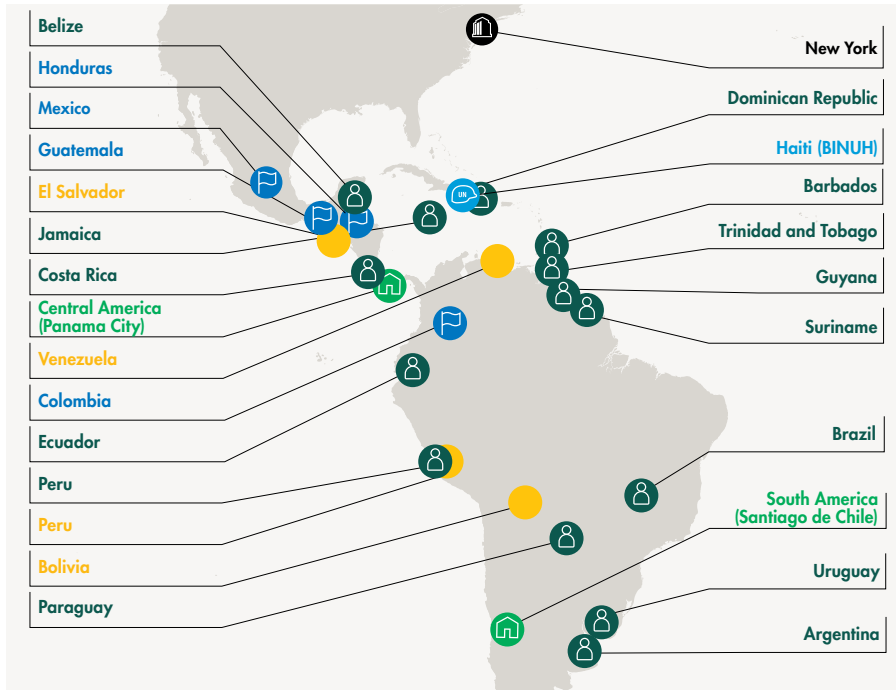


UN Human Rights in the Americas



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 ^a
	Other types of field presences

LOCATION

New York
Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico
Central America (Panama City, Panama) and South America (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
Haiti (BINUH)
Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica ^b , Paraguay, Peru ^c , Suriname ^b , Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay
Bolivia, El Salvador ^d , Peru ^c and Venezuela

^a Human rights advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
^b On hold until funding is available.
^c Human rights adviser replaced by programme in 2022.
^d Human rights adviser to be replaced by programme in 2023.

LEGEND:

Spotlights:

- Disabilities
- Youth
- Women
- People of African descent

Shifts:

- Global constituency
- Prevention
- Civic space
- Climate change
- Corruption
- Inequalities
- New technologies
- People on the move
- Leveraging data for human rights

SDGs:



In 2022, the work of UN Human Rights in the Americas region covered 35 countries and consisted of 25 field presences: two regional offices (based in Panama and Santiago de Chile); four country offices (Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico); one human rights component in a political mission (United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)); four technical missions (Bolivia, El Salvador, Peru and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); and 14 human rights advisers (HRAs) (four internationals in Barbados/Eastern Caribbean, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica/the Bahamas and 10 nationals deployed in Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay). OHCHR provided secretariat support to the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, mandated by the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua, both of which were based in Panama. OHCHR engaged with Canada, Cuba and the United States of America from headquarters in Geneva.

While the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic receded during the year, its impacts continued to be felt, particularly in the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs), due to deepening socio-economic inequalities. The economic situation in the region remained fragile, which was also affected by the war in Ukraine, further impeding the enjoyment of ESCRs. This resulted in a slow post-pandemic recovery that was compounded by debt and high inflation. In addition, there was a growing and worrying tendency to prioritize economic growth at the expense of populations in situations of vulnerability.

The war in Ukraine provoked a three-dimensional food, energy and finance crisis. Oil and food prices increased rapidly, with alarming consequences for the Americas region, which was still struggling to overcome the impacts of the pandemic. Vulnerable populations were particularly affected by the increase in prices, as a larger share of their income is allocated to food and energy. Throughout 2022, the governance crisis in the region worsened, manifested in widespread distrust in institutions and political and social polarization. Unprecedented levels of social protest also erupted across the region. OHCHR strengthened its monitoring and reporting capacities and enhanced dialogue with national authorities to promote protection and accountability and respect for the rights of freedom to peaceful assembly and association.

Persons on the move remained among the most vulnerable in the region. Migrants were hindered from crossing international borders and were strongly affected by the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic and climate change, within a larger context of increasing stigma and discrimination. The continuing instability in Haiti placed increased pressure on the Dominican Republic, which responded with a hard-line approach to migration. In 2022, an estimated 176,777 people were deported from the Dominican Republic and the Government initiated the construction of a wall along the border. OHCHR implemented a subregional strategy on migration in Central America and Mexico and coordinated with the United Nations Regional Collaborative Platform and the thematic Issue-based Coalition (IBC). Moreover, it enhanced its capacity to monitor and report on Venezuelan migration and worked with

the Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela to mainstream the rights of migrants in the region.

OHCHR engaged with Member States, regional organizations and civil society organizations cooperating with the HRC to ensure that country situations requiring international attention (Nicaragua and Venezuela) remained on the HRC agenda. On 31 March, a new resolution on Nicaragua was adopted. The resolution renewed the High Commissioner's mandate to monitor and report on the human rights situation and created a Group of Human Rights Experts to promote accountability efforts. Interactive dialogues (Nicaragua and Venezuela) and annual reports on the human rights situation and the work of the Office in Colombia, Guatemala and Honduras were presented to the Council during its forty-ninth session. A new report on Venezuela was submitted to the Council at its fiftieth session and reports on Nicaragua were submitted during its forty-ninth and fifty-first sessions. On 3 October, a new resolution on Venezuela was adopted, which renewed the High Commissioner's mandate to monitor the situation, report to the Council and provide technical cooperation to the Government for another two years. It also extended the FFM for an additional two years.

In 2022, OHCHR responded to emerging situations. In Peru, inequalities and discrimination, particularly against women and Indigenous Peoples, were exacerbated by the deteriorating socio-political crisis, political instability and polarization, the re-emergence of social conflicts and the devastating impacts of the pandemic. In January, the Government agreed to deploy an

OHCHR team to Peru and, in July, the High Commissioner visited the country. As a result, the Government reaffirmed its commitment to prioritize a human rights agenda. OHCHR strengthened its technical missions in Bolivia and Venezuela, including by increasing staff and cooperation with stakeholders in both countries.

In Haiti, a staff member was deployed for three months to support the work of the Human Rights Service in relation to coordinating the protection sector and humanitarian work on the ground. This enabled OHCHR to increase its contribution to humanitarian issues.

In Ecuador, support was provided in response to the deterioration of the human rights situation through cooperation with the Resident Coordinator (RC) and joint UN actions. Ecuador's landscape in 2022 was marked by issues of concern, including: social protests led by Indigenous movements in May-June; repeated incidents of extreme violence in prisons; and a rapid deterioration of public internal security. OHCHR contributed to the development of a public policy on social rehabilitation in prisons and a new law on the use of force that complies with international human rights standards.

In Colombia, OHCHR focused its monitoring of the legislative elections (March) and the presidential elections (May-June) on: security guarantees for candidates, social leaders and human rights defenders (HRDs); the impacts of violence by armed actors on rural communities; the protection of the right to peaceful assembly; and cases of incitement to hatred and stigmatization during the campaign. In Brazil, OHCHR focused on the human rights risks related to the October elections,

as well as an increasing polarization in society, political violence and hate speech; repeated attacks against the judiciary/electoral bodies and disinformation campaigns targeting the voting system by high-ranking government officials; threats/attacks against HRDs and journalists; systemic racism and ongoing police brutality; and a growing humanitarian crisis faced by the Yanomami people and other Indigenous Peoples due to an invasion by illegal miners.

BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
12.22 million	1,099,000 km ²	0.692 (rank: 118/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement	Technical mission (Other type of field presence)		
Year established	2019 (technical mission)		
Field office(s)	La Paz		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	6		

XB requirements 2022**US\$2,317,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:****Accountability****A1 – Progress is achieved in prosecuting criminal investigations of human rights violations.**

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the increased conformity of accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards.

With OHCHR's support, more criminal investigations respected international standards, particularly in cases regarding the right to justice for past human rights violations. OHCHR engaged with new stakeholders, such as different units of the police force, and consolidated the work it had undertaken in previous years with the Office of the Prosecutor, the Attorney

General's Office (AGO) and the Ministry of Justice. Following this engagement, OHCHR and the Ministry of Justice collaborated to determine how certain crimes are defined in the Penal Code, with a view to ensuring their alignment with international standards.

The Office and the Government agreed upon a protocol for trial monitoring. In 2022, OHCHR conducted its first trial monitoring exercise of a former head of State, former president Jeanine Añez. In a public statement about this highly sensitive case, which was published in June, the Office identified its concern regarding a lack of respect for due process. The Office maintained its principled position and reinforced its role as an independent and impartial actor.

The Office monitored the right to peaceful protest in contexts of social and political turmoil, including protests by coca leaf growers in La Paz and the 36-day strike in the Santa Cruz Department. Throughout 2022, the Office documented the detention conditions of women deprived of their liberty, with special attention paid to Indigenous women who were held in 17 detention centres across the country. A total of 195 women, including 45 Indigenous women, were interviewed with the support of Senior Indigenous Fellows. This information was shared with relevant authorities and CSOs and OHCHR continued to develop trustworthy relations with these actors and victims, with a particular emphasis on the protection of women.

A2 – Strengthened independence of the judiciary and increased efficiency and conformity with international human rights standards of the AGO, the Protection Programme of Victims and Witnesses and the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the increased conformity of accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards.

Following OHCHR's advocacy and support, national authorities began developing a new normative framework on the right to reparation for victims of serious human rights violations, founded on international human rights law, with the participation of victims. In addition, the Office provided support and facilitated dialogue. This led to the conclusion of an agreement, in August, enabling victims of

dictatorships to end their 10-year sit-in to claim their rights. OHCHR will continue to provide policy advice on the elaboration of normative documents and other measures to promote the rights of victims, while also ensuring their participation.

Between May and July, the Office implemented the first phase of a planned intervention with the AGO to prevent political violence against elected women representatives. This included enhancing the human rights awareness and capacities of departmental assembly representatives and municipal councillors throughout the country. Approximately 800 elected officials, including 350 women, learned about their human rights responsibilities.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Assistance in the creation of public policies and legislation related to detention centres and persons deprived of their liberty increasingly complied with international human rights standards due to improved awareness-raising about and monitoring of detention conditions.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR renewed its partnership with the National Committee against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and participated in its meetings as an observer (as established in its founding law). As a result of support provided by the Office and UN Women, the National Committee developed its own workplan and a five-year strategy, in February. In addition, the Office advocated for inclusiveness and transparency in the work of the

Committee. Further, it offered technical and financial support for a national summit against racism that took place in December, with the participation of more than 600 people from across Bolivia.

OHCHR played a key role in incorporating a human-rights based approach (HRBA) into the new Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027, which was signed by the Government and the United Nations on 8 December.

Development

D3 – Advocacy and trainings of Indigenous communities were undertaken to enhance their knowledge about their rights to territory, land and natural resources. Pathways opened up for advocacy and participation in public decisions affecting their rights. Indigenous Peoples have improved means to exercise their political rights through the election of their own representatives.



OHCHR contributed to improving the meaningful participation of rights holders in public processes.

Founded on OHCHR's policy advice, a new mechanism was established by the Ministry of Justice, in September, with a mandate to improve institutional coordination and provide concrete measures for the protection of Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact. The Office extended assistance to an Indigenous Tribunal and helped to revitalize and strengthen a network of 28 Indigenous experts, with the aim of facilitating coordination between Indigenous

justice and ordinary justice. To this end, the Tribunal prepared an advocacy agenda.

The Office will continue to support the development of Indigenous jurisdiction and promote coordination and collaboration, including by advocating for a review of existing legal frameworks and the promotion of collective rights.

Mechanisms

M5 – Strengthened knowledge and the use of the international human rights mechanisms by the National Institute for Human Rights (INDH), CSOs, HRDs, Indigenous Peoples and journalists to demand the protection of their human rights.



OHCHR empowered a number of national human rights institutions (NHRIs), CSOs, UN entities and individuals that made substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Under the leadership of OHCHR, the UN Country Team (UNCT) prepared and submitted reports to four human rights treaty bodies, namely, the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW), the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The Office also worked with CSOs to provide technical assistance on the elaboration of alternative reports.

 Participation

P4 – Civil society organizations have better tools and methodologies to defend human rights and support victims of human rights violations at the national and local level, including the use of regional and international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening and institutionalizing human rights training and civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations.

OHCHR organized a number of seminars, workshops and open dialogues to ensure victims’ associations had the space to participate in the search for justice and redress. Nearly 330 individuals attended these events, including 100 women. OHCHR will continue supporting victims of serious human rights violations to participate in developing new legal and policy frameworks related to the right to truth, justice, reparations and the guarantee of non-recurrence.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser for English-speaking Caribbean
Countries of engagement	Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago
Year established	2012
Field office(s)	Belmopan (Belize), Bridgetown (Barbados), Georgetown (Guyana), Kingston (Jamaica) and Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)
UN partnership framework	United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework for the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean 2022-2026
Staff as of 31 December 2022	4

XB requirements 2022

US\$1,888,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems. Three countries or more will have made significant progress towards institutionalizing human rights training for law enforcement officials.

16

OHCHR’s advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building support contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training in a number of key areas.

In **Belize**, OHCHR provided advisory support and technical assistance to the Belize Police Department, particularly in relation to the integration of human rights into the standard training of law enforcement officers and police recruits. As a result, the Police Training Academy now includes a curriculum on human rights that accompanies the training on the Policy on the Use of Force. OHCHR also supported the Police Department with the development and dissemination of public communication materials on the responsibilities of law enforcement officers and the rights of citizens when engaging with the police.

In 2023, OHCHR will provide training for senior police officers and other law enforcement officers on the use of force. An agreement was reached that another training will be delivered to police officers on the application of an HRBA in humanitarian crises.

In **Guyana**, OHCHR participated in preparations for joint UN initiatives on law enforcement under the Spotlight Initiative, which will be implemented in 2023.

In **Trinidad and Tobago**, OHCHR and IOM provided training for coast guard officers, thereby contributing to upholding the rights of migrants and human rights in the context of border control. This work will be expanded in 2023.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – In three countries or more, laws and/or policies provide better protection for the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, migrants and/or religious minorities.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards in relation to the rights of migrants, persons with disabilities and other discriminated groups.

Within their respective UNCTs, all HRAs in the English-speaking Caribbean countries supported the Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) and UNCTs in the implementation of the Secretary-General's United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). Support was also provided in monitoring hate speech directed at racial and religious groups, Haitian and Venezuelan migrants and the LGBTI community and affiliated CSOs.

In **Belize**, OHCHR contributed to increased awareness about discrimination among CSOs through an information session on the International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024 and efforts to promote inclusion and stop discrimination. A training programme and technical assistance was designed and is being finalized to improve the knowledge and capacities of CSOs and the Government in relation to this work.

In cooperation with the **Guyana** Ministry of Health, OHCHR supported the development of a National Advocacy Plan for the LGBTI community, as well as an initiative of the Caribbean Development Bank and Guyana's Ministry of Home Affairs to develop a gender-inclusive and socially-inclusive training manual on trafficking in persons and the LGBTI community. In addition, OHCHR supported a workshop that was organized by the Guyana Ministry of Health to prepare a National Advocacy Plan for the LGBTI community.

Also in Guyana, in July, OHCHR participated in the "Annual National Toshias' Council Conference," which brought together Indigenous leaders from over 212 communities across Guyana and served as a platform for Toshias to engage with cabinet ministers, government entities and other stakeholders with regard to access to services and the development of their communities. The dialogue provided an opportunity for democratic, participatory engagement with Indigenous groups that generated a strong momentum to amend the Guyana Amerindian Act and other policy measures.

In **Saint Kitts and Nevis**, the Government made progress on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. This was primarily due to OHCHR's efforts to increase awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities, including through: the preparation and carrying out of a national survey on the situation of persons with disabilities in the Federation, which was linked to the national census; the coordination of stakeholder consultations between government officials from various sectors, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), persons with disabilities and other CSOs; and the launch of a public information campaign with three animated, short films, to be released in 2023, that explain the survey and raise awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities.

In **Jamaica**, OHCHR collaborated with the UNCT Gender and Human Rights Theme Group and the leadership of the RCO to advocate for the entry into force of the Disabilities Act (2014). This took place on 14 February, marking a milestone in the lives of persons with disabilities. The Act includes provisions to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities, prohibit all forms of discrimination and safeguard and enhance their welfare. The Act also requires: the establishment of a Disabilities Tribunal; the restructuring of the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities (JCPD); the development and implementation of codes of practice to provide practical guidance on the inclusion of persons with disabilities; the preparation of a confidential register of persons with disabilities; and consultations with stakeholders to assist in the formulation of the policy that informs regulations on disabilities.

Development

D5 – Disaster risk assessment and response strategies, as well as projects and policies addressing environmental and climate change impacts (by strengthening the resilience and adaptability of vulnerable populations), have integrated safeguards for the rights of affected populations, in particular vulnerable groups, into two countries or more.



Through advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives, OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of climate-related policies with international human rights norms and standards.

In the wake of the damage suffered after Hurricane Julia, which hit **Belize**, in October, OHCHR advocated for the application of an HRBA to protection assessments and recommendations to the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). Further, an assessment of the vulnerability of coastal populations to climate change, including people of African descent, was concluded. OHCHR undertook data collection and a literature review in relation to specific communities and populations, which will inform the CCA update in 2023.

In **Guyana**, OHCHR collaborated with the RCO to encourage the compliance of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry Code of Conduct with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Moreover, an assessment was undertaken on the vulnerability of coastal populations during discussions between relevant stakeholders regarding the threats of rising sea levels and intense flooding caused by heavy rainfall. An overwhelming

majority of Guyana's population resides on the coast and in the exclusive economic zone, putting several populations at risk.

Mechanisms

M1 – At least six Caribbean countries have established mechanisms for human rights reporting and follow-up.



OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and/or the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

In the **Bahamas**, OHCHR worked closely with the RCO and UN Women to organize a workshop for members of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, including CEDAW, CRC, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). The objective of the workshop was to provide technical assistance on the drafting of overdue reports, including the periodic report to CEDAW and the initial report to CRPD and to come up with a road map for their completion before the Bahamas participates in its fourth UPR cycle in 2023. The workshop included two sessions for CSOs and the Government on alternative reporting and a session on how to strengthen the coordination capacity of NMRFs, which was attended by Members of Parliament.

In **Guyana**, the Government established an NMRF, in June, following technical support from a human rights officer that was deployed for six months. Furthermore, several training sessions for the NMRF were conducted, including on the human rights-based approach, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and Guyana's human rights framework. The sessions involved the participation of 128 members (86 women, 42 men) from Government ministries, State agencies, statutory bodies, constitutional agencies and CSOs and contributed to increasing dialogues among all partners on key human rights issues.

In **Jamaica**, OHCHR conducted a two-day training workshop entitled "Introduction to CRC and CRPD and treaty body reporting guidelines." The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of stakeholders, including government officials, in relation to the human rights treaty body reporting process and the constructive dialogue. The training provided an overview of the international human rights system, with an emphasis on CRPD, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and their underlying concepts and principles, the human rights treaty body reporting cycle, the benefits of reporting and monitoring and the coordination of and follow-up on the implementation of concluding observations.

M1 – At least 10 reports are submitted to the human rights treaty bodies by Caribbean countries, which substantially or fully comply with the reporting guidelines.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the reporting of Caribbean countries to the human rights treaty bodies, in compliance with reporting requirements.

Saint Kitts and Nevis presented its combined fifth to ninth periodic reports to CEDAW, which was considered during the Committee's eighty-third session, in October. The Government expressed interest in reporting to CRPD in 2023-2024 due to the joint advocacy of OHCHR and UN Women that encouraged the Government's engagement and following several activities that were carried out on disability inclusion and the rights of persons with disabilities. For instance, support was provided to gather and process data from the national disability survey that was conducted in December.

M2 – At least five CSOs produced alternative reports to a human rights treaty body or prepared a stakeholder report in anticipation of the third UPR cycle of their country. At least 10 CSOs produced alternative reports to a human rights treaty body or a stakeholder report in anticipation of the fourth UPR cycle.



OHCHR facilitated the preparation of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

In **Barbados**, with OHCHR's support and leadership, the United Nations Sub-Regional Team (UNST) prepared a comprehensive contribution for the UPR, in October, in anticipation of the country's fourth UPR cycle, scheduled in 2023. It underlined several areas of progress, as well as challenges that were faced in the 2018-2022 period. It also offered information and analyses from various UN agencies, funds and programmes in relation to ESCRs and environmental issues. With assistance and support from the HRA, a group of CSOs submitted inputs to the UPR with regard to children, food and non-communicable diseases. These inputs were particularly useful given that the country does not have an NHRI, has not submitted reports to the human rights treaty bodies in the last several years and has not received visits from any special procedures mandate holders.

In September, in **the Bahamas**, OHCHR conducted two sessions for CSOs on alternative reporting as part of a three-day workshop on reporting to CEDAW, CRC, CRPD and CERD.

In **Guyana**, the HRA facilitated sessions that contributed to strengthening the capacities of CSOs in relation to human rights reporting and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.

CENTRAL AMERICA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Regional Office located in Panama City (Panama), with Human Rights Advisers in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and El Salvador
Staff as of 31 December 2022	39

Total income	US\$854,863		
XB requirements 2022	US\$6,658,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,783,719		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
62%	27%	11%	
\$1,100,655	\$490,831	\$192,233	
RB expenditure	US\$1,086,544		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
84%	16%		
\$917,544	\$169,000		

Key OMP pillars in 2022



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

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

16 

OHCHR enhanced its capacities to gather information, analyse and report on human rights situations and follow up on the status of the implementation of recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR strengthened its efforts to gather information on the human rights situation in El Salvador, including by reporting on and raising awareness about cases and/or situations of concern, particularly in light of the state of

emergency that was declared in March. OHCHR’s technical assistance and advocacy contributed to ensuring that legislative amendments on organized crime and telecommunication interventions were undertaken in compliance with international standards. The original text of the Telecommunications Intervention Special Act enabled the NHRI to conduct annual audits and submit reports to the Legislative Committee on Legal and Constitutional Topics. At the same time, the NHRI could investigate individual complaints on the abusive intervention of telecommunications. The Government’s proposal sought to dismantle this oversight function, however, OHCHR’s analysis, which was shared with the Public Prosecutor and the Minister of Justice and Public Security, stressed that this action would be regressive and restrict the right to privacy. Due to OHCHR’s support, institutional guarantees, such as the NHRI’s oversight, remained in effect.

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

5 **10** **16**  

OHCHR contributed to aligning national protection systems with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office promoted the Latin American Model Protocol for the investigation of gender-related killings of women and a related self-directed online course that was launched for key institutions, within the framework of the European Union (EU)/United Nations Spotlight Initiative. Three countries in the region (**Bolivia, Brazil and Costa Rica**) adopted national

investigative protocols to deal with femicide cases, including the Protocol for Investigating Femicide in **El Salvador**, which was officially endorsed by the Attorney General, in November. In addition, 96 practitioners (90 per cent of whom were women) who work on femicide cases in countries across the region (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela), completed an online course.

The Office contributed to the drafting process of a regional protocol to investigate gender-related crimes against LGBTI persons through an ongoing partnership with the Specialized Network on Gender of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries. This partnership was fundamental to promoting the regional protocol and different adaptation processes in various countries.



Participation

P5 – Enhance the protection of HRDs at the national level by supporting the development/adoption of policies and the use of international/regional human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the protection of HRDs through the use of international/regional human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR continued to participate in the joint mechanism with the Inter-American Court for Human Rights (IACtHR) to contribute to the protection of HRDs in the Americas. From 22 to 23 November, in Quito, **Ecuador**, OHCHR collaborated with ECLAC, UNEP and the Government of Ecuador to host the “First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in

Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean,” in the context of the Escazú Agreement. During the two-day retreat for CSO focal points in the region, attendees shared their perspectives about digital security and good practices for protecting defenders and preventing threats. In addition, the retreat touched on the issue of civic space, with a particular emphasis on HRDs and journalists, and the establishment of regional networks. A series of working groups focused on a secure environment, protection measures, legal response measures and access to justice. National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) were identified. The Office facilitated the participation of three CSO representatives, namely, an Indigenous leader from Costa Rica, a social leader from the El Salvador Escazú coordination team and a Nicaraguan living in exile in Costa Rica.

OHCHR led the preparation of a joint declaration with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) on LGBTI defenders, which drew attention to an alarming increase in hate speech and violence being directed towards the community. It also called on all States to publicly reject these narratives of hate and stressed the importance of investigations and sanctions, in accordance with international human rights standards.

In **Nicaragua**, the Office monitored and reported on the human rights situation in order to protect HRDs. OHCHR submitted two reports to the HRC, in March and September, and delivered two oral updates, in June and December. Following the submission of the report, in March, the High Commissioner reiterated that accountability measures needed to be strengthened to address serious human rights violations. In response, the Council adopted resolution 49/3 to create a group

of human rights experts for Nicaragua and reinforce the work of the Office in the country. OHCHR and international NGOs advocated for the establishment of the group of human rights experts, which promotes accountability measures and the verification of human rights violations to identify individual perpetrators whenever possible. The Office provided monthly flash reports about Nicaragua, which have been subsequently cited by international and national media outlets, thereby increasing the visibility of the situation of Nicaragua.

In **El Salvador**, the Office strengthened the capacities of CSOs to prepare and submit reports and engage with the international human rights mechanisms, particularly those that defend the rights of migrants from El Salvador and the region, with an emphasis on ESCRs. Technical training sessions addressed the preparation of the report to the Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), cases of human rights violations, data protection for journalists and effective engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

In the **Dominican Republic**, the HRA supported the Inter-institutional Commission of Human Rights, chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the revision and two-year extension of the National Plan on Human Rights 2018-2024. The HRA assisted the Government in upgrading the SIMORED database to SIMORED Plus, which is a tool to plan, track, monitor and report on the implementation of international and regional human rights recommendations. The updated SIMORED Plus database was launched, in June, and its website will be made available to the public in 2023.

P6 – Those who are subject to discrimination, including women, LGBTI persons, people of African descent, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities, enhance their capacities to advocate for participation in decision-making processes.



OHCHR facilitated an increased level of meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

Under the UN Free & Equal campaign in **Panama**, the Office supported the production and dissemination of a video that highlights the experiences of transgender, intersex and non-binary persons. This and other materials were widely shared through traditional media (radio and television) and digital social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others). It also convened two meetings (17 May and 16 June) with relevant stakeholders on international and regional standards (i.e., Inter-American Court of Human Rights Advisory Opinion on gender identity, equality and non-discrimination of same-sex couples (24/2017)). These activities inspired the Office of the Ombudsperson (Defensoría del Pueblo) to organize a roundtable between authorities and LGBTI groups to assess the situation facing LGBTI persons and provide a space to discuss the development of inclusive legislation/public policies for the promotion and protection of LGBTI rights.

In the **Dominican Republic**, the national Free & Equal awareness-raising campaign supported the elaboration, publication and dissemination of a guide on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of LGBTI persons. The guide was distributed among more than 150 partners, including government authorities, the donor community and CSOs.

Non-discrimination

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



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

In the **Dominican Republic**, the HRA supported the RC and the UNCT in coordinating the implementation of an OHCHR-driven initiative of the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities to strengthen UNCT programming to prevent and combat discrimination and promote the rights and protection of minorities. This led the UNCT to elaborate a Plan of Action to implement the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, in 2023, with the technical assistance of the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect.

ND2 – Costa Rica and Panama have incorporated the UNGPs into their National Action Plans (NAPs) and actively promote their implementation in all sectors.



The number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly increased.

In **Panama**, progress was made on the implementation of the National Policy of Public-Private Corporate Social Responsibility (PNRS), in compliance with international human rights standards. The Office promoted the establishment of a multi-stakeholder committee and five working groups to help promote the implementation of the NAP. At the beginning of the year, the Office helped to organize an event to support the implementation of the PNRS, in May, with the participation of 100 stakeholders, including the Chamber of Commerce, private companies and line ministries. OHCHR facilitated the creation of working groups mandated to identify the objectives, responsibilities, reporting structures and general methodologies related to the implementation of the PNRS. A pilot phase for the implementation of 20 activities contained in the PNRS was carried out between May and October. A monitoring workshop was subsequently organized to review the initial progress reports and identify the needs and difficulties encountered by each of the working groups. The Office also organized two training workshops on human rights and the private sector to strengthen the business and human rights capacities of approximately 170 representatives from ministries and companies involved in the implementation of the PNRS. The working groups are now operating independently and the Office is providing a supportive role.

The PNRS is the first business and human rights public policy to be implemented in the Central American region. The Office promoted three workshop cycles on due diligence for human rights prevention involving companies, Offices of the Ombudsperson and representatives of the judicial branch. OHCHR delivered the first workshop cycle to Sumarse, an

alliance of 12 companies from the cement, oil, banking and commercial sectors. The workshops were more practical than theoretical and focused on the promulgation of due diligence standards. In October, the Office organized a cycle of four inter-institutional peer learning dialogues involving the Danish Institute of Human Rights and the Offices of the Ombudsperson in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru in order to explore the role of human rights institutions in promoting the due diligence agenda. Finally, OHCHR held an event with officials from the judiciary to promote the inclusion of responsible business conduct standards in court decisions.

In Costa Rica, OHCHR's technical advice to the Advisory Unit for State Property Investment (which represents the public shareholders of State-owned companies), led the Advisory Unit to direct 13 of these companies, such as the Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (ICE), the Bank of Costa Rica and the National Insurance Institute, to adopt due diligence standards, including on the identification of risk prevention. This directive is the most significant action undertaken in relation to business and human rights in the past three years. In 2023, the Office will request meetings with State-owned enterprises to offer technical assistance on fulfilling this directive. Following its previous work with the Costa Rican Coffee Institute in 2021, the Office was invited to participate in a process for the elaboration of the first public policy on gender in the context of responsible business conduct.

COLOMBIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
51.87 million	1,142,000 km ²	0.752 (rank: 88/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		1997	
Field office(s)		Bogotá, with field presences in Arauca, Barranquilla, Cali, Cúcuta, Medellín, Neiva, Pasto, Quibdó and Villavicencio	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		73	

XB income	US\$7,585,142	
XB requirements 2022	US\$14,588,000	
XB expenditure	US\$9,955,439	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
61%	28%	11%
\$6,100,810	\$2,752,244	\$1,102,385

Key OMP pillars in 2022



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The Government adopts or strengthens policies that prevent human rights violations from occurring in the context of the justice system.

16

Through technical assistance, OHCHR aimed to support the increased compliance of selected policies with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR continued its dialogue with the AGO to establish a new framework for

cooperation and contribute to the investigations of the murders of HRDs. After several technical work sessions, the Office and the AGO agreed on a new collaboration scheme to produce analyses on patterns of violence in Colombia, with the objective of contributing to the dismantling of non-State armed groups, the primary source of violence against HRDs.

OHCHR strengthened its engagement with the AGO Working Group in relation to threats and promoted the investigation of 35 cases of threats against HRDs in several regions of the country.

Working groups were established with HRDs and specialized prosecutors responsible for investigating these threats. Together with the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Office analysed the sentences handed down in the cases of murdered HRDs.

The Office provided technical assistance to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) Investigation and Indictment Unit (UIA) on incorporating international human rights law and international criminal law standards into the indictments of alleged perpetrators of international crimes committed during the armed conflict, including extrajudicial killings by military officials (cases known as “false positives”) and hostage-taking by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People’s Army (FARC-EP). OHCHR’s advocacy with the President of the JEP and his Office, along with other magistrates and the JEP Gender Commission, led the JEP to recognize that a gender-based perspective should not only be applied in cases of gender-based violence, but in all open macro-cases, at every stage of the process and in relation to special sanctions.



Participation

P1 – Relevant regional, national and local institutions apply an HRBA to public policies and programmes related to the implementation of the Peace Accords and emphasize participation and accountability.

16



OHCHR continued to support the enhanced compliance with international human rights standards of the policies of national and local institutions through technical assistance, guidance and monitoring activities.

In the context of a joint project with the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Office promoted the development of local public policies, in accordance with an HRBA. More specifically, OHCHR provided assistance with the formulation of six risk assessments for HRDs, three of which were finalized, and five public policy documents to guarantee their work in the municipalities of Ocaña, Puerto Wilches, Puerto Asís, Puerto Rico (Meta), Argelia and the Governor’s Office of Magdalena.

The Office continued to increase the capacities of civil society and ethnic authorities by strengthening five HRD networks in different regions of the country. The networks serve as part of a protection strategy and provide an opportunity to influence local public policies on rights related to land, the environment and security and the rights of women, Indigenous Peoples and people of African descent. Meetings were held with the human rights networks of Arauca, Norte de Santander, Magdalena Medio, Chocó and Putumayo. OHCHR offered technical assistance to traditional Bari authorities in the preparation of a report for the Criminal Chamber of the Superior Tribunal of Cucuta on the implementation of Ruling T-052 of 2017, which emphasizes the need to protect and legalize their territory.

P2 – Institutions responsible for the protection of HRDs respond to requests from OHCHR regarding judicial investigations to promote the resolution of cases of aggression and violence against HRDs.



OHCHR contributed to the improved, timely and effective protection of CSOs and individuals, including from reprisals, by the UN system and international, regional and national mechanisms.

OHCHR documented cases of killings and attacks against HRDs and shared an analysis of patterns and trends with the Ministries of Interior and of Defence to advocate for the adoption of prevention measures. Information was also shared with local authorities on specific risks affecting HRDs. In particular, the Office drew attention to the situation of environmental HRDs and provided technical assistance to the Ministry of the Environment for the creation of a database that disaggregates information on attacks against them.

The Office worked with nine CSOs on the formulation of self-protection plans. The Office led the analyses, identification of measures and adoption of self-protection and collective protection plans, as well as the development of strategies, to assist territorial and national authorities that are responsible for prevention and collective protection issues. The Office will continue to work on the implementation of these plans in 2023.

P6 – Victims, Indigenous Peoples and women participate more fully in decisions that concern them.



Through technical assistance and capacity-building support, OHCHR advocated for the expansion of civic spaces for the meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women, in public processes.

OHCHR delivered training to at least 560 participants from 29 women’s organizations, municipal councils, three LGBTI organizations, 11 ethnic organizations and three rights-based organizations working on the establishment of protection mechanisms for women and LGBTI persons.

The trainings focused on the rights of rural women and the protection of women and LGBTI HRDs and provided a platform for the exchange of knowledge between participants. As a result of the trainings, LGBTI organizations in Tumaco participated in the development of a municipal public policy on the rights of LGBTI persons and women's organizations in Santa Marta and Cauca integrated a gender approach into their protection, self-protection and self-care plans.

Development

D2 – The NAP on Business and Human Rights is fully implemented. The institutions responsible for economic and investment policies and departments, districts and municipalities, including Indigenous territories, are more fully engaged.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of State institutions and programmes with the UNGPs and other international human rights standards.

The Office supported a working group of CSOs, think tanks and academia that analysed the country's two NAPs in order to promote the integration of lessons learned and business and human rights standards. The Office prepared a series of recommendations to submit to the Government.

OHCHR participated in a technical working group convened by the Ministry of Mines and Energy to redefine the human rights policy for the mining and energy sectors and an amendment of Colombia's mining code, with a view to ensuring that human rights are guaranteed in these sectors.

From 13 to 15 July, in Bogota, the Office cooperated with ILO and OECD to organize the Seventh Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America and the Caribbean. Over 2,000 people from 54 countries participated, including from the private sector (28 per cent), CSOs (17 per cent), the public sector (16 per cent), academia (11 per cent) and international organizations (11 per cent). The Forum benefited from high-level participation from different countries of the region and increased visibility on the agenda related to mandatory due diligence for business. One of the key achievements of the event was the promotion of a draft law to make due diligence mandatory for business in Colombia.

D3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.

1 11

Through technical and capacity-building assistance, OHCHR provided support to State institutions and programmes to improve their compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR supported and advised the Land Restitution Unit (URT) and the Bari people during the restitution of their collective territorial rights. The Office participated in and advised a working session between the URT and delegates of the Bari people, during which: 1) a methodological and operational pathway was developed for the on-site identification of non-ethnic inhabitants in the characterized territory, in compliance with a court order; and 2) an agreement was reached whereby the legal representative of Ñatubaiyibará (association of traditional authorities of

the Bari people) would provide written authorization for the URT to revoke two administrative acts that conclude the characterization study.

Peace and Security

PS1 – All actors involved in peace operations increasingly recognize and comply with international human rights standards and international humanitarian law and enhance the protection of civilians.

5 16 

By documenting and analysing human rights violations, the Office was able to identify some of the structural factors that are driving violence and provide technical assistance to relevant national institutions that are working to address these violations.

The Office provided technical assistance to the National Commission on Security Guarantees (CNGS) on the draft of a policy and action plan to dismantle the criminal organizations that are responsible for the massacres and murders of HRDs, social leaders and former FARC-EP combatants. The Office participated in all work sessions; delivered a technical document that contained five good practices of the dismantling of criminal organizations in 107 countries and suggestions on how those practices could be adapted in the context of Colombia; and presented OHCHR's analyses on the dynamics of violence it had observed.

Further, the Ministry of Interior requested OHCHR and the Office of the Ombudsperson to serve as the Technical Secretariat of the "National Guarantees Roundtable," which will serve as a space for dialogue between CSOs and the

Government. OHCHR will support this work in 2023 and has begun activating dialogue spaces in Antioquia, Valle del Cauca, Putumayo, Magdalena Medio and Cordillera Nariñense.

PS3 – The Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the General Command of Military Forces, the National Police, the Office of the Procurator General and the Office of the Ombudsperson act to prevent and respond to conflict and consistently integrate human rights.

16

OHCHR contributed to conflict prevention and response strategies that consistently integrate human rights.

At the request of the Government, OHCHR participated in the formulation of the National Police Reform Bill and played a key role in training developed for disciplinary judges on the application of international human rights standards in cases of alleged human rights violations. It further participated in six meetings with the Universidad Externado de Colombia and the National Police to reach an agreement on the focus of the human rights training course for judges.

The Office met with the Ministry of Defence and discussed: 1) the framework on military doctrine reform and the incorporation of international human rights norms and standards into operative, control and accountability aspects and intelligence work; 2) the implementation of Directive 13 on the relationship between the Ministry of Defence and the Office, which will help to measure the impact of the new security policy; and 3) the identification of human rights indicators for the defence sector. At the request

of the Ministry of Defence, the Office provided technical advice on the application of international human rights standards to bombings and recommended changes to the handling of intelligence information and abstaining from bombing when there is uncertainty. It also provided guidance on coordinating with other ministries to prevent the recruitment or use of children by groups that generate violence. OHCHR provided comments on the draft intelligence bill and recommended the inclusion of a transparent control mechanism to collect, use and declassify intelligence in cases of substantiated claims where this information was used to commit human rights violations.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – National institutions more effectively combat discrimination against ethnic peoples, women and LGBTI persons.

5 10 16 

Through technical support, OHCHR contributed to the demonstrated improvement of State institutions and programmes, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR provided recommendations to 25 State entities regarding standards for the eradication of discrimination and gender-based violence (GBV), including: the implementation of Law No. 1719 (2014) on access to justice for victims of sexual violence; the adoption of gender guidelines in the High-level Instance of the Comprehensive Security System for the Exercise of Politics (SISEP); and the development of a regional protocol to investigate gender-related crimes against LGBTI persons, including through the organization of a regional forum, in cooperation with OHCHR's gender focal points in Latin America.

GUATEMALA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
17.84 million	109,000 km ²	0.627 (rank: 135/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2005	
Field office(s)		Guatemala City	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		32	

XB income	US\$4,851,457
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XB requirements 2022	US\$5,736,000
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XB expenditure	US\$4,498,635
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Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
69%	20%	11%
\$3,082,411	\$935,321	\$480,903

Key OMP pillars in 2022



^{1 2 3 4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P2 – Institutional mechanisms to protect HRDs are strengthened, in accordance with international standards, and include gender-based and culturally appropriate approaches.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the compliance of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards, including those that are responsible for protecting HRDs and journalists.

In 2022, there was a 54 per cent increase in the total number of documented attacks against HRDs, compared to 2021. The Office documented 117 cases of attacks against HRDs (20 women, 75 men, 22 organizations), including journalists, members of Indigenous communities and representatives of HRD organizations. Three HRDs and one journalist were killed. The Office also observed and documented due process and the judicial process in 23 hearings of 17 HRDs, including journalists and justice officials (nine women, eight men) and submitted its findings to the IACHR and the United Nations special procedures.

The Office increased the knowledge of 155 HRDs and journalists (57 women, 98 men) about national, regional and international human rights mechanisms. This resulted in actions to: advocate for the establishment of legal status of Indigenous communities; protect HRDs from criminalization; uphold their rights to defend their territory and human rights; teach them about international provisions related to freedom of expression; and enable them to protect themselves from Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs).

Furthermore, the Office carried out 16 field missions to monitor and document the human rights situation in the regions of Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Izabal, Chimaltenango, Sacatepéquez, Chiquimula and Huehuetenango. The missions focused on raising awareness about the right to land and territory, the relationship between business and human rights and the environment, the implementation of justice and protection measures ordered by the IACtHR and the criminalization of and attacks against HRDs. During the missions, meetings were held with Indigenous authorities and representatives of communities, CSOs, State institutions and local authorities to share and obtain information which guides the work of the Office and informs its public reports, including for the Human Rights Council.

OHCHR participated in 21 meetings with Indigenous Peoples, peasants, national and international organizations of HRDs and media outlets concerning attacks against HRDs, including journalists and justice officials, to provide technical advice and coordinate protection measures with authorities and CSOs. The Office also met with CSOs, the NHRI and human rights prosecutors of the AGO to discuss updates on cases.

P6 – Rights holders, especially women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and under-represented groups, defend human rights and make their voices heard in public decision-making processes.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the participation of rights holders, especially youth and discriminated groups, in human rights initiatives.

OHCHR collaborated with UNDP, WFP and UNFPA at the Youth Festival (FESTIJOVEN), to engage with and strengthen the capacities of young people to participate in decision-making processes and to defend human rights. A total of 70 young people, university students and rural youth attended the Festival. In addition, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal offered participants the opportunity to register in the electoral system in anticipation of the upcoming elections. During the event, 28 Indigenous youth (16 women, 12 men) attended the training course on Indigenous rights that was organized by the Office.

OHCHR facilitated nine meetings with three youth organizations and six Indigenous youth leaders (six men) to increase their knowledge about the UPR and support the preparation and submission of reports in anticipation of the Guatemala's UPR review in January 2023. Various participants contributed inputs through the national NGO platform for the UPR.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Indigenous Peoples, women and discriminated groups use strategic litigation as a method to demand their rights and hold perpetrators accountable for human rights violations.



OHCHR increased the capacities of Indigenous Peoples, women and discriminated groups to monitor and follow up on the implementation of international human rights standards in relation to discriminatory legislation, public policies and practices.

OHCHR provided technical assistance through 67 workshops, seminars and meetings (131 women, 257 men) and 13 missions (206 women, 261 men) to various Indigenous communities (Cofradia of San José Poaquil, Altiplano Peasant Committee, Xinka Parliament, Peasant Unity Committee, Santa Elena Samanzana II, Sierra Santa Cruz, San Pablo Chinaha' and Xaal K'ixche' communities) and community radios. This assistance focused on strategies for implementing and following up on rulings handed down by national and regional courts and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, in particular regarding the rights to land, territory, the environment and freedom of speech and the formal recognition of community radios. Following these initiatives, Indigenous communities received recognition and were empowered to act as recognized entities before their respective municipalities. In some municipalities, discrimination and social conflicts reduced after the de facto recognition of Indigenous communities.

In August, the National Weavers' Movement presented a draft bill on

the protection of collective intellectual property rights to the Indigenous Peoples' Congressional Commission. In September, the draft bill was formally presented to the Congress. A total of 224 weavers (213 women, 11 men) participated in the National Weavers' Annual Meeting where they promoted the draft bill and drew attention to other actions that needed to be undertaken to protect their collective work. The Office provided technical assistance in preparing the draft, which is before Congress for consideration.

In February, OHCHR took steps to gather information about the human rights situation of the Garifuna people and women of African descent. The Office met with 54 individuals (45 women, nine men) from public institutions and CSOs in Puerto Barrios and Livingston (Department of Izabal).

In order to shed light on the marginalization and structural discrimination against people of African descent and the Garifuna people, in particular women, the Office organized an online event that enabled 45 women and five men to share their experiences. They stressed the importance of the international human rights mechanisms for the protection of their rights and as tools to address discrimination and enhance social and political participation.

In addition, the Office worked to increase the knowledge of 18 women from Indigenous communities and of African descent about the international legal framework on women's human rights and violence against women. A tool was shared with nine women lawyers to encourage the application of international human rights standards, a gender-based approach and an intersectional approach to judgments related to GBV.

From 6 to 7 September, OHCHR offices in the region organized the “First Regional Forum – Justice without impunity or prejudice: Advances and challenges for the investigation and prosecution of violent deaths of LGBTI people,” in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The Forum served as a platform to facilitate the preparation of a regional protocol to investigate gender-related crimes against LGBTI persons. More than 450 individuals participated in the event. A first draft is under review and will be presented at the Second Forum in 2023.

ND6 – An HRBA is applied to the implementation of policies regarding migration and strengthening cooperation with institutions and stakeholders working in this field, including civil society, State institutions and UN agencies, in order to effectively monitor, enforce and ensure respect for the human rights of migrants.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of State institutions to develop and implement laws, policies and practices for people on the move, in compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR monitored the human rights situation of people on the move in Guatemala as part of the regional strategy established with OHCHR-Honduras, OHCHR-Mexico and the Regional Office for Central America. A total of 10 internal monthly reports were prepared to inform advocacy and technical assistance. As part of the regional strategy, the Office supported and participated in the preparation of three public newsletters on regional trends in migration, including migration

dynamics and recommendations, which were shared with various counterparts outside the Office. The last newsletter analysed enforced disappearances of migrants, in consultation with the NHRI. Further, the Office consulted with entities from the National Board for Migration in Guatemala (MENAMIG) to identify good practices.

In January, in coordination with the NHRI, the Office monitored and provided advice and technical assistance to the Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM) regarding the “migrant caravan.” More than 300 migrants from Honduras and Nicaragua were travelling with the caravan to reach the United States. OHCHR’s engagement and advocacy with authorities sought to enhance understanding of human rights at the borders and promote the application of an HRBA to migration, particularly given the view of regional authorities that people on the move pose a threat to national security.

ND7 – The general public speaks out on critical human rights issues, reports abuses, demands necessary changes and participates in decision-making processes.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacities of rights holders to inform the public and provide analyses on discrimination and other critical issues from a human rights perspective and to familiarize them with international human rights standards and mechanisms.

On 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the Office launched its “Cambia la historia” social media campaign. The campaign featured a video of men, calling

on viewers to question common stereotypes and ideas about masculinity and urging them to take action to eliminate violence against women. The Twitter post that included the video reached over 3,000 individuals. The video was also played in Transmetro buses and the offices of Banco Industrial.

The Office collaborated with organizations of Indigenous Peoples that had had their rights upheld by the Constitutional Court of Guatemala and with No-Ficción (a digital media outlet), to support the preparation of five stories and short videos that outline the efforts of Indigenous Peoples to claim their rights before national and regional courts and international human rights mechanisms. The videos were disseminated through national media, web pages and at different events and cover collective intellectual property rights over Indigenous textiles, the administration of community lands and the right to consultation and freedom of expression through community radios. In addition, the Office supported the preparation and content of various radio campaigns, disseminated by four organizations of Indigenous Peoples, that focused on rights to ancestral lands, the administration of community lands and freedom of expression.

In February, the Office concluded a nine-session introductory course for journalists on human rights and individuals and groups in vulnerable situations. The training, which began in 2021, was delivered to 14 journalists (nine women, five men) to strengthen their knowledge about human rights protection mechanisms, freedom of expression, ESCRs and the rights of Indigenous Peoples, women, LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities.

Accountability

A1 – The AGO, the Public Defence Institute, the judiciary, the Constitutional Court, the Congress and State institutions increasingly integrate human rights standards into their policies and decisions. National and international CSOs, the Congress and other actors advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (ICCPR-OP2).

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

The Office collaborated with the AGO and engaged in capacity-development activities to increase the knowledge of 142 prosecutors about the prosecution of crimes committed against persons deprived of their liberty and the application of international human rights standards to the investigation of crimes against women and serious human rights violations. Emphasis was placed on the independence of prosecutors. Since the training, the participating prosecutors have included more references to international standards to support their cases and argumentation.

The Office documented and monitored attacks against 33 justice officials (18 women, 15 men) and six defence lawyers (three women, three men) in retaliation for their work against corruption or on cases related to grave human rights violations. This included the detention and judicial proceedings involving nine justice officials and lawyers and the detention conditions of two prosecutors. The Office used its documentation and monitoring

work to raise concerns with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the international community, national authorities and regional organizations.

Development

D3 – Rights holders, especially in the rural context, women, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities and others affected by discrimination, participate in the development of laws, policies and strategies related to food, housing and land.



OHCHR contributed to improving the incorporation of international human rights standards into the policies and practices of State institutions on the rights of persons with disabilities.

In the context of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), OHCHR collaborated with UNDP and UNFPA to prepare an online study about the situation of persons with disabilities in Guatemala. The study served as the foundation for institutionalizing a programme for persons with disabilities in Guatemala. This work is ongoing. In addition, the Office supported the organization of capacity-development activities to increase the knowledge of 89 representatives (including 75 women from 12 OPDs, two of which are focused on the rights of women with disabilities, six State officials from the National Council for the Care of Persons with Disability (CONADI, three women, three men) and the Ministry of Health), on various issues, such as the human rights of persons with disabilities, independent monitoring mechanisms, disability certification and the international human rights mechanisms.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Key State institutions working in the areas of prevention and citizen security adopt and increasingly implement policies, with the participation of civil society, that comply with international human rights standards and pay special attention to Indigenous Peoples, women, children, migrants and others subject to discrimination.



OHCHR improved the capacities of State institutions to comply with international human rights standards by providing technical assistance and documenting human rights concerns.

The Office observed 137 protests in Guatemala that were primarily deemed as peaceful (15 on location and 122 remotely). OHCHR's objective was to document police actions and the use of force and the reasons for the demonstrations, which included: concerns about the high level of corruption within State institutions; the increased cost of living, including the cost of petrol and public transport; and the political capture of the justice system related to the election for the Attorney General.

Following advocacy efforts, OHCHR and the National Civil Police (PNC) reached an agreement that the Office would provide it with technical assistance and strengthen the knowledge of its officials through the active monitoring of social protests and states of emergency and a capacity-building process. A total of 12 police officers, including five women, and 15 high-ranking police officers, including three women, completed a five-day training on international human rights standards, with a focus on the use of force, freedom of assembly, the human rights of people on the move, evictions and the rights of the LGBTI community.

HAITI: UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED OFFICE IN HAITI (BINUH)

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
11.59 million	28,000 km ²	0.535 (rank: 163/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2019)
Type of engagement		Special Political Mission	
Year established		2004 as MINUSTAH; as MINUJUSTH since 2017; BINUH since July 2019	
Field office(s)		Port-au-Prince	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2021 (extended to 2022)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		14	

XB requirements 2022**US\$1,965,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**

Accountability

A1 – The Inspectorate General for Police and the Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire (CSPJ) functions effectively and consistently investigates and prosecutes serious human rights violations.

16

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

BINUH's Human Rights Service (HRS) partnered with UNPOL to deliver two training sessions for 85 IGPNH investigators from 21 February to 13 March. The sessions aimed to build the capacity of IGPNH officers to investigate human

rights abuses and violations involving police officers. As a result, cooperation between the HRS and IGPNH increased. A total of 151 cases involving police officers were opened and 46 cases were successfully investigated. Of these, 28 cases were recommended for discipline to IGPNH management and six cases were handed over to the judiciary.

The HRS also provided technical and material support to the judicial police in its fight against impunity. From 14 to 18 March, the HRS collaborated with UNPOL to organize a training programme on criminal investigative techniques for 37 investigators, with an emphasis on atrocity crimes and sexual assault cases.

The HRS organized advocacy meetings on illegal detention and the fight against

impunity in connection with emblematic crimes for a wide range of authorities, including the Ministry of Justice, judges, the Direction Centrale de la Police Judiciaire (DCPJ), the CSPJ, the Office de la Protection du Citoyen (OPC) and CSOs. These meetings prompted the judicial authorities of Port-au-Prince and Petit Goave to organize 32 special habeas corpus hearings, with the technical and financial support of the HRS, which led to the release of 155 detainees from October to December. Some of these detainees had been held on minor charges, in inhumane conditions, for more than 10 years, without due process.

To fight against impunity for serious human rights violations, including sexual violence involving armed gangs, the HRS supported the Ministry of Justice and the CSPJ to develop a strategy on Specialized Judicial Centres (Pôles judiciaires spécialisés) within the Haitian justice system, in collaboration with the National Network of Haitian Magistrates (RENAMAH). This initiative is part of a road map that was developed during the "International conference on the creation of Specialized Judicial Centres," held from 9 to 11 August, in Port-au-Prince. The conference brought together approximately 200 judicial actors, including judges, lawyers, clerks and others, and was organized by RENAMAH and the Department of Justice, with technical and financial support from the HRS and UNDP.

The HRS carried out six visits to detention centres in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince, including the Port-au-Prince civil prison, the Cabaret civil prison for women and the Croix-des-Bouquet civil prison. The HRS determined that a high prevalence of illegal and arbitrary arrests and detentions, coupled with extreme prison overcrowding, consistently resulted

in serious human rights violations. The HRS subsequently engaged with judicial authorities and advocated for a resolution of these issues.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Steps have been taken to ensure that the rights of Haitian migrants are protected, in particular during deportation cases and when persons of Haitian descent become stateless in the Dominican Republic.



OHCHR contributed to efforts of relevant actors to monitor and follow up on cases of violations of the human rights of migrants.

Between 22 March and 28 April, the HRS and IOM undertook four capacity-building trainings at four official border points in the Dominican Republic (Belladère, Anse-à-Pitre, Ouanaminthe and Malpasse). The objective of the trainings was to strengthen the capacities of local actors to systematically and independently monitor and report on incidents of protection, including the forced and illegal expulsion of Haitian migrants. The trainings were attended by 121 participants, including 33 women, as well as representatives of OPDs.

From 21 to 22 April, the HRS supported the Fondasyon Je Kléré to establish CSOs working on the rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs), with particular attention paid to access to justice, especially for women, children and vulnerable groups. The training was delivered in the context of an increase in internal displacement.

In May, the HRS provided technical and financial assistance to Fondasyon Je Kléré to lead an advocacy campaign on the rights of migrants.

The HRS also supported the preparation of an advocacy action plan through the design of a comprehensive mapping of protection stakeholders. The document was developed to enhance the knowledge of relevant stakeholders and institutions on the rights of migrants and increase their awareness about international and regional complaint procedures in cases of violations of the rights of migrants, including IACHR procedures.

In June, the HRS supported the OPC to carry out assessments of temporary sites hosting IDPs who had fled gang violence in Croix-Des-Bouquets in April and May. The OPC conducted 14 field visits to IDP settlements and issued a position paper identifying serious human rights violations.

Peace and Security

PS6 – United Nations support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces.



OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of HRDDP implementation mechanisms and procedures.

In collaboration with UNPOL and local partners, the HRS developed an in-depth analysis on the dynamics of gangs, as well as the impacts of their armed activities on the local population. These analyses

enabled the HRS to publish reports on the impacts of gang violence on the physical integrity of and access to economic and social services for people living in marginalized areas. The first report entitled *Investigation into the gang armed confrontations in Cité-Soleil, Croix-des-Bouquets and Tabarre: April - May 2022*, was published in August. The report documents 226 deaths, dozens of cases of sexual violence and notes that approximately 1,600 people had left their homes to flee gang violence. The second report entitled *Sexual violence in Port-au-Prince: A weapon used by gangs to instil fear*, was published in October. It demonstrates how armed gangs have used rape, including collective rapes, and other forms of sexual violence to instil fear, punish, subjugate and inflict pain on local populations to expand their areas of influence throughout the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince. The HRS also published 62 notes detailing the primary human rights trends arising from gang violence.

Since March, as part of the Protection Sector, OHCHR organized meetings with protection actors to collect protection information and advocate for a response from the humanitarian community through the Inter-Sector Coordination Group. Similarly, the Protection Sector was involved in the drafting of the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) of 2022. Moreover, the HRS referred more than 100 protection incidents to UN agencies, thereby enabling victims, including survivors of sexual violence, to receive much needed assistance (i.e., medical, psychosocial and legal assistance).

Through a project funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF),

the HRS supported GOAL (an INGO), to establish a mechanism to monitor violations and abuses against local communities in gang-controlled areas, with the aim of increasing protection from gangs. More specifically, GOAL collected and analysed protection incidents affecting the most vulnerable persons through informants and a free hotline to coordinate appropriate responses with UN agencies (UNFPA, IOM, UNICEF and WFP). The project included activities designed to strengthen local community organizations through training sessions on human rights concepts, including protection, accountability, monitoring and reporting, and assisting them to become more independent by providing them with office equipment (the acquisition and delivery of equipment is ongoing). Two training sessions were held for 80 participants, including 34 women from different areas, in July and August.

HONDURAS

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³	
10.43 million	112,000 km ²	0.621 (rank: 137/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2019)	
Type of engagement		Country Office		
Year established		2015		
Field office(s)		Tegucigalpa		
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026		
Staff as of 31 December 2022		31		
XB income		US\$3,033,901		
XB requirements 2022		US\$6,373,000		
XB expenditure		US\$3,614,662		
Personnel		Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
73%		16%	11%	
\$2,647,016		\$577,900	\$389,746	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices on security, including the participation of military forces in citizen security tasks, more fully comply with international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

Following the general elections in November 2021, OHCHR strengthened its relationship and institutional work with

the Security Ministry and the National Police, becoming a trusted stakeholder and technical assistant in human rights matters. Specifically, OHCHR contributed to integrating an HRBA into security institutions through a two-year action plan, in collaboration with the Security Ministry. The plan is based on OHCHR's analysis of the security situation. In addition, OHCHR designed and presented a road map to progressively increase the human rights compliance of the National Police. The road map foresees the joint implementation of practical and measurable plans on transparency, investigation and prevention capacities, as well as accountability for human rights violations.

Furthermore, during the state of emergency, declared in early April, OHCHR advocated for the implementation of measures to ensure respect for international human rights obligations, particularly as two legal provisions contradicted international standards. The emergency decree disproportionately restricted the rights to freedom of thought and expression and the right not to be subjected to incommunicado detention or detention for more than 24 hours without a judicial review. After careful legal analysis, OHCHR submitted recommendations on amendments to the Ministry of Human Rights. The decree was amended to exclude the right to freedom of expression and the right not to be detained for more than 24 hours without a judicial review from the catalogue of restricted guarantees.

In response to a proposed bill by the National Congress to reform the functioning of the National Council for Defence and Security, OHCHR produced a technical analysis with recommendations to modify specific articles to ensure the inclusion of human rights criteria. This enhanced the quality of the congressional discussions related to its amendment.

OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacities of the NPM (CONAPREV) to monitor and document the human rights of vulnerable groups in places of detention, in particular members of the LGBTI community. This contributed to an indictment of a former military director of the national penitentiary on allegations of torture and ill-treatment. The facts of the case were documented by the NPM, with contributions from OHCHR.

During 2022, OHCHR consistently advocated for the removal of the penitentiary system from military jurisdiction to prevent human rights violations and security issues in prisons. In response,

the Government acknowledged the recommendations made by OHCHR and IACHR and initiated the demilitarization of the penitentiary system, temporarily transferring the administration to the National Police.

A2 – The Supreme Court and the AGO strengthen their technical and institutional capacities to prosecute human rights violations promptly, impartially and effectively.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring that oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms are in place and/or functioning, in compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical assistance for the preparation of the new legal framework for the selection of magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice, adopted by the National Congress on 20 July, which is in compliance with international human rights standards and obligations. Through a strategic alliance with the Ministry of Transparency and Fight against Corruption, the Office supported the drafting of the legislation and advocated before the Congressional Special Commission on Constitutional Matters, which submitted the draft to Congress. OHCHR provided strategic capacity-building support to the Nominating Board for the development and approval of its internal regulations. In January 2023, the Nominating Board sent a list of 45 candidates to Congress for the final election of 15 magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice. On 17 February, the National Congress concluded the process by selecting the 15 new magistrates (eight women, seven men).

OHCHR provided technical support to the AGO to increase its capacities to investigate emblematic cases of human rights violations, including in relation to GBV, crimes against the environment, crimes against HRDs and serious human rights violations committed by security forces and armed forces. OHCHR developed technical assistance plans for prioritized cases to improve investigation techniques and prosecutorial strategies through the application of an HRBA. In October, the AGO issued an indictment against four members of the National Anti-Maras and Gangs Force for the alleged extrajudicial execution of a 21-year-old man during an interrogation, in violation of the Istanbul Protocol. Following the deaths of three trainees and serious injuries sustained by more than 35 others during their first day of training at the National Police Training Academy, in September, OHCHR engaged with the AGO to ensure a prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigation.

A2 – As part of its strategic workplan, the Supreme Court adopts and implements strategies that improve access to justice for marginalized groups, including migrants, women victims of violence, Indigenous Peoples, members of the LGBTI community and persons with disabilities.



OHCHR implemented a comprehensive strategy to support access to justice for victims by providing technical assistance to justice institutions, monitoring judicial proceedings and supporting victims' legal representatives.

OHCHR provided technical assistance in the case of the violent death of Keyla Martínez while in police custody on 7

February 2021. OHCHR engaged with the AGO and the victim's legal representatives through the Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH), to ensure that human rights considerations and a gender perspective were integrated into the investigation and prosecution of the case. As a result of this support, the AGO issued an indictment for femicide against a police officer, in April 2021, the first such case in Honduras, based on the Latin American Model Protocol for the Investigation of gender-related killings of women. In 2022, OHCHR provided technical assistance to legal representatives (through COFADEH) and the victim's relatives and advocated with relevant authorities to uphold human rights standards. On 8 February 2023, the Constitutional Chamber denied an amparo that was presented by the AGO to prosecute the case as femicide. The case is expected to conclude in the first quarter of 2023.

Furthermore, OHCHR played a crucial role in the 24 February release of eight human rights and environmental defenders from the Guapinol community who had opposed mining activity in a protected area. After two years of pretrial detention, OHCHR monitored hearings related to their cases and advocated for the observance of due process. It also provided strategic support to the legal defence team on applicable international human rights standards. The Office shared technical opinions on applicable international obligations and standards with jurisdictional bodies at different stages of the process. Moreover, it disseminated public statements issued by the special procedures and other international organizations, such as Amnesty International. OHCHR closely monitored the judicial hearings and offered assistance to the families and communities of the victims.

OHCHR improved regional networking and advocacy to promote the protection of the rights of LGBTI persons. More specifically, it brought together representatives of criminal justice institutions from across Latin America, representatives of civil society, special procedures mandate holders (including the Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and on violence against women, its causes and consequences) to identify patterns of violence and progress achieved in national practices and regional challenges related to the investigation of the violent deaths of and gender-related crimes against LGBTI persons. OHCHR extended technical support to the Regional Information Network on LGBTI Violence to facilitate a technical dialogue between regional prosecutors, international and criminal justice experts and 17 CSOs. The objective of the dialogue was to outline practical steps for the preparation or adaptation of investigation protocols and develop a road map for the investigation of violence against LGBTI persons.

Participation

P2 – Legal frameworks, public policies and institutions and the NPM increasingly apply international standards and practices that protect HRDs, including from intimidation and attacks.



OHCHR contributed to the United Nations system and national mechanisms providing CSOs and individuals with increased, timely and effective protection.

In 2021-2022, OHCHR undertook an analysis of the functioning of the National Protection System (SNP), based on a document review and information

gathered during interviews and meetings with CSOs, beneficiaries, legal representatives and meetings with State officials from the SNP. The findings informed the development of a Strengthening Plan for the National Protection System, which includes 125 recommendations for the different institutions of the Honduran State. The Strengthening Plan, as well as the analysis, were submitted to the National Protection Council (CNP), in February 2023. A technical assistance process was then initiated, including a training on risk analysis, among other initiatives, to follow up on some of the actions proposed in the recommendations.

The Office conducted an analysis of national legislation related to the exercise of the rights of freedom of expression, access to information, freedom of assembly and association and the right to defend human rights. This resulted in the review of 29 normative instruments, including legal codes, regulations, special laws, executive decrees and the Constitution. The analysis identified restrictions in the national regulatory framework related to the exercise of the abovementioned rights. Further, OHCHR's analysis of Executive Decree PCM 023-2022 highlighted ambiguous provisions regarding the powers and operations of the new General Directorate of Information and Press, which could undermine the Government's compliance with its human rights obligations.

P5 – Relevant authorities undertake effective action to investigate and sanction attacks or reprisals against HRDs in cases raised by OHCHR.



OHCHR contributed to the increase in the proportion of cases of human rights violations raised with relevant actors that were positively addressed.

OHCHR strengthened its work on civic space by developing and implementing a comprehensive system for monitoring and documenting attacks against HRDs, journalists, demonstrators and other persons of interest. This enabled OHCHR to identify 224 victims of attacks and coordinate emergency responses. OHCHR monitored and registered 156 attacks against journalists and HRDs and documented 13 killings. At least 47 HRDs were allegedly accused of unjustified criminal charges. The Office carried out monitoring and advocacy efforts in more than half of these cases and its interventions contributed to the release of 44 individuals during the year. In one such case, criminal charges against protestors were dropped (ARCAH case). In two other examples, the cases against defenders of lands and territories belonging to Indigenous Peoples (Nueva Palestina and Punta Gorda cases) were dismissed.

Between September 2021 and June 2022, the Office documented 64 murders of HRDs and 28 murders of journalists that took place in Honduras between 2015 and 2021. This led to the identification of patterns and dynamics of aggression against these two groups, which provided the Office with an opportunity to determine the most effective way to address and follow up on cases of violence against HRDs and journalists.

In addition, OHCHR contributed to preventing the misuse of criminal law against HRDs and those who exercise their right to freedom of expression in Honduras through an analysis designed to identify patterns and trends. It also advocated with key actors, such as the Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, the National Protection System and the Ministry of the Presidency to promote respect for human rights in relation to freedom of expression. The quantitative and qualitative analyses were based on 10 case studies that were selected according to a variety of diverse criteria, including the persons charged, the criminal charges, access to the investigation files and proceedings, the potential for follow-up and the provision of technical assistance to the legal teams. The Office created several tools, including a documentation methodology based on case files related to criminalization and a file registration system that allows findings to be systematized, thereby producing disaggregated data on types of victims, criminal charges and the contexts in which they are brought, arrest records and the exercise of the right of access to information by victims. The findings of the process were shared with the national HRD community at the National Meeting of HRDs, which took place from 27 to 28 February 2023, with the participation of approximately 200 Honduran HRDs. The Meeting provided a platform to discuss the human rights situation in Honduras and to generate proposals for concrete actions.

Development

D2 – Business actors effectively implement the UNGPs.



OHCHR contributed to the increase in the number of selected State institutions/programmes demonstrating a significant improvement in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The Office contributed to strengthening the capacities of State institutions to implement the UNGPs in order to address the environmental impacts of extractive projects. To this end, OHCHR provided technical support for the relaunching of the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights, in coordination with the Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization and the EU. With regard to the analysis of the environmental impacts of extractive development projects, the Office helped to strengthen the institutional and legal framework for the adequate regulation of environmental licensing processes and to include the participation of local communities and guarantee the right to free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples. It also worked to reduce the negative human rights impacts of extractive projects, such as the mining project in the Escaleras National Park, which has led to the criminalization of the Guapinol defenders, and the Agua Zarca project in Indigenous territories, which was opposed by the defender Berta Cáceres. Moreover, the Office provided technical advice to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the National Congress and is providing technical support for the review and adaptation of the legal and

institutional framework governing environmental licensing processes.

OHCHR continued to extend technical assistance to CSOs, social movements, Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Honduran peoples to address the human rights impacts of business activities. The Office undertook visits and documented the effects of business activities in a number of communities, including Jilamito, Locomapa, Azacualpa and Guapinol, which informed OHCHR's advocacy and technical assistance to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, as well as to the National Congress, for the review of environmental licenses of projects in those communities. It also advocated for the repeal of the Special Economic Zones due to their incompatibility with international norms, which was taken up by the National Congress, in April. Moreover, the Office provided technical support for the implementation of the judgments of the IACtHR regarding the Garífuna communities of Triunfo de la Cruz and Punta Piedra and supported the Garífuna communities of San Juan in Tela and Punta Gorda in Roatan in order to contribute to the restoration and restitution of their ancestral territories.

The Office helped to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of the private sector on the UNGPs by maintaining an active dialogue and constructive collaboration with the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise. It shared its observations and recommendations related to the impacts of some development projects, such as mining, on the human rights situation of communities and Indigenous Peoples in Azacualpa. Finally, the Office raised the awareness of financial institutions about the human rights risks and impacts of some investment projects. In particular,

the Office engaged in fruitful dialogue with regional development banks (i.e., the Inter-American Development Bank and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration). OHCHR also shared its observations with those institutions on the human rights impacts of the Jilamito project in the north of the country. The financing of the project has been suspended.

D3 – Rights holders enjoy improved protection of their rights with regard to land, territory and natural resources.



OHCHR contributed to State authorities adopting and implementing laws, policies and strategies on land and housing that increasingly comply with human rights.

Through advocacy and technical assistance that was provided to the AGO, the Office contributed to preventing the execution of forced “prevention” evictions in different areas of the country, including Bajo Aguán, La Paz, Intibucá and Atlántida. The Office engaged in advocacy with key institutions, such as the Ministry of Security and the Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization, submitted technical documents to justice operators to inform them about human rights standards related to the prevention of forced evictions and undertook on-site monitoring of evictions, providing documentation on their impacts on ESCRs. The Office continued to advocate before the National Congress for the reform of the legal framework that enables forced evictions, particularly in light of the reforms of the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, which were adopted in November 2021.

Following OHCHR's technical assistance, inter-institutional mechanisms were established that include appropriate tools to prevent and comprehensively address conflicts related to land and territory. To this end, the Office coordinated the provision of technical assistance and cooperation with the Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization to support the “Inter-institutional roundtable for the prevention and management of social conflict,” following its launch on 21 April. The purpose of the roundtable was to create a space for inter-institutional articulation and coordination to ensure that the actions and strategies of inter-institutional mechanisms designed to prevent and address social conflicts incorporate an HRBA. The Office is currently supporting the drafting of an inter-institutional protocol that will provide these mechanisms with an essential tool to address these conflicts through the application of an HRBA.

Due to the technical support that OHCHR provided to the State, progress was achieved in addressing the structural causes of the agrarian conflict in Bajo Aguán. Progress was also made in defining restitution and reparation processes related to the agrarian conflict in the area. Following the conclusion of an important agreement, in February, with the peasant organizations in the area, the Office actively participated in its implementation. It offered technical assistance to the National Agrarian Institute, the Ministry of Security, the Ministry of the Presidency and to the peasant organizations. It also strengthened the commissions mandated to facilitate the implementation of the agreement and undertook advocacy with State actors and the parties to the conflict to promote the process. At the same time, the Office advocated for the establishment of a technical agency for

prevention, protection and reparation in the context of the agrarian conflict in Bajo Aguán. This experience could be replicated in other conflict areas, with a focus on access, use, tenure and possession of land in the country.

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The UN supports them in these purposes and integrates human rights into its own development work.



OHCHR contributed to selected government entities and programmes, with a focus on labour rights and poverty reduction, in alignment with standards on ESCRs.

OHCHR prioritized the realization of the ESCRs of Indigenous Peoples, especially those in the Mosquitia region, who are heavily impacted by tropical storms, and of the Tolupan people. After a judicial resolution ordered the State to implement a plan to guarantee access to food and health services for the Tolupan people, OHCHR strongly advocated for the adoption of such measures before local authorities. Similarly, because of the heavy rainfalls between May and November in the region, the Office advocated for a State response by addressing its concerns with the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (SEDESOL).

With regard to labour rights, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the network of social and trade union organizations to monitor labour rights violations. To this end, the Office contributed to the implementation of a working strategy with the Network of Women Domestic Workers (RTD) on ESCRs, which uses capacity-building for advocacy and strategic litigation. Two workshops were held on ESCR issues in relation to domestic work and women's rights and strategic litigation techniques in the context of human rights violations in domestic work. At the same time, the Office promoted the adoption of an adequate legal framework for the protection of their labour rights, advocating before the National Congress to ratify the Convention for Decent Work for Domestic Workers (ILO Convention No. 189) and provide technical support to RTD's legal team to prepare a proposal for draft legislation on domestic work. Finally, the Office advocated for RTD's access to justice, referring to the forthcoming resolution on amparo actions that have been undertaken to address violations of their labour rights.

Against all odds: The making of a Lenca youth leader



Diego Osorio's project, Liquidambar, an art center and coffee shop in La Esperanza, department of Intibuca, Honduras. ©OHCHR

By the age of 23, Diego Rafael Osorio expected to be in the North, like the hundreds of other Hondurans who begin the trek towards the Texas border every morning.

Instead, his clean, even brush strokes spread layers of paint across a wood sculpture as he transforms his passion for art into a socially responsible business.

His decision to stay in one of the poorest countries of the Western Hemisphere may seem illogical. Unemployment is high, corruption is endemic and there is plenty of violence. The pandemic and two devastating hurricanes in 2020 have added to the country's misery.

When Diego was born, his father emigrated. As a child growing up in poverty, he dreamed of success in the North. Limited opportunities and a high suicide rate among youth fueled his desire to leave. But the women in his life caused him to reconsider.

"My mother, my grandmother, all of them – taught us the value of life, and they were my inspiration. They fought so hard to survive. How could I leave them behind?"

THE IMPERATIVE OF INCOME

To stay in Honduras, Diego needed a way to survive. He quit school and worked two jobs, one of them in a café. He had also watched

his grandmother cook and sell food to help feed the family. Through these experiences, he was inspired to start his own business. Diego won a scholarship for a business development training course and learned the basics of entrepreneurship.

Soon, he would discover he had a passion for painting on wood.

"One day, someone offered to buy my art and I discovered that you could earn an income from it."

Business, art, gastronomy: could this ambitious vision materialize?

AN IDEA IS BORN

Diego lives in La Esperanza, in southwestern Honduras, where Indigenous Lenca have lived for 1,500 years. Indigenous cultures are becoming revitalized and Diego wants to be part of this revival.

"There is more pride now and people are more conscious, especially through social media," said Diego. "Let's be proud of our Lenca culture. Let's support ourselves locally and share our food and our handicrafts with people."

It was also a time of renewal in Honduras when Diego joined a workshop by ParticiPaz. The joint project, which is organized by UN Human Rights and UNDP and financed by the UN Peacebuilding Fund, encourages communities to take part in governance decisions as a way to reduce conflict.

"I heard about human rights for the first time," he said. "I learned how I, as an artist, can advocate in my community for the protection of human rights defenders, and even become a human rights defender myself."

He approached UN Human Rights in Honduras and suggested creating a space for community workshops. Together, they are fighting discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, defending their land against encroachment by big business and combating youth delinquency, while also encouraging Indigenous youth to stay in the country.

A CULTURAL CORRIDOR

Armed with his passion and new marketing knowledge, Diego turned his mother's garden into a café, where he will serve food and exhibit other people's art. He hopes to turn his mother's street into a cultural corridor, filled with cafés, art galleries and shops; a true Lenca showcase for the world. He is looking for financial support from local banks to advance his business and is getting help from an informal Lenca network he developed to keep the culture alive.

UN Human Rights sees Diego as a promising young leader. "He is an environmental defender and a defender of ancestral culture. This isn't about individual growth, it is about growing together with his community. Diego has a broad vision that entails supporting others so that change happens for everyone. He deserves our recognition," said Eloy Enrique Bravo, Associate Human Rights Officer.

FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE

While he works towards these goals, Diego teaches art and inspires his students.

"I want to motivate young people and help them use art for good rather than turn to crime or emigrate. Perhaps it can give them a way out of violence and a reason to stay."

Yet, as an environmental activist and human rights defender, Diego continues to be exposed to danger. Nearly 70 per cent of attacks against human rights defenders are against those working to protect the environment.

Diego sometimes hears the call of the North, but he quickly silences it.

"I'm happy I decided to stay, serving my community. I feel I can inspire others."

Note: UN Human Rights is working to empower young leaders across the country. A new project supported by the UN Peacebuilding Fund, Tierra Joven, promotes the meaningful participation of young women and men in decisions that affect their rights and access to land and territories.

MEXICO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
127.5 million	1,964,000 km ²	0.758 (rank: 86/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2002		
Field office(s)	Mexico City		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2025		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	21		

XB income	US\$2,345,962
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,504,000
XB expenditure	US\$2,559,316
Personnel	Non-personnel PSC ⁴
74%	15% 11%
\$1,894,511	\$379,593 \$285,212

Key OMP pillars in 2022

^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A4 – Federal and local institutions adopt OHCHR’s indicator framework when they report on the implementation of human rights policies, evaluate the impacts of public programmes or assess the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

16 

OHCHR enhanced the capacities of authorities to establish indicators for measuring the impacts of public policy based on OHCHR’s methodology.

OHCHR’s work on indicators, data analysis, strengthening transparency and accountability in Mexico began in 2008 and focuses on ESCRs and civil and political rights, as well as the rights of specific populations (i.e., persons with disabilities, women, persons in remote areas, victims of torture) and cross-cutting issues, such as non-discrimination and equality. Mexico is the leading country in which OHCHR’s methodology has been continuously implemented. The indicators have been adopted by over 180 public institutions at both federal and state level and are used in nearly 80 institutions as impact measurement tools for numerous public policies, thereby

enhancing efforts to implement, monitor and exercise human rights. Additionally, the Office worked closely with various stakeholders that implement the Organization of American States (OAS) methodology, to ensure complementarity between the OAS and OHCHR methodologies and the measurement of all rights for all population groups. The collaboration between OAS and OHCHR led to the creation of the National System of Human Rights Evaluation.

In 2022, indicators on the right to water and sanitation were validated and generated, in partnership with the Mexican Institute of Water Technology. Since OHCHR’s global methodology does not yet include indicators on water and sanitation, OHCHR developed a set of indicators that were subsequently adopted by the Government. More than 1,000 stakeholders, including government officials and academics, enhanced their capacities to monitor this right and an initial report was published by the Institute of Water Technology in 2022. The Office also developed the conceptual framework and indicators for measuring labour justice and the rights of people with disabilities within the justice administration system. In cooperation with the judiciary of the State of Mexico, a framework was prepared to measure and record these variables, including variables on human rights compliance by the business and private sectors. Furthermore, indicators were developed for measuring physical and mental disabilities in the administration of justice. A framework for measuring non-sensory/non-physical disabilities was prepared and will be validated in 2023.



Participation

P2 – Public policies that protect HRDs and journalists are strengthened and improved. Protection programmes for HRDs are more effective; a more enabling environment has been created for HRDs and the media; HRDs and journalists receive broader public recognition; and laws on freedom of expression have been adopted or amended to comply with international standards.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacities of authorities and the national Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders and Journalists to act in accordance with international human rights standards and increased their awareness about the central role played by HRDs and journalists.

In 2022, OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of authorities and the Mechanism responsible for protecting HRDs and journalists to comply with international human rights standards. It also increased public awareness about the central role played by HRDs/journalists in democratic societies.

This was particularly relevant in light of the increased difficulty in holding dialogues between civil society and the Government in the context of the pandemic. In August, OHCHR proposed that the Governing Board of the Mechanism forms a Working Group for the Strengthening of the Protection Mechanism. The Working Group is composed of different government institutions and a consortium of 15 NGOs (“Espacio OSC”). The Office prepared draft guidelines for its operation and a tool for monitoring and evaluation. The Working Group met four times during the year to

foster and evaluate the implementation of a set of prioritized recommendations that were outlined in OHCHR’s analysis and presented to the Attorney General, the Minister of Interior and other high-level officials in 2019. OHCHR’s findings and 104 recommendations were fully accepted by the Government. They were also referred to in the Digna Ochoa ruling handed down by the IACtHR as part of a plan to reinforce the Mechanism. OHCHR will continue to provide technical assistance and mediation in the two-year evaluation process (formally established in September 2022).

Despite limited staff, OHCHR participated in the decision-making processes of approximately 500 cases and advocated for the strengthening of protection plans in the monthly meetings of the Mechanism’s Governing Board. For the first time since 2012, the number of staff members of the Mechanism increased, raising the total number to 70 officers. Since August, OHCHR has been a keynote speaker and facilitator in capacity-building processes for state governments, prosecutors and police to strengthen their capacities on protection, investigation, prevention and non-criminalization.

Further, OHCHR worked closely with field presences from Latin America to facilitate direct exchanges between the Mechanisms for the Protection of HRDs and Journalists from the region. In November, Mechanisms from Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico and Peru agreed to strengthen their cooperation and requested OHCHR’s support to convene another in-person event and two virtual exchanges between their respective technical teams in 2023.



Development

D2 – Businesses, especially those in the energy sector, increasingly apply the UNGPs, notably in their due diligence procedures.



OHCHR strengthened partnerships for the integration of human rights into environmental actions, including efforts to implement multilateral environmental agreements, and strengthened the capacities of business and State actors to apply the UNGPs and engage with stakeholders.

As follow-up to a case between a rural community and La Colorada mining company, the Office promoted and facilitated dialogue between the parties, which led to the identification of actions that were needed to repair the human rights impacts of the company’s mining activities. The community and the company concluded a reparation agreement and all the families that were still living within the confines of the mining operation camp were relocated to their new homes outside the camp. They received reparations due to their loss of livelihood.

The Office worked with the Mining Chamber in Mexico to promote human rights due diligence in the sector. Through a series of three tailored workshops for nearly 50 participants from at least 10 national and foreign mining companies operating in the country, the Office promoted the UNGPs, shared good practices on implementing the due diligence process and identified priority issues, such as the role of HRDs, access to remedies and the rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Office is working on a tool that would enable the mining sector to monitor their actions and human rights policies.

OHCHR collaborated with OECD and ILO on the project “Responsible business conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean.” The objective of the project is to promote sustainable and inclusive growth by supporting responsible business conduct, in line with UN, ILO and OECD instruments. With the support of the Office, the diagnosis for the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights was elaborated and a baseline analysis was carried out.

As part of the project, the Office supported the organization of the “Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America and the Caribbean,” which was held in Bogotá, Colombia, in June. The Forum brought together more than 2,000 participants from civil society, companies, governments, academia and communities. Participants discussed fundamental aspects of the business and human rights agenda, with a particular emphasis on accountability.

The UNCT’s Working Group on Green Economy and Climate Change developed a new workplan and OHCHR recommended the inclusion of human rights issues, such as the effective implementation of the Escazú Agreement in Mexico and protection of environmental defenders. These proposals are being discussed with the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs.

OHCHR, UNEP and UNODC organized a forum to discuss the results of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Escazú Agreement with representatives of authorities and CSOs, who shared their insights for future strategies. The Office is considering the provision of assistance to the Federal Government on implementing the Agreement in accordance with international standards. OHCHR is also working on increasing

the capacities and visibility of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) with a group of organizations dedicated to the exercise of environmental rights, including through a new network of WHRDs that is focused on incorporating a gender perspective into the defence of environmental rights.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws or public policies have been adopted that combat discrimination and the root causes of inequality. They address the rights of Indigenous Peoples, migrants and persons with disabilities, as well as gender-based violence, and comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving access to justice for Indigenous Peoples, migrants and other vulnerable groups through the increased visibility of discriminatory practices in the administration of justice and prosecutions.

OHCHR advocated with the Mexican Congress and the National Institute of Indigenous Peoples for the adoption of international standards and monitored public policies, legislation and judicial resolutions that may impact on the full enjoyment of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. OHCHR monitored the draft constitutional reform on Indigenous Peoples and advocated for the adoption of international human rights standards, in particular those that guarantee Indigenous ESCRs. OHCHR successfully advocated for the incorporation of standards from the Escazú Agreement into draft bills on water and prior consultation.

In cooperation with UNFPA and UN Women, OHCHR shared information with the Guerrero Congress on international human rights standards regarding women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) while advocating for the decriminalization of abortion. This action was recommended by CEDAW in 2018. Guerrero is a state that is populated by 1,840,073 women, four per cent of whom are women of African descent.

In a femicide case involving a young Wixárika Indigenous woman from the northern state of Jalisco, OHCHR engaged with the Jalisco State Prosecutor’s Office, the State Executive Commission for the Attention to Jalisco Victims, the Secretariat for Substantive Equality between Women and Men and other relevant actors. OHCHR provided information on international human rights standards related to access to justice for Indigenous women, as well as other judicial safeguards that integrate a gender and intersectional perspective. In June, Mexican authorities charged her husband with first-degree murder.

Within the framework of the OHCHR global campaign on reframing narratives on migration, OHCHR worked with the National Council to Prevent Discrimination to prepare the Public action guide - *Communication without xenophobia: Recommendations for media and social networks*, which will be published in April 2023. Through this collaboration, useful knowledge and tools will enable readers to identify xenophobic practices in the field of social communication and act to eliminate them (Global Compact for Migration (GCM), Objective 17).

Following the publication of a report on the human rights situation in international airports, which identified

common racial profiling practices in airports, OHCHR presented the report to the Interministerial Commission on Migration (GCM, Objective 17). As a result, two additional visits were undertaken to the Mexico City International Airport and the Cancun International Airport to document how the recommendations had been implemented, including access to basic services for people who are detained (GCM, Objective 15). Following these visits, OHCHR met with authorities of the National Migration Institute to present its findings. The National Institute of Migration was encouraged to harmonize the information that would be shared with the different airports to ensure all stakeholders received the same information about human rights (GCM, Objective 3).

PERU

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
34.05 million	1,285,000 km ²	0.762 (rank: 84/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement	Technical mission (Other type of field presence)		
Year established	2022		
Field office(s)	Lima		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2022-2026		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	7		

XB requirements 2022

US\$1,300,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Specific investment is carried out to improve detention conditions.

16 

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the increased conformity of accountability and protection mechanisms with international human rights standards.

OHCHR opened avenues for long-term technical support to the penitentiary system, including by developing a Protocol on the Use of Force by Penitentiary Staff and a Human Rights Manual, which were shared with relevant institutions.

Mechanisms

M2 – CSOs, NHRIs and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 13
16 17 

OHCHR empowered a number of CSOs, NHRIs, UN entities and individuals, which made substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Universal Periodic Review.

OHCHR provided trainings and technical guidance to authorities, the NHRI and civil society in strengthening engagement

and making strategic use of the international human rights mechanisms, resulting in an increase of submissions to the mechanisms by UN agencies and civil society. For instance, over 40 organizations submitted individual and joint submissions to the UPR. OHCHR will be closely supporting authorities in the implementation of recommendations received during the fourth UPR review in January 2023.

Participation

P1 – States increasingly adopt national mechanisms to protect HRDs. NHRIs develop early warning and rapid response mechanisms focused on the prevention of conflicts and the protection of HRDs.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the prevention and protection capacities of national mechanisms working on HRDs.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Intersectoral Protection Mechanisms for Human Rights Defenders, including through facilitating roundtables in Amazonian regions between authorities, HRDs and communities at risk to enhance prevention and protection protocols, exchange information on stakeholders and increase awareness about international human rights standards. OHCHR provided trainings and technical guidance to the Human Rights Division of the AGO to improve investigations into attacks against HRDs, with a view to implementing a dedicated protocol on these types of investigations.

SOUTH AMERICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay
Year established	2009
Field office(s)	Santiago (Chile) with Human Rights Advisers in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay
Staff as of 31 December 2022	17

XB income	US\$1,467,700
XB requirements 2022	US\$4,665,000
XB expenditure	US\$1,102,398
Personnel	Non-personnel PSC ⁴
73%	15% 12%
\$805,361	\$169,743 \$126,824
RB expenditure	US\$1,200,081
Personnel	Non-personnel
86%	14%
\$,034,017	\$166,064

Key OMP pillars in 2022



⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Steps have been taken to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty and to improve detention conditions.



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of laws, policies and practices of institutions and State officials with international human rights standards, including in relation to accountability and detention centres.

OHCHR monitored and followed up on prioritized cases of alleged and verified human rights violations in the region, with a focus on the situation of HRDs, Indigenous Peoples and victims of excessive use of force and forced evictions. The Office carried out field missions and remote fact-finding tasks, met with relevant actors, alerted authorities, contributed to the visibility of cases, supported engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, observed hearings and provided technical assistance to

judicial stakeholders. Based on the information gathered, the Office supported the development of national and regional analyses by OHCHR and other UN actors, resulting in the identification of patterns of human rights violations and assessments of the institutional responses. It also promoted the integration of international human rights standards into the administration of justice by relevant stakeholders, including judges, prosecutors and lawyers, who took OHCHR's inputs into consideration.

In **Chile**, OHCHR continued to follow up on cases from the 2019 social unrest by observing hearings, analysing critical concerns on the administration of justice, meeting with victims and providing technical inputs to prosecutors and lawyers. Also in Chile, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights for the elaboration of a comprehensive public policy on crime and the social reintegration of offenders.

In **Paraguay**, technical support was provided for the implementation of the Ministry of Justice's Observatory of Persons Deprived of Liberty. OHCHR and the Director General of Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice developed a Protocol for Monitoring Visits to Penitentiary Centres. The objective of the Protocol is to monitor the situation of persons deprived of their liberty, particularly those who are most vulnerable (persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, older persons and mothers living with their children), and to ensure that measures are undertaken that have a positive impact on their quality of life. OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Public Defence for the implementation of the Observatory on Access to Justice, which strengthened its capacities to monitor the rights of persons deprived of their liberty.

In **Uruguay**, OHCHR engaged with the newly created Penitentiary Council (composed of representatives from the Executive Branch, the judiciary and the Office of the Prosecutor) to promote a new policy on alternatives to incarceration. Together with UNDP, OHCHR mapped alternative measures in Uruguay and carried out an investigation on the issue of maternity in prisons. The results were presented to the Penitentiary Council and served as the basis for organizing a high-level seminar in the Parliament on alternatives to incarceration. Furthermore, in partnership with the Parliamentary Commissioner on Penitentiary Issues, OHCHR produced two documents on alternative measures: one on access to health services for vulnerable groups of sentenced women and another on the application of an HRBA, which was requested by the Penitentiary Authority to train staff who are working on alternative measures. It also prepared draft guidelines on structuring an intervention model to improve the quantity and quality of alternatives to incarceration for women prosecuted for minor drug-related offenses.

A1 – Mechanisms are in place that effectively monitor detention centres and cases of torture are consistently reported and prosecuted by the authorities. Steps have been taken to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty and improve detention conditions.

16

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are in place and/or functioning.

In **Brazil**, OHCHR provided expert advice to the NPM and local mechanisms for strengthening their capacities to monitor places of detention. The NPM was faced with a challenging scenario when the Federal Government attempted to defund it, thereby seriously undermining its work. OHCHR highlighted the importance of the NPM in its advocacy and supported a visit to Brazil by the SPT to address the situation with relevant authorities.

In **Chile**, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the NPM on international standards related to electroconvulsive therapy in psychiatric institutions.

In **Ecuador**, OHCHR made significant contributions to the Public Policy on Social Rehabilitation, which was launched by the President, in February. These contributions included: an updated baseline on the penitentiary crisis; the introduction of a methodology for the broad and genuine participation of organizations of persons deprived of their liberty and civil society; and an analysis of access to prison benefits (and immediate actions to ensure prompt releases and tackle overcrowding).



Participation

P1 – State institutions and NHRIs are better equipped to monitor protests and document human rights violations; laws on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly comply with international human rights standards; police protocols regulating the use of force comply with international standards; States adopt laws and undertake measures to protect HRDs; and NHRIs develop early warning and rapid response mechanisms that prevent conflict and protect HRDs.

16



OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of laws, policies and practices of institutions and State officials with international human rights standards, including for the protection of HRDs and other persons in situations of vulnerability.

OHCHR carried out initiatives to enhance the capacities and coordination of prioritized State institutions related to the protection of HRDs and to generate synergies between them and CSOs.

OHCHR supported the organization of and participated in the pre-COP 1 and COP 1 meetings of the Escazú Agreement States Parties, during which a resolution was adopted on environmental HRDs. In addition, participants decided on a road map to draft a Plan of Action on article 9 of the Agreement, which could become one of the most important regional policies on protecting environmental HRDs. That resolution led to the organization of the “First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean,” which was co-hosted by OHCHR, UNEP and ECLAC. The Forum provided a space for dialogue regarding the protection of environmental HRDs and gathered together authorities, judges, prosecutors, human rights specialists, NHRIs, HRDs, Indigenous Peoples and community representatives to discuss the Plan of Action.

OHCHR continued to work with the IACHR-OHCHR Joint Mechanism on HRDs. More specifically, it supported national protection mechanisms for HRDs and journalists in Latin America by establishing a community of practice to exchange tools and emerging practices and develop a joint strategy to strengthen their capacities. During the “Annual Meeting of National Protection Mechanisms of Human Rights Defenders,” which was

organized by the Joint Mechanism, in Ecuador, in November, entry points for collaboration were identified, with a view to designing a common strategy for 2023. The event was a good example of how international and regional human rights can be complementary and strengthen national human rights protection systems.

OHCHR developed activities to enhance the capacities of NHRIs, including trainings on the international human rights mechanisms, human rights monitoring and planning. The Office also undertook actions to support the NHRIs as key institutions for the protection of human rights, in particular when the NHRIs were dealing with complex situations. In two such examples, there was a risk that the Chilean Congress would not approve the NHRI's budget for 2023 and the Uruguayan authorities made public objections about the role and composition of the NHRI. OHCHR's advocacy in relation to these and other cases, through meetings, letters, public support, media campaigns and involving the international community and academia, were highly valued by the NHRIs and contributed to preventing or minimizing the risks they faced.

In **Chile**, the Office provided technical assistance to the Undersecretariat for Human Rights for the creation of a Protocol for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. The Protocol has not yet been adopted.

In **Ecuador**, the National Assembly adopted legislation on the use of force. OHCHR provided technical support on: the use of lethal force during demonstrations; legal definitions of peaceful and violent assemblies; the dispersal of demonstrations; the use of less lethal weapons; the use of trained animals; subordination of the armed forces to civil

authority during constitutional states of exception; legal definitions of illegitimate and excessive use of force and consequential investigations and sanctions; the use of force in prisons; and accountability. OHCHR's inputs were duly integrated and the legislation is in line with international standards and can be regarded as a positive example at the regional level.

In **Uruguay**, the Office cooperated with the RCO to support the work of the NHRI as an essential democratic institution that protects HRDs. It did this by engaging in dialogue with CSOs, interacting with the State and highlighting its role on the occasion of its tenth anniversary. OHCHR produced [short videos](#) to promote the work of the NHRI and celebrate its anniversary. It also issued public statements that referred to its compliance with the Paris Principles.

P1 – Indigenous Peoples, women, LGBTBI rights advocates, HRDs and persons of African descent increase their capacities to use national, regional and international human rights mechanisms to protect their rights. HRDs and Indigenous Peoples participate more actively in public affairs and consistently monitor decisions that affect them.

16

OHCHR engaged with stakeholders in the region, with the aim of advocating for the increased participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

OHCHR actively engaged with CSOs and HRDs at the national and regional level, enhancing their knowledge about the international human rights mechanisms and promoting their participation in critical spaces where they can address

their challenges and demand their rights. Existing and new partnerships with relevant actors were strengthened, including with IACHR, ECLAC, the special procedures, NHRIs, regional NGOs and academia.

The Office continued to work with the IACHR-OHCHR Joint Mechanism on HRDs. To encourage the active engagement of CSOs from the region with the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR: delivered trainings to HRDs and NHRIs on the international human rights mechanisms, international standards regarding specific human rights and ECOSOC status; supported national NGOs engaging with the international human rights mechanisms; and systematized and shared information with CSOs and NHRIs about UN activities, new reports and calls for inputs.

In **Chile**, within the framework of the constitutional process, OHCHR delivered workshops on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, which were accompanied by consultations with groups likely to be left behind within the new UNSDCF. In the context of the Constitutional Convention, the Office prepared 27 normative documents that summarized international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and developed four webinars on human rights for civil society. The proposed new Constitution was rejected, however, in the September referendum. Through the Surge Initiative, OHCHR collaborated with public institutions in the field of migration and designed indicators on decent work and the social security rights of migrants.

In **Ecuador**, OHCHR supported the Resident Coordinator's periodic dialogues with HRDs, which provided

opportunities to promote the UN human rights agenda in Ecuador and implement the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. In collaboration with OHCHR, HRDs benefited from two thematic dialogues on protection systems and early warning data collection.

In **Uruguay**, the Regional Office for South America supported the establishment of a national network of HRDs related to the environment, in compliance with the Escazú Agreement, and participated in the consultation in Quito. The HRA facilitated the participation of HRDs and CSOs in the European Union Human Rights Annual Prize for civil society projects.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – State institutions responsible for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups have been strengthened and receive adequate funding and political support. Legislation on discrimination and gender equality comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards, in particular with regard to the rights of women.

OHCHR worked with authorities, HRDs and CSOs to address issues regarding the rights of persons with disabilities, raise awareness among national actors about how to incorporate a disability approach into their policies and measures, promote the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and strengthen their knowledge about international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical assistance on the drafting of protocols and regulations related to mental health and their connection with persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. The Office organized and participated in events addressing priority topics, such as the right to participation, the right to work and employment, the implementation of the UNDIS and an introduction to CRPD for UN staff. The Office engaged with other UN agencies and UNCT groups to design inter-agency activities and projects on the rights of persons with disabilities that will be implemented in 2023. Through advocacy and participation in discussions and side events, OHCHR also supported efforts to address the rights of persons with disabilities in the context of the agenda on care and the “XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin American and the Caribbean,” where relevant decisions were adopted. One such decision was the “Compromiso de Buenos Aires,” which applies an intersectional approach to the agenda on care, including women and persons with disabilities.

A mission was undertaken to the American Gran Chaco, led by the RCs of **Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay**, with the participation of OHCHR, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR, IOM, OCHA, UNDP and the Pan American Health Organization. The aim of the visit was to increase its visibility and identify ways to maximize the impacts of UN interventions in a manner that transcends borders and supports sustainable development, while also respecting human rights, particularly those of Indigenous Peoples, rural peoples and their communities.

In **Chile**, within the framework of the constitutional process, a report was issued on the reasons for including race as a prohibited ground for discrimination.

Dialogues were promoted with people of African descent on the inclusion of their rights. The Office also followed up on a CERD concluding observation on Chile (2021) regarding the inclusion of people of African descent as a variable in the national census. OHCHR also provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health for the preparation of a policy on mental health and human rights, particularly regarding the revision of psychiatric hospitalization regulations and the deinstitutionalization protocol.

In **Ecuador**, the National Assembly adopted legislation that enables women and girls to access abortion in cases of rape. Women’s rights organizations had raised concerns regarding violations of the rights of women and girls to self-determination and psychological and sexual integrity. OHCHR promoted the engagement of the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls with these organizations and provided analysis to the Constitutional Court. Additionally, OHCHR partnered with FAO and the UNCISPAL organization to conclude the field research for the Indigenous Sustainable Food System by applying the FAO Biodiversity Integrated Assessment and Computation Tool. In line with the principles of sustainability and climate resilience, this Tool was used to characterize and evaluate the food system of the Kichwa Kayambi community.

In **Uruguay**, the Office promoted access to justice for the LGBTI community through training for 100 participants from the judiciary and LGBTI activists on “Harmful gender stereotypes and barriers to access to justice.” It also built the capacities of 60 members from LGBTI CSOs and grassroots groups to raise awareness and submit complaints in relation to human rights violations. Furthermore, OHCHR

supported the UNCT in formulating a work strategy to promote the rights of people of African descent.



Development

D2 – Business enterprises progressively adopt human rights policies and due diligence procedures that comply with international human rights standards and the UNGPs.



OHCHR contributed to the compliance of selected actors and policies with international norms and standards on business and human rights.

In **Argentina**, OHCHR provided technical assistance for the development of a national baseline and the elaboration of an NAP on Business and Human Rights through high-level meetings, advocacy strategies and technical workshops. The activities were primarily directed towards the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the Ombudsperson through inter-agency coordination efforts. In addition, OHCHR conducted a regional workshop for civil society on business and human rights, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of CSO representatives and promoting an exchange of their experiences. The Office and the NHRI co-hosted a second roundtable for 30 ombudspersons from provincial and municipal Offices of Ombudspersons. The objective was to provide a space for joint work on business and human rights, promote the agenda at a federal level and strengthen technical capacities on the issue.

In **Ecuador**, OHCHR undertook high-level advocacy, led by the RC, to prioritize the NAP on the agenda of the new

Minister of Foreign Affairs. In addition, it collaborated with the Pacto Global-Red Ecuador to provide monthly workshops for 35 companies to enhance their understanding of human rights due diligence.

In **Uruguay**, the project “Strengthening local government’s commitment to the protection of human rights and sustainable development” was implemented in three provinces, namely, Canelones, Paysandú and Rocha, with the support of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review and the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI). Throughout 2022, good practices that were carried out by local governments to guarantee human rights were identified and support was given to align actions carried out by local governments with human rights obligations. Some of the results of the project included capacity building, guidance booklets on how to apply an HRBA to local planning and surveys and mapping of provincial public policies that applied an HRBA.

D7 – States implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development using national development plans that integrate recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR contributed to the compliance with international human rights standards of programmes and policies to implement the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, including by providing technical guidance and support to RCOs, UNCTs and government counterparts.

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) provided information for the development of the Brazil CCA and the Paraguay Multi-Dimensional Risk Analysis exercises.

Data included information on priority populations and issues such as violence against HRDs and members of the press, the situation of Indigenous Peoples, the penitentiary system and violence.

In **Brazil**, OHCHR submitted four technical analyses on legislative bills to the House of Representatives after receiving requests for information from the Commission of Human Rights and Minorities on: ILO Convention No. 169; the economic exploitation of mineral and water and natural resources on Indigenous lands; a time frame thesis for demarcating Indigenous lands; and a NAP on Business and Human Rights. OHCHR participated in the elaboration of the UNSDCF by including the human rights-based approach and the Leaving No One Behind principle. It also identified contexts which should be monitored, such as violence against Indigenous Peoples and Quilombola communities due to illegal mining, illegal deforestation, agribusiness and invasion of their traditional territory, with a particular focus on the MATOPIBA region, the Yanomami Indigenous People and the Munduruku Indigenous People.

In **Chile**, the Office provided technical assistance for the integration of an HRBA into the 2023-2026 UNSDCF. Together with UNFPA, OHCHR co-led the UN inter-agency Human Rights and Gender Theme Group. The Office developed a workshop on the UNDIS Strategy for the UNCT's Human Resources Group and provided technical advice on the generation of a UN common position on the conflict and the human rights situation in the Araucanía region.

In **Paraguay** and **Uruguay**, OHCHR supported the drafting and updating of CCAs and provided technical cooperation, including in relation to the application

of an HRBA and links between the 2030 Agenda and human rights. In Uruguay, human rights contributions were made to the document on COVID-19 recovery, which contains 25 recommendations that the UNCT presented to the Government. Through the Surge Initiative, three documents were produced on: indicators on people of African descent; available data and gaps, with a view to identifying levels of enjoyment of ESCRs; and the enjoyment of ESCRs by people of African descent, with a focus on women and older persons.



Mechanisms

M1 – NMRFs function effectively in countries of the subregion.

16

17

OHCHR supported efforts to establish effectively functioning NMRFs through advocacy and technical assistance.

In **Brazil**, the UPR Parliamentary Observatory was instrumental in strengthening the capacities of State institutions to engage with the international human rights mechanisms, especially the UPR as Brazil began its fourth cycle. The results were meaningful and provided an excellent experience for extensive monitoring of the human rights situation in Brazil. It also resulted in legislative changes, such as progress in fulfilling its obligations under the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW). The development of data panels and training increased the capacities of the UPR Parliamentary Observatory to work with data collection and analysis, with a particular emphasis on human rights recommendations.

In **Ecuador**, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights to draft an executive decree that established the primary features and functions of the NMRF. The executive decree is expected to be approved in 2023. In anticipation of Ecuador's fourth UPR cycle, OHCHR engaged with the Government, the UNCT and civil society and provided technical assistance for the drafting of the national report, which enabled the Government to improve the quality and scope of the report. In addition, OHCHR supported the strengthening of SIDERECHOS by extending assistance to update and improve the platform's software and provide training for State focal points on international and regional human rights mechanisms. OHCHR contributed to the development of the UNCT's UPR report on Ecuador, integrating relevant information from UN agencies on priority issues defined during CCA inter-agency discussions, including chronic childhood malnutrition, social protection, climate change and the environment, the penitentiary crisis, education, migration and gender-based violence.

In **Uruguay**, OHCHR developed a project to include departmental governments in the NMRF to encourage the adoption of a more comprehensive and sustainable approach when reporting. This approach will be more efficient and participatory and will reflect the diversity of the territory. The project also supported the NMRF in preparing the Government's State Party reports to the human rights treaty bodies.

VENEZUELA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
28.3 million	930,000 km ²	0.691 (rank: 120/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2016)
Type of engagement	Other type of field presence		
Year established	2019		
Field office(s)	Caracas		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2021 (extended to 2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	7		
XB income	US\$2,408,143		
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,457,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,867,368		

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
75%	16%	9%
\$1,391,822	\$306,193	\$169,353

Key OMP pillars in 2022



^{1,2,3,4} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Conditions of detention in certain detention centres are improved and a more effective NPM is responsible for the prevention of torture. Access to justice for victims of human rights violations is increased.

16

OHCHR continued monitoring places of detention and advocated with authorities to improve conditions of detention.

Throughout 2022, OHCHR visited 22 detention centres and confidentially

interviewed 281 detainees (63 women, 218 men), including 10 LGBTI persons and four Indigenous persons, in accordance with an agreement with the Government. A total of 14 centres were managed by the Ministry of Penitentiary Services, including women's facilities, and eight centres were managed by the Ministry of Interior, Justice and Peace. Following each visit, OHCHR presented authorities with a confidential report, detailing its findings and recommendations for ensuring stronger compliance with international detention standards. The reports include specific recommendations for urgent

individual cases, especially in relation to due process, and advocate for visits of lawyers and relatives, including children, and the release of detainees facing particular risks. As a result, some detainees with non-implemented release orders were released and some progress was made on improving conditions of detention. OHCHR's advocacy efforts led to improved access to medical attention by detainees and the initiation of investigations into allegations of torture. As another illustration, a recommendation made by OHCHR was reportedly implemented, enabling transgender persons to choose the sex of the security agent that carried out body searches.

OHCHR documented individual cases of detention, including of women, which required an urgent solution due to health reasons, judicial delays and the non-execution of judicial release orders. Following OHCHR's advocacy, 35 persons were released, including four women. OHCHR continued its regular dialogue with the AGO, including in the investigation of 106 documented cases of alleged extrajudicial executions by security forces in security operations and of 27 deaths in the context of protests. Some progress was made through judicial actions that were undertaken for cases of serious human rights violations. Despite investigative efforts, the alleged perpetrators of extrajudicial executions by security forces in security operations were not convicted. Alleged perpetrators were convicted in the cases of only seven deaths that occurred in the context of protests. In very few cases, alleged perpetrators were deprived of their liberty while awaiting trial. Furthermore, there were no investigations of the chain of command and only alleged perpetrators were investigated and indicted. On a positive note, OHCHR was granted access to the files of 10 emblematic cases, which

were discussed with the public defenders. A total of 16 case files have been provided to OHCHR since 2021. In addition, OHCHR was granted access to judicial hearings as observers, including the trial of Venezuelan journalist Roland Carreño, in accordance with an agreement between the Office and the Government. After the hearing, OHCHR presented a confidential report to authorities on compliance with due diligence standards and made specific recommendations.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Civil society and the NHRI strengthen their capacities to support access to justice and protection mechanisms by Venezuelan migrants and refugees.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the protection of the rights of refugees and migrants from Venezuela in host countries by monitoring their situation and providing technical assistance to national actors in the region.

OHCHR increased its activities on Venezuelan migration with the dual objective of: 1) applying an HRBA to the work of the protection groups of the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V); and 2) engaging with national stakeholders in host and transit countries. OHCHR maintained remote monitoring and carried out field visits in Colombia, Ecuador and Panama, meeting with stakeholders and interviewing refugees and migrants from Venezuela. Collaboration with civil society actors led OHCHR to monitor individual cases

and provide assistance to refugees and migrants with national and international protection systems. OHCHR contributed to the work of the special procedures by submitting cases of human rights violations of Venezuelan migrants in Curacao, Panama and Trinidad and Tobago, which resulted in communications sent to the Governments.

Furthermore, OHCHR established technical cooperation with the NHRI network on migration of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen (FIO), resulting in the elaboration and publication, in May, of a new protocol, “Prevention and response to possible vulnerabilities and human rights violations of people in the context of international human movement,” on coordinating their assistance to migrants in the region. The protocol takes into consideration new challenges brought about by the migration crisis from Venezuela. OHCHR also completed a cycle of online training on monitoring the human rights of migrants with members of the NHRI and CSOs in Chile. In April, OHCHR delivered a workshop on human rights monitoring in situations of human mobility for 13 women and 12 men from the NHRI in Ecuador. Additionally, OHCHR provided human rights expertise in activities of the Quito Process and undertook joint activities with UN agencies, in particular UN Women, UNODC and IOM, to improve access to justice for refugees and migrants who are victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and minors. This initiative led to the establishment of a network of CSOs, supported by UNODC and OHCHR, which will coordinate their interventions to facilitate access to justice for victims of trafficking in persons. Furthermore, the preparation of monthly snapshots on migration from Venezuela resulted in greater visibility of

human rights issues affecting refugees and migrants.

Peace and Security

PS5 – Early warning, prevention and protection capacities are strengthened, including through in-country monitoring.



OHCHR monitored human rights violations in Venezuela and used this reporting for advocacy purposes and to strengthen technical assistance provided to the Government.

OHCHR met regularly with authorities to discuss extrajudicial killings, individual cases of detention, attacks against HRDs, including trade unionists, and journalists. It also identified risks, trends and patterns. As part of its early warning efforts, the Office continued to advocate with the Government, raising alerts as needed and sharing confidential situation notes to relevant authorities. In addition, the Office delivered an oral update to the HRC, in March, and submitted a report, in July. These actions led to the release of several detainees and commitments from the Government to refrain from adopting initiatives that create human rights concerns. OHCHR worked with HRDs and journalists on security and risk management, providing information, monitoring and training. It also assisted individual HRDs to obtain the support of CSOs working in the areas of legal protection, access to health, psychosocial care and internal displacement. OHCHR continued to advocate with authorities to implement protection measures in criminal cases in which HRDs were victims.



Participation

P5 – Remote monitoring tools are used to monitor an enabling environment and threats to civic space in order to provide credible information to the international community.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which formal approaches have been made to the Government by the international community with regard to specific human rights issues.

During the reporting period, regular monthly meetings were held with civil society to monitor human rights situations at the national and state levels, including in relation to democratic space. OHCHR and CSOs developed a calendar for monthly meetings with a thematic focus. Further, OHCHR prepared an assessment for CSOs participating in these meetings and received positive feedback. OHCHR staff participated in the activities of the regional network of HRD focal points, including its November two-day meeting.

In April, OHCHR met with the National Assembly to establish a joint working plan on incorporating human rights into its activities. It was agreed that OHCHR would: be granted access to draft bills to facilitate technical assistance to the National Assembly; provide National Assembly staff with human rights training; and assist with the design of participatory mechanisms to enable consultations with civil society and relevant stakeholders on draft bills. In May, it was agreed that the joint activities should proceed to strengthen the National Assembly's capacities to incorporate human rights.



Development

D7 – The international community urges Venezuelan authorities to undertake measures to address critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR, in particular in situations related to the right to food and health.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which critical human rights issues/situations raised by the Office have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner.

OHCHR participated in various humanitarian coordination forums, providing analysis and early warning in critical areas. The Office effectively coordinated with the RCO to support its human rights advocacy. Additionally, human rights and gender were mainstreamed into the 2023-2026 UNSDCF, signed in September, to ensure these issues were considered in all UN actions undertaken in the country, including in relation to the SDGs. These efforts led to the inclusion of persons deprived of their liberty as a priority group in the UNSDCF and the LNOB strategy, thereby contributing to safeguarding their rights, reducing inequality and emphasizing the importance of protecting HRDs in United Nations operations in Venezuela.