and members of the UN Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances to examine the provisions of the Law and requirements for the effective functioning of a new National Commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared, in compliance with international norms and standards. The event was live streamed and a video of the event was broadcasted via social media and regional contacts. Follow-up steps are being discussed with residing UN agencies and the Lebanese Government in order to move forward with the establishment of the new Commission and support efforts to promote national reconciliation.

PS6 - In two countries, United Nations' support to national and regional security forces and law enforcement agencies, and to non-State actors, integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.



OHCHR contributed to the increased application of UN guidelines and an HRBA to specific programmes of UN entities.

The Office continued to provide technical assistance to the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in developing a Code of Conduct on Human Rights, which was launched in January. The Code of Conduct outlines fundamental human rights standards and principles that are relevant to law enforcement and highlights the importance of protecting women, children, the elderly, refugees and victims of human trafficking in all law enforcement-related tasks. Following the launch, the LAF announced that a number of legal adviser positions had been created in the departments responsible for monitoring the dissemination and implementation of the Code of Conduct. Moreover, the Office received official requests from the other two main security agencies in Lebanon, the Internal Security Forces and the General Security Office, to assist with the revision of their respective codes of conduct, introduce accountability elements and ensure wider dissemination of the documents among their personnel.

As Chair of the UNCT Human Rights Working Group, the Office took the lead in coordinating and finalizing a document that sets out the HRDDP Coordination Mechanism for Lebanon. It is also facilitating the regular updating of joint risk assessments under the HRDDP.



M1 – National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow up (NMRFs) are established and strengthened in three countries in the sub region: their mandates are comprehensive and clear.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the effective functioning of NMRFs by providing technical support through its Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme (TBCBP).

In April, the Office supported a training course for Kuwaiti diplomats on the international human rights system, with a focus on the third UPR cycle and the role of NMRFs. The Office continues to liaise with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the establishment of a follow-up mechanism. Furthermore, OHCHR supported CSOs in Kuwait to provide information to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) for the pre-sessional Working Group to elaborate its list of issues prior to reporting.

In November, the TBCBP hosted a three-day training workshop for members of the national Standing Committee for Reporting and the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). The overall purpose of the workshop was to support the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to strengthen its national capacity to effectively report to different human rights mechanisms and suggest ways to reconstitute and strengthen the Standing Committee for Reporting. The workshop also aimed at enhancing Saudi Arabia's capacity to implement the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms that have been linked to

the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular through improving the information management capacity of the NMRF and use of the NRTD. Workshop participants prepared a draft Plan to Implement Recommendations, based on one of the recommendations that was issued by the UPR in relation to Saudi Arabia. The data was then inserted into the NRTD.

Furthermore, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, OHCHR held a two-day training workshop on the "Development of national indicators for human rights." The workshop targeted key staff members of the SHRC to enhance their capacity to use indicators to measure the progress made by the KSA in realizing its human rights obligations.

In Jordan, in June, the SHRA developed a proposal for the Prime Minister, upon his request, regarding the strengthening of the NMRF. In December, the SHRC. ESCWA and the Danish Institute for Human Rights co-organized and facilitated a workshop for government liaison officers and the Office of the Government Coordinator for Human Rights. In following up on Jordan's third UPR cycle, the SHRC facilitated discussions on the implementation of the supported recommendations with government, civil society and international stakeholders and the development of a process to prepare a national action plan on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

STATE OF PALESTINE***

Population size ¹ 4.98 million	Surface area ¹ 6,000 km ²		nan Development Index 10 (rank: 119/188 in 2018)	, , ,	•
Type of engagem	ent	С	ountry Office		
Year established		19	996		
Field office(s) UN partnership framework		East Jerusalem, Gaza, Hebron, Ramallah			
		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022			
Staff as of 31 December 2019		20	6		
XB requirements	2019	U	S\$3,684,000		
Total XB expendi			S\$1,977,661		
Personnel				Non-personn	
7E 9/					
75% \$1,484,373				15% \$293,434	10 % \$199,854
	ture	U	S\$2,308,119		\$199,854
\$1,484,373 Total RB expendit Personnel	ture	U	S\$2,308,119	\$293,434 Non- _F	
\$1,484,373 Total RB expendit	ture	U	S\$2,308,119	\$293,434	\$199,854 personnel

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

PILLAR RESULTS:



A1 – Palestinian duty-bearers have agreed and sustained a de facto moratorium on the death penalty in the oPt, and have made progress towards a formal moratorium.



The Office continued its efforts to engage with and facilitate dialogue between diverse stakeholders with a view towards the declaration of a formal moratorium

on the death penalty through awareness-raising, monitoring and advocacy.

A defacto moratorium on the death penalty was upheld in the West Bank and no new death sentences were handed down by courts in the West Bank in 2019. In Gaza, OHCHR continued monitoring death sentences handed down by Gaza courts and engaged with Gaza authorities advocating for a formal moratorium. In a positive development, no

death sentences were carried out during 2019. OHCHR also continued to liaise with human rights organizations on the death penalty, including in relation to sharing information and implementing joint outreach activities. To commemorate the World Day against the Death Penalty, in October, OHCHR partnered with local CSOs to commission an art exhibition regarding the death penalty. The exhibition illustrating the impact of the death penalty on communities and families was shown in various locations around the West Bank and Gaza and served as a background for discussions with duty-bearers and traditional religious and community leaders on the death penalty in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt).

A1 – Member States, and international and regional actors, take account of OHCHR's information, analysis and recommendations when they demand accountability for Israeli violations of IHL and IHRL in the oPt.



OHCHR contributed with timely and high-quality information to raising critical human rights issues in international forums by monitoring and reporting on human rights and international humanitarian law violations by Israel and ensuring that the findings are effectively disseminated.

During the reporting period, the Office continued to carry out regular monitoring work on ongoing human rights and humanitarian law concerns, which was supported by strong legal analysis in particularly vulnerable areas, including Gaza, Hebron's H2 and East Jerusalem. As was the case in 2018, the Office produced five mandated reports (three for the Human Rights Council (HRC) and

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

two for the General Assembly) to inform Member States about key messages and recommendations based on their monitoring. The Office also provided timely, high-quality inputs to other mandated UN reports, including from the Security Council, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). It also continued to actively engage in the context of the UNCT and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), ensuring strong and legally accurate messaging on violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Information and analysis produced by the Office contributed significantly to a number of advocacy initiatives carried out by the Office, the UNCT and the HCT, generating significant interest from the diplomatic community, the UN and NGO partners.



ND3 - Israeli practices (as the occupying power) and Palestinian laws, policies and practices increasingly comply with international human rights standards with respect to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other discriminatory practices against women, as a first step towards the promotion of women's equality.



The Office continued to build its monitoring and knowledge-base on women's human rights and its advocacy efforts on women's rights through activities and initiatives for authorities and CSOs to address legislative gaps and increase the compliance of existing laws with international human rights norms. The Office

also strengthened the integration of gender equality and women's rights into its own programming.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR-oPt was one of two pilot field offices in the OHCHR Gender Accreditation Programme. The objective of the Programme is to review the Office's activities and build its internal capacities to integrate gender into all aspects of the internal and external work of the Office in a sustainable manner. On 29 January 2020, after successfully completing the one-year pilot phase of the Programme, the High Commissioner awarded OHCHR-oPt with UN Human Rights Gender Accreditation.

As a result of the work undertaken within the framework of the Gender Accreditation Programme, the monitoring of women's rights improved both quantitatively and qualitatively during the year, as evidenced by an increase in monitored cases wherein women, girls or LGBTI individuals were the primary victims. Furthermore, the Office undertook enhanced gender analysis and an assessment of the impact of discrimination and violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law against women, girls or LGBTI individuals in the oPt. Their findings and analysis were strongly reflected in advocacy documents and mandated reports. For the first time, a whole section on SGBV and gender-related killings was included in the High Commissioner's Annual Report, which will be published in 2020.

The Office continued its advocacy work on women's rights, including in events marking International Women's Day, in March. Specifically, OHCHR organized TEDx talks in Ramallah and Gaza with Palestinian women who shared their stories about tackling discrimination in their personal and professional lives. It also worked closely with national and

international partners to organize the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign entitled "Together against violence" and called for the prompt adoption of the Family Protection Bill and better access to services for GBV survivors in Palestine. The campaign gathered a record-breaking 68 national and international partners, who rolled out more than 100 coordinated activities throughout the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.



As the Protection Cluster lead in Palestine, the Office contributed to improving the compliance of selected policy areas and legislation with international human rights norms and standards through legal analysis and advice.

In 2019, OHCHR's legal and protection analysis continued to guide the HCT's advocacy approach and the humanitarian response to violations being committed in the context of Gaza's Great March of Return protests, the recurrent escalation of hostilities in Gaza and the increasingly coercive environment in the West Bank. Particular attention was placed on women and vulnerable groups, such as children and persons with disabilities.

Moreover, under the leadership of OHCHR, the Protection Cluster supported the HCT Advocacy Working Group in conducting a series of advocacy events on the excessive use of force in different locations in the West Bank and coordinated the engagement of key protection actors. Notably, the Protection Cluster collaborated with the Health Cluster, led by WHO, to organize a workshop in Gaza and the West Bank to discuss ways to better protect healthcare workers, the facilities of healthcare organizations and the Ministry of Health from attacks. This led to the development of an action plan. Implementation of the action plan has begun through a training on protection under international humanitarian law for healthcare workers.

PS5 – Human rights are integrated in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, including its strategy, planning and programming, and in advocacy by the Humanitarian Coordinator and Humanitarian Country Team.



The Office contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into humanitarian operations by providing legal analysis to the HCT.

Throughout 2019, OHCHR collaborated with the Areas of Responsibilities (AoRs) to strengthen coordination among protection partners to identify the most vulnerable individuals and groups in need of protection services. This collaboration resulted in directing resources towards responding and scaling up the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support response to the Great March of Return protests and supporting GBV multi-sectorial responses and child protection services for women and children at risk.

In parallel to the 4W system in Gaza (a coordination and monitoring database detailing who does what, when and where), the Protection Cluster and OCHA initiated an online interface for an operational presence mapping in order to map

the operational protection actors in the West Bank in four thematic areas (child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, legal aid and mine action).

Mechanisms (M)

M1 – The interministerial committee charged with coordinating implementation of Palestine's international human rights obligations reports consistently to international human rights mechanisms and implements their recommendations. It operates in an integrated and participatory manner and includes civil society in its work.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to improving the capacity of the Palestinian NMRF to comply with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, the Office gradually enhanced the capacity of the Palestinian NMRF, including by increasing the knowledge about the international human rights treaties and mechanisms of representatives from relevant government institutions in the NMRF, as well as the Independent Commission for Human Rights, which sits on the NMRF as an observing member. Actions taken by the Office contributed to the institutionalization of the NMRF, clearly identifying the roles and responsibilities of each of its three levels, namely, the permanent High-level Interministerial Committee, the Interministerial Technical Committee and the ministry-based working groups. In addition, the NRTD was introduced to members of the NMRF as a tool for effective follow-up on relevant concluding observations/recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

Finally, to support the work of the NMRF, the Office produced two guidance

documents (in Arabic and in English). The first is a reference manual for government officials on Palestine's accession to the human rights treaties and the second is a user manual on the NRTD. Both were widely disseminated to government officials.

Finally, OHCHR-oPt worked towards the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the UN common country programmes, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework under the Development pillar.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 17.07 million 185.000 km ²	Human Development Index ² NHRI (if applicable) ³ 0.549 (rank: 154/188 in 2018) NA		
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2018		
Field office(s)	Based in Beirut, Lebanon with presence in Gaziantep, Turkey and Amman, Jordan		
UN partnership framework	n/a		
Staff as of 31 December 2019	34		
Total income	US\$5,185,928		
XB requirements 2019	US\$2,940,000		
Total XB expenditure	U\$\$2,040,272		

Key OMP pillars in 2019

Personnel

\$1.502.490

74%







^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P4 – The civic space in Syria has expanded, allowing civil society actors and victims' groups to defend human rights in a safe and enabling environment.



The Office enhanced its engagement with CSOs working inside and outside the Syrian Arab Republic by facilitating a consultation to determine key parameters for future engagement and programming.

Building on the mapping and consultation process that the Office undertook in 2018, OHCHR organized a series of capacity-building activities for a core group of 50 targeted Syrian CSOs that are working inside and outside the country. This included the organization of three day-long round-tables on rights-based programming and inclusive approaches to advocacy. The activities culminated in a three-day workshop that was focused on a victim-centred approach to human rights advocacy and included the participation of CSOs from across the geographic and political spectrum. As a result of these events, participating CSOs adopted a victim-centred approach in their advocacy and campaigning activities and expanded the civic space to enable more connections

Non-personnel

\$380.229

19%

PSC[†]

\$157.553

between organizations working on different issues. A robust coalition was set up with a joint vision for advocacy. Since then, the coalition has undertaken a common campaign in the context of UDHR71 that promotes social cohesion, including by countering hate speech.

A report outlining some of the lessons that have been learned in victim-centred advocacy activities will be issued and shared with civil society partners in early 2020.



PS3 – The humanitarian response in Syria integrates human rights in planning, strategy, and operations.



OHCHR contributed to further integrating human rights protection into all areas of the Office's programming in order to better prevent and respond to conflict.

During the reporting period, OHCHR contributed to the development and implementation of a project as part of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. In line with this project, Protection, Health and other Cluster meetings were organized to ensure that human rights concerns were regularly raised and incorporated, in collaboration with humanitarian partners.

In addition, the Office trained Syrian civil society partners on the integration of human rights into their work during four three-day trainings that were organized in different humanitarian centres of operation (namely Amman/Jordan, Gaziantep/Turkey, Damascus/Syria and Beirut/Lebanon) on applying an HRBA. These trainings resulted in the adoption of new methodologies by Syrian CSOs with a victim-centred approach. On a less formal level, OHCHR supported civil society

partners in strengthening the monitoring methodologies being used in their documentation work.

OHCHR's technical advice on necessary changes to ensure effective human rights protection was outlined in two forthcoming publications. The first publication identifies the recommendations that were issued during Syria's second UPR cycle and can be used by CSO partners in their engagement and advocacy activities. The second publication focuses on the recommendations emanating from the international human rights mechanisms in relation to Syria from 2015-2019 and from the special procedures, human rights treaty bodies and the UPR in January 2020. Both publications will be issued in Arabic and English and will serve as resources for CSOs seeking to identify strategic entry points for engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and develop HRBA programming.

Finally, OHCHR's work on HRBA programming, together with the forthcoming publications on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, will serve as a basis for supporting the effective engagement of civil society organizations in Syria's third UPR cycle in 2020 and 2021.

PS5 – Early warning actions issued by OHCHR are regularly used by the international community and UN actors in the context of preventive action.















The Office supported the international community in raising specific human rights issues with the Government by providing data and information on human rights concerns and key protection messages and bringing it to the attention of key stakeholders.

Throughout the year, OHCHR provided extensive information and analysis on human rights issues to humanitarian, political and policy partners working on the Syrian context. The Office issued over 65 flash reports that included OHCHR reporting and early warning analysis. The reports were disseminated to over 100 humanitarian, diplomatic and donor partners and the data was used by humanitarian and policymaking partners in their work, as reflected in public statements and briefings.

In addition, OHCHR contributed regular analysis and reports on the human rights situation in Syria, which were included in the Secretary-General's monthly reports to the Security Council, in accordance with various Security Council resolutions. OHCHR contributed to six such reports in 2019 compared to 11 in 2018.

Furthermore, human rights concerns were highlighted in seven public statements and press briefing notes that were translated into Arabic and issued by the High Commissioner and in one thematic digest. All of these documents served as early warning tools to highlight current and possible future geographic or thematic human rights concerns in Syria. They were shared with over 400 contacts, including humanitarian agencies, diplomats, policymakers and Syrian and international civil society organizations working inside and outside of Syria.

In addition to the written outputs, the Office provided frequent ad hoc briefings to diplomats, humanitarian partners and policymakers. Given the highly complex situation in Syria, appreciation was expressed to OHCHR for its verified data and analysis.



Development (D)

D7 – The reconstruction and development efforts of the UN and the Government integrate human rights standards.



The Office contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the UN's reconstruction and development assistance.

In 2019, OHCHR focused on issues relating to medical units and personnel in its monitoring and advocacy work as part of the UN's reconstruction and development assistance, including by supporting the protection and health sectors. Specifically, the Office's work included sharing verified data with humanitarian partners on incidents affecting healthcare and health facilities. This information was reflected in OHCHR statements and press briefing notes throughout 2019 and was included in more than half of the statements issued on Syria during that time. For example, in August, the Office supported five special procedures that submitted a joint allegation letter to the Syrian Government regarding airstrikes and ground-based strikes in Syria, which damaged and destroyed medical facilities and killed medical personnel between March 2011 and July 2019.

While incidents involving medical units remain an ongoing and significant concern in Syria, OHCHR's reporting and advocacy contributed to increased attention and political pressure to address this issue. On 1 August, the General Assembly established a United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry to investigate a series of incidents that took place in northwest Syria after the September 2018 signing of the Russian/Turkish

Memorandum on Stabilization of the Situation in the Idlib De-escalation Area. The investigation will cover destruction or damage that was caused to medical facilities that were on the deconfliction list and to UN-supported facilities in the area. The Office supported the Board's data collection efforts by providing lists of OHCHR-verified incidents and supporting data.

TUNISIA

Population size ¹ 11.69million	Surface area ¹ 164,000 km ²		(if applicable) ³ s B, 2009		
Type of engager	nent	Country Office			
Year established	i	2011			
Field office(s)		Tunis			
UN partnership	united Nations Development Assistan Framework 2015-2019		sistance		
			12		
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	12			
Staff as of 31 De	cember 2019	12 US\$1,443,194			
Total income	s 2019	US\$1,443,194			
Total income XB requirements	s 2019	US\$1,443,194 US\$3,005,000	PSC†		
Total income XB requirements Total XB expend	s 2019	US\$1,443,194 US\$3,005,000 US\$1,787,668	PSC† 11% \$202.815		

^{123†} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208

PILLAR RESULTS:



D2 – The Government adopts and applies the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



The Office contributed to the increased compliance of corporate policies with international human rights norms and standards by facilitating workshops and sharing guidance and advice.

At the request of the Tunisia Local Network of the Global Compact, the Office delivered a training on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) to 38 participants (11 women, 27 men) from private and public enterprises, CSOs and academia who are current or pending members of the Tunisia Global Compact Network. A representative from a major public enterprise from the chemical industry and a representative from a major private company producing cement presented their experiences and lessons learned following their OHCHR-supported participation in the seventh International Forum on Business and Human Rights, which was held in November 2018.

As a result of this training, two participating enterprises requested further in-house training for their staff members that are based in the southern region of the country. Five enterprises from various sectors with a high risk of human rights violations, including construction and public works, chemicals and mining and water distribution, expressed an interest in undertaking human rights impact assessments of their operations. To support these efforts, the Office facilitated a three-day mission to Tunis of an international expert in human rights impact assessments to discuss the assessments with the CEOs of these companies.

D7 – National stakeholders adopt a human rights-based approach when monitoring and evaluating realization of the SDGs. Local elected representatives and public servants at local and regional levels are aware of their obligations with respect to economic, social and cultural rights.



OHCHR helped to improve the level of compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights norms and standards through awareness-raising, human rights education and mainstreaming.

More specifically, the Office initiated discussions with the Centre for Training and Decentralization Support to build the capacities of local authorities regarding an HRBA and economic, social and cultural rights. The objective was to enable them to apply their knowledge when designing local development plans. Sessions were conducted in 18 municipalities of the southern and northern regions, which are the most marginalized areas of the country, to test the two economic, social and cultural rights-related modules that will be replicated in 2020. The modules were tested during the first training which took place in nine municipalities of the south (Medenine, Remeda, Tataouine, Ben guerdane, Houm Soukt, Midoun, Ajem, Zarzis, and Gabes).

The Office undertook vigorous advocacy activities related to the application of an HRBA in Tunisia's first Voluntary National Report (VNR) and to ensure the integration of members of the NMRF into the VNR's drafting committee. The VNR integrates the results of the Human Rights Rapid Integrated Assessment, which was conducted, in 2018, on linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets and the human rights commitments undertaken by Tunisia through its Constitution and the ratification of international human rights treaties. Moreover, it includes a section on "Leaving No One Behind," for which the Office had advocated, and features a list of vulnerable groups. Finally, the report includes the Office's recommendation regarding the adoption of an HRBA in relation to data collection and disaggregation on vulnerable groups, in accordance with relevant guidance on data collection in the context of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.



Accountability (A)

A3 - Judges assigned to cases that involve gender-based violence are equipped to apply national legislation in compliance with international human rights standards.





OHCHR built the capacity of the judiciary to ensure that accountability mechanisms dealing with GBV conform to international human rights standards.

Since 2017, in the context of the joint programme of the UN system and the

Government, the Office continued to enhance the capacity of judges assigned to GBV cases to interpret and apply new national legislation in accordance with international human rights standards.

The Office engaged in a series of activities designed to help advance the effective implementation by the judiciary of General Law No. 2017-58 on violence against women. In March, the Office collaborated with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Council of Europe to co-organize a two-day national conference to assess the level of implementation of the Law, one year after coming into force. The conference brought together 150 representatives (approximately 80 per cent women and 20 per cent men) from the justice, security, health and social affairs sectors, including 30 judges and lawyers from Tunis and other regions of the country. Their participation was supported by the Office. The conference identified key issues and produced recommendations for relevant ministries regarding each "P" of the law, namely, protection, prevention, prosecution and integrated policies.

Furthermore, the Office cooperated with the Centre for Judicial and Legal Studies of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to hold a workshop, in November, on protective orders, which was one of the main innovations of the Law. OHCHR enabled the participation of family law judges from all 28 national courts of first instance to discuss the obstacles they face in four specific areas, namely, procedures, gathering evidence, drafting and protective measures, in order to identify and harmonize good practices and compile case law and decisions taken.

The Office continued training the judiciary regarding VAW. Accordingly, 246 judges were trained in four sessions at the High Judicial Training Institute (ISM),

at the request of the Ministry of Justice. In July, the Office carried out a training of trainers session on the judicial management of VAW cases to enable the justice system to investigate and prosecute GBV crimes in compliance with international standards, respect the rights of victims and address gender stereotypes. The training was organized in partnership with the International Development Law Organization and enhanced the capacity of 16 practicing judges and trainers from the ISM. The training cycle consisted of sessions on Law No. 2017-58 on the prevention of VAW and good practices and basic principles in dealing with GBV victims. With the support of the Office, the trainees will be expected to deliver "application workshops" to their peers in 2020.

To support these capacity-building efforts in 2019, the Office finalized the Arabic translation of a 174-page training guide, which is available in hard and electronic copies for wider dissemination. Once clearance is received from the MoJ for the Arabic translation, the guide will be used during events planned by the Office in 2020.

Participation (P)

P2 - The new national human rights institution is established and functions in accordance with the Paris Principles and other relevant international standards.

OHCHR supported the initial stages of setting up the NHRI, in December 2018, in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Following the adoption of the NHRI Law in November 2018, the Office advocated for a transparent and inclusive selection process of NHRI members. In addition. the Office and UNDP held a joint hearing with the Parliamentary Pre-selection Commission and organized a press

conference regarding the Commission's selection process, which was followed by an open public debate. To widen the constituency of applications to the NHRI membership, including from women. the Office conducted advocacy visits to Tunisian professional organizations of doctors, journalists, lawyers and judges and sensitized eligible professional organizations to encourage women to apply for membership.

A shortlist of 25 prospective applicants, released in June, respected gender parity by including 12 women. Although the selection process was postponed pending the election of the new Parliament, the Office is committed to resuming advocacy for a transparent and inclusive selection process in 2020. A study day will be held with the elected Members of Parliament to discuss the Paris Principles and selection criteria.

P7 – There is increasing public recognition of the importance of human rights education. Public education helps to develop effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.

1 2 3 4 5 10 16 17 OHCHR strengthened the narrative on select human rights issues through

awareness-raising and capacity-building.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Office and the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) and through engagement with the High Independent Authority of Elections (ISIE), the Office sensitized approximately 800 imams who are responsible for Friday prayers regarding their obligation to maintain a principle of neutrality during electoral campaigns. In August, the Office organized a series of

regional meetings aimed at enhancing the role of religious actors to facilitate free, honest, transparent and peaceful elections in 2019. The Office organized four interactive sessions on free speech in the context of countering hate speech and the partiality of imams in the electoral context. The MoRA and the ISIE have since reported that, thanks to the sensitization discussions that were conducted with OHCHR's support, they observed no major violations of the principle of neutrality of mosques or incitement to hatred by imams during the electoral period. Through two additional workshops and bilateral meetings that were undertaken within the same framework, the Office and the MoRA consulted with the trade union of imams and the Tlili Foundation, a local CSO with expertise in the education of imams, in order to develop a three-year strategic plan to implement the MoU.

In the context of the "Faith for Rights Initiative," the Office cooperated with the MoRA to bring together three influential religious actors from the Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities (a mufti, a chief rabbi and a bishop), as well as members of the media and artists on the occasion of an interfaith "iftar" (the evening meal that breaks the fast during Ramadan). The Initiative was organized to provide space for religious leaders to spread a message of tolerance and non-discrimination, thereby fostering a peaceful society based on understanding, compassion and solidarity.

To contribute to improved social cohesion in 2019, the Office collaborated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to prevent violent extremism among youth through education (PVE-E). More specifically, the Office and UNESCO developed a joint project on "Empowering the education system and school communities through the promotion of human rights, global citizenship education and media and information literacy," which falls within the Ministry of Education's strategy on counter-terrorism. The project aims to set up a national network of experts on PVE-E, based on human rights education, that specifically targets youth educators and leaders of the school community. The Office also participated in the project "Research Fund on violent extremism," which was led by UNDP, the National Anti-Terrorism Commission and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The project outcome, the "Charter of Ethics for research activities in the field of violent extremism," establishes a regulatory mechanism to prevent and treat potential risks of human rights violations while conducting research in this field. It further provides for ethical principles and values of human rights that should guide researchers in their work.

During the year, the Office continued to participate in the UN Task Force on Human Rights Education and Citizenship. With the support of the Office, the Task Force used the opportunity of the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to discuss challenges and priorities in the Tunisian education system. The Office advocated for and supported the inclusion of human rights education in the youth centres established by the Ministry of Youth across the country. In September, the Office and the Ministry provided capacity-building trainings on human rights education for 240 youth educators from 24 regions to strengthen their capacities in relation to international human rights standards.



ND1 – National laws, policies and practices combat racial discrimination more effectively, including discrimination against ethnic and national minorities, persons of African descent, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, migrants, women, and LGBTI individuals.



OHCHR took steps to improve the compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights norms and standards in the areas of access to social security and the rights of persons with disability by building the capacity of duty-bearers and rights-holders.In April, the Government enacted the legal reform that the Office had strongly advocated for since 2016. The reform ensures that women agricultural workers have greater access to social security due to more flexible eligibility requirements. To inform these women about their rights, the Office organized training sessions in seven regions for 104 outreach workers (83 women, 21 men) and 81 representatives from the institutions involved in the new scheme. Overall, 2,086 women were found to be eligible for the programme, 788 submitted a request for affiliation to the Caisse Nationale de Sécurité Sociale and 233 were duly registered. A total of 45 members of nine local municipalities received training on gender and an HRBA.

During the reporting period, the Office launched a study analysing the domestic laws that protect the rights of persons with disabilities in Tunisia. The purpose of this analysis was to identify gaps and weaknesses and develop recommendations aimed at increasing the compliance of national legislation with international standards. The recommendations will serve as an advocacy tool for civil society and be compiled into a practical guide that

is available to parliamentarians to quide legislative revisions that are in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Furthermore, the Office engaged in constructive dialogue with the Ministry of Social Affairs on how to better implement CRPD provisions in Tunisia. Finally, the Office and UNDP organized a "Parliamentary Academy" sensitization workshop for parliamentarians and representatives of the Ministry regarding the rights of persons with disabilities to social integration and rehabilitation. As a result, the parliamentary committee for persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups has identified the priorities of persons with disabilities in terms of revising national laws.

The National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) organized several workshops on the rights of vulnerable populations in detention with a focus on LGBTI rights. To this end, the Office contributed to the workshops and sensitized members of the General Directorate of Prisons. It also provided assistance to an LGBTI organization in proceedings regarding freedom of association through interventions from the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.



Peace and Security (PS)

PS2 – The State develops and implements policies and practices to counter terrorism and violent extremism that comply with international human rights standards and relevant UN resolutions and guidelines, and ensures that civil society participates meaningfully in this process.



OHCHR supported the Tunisian National Commission on Counter-Terrorism (NCCT) to increase the compliance of its procedures and decisions with international human rights norms and standards.

In 2019, OHCHR worked with the NCCT and focused on mainstreaming human rights into its work while countering terrorism. In order to better inform the public about the work of the NCCT, the Office facilitated a training workshop for journalists and civil society. The workshop strengthened the knowledge of civil society and the media about international standards for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the fight against terrorism and sensitized the media on journalistic principles and good practices when covering events related to terrorism and violent extremism.

The Office also organized a workshop for NCCT members on good practices related to gender mainstreaming in the context of countering violent extremism. After assessing expectations and gathering recommendations from NCCT members, the Office facilitated the development of a common understanding of gender mainstreaming.

PS4 – Specialized Chambers, the Government, Parliament and civil society are equipped to fulfil their respective mandates and roles with regard to the transitional justice process.



The Office contributed to the strengthening of transitional justice mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards by building their capacity to monitor and contribute to transitional justice processes.

During the reporting period, the Office continued to maintain and strengthen contacts and dialogue with civil society organizations and victims' groups by convening meetings and exchanging information, expertise and experiences. The Office organized several meetings with CSOs to advise them on the ways forward in supporting the transitional justice process, including the mandate of the Specialized Criminal Chambers (SCC), particularly during a time when this accountability mechanism of transitional justice was targeted by an amnesty law. CSOs and victims' groups played a key role in supporting the implementation of national transitional justice mechanisms and disseminating the final report and recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Instance Vérité et Dignité (IVD)). They also closely monitored hearings of the SCC and engaged in constructive dialogue with the Ministry of Justice and the High Judicial Council in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the SCC's mandate and work.

The Office provided extensive technical assistance and support to the IVD, enabling it to fulfil its mandate in conformity with international standards. In particular, technical support was provided during the elaboration phase of the final report, notably on the structure, content and drafting of the IVD's recommendations. The report's recommendations focus on the State's reforms at the legal, political and institutional levels to promote democracy, reinforce the rule of law and guarantee the non-recurrence of past human rights abuses. The final report of the IVD seeks to uncover the truth about violations of human rights committed between 1955 and 2013 and provides reparation measures for victims that have been included in a global reparation programme.

The IVD's report was submitted but has not yet been published.

In 2019, the Office continued to engage in advocacy to support the dissemination of the IVD's final report and translated the Executive Summary (approximately 522 pages) into English. The IVD transmitted 69 indictments to the SCC with regard to 1.120 cases of torture, rape and sexual violence, enforced disappearance, murder, arbitrary detention, human trafficking, corruption and the misuse of public funds. It issued 145 decisions which referred cases of a similar nature to the SCC. The cases and the decisions concerned a total number of 1,666 victims and 1,426 perpetrators. As of the end of 2019, the SCC has held more than 150 hearings on more than 100 cases of gross violations of human rights. The Office engaged in constructive discussions with the judicial authorities to enhance and support the mandate and work of the SCC, including by building the capacity of the SCC judges and organizing workshops and various technical meetings. OHCHR continued to monitor hearings throughout the year



M1 – The NMRF, the NHRI, civil society organizations, and the UN Country Team engage with international human rights mechanisms.



The Office strengthened the capacity of NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals that made substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the UPR.

In 2019, thanks to the support of the Office, the NMRF submitted mid-term review reports to the Human Rights Committee and the UPR and began

working on an alternative report to CFDAW.

The Office trained NMRF members on reporting against the SDG indicators to better enable them to implement the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR and to include human rights and SDG indicators in their reports. The training also included information on enhancing follow-up to these recommendations by involving CSOs in State reporting. With the support of the Office, it has become a common practice to organize a national and a regional consultation in Tunis prior to the drafting of each report. The Office helped the NMRF to incorporate the work being undertaken by independent bodies on specific human rights issues, such as the independent body fighting human trafficking and the NPM's report on civil and political rights.

OHCHR supported the NMRF to improve its work on follow-up to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and continued its capacity-building support on human rights indictors and SDGs, particularly for the new members of the NMRF. As part of the development of the NMRF's website, the Office worked with the NMRF to embed a human rights database into its website. This will serve as a communication tool for the Tunisian NMRF and its civil society partners undertaking advocacy and for its international partners working on specific human rights issues. It is anticipated that the database will be operational by the end of 2020.

YEMEN

Population size¹ Surface area¹ 28.16 million 528,000 km ²	Human Development Index² NHRI (if applicable 0.463 (rank: 175/188 in 2018) NA
Type of engagement	Country Office
Year established	2012
Field office(s)	Sana'a, Aden and 22 human rights field monitors in 17 governorates
UN partnership framework	United Nations Strategic Framework for Yemen 2017-2019
Staff as of 31 December 2019	11
Total income	US\$4,987,038
Total income XB requirements 2019	U\$\$4,987,038 U\$\$7,615,000
XB requirements 2019	US\$7,615,000
XB requirements 2019 Total XB expenditure	US\$7,615,000 US\$4,654,548

Key OMP pillars in 2019







123† Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

PILLAR RESULTS:



P5 – The capacity of civil society organizations to protect and promote human rights is strengthened.



The Office contributed to establishing systems for protection from human rights violations, including by raising awareness and enhancing the understanding of CSOs about the international human rights mechanisms.

During the reporting period, the Office conducted six awareness-raising sessions and workshops targeting local CSOs and vulnerable groups (IDPs, persons with disabilities, women) and youth across 11 governorates. These activities enabled 258 participants (117 women, 141 men) to increase their knowledge and understanding of the UN system, UN human rights protection mechanisms and other protection mechanisms for victims of human rights violations. As a result, civil society actors are better equipped to support victims of human rights violations and those in need of protection, including by referring them to relevant humanitarian and protection service providers across Yemen and submitting

relevant cases to the Country Office and to the special procedures. These workshops strengthened the relationship between CSOs and OHCHR, resulting in information-sharing and joint responses to alleged human rights violations.

P4 - Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.





OHCHR contributed to increasing the awareness and capacity of CSOs and relevant actors to identify human rights

concerns, utilize the existing humanitarian and protection service providers and referral systems and develop networking opportunities.

During the reporting period, the Office conducted seven awareness-raising sessions and workshops targeting local CSOs and vulnerable groups (IDPs, persons with disabilities, women) and youth across 11 governorates. These activities enabled 262 participants (97 women, 165 men) to increase their knowledge and understanding about available protection for civilians and victims of human rights violations. As a result, civil society actors are better equipped to support victims of human rights violations and those in need of protection and to refer them to relevant humanitarian and protection service providers across Yemen. In addition, these CSOs regularly engaged with the Country Office, as well as with the special procedures, on specific cases of alleged human rights violations. They also coordinated among themselves and with OHCHR to provide support to victims.



Accountability (A)

A1 – National institutions, including the Ministry of the Interior's Corrections and Rehabilitation Authority and the National Commission of Inquiry to Investigate Alleged Violations to Human Rights (NCIAVHR), curb human rights violations.





The Office increased the level of compliance of the NCIAVHR with international human rights standards by providing it with specialized training and technical advice.

The Office provided ongoing capacity-building activities for members of the NCIAVHR and enhanced their knowledge and skills regarding international human rights standards and operational capacities. Thanks to OHCHR support, an increased number of field monitors were able to record 2,644 allegations of human rights violations and investigate 1,424 human rights violations between February and July.

In March, an OHCHR training workshop was held on "Principles of monitoring and documentation of international human rights and humanitarian laws." The workshop enhanced the knowledge of 32 field monitors from the NCIAVHR (four women, 28 men), based in 15 governorates, about international human rights law and CRSV and GBV.

In April, the Office provided technical support to the NCIAVHR to strengthen its database and information technology capacities. This was undertaken following an assessment mission conducted by the Office to identify potential gaps in the NCIAVHR's information-gathering, storage and management system.

The Office provided solar system units, which are essential for Internet access and electricity, to 30 NCIAVHR field monitors, thereby facilitating their investigations and reporting tasks and enabling them to share reports in a timely manner, consequently contributing to their accountability efforts.

The Office organized a meeting to facilitate dialogue between 37 NCIAVHR field monitors with five NCIAVHR members, including the Head of the NCIAVHR. The meeting provided participants with an opportunity to exchange views and discuss challenges and good practices. The field monitors developed their knowledge and skills on several topics related to the monitoring and documentation of human rights violations. The NCIAVHR members discussed their work approaches, performance and ways to improve their operational capacities.

In November, OHCHR facilitated a consultative meeting of 38 field monitors NCIAVHR, deployed in 15 governorates (seven women, 31 men), to enhance their capacities and encourage information-sharing on various topics, including the proper approach to handling email accounts, the geographical distribution of work and discussions about human rights concerns and trends across governorates. The meeting also served to increase their understanding of the use of evidence-based human rights analysis in the context of prosecuting the perpetrators of human rights violations.



PS1 – Violations of international human rights and humanitarian law are monitored and reported; particular attention is given to abuses perpetrated by parties to the conflict, especially arbitrary detention and abuses that target civilians and civilian objectives. The information gathered informs UN responses.





The Office contributed to strengthening the judicial system by providing monitoring information on human rights violations in prisons and detention facilities to relevant authorities.

In 2019, OHCHR continued to monitor prisons and detention facilities and provided technical advice aimed at improving detention conditions and promoting compliance with international human rights standards. Despite challenges faced in gaining access to prisons, particularly in the northern governorates, the Office conducted 20 visits to prisons and detention facilities in nine governorates during the reporting period. It identified humanitarian needs, including lack of access to food, drinking water and medical care, as well as human rights concerns with respect to the conduct of law enforcement officials. The human rights concerns were documented and communicated to the responsible authorities to instigate correction measures and ensure accountability. OHCHR also raised concerns about the prisoners' needs with humanitarian actors in Yemen, including the Protection Cluster.

In responding to the conflict and crisis in Yemen, the Office continued monitoring the violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and deployed two additional field monitors focused on SGBV

and CRSV. During the reporting period, the Office drafted bi-weekly and monthly updates on the human rights situation in Yemen. The findings of human rights monitoring activities were shared with key protection actors, such as members of the Protection Cluster, the monitoring and reporting mechanism of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on grave violations of the rights of the child, the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and the UNCT in Yemen. The Office's reports contributed essential background information on a variety of advocacy initiatives, including statements and press briefings that were released by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the RC/HC in Yemen, the High Commissioner's oral update on the human rights situation in Yemen during the HRC's fortieth session, the interactive dialogues on the second report of the Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts and the High Commissioner's report on the implementation of technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen during the HRC's forty-second session.

In 2019, OHCHR supported the establishment of two Community-Based Protection Networks (CBPNs) in the Abyan and Lahej governorates that helped identify human rights violations in their governorate, including SGBV cases. The CBPNs also enhanced the referral mechanism by referring victims/survivors to existing humanitarian and protection service providers in their governorates.

Finally, the Office organized four consultative meetings, in Sanaa, to strengthen the knowledge and understanding of OHCHR staff members, including translators, database personnel and field monitors on gender, SGBV, CRSV and women's economic, social and cultural rights.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-WEST ASIA AND THE ARAB REGION

Type of engagement	Regional Centre	
Countries of engagement	Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, State of Palestine***, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen	
Year established	2009	
Field office(s)	Doha, Qatar	
Staff as of 31 December 2019	6	

Total income	US\$297,100			
XB requirements 2019	US\$310,000	\$\$310,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$284,052			
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC [†]		
59%	30%	12%		
\$167,208	\$84,166	\$32,679		
Total RB expenditure	US\$763,305			
Personnel		Non-personne		
86%		14%		
\$657,367		\$105,938		

Key OMP pillars in 2019







[&]quot;Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.

PILLAR RESULTS:



M2 - Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.



The Office contributed to the enhanced engagement of NHRIs in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine and Sudan and CSOs in Qatar and Sudan with the international human rights mechanisms, including by raising awareness and building their capacity.

During 2019, the Centre provided support to various stakeholders to enhance their knowledge and improve their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. In cooperation with regional and national partners, the Centre organized 14 capacity-building and training programmes, including six regional training sessions that were attended by 527 participants (245 women) from various backgrounds and institutions.

In November, the Office and the Arab Network for National Human Rights Institutions organized a training on the role of NHRIs in human rights monitoring and reporting in Amman. The training was delivered by OHCHR staff and experts from the Jordanian NHRI to build the capacity of 18 participants (eight women) from NHRIs in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman. State of Palestine, and Sudan and to increase their knowledge about human rights monitoring and reporting.

In November, the Office organized a training on the UN human rights system and the application of an HRBA, in Doha, for 15 participants (seven women) from the Qatar Social Work Foundation. The Foundation serves as a platform for discussions on social issues in the country and is composed of a number of affiliated centres that focus on protection and social rehabilitation, family counselling, orphan care, empowerment and care for the elderly, persons with disabilities and social development. The training provided the participants with practical knowledge on the international human rights system, including the functioning of the human rights mechanisms and ways that an HRBA can be applied in their work.

In December, OHCHR collaborated with the Regional Centre for Training and Development of Civil Society to organize a training, in Khartoum, on the UN human

[†] Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.208.

rights system and an HRBA. The training brought together 40 participants from Sudanese NGOs and representatives of the Ministry of Youth and Sport and enhanced their knowledge about the international human rights system and its mechanisms.



P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



The Office helped to increase the extent to which the ongoing implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education is in compliance with international human rights norms and standards. This was undertaken by facilitating dialogue between relevant stakeholders to review lessons learned and exchange good practices in the context of planning the fourth phase of the Programme (2020-2024).

In addition, in April, the Office organized a round-table discussion with 12 experts from the Arab region to review prospects and exchange experiences related to working with youth in the field of human rights. The experts highlighted previous UN initiatives and plans focused on human rights education, emphasized their linkages with the previous three phases of the Programme and described the work that was undertaken to include human rights in formal and informal education, including through the adoption of legislation and policies, planning, programmes and unofficial activities.

In December, OHCHR organized a workshop on the fourth phase of the Programme, in Tunis, for more than 40

participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States. More than half of the participants were women and approximately half were youth representing various governmental institutions, CSOs and the National Human Rights Committee.

The participants exchanged ideas about good practices, initiatives, curricula, methods and tools in relation to human rights education for youth in the region. They also explored some of the specific challenges being faced, including in relation to equality, human rights, non-discrimination and respect for diversity and opportunities to address these issues. Moreover, participants discussed the roles of their respective institutions and suggested ways that they could help to advance the implementation of the fourth phase. The Centre indicated its intention to follow up with the participants and encouraged all stakeholders to play an effective role in implementing the fourth phase.

P4 – Further strengthened the network of Women Human Rights Defenders in the region who have increased their capacity to address areas of concern and to participate.



The Office contributed to increasing the level of meaningful participation of women in select public processes by building networks and alliances of WHRDs in the region.

In October, OHCHR and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls organized a workshop entitled "Towards legal protection for the safety of women's human rights defenders" in Casablanca, Morocco. The workshop brought together approximately 30 WHRDs, activists and lawyers from Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia to build on their common ground and exchange goals and experiences in the promotion and protection of women's human rights.

The Office presented information on the international human rights mechanisms, the role of the human rights treaty bodies, the HRC, the special procedures and individual complaint procedures. The sessions emphasized the important role of HRDs in submitting written communications related to the violations of human rights.

P5 – In two countries, OHCHR increases its monitoring and reporting on human rights violations committed against civil society.



The Office contributed to increased monitoring and reporting on human rights violations by building the capacity of different stakeholders to address violations of freedom of speech, expression and assembly.

In April, on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, the Office organized a national seminar on "New media spaces: Opportunities and challenges" and a national training workshop on "Protection of human rights in new media spaces" in Rabat, Morocco. These activities were undertaken in collaboration with the Al-Shuruq Centre for Media, Democracy and Human Rights and the Al-Jazeera Public Liberties and Human Rights Centre.

The seminar was attended by 60 participants, government officials, academics, university students and researchers, 25 of whom were women. The seminar focused on the challenges and opportunities presented by new media and digital technology from a human rights perspective. More specifically, participants discussed freedom of speech and expression, freedom of assembly, how new media is being used to spread discrimination and incitement to hatred and innovative ways that previously voiceless groups can use new media for outreach. Various relevant initiatives were explored that dealt with emerging challenges, such as the phenomenon of terrorism, extremism and responsibilities of the Internet industry. Finally, participants discussed the fundamental risks for violations of the right to privacy due to the unprecedented capacities of governments to monitor users in digital spaces as a result of technological advancements.

The training workshop was attended by 32 journalists, half of whom were women from various media platforms, and media students. The training addressed quarantees of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the right to access and disseminate information and the right to participate in public affairs under international and regional human rights law. In addition, the training discussed the role of the media in promoting human rights and a human rights-based approach to journalism. The participants exchanged ideas on initiatives to counter the spread of speech advocating national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.



ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination and in particular discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, people with disabilities, migrants and women facing discrimination, and responsible authorities actively work to "leave no one behind", including by addressing the root causes of inequality and couple the SDG agenda and HR.



The Office contributed to improving the human rights narrative regarding minority rights and religious freedoms by producing specialized guidance materials that were translated into Arabic.

During the reporting period, OHCHR issued two publications, in Arabic, on minority rights. The Compilation of Recommendations of the first 10 sessions of the United Nations Forum on Minority Issues: 2008 to 2017, which covers the right to education, political participation, economic rights, the rights of minority women, statelessness as a minority issue, religious minorities, minorities in the criminal justice system and minorities in situations of humanitarian crises. The reference guide Minorities' rights: Standards and guidance reproduces the main documents related to minority rights, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, the Commentary of the Working Group on minorities to the Declaration, the relevant general comments/recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the Guidance Note of the Secretary-General on racial discrimination and protection of minorities and the mandate and methods of work of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues.

To enhance freedom of religion and facilitate the creation of harmony between religious values and human rights principles, the Office revised, edited, translated into Arabic and published the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence and the Beirut Declaration and its 18 commitments on "Faith for Rights," as well as other statements issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The Office will distribute the publications to the participants of the training programme, its partners and other OHCHR field presences.