

UN Human Rights in the field



OHCHR is monitoring the human rights situation of migrants crossing the Darien jungle in Panama. ©OHCHR

Introduction

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

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

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

the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. Moreover, OHCHR's engagement in the field ensures the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to UN country programming and advocacy.

UN Human Rights operates through two main categories of field presences, namely, offices and collaborative arrangements. The first category consists of country and regional offices. The second category consists of human rights components of peace or political missions, human rights advisers (HRAs) and programmes in UN Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs).

As of 31 December, OHCHR was operating in 104 field presences globally, consisting of 12 regional offices, 19 country offices, 53 HRAs, 11 human rights components in UN peace operations and 9 other types of field presences.

TYPES OF FIELD PRESENCES



Country and stand-alone offices

UN Human Rights country offices are established in accordance with an agreement between the High Commissioner and a host State. A mandate typically includes human rights monitoring and analysis, protection and the provision of technical assistance to host governments, national authorities, civil society, victims of human rights violations and other relevant counterparts through targeted technical cooperation activities, capacity-building support and public reporting. Country offices are primarily funded through voluntary contributions.

OHCHR's 19 country offices are in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Liberia, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, the State of Palestine,⁴ Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut), Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen; one field-based structure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) based in Seoul; and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).



Regional offices and centres

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

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

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

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

UN Human Rights strengthened its regional offices, with the establishment of Early Warning/Emergency Response Teams in the Regional Offices for Southern Africa (2017), South-East Asia (2018), West Africa (2019), Central Africa (2021), Central America (2021), South America (2021), and the Pacific (2022). OHCHR plans to create two additional Early Warning/Emergency Response Teams in the Regional Office for East Africa and the Regional Office for Central Asia. UN Human Rights strengthened the

fundraising capacities of regional offices by deploying dedicated and specialized staff in South-East Asia and South Africa in 2021 and Panama in 2022. In 2022, the Human Rights Council decided to establish 11 new posts in regional offices, which will increase the availability of technical cooperation services for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

UN Human Rights is committed to strengthening its regional offices, tailoring their structures and improving their capacities to respond to the challenges and opportunities of the changing global and regional environments. These efforts are consistent with the Secretary-General's plans to enhance the UN's engagement at the regional level and reinforce cooperation with regional organizations.



Human rights components of United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions

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

The integration of human rights into peace operations is governed by a 2005 decision of the Secretary-General and the [2011 OHCHR/DPKO/DPA/DFS Policy on Human Rights in United Nations Peace Operations and Political Missions](#). The latter recognizes the centrality of human rights in integrated and multidimensional

peace missions, outlines the roles and responsibilities of mission leadership and human rights and other components in promoting and protecting human rights and assigns responsibilities to OHCHR.

In 2022, human rights components were integrated into 11 UN peacekeeping operations and special political missions that are mandated by the Security Council to promote and protect human rights in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo,⁵ Libya, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The head of the human rights component serves as the representative of the High Commissioner, with dual reporting lines to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Head of Mission and the High Commissioner.

Human rights components in peace operations document, prevent and address violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law through monitoring and investigations, early warning analysis for the protection of civilians, engaging with duty bearers and rights holders, advocacy and public reporting. Human rights components conduct a wide range of activities, including building the capacity of civil society, NHRIs and national institutions, providing protection to victims of human rights violations and HRDs, advocating for accountability, supporting transitional justice programmes, training for military, police, law enforcement and justice officials, advocating for legislative and rule of law reforms and supporting the implementation of peace agreements and the UN's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) by peace operations.

⁵ All references to Kosovo should be understood in compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.



Human Rights Advisers in UN Country Teams

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

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

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

HRAs provide technical advice and capacity-building support to State actors and NHRIs and offer practical assistance to civil society in the promotion and protection of human rights, including through engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

HRAs are funded by extrabudgetary contributions. Since 2012, all deployments have been operationalized under the UNSDG Strategy for the Deployment of HRAs. The Human Rights Mainstreaming Multi-Donor Trust Fund (HRM Fund), established to support the deployment of human rights expertise to

RCOs and UNCTs, has been critical in ensuring the sustainability of this effort and the expansion of in-country human rights guidance.

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

In 2022, the Office had HRAs established in 53 countries, supporting RCs, UNCTs, State actors and civil society, through the enhanced integration of human rights into their programmes. The countries are Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso,⁶ Burundi, the Republic of Congo, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar (based in Bangkok), Nepal, Nigeria, the Republic of North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru,⁷ the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Samoa, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Caucasus (Tbilisi), Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Zambia

⁶ The HRA presence in Burkina Faso ended in mid-2022, with the opening of an OHCHR country office.

⁷ The HRA presence in Peru ended in September 2022, when it was replaced as a programme.

and Zimbabwe.⁸ The consolidation of support that is provided to RCs and UNCTs is occurring at a critical juncture when the new CCAs, UNSDCFs and the Management Accountability Framework of the UN Development System and the RC system are being implemented. OHCHR has received seven new requests for HRAs from RCs in Albania, Angola, Gabon, Ghana, Indonesia, the Federated States of Micronesia and Tanzania.



Other types of field presences

OHCHR has staff members that were deployed to implement projects in Bolivia, El Salvador, Mozambique, Myanmar (based in Bangkok, Thailand), Peru, the Russian Federation, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, as well as the G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project.

ENGAGEMENT IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In 2022, the number of people affected by humanitarian crises across the world was estimated at 286.8 million, representing a significant increase from 274 million people in the previous year, which was the highest figure in decades. Conflicts, other situations of violence, natural hazards and health emergencies are causing, worsening or crystalizing crises.

UN Human Rights increased its engagement in humanitarian action at the global and field levels, strengthening efforts to respond to human rights violations and

providing support to mainstream human rights into preparedness, crisis response and protection environment building. OHCHR serviced the bodies of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), including the Principals, the Deputies Group, the Emergency Directors Group and the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group. Since April, the Deputies Group has taken on a bigger role in addressing climate change, internally displaced persons (IDPs), diversity, equity and inclusion and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). OHCHR significantly contributed to the discussions and the Compact on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion issued by the Deputies Group. In addition, OHCHR was engaged in discussions on the review and implementation of the IASC Policy on Protection in Humanitarian Action. In November, OHCHR became a full member of the IASC and joined the IASC Climate Sub-Group, contributing to IASC policy discussions on climate change.

OHCHR participated in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) in 14 field presences and in the Global Humanitarian Overview.

OHCHR continued to support the response to COVID-19, with a focus on inclusion and Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), ensuring that vulnerable categories were prioritized in the response through the Crisis Management Team and the Global Health Cluster (GHC).

UN Human Rights participated in the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and its task teams, supported the integration of human rights information and analysis into the HPC and national responses to ensure that populations at risk of being left behind were placed at the centre of these efforts. In 2022, OHCHR contributed to the drafting of protection analysis updates, which were produced by the Field

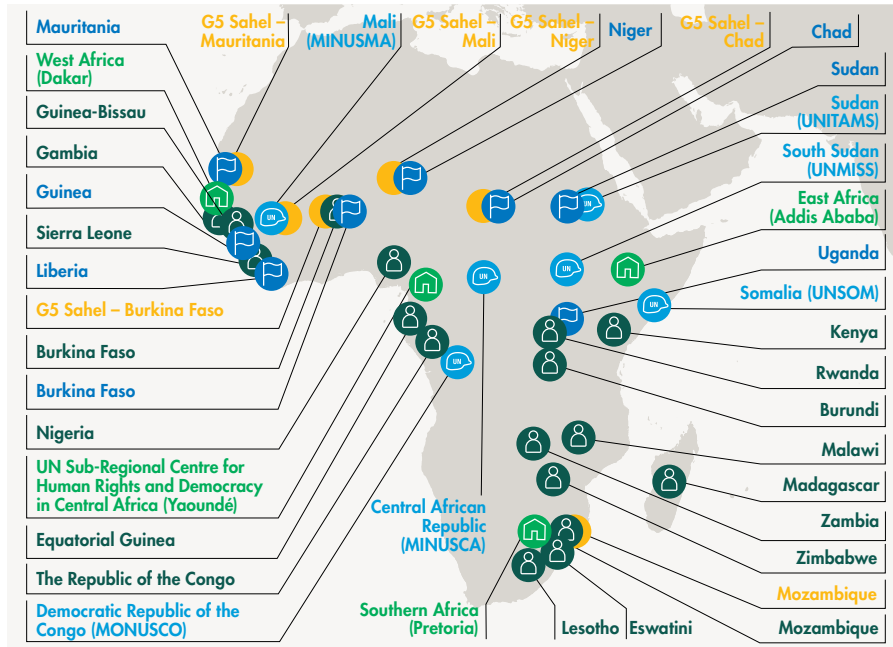
Protection Clusters in four field presences. It also contributed to the GPC's annual report on law and policy on internal displacement and two guidance tools on integrating human rights into the work of the HPC. OHCHR's collaboration with the GPC led to increased activities related to joint advocacy, protection monitoring and engagement with NHRIs and the international human rights mechanisms.

At the country level, the Office assisted 27 Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) to integrate human rights into humanitarian action in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pacific Island Countries, the Republic of Moldova, Somalia, South Sudan, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe. OHCHR continued to lead the Protection Cluster in the State of Palestine, co-lead the Protection Cluster in Haiti, co-lead subnational Protection Clusters in Colombia and advised the humanitarian leadership of the Syria response. In 2022, the [Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\)](#), which recognizes key OHCHR human rights activities as 'life-saving',⁹ provided \$3,975,805 million in funding to the OHCHR Offices in Haiti, Syria and Ukraine.

⁸ Due to a funding shortfall, the HRA positions in Bahrain, Equatorial Guinea, Malawi, Malaysia, Jamaica, Serbia and Suriname were not filled during part or all of 2022. The HRA position in Uzbekistan was a temporary support that ended in 2022.

⁹ OHCHR (Humanitarian Action Unit, ERS) contributed to the review of CERF life-saving criteria. In 2020, it successfully advocated to have a wider range of human rights activities recognized as eligible for funding.

UN Human Rights in Africa



TYPE OF PRESENCE

- Country/Stand-alone Offices/Human Rights Missions
- Regional Offices/Centres
- Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
- Human Rights Advisers^a
- Other types of field presences

LOCATION

- Burkina Faso^b, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Sudan and Uganda
- East Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa), UN Sub-Regional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon) and West Africa (Dakar, Senegal)
- Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO/UNJHRO), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS) and Sudan (UNITAMS)
- Burkina Faso^b, Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea^c, Eswatini, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi^d, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project^d, Mozambique

^a Human rights advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
^b Human rights adviser replaced by Country Office in 2022.
^c On hold until funding is available.
^d Further to Security Council resolution 2391 (December 2017), OHCHR supported the G5 Sahel Joint Force with the operationalization of a Compliance Framework to ensure that military operations to combat terrorism in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Mali withdrew on 30 June 2022.

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:



The UN Human Rights Africa programme covers 50 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and consists of four regional offices (Central Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa); eight country offices (Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Sudan and Uganda); 16 human rights advisers (HRAs) in UN Country Teams (UNCTs) (Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Zimbabwe); six human rights presences in UN peace missions (Central African Republic (CAR) (MINUSCA), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (MONUSCO), Mali (MINUSMA), Somalia (UNSOM), South Sudan (UNMISS) and Sudan (UNITAMS)); and two project teams (G5 Sahel and Mozambique). In 2022, UN Human Rights increased its footprint in Africa, including through the deployment of HRAs in the Republic of the Congo, Eswatini and Mozambique and received further expressions of interest from Resident Coordinators (RCs)/UNCTs for the deployment of HRAs in Gabon and the United Republic of Tanzania. Existing country offices in Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger and Sudan were strengthened to increase their monitoring, reporting and capacity-building capabilities. Due to insufficient funding, however, the HRA positions in Equatorial Guinea and Malawi remained vacant.

The UN Human Rights Africa programme provided support to five Human Rights Council special procedures country mandate holders, namely, Burundi, CAR, Eritrea, Mali and Somalia; the Designated Expert on the situation of human rights in Sudan; the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan; the

Team of International Experts on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and the operationalization of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia.

In the East and Horn of Africa, ethnic violence and extreme poverty remained major challenges. The conflicts in Ethiopia and Somalia, which were compounded by acts of terrorism, resulted in the displacement of thousands of people, creating significant humanitarian and protection crises. The signing of a cessation of hostilities agreement between the Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front, on 2 November, with clear commitments on human rights, accountability and transitional justice, was a first step in stabilizing the situation and reducing human rights violations and abuses in northern Ethiopia. In Sudan, the human rights situation continued to be of concern in the absence of a civilian-led government following the military coup of 25 October 2021. A surge in intercommunal violence was observed in Darfur. The signing of a political framework agreement in Sudan, on 5 December 2022, provided an opportunity to address long-standing issues of accountability, transitional justice and transition to a civilian administration. It is anticipated that a final political agreement will be signed on 1 April, followed by the formation of the civilian government. In South Sudan, intercommunal violence regularly spiked in the states of Jonglei, Pibor and Warrap. Several member countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), particularly Angola, Comoros, Eswatini, South Africa and Zimbabwe, continued to struggle to improve the protection of social, economic and political rights over the past year. The shrinking of civic space and targeting of human rights

defenders (HRDs) and journalists was noted. In March, OHCHR undertook an assessment mission on the human rights situation in the Abyei Administrative Area, recommending the deployment of human rights capacity within the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). In Eswatini, militarization of the rule of law and order negatively impacted on human rights. Climate change also adversely affected livelihoods, led to forced displacement and intensified conflicts between farmers and herders, exacerbating existing fragilities and underlying conflict triggers. The human rights situation in northern Mozambique continued to deteriorate amid ongoing fighting between non-State armed group insurgents and pro-government forces in the Cabo Delgado province.

Protracted conflicts and violence in Central and West Africa posed serious challenges in Burkina Faso, CAR, DRC, Mali and Niger. Weak domestic and regional institutions, with varying capacities, undermined human rights across both regions. Terrorist activities became increasingly entwined with intercommunity conflicts and clashes between farmers and herders, resulting in heightened insecurity and violence and compounding an acute humanitarian crisis in large parts of the Sahel region. Systematic attacks by violent extremist groups on civilian and military targets in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria posed serious threats to peace and security. In Central Africa and the Lake Chad Basin, attacks by Boko Haram and other Islamic insurgents increased, leading to insecurity for civilians and prompting the displacement of persons. General insecurity was at times exacerbated by excessive counter-terrorism responses and widespread human rights violations and abuses. Counter-insurgency operations undertaken by

foreign military personnel working alongside or independently of State forces in CAR and Mali, and by civilian auxiliaries working with security and defence forces in Burkina Faso, were marked by an increase in human rights violations and abuses. Regional partnerships and collective responses to security challenges and terrorism-related threats in the Sahel were hampered by Mali's decision in May, effective on 30 June, to withdraw from all organs and bodies of the G5 Sahel, including the G5 Sahel Joint Force. The human rights situation in eastern DRC deteriorated due to the activities of armed groups in the east, violent intercommunal conflicts in the west, heightened political tensions around the December 2023 elections, hate speech and harmful rhetoric.

The impact of unconstitutional changes in the Governments of Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea and Mali negatively affected the human rights situation on the continent. This included a narrowing of civic space, an inability of democratic institutions to function effectively, a weakening of justice and accountability mechanisms and extended transitional military rule. OHCHR's country and regional programmes contributed to political transition processes, including by advocating for transparent consultative and inclusive processes and supporting transitional justice and accountability efforts.

UN Human Rights supported field work on governance and the rule of law and the peace and security, development and accountability pillars, at both the country and regional level. In July, OHCHR held consultative sessions with the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACtHPR) and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR). This led to

the development of a comprehensive outcome document detailing priorities and joint activities to be undertaken in 2022 and 2023. In addition, UN Human Rights assisted the African Union (AU) to: mainstream human rights into its early warning system; integrate human rights and humanitarian law standards into AU peace operations; implement the African Union Compliance Framework and Accountability (AUCF) project; strengthen the capacities of civil society and NHRIs; and advance the agendas related to women, peace and security and youth. Key deliverables of the AUCF project included the review and validation of foundational compliance instruments¹⁰ and the delivery of training sessions. OHCHR conducted capacity-building sessions to improve the compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law of the G5 Sahel Joint Force and of the national defence and security services. It also developed a G5 Sahel region-wide strategy on the protection of civilians. This work was complemented by OHCHR's increasing operationalization of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) project that aims at reinforcing respect and protection of human rights by ISFs in Chad, Mauritania and Niger. In 2022, major achievements of the project included: training of over 1,518 members of ISFs on human rights and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); the investigation and documentation of 13 cases of serious human violations committed by ISFs during law enforcement operations and; assistance provided to 16 victims and witnesses.

¹⁰ The African Union Compliance and Accountability Strategic Framework, the African Union Policy on Selection and Screening and the African Union Policy on the Protection of Civilians.

UN Human Rights provided support to diverse actors in the promotion and protection of human rights by building national capacities and enhancing collaboration with the international human rights mechanisms, including in response to the humanitarian crises linked to insurgency by Boko Haram, terrorism and clashes between farmers and herders. In northern Mozambique, OHCHR deployed a Human Rights Officer in Pemba to work closely with the Protection Cluster and incorporate human rights into the humanitarian response to the conflict. OHCHR supported the integration of human rights into early warning and prevention efforts in the context of elections in the Gambia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal and Somalia.

In relation to the development pillar, in particular socio-economic response plans, UN Human Rights worked with UNCTs, Member States, the AU and its organs, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs to monitor the human rights impacts of crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. This information contributed to the preparation of policy guidelines and advocacy for inclusive Socio-economic Response Plans (SERPs), Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs). Technical macroeconomic analysis linking the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and a human rights-based approach (HRBA) was provided and integrated into CCAs. UN Human Rights supported a Business and Human Rights (BHR) Africa Project that was launched, on a pilot basis, in Liberia, Mozambique, Uganda and the Regional Office in Addis. The project aimed to strengthen strategic and impactful BHR engagement in the region, expand local BHR expertise

and capacities dedicated to BHR engagement at the country level. It also worked to bolster the capacities of UN entities to support the uptake and implementation of policies and processes to identify, prevent and mitigate human rights risks that are related to business.

UN Human Rights reinforced accountability processes and mechanisms in Africa, including by providing secretariat support to the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, the Team of International Experts on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia. It also supported the development of transitional justice processes in CAR, Ethiopia and Sudan.

UN Human Rights in Africa supported governments, CSOs, NHRIs and other actors to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms, integrate human rights into their implementation of the SDGs and link the principle of prevention with the human rights framework to guide UN responses in relation to civil unrest, political protests and other conflict triggers. The Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) in the Regional Offices for Central Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa strengthened the early warning and prevention agenda by supporting the RCs and UNCTs on human rights risk analysis.

UN Human Rights will continue to invest in and strengthen its capacities to undertake human rights analyses, reporting and technical cooperation in Africa and at the regional level and ensure that country offices can respond to requests for assistance from governments, NHRIs, civil society and UN system partners in a timely manner. OHCHR will seek to reinforce its institutional relations with

the African Union (AU) and advocate for the signing of the draft Joint AU-UN Framework on Human Rights and the revival of a high-level dialogue between the AU and OHCHR on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 2023. All UN Human Rights field presences in Africa will contribute to the commemoration of UDHR75, including by leveraging partnerships with Member States, NHRIs and CSOs. UN Human Rights in Africa will support the full integration of human rights, accountability and transitional justice into political transitions and the implementation of peace agreements, including by ensuring participatory, transparent and meaningful consultative processes with all national actors. The presence of senior HRAs (SHRAs) in UNCTs/ Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) will ensure the application of an HRBA to UN humanitarian and development programming, with a view to achieving the SDGs, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. Engagement with African youth leaders and organizations will be prioritized in human rights advocacy and protection efforts. In 2023, UN Human Rights will focus on the impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights and the strengthening of business and human rights initiatives.

BURKINA FASO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
22.67 million	274,000 km ²	0.449 (rank: 184/191 in 2021) -	
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2020		
Field office(s)	Ouagadougou		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2020 (extended to 2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	13		

Total income 2022 **US\$3,545,844**

XB requirements 2022 **US\$1,965,000**

XB expenditure **US\$1,037,346**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
57%	33%	10%
\$596,026	\$338,160	\$103,160

Key OMP pillars in 2022



Data sources and notes:

¹ United Nations (2022), *Statistical Yearbook 2022: Sixty-Fifth Issue*, United Nations, New York.

² UNDP (2022), *Human Development Report 2021-2022, Uncertain times, unsettled lives: Shaping our future in a transforming world*.

³ Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, Chart of the Status of National Institutions. Accessed 15 December 2022.

⁴ OHCHR, as part of the UN Secretariat, charges 13 per cent of Programme Support Cost (PSC) on all direct costs, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/217 of December 1980. For activities implemented jointly with other UN partners, however, the related indirect PSC is reduced to seven per cent. This explains a lower PSC percentage average.

PILLAR RESULTS:



Peace and Security

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

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By providing advice to the HCT, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights into UN programmes.

OHCHR contributed to progress made by the UNCT on the implementation of

the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). Following the establishment of the OHCHR-led HRDDP Working Group within the UNCT, OHCHR met with assigned focal points every two months and organized three training sessions. It also held two briefings for 40 heads and deputy heads of UN entities, including seven women. Engagement with authorities on the HRDDP was strengthened and, on the request of the RC, four line ministries appointed departmental

focal points on the HRDDP. Furthermore, OHCHR organized a training on the HRDDP for 10 military engineers and an awareness-raising session for 65 non-commissioned officers from the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Security.



Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems, including in the context of widespread criminality and insecurity.

OHCHR contributed to accountability efforts through enhanced monitoring of human rights violations.

As a result of its monitoring and reporting, OHCHR issued more than 30 flash reports on the human rights situation in the country, which were shared with OHCHR in Geneva and UNOCC. In addition, three quarterly notes were finalized, detailing trends in violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. To support its human rights monitoring and reporting, OHCHR finalized a comprehensive mapping of parties to the conflict. The mapping will facilitate the identification of those responsible for human rights violations and abuses and enhance OHCHR's engagement with national actors, in particular security forces.

A2 – Accountability or protection mechanisms that are in conformity with international human rights standards are in place and functioning.

Through technical cooperation, OHCHR aimed to support national accountability efforts.

After the September coup d'état, OHCHR established a cooperation framework with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to monitor, report and follow up on allegations of human rights violations by security forces and their civilian auxiliaries (Volontaires pour la Défense de la Patrie). The terms of reference (ToRs) of the cooperation framework were endorsed on 2 November and national authorities shared with OHCHR a draft decree to make this mechanism official. Discussions are ongoing with the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights regarding the development of human rights programmes for security and defence forces and their civilian auxiliaries.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and programmes in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) increasingly protect children who are victims of abuse and exploitation.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance of national actors with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR established a working group on hate speech within the UNCT and organized two briefings on the issue for the Protection Cluster and the UNCT. On 6 September, the Office organized an awareness-raising session on hate speech for 33 journalists, including 10 women, which led to the establishment of an information-sharing mechanism for journalists.

BURUNDI

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
12.89 million	28,000 km ²	0.426 (rank: 187/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2021)

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2020
Field office(s)	Bujumbura
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2022	3

XB requirements 2022 **US\$1,458,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – A national mechanism is created to protect the rights of CSOs and individuals, which is supported by a clear legal framework that complies with international human rights standards.

16 

The HRA cooperated with the Union of Persons with Disability of Burundi to organize a workshop, in June, on the elaboration of implementation instruments related to Law No. 1/03 (2018) on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. The Law was adopted following Burundi's 2014 ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), but it has not been implemented. The workshop provided participants with an opportunity to discuss and initiate modalities for the preparation of implementation

instruments, such as decrees and by-laws, in particular regarding education, health and employment, which are essential for translating law into action. A road map was adopted, outlining steps for the drafting process, with concrete responsibilities and a timeline.

Development

D3 – Civil society is better able to participate in the preparation of development policies and decision-making. Civil society organizations work to promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs).

1 11

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced participation of rights holders in selected public processes.

The HRA provided support to increase the awareness and participation of rights holders in domestic human rights processes. For example, a teacher's guide and student's book were drafted for human rights education in secondary schools. Distribution of these resources has begun and will continue in 2023. The HRA also provided technical and financial support for the establishment and functioning of 404 human rights clubs in selected secondary schools to foster the human rights culture and generate awareness about the principles of democracy and accountability.

The HRA facilitated capacity-building sessions for and consultations with national stakeholders to support the drafting of their contributions in anticipation of Burundi's fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), scheduled for May. Unprecedented interest was demonstrated through the preparation of three submissions by UN entities and five joint submissions by national actors. The HRA provided substantive assistance in the drafting process. It is expected that this participatory process will lead to concrete actions for the implementation of recommendations emanating from the 2023 review.

Finally, a UN-led scoping mission that was conducted by DESA, OHCHR and IFAD, in June, provided the momentum for discussions on the National Strategy for the Socio-economic Inclusion of the Batwa for Sustainable Development 2022-2027, which has not yet been adopted by the Government. The scoping mission also informed the drafting of a multi-year UN programme to support the implementation of the Strategy, once adopted, and in response to the challenges and priorities identified during the scoping mission and analytical frameworks.

SUB-REGIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY IN CENTRAL AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Year established	2001
Field office(s)	Yaoundé, Cameroon
Staff as of 31 December 2022	17

Total income	US\$425,787		
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,045,000		
XB expenditure	US\$662,656		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
	31%	57%	11%
	\$207,326	\$380,742	\$74,588
RB expenditure	US\$1,445,895		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	76%	24%	
	\$1,096,809	\$349,086	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Judicial actors increasingly apply human rights principles and standards and institutions of law enforcement gradually comply with international human rights norms and standards relating to torture, ill-treatment and the deprivation of liberty.

16

OHCHR contributed to selected State institutions/programmes that

demonstrated significant improvement in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

In Equatorial Guinea, after years of advocacy undertaken by OHCHR on the implementation of UPR recommendations that called on the Government to abolish the death penalty, the President of the Republic promulgated the new Penal Code, on 17 August, which abolished the death penalty for civil offences. The Penal Code was adopted in August and

took effect in December, 90 days after it was published in the official bulletin, on 7 September.

OHCHR supported the organization of a workshop from 24 to 25 May to train 47 officials from the **Cameroon** Human Rights Commission (including 15 commissioners, one permanent secretary, 21 heads of office and 10 staff members) on the functioning of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). The workshop familiarized participants with instruments and mechanisms for the prevention of torture and good practices to fulfil their mandate as an NHRI. It also covered basic principles and instruments of the NPM and highlighted fundamental concepts, such as torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, the prevention of torture, places of deprivation of liberty, constructive dialogue and techniques for visiting detention facilities and drafting visit reports.

From 23 to 24 August, in Bertoua, Cameroon, OHCHR partnered with the Ministry of Justice of **Cameroon** to organize a workshop on international human rights law and international humanitarian law for military and civilian magistrates, as well as lawyers. The workshop focused on incorporating international human rights law and international humanitarian law standards into legal analysis and judicial decision-making processes. It was attended by 30 participants, including 10 women. Presentations addressed international, regional and national human rights standards and mechanisms; international humanitarian law; the right to a fair hearing and the right to liberty; the protection of victims and witnesses in cases of sexual violence; and the right to redress under international human rights law.

A2 – Protection mechanisms are in place and strengthened to ensure effective follow-up on human rights violations, including seeking redress on behalf of victims.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of NPMs, in increased conformity with international standards, including by providing technical support.

From 25 to 26 May, OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in **Sao Tomé and Príncipe** to deliver a workshop on a strategy for implementing the recommendations issued by the UPR and the process of establishing a NHRI. Presentations and discussions included: the Paris Principles and good practices as a basis for the independence and efficacy of an NHRI; the mandate for the promotion and protection of human rights; and how to set up an NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles. Examples of NHRIs from Portuguese-speaking countries were reviewed. Following the discussions and group work, participants adopted a road map, which consisted of: inclusive consultations and the establishment of a technical committee by decree that is scheduled for January 2023; advocacy before the National Assembly in January 2023; validation of the draft law by other actors in March 2023; adoption and popularization of the law in September 2023; and the establishment of an NHRI by December 2023.



Participation

P1 – Parliaments, law enforcement institutions and other actors implement measures that protect fundamental freedoms and HRDs.

16

With OHCHR's support, the level of compliance with international human rights standards of legislation and policies in countries of the subregion has improved, including through capacity-building activities and advocacy.

In June, OHCHR and the RC in **Gabon** held consultations and advocacy sessions with members of the Senate, the National Assembly, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and the President of the Gabonese electoral management body (Centre Gabonais des Elections). Discussions focused on the anticipated adoption by the Parliament of the draft law aligning the Gabonese NHRC with the Paris Principles and the preparation of Gabon's fourth UPR cycle, scheduled for 2023. OHCHR advocated for measures to implement the right to participate in electoral processes for women, youth, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples. The Gabonese electoral management body committed to ensuring the participation of vulnerable groups in the electoral process and proposed measures to guarantee accessibility and reasonable accommodation, in line with CRPD.

From March to June, with the support of the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Africa (CARO), the HRA in the **Republic of the Congo** held numerous meetings with the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) on the draft law to align it with the Paris Principles. The draft law is ready and will be transmitted to the Government and the Parliament in 2023.

On 9 December, CARO and the HRA in the Republic of the Congo donated approximately 1,500 publications to the NHRI documentation centre for its second exhibition on legal and human rights publications. In addition, with the support of the NHRI, the HRA facilitated the translation of the UDHR into Kituba (one of the three official languages of Congo).

P6 – Marginalized groups participate more actively in political and public life, locally and nationally.



OHCHR trained rights holders to support their meaningful participation in selected public processes.

From 21 to 22 September, in Buea, **Cameroon**, OHCHR organized a two-day training workshop on enhancing safety and digital security for journalists reporting on crises. A total of 31 journalists attended, including 13 women, from online, radio, television and print media outlets. The training enhanced the knowledge of participants in relation to international human rights law and the application of an HRBA to reporting; equipped them with tools for their online presence and safety and; developed their capacities to mitigate risks involved in online journalism and field reporting. It covered key human rights principles, the right to freedom of expression, terminology of international human rights law and international humanitarian law and tools that can be adopted for their own safety. Participants shared their experiences and a platform was created to enable journalists working in crisis regions to share their experiences on an ongoing basis. The training resulted in the preparation of the draft Declaration on the Protection and

Safety of Journalists Online and Offline During Crises, which will serve as an advocacy tool to enhance the safety of journalists in Cameroon.

From 28 to 29 June, OHCHR and the RCO in **Gabon** organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on the rights of vulnerable groups in the electoral process. It was attended by 26 participants, including 12 women, representing actors involved in the electoral process, such as the electoral management body, ministries, journalists, the media regulatory body (Haute Autorité de la Communication), the National Youth Council of Gabon and CSOs. Discussions focused on international human rights norms related to elections and good practices to guarantee the participation of women, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples in elections. Participants committed to addressing accessibility issues faced by persons with disabilities during elections, in particular in the context of the presidential elections that are scheduled for 2023.



Development

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



OHCHR contributed to the integration by UNCTs of a human rights perspective, including recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, into their plans to implement the SDGs

and in other development programmes, such as the UNSDCF and strategic documents on poverty reduction.

From 17 to 20 May, OHCHR cooperated with the HRA, the RCO and the Ministry of Planning of **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** to conduct a training on the application of an HRBA, the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) principle and results-based management (RBM) for government actors and members of the UNCT's Programme Management Team. A total of 38 participants, including 12 women, attended the training. The participants were involved in the revision and implementation of the UNSDCF to ensure its alignment with the new National Development Programme 2022-2026, which was adopted by the Government in the context of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The sessions focused on: international human rights standards and linkages between human rights and the 17 SDGs; the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly on vulnerable groups; the integration of an HRBA and the LNOB principle into the UNSDCF; and RBM. The discussions enabled participants to identify the capacity-development needs of stakeholders involved in the revision and implementation of the UNSDCF. Participants made recommendations regarding the revision of the UNSDCF to ensure that an HRBA, the LNOB principle and RBM were fully integrated.

In Bujumbura, **Burundi**, from 9 to 10 June, OHCHR worked closely with the HRA and the RCO to deliver a training on the HRBA and the LNOB principle in post COVID-19 programming. A total of 29 participants attended, 12 of whom were women, including government officials and representatives of UN agencies

responsible for coordinating the 2023-2027 UNSDCF process. The training outlined the key principles of the HRBA and the LNOB principle and focused on how to ensure their integration into the UNSDCF. Following the training, the theory of change was analysed in relation to the HRBA and LNOB principles in order to strengthen its human rights dimension.



Peace and Security

PS2 – Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.

16

With OHCHR's support, national laws, policies and strategies to combat terrorism and violent extremism progressively integrate and comply with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR organized several training sessions on human rights in counter-terrorism, highlighting the international, regional and national legal frameworks on terrorism and substantial divergences between national law and regional and international frameworks. The trainings also facilitated a discussion about challenges faced in the fight against terrorism from investigation to trial, especially with regard to the rights of the accused and the protection of victims and witnesses. From 19 to 21 January, OHCHR organized an initial training for 58 pupil magistrates, including 28 women, from the National School of Administration and Magistracy in **Cameroon**. From 17 to 18 February, OHCHR organized a second training for 90 law enforcement officers, including 12 women, at the International School for Security Forces in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Participants were drawn from the senior military and security officers and the

Higher Diploma of Security Studies programmes in 21 African countries. The International School of Security Forces expressed interest in strengthening this collaboration and requested additional information and trainings on the promotion and protection of human rights. From 2 to 3 March, OHCHR organized a third training for 150 military officers, including 19 women, from the Combined Services Military Academy. The Academy expressed interest in further cooperation with OHCHR, pending the availability of funds, and proposed the possible inclusion of OHCHR's training in the school's curriculum.

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

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
5.58 million	623,000 km ²	0.404 (rank: 188/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2000		
Field office(s)	Bambari, Bangassou, Bangui, Berberati, Birao, Bossangoa, Bria, Kaga-Bandoro, Ndele, Obo and Paoua		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021 (extended to 2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	54		

XB requirements 2022

US\$96,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

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.

OHCHR contributed to the increasing compliance with international human rights standards of actions undertaken by judicial institutions and defence and security forces.

On 27 May, following OHCHR's strategic advocacy and technical support to promote the abolition of the death penalty and compliance with international human rights law, the National Assembly of the Central African Republic unanimously adopted a law abolishing the death penalty.

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16

OHCHR contributed to an increased number of reports submitted to the human rights treaty bodies, which substantially or fully conform to reporting guidelines.

OHCHR has provided support to the Committee (Comité National pour l'élaboration des Rapports en vertu des engagements internationaux et régionaux de la RCA en matière des droits de l'homme et de l'examen périodique universelle) since its establishment in

February. Two trainings were delivered, in April and May, on the UPR and CAR's engagement with the international and regional human rights mechanisms. The Committee is composed of 50 experts from various ministries and CSOs. During the year, a plan was adopted, outlining 12 capacity-building activities that were approved to support the preparation of the reports to the UPR and other human rights mechanisms in 2023.

Peace and Security

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

16

OHCHR provided technical support to develop and implement a comprehensive national transitional justice strategy.

Between 2017 and 2020, OHCHR participated in a consultation process of a steering committee that led to the adoption of legislation on truth and reconciliation. Law No. 020/009 was promulgated on 7 April 2020. OHCHR served as a member of the Selection Committee in 2020 and after the commissioners were sworn in on 2 July 2021, it began supporting the operationalization of the Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR). OHCHR also provided technical assistance to the CVJRR in the drafting of key documents, such as the communications strategy, the intervention strategy and regarding engagement with the State and external partners.

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.



OHCHR strengthened the capabilities of national institutions and non-State actors to more effectively promote and protect human rights.

OHCHR continued monitoring and reporting on human rights and conducted investigations. The Office undertook more than 180 visits to places of detention and over 100 investigation missions and delivered 194 trainings. A total of 10 individual protection cases were managed and support was provided to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

OHCHR engaged and advocated with the High Council for Communications, the National Human Rights Commission and the National Committee for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It also contributed to 10 field visits that were undertaken to establish focal points in order to increase monitoring and reporting capacities in the country.

CHAD

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
17.72 million	1,284,000 km ²	0.394 (rank: 190/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2009)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		N'Djamena	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2021 (extended to 2023)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		16	

Total income 2022	US\$2,309,333	
XB requirements 2022	US\$ 5,819,000	
XB expenditure	US\$2,031,576	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
55%	35%	10%
\$1,112,427	\$716,677	\$202,472

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A3 – Justice systems more effectively investigate and prosecute gender-related crimes.



OHCHR sought to increase the proportion of cases of human rights violations it raised that were positively addressed by relevant actors, including through advocacy work.

OHCHR monitored the human rights and security situation in the country through 28 monitoring activities in N'Djamena and other provinces, in particular in the Lake, Logone Occidental, Moyen Chari,

Guéra and Ouaddai provinces, with a view to ensuring the protection of the civilian population.

On 1 September, a public demonstration organized by the political party, Les Transformateurs, was violently repressed by security forces. At least 84 people, including 12 women, claiming to be members of the party, were arrested and detained for several days before being released. On 2, 5 and 9 September, OHCHR conducted three monitoring activities as part of its follow-up on the repression of the public demonstration. It collected testimonies from victims and witnesses through telephone and in-person interviews. The Office followed up on

the human rights violations with relevant authorities and discussed them with the RC and representatives of the international community in Chad. As a result of this advocacy, 180 individuals were released, including 22 minors, 50 refugees and nine asylum-seekers, primarily from the gendarmerie in Abéché.

Participation

P6 – The national human rights education programme is developed and implemented.

OHCHR's advocacy contributed to the establishment and strengthening of oversight, protection and accountability mechanisms related to gender and women's rights.

OHCHR and UNFPA undertook joint advocacy with the Ministry of Gender and National Solidarity. This resulted in the issuance of a decree by the President of the Transitional Military Council, on 19 July, establishing the Observatory for the Promotion of Gender Equality and Equity (Observatoire de la promotion de l'égalité et de l'équité de genre) (OPEG). The Observatory is mandated to monitor, control and evaluate the progress made in the promotion of gender and women's rights. It is mandated to collect, produce, centralize and disseminate qualitative and quantitative data through analyses, studies and research on the gender situation at the local, national and regional level. It is connected with the Prime Minister's Office and is chaired by the Minister of Gender and National Solidarity. OHCHR plans to strengthen the capacities and expertise of its members and staff of the OPEG.

Development

D7 – Human rights are taken into account in the drafting, implementation and follow-up evaluation of UN strategic programmes.

OHCHR provided substantive support, which contributed to the integration of international human rights standards into UN plans and programmes in Chad.

OHCHR integrated human rights analysis into the 2022 updated CCA. OHCHR also contributed to the preparatory activities of the 2024-2026 transitional UNSDCF, which will be finalized in 2023. The Office provided technical support to the Government to ensure the application of an HRBA in evaluating the implementation of the first National Development Plan (NDP) 2017-2021 and in the formulation of the new NDP 2022-2026, which is being finalized. Furthermore, the Office contributed to an analysis of the situation of the rights of vulnerable groups and people left behind or at risk of being left behind. OHCHR coordinated the collection of inputs and regular inter-agency and cluster coordination meetings.

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the Government's submission of quality reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR by delivering training sessions and supporting the drafting process.

OHCHR helped to strengthen the capacities of the Interministerial Committee for Monitoring International Human Rights Instruments (Comité interministériel de suivi des instruments internationaux des droits de l'homme) to deliver its follow-up and reporting mandate. OHCHR facilitated five training and drafting workshops. This resulted in the drafting of four overdue reports, namely: the first draft of the tenth periodic report to the ACHPR (16 participants, including three women); the initial report to CRPD, due in July 2021; the fifth periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), due in 2015 (20 participants); and the third periodic report to the Human Rights Committee, due in 2017.

In November, the Office provided technical and financial support to the Interministerial Committee for the drafting and adoption of its three-year Strategic Plan as a tool for monitoring the implementation of the international human rights treaties.

Non-discrimination

ND3 – Knowledge of the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Security Council resolution 1325 is improved.

5 9 10  

OHCHR contributed to the level of meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

From 25 to 30 May 2022 in Moundou, OHCHR cooperated with the Ministry of Justice, which is responsible for human rights, and the Ministry of Planning to organize a joint evaluation mission of the

Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) project. The project supported the participation of women and young people in local governance and peacebuilding. The evaluation mission team met with local authorities, the network for protection and peaceful coexistence and the Association for the Promotion of Fundamental Freedoms (APLFT), which serves as the project's implementing partner in relation to legal aid for victims. Collaboration with the authorities improved as a result of their enhanced knowledge about peaceful conflict resolution, the formation of a network for the promotion of peaceful coexistence and protection of human rights and the establishment of legal aid offices. Partners took the opportunity to welcome the contributions of this project and recommend its renewal. The initiative was part of an inter-agency project that was implemented by UNICEF, UNDP and OHCHR in N'Djamena, Moundou and the Lake province from October 2018 to June 2022.

On 16 June, as part of the PBF project, OHCHR facilitated a competition between various community-based organizations (CBOs) from the city of Bol around the theme of promoting peaceful coexistence and human rights protection in the Lake province. The objective was to solicit original solutions to human rights and gender issues and challenges to peaceful cohabitation. A total of 10 organizations, divided into three groups, responded to the call for participation and submitted sketches on peaceful cohabitation and north-south division. Forty participants, including 15 women, many of whom were neighbourhood leaders and representatives of women's and youth organizations, participated in the activity. The best sketch will be turned into a short video and audio film, which will be used in 2023 to raise public awareness on peaceful cohabitation and social cohesion.

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

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
99.01 million	2,345,000 km ²	0.479 (rank: 179/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement	Peace Mission and Joint Human Rights Office		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Beni, Bukavu, Bunia, Butembo, Goma, Kalemie, Kananga, Kinshasa, Kisangani, Lubumbashi, Tshikapa and Uvira		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2020-2024		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	130		

Total income 2022	US\$6,236,002	
XB requirements 2022	US\$9,631,000	
XB expenditure	US\$6,074,008	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴
56%	33%	11%
\$3,394,103	\$2,034,380	\$645,525

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P4 – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.



The UNJHRO strengthened the knowledge and capacities of State actors and civil society on protective measures and mechanisms in assisting victims of human rights violations.

From 27 to 29 June, the UNJHRO organized a two-day training on situation analyses, case follow-up and referral,

strategies for individual protection and information-sharing for 30 members, including eight women, from the Protection Network and the National Human Rights Commission in Mbandaka and Bikoro. The training contributed to the development of local protection networks for HRDs. From 6 to 8 April, in Bunia, the UNJHRO conducted a workshop that was attended by 30 persons, including 10 women, to increase their knowledge about early warning and strengthen their readiness to provide protection services in collaboration with other actors, such as security forces.

The UNJHRO undertook advocacy and provided technical assistance to the Parliament for the preparation of a draft law on the protection of the rights of HRDs, which was adopted, in December, by the National Assembly. OHCHR's sustained advocacy campaign included the delivery of workshops and the mobilization of NHRIs, CSOs and HRDs and other relevant partners to ensure their voices were heard. The campaign culminated in the enactment, in early November, of the Maniema Edict on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders. Ongoing advocacy will continue to focus on the draft laws on access to information and peaceful demonstrations, which are tabled for the National Assembly's session from March to June 2023.

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



Through capacity-building and awareness-raising initiatives and enhanced monitoring of the environment for civic space, the UNJHRO contributed to increasing respect for the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association, in compliance with international human rights standards and norms.

The UNJHRO provided coaching and training to improve the capacities of CSOs to peacefully advocate for their right to civic space, including through petitions, peaceful assembly and advocacy with authorities. For example, from 26 to 27 May, in Bunia, the UNJHRO facilitated a session on human rights and

public freedoms as part of a reflection workshop for leaders of political parties on sustainable peace, in anticipation of the upcoming electoral process in Ituri. A total of 75 participants attended, including 27 women. Participants were sensitized on the importance of upholding human rights principles during the electoral process in order to guarantee free, fair and transparent elections. In October, in Goma, the UNJHRO strengthened the capacities of nine HRDs, including four women, on monitoring, ethics and the protection and security of HRDs in Kawanja (Rutshuru territory). During a workshop that was organized by the Collective of Journalists and Press Editors of the Petit Nord, in Goma, the UNJHRO provided training for 25 journalists and press editors on human rights, journalism in conflict environments, monitoring techniques, hate speech, public freedoms and protection of sources.

To combat hate speech, the UNJHRO conducted two workshops in Bunia: one on 15 July; and another from 24 to 25 August. The second workshop was organized in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission. Over 100 persons attended the workshops, including 19 women, representing civil society, community and religious leaders, representatives of political parties and women's associations, as well as media/journalists and youth. Participants discussed hate speech, developed strategies for monitoring hate speech and proposed recommendations to prevent and counter hate speech.

 **Accountability**

A1 – The judiciary increases the number of convictions for human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence. Oversight mechanisms strengthen disciplinary measures for these offences.



The UNJHRO contributed to the improved compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights standards.

The UNJHRO built the capacities of actors involved in the fight against SGBV. In Kananga, nine women and six men paralegals and lawyers from national and local NGOs were trained on handling cases of SGBV and the management of a legal aid clinic for victims. The training was organized in cooperation with hospitals, which received support to strengthen their capacities to implement victims' and witness protection programmes. A total of 10 women and 20 men journalists from local radio and television outlets were trained on SGBV and responsible reporting related to the promotion and protection of women's rights.

The UNJHRO led or participated in 14 Joint Investigation Teams (JITs), 12 Joint Assessment Missions (JAMs), 20 missions of Joint Protection Teams (JPTs) and 27 investigation or monitoring missions, primarily in the provinces of Ituri, North and South Kivu, Kasai, Kasai Central and Tanganyika. The missions were carried out with civilian and judicial military authorities to enhance the fight against impunity. A total of 10 mobile courts were supported, primarily to address emblematic cases.

 **Development**

D6 – Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or provide redress for the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.

9 17

OHCHR contributed to increasing the integration of human rights information and data analysis, principles, norms, standards and recommendations into UN coordinated responses and support.

The UNJHRO continued to work closely with the UNCT for the integration of human rights into the implementation of the SDGs. For instance, it led the UNCT-DRC National Voluntary Assessment of the SDGs, ensured the systematic and transversal application of an HRBA and integration of key indicators into the UNSDCF and the UNCT's annual workplan. The UNJHRO provided analysis and information on the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including in conflict-affected areas. Monthly analysis reports were shared with mission components involved in the protection of civilians and with humanitarian organizations and agencies.

From 18 to 20 October, in Goma, the UNJHRO organized a capacity-building workshop with UNHCR on human rights engagement. The workshop was attended by 30 coordinators of regional Protection Clusters and members of the HCT Strategic Advisory Group, including 12 women. The skills of participants were enhanced to enable them to collect and analyse protection information and data through a human rights lens and apply an HRBA to humanitarian action. As a result, both the Humanitarian Need Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian

Response Plan (HRP) for 2023-2024 include strong human rights dimensions.

 **Peace and Security**

PS6 – Decisions made by the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) in support of the political process or on the protection of civilians are guided by relevant international human rights standards and principles.

16

The UNJHRO contributed to the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, into the work of peace missions.

In its engagement with MONUSCO components and the UNCT on human rights concerns, the UNJHRO consistently provided reporting, analysis and early warning in relation to the human rights situation. In Bunia, induction trainings were conducted for MONUSCO troops, including on preventing conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), the protection of civilians, human rights principles and international humanitarian law. The training also covered the human rights roles and responsibilities of UN staff, including contingents, and used case studies to help participants better understand the application of human rights principles. A total of 124 individuals from MONUSCO and 54 members of the United Nations Formed Police Units (UNFPU) participated and expressed their commitment to cooperating with the UNJHRO when faced with a human rights situation of concern.

The UNJHRO engaged and advocated with national authorities and the military justice system on emblematic cases. This enabled the Office to gather and share information for status updates and follow-up, joint case investigations and advocacy for the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of grave human rights violations through court hearings. The UNJHRO carried out capacity-building activities for State authorities to enhance their capacities to respond to human rights violations, protect civilians and support the fight against impunity. In 2022, follow-up committees on human rights violations committed by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) and the Congolese National Police (PNC) addressed a total of 214 human rights violations committed by State security and defence forces, which were jointly documented and submitted by the UNJHRO and local NGOs working on human rights. Further, the FARDC and PNC committees followed up on more than 233 disciplinary and remedial measures/sanctions and/or prosecution initiatives that were applied against Congolese security agents, including from FARDC, PNC and the Intelligence Agency (ANR), who had committed human rights violations.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17 

The UNJHRO contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of mechanisms for integrated reporting and/

or implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR.

The UNJHRO engaged with the Delegated Ministry for People Living with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable People regarding the adoption and promulgation of a law on the rights of persons with disabilities and the preparation of the Government's initial report to CRPD. The UNJHRO provided technical support and advocacy on the human rights situation of persons with disabilities, the role of Members of Parliament in the promotion and protection of human rights and the planning of joint activities.

The Ministry of Human Rights requested support from the UNJHRO on preparing the sixth periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The UNJHRO will provide this support in 2023.

EASTERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Tanzania
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Addis Ababa
Staff as of 31 December 2022	31

Total income	US\$8,130,460	
XB requirements 2022	US\$8,578,000	
XB expenditure	US\$9,087,102	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
51%	39%	10%
\$4,652,382	\$3,566,077	\$868,643

RB expenditure	US\$193,785
Personnel	
100%	
\$193,785	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16

OHCHR provided support to increase accessibility to the regional human rights mechanisms and ensure that countries in the region more fully integrate human rights recommendations into laws, policies and programmes.

OHCHR assisted the ACHPR, the NGO Forum Steering Committee and the Network of African National

Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) with the organization of two sessions of the ACHPR, the Biannual Forum of NANHRI and the NGO Forum in April and October. Based on the Office's input, business and human rights was chosen as the theme of the NANHRI Forum, which was attended by over 200 people. From 19 to 20 October, based on the Office's proposal to include trade and human rights as topics of the Forum, the Office collaborated with NANHRI, the ACHPR and other partners to host the Fifth NHRIs Forum, on the margins of the ACHPR's seventy-third session, to discuss the impacts of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on the enjoyment

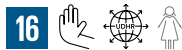
of basic human rights. A total of 150 people attended, 50 of whom were women. The Office also provided technical support for the drafting of resolutions on business and human rights and trade and human rights. The two resolutions highlighted the importance of linking the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) to the operationalization of the AfCFTA and recommended practical ways for NHRIs and other actors to collaborate on mainstreaming human rights into the implementation of the AfCFTA. The resolutions, which were shared with the ACHPR, influenced the latter to adopt resolutions on business and human rights and trade and human rights at its seventy-fourth Ordinary Session, which was held from 21 February to 7 March. Further, during the NGO Forum of the ACHPR's seventy-third session, the Office organized a panel discussion to sensitize CSOs about the international human rights mechanisms and OHCHR's humanitarian funds, namely, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and their respective application processes.

In Ethiopia, OHCHR collaborated with the Interministerial Task Force (IMTF) to support the implementation of recommendations issued by the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and OHCHR following the joint investigation of violations committed in the context of the Tigray conflict. Between February and May, three trainings were delivered on human rights and criminal investigations/prosecutions and the investigation of SGBV crimes. A total of 105 senior prosecutors and investigators, including 37 women, attended the trainings from the Ministry of Justice,

the Federal Police and the Ethiopian National Defence Forces. Additionally, between August and December, technical guidance was provided to the IMTF Secretariat. This resulted in the publication of the first criminal investigation report by the IMTF, in September. The report represents a positive step forward in enhancing accountability, in line with recommendations outlined in the joint OHCHR-EHRC report. The report was translated into Amharic and 1,000 copies were widely distributed. OHCHR's support to the IMTF and advocacy in relation to the joint investigation recommendations contributed to additional advocacy regarding the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement, on 2 November. The commitments outlined in the Agreement are aligned with the recommendations issued by the joint investigation.

Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



OHCHR contributed to building the capacities of CSOs, women human rights defenders (WHRDs) and other stakeholders to advocate for human rights, especially women's rights, more often and more effectively.

From 2 to 4 November, OHCHR collaborated with DefendDefenders, the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, to organize the annual meeting of the East African Women Human Rights Defenders Network (EAWHRDN), in Nairobi, Kenya. Twenty-five members of

the Network, 24 of whom were women, attended from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda. Participants shared their experiences, challenges and good practices, received training on thematic issues, such as legal frameworks for the protection of WHRDs, resource mobilization and mental health, and increased their knowledge about human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy.

From 7 to 8 December, OHCHR and its regional offices in Africa organized a virtual meeting with WHRD networks in the region. The meeting brought together members of formal and informal networks in East, West, Southern and Northern Africa to discuss their experiences in establishing WHRD networks, exchange good practices and strengthen their connections to increase information-sharing and collaboration. Approximately 40 WHRDs from across Africa participated in the event. A second in-person meeting will be organized in 2023.

OHCHR, the Special Envoy's Office for the Horn of Africa, the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), UNESCO and other stakeholders initiated the work on the development of a Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. The elaboration of the Regional Strategy is ongoing and focuses on the East and Horn of Africa region. The Strategy acknowledges the problematic state of the right to freedom of expression and hate speech regulation in the region. Following the adoption of the Regional Strategy, the Office will create a monitoring toolkit to track online incidents of hate speech. It will also strengthen prevention and mitigation mechanisms to better combat hate speech, both online and offline, and advocate for the development of

National Action Plans (NAPs) by governments across the region. A joint mapping assessment will be conducted to identify relevant media partners and other stakeholders to combat hate speech.

In Ethiopia, between April and October, 10 training workshops were organized for CSOs and the media in several regions, such as Amhara, Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella and Sidama. A total of 323 CSO representatives, including 139 women, who work on the implementation of programmes on youth, children, women, health, education and persons with disabilities, were trained on monitoring, documenting, reporting and advocating in relation to human rights issues. In 2023, OHCHR will provide mentoring and technical support to the participants to strengthen their engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. In addition, OHCHR trained 35 media practitioners, social media influencers and journalists, including 16 women, on the right to freedom of opinion and expression. Following the training, the participants created a social media platform to strengthen coordination and information-sharing on human rights issues.

P2 – The UN system and national mechanisms provide increased, timely and effective protection to CSOs and individuals, including from reprisals.



OHCHR contributed to establishing and/or strengthening the UN system and national mechanisms to protect civil society and HRDs and helped to increase the engagement of CSOs, HRDs and other stakeholders in human rights-related work.

In Tanzania, OHCHR strengthened its collaboration with the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the UNCT by providing monthly reporting on the human rights situation, contributing to the RCO's status reports, sharing weekly updates on human rights monitoring and supporting the engagement of the RCO with CSOs working on human rights.

To enhance and promote youth rights in Tanzania, OHCHR trained 32 social media influencers, including 19 women, on human rights, hate speech and gender issues, built the capacities of young people on human rights and the SDGs, supported a human rights dialogue with approximately 700 university students in Dodoma and undertook a needs assessment on youth rights in the country. This resulted in increased interest in and engagement with human rights issues by youth activists.

As part of its efforts to combat hate speech in Tanzania, OHCHR provided training for members of the Media Council of Tanzania and media practitioners on hate speech, fundamental human rights principles and the safety of journalists in online and offline spaces. OHCHR conducted two trainings in the context of the Media Council's Excellence in Journalism Masterclass. The first was held in Mbeya, from 16 to 18 November, and the second was held in Arusha, from 1 to 3 December. A total of 68 participants, including 36 women, attended the trainings.

Non-discrimination

ND4 – Judicial institutions, the media and other sectors increasingly recognize and challenge harmful gender stereotypes and gender norms, with a view to their eradication.



OHCHR contributed to the increased promotion of gender equality and the compliance with international and regional human rights standards of decisions handed down by national human rights and justice mechanisms.

OHCHR increased knowledge about women's rights and violence against women and girls through events to mark commemorative days. On International Women's Day (8 March), in Djibouti, OHCHR supported the Agence Nationale des Personnes Handicapées (ANPH) in its advocacy on the rights of women and girls with disabilities by echoing and amplifying the recommendations adopted by CRPD in 2021 and identifying possible follow-up actions. More specifically, OHCHR provided financial and technical assistance to ANPH for the nationally televised broadcast of a roundtable on the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities that featured the stories of four women living with disabilities. In Tanzania, OHCHR worked with a coalition of WHRDs to produce a documentary that highlights the impacts of climate change on gender-based violence (GBV) in rural communities. The documentary aims to increase awareness and advocate for the rights of rural women in the context of the ongoing review of the National Action Plan to end violence against women and children. It features interviews with women, young girls, village elders, government officials and

CSOs, in Handeni and Tanga, and demonstrates the impacts of climate change on farms and schools, such as water sources that have dried up due to drought. In Ethiopia, OHCHR organized a roundtable discussion on the “Role of women HRDs in amplifying the voices of women in post-conflict reconstruction, peace-building and dialogue” during events to commemorate International Women’s Day. The roundtable brought together 37 participants, including 30 women, HRDs and government stakeholders, such as members of the House of Peoples’ Representatives Women’s Caucus and representatives from the Joint Council of Women Political Party Members and the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs.

Development

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 efforts and integrates human rights into its own development work.



OHCHR contributed to the increased integration of human rights, including the right to development and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, into the implementation of the SDGs by UNCTs and governments in priority countries.

In December 2021, OHCHR proposed the organization of a series of dialogues in the five African regions on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights. At that time, OHCHR collaborated with the AU and hosted the first virtual dialogue for countries in the East

and Horn of Africa. A second dialogue was dedicated to countries in West Africa, in June 2022, which gathered approximately 100 participants, including 35 women, from 15 countries in the West Africa region. A third dialogue focused on Southern Africa, was held in December and gathered approximately 220 participants, including 55 women, from 14 countries in the region. A dialogue for Central Africa is scheduled for 2023.

In October, OHCHR provided technical support and worked closely with the AU and other partners, including UNDP, the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, GIZ, the African Coalition for Corporate Accountability (ACCA), NANHRI, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, the United Nations Global Compact, the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights, to convene the first African Business and Human Rights Forum. The Forum was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Ghana, in Accra and received support from the Governments of Japan and Switzerland. The event created a regional multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue on business and human rights, offered an opportunity to assess progress made on the UNGPs and laid the groundwork for further collaboration and peer-learning sessions on business and human rights in Africa. During the Forum, the African Business and Human Rights Network was launched.

In Ethiopia, OHCHR assisted the national SDG Task Force to cluster UPR recommendations, thereby informing the drafting of the 2022 Voluntary National Review (VNR) report, which was submitted to the High-level Political Forum in July. OHCHR also provided substantive guidance for the development of the

SDG VNR report. The report highlights progress made on the implementation of Ethiopia’s human rights commitments and the strengthening of human rights protection institutions.

In May, OHCHR cooperated with the EHRC and the Danish Institute for Human Rights to convene a multi-stakeholder consultation on the SDGs and human rights, bringing together 36 participants, including 16 women, from the Ministry of Planning and Development, the Central Statistical Agency, the EHRC, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education, CSOs and UN agencies. Key topics included: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the centrality of the LNOB principle; the application of an HRBA in the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs; the application of a Human Rights Indicator Framework; the role of NHRIs and CSOs; and the added value of the international human rights mechanisms and National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs). Participants agreed to establish a Task Force to mainstream human rights into SDG planning, implementation, review and reporting processes, including through capacity-building, dissemination of information/documents and strengthening engagement through national development planning processes.

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 | 17

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

As a follow-up to the online regional consultations on regional NMRFs, which took place in December 2021, good practices and recommendations that were identified are being integrated into the work of the Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme (TBCBP). A sub-regional NMRF workshop, organized by OHCHR, was held in **Addis Ababa**, from 13 to 15 December. The workshop involved 28 participants (including 12 women) from nine countries in the region; enabled peer-to-peer learning on reporting and follow-up and provided a platform to advocate for more systematic ways to follow up on the implementation of outcomes issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

During the annual Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, and as part of country engagements, OHCHR highlighted synergies between the SDGs and human rights, including by showing the possible complementarities in the reporting processes under the SDGs and human rights instruments. Capacity-building sessions were held for NMRFs in **Comoros**, **Kenya** and **Tanzania** on the international human rights mechanisms, including

reporting to them and implementing their recommendations. A total of 105 members of the respective NMRFs (45 women, 60 men) were part of the activities. In **Djibouti**, OHCHR advocated with the Secretariat of the Interministerial Committee for the preparation and submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies under the Ministry of Justice in order to revitalize its working methods and enhance its engagement with the mechanisms. As a result, the Secretariat requested OHCHR's support to help finalize the draft National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP), which will be used to monitor the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human right mechanisms. The Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs of **Tanzania** requested OHCHR's assistance to clear its reporting backlog. In **Eritrea**, as a result of OHCHR's advocacy during meetings with senior government officials on strengthening engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, the Government nominated three participants to attend the NMRF subregional workshop in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 15 December.

As part of the TBCBP, OHCHR organized trainings to enable NMRFs in the region to systematically follow up on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms at the country and regional levels by using offline and online tools. In July, a two-day technical consultation was organized with the AU on the roll-out of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) for the systematic tracking of the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. In **Kenya**, a workshop was held, in November, on the roll-out of the NRTD. This led to the elaboration of a draft road map that outlines the NMRF's

annual workplan and draft standard operating procedure (SOP). Also in November, OHCHR highlighted the benefits of using the NRTD during a training on State Party engagement with the international human rights mechanisms for NMRF members from **Tanzania**. Subsequently, the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs requested more training on the NRTD and finalizing the draft NHRAP. Similarly, the Ministry of Justice of **Djibouti** requested support to update and finalize its draft NHRAP. In **Ethiopia**, a training was delivered to strengthen the information management capacities of the NMRF, with a focus on the NRTD.

Peace and Security

PS2 – Efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism comply with international law.

16 | 

OHCHR increased the awareness of AU member states and government officials to integrate gender dimensions into responses to violent extremism and terrorism.

As part of a joint project with the AU and the World Bank to strengthen the early warning and conflict prevention systems of the AU, RECs and Regional Mechanisms (RMs), a virtual roundtable was held, in June, on integrating gender into early warning, conflict prevention and response mechanisms. The event brought together gender experts and early warning analysts from the AU, the ACHPR, African RECs, the European Union (EU), OECD, the UN and African civil society networks that provide data to the AU-Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), NHRIs and NGOs working on peace and security issues in

Africa. The objective of the roundtable was to share knowledge and experiences and explore innovative ways to integrate gender and apply gender-sensitive approaches to early warning frameworks and tools.

Further, a Guidance Note was developed for the AU, with financial and technical support from OHCHR, on integrating gender-sensitive approaches into early warning systems. The next phase will be the roll-out of the Guidance Note and support for the establishment of a community of practice (COP) among early warning and gender experts.

In Ethiopia, OHCHR designed and delivered four trainings for national authorities and CSOs in the Amhara and Afar regions, in April and October, on the rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs), SGBV and CRSV and the application of an HRBA in interventions. A total of 138 participants, including 40 women, from various government entities and CSOs participated in the trainings and received copies of the UDHR, which was translated into the local language. Following the training, positive changes were reported, including access to detention facilities that were previously restricted. This work will continue in 2023.

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening youth capacities and participation in key strategic events related to conflict prevention, human rights and peacebuilding.

In collaboration with the AU, OHCHR has promoted youth, peace and security in Africa since 2019, with a focus on human rights, as part of the Youth for Peace Africa Programme (Y4P). OHCHR provides financial and technical expertise to support the implementation of the Programme, including the operationalization of the Continental Framework for Youth, Peace and Security and the African Union Peace and Security Council-mandated study entitled *The roles and contributions of youth to peace and security in Africa*.

OHCHR supported the participation of two AU Y4P staff to conduct a week-long Boot Camp and training workshop for the second cohort of African Youth for Peace Ambassadors (AYAPs) in Zimbabwe. OHCHR also worked closely with the Y4P and UNHCR on the implementation of the new phase of the “No room for hate speech” campaign, which took place in Kampala, Uganda, from 18 to 21 October. Activities included a ToT on human rights, international humanitarian law, peace and security, hate speech and the development of social media content on hate speech and human rights for five social media influencers, five AYAPs and six NGO staff members (AVSI). A total of 29 participants (14 women, 15 men) were engaged in these activities.

OHCHR collaborated with the Y4P on the promotion of the youth, peace and security agenda in Africa, including by facilitating the participation of AU staff and the OHCHR youth focal point in the Roundtable of Experts on National Action Plans on Youth, Peace and Security, in Nigeria, and the participation of AU staff and the OHCHR youth focal point in the Third International Youth Land Governance Conference.

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflicts.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the capacities of stakeholders, including CSOs, CBOs, youth groups and local communities, to monitor and report on human rights concerns and of the UNCT to respond to disasters and humanitarian crises.

During the year, OHCHR convened community-based consultations on early warning, the prevention of violent conflict and human rights protection, training of CSOs on human rights monitoring and reporting, early warning indicators and precursors to conflict and their impacts on human rights. As a result, six community-based early warning networks were established and are functioning in the Amhara, Afar, Sidama and Oromia regions of Ethiopia. The consultations brought together 187 CSO representatives, including 77 women, working on health, education and development, with a focus on children, women, older persons, persons with disabilities and persons living with HIV.

OHCHR systematically monitored, documented and reported on human rights through 23 human rights monitors across 10 locations in Ethiopia and 49 in-person missions. The findings were reflected in more than 200 internal reports and provided a solid basis for advocacy and engagement. Monthly reports

highlighting the situation of communities affected by displacement were shared with the National Protection Cluster to inform decisions and actions undertaken by the HCT.

To enhance the capacities of communities to report their human rights concerns in Ethiopia, OHCHR conducted 90 radio talk shows and 174 in-person community sensitization events in the regions of Amhara, Afar, Benishangul-Gumuz, Harari, Oromia, Sidama, Somali, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' and Tigray. OHCHR gave an overview of the Government's obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights and establish mechanisms for redress. Translated copies of the UDHR were disseminated at the events, including in schools. More than 5,400 persons, including over 2,900 women, were reached during the sensitization sessions. These efforts and ongoing monitoring activities contributed to the identification and reporting of 566 cases of human rights violations and abuses by communities in the region.

EQUATORIAL GUINEEA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
1.67 million	28,000 km ²	0.596 (rank: 145/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Malabo	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		0 (Vacant pending funding availability)	

XB requirements 2022 **285,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

Following OHCHR's strategic advocacy and technical support to promote the abolition of the death penalty and compliance with international human rights law, the death penalty was abolished for civil offences. The new Penal Code was adopted in August and took effect in December, 90 days after it was published in the official bulletin, on 7 September.

From 5 to 7 September, OHCHR provided human rights training for 55 senators, including on the role of parliamentarians in protecting and upholding human rights. Based on this positive experience, the Senate requested further training in 2023.

A plan for the establishment of an independent NHRI is under development. OHCHR will support this endeavour in 2023, including by advocating for the adoption of legislation to establish a national human rights commission.



Participation

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



OHCHR contributed to increasing the awareness of CSOs about human rights and gender mainstreaming.

In December 2020, the UNCT adopted the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Action Plan. In 2021, NGOs participated in an orientation on PSEAH, with OHCHR's support. In 2022, 10 of those NGOs signed the PSEAH Action Plan and made a commitment to adopt PSEAH policies.

advocating for action to address GBV; and promoting the ratification of international conventions and optional protocols, such as the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OP-CRC-AC) and recognizing the competence of two human rights treaty bodies to receive and consider communications (under the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OP-CRC-IC) and article 31 of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED)).



Mechanisms

M4 – International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).



OHCHR contributed to improving the implementation of recommendations issued during the UPR process, enhancing the Government's response to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and ensuring the submission of pending reports.

The HRA worked with the Department of Human Rights to support the Government in implementing the recommendations issued by the UPR, including by: advocating for the abolition of the death penalty; providing technical support to improve the revised Penal Code and ensure its alignment with international standards;

GUINEA

Population size¹ 13.86 million **Surface area¹** 246,000 km² **Human Development Index²** 0.465 (rank: 182/191 in 2021) - **NHRI (if applicable)³** -

Type of engagement	Country Office
Year established	2010
Field office(s)	Conakry, Nzérékoré
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2022	19

Total income **US\$4,119,818**

XB requirements 2022 **US\$5,223,000**

XB expenditure **US\$3,471,710**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
51%	39%	10%
\$1,765,115	\$1,347,474	\$359,121

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

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 HRDDP.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training.

OHCHR strengthened the capacities of 750 Guinean soldiers deployed to MINUSMA in relation to international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In cooperation with the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection,

OHCHR delivered training to 74 police officers on respect for human rights and the integration of a gender perspective into law enforcement operations. Additionally, 28 members of the Discipline Council were trained on human rights standards and the fight against impunity.

Two awareness-raising sessions on torture prevention were organized for security forces in Labé and Kindia as part of activities to commemorate the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (26 June).

During visits to places of detention, OHCHR engaged with police officers and the gendarmerie to enhance their knowledge and understanding of human rights.

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflicts.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR supported the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms, into humanitarian operations.

OHCHR provided assistance on the application of an HRBA to the UN system's support to Guinea. Forums for exchanges and discussions, such as meetings with the UN Human Rights Theme Group and the Diplomatic Corps, provided a platform to identify common positions on the implementation of human rights in Guinea. These forums contributed to the development of joint actions relating to the fight against impunity for the crimes of rape and the 28 September 2009 massacre, the promotion of ESCRs and the right to development.

Participation

P1 – Laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

16 

OHCHR contributed to ensuring the compliance of laws, policies and practices that protect the right to participate

and civic space with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR strengthened the capacities of approximately 400 CSOs, women leaders and persons with albinism on citizen participation, advocacy techniques and leading an inclusive and peaceful transition. A total of 22 community engagement activities were undertaken in rural communities on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), access to land, combating rape and other forms of SGBV, hate speech, participation in public affairs and conflict prevention. The events were primarily offered in local languages and sensitized more than 12,000 participants.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
2.11 million	36,000 km ²	0.483 (rank: 177/189 in 2021) -	
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Bissau	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		3	

XB requirements 2022

US\$582,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:



Participation

P5 – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space takes place, including threats to it.



In light of the shrinking civic space and increased threats against HRDs, OHCHR supported an assessment by consultants of the situation of HRDs. In 2023, the assessment findings will be discussed, capacity-building initiatives for HRDs will be available and assistance will be provided for the development of a strategy for the protection of HRDs. OHCHR will also assist the HRD Network to update its list of HRDs.

In March, following the 1 February coup attempt and attack on the Government Palace, OHCHR facilitated a meeting between representatives of a joint DCO/DPPA Electoral Needs Assessment

Mission and civil society groups, including one dedicated to women's rights. As a result, the Needs Assessment Mission report reflects the challenges faced by civil society and makes several recommendations.



Development

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 supported the UNCT in the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles when formulating and implementing programmes and projects.

In September, a training was delivered by the HRA to UN staff, including members of the Monitoring and Evaluation Group, on the application of an HRBA and the integration of the guiding principles on LNOB and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) into the UNSDCF. The training highlighted linkages between these principles and the SDGs and between human rights indicators and the application of an HRBA to data.

To ensure an open, participatory and inclusive process related to Guinea-Bissau's first VNR, OHCHR facilitated nine regional consultations, including with rights holders. The Office created opportunities for remote participation, which enabled civil society to deliver a statement at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The consultations ensured representation and inclusive participation from a variety of stakeholders, including civil servants, the private sector, traditional and religious leaders, professional and community-based organizations, human rights organizations and, most importantly, representatives of the country's most disadvantaged groups. Out of 302 participants, 115 were women.



Mechanisms

M1 – State reports to the international human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies are submitted on time. Overdue reports are submitted to the Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), the Human Rights Committee, CEDAW, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and to CRC in relation to its Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

16 | 17

OHCHR contributed to the increased percentage of reports that were submitted, on time, to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

OHCHR's continued advocacy increased the awareness of stakeholders about Guinea-Bissau's reporting obligations and huge backlog in reporting. In June, the Prime Minister ordered the establishment of a working group to draft the first reports to CESCR and the Human Rights Committee. OHCHR organized a seminar with two Portuguese-speaking treaty body experts to enhance the knowledge of the working group members regarding the international human rights system and Guinea-Bissau's reporting obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

OHCHR also held discussions with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to establish an NMRF. Guidance and examples from Cabo Verde, Mozambique

and Portugal were shared. A draft decree was drafted on the establishment of the NMRF.

KENYA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
54.03 million	592,000 km ²	0.575 (rank: 152/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2019)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Nairobi	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		5	

XB requirements 2022**US\$3,108,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**

Accountability

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic, social and cultural rights.

10 16

OHCHR enhanced the capacities of Kenyan authorities to strengthen and enforce measures to prevent human rights violations, including SGBV, by the police and other security agencies. Those responsible for violations are held accountable and prosecuted.

OHCHR supported the Tripartite Task Force, composed of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) and the Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) of the National Police Service (NPS) to implement the SOPs on the

Investigation and Prosecution of Serious Human Rights Violations Committed by Police Officers, which were launched in June 2021. The Task Force engaged with other partners, including the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) and civil society partners, to map out priorities for the SOP's implementation, including on the protection of victims and witnesses. The implementation of these SOPs is linked to numerous recommendations issued by the UPR and other international human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR provided specialized training, including case mentoring, on the investigation and prosecution of serious human rights violations for investigators and prosecutors, through its grantee, Partners in Justice International. The trainings included aspects of victim and witness support and protection when working with the KNCHR and CSOs.

This enhanced cooperation on investigations and prosecutions of violations by police officers and led to progress in elections-related cases. For instance, on 28 October, a decision was taken by the Director of Public Prosecutions to charge senior police officers with crimes against humanity for murder, torture and rape committed during the 2017 electoral period. This case represents the first time that crimes against humanity have been domestically prosecuted, the first criminal prosecution of electoral SGBV and the first prosecution that applied the doctrine of superior command.

OHCHR supported the ODPP to develop and launch a Reference Guide and Specimen Charge Sheet on the Prevention of Torture Act to facilitate the prosecution of torture as a crime. The Reference Guide aims to enhance the knowledge of prosecutors on the application of the Act and will provide assistance for its operationalization, in line with Kenya's constitutional provisions and international obligations.

During this electoral year, OHCHR strengthened engagement with and provided capacity-building support to the NPS, with an emphasis on human rights-based policing, public order management and the prevention of SGBV. In early 2022, OHCHR and its partner, the Independent Medico Legal Unit (IMLU), trained all NPS regional commanders (one woman, seven men) and 24 of 47 county commanders (four women, 20 men) on human rights-based policing and public order management in anticipation of the electoral period. Further, OHCHR supported the NPS to conduct trainings on human rights-based policing for police commanders at the county and sub-county level in 16 counties. Participants included law enforcement officers from special units, namely the Kenya Prison

Service, the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Kenya Forest Service and the National Youth Service, who were deployed to support the NPS during the electoral period. The trainings reached 1,160 police officers.

OHCHR also promoted exchanges and dialogues with HRDs, including WHRDs, and the KNCHR. As a result, a number of their recommendations were accepted by the police during elections, including the deployment of mixed teams of women and men electoral security officers. This contributed to the professional and restrained conduct of police in an overall peaceful electoral context and a significant decrease in human rights violations and reported incidents of electoral SGBV, compared to the 2017 electoral period.

OHCHR continued to advocate with the Government for an official visit of the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances and the ratification of ICPPED. It also supported research and analysis on trends in enforced disappearances to inform ongoing engagement. The manifesto of the new Government includes a commitment to addressing extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances, including through the ratification of ICPPED. The HRA will assist the Government in fulfilling these commitments.

Participation

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



OHCHR contributed to the full participation of civil society in national processes.

OHCHR provided operational and substantive support to enhance civic space and public participation in the electoral context. The Government's manifesto includes a commitment to operationalize the Public Benefits Organizations Act, which will be a focus in 2023.

Through the UN election project, OHCHR partnered with Haki Africa and the Katiba Institute to work with 15 grassroots networks across 14 counties, in six regions, to increase awareness about citizens' rights and responsibilities in electoral processes. This was undertaken through forums on civic education and community dialogue. A total of 126 community facilitators, including 48 women, were trained on tools and methodologies to ensure consistency in the documentation of issues and priorities, which included: insecurity and risks of electoral violence; poor participation by youth in electoral processes due to disillusionment; incitement of youth to violence; voter apathy due to distrust in the election process; and disinformation that impacts on the abilities of individuals to make informed choices. The community dialogue forums facilitated participation in governance processes and advocated for the inclusion of key community issues in the forthcoming County Integrated Development Plans.

With OHCHR's support, CSOs disseminated Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on election preparedness, prevention and civic education through social media campaigns, tweet chats, radio engagements and community dialogues. These activities aimed to educate the public about political rights and highlight the importance of citizens' participation in electoral

and political processes beyond voting. It also provided an opportunity to tackle voter apathy.

Following the elections, and based on a human rights-based analysis of the 2022-2023 budget that focused on social sector spending and the LNOB principle, OHCHR collaborated with the regional Surge Economist to conduct training for CSOs on human rights-based budgeting analysis and its use to engage with county budget and development processes. This supported the implementation of the right to public participation and the promotion of inclusive governance, which will be prioritized through pilots in selected counties in 2023. In consultation with the Surge Economist, OHCHR will enhance the capacities of civil society and communities to engage with elected county representatives and county governments to advocate for the inclusion of their priorities in county development planning and budgeting processes.

Peace and Security

PS4 – The reparation policy and framework are finalized and reparations are provided to SGBV survivors.



OHCHR successfully advocated for the inclusion of issues related to GBV in transitional justice mechanisms.

OHCHR supported the KNCHR in enhancing the capacities of NPS Officers at the ward and station level in Bungoma County (74 police officers) and Vihiga County (32 police officers) in order to combat and prevent violence against women in elections (VAWE) and engage in human rights-based policing during the electoral period. This enabled the NPS to integrate

human rights and SGBV prevention into their electoral contingency plans. These actions encouraged the engagement of stakeholders and enhanced trust, dialogue and information-sharing among HRDs, police commanders, monitors and community members.

Through its implementing partner, the CSO Network, OHCHR supported 30 WHRDs from Bungoma and Vihiga to conduct a mapping of GBV hotspots in their respective counties. The mapping was based on early warning information and an analysis that gathered information on causes, trends and threats of potential VAWE, including threats of violence against women candidates, the presence of suspicious groups, the dissemination of warning letters and the migration of residents from hotspots due to a fear of potential violence.

Further, OHCHR facilitated training for WHRDs that covered: reporting mechanisms; SGBV evidence management to enhance access to justice for potential survivors during an electoral period; SGBV case management to support potential survivors and communication; and strengthened partnerships with police officers and provincial administration structures in charge of peace committees at sub-county levels. Prior to the elections, OHCHR developed a chart with the contact details of government and non-State service providers within the legal, health and security sectors. The objective of the chart is to enhance community-based referral mechanisms in response to human rights violations, including SGBV. It was disseminated to communities across the country through networks of HRDs and other partners.

In addition, OHCHR facilitated dialogue and exchange among WHRDs, female peacebuilders and female journalists

across the country to identify common challenges, risks and opportunities for their engagement with duty bearers during the electoral period. With OHCHR's support, they established an information-sharing platform that is used to support each other, enhance collaboration and conduct joint advocacy efforts during the electoral period.

PS5 – UN early warning and advocacy initiatives regularly integrate human rights principles and analysis. The Government finalizes a reparations policy and framework, which includes survivors of SGBV.



Through engagement with the international community and the Government, OHCHR helped to strengthen a shared commitment to prevention, sustained peace and human rights.

During the electoral period, human rights monitoring was substantially increased to inform early warning preventive engagement and UN action. As part of the UN election project, OHCHR supported the deployment of human rights monitors by the KNCHR and the Defenders Coalition to 40 of Kenya's 47 counties. From July to August, an OHCHR elections surge team, composed of four human rights officers and two UN Standing Police Capacity officers, was deployed to Nairobi, Kisumu and Eldoret, and worked in close liaison with monitors and partners.

Through the Peacebuilding Fund Early Warning and Response project, social media monitoring was conducted by the MAPEMA consortium, which was led by Code for Africa. Social media platforms were monitored for cases of hate speech, incitement and disinformation to inform counter-messaging and preventive

engagement. Reports were produced on a weekly/monthly basis and were issued on a daily basis during the critical period from 8 to 16 August. Further, four roundtable discussions were held with social media companies, including representatives from Twitter, Facebook and TikTok, providing an opportunity for the UN and civil society to advocate for enhanced content moderation processes, particularly during the electoral period. The direct contact and dialogue with these platforms led to the expedited removal of harmful content. UN partners were given access to Trusted Partner Portals on Twitter and TikTok for priority flagging and the removal of content.

To complement this online monitoring, Amnesty International Kenya was contracted to conduct perception surveys in seven hotspot counties (Kilifi, Kisumu, Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Tana River and Uasin Gishu) to identify risks and trends in communities.

All of these and other sources were used to draft monthly human rights reports, which were shared with the Resident Coordinator. OHCHR also collaborated with the RCO's Peace and Development Unit to produce daily election briefs on the political and human rights situation in the country.

The HRA and the Peace Development Adviser co-led the UNCT Prevention and Integrated Analysis Platform and convened meetings with UNCT focal points on prevention and human rights. The Platform produces quarterly prevention and integrated analysis reports that are structured around areas of risk analysis that are drawn from the SDG-based Multi-dimensional Risk Analysis Framework. The reports highlight trends, risks and opportunities and feature a summary map that illustrates intersecting areas of risk.

Development

D1 – Judicial and non-judicial mechanisms hold business and other economic actors to account for rights abuses and provide remedies to victims.



OHCHR ensured that oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms conform to international human rights standards in Kenya.

OHCHR and its partner, Katiba Institute, finalized a report under the Catalysing rights-based environmental action for people and planet project, presenting the findings of an assessment of how major infrastructure projects impact the right to a clean and healthy environment. The report presents a summary of a desk review of the relevant legal and policy frameworks applicable to the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in Kenya and findings from community-based research and documentation of the potential human rights impacts of the Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) project. The results were presented at a national consultation meeting that included relevant stakeholders, such as the LAPSSET Authority and community stakeholders. Partners and stakeholders will use the recommendations to inform consultations and innovative solutions to prevent, mitigate and adapt to impacts on the environment, the planet and its people. One of the outcomes of the national consultations was a commitment undertaken by representatives of the LAPSSET Authority to share the contact details of their officers on the ground to facilitate engagement with CSOs and communities, take forward recommendations from the report and facilitate public participation.

D2 – The courts and State non-judicial mechanisms hold businesses and other economic actors accountable, in accordance with international human rights standards and the UNGPs.



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

The National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights was formally adopted by the National Assembly in the first session of the thirteenth Parliament on 27 October (as Policy Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2021). OHCHR partnered with the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Department of Justice and the KNCHR to develop a plan that focuses on the five thematic areas of the NAP to facilitate the engagement of various stakeholders.

2022 marked the sixth year of the annual meeting of Land and Environment Defenders (LED), which was established with OHCHR's support. This year's meeting focused on marine litter and ocean plastics and potential solutions to address these issues. The meeting brought together environmental HRDs, UNEP and State organs, such as the judiciary, the KNCHR, the Witness Protection Agency and the National Environment Complaints Committee. Discussions with State actors focused on mechanisms to protect environmental HRDs. Following the annual LED meeting, the Office organized consultations between selected mining companies and environmental HRDs to discuss how to promote the implementation of Community Development Agreements (CDAs) under the 2016 Mining Regulation. This enabled

participants to share their concerns and good practices and encourage more companies to become involved. The work will continue in 2023.

D7 – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2022 integrates human rights norms, standards and principles into its design and implementation.

OHCHR successfully integrated human rights into UN common country programmes.

The UNDAF was concluded in June, following the end of the 2018-2022 implementation period. As Chair of Outcome 1 of Strategic Results Area 1, focused on the rule of law and human rights, OHCHR coordinated the reporting of key results under the UNDAF.

The UNCT then developed and adopted the new UNSDCF 2022-2026, the implementation of which began in July. OHCHR played a key role in ensuring that human rights analysis informed the development of UNSDCF outcomes, outputs and indicators. It also provided capacity-building support to the UNCT on human rights indicators and markers.

In relation to promoting a human rights-based approach to the implementation of the SDGs, key results include: the launch by the KNCHR and the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) of a methodology for data collection on SDG indicator 16.10.1, which incorporates citizen-generated data and envisages the designation of the KNCHR as the national custodian; the development of standard demographic and discrimination modules by the KNBS and the KNCHR that will guide data collection for statistical surveys; engagement with Members of Parliament from the Parliamentary Caucus on Sustainable Development

Goals and Business to identify SDGs and human rights priorities as the basis for future collaboration; a human rights-based analysis of the national budget and engagement with various stakeholders, including the Parliamentary Caucus on SDGs and Business, on human rights-based budgeting to advance the SDGs while Leaving No One Behind.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.



OHCHR contributed to the establishment/functioning of an NMRF and an NRTD.

OHCHR began advocating for the establishment of an NRTD in 2019 when the Government gazetted the National Committee on International and Regional Human Rights Obligations. Significant progress was made in 2022, which included an assessment of the Government’s capacity to host the database and the consideration of options related to information and communications technology (ICT). The establishment process was approved by the AGO and the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy. The pilot NRTD was set up in November. The database includes the UPR implementation plan that was developed by the Government in 2021. Kenya is scheduled to submit its mid-term UPR report in mid-2023 and the NRTD will be used to support the process.

LESOTHO

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
2.31 million	30,000 km ²	0.514 (rank: 168/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2020	
Field office(s)		Maseru	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022 **US\$603,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022  

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

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established and increasingly operate in accordance with international standards.



OHCHR supported the establishment of the NHRI in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

In collaboration with the Ministry of Law and Justice, the UNCT and civil society, UN Human Rights conducted advocacy with parliamentarians to fast-track the establishment of an NHRI. A draft law to create a Human Rights Commission for Lesotho is before the Parliament.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – An NMRF is legally established.



OHCHR supported the establishment of a national protection system to facilitate the implementation of UPR recommendations.

As a result of OHCHR’s advocacy, an NMRF was established in August. In addition, through the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review, OHCHR delivered human rights training to security sector personnel. Human rights training manuals were developed for participants and trainers were trained to roll out a human rights course for security personnel within their respective security sector training institutions. Following a training for 350 National Security Service (NSS) personnel, the NSS weekly reporting template was revised to include a section on reporting about human rights violations observed in its areas of operation.

LIBERIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
5.30 million	111,000 km ²	.481 (rank: 178/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		Monrovia	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		7	

XB income	US\$2,394,902
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XB requirements 2022	US\$2,408,000
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XB expenditure	US\$1,869,759
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Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
64%	25%	11%
\$1,205,169	\$464,582	\$200,008

Key OMP pillars in 2022

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

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A1 – The Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR) increases its capacities to fulfil its mandate in accordance with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR supported the implementation of the INCHR's mandate through monitoring, reporting and issuing recommendations to redress human rights concerns.

Following a transparent vetting process, which was supported by OHCHR, the President of Liberia appointed five new members of the INCHR Board of Commissioners (one woman, four men)

then another two commissioners (both women) to complete the composition of the INCHR Board of Commissioners. The Office advised the Commission on measures to be put in place to retain its "A" Status. OHCHR undertook joint monitoring missions with INCHR staff to prisons and other detention facilities and, in April, supported the INCHR to organize a national roundtable to mark the Seventh Annual Commemoration of the African Pretrial Detention Day. The event brought together 53 representatives (10 women, 43 men) from the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court, the Bar Association and CSOs and prompted discussions on prevention and mitigation strategies.

A1 – Through human rights training, Liberia's National Police, the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) and the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) strengthen their Human Rights Accountability Units and comply more fully with international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR promoted the abolition of the death penalty through strategic advocacy with relevant authorities.

In July, the Senate of Liberia agreed to abolish the death penalty through the adoption of the Act to amend Sections 3.8, 3.9, 3.11, 3.12 and 3.13(e) of Chapter 3 and Section 25.6 (2) of Chapter 25, of Title 17 of the Penal Code to abolish the death penalty. The Act is in compliance with international standards and is before the House of Senate for approval. It will then be signed into Law by the President. OHCHR organized and facilitated CSO dialogues on the death penalty and Liberia's obligations under ICCPR. In addition, the Office held bilateral meetings with the Minister of Justice, the Attorney General and the Legal Adviser to the President to strengthen advocacy for the abolition of the death penalty.

Participation

P4 – CSOs monitor, report and advocate, in a sustained and effective manner, for legal reforms and action to strengthen protection from discrimination, especially for marginalized groups.

8 16

Through technical support, OHCHR contributed to the increased participation of civil society in activities aimed at improving the protection of marginalized groups.

OHCHR organized a joint monitoring field mission with the INCHR and Human Rights Platform (a CSO), from 11 to 17 April, to the Bea Mountain Mining Company and the ArcelorMittal concession areas in Grand Cape Mount and Nimba Counties, respectively. The mission provided participants with an opportunity to exchange human rights monitoring skills and enhanced the coordination and information-sharing between the INCHR and the CSO. During the joint monitoring, the OHCHR-led team observed, received and documented complaints of human rights violations in the context of business and human rights. Findings were shared with the Ministry of Justice, which is leading the National Business and Human Rights Steering Committee, for follow-up action.

In addition, the Office monitored the 18 June senatorial by-elections in Lofa County. Although tensions were high and many feared violence prior to the elections, they were conducted peacefully.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – Protection mechanisms, including the INCHR and the Ministry of Justice Human Rights Division, monitor and report on efforts to strengthen access to justice, the rule of law and the justice system. They focus particular attention on impunity and discrimination against marginalized groups.

5 10 16

OHCHR provided support to protection mechanisms to improve the implementation of their mandates.

From 23 to 26 February and 10 to 11 March, OHCHR facilitated consultations involving 70 participants (42 women, 28 men), including HRDs, WHRDs and representatives from the INCHR and authorities in the Counties of Grand Gedeh, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa, Montserrado and Nimba. As a result of the consultations, the participants developed a draft protection policy on human rights defenders, which will be introduced as a bill for approval by the Parliament.

With funds from the Spotlight Initiative, the Office trained 30 representatives (17 women, 13 men) from national institutions, including the Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Justice and the INCHR, on gender mainstreaming and integrating international human rights standards and principles into law reform processes. OHCHR used the same platform to establish a Human Rights and Gender Working Group and collaborate with the Law Reform Commission and other partners to mainstream human rights and gender into law reform processes. To date, the Working Group has contributed to reviewing the Inheritance Law and the Domestic Violence and Rape Law to identify gender and human rights gaps and

submit findings and recommendations to legislators for amendments.



Development

D7 – The UNDAF One Programme promotes human rights objectives, particularly the protection of the most vulnerable, and assists Liberia with the implementation of its national human rights action plan and the UPR recommendations it accepted.

OHCHR supported the integration of human rights norms, standards and principles into relevant national programmes.

With OHCHR's technical assistance, the National Steering Committee, led by the Ministry of Justice, developed a draft national action plan on business and human rights. The draft NAP is being reviewed by ministries and CSOs, with technical support from the INCHR. OHCHR is supporting the proposed local and regional consultations on the draft to encourage buy-in and ownership. Inputs from these consultations will be incorporated into the draft document. Thereafter, the document will be validated by all stakeholders before it is submitted to the Cabinet for endorsement.



Mechanisms

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

16 17

Targeted technical assistance provided by OHCHR sought to increase Liberia's submission of reports and the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office provided technical and financial support to the Government to help build the capacities of its NMRF. This technical assistance facilitated the development of the NMRF's 2022 workplan, the establishment of procedures, roles and responsibilities to fulfil Liberia's reporting requirements and follow-up on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR assisted authorities with the drafting of Liberia's common core document by conducting a training workshop for members of the NMRF, from 2 to 3 March. The training was attended by 25 participants (eight women, 17 men). OHCHR and UNICEF provided the NMRF with technical support, in July, on drafting the State Party report to CRC. They also facilitated a workshop for 45 participants (17 women, 28 men), including NMRF focal points in the Government, CSOs and the INCHR, which covered the CRC's reporting guidelines and reviewed Liberia's combined second, third and fourth

periodic reports and the Committee's concluding observations.

Finally, as a follow-up to the UPR's recommendations, OHCHR provided technical support to local CSOs and the INCHR, in collaboration with two NGOs (the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education and Kvinna till Kvinna), for the mid-term review of the implementation of Liberia's third UPR cycle recommendations, with an emphasis on SRHR. The mid-term review began in November and is ongoing. The next steps include consolidating a final draft for review and validation.

MADAGASCAR

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
29.61 million	587,000 km ²	0.501 (rank: 173/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2011	
Field office(s)		Antananarivo	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		4	

XB requirements 2022

US\$1,598,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P2 – A UN supported sustainable protection mechanism for civil society and HRDs is implemented and effective.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring that oversight mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are functioning.

In March, the HRA team established nine regional human rights observatories in Antananarivo, Antsiranana (Diego), Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Morondava, Sambava, Taolagnaro, Toamasina and Toliara. This was achieved in the context of the HRA's work with the Rary Aro Mada project, funded by the PBF, which includes engagement with youth HRDs, peacebuilders and civil society networks to facilitate information-sharing on human rights activism and the protection

of HRDs. The observatories are fully functioning and the youth HRDs are active participants in civic space, empowered by their skills, networks and support from OHCHR. The Office regularly collected quantitative data on human rights violations to increase awareness about human rights trends in Madagascar. Data collected by the youth observatories addressed a gap in the collection of regular and reliable data on human rights violations in the country. Reports are shared through social media and with the Ministry of Justice, UN and national partners. As a result, responses to human rights concerns are better informed and more strategic.

The HRA's work in relation to the Rary Aro Mada project included a series of trainings on human rights knowledge and systems, which led to an increase in the number of youth HRDs in target regions where the observatories were

established. It also enhanced their participation as responsible citizens in their respective communities. Additional training, supported by OHCHR, was delivered on self-protection for civil society and regional human rights youth observatories and a subregional summit was held for HRDs. These activities increased knowledge about available tools for sustainable protection at the national, regional and international level, including the special procedures. Some of these tools were effectively used by HRDs under threat, resulting in their protection.

Accountability

A1 – Law enforcement officials increase their compliance with international human rights norms and standards when performing their functions and a relevant accountability mechanism is implemented.

16 

By implementing training programmes, OHCHR contributed to the improvement of selected State institutions in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

A preliminary assessment of the DINA (traditional social conventions) in relation to the international human rights principles was finalized at the end of 2022. This research identifies a number of gaps, challenges and opportunities regarding human rights principles and access to justice, which have been set as priorities for joint work with State and civil society partners in 2023. This was a critical area of work in light of violent clashes that took place in 2022 as a result of tensions between the official and traditional justice systems in the remote south of the country.

The Goudmada project was officially closed in mid-July, which was a significant focus of the HRA team's engagement over the past two-and-a-half years. The project was jointly implemented by OHCHR and UNDP to increase public trust in the Government and to encourage greater accountability within the public administration. The final evaluation of the project highlights the following results: 1) national accountability institutions (the High Court of Justice, the High Council for the Defence of Democracy and Rule of Law and the Ombudsperson) strengthened their capacities in human rights, law and administration and their outreach campaigns contributed to an increase in complaints submitted by the population, standardized data collection and improved complaints-handling and responses; 2) the capacities of CSOs to monitor the accountability of institutions and public policies was strengthened through exchange workshops and on-site investigations; and 3) a pool of 30 human rights trainers was established within the defence and security forces (army, police, gendarmerie) and the penitentiary administration to ensure that human rights is included in all introductory trainings for new officers.

Development

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



OHCHR continued supporting the compliance of key policy areas with international human rights norms.

The HRA contributed to integrating human rights into sustainable development. For example, a study on the gaps and challenges of existing laws, programmes, strategies and policies relevant to the impacts of the mining sector on human rights was finalized and disseminated. The HRA team strengthened the capacities of relevant CSOs to advocate with the Government regarding concerns identified in the study, thereby increasing the integration of human rights standards into this precarious area of resource exploitation.

The HRA team helped to guide the UN, the Government and civil society in responding to the dramatic increase in attacks against persons with albinism in the south of the country, including to ensure that an HRBA was applied. In 2022, local and national authorities committed to working together on the issue under the leadership of the Ministry of Justice. In addition, the Government agreed to host an official visit of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism, which took place in October. Further, the first national NGO representing the rights of persons with albinism was created.

Finally, the rights of persons with disabilities were integrated into development

programming. The HRA team worked with the RC to develop an action plan for the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) through the Gender and Human Rights Thematic Working Group.

Mechanisms

M1 – The government committee responsible for drafting State reports for the international human rights mechanisms is effective. It has established a monitoring mechanism.

16 17

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

The HRA team worked with the Ministry of Justice to ensure the effective functioning of the NMRF. Support was provided to strengthen the knowledge of new members and facilitate the development of a detailed workplan for each member's area of responsibility. OHCHR proposed the creation of a database for keeping track of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and their implementation as a primary tool for reporting and follow-up. The NMRF is in the process of establishing the database. Moreover, an NAP was prepared in 2021 to implement the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR. In 2022, the NAP was distributed by the HRA team and the Ministry of Justice, including through meetings with individual ministers, to ensure their commitment to the process.

Building peace with young human rights defenders in Madagascar



A meeting on the network of young human rights defenders and peacebuilders as part of the Rary Aro Mada project. ©OHCHR

“With over 50 per cent of the Madagascar population under the age of 20, the participation of youth in addressing the root causes of conflict is essential if we are to succeed in consolidating sustainable peace,” said Sabine Lauber, Senior Human Rights Adviser (SHRA) for the UN Country Team.

The Rary Aro Mada project supports the protection of young HRDs and peacebuilders. It entered its second phase with the establishment of regional human rights observatories that cover the country’s nine intervention zones (Antananarivo, Antsiranana (Diego), Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Morondava, Sambava, Toamasina, Taolagnaro (Fort-Dauphin) and Toliara) and fall under the responsibility of local representatives of the National Platform of Civil Society Organizations of Madagascar

(PNFOSCM). Funding is provided by the Peacebuilding Fund and the project is implemented by UN Human Rights and UNESCO, with the support of the RCO. Each observatory documents human rights violations by conducting investigations and fact-finding missions. And, in September, the observatories began sending monthly reports on human rights cases to the SHRA team in Antananarivo. Analysed information is then transmitted to the Peace Committee. They also organize advocacy campaigns on the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional level.

The project demonstrated that youth inclusion is one of the keys to consolidating peace. Nine young people were designated as coordinators of the regional observatories and 463 young people represented 65 districts. In a mid-term evaluation, more than 93 per cent of the young people said they felt more confident about their role as HRDs.

“Since my involvement and participation in the project, my knowledge of human rights and peacebuilding increased considerably and I learned to be more strategic and balanced in my demands. My motivation is to do everything possible to support democratic governance,” stated a 22-year-old woman and beneficiary of the project in Toamasina.

Razafindramavo Danielysa, also known as Mijoro, is a 30-year-old regional coordinator. Having witnessed violence against children and challenges faced by people with disabilities, Mijoro joined the Rary Aro Mada project and participated

in human rights training in her hometown of Majunga. She also attended training modules through UNESCO’s Boot Camp project and the PNFOSCM observatories workshop.

“Thanks to the Rary Aro Mada project, I became aware of my rights. You have to know your rights in order to protect yourself,” she said.

The next steps for the project will be to collect data from regional human rights observatories and initiate academic research to better understand the root causes of human rights violations. This data will be included in Madagascar’s next UPR report.

To protect the personal safety of the young observers, trainings will be delivered on how to stay safe when conducting investigations in the field and how to deal with online harassment and threats. Additional training will focus on the international human rights mechanisms. The project partners will continue to advocate with the Madagascan Ministry of Justice for the adoption of legislation protecting HRDs.

MALAWI

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
20.41 million	118,000 km ²	0.512 (rank: 169/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Lilongwe	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2023	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		0 (Vacant pending funding availability)	

XB requirements 2022**US\$326,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:****Mechanisms**

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and in the implementation of their recommendations.

OHCHR supported substantive submissions by the NHRI, CSOs, the UNCT and individuals to the international human rights mechanisms.

The Minister of Justice of Malawi requested OHCHR's assistance in strengthening the capacities of stakeholders to implement the recommendations issued by the UPR and other international human rights mechanisms. It also requested technical support for the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC). To this end, OHCHR conducted a needs assessment mission, from 3 to 7 October, in preparation for a

training on the international human rights mechanisms that was held from 11 to 13 October. The training was organized by the MHRC and UNDP and facilitated by OHCHR. Participants included representatives from the Government, the MHRC, the Parliament and civil society partners. Discussions were held on Malawi's preparations for its fourth UPR cycle review in 2025, its mid-term reporting in 2022 and its pending reports to the human rights treaty bodies. In addition, a road map was created for the implementation of UPR recommendations with precise timelines.

Following the training, the Parliament requested a briefing to enable its Members to better understand and engage with the UPR process. The MHRC organized the briefing in November and OHCHR delivered the presentations. The Legal Affairs Committee committed to integrating human rights into its standing orders and adding human rights to its name.

The Government committed to nominating focal points on human rights in each ministry, with a view to establishing an NMRF.

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

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
22.59 million	1,240,000 km ²	0.428 (rank: 186/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2013		
Field office(s)	Bamako, Bamako-based office for the southern regions (Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso and Bamako District) and central regions (San and Segou), Mopti, Gao, Kidal, Ménaka and Timbuktu		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	60		

XB requirements 2022

US\$735,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A2 – Criminal courts increasingly process human rights-related cases promptly and in compliance with international due process standards. Serious violations that occurred after 2012 are prosecuted, regardless of whether they involved members of armed groups or members of Mali's Defence and Security Forces (MDSF).

10 16

OHCHR monitored the trials of human rights violation cases to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards.

Good progress was made in supporting the right to remedy of victims of human rights violations with the promulgation

of legislation on reparations for gross human rights violations, on 15 November. Law No. 2022-041 was adopted by the National Transitional Council on 3 November. Article 3 of the Law recognizes the right to remedy and reparation for victims as a fundamental right. The MINUSMA Human Rights and Protection Division (HRPD) participated in the drafting process, including through the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) Subcommittee on Reparations. The HRPD's participation contributed to ensuring that human rights norms and standards, including those governing the protection of victims, are reflected in the Law and its implementing decree.

Although little progress was made in the prosecution of alleged human rights

violations involving the MDSF, courts are increasingly holding trials for terrorism-related cases. During a session of the Criminal Court of Bamako, held in November, the HRPD monitored 14 cases related to acts of terrorism. Defendants were acquitted in four cases and 10 were convicted, with sentences ranging from 10 years to life imprisonment. Despite a de facto moratorium on the death penalty, which has been in place in Mali since the 1980s, one person was sentenced to death.

The HRPD noted that procedural guarantees and respect for due process and fair trial rights were upheld in the majority of cases. For instance, trials were convened within the statutory period and defendants had access to a defence lawyer of their choice, were able to express themselves in the language of their choice and enjoyed the right to cross-examination. Nevertheless, the maximum length of provisional detention (36 months) was exceeded for some defendants and concerns were raised regarding the effectiveness and preparedness of the public defence attorney in three cases.

Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored, documented and reported. Particular attention is given to abuses by armed groups and violations by State actors, especially in the central and northern regions of Mali. Perpetrators and those responsible are identified.

5 16

Through reporting and advocacy, OHCHR aimed to contribute to the increased proportion of human rights violations cases that were positively addressed by authorities.

The HRPD implemented 14 protection measures, including advocacy with security authorities, counselling and referral of victims to file complaints. This benefited 1,665 victims and witnesses of human rights violations and abuses (217 of whom were women) and facilitated 532 interviews with victims/witnesses of human rights violations and abuses. While providing support for the protection of people at risk of reprisals, these measures improved the HRPD's access to sources, victims and witnesses in a secure environment. In this role, the HRPD carried out 21 investigations into serious human rights violations and abuses committed by the Malian Armed Forces and their allies, extremist groups and signatory groups, which primarily occurred in the Mopti and Segou regions.

During the year, the HRPD published four reports on trends of human rights violations and abuses in Mali, namely: a biannual note covering the period of 1 July to 31 December 2021, published on 24 March; and three quarterly notes covering the periods of 1 January to 30 March, published on 30 May, 1 April to 30 June, published on 31 August and 1 July to 30 September, published on 9 November. Following the release of the quarterly notes and the HRPD's engagement with national authorities, the Government opened investigations into 17 of the 23 cases documented in the notes.

PS2 – The MDSF and G5 Sahel Forces comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law when they conduct counter-terrorism operations.



Through capacity-building and training activities, OHCHR contributed to the increased awareness of human rights principles in selected regions of the country.

The HRPD implemented two seven-month projects for the empowerment of youth in the Goundam and Mopti regions to prevent their radicalization and recruitment by extremist groups. The projects included vocational training and awareness-raising sessions on human rights, democracy and citizenship and were made available to 62 youths, including two women with disabilities. The beneficiaries acquired new skills in carpentry, sewing, floor tiling, solar energy and motorcycle or small engine repair. According to consultations with community leaders, youth councils and communal authorities, these trades were in demand and well paid in their localities. Participants were trained on the basics of financial literacy and enterprise management and learned about human rights principles. Beneficiaries also received a lump sum and toolkits for their settlement in their respective regions and were mentored by master craftsmen and community leaders on their return. A total of 72.5 per cent of the beneficiaries are now making their living from their activities.

PS4 – The TJRC fulfils its mandate and issues its final report. Malian authorities implement their key recommendations and prioritize the rights of victims, in accordance with Mali's international obligations.



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

A specialized consultant commissioned by the HRPD to support the work of the TJRC in the drafting, proofreading and revision of the final report completed his work. The final report will be published and presented to the public at the end of the Commission's mandate. Furthermore, the HRPD provided logistical support to the TJRC in organizing its fifth public hearing on women victims of sexual violence and children victims of conflict, during which 10 women and two girls testified.

To ensure the continuity of the reconciliation process, the Malian Government initiated a process for the establishment of two successor bodies to the TJRC. The two bodies will be responsible for following up on the implementation of the recommendations issued by the Commission in its final report, in conformity with international human rights norms and standards. To this end, legislation was adopted on reparations for gross human rights violations (Law 2022-041), on 15 November.

PS6 – National and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors seeking support from the United Nations implement mitigation measures in accordance with the HRDDP, most notably in relation to programmes that are assessed to be high- or medium-risk.

16

By supporting the implementation of the HRDDP, OHCHR sought to establish procedures that would contribute to protection from human rights violations.

The HRPD conducted risk assessments of support provided by MINUSMA to non-UN security forces and followed up on the recommended mitigation measures. All projects submitted for HRDDP assessment were reviewed and the recommended mitigation measures were communicated to the initiating sections for follow-up. The HRPD conducted 168 risk assessments, representing a marked increase over 2021, when 69 assessments were undertaken. In addition, the HRPD organized six regional conferences, in May and June, on the HRDDP for 278 participants, including 26 women, from the UN and the MDSF in the regions of Bamako, Gao, Menaka, Timbuktu, Kidal and Mopti. The conferences aimed at harmonizing procedures and practices on the HRDDP and increasing compliance with the mitigation measures.

Mechanisms

M1 – Increased engagement of the Government with the international human rights mechanisms, in particular with regard to fulfilling its treaty body reporting obligations.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which NMRFs on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the UPR are in place and/or functioning.

Following years of technical advice from the HRPD to strengthen the capacities, rules and procedures of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), it was accredited with “A” Status, on 29 March, by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) Sub-Committee on Accreditation. Following this accreditation, HRPD organized, from 8 to 9 November, a workshop on human rights monitoring and reporting for commissioners and staff of the NHRC and CSO representatives (29 participants, including 12 women). The activity aimed at strengthening the operational capacity of the NHRC to fulfil its mission, in accordance with its “A” Status.

MAURITANIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
4.74 million	1,031,000 km ²	0.556 (rank: 158/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2020)

Type of engagement	Country Office
Year established	2010
Field office(s)	Nouakchott, Nouadhibou
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2022	11

Total income	US\$2,984,911	
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,529,000	
XB expenditure	US\$929,513	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
81%	8%	11%
\$749,219	\$73,359	\$106,935

Key OMP pillars in 2022

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

PILLAR RESULTS:
Accountability

A1 – Court decisions, including GBV cases, explicitly refer to international human rights obligations.

16

Through technical support, OHCHR sought to contribute to the improved compliance of legislation on slavery with international human rights standards.

In April, the Office and ILO finalized and published a joint report on the implementation of Law No. 2015-031, which criminalizes slavery and punishes slavery-like practices in Mauritania. The report outlines several recommendations addressed to the Government that were

supported by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and its consequences, during his visit in May. With the support of OHCHR, steps were taken by the Government towards the implementation of some of these recommendations, under the leadership of the Commissariat for Human Rights, Humanitarian Action and Relations with Civil Society (CDHAHRSC) and the Ministry of Justice, such as the ongoing process for updating the 2015 Law and the establishment of an Interministerial Commission to review all pending cases of trafficking and slavery.

A2 – The NPM regularly publishes reports on its visits to places of detention.

10 16

OHCHR provided technical advice to contribute to the functioning of the NHRI in conformity with the Paris Principles.

OHCHR reinforced the capacities of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) with regard to the implementation of the three-year action plan that began in 2021. The focus was on strengthening the capacities of the NHRC to engage with CSOs and conduct visits and investigations, including on slavery cases. In addition, the Office in Nouadhibou is now fully operational. OHCHR worked closely with the CDHAHRSC on the finalization of the National Strategy for Human Rights and the preparation of an action plan, which is anticipated to be adopted at the ministerial level in 2023.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Increased accountability of the ISF and compliance of law enforcement activities with international human rights standards, including in the context of the G5 Sahel.

16

By proving technical guidance to the ISF, OHCHR supported the functioning of protection mechanisms that comply with international human rights standards.

The Office pursued its capacity-building activities for the ISF. This enabled the establishment of complaint mechanisms and consultation frameworks by the ISF, local communities and CSOs as means of promoting conflict prevention. The Office also investigated and documented 13 cases of serious human violations committed by

the ISF during law enforcement operations and provided assistance to 16 victims and witnesses. Following OHCHR’s advocacy with authorities regarding the opening of trials, four cases were brought before the courts.

MOZAMBIQUE

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
32.97 million	799,000 km ²	0.446 (rank: 185/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement		Project (other type of field presence)/Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019 (Project)/Approved 2021, Deployed 2022 (HRA)	
Field office(s)		Maputo	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		8	

XB income	US\$1,756,227	
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,005,000	
XB expenditure	US\$968,915	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
71%	19%	10%
\$685,314	\$191,262	\$92,339

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M1 – The NMRF is formally established.

16 | 17

OHCHR advocated for the establishment of an NMRF on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

Following years of consistent advocacy by OHCHR, an Interministerial Commission on Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law was established by presidential decree, in April. The Commission is mandated to serve as a coordination body for the

preparation of reports and other communications to the regional and international human rights mechanisms and to follow up on and support the implementation of their recommendations. The Commission is composed of 12 ministries and is chaired by the Prime Minister, with the Ministry of Justice serving as Vice-Chair. It reports to the Council of Ministers. In November, OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Justice to organize a workshop for the technical members of the Commission. The objective of the workshop was to build the technical and operational capacities of the Commission and support the effective implementation of its mandate.

At the end of the workshop, participants identified the next steps for finalizing the development of the Commission's internal regulations and workplan. The possibility of additional capacity-building support for the Commission was also discussed, including in relation to the establishment and operationalization of the NRTD. The event was attended by 36 participants (22 women, 14 men), most of whom were focal points from various government ministries that will serve as permanent members of the Commission.

In June/July, OHCHR supported regional consultations in the provinces of Maputo, Gaza, Zambezia and Nampula on the development of an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations issued during Mozambique's third UPR cycle. In August, OHCHR participated in and supported a seminar to validate the plan, which provides a strategy and timeline for the implementation of the recommendations endorsed by the Government, as well as for follow-up and reporting on progress.

Accountability

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established that comply with international human rights standards.

10 16 

Through the provision of technical advice, OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of the NAP on Business and Human Rights.

In partnership with UNDP and the EU, OHCHR supported the Ministry of Justice to develop an NAP on Business and Human Rights, which is a key recommendation of the third UPR cycle. To

build national capacities on business and human rights and promote the uptake of the UNGPs, OHCHR delivered several training sessions to the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), other national institutions and civil society, including the Network of Human Rights Defenders in Cabo Delgado. A total of 83 participants, including 39 women, attended the trainings. This work culminated in December, with a “Dialogue on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights in the Southern Africa Region,” which was jointly organized by OHCHR, UNDP, UNICEF, the AU, NANHRI and the Danish Institute for Human Rights to support the development of NAPs by countries in the region. Attended by 163 participants, including 62 women, the event marked the first step towards the enhanced implementation of the UNGPs. It also provided an opportunity to promote Mozambique as a regional leader in this area and generate interest in the NAP process among relevant stakeholders. Nationwide consultations on the development of the NAP will begin in February 2023.

OHCHR held preliminary discussions with the multinational company, Total, to discuss the possibility of creating a multi-stakeholder platform that would bring together relevant actors working on business and human rights. Furthermore, meetings took place with the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) to explore linkages between their project on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights and OHCHR's work on business and human rights.

Development

D7 – An HRBA and the LNOB principle are integrated into UNCT planning, programme design and the implementation of monitoring and evaluation approaches across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus.

With OHCHR's guidance, the UNCT satisfactorily integrates international human rights principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In May and June, OHCHR delivered a series of briefings to the UNCT, the Programme Management Team and the Donor Coordination Platform on the UPR process and outcome of the third UPR cycle. As an outcome, the UNCT adopted the UPR as a guiding framework for UN planning and programming, with a view to implementing the UNSDCF 2022-2025. The UNCT also carried out a mapping and analysis of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms (2018-2021) in relation to the UNSDCF outcomes, outputs and indicators to inform the development of joint action plans by results groups. The UNCT established a cross-pillar UN Human Rights Network, which was chaired by the SHRA and composed of focal points from development, humanitarian and peacebuilding entities. The Network meets regularly to discuss human rights issues, such as civic space, disability inclusion and business and human rights.

NIGER

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
26.21 million	1,267,000 km ²	0.400 (rank: 189/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2022)
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2019		
Field office(s)	N'Djamena		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2021 (extended to 2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	16		

Total income	US\$1,530,537		
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,452,000		
XB expenditure	US\$586,286		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
25%	64%	11%	
\$145,031	\$373,806	\$67,449	

Key OMP pillars in 2022

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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Peace and Security

PS4 – The peace process and justice reform are implemented in accordance with international human rights norms and standards, including the rights of victims.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of systems and procedures established to protect against human rights violations.

OHCHR strengthened the complaints mechanisms of the National Agency for Legal and Judicial Assistance (ANAJJ) through the delivery of a training for 30 legal officers, including eight women, on

criminal complaints mechanisms and remedies. It also developed a practical guide for complaints and the referral of victims of human rights violations committed by ISFs. The guide provides information on the administrative and legal procedures available to victims of human rights violations.

To improve access to justice and the complaints mechanisms of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for victims of human rights violations, including those committed by ISFs, OHCHR developed an [online platform for submitting complaints](#). A training session was organized for the members of the NHRC who will manage the platform.

Capacity-building support on GBV was also provided to 46 individuals, including 23 women from the ISFs (gendarmerie, police, national guard), in four regions (Tillabery, Dosso, Tahoua, Maradi), to help prevent GBV during law enforcement operations.


Mechanisms

M1 – Niger's international commitments are honoured by the timely submission of reports and the effective implementation of recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

16 **17** 

OHCHR provided technical expertise and capacity-building support to improve the timely submission of reports to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

OHCHR delivered training for 27 NMRF members (nine women, 18 men) on the guidelines for the preparation of the fifth periodic report to CEDAW and provided substantive inputs to the first draft.

OHCHR worked closely with the Ministry of Justice to develop an operationalization plan for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms. OHCHR provided inputs to help finalize the plan's matrix and integrate the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and the special procedures.

Non-discrimination

ND3 – Legal and social frameworks increasingly promote the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protect them from violence, including in the digital space.

5 9 10 

OHCHR supported the implementation of the National Policy on Gender to reduce discrimination against women and improve women's public participation.

From 12 to 21 April, OHCHR and SOS-FEVVF (an NGO), launched a campaign of mobile consultations, in Niamey, to support victims of GBV. This led to the registration of 65 cases, including 22 cases of psychological violence, 14 cases of denial-of-service opportunities, nine cases of physical violence, seven cases of forced and early marriage and three cases of alleged rape. As a result, victims were provided with psychological, medical, legal and judicial assistance.

ND6 – The Government and other relevant actors apply an HRBA to combat migrant smuggling and human rights violations associated with irregular migration. Particular attention is given to protecting women's rights and the rights of the child.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11
13 16 

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

During the year, OHCHR continued to implement the PROMIS project. The

project is a joint initiative of OHCHR and UNODC that strengthens the capacities of West African States to develop a human rights-based response to the smuggling of migrants and effectively respond to human rights violations related to irregular migration. Following a workshop held in Dosso, in May, OHCHR supported the draft amendment of Law No. 2015-36 relating to the smuggling of migrants, which was submitted to the General Secretariat of the Government (Secrétariat Général du Gouvernement). The proposed revisions aim to ensure greater protection for the human rights of migrants, in accordance with international law.

Accountability

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.

10 16 

OHCHR contributed to the functioning of the NHRC, in increased conformity with international human rights standards, including by providing technical support to the NHRC.

OHCHR continued to provide capacity-building support to the NHRC to fulfil its mandate throughout the year, thereby contributing to the renewal of the NHRC's "A" Status accreditation during the GANHRI session, held in October.

Participation

P6 – Niger fully implements the human rights education programme and integrates human rights into the national education curriculum.



Through technical and capacity-building support, OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR held a two-day training workshop on civil and political rights and the role of CSOs in the promotion and protection of human rights. This contributed to the establishment of five citizen platforms for the promotion and protection of democratic and civic spaces in Maradi, Zinder, Diffa, Tahoua and Agadez. These platforms operate as permanent frameworks for consultation and exchange, bringing together civil society actors at the regional level, and aim to promote and protect civic space in a context where the rights to freedom of assembly and of association are often infringed.

NIGERIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
218.54 million	924,000 km ²	0.535 (rank: 163/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2014	
Field office(s)		Abuja	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		2	

XB requirements 2022**US\$787,000****Key OMP pillars 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**

Development

D7 – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) integrates relevant international human rights standards and principles and references recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

International human rights standards and principles guide the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF).

OHCHR contributed to the extent to which UN common country programmes (i.e., the UNDAF) have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

Following OHCHR's support in the review of the CCA and the preparation of the UNSDPF 2018-2022, the Nigeria CCA and UNSDCF were finalized and reflect a strong human rights perspective.

A workshop on the application of an HRBA to data and indicators was organized, bringing together 32 participants from the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the National Bureau of Statistics, the Parliament and relevant government agencies and NGOs. As part of a technical cooperation programme, the workshop aimed to strengthen the NHRC's use of indicators and data as effective oversight tools in relation to human rights and the SDGs.

**Peace and Security**

PS2 – Terrorism suspects are immediately brought before the courts upon their arrest and delays in their trials are significantly reduced.

16

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

OHCHR led the development of a General Preliminary Risk Assessment Framework for the UNCT, the first of its kind, which will form the basis of the UNCT's engagement with security forces in Nigeria. The Office further supported the organization of a workshop on integrating human rights into the early warning systems of the AUC and the RECs. The workshop was hosted by the ECOWAS Commission, in partnership with the AUC and the World Bank. Further, a training on the HRDDP was held for the UN agencies that provide support to security forces in Nigeria. The objective of the training was to inform the 30 participants about fundamental issues and good practices in the implementation of the HRDDP to promote human rights and prevent violations. The workshop contributed to early warning work on elections.

RWANDA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
13.78 million	26,000 km ²	0.534 (rank: 165/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2007	
Field office(s)		Kigali	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		3	

XB requirements 2022 **US\$619,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:**Mechanisms**

M2 – NGOs and UN agencies increased their engagement with the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.



Through capacity-building and technical support, OHCHR supported CSOs and UN entities in preparing submissions to the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA supported the Government in drafting its action plan to respond to 160 recommendations issued by the UPR. The Government's UPR road map was validated and the HRA coordinated the drafting of the One UN Rwanda Road Map to support the implementation of the UPR recommendations. The HRA also contributed to a training workshop for 50 members and staff of the NHRC on international and regional human

rights mechanisms, including on UPR mechanisms. In addition, support was provided to build the capacities of CSOs on monitoring and reporting human rights violations, the use of the regional and international human rights mechanisms and submission of alternative reports. Further, the HRA held meetings with the Ministry of Justice, the NHRC and the Legal Aid Forum to discuss the programme for training judges and security forces on the international human rights mechanisms and international human rights law.

**Development**

D2 – OHCHR and the NHRC deliver training on human rights for corporations to ensure that all economic actors and businesses adhere to the UNGPs.



Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR improves the compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRA held consultations with the NHRC to discuss the organization of a regional conference on good practices and laws regulating business and human rights in Africa. It conducted surveys on legislation regulating business and human rights in the region and lobbied the Government and the Parliament for their support in developing and enacting legislation to govern business and human rights in Rwanda. Legislation was not adopted. The activities identified have been included in the 2023 annual workplan of the NHRC and the HRA will provide support for their implementation.

D7 – Components of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP) comply with international human rights principles and apply an HRBA. Human rights principles guide the State when it implements the SDGs and other development initiatives.

Through advocacy and technical support, OHCHR contributed to the application of an HRBA in relation to the programmes of UN entities.

The HRA chaired the One UN Rwanda Human Rights Taskforce and delivered training on the HRBA and VNRs to

ensure that human rights principles and an HRBA guide the implementation of the UNSDCF in Rwanda. The training also equipped the UNCT to provide assistance to the Government in implementing the SDGs and other development efforts. Moreover, the HRA provided support to the UNCT in drafting and finalizing the new UNSDCF and the CCA in order to facilitate the integration of human rights perspectives into these documents.

G5 SAHEL JOINT FORCE COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK PROJECT

Type of engagement	Project (Other type of field presence)
Year established	2018
Field office(s)	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger (Mali withdrew on 30 June 2022)
Staff as of 31 December 2022	57

Total income 2022	US\$11,801,318
XB requirements 2022	US\$9,681,000
XB expenditure	US\$9,017,554
Personnel	Non-personnel PSC ⁴
79%	14% 7%
\$7,100,534	\$1,299,036 \$617,984

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:



Peace and Security

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force (FC-G5S) has established monitoring, accountability and response mechanisms and procedures.

16

With substantive support from OHCHR and other partners, significant progress was made by the G5 Sahel Joint Force in establishing monitoring, accountability and response mechanisms and procedures that comply with international human rights norms and standards.

Three After Action Reviews (AARs) were organized by OHCHR and the Joint Force to assess the Force's operations on the ground. The systematic use of the AARs is one of the most important tools

for the protection of civilians. The AARs regarding Kana 1 and Kana 2 military operations were conducted on 20 and 21 April, in Niamey, to assess their alignment with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and their impacts on the civilian population. A total of 19 participants (one woman) attended the AARs regarding Kana 1 and Kana 2, including OHCHR, Battalion and Company Commanders and representatives of the Police Component of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, the Central Sector Command Post and the Poste de Commandement Interarmées de Théâtre (PCIAT). Recommendations were made to improve practices in future operations to better integrate human rights and humanitarian standards, including with regard to the measures undertaken to protect civilians.

The AARs on the Nadhif 1 and Nadhif 2 military operations were conducted on 18 and 19 November, in Bakara, Chad. These were the first AARs held after an operation in the Eastern Sector. As was the case with Kana 1 and Kana 2, the objective of these AARs was to assess the extent to which the implementation of the operations was in line with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and to analyse their impacts on the civilian population. Sixteen participants (all men) attended, including OHCHR, Battalion and Company Commanders and representatives of the Eastern Sector Command Post, as well as the Chief of Battalion Provost Unit, the Chief of the Special Investigations Unit and representatives of the PCIAT. Recommendations were made to improve practices in future operations in order to better integrate human rights and international humanitarian standards, including with regard to measures to protect civilians.

On 23 June, OHCHR organized an informal AAR for senior officers of the PCIAT based in Mali. The meeting enabled participants to recall achievements during their tenure and formulate recommendations. These recommendations emanated from: the December 2021 AAR workshop regarding the contribution of the Police Component to the implementation of the Compliance Framework; the training workshop on communication organized in Nouakchott, in February; the PCIAT's participation in the European Humanitarian Forum, in March; the AAR on operations Kana 1 and 2, which was organized in April; and the training of the provost of the Mauritanian battalion of Nbeiket Lawash, which was held in May.

PS2 – The G5 Sahel Joint Force has integrated predeployment, preventive and mitigation mechanisms and measures.

16

Through advocacy and training, OHCHR contributed to the establishment or reinforcement of selection and screening mechanisms and the increase of women personnel in the Joint Force.

OHCHR advocated with G5 Sahel authorities for the adoption of an action plan on gender by the G5 Sahel Defence and Security Committee (CDS) to increase the number of women in the G5 Sahel defence and security structures. Although the issue was added to the agenda of the twelfth meeting of the G5 Sahel CDS, the originally scheduled 2021 meeting was postponed and has not yet taken place.

The Office delivered various training initiatives in 2022, however, since Mali's withdrawal from the G5 Sahel, all training activities in the country have ceased. In total, OHCHR provided 25 training and sensitization sessions to 708 participants, 30 of whom were women, including 652 military officers, 16 provosts and 40 representatives from CSOs. OHCHR also provided technical support for the drafting and revision of the Police Component Directive, which clarifies the structure and functioning of the Police Component and the role of the Police Adviser to the Force Commander. The validation of the Directive is expected to take place at the twelfth meeting of the G5 Sahel CDS. Additional work focused on the review of the SOPs related to: capture, retention, transfer and release; the composition, organization and functioning of the Joint Force legal branch, which was submitted to the Force Commander for its consideration and signature; and procedures for handling collateral damage caused by the

Joint Force, which is being drafted in collaboration with the Joint Force.

PS2 – OHCHR has established monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including casualty recording and mobile human rights and investigation teams in all areas of operations of the FC-G5S.

16

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

OHCHR continued to engage directly with the FC-G5S, with a view to obtaining its response to allegations/incidents to prevent further violations and ensure accountability.

Following the relaxation of COVID-19 measures, OHCHR resumed its field missions and monitoring activities. In 2022, the Office undertook eight field monitoring missions, including in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania and Niger. During the missions, OHCHR staff members established contact with administrative authorities, community leaders and civil society to take stock of the human rights situation in the G5 Sahel Joint Force operational areas and assess the impact of its military operations on civilians.

The Office continued to develop its network of contacts for human rights monitoring in relation to the operations of the G5 Sahel Joint Force and the operationalization of the early warning mechanisms in the region. For example, following the allegations of sexual violence committed by Chadian soldiers in 2021, OHCHR established an early warning mechanism in Téra, Niger. This mechanism was put in place to strengthen

the role of the population and civilian authorities in identifying and analysing the risks faced by civilians in the areas of operation, as a result of the actions of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, and to propose concrete preventive or corrective actions. The mechanism is composed of departmental authorities, representatives of customary authorities, the Joint Force and civil society. OHCHR provides the mechanism with technical support. Since the establishment of the mechanism, its members have worked towards protecting the identity of victims, implementing preventive measures and facilitating dialogue between the Joint Force and the civilian population.

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

16

OHCHR advocated for critical human rights issues to be taken up by the international community.

OHCHR engaged with partners to sustain the political, technical and financial support that was provided to the Compliance Framework, both at the field level and headquarters. At the field level, the Office continued its engagement with representatives of the international community in the G5 Sahel countries, including EU delegations, EU member states and UN specialized agencies.

On 18 May, the United Nations Security Council held a biannual briefing on the G5 Sahel Joint Force. During the meeting, most members recognized the importance of cross-border operations in the fight against terrorism. While highlighting the challenges being faced, including financial

constraints, they acknowledged the efforts undertaken by the Joint Force and commended it for the number of operations conducted in the region. Members also expressed regret regarding Mali's decision to withdraw from the G5 Sahel, including the Joint Force.

The Security Council recognized the importance of the Joint Force's Compliance Framework in resolution 2640, adopted on 29 June, and renewed MINUSMA's mandate for another 12 months. The resolution mentions, for the second time, OHCHR's support to the G5 Sahel Compliance Framework, recalling that "adherence to the compliance framework referred to in resolution 2391 (2017) is essential in ensuring the required trust among the populations, and thus the effectiveness and legitimacy of the FC-G5S, and underlines the need for the continued support of UN OHCHR to the compliance framework's full operationalization."

During the reporting period, the Secretary-General issued two reports on the G5 Sahel Joint Force. The report issued on 11 May (S/2022/382) states that OHCHR increased its outreach to Joint Force battalions and sector command posts and refers to the first AAR session of the Compliance Framework, organized by OHCHR, which was implemented by the Police Component in December 2021. The report also highlights the ongoing efforts of OHCHR and MINUSMA to engage with national authorities in Chad, Mali and Niger to ensure accountability for serious crimes allegedly committed by members of the Joint Force.

PS6 – United Nations support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force complies with the HRDDP.

16

Through technical advice and training, OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance with the HRDDP by relevant actors.

MINUSMA completed 25 HRDDP risk assessments in response to requests for support from the G5 Sahel Joint Force. After the withdrawal of Mali from the Joint Force, in May, no support requests were submitted for the Malian battalions. As a result, the assessments conducted for the Joint Force decreased from nine to seven per quarter. Subsequently, 17 measures were identified to mitigate identified risks and enhance the human rights compliance and accountability of the Joint Force. These measures included: the provision of updated information by the Joint Force on progress achieved in internal investigations and judicial proceedings in relation to grave human rights violations on specific cases; facilitated access of the UN to any detainees held at battalion locations; the development of an SOP on casualties incurred during operations; and measures adopted in accordance with the SOP on the capture, retention, transfer and release of detainees.

SIERRA LEONE

Population size¹ 8.61 million **Surface area¹** 72,000 km² **Human Development Index²** 0.477 (rank: 181/191 in 2021) **NHRI (if applicable)³** "A" Status (2022)

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser
Year established	2021
Field office(s)	Freetown
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2023
Staff as of 31 December 2022	1

XB requirements 2022 **US\$285,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:



Accountability

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.

16

OHCHR contributed to reinforcing the capacities of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL), the Legal Aid Board and other relevant actors to apply human rights principles and standards in fulfilling their respective mandates.

OHCHR re-established the monthly meetings of the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG), co-chaired with the Chairperson of the HRCSL, to discuss ongoing human rights issues and propose relevant actions. The meetings include government entities and ministries, the police, the army, correctional services and

CSOs. In the context of these meetings, OHCHR engaged with national authorities to advocate for the release, in October, of at least 50 people who had been arrested following the 10 August national demonstrations against the increased cost of living. In addition, after OHCHR's engagement with the police, the Inspector General set up a Human Rights Unit and established a focal point on HRDDP- and human rights-related issues.



Non-discrimination

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



OHCHR contributed to increasing the protection of women, children and persons with disabilities from discrimination.

OHCHR and other UNCT members undertook advocacy with national stakeholders, thereby contributing to the promulgation of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act, in January 2023. OHCHR and the RC provided inputs to authorities and other stakeholders to advocate for the adoption of legislation that is compliant with international human rights standards.



Mechanisms

M1 – International human rights mechanisms contribute to the elaboration of international law and jurisprudence, in particular in the context of emerging human rights concerns (frontier issues).

16 17

OHCHR contributed to improving the implementation of recommendations issued during the UPR process, enhancing the Government's response to the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and ensuring the submission of pending reports.

As a result of a joint project between UNDP and OHCHR, a National Reporting Mechanism to International Treaty Bodies was established within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

OHCHR also supported the Government in developing and launching, in April, the National Implementation Plan and Reporting Matrix for the Recommendations of the Third UPR Cycle.

SOMALIA: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SOMALIA (UNSOM)

Population size¹ Surface area¹ Human Development Index² NHRI (if applicable)³
 17.60 million 638,000 km² - -

Type of engagement	Peace Mission
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Mogadishu, Galmudug, Jubaland, Puntland, HirShabelle, Somaliland and South West State
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025
Staff as of 31 December 2022	24

XB requirements 2022

US\$283,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

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

10 16

Through technical support and capacity-building, the UNSOM Human Rights and Protection Group (HRPG) contributed to strengthening oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms, in conformity with international human rights standards.

The HRPG and the Office of Puntland Human Rights Defender (OPHRD) met with the State Minister, the

Director-General and the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Justice and Constitution, the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, the Parliamentary Committee on Security and Justice and the new Puntland Age Verification Committee (AVC) regarding the amendment of the Counter-Terrorism Law. Following effective advocacy in the case of a minor who had been sentenced to death, the HRPG urged the Minister of Justice to expedite the transfer of the minor from the prison in Garowe to a UNICEF-partnered rehabilitation centre in Mogadishu. The minor was transferred in June and visits from the family were facilitated.

The HRPG and the OPHRD undertook advocacy in relation to verifying the age of convicted minors. On 31 October, the AVC undertook a visit to the Galkacyo District and conducted an age verification

assessment of four minors who were sentenced to death by the military court of Galkayo on 31 January. The AVC submitted its findings to the State Minister of Justice and Constitution, who submitted the report to the State President and Vice-President for their guidance. This led to an agreement that the court should resume the adjudication of the case and that the death penalty should not be imposed on the minors. The HRPG will continue its advocacy on this case.

The HRPG supported the establishment of an effective and functioning NHRC. Confirmation of the commissioners is pending approval by the Cabinet. In November, the Minister of Women and Human Rights Development formed a committee to review the selection process.

Non-discrimination

ND2 – Justice systems and related institutions increasingly monitor and investigate discrimination and provide redress to victims.

5 10 16 

OHCHR assisted justice institutions to increasingly address cases of sexual violence and take positive measures and contributed to the adoption of legislation that protects equality and the inclusive participation of vulnerable groups in political, social and economic spheres.

The HRPG supported the Federal Government in establishing measures for equal opportunities, redress violations and protect the rights of women and marginalized groups and those affected by discrimination. With the HRPG's support, a reporting template for a GBV mechanism in Puntland State was developed and adopted to

increase monitoring and assessments and enable GBV responses and interventions at the field level. In Mogadishu, the HRPG engaged with officials from the Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Development on commitments made by the Government, in June 2019, to incorporate the workplan for the 2013 Joint Communiqué on the Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence into the Somalia National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Somali Women's Charter and Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2021-2025. On 7 June, in Jubaland State, the HRPG held a consultation on the Jubaland Sexual Offences Bill (JSOB), which aims to prohibit all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, with a focus on prevention, protection, care, treatment, support and reparation mechanisms for survivors of sexual violence. The consultation was attended by 10 participants, including two women, from various government agencies. Participants agreed to undertake advocacy with relevant entities on the enactment of the JSOB.

Three quarterly meetings were convened of the Working Group on Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA). The meetings reviewed trends and patterns, which highlighted a spike in GBV/CRSV cases among women and girls who were displaced by drought. The need to mainstream GBV/CRSV into the humanitarian response was emphasized and concrete actions and advocacy messages were defined. Additionally, the HRPG published three quarterly CRSV trend reports that highlight the trends and patterns of conflict-related violence, progress on accountability for CRSV and actions taken by the Government to address violations. The reports also contain recommendations for the

Government regarding the need to have a legislative and institutional framework in place.

ND3 – The capacities of formal justice institutions to address cases of sexual violence are enhanced and the percentage of cases of sexual violence that are addressed increases.

5 9 10 

Through technical support, the HRPG contributed to the improved compliance of selected institutions/programmes with international human rights norms and standards.

Following the 2021 establishment of the National Disability Agency (NDA) in Mogadishu, the HRPG helped to conduct the first disability needs assessment survey in various parts of Somalia. The outcome will provide greater clarity on the overall situation of persons with disabilities and support the mainstreaming of disability into development in order to enhance inclusivity and accessibility.

On 7 August, in Puntland State, the HRPG met with representatives of IDPs in north Galkayo. Participants discussed human rights issues and challenges faced by IDPs, raised concerns about police operations in IDP camps and the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of IDPs during security operations, without due process. They urged the Government of Puntland State to reinforce the zero tolerance policy and strengthen the implementation of the 2016 Sexual Offences Law to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

Participation

P5 – Civil society networks are established or strengthened. Civil society networks effectively monitor, report on and advocate for human rights.



The HRPG contributed to the use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRPG strengthened the capacities of CSOs and HRDs to monitor, report on and advocate for human rights. In February, in Jubaland, the HRPG met with eight CSO representatives, two of whom were women, and discussed the electoral process, such as the role of clan elders in selecting representatives, the representation of youth and women in the Parliament and other human rights issues. They also agreed to collaborate on outreach activities related to human rights and elections. In April, in HirShabelle, the HRPG met with four CSO representatives, including one woman, a journalist and a person with disabilities. Participants shared their concerns and the challenges faced by journalists and women candidates during the electoral process, such as limited space for civil society and persons with disabilities and a lack of access of the independent media to the polling stations during the electoral process for the House of the People. Concerns were also raised regarding the intimidation of women candidates and the absence of support from their clans. The meeting concluded with an agreement to continue monitoring, information-sharing and holding coordination meetings on a regular basis.



Mechanisms

M1 – Increased engagement of the Government with the international human rights mechanisms, including by interacting with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia and fulfilling its reporting obligations to the human rights treaty bodies.

16 17

OHCHR supported the increased engagement of the Government and civil society with the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRPG raised awareness about basic human rights with the general public through the commemoration of various human rights days. In June, in Mogadishu, the HRPG coordinated with the African Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) to commemorate the International Day of the African Child (16 June) under the theme “Eliminating harmful practices affecting children: Progress on policy and practice since 2013.” A training was organized with 14 officers, including nine women, from the Somali Police Force (SPF) and 20 members, including 16 women, of the ATMIS Police Unit and a Formed Police Unit. The sessions raised the awareness of participants about harmful practices affecting children in Somalia and strengthened their capacities to mentor and advise national police on investigating and responding to sexual violence crimes affecting children.

In Mogadishu, the HRPG commemorated the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (19 June), which included the participation of civil society representatives, UN agencies, government officials and 30 survivors of CRSV. Survivors who undertook a three-month specialized

vocational training received business training certificates. They stressed the importance of business training to support their economic empowerment and combat stigma. Representatives from the Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Development, the AGO and the UN highlighted the importance of fighting impunity for CRSV perpetrators and advocacy for the enactment of laws to protect women and children from CRSV.

From 12 to 13 September, in Mogadishu, the HRPG collaborated with Maternal Mercy Development (a local partner), to conduct a two-day workshop on the implementation of UPR recommendations, with an emphasis on the establishment of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (INHRC). The workshop was attended by 20 participants, including eight women, from various entities. Participants agreed to conduct a joint advocacy campaign with relevant authorities to expedite the establishment of the Commission.

In September, in Mogadishu, the HRPG provided technical support to the Somali Human Rights Association (SOHRA), a minority-led CSO, to gather information and draft inputs for CAT in anticipation of its consideration of Somalia’s initial report. In October, SOHRA submitted its alternative report to the Committee.



Peace and Security

PS1 – The policies, regulations and mechanisms of national and regional security forces for the protection of civilians and the mitigation of civilian casualties are formulated, revised and strengthened, in accordance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law standards.

5 16

The HRPG contributes to the establishment/functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that are in conformity with international human rights standards.

The HRPG continued to build the capacities of the Somali National Army (SNA) and the SPF to investigate and respond to alleged human rights violations. In February and March, the HRPG facilitated sessions on the HRDDP during four virtual induction trainings for 118 elements of the United Nations Guard Unit, including 24 women. The sessions aimed to raise awareness about the HRDDP and compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian rights law. From 6 to 7 June, in Puntland, the HRPG delivered human rights training sessions for 300 officers of the Puntland Police Force, including 13 women. The training covered several human rights issues, such as international human rights law, arrest and detention, standards on the treatment of prisoners and the prevention of SGBV and CRSV.

In cooperation with the UN Support Office in Somalia, the HRPG oversaw the transfer of 20 boys, aged 10 to 12 years of age, associated with Somali Security Forces and Al-Shabaab from the Berdale District in South West State to Mogadishu. Upon their arrival, UNICEF

facilitated their entry into reintegration programmes.

From 13 to 14 September, in Mogadishu, the HRPG collaborated with UNICEF to conduct a two-day workshop to assess the reintegration programme of children formerly associated with Al-Shabaab. The workshop was attended by 21 participants, including five women, representing the SNA, relevant federal ministries and the Puntland Ministries of Justice and of Women and Human Rights Development. Participants agreed to include children in decision-making processes related to reintegration programmes.

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

16

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

The HRPG coordinated the development of risk assessments for UNMAS on weapons ammunition management and United Nations support to the National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA). In July, the HRPG communicated NISA's mitigation measures to the Federal Government and the implementation of the measures was initiated. Moreover, the HRPG provided support to the drafting of risk assessments for the Somali Custodial Corps and an addendum to the General Preliminary Risk Assessment for the SPF on the Darwish.

The HRPG developed a methodological tool and drafted three Guidance Notes

to strengthen the HRDDP Task Force information-sharing system. The methodological tool documents concrete actions undertaken by entities that provide support and links the actions to mitigation measures. The Guidance Notes focus on training as a mitigation measure, background checks and monitoring the HRDDP. Further, the HRPG developed a two-day training package to support its training activities for the SNA. The package consists of case studies and facilitator notes on basic concepts of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In June and December, the HRPG supported the revision of the AU-UN predeployment training manual, including case studies, to ensure the overall approach is aligned with the African Union Compliance and Accountability Framework.

From 5 to 8 September, the HRPG participated in technical discussions between ATMIS, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) and the Federal Government on the development of benchmarks for the transition of ATMIS, in accordance with paragraph 50 of Security Council resolution 2628 (2022). As a result of UNSOM's advocacy at the technical and political level, the outcome document includes indicators on compliance with international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the HRDDP.

On 8 September and 6 October, in Mogadishu, the HRPG organized a training for 39 officers of the SPF (15 women, 24 men) as part of HRDDP measures under the UNMAS mobile vehicle checkpoint project. From 17 to 21 October, the HRPG cooperated with UNSOS and ATMIS to deliver a predeployment training in Uganda for Ugandan forces being deployed to ATMIS. The training focused

on ATMIS internal rules and directives, international human rights law and international humanitarian law obligations, the protection of civilians and HRDDP mitigation measures.

Development

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and 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.

The HRPG contributed to the integration of relevant human rights norms, standards and principles and recommendations into the Somalia National Development Plan and the United Nations Strategic Framework for Somalia.

On 25 May, in Jubaland, the HRPG met with representatives of the UNCT and updated its strategies for mainstreaming human rights into humanitarian, development and protection interventions. The attendees agreed to strengthen inter-agency coordination and information-sharing for joint advocacy and engagement with authorities in order to increase Jubaland's promotion of human rights and responsiveness to human rights issues.

On 23 June, in Galmudug, the HRPG collaborated with the Towfiq Umbrella Organization (a local partner), to deliver a two-day training on ESCRs. The training was attended by 20 representatives (eight women, 12 men) from civil society and media outlets. The training focused on the monitoring of human rights violations of the ESCRs of women,

persons with disabilities and marginalized communities.

From 30 to 31 October, in HirShabelle, the HRPG cooperated with the Shabelle Education Umbrella (a local partner), to deliver a two-day training for 40 CSO representatives (15 women, 25 men). The training aimed to promote the ESCRs of marginalized groups, including IDPs and persons with disabilities.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe
Year established	1998
Field office(s)	Pretoria
Staff as of 31 December 2022	12

Total income	US\$1,048,176
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,054,000
XB expenditure	US\$897,209
Personnel	Non-personnel PSC ⁴
76%	13% 11%
\$678,719	\$113,186 \$105,304
RB expenditure	US\$146,048
Personnel	
100%	
\$146,048	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – At least three countries adopt legal and policy measures, in conformity with international human rights standards, that prevent discrimination against women, migrants, persons with albinism and persons with disabilities.



UN Human Rights continued to work towards advancing the protection of women from GBV and population groups that experience discrimination, such as

persons with disabilities and migrants in the region.

In South Africa, OHCHR strengthened its collaboration with the South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) to address gender stereotypes and advocate for judicial activism to tackle GBV and SRHR. To this end, OHCHR facilitated a training on judicial stereotyping in GBV and SRHR cases and provided technical assistance for the development of training materials during SAJEI's Human Rights Week, in December.

In 2022, the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) project on the domestication of CRPD through building the capacity of NHRIs and CSOs to monitor and support its implementation was brought to a close. To complement efforts undertaken in 2021, additional training was organized, in April, with the South African Disability Alliance (SADA) for 35 participants, including 14 women, persons with disabilities and representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs). The training focused on the preparation of alternative reports to CRPD. The Committee will review South Africa's list of issues prior to reporting (LoIPR) at its September 2023 session.

OHCHR supported South Africa's implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances. The NAP is being facilitated through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Migration Project, which is a joint project led by IOM, in partnership with OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP, UNHCR and the Government. The NAP aims to facilitate social cohesion in light of widespread xenophobia, hate speech and racism in the past few years. OHCHR worked closely with the South Africa Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) to strengthen the implementation of the NAP. A road map was adopted that includes OHCHR as the Secretariat of the NAP governance structure and foresees its contribution to the establishment of a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) through a mapping of existing early warning systems that respond to racist and xenophobic incidents.

OHCHR was also invited to serve as a member of the DoJ&CD's Rapid

Response Task Team (RRTT) to support efforts to develop an early warning and RRM, with the capacity to respond to incidents of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance. Work advanced in the tracking of anti-migrant sentiment on social media platforms and early warnings helped to identify trends and shifts in discourse about migration. Six reports were produced on the dynamics of xenophobic sentiment that is expressed online in **South Africa**. This informed OHCHR's engagement with the RRTT. OHCHR piloted two training workshops on hope-based narratives in the context of migration, which are linked to the [OHCHR Migration Narrative Change Toolkit](#). The workshops were attended by 46 media and communications personnel from CSOs. The workshops enabled participants to produce positive stories of migration, including alternative narratives in the context of anti-migrant sentiment. Finally, OHCHR continued to work with UNHCR, including on a WhatsApp help service aimed at assisting migrants and forcibly displaced persons to access signposting services, such as legal and psychosocial services.

Peace and Security

PS5 – In at least four countries, UNCTs integrate human rights into their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.



OHCHR supported the incorporation of an HRBA into programmes of UN entities.

The ERT's main task is to contribute to prevention through regular, accessible and accurate human rights risk analyses. Beginning in May, the ERT prepared

seven regional monthly early warning snapshots that were shared with various stakeholders (OHCHR, SHRAs and the UNCT) that contained analyses of concerning developments in the subregion. The objective of the snapshots was to keep UN stakeholders apprised of major risks and to support preventive initiatives of the UN and OHCHR. The ERT also contributed assessments to three Regional Monthly Reviews (RMRs) on **Angola, Eswatini and Zimbabwe**, which are the primary formalized UN processes in place to assess risk and take preventive actions at the country level. Moreover, it made 10 submissions to the UNOCC confidential daily report that were shared with senior management to provide alerts about developments in the subregion.

To strengthen the capacities of UNCTs in relation to joint early warning and preventive engagement, the ERT prepared or updated detailed country risk assessments for five countries (**Angola, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho and Zimbabwe**). It also prepared seven situation reports in the context of the general elections in Angola, held in August, and two for the upcoming 2023 elections in Zimbabwe. Further, it developed a pilot project of mapping and analysis of actors in Eswatini to inform the UNCT's prevention strategy in the context of the deteriorating situation.

Finally, as part of its work to strengthen the application of an HRBA to humanitarian action and following the devastating floods that claimed the lives of over 450 people and destroyed more than 1,000 houses in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) province, **South Africa**, the ERT participated in the UNCT joint needs assessment mission, in April, in cooperation with other UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNODC). Based on that assessment, the UNCT in South Africa provided a

support package to provincial authorities. This included activities to enhance the prevention of and response to SEA among persons affected by the floods, in particular within shelters, and to monitor, document and address incidents of human rights violations and GBV in communities affected by the floods. In addition, the ERT cooperated with the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) to ensure an HRBA was applied in the humanitarian response of the KZN authorities. Outstanding issues of concern were subsequently raised by the SAHRC with the Premier of the KZN province regarding protection, the situation of the most vulnerable groups and individuals, such as persons with disabilities and migrants, informal urban dwellers and older persons.



Mechanisms

M1 – Three countries strengthen or legally establish NMRFs.

16 17

OHCHR strengthened reporting to the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office provided technical support and guidance to the Government of **Zambia** through the Ministry of Justice to strengthen Zambia's NMRF. The Cabinet adopted the ToRs to set up an Interministerial Committee in **Zambia** that will serve as the NMRF.

Similarly, OHCHR and the RCO advocated with the Government of **Comoros** regarding the approval of a presidential decree that created an Interministerial Committee to serve as the NMRF. From 29 August to 1 September, OHCHR enhanced the Committee's capacities through a training on State Party reporting

to the human rights treaty bodies, which was delivered in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs, Public Administration and Human Rights. The training was attended by 33 participants, including six women, and support will be provided to facilitate the ratification of pending treaties, the submission of pending reports and the implementation of recommendations.

From 7 to 9 November, OHCHR organized a subregional workshop on the information management capabilities of NMRFs. At the same time, it enhanced the capacities of national authorities and members of NMRFs in Southern Africa to use the NRTD and coordinate the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The workshop was attended by 28 government officials (16 women), who were active members of NMRFs/similar structures from Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The workshop provided a platform for officials in the subregion to share their experiences on the practices of their respective NMRFs. The NRTD was provided to States in the subregion and OHCHR will continue to provide technical support on its use, while recalling the NRTD roll-out milestones. These milestones include the ongoing strengthening of NMRFs, a well-resourced and functional Secretariat and the preparation of overdue reports to the international human rights mechanisms. The roll-out of the road map will also consider the SOPs and institutional roles and responsibilities related to action planning, implementation tracking and reporting.



Accountability

A2 – NHRIs and other national protection systems are established and increasingly operate in accordance with international human rights standards.

10 16



OHCHR contributed to the establishment of national protection systems, in conformity with international standards.

OHCHR participated in the institutional review of **South Africa's** NPM, co-organized by the SAHRC and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT). The session reviewed a draft ToR and a business model for costing and establishing the NPM, in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT). The review also focused on developing a new governance and operational framework for the NPM that will support the progressive implementation of OPCAT.

With regard to setting up NHRIs, OHCHR supported the operationalization and compliance of NHRIs with the Paris Principles. In **Botswana**, the long-awaited Ombudsman Act, which expands the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsman into an independent NHRI with a wider human rights remit, was adopted by the Parliament. A high-level panel is considering the Ombudsman's new structure. Once approved, a commencement date will be published. It is anticipated that the NHRI will be operational by April 2023. OHCHR provided inputs to the Act before it was tabled for deliberation in the Parliament, in 2021, although the comments were not taken

on board by the Government. There is general acknowledgement that the Act falls short of the requirements of the Paris Principles, however, it offers an opportunity for OHCHR to provide technical support to build the capacity of the new Commission when it becomes operational. The Ombudsman acknowledged that the new Act is problematic, but the accreditation process will nevertheless be pursued, even if it means acquiring a lower accreditation grade.

In **Lesotho**, the Parliament adopted a Constitutional Amendment Bill (a so-called Omnibus Bill), which provided for the establishment and constitutional entrenchment of a Human Rights Commission. It is hoped that the Parliament will adopt a draft Human Rights Commission Bill on its operationalization, which will enable OHCHR to provide technical support on the appointment of commissioners and the creation of a Secretariat. OHCHR provided inputs and technical guidance to the draft when it was being discussed in June 2020.



Participation

P6 – CSOs are able to participate in public affairs and advocate for democratic space.



OHCHR's capacity-building support to regional networks, national CSOs and HRDs contributed to enhancing their participation in public processes and addressing protection gaps.

In November, OHCHR supported the organization of the annual Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders Summit in Lusaka, Zambia. The theme of the Summit was “A journey to sustainability: Protecting civic space through

strengthening institutions for and networks of environmental and human rights defenders in Southern Africa.” More than 200 HRDs from across Southern Africa attended. OHCHR used the opportunity to launch an advocacy brief on Protecting Human Rights and Civic Space Online in Southern Africa. The brief was produced in response to increasing risks and threats faced by HRDs, CSOs and journalists in the online civic space as a result of repressive legislation adopted by States to regulate online content and activity. It provides an overview of the online civic space landscape and the challenges faced with respect to content regulation and censorship, surveillance, Internet connectivity and disruptions and makes recommendations on how civil society, States and private entities can address associated risks in accordance with international human rights law. OHCHR will use the brief in its work to encourage the revision of laws, policies and practices in the region.

During the Summit, the Southern Africa Women Human Rights Defenders Network (SAHRDN) was formally launched on the International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders (29 November). This is an initiative that OHCHR has supported since 2019. The Network will work to ensure that gender-specific responses are strengthened as most mechanisms in the region are not exclusively designed for WHRDs. It also recognizes that specific responses are needed to address the particular risks and forms of violence that WHRDs face in conducting their work.

Furthermore, OHCHR supported the SAHRDN to highlight the plight of land and housing community activists from the community-based movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo, including by

engaging with and submitting complaints to the various international human rights mechanisms. Abahlali baseMjondolo delivered a statement, under the auspices of CIVICUS, at the fifty-first session of the Human Rights Council. Their intervention called for the consideration of access to land and decent housing during South Africa's fourth UPR cycle and highlighted that since 2009, 24 members of the association have been killed, with only two convictions to date. Four of its members were killed in 2022.



Development

D7 – All UNDAF roll-out countries adopt an HRBA to programming and link the SDGs to international human rights standards.



OHCHR continued to support the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the implementation of the SDGs and other development efforts.

OHCHR successfully integrated human rights and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms in the CCAs of **Angola, Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa**. To complement the CCA process adopted in **Namibia**, OHCHR undertook an LNOB assessment of “who” is being left behind in Namibia. The analyses and assessment considered five intersecting factors that constitute central driving forces of exclusionary processes, namely: discrimination; geography; vulnerability to shocks; governance; and socio-economic status. Those at risk of being left behind are: women; children; ethnic and linguistic minorities; persons with disabilities; persons living with HIV; older persons;

drug users; stateless persons; refugees and asylum-seekers; migrants; persons deprived of their liberty; and youth. Those who reside in rural areas of the country are at risk of being the furthest behind. They are more vulnerable to shocks and face the most extreme forms of deprivation, disadvantage or discrimination.

OHCHR also undertook a Surge Initiative seeding-change project on leveraging socio-economic data to Leave No One Behind in **Mauritius, Namibia and South Africa**. The project utilizes the CESCR's concluding observations as an entry point to: identify socio-economic disaggregated data; identify socio-economic data gaps; engage with National Statistical Offices on a preliminary basis; and develop an analysis of existing data, which proposes an intersectional and human rights-based approach to the use of socio-economic data that fulfils the CESCR's recommendations.

OHCHR supported the integration of an HRBA into social protection in **South Africa** by convening a roundtable meeting, on 21 July, on "A human rights-based approach to basic income support in South Africa." Presenters included the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights. The roundtable was organized as part of the Joint SDG Fund's joint programme on social protection to support the implementation of relevant international human rights standards and labour norms by exploring: 1) a basic income grant in South Africa, including the issue of targeting versus universality; and 2) the development of a composite index on the cost of living in South Africa that will ensure an adequate standard of living. After the roundtable, it was agreed that the National Treasury would work with OHCHR to address the social protection gap faced by those 18 to 59 years of

age, including by providing other means of social protection. OHCHR finalized the human rights checklist for social protection policymaking and the project was brought to a close during the year.

Equipping young people to know, claim and defend their rights

The OHCHR Regional Office for Southern Africa completed its Human Rights Month activities in South Africa, on 23 March, with a visit to the Ntethelelo Foundation. The Office began its partnership with the Foundation in 2019, to support community-based engagement on human rights and build the awareness of young people about the transformative potential of human rights.

At the Foundation's centre, located in Setswetla informal settlement in Alexandra, founder, executive director and renowned theatre practitioner, Thokozani Ndaba, uses drama, interactive techniques and art methodologies to encourage dialogue among adolescents and inspire social change, including by challenging gender inequality and poverty, combating violence against women and girls and empowering other youth. The Foundation's curriculum is based on SRHR, however, mathematics, English

and counselling are also available. The Foundation works closely with the wider community and encourages parents to play an active role in their children's lives and well-being.

Originally only open to girls, the programme began to welcome boys in February 2021, who have taken away important lessons. "We learned how to respect women. We learned about dismantling toxic masculinity," says 14-year-old Tshepang.

During an event to mark Human Rights Day (10 December), discussions focused on reducing inequalities and the principle of Leaving No One Behind, what human rights means to each participant and how the programmes at Ntethelelo have impacted their lives.

Several young people pointed out that while everyone has human rights, these rights are often violated in their community. They noted that many people are

denied access to education, experience rampant gender-based violence and live in informal structures that are destroyed during hazardous weather.

After the discussions, short plays were performed that began with a portrayal of human rights violations against youth, followed by alternative scenarios wherein the rights of young people were respected and protected. In one of the plays, young people looking for sexual and reproductive health services were denied condoms by health care workers due to their age. "The plays are about how we are treated because of where we come from. It makes me feel sad that teenage pregnancy is high because of the treatment they give us and teenagers become mothers," said 16-year-old Susan.

Abigail Noko, OHCHR Regional Representative, encouraged the young people to continue standing up for their rights, including in the midst of the challenges they face, emphasizing that the right to education is their ticket to improving their lives. She encouraged them to focus on their studies so that they can enjoy a brighter future. "We are all born free and equal. No matter where we come from, what we look like, whether we are rich or poor. Know your human rights in order to claim them and defend them."

The events in Setswetla served as a reminder of the importance of engaging local communities in the human rights movement and recognizing their role in promoting fundamental freedoms and rights.



Young people participate in human rights' month activities at Ntethelelo Foundation in Johannesburg, South Africa. © Eunice Namugwe/OHCHR

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

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
10.91 million	659,000 km ²	0.385 (rank: 191/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement	Peace Mission		
Year established	2011		
Field office(s)	Headquarters in Juba and field offices across the country (Aweil, Bentiu, Bor, Kuajok, Malakal, PiBOR, Rumbek, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei)		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2021 (extended to 2022)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	92		

XB requirements 2022

US\$165,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

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

16

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

South Sudan's continued imposition of the death penalty remained a serious concern. The Human Rights Division (HRD) of UNMISS engaged with relevant stakeholders on the establishment of a de facto moratorium on the death penalty. It also

offered technical, logistical and financial assistance to CSOs and legal aid providers to build their capacities to protect the rights of death row inmates through legal aid, increased legal awareness, training of justice chain actors and support for reconciliation efforts as alternatives to the imposition of death sentences.

OHCHR helped to strengthen the coordination capacities of rule of law actors at the subnational level to identify and reduce prolonged and arbitrary detention. The HRD delivered training on records management for 50 officials from the South Sudan National Prison Service (SSNPS), including nine women in Aweil and Kuajok. The HRD also printed and distributed key documents,

such as admission and release registers and prisoner history sheets, to prisons in the states of Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Upper Nile, Unity and Central Equatoria. It will distribute these documents to the remaining states in 2023. The trainings included sessions on the rights of detainees and empowered prison officers to apply human rights standards when dealing with inmates. The HRD also facilitated sessions on the linkages between the traditional and statutory justice systems for traditional chiefs and leaders from 13 counties in the city of Malakal, in Upper Nile, and on the prolonged detention of suspects, speedy investigation processes and the referral of cases to the courts in Aweil City, Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

A3 – Efforts to monitor, investigate, verify and report abuse and violence against women, including CRSV, are strengthened. Formal justice institutions enhance their capacities to address cases of sexual violence and the proportion of cases they address increases.

5 10 16 

Through reporting and advocacy, the HRD contributed to the functioning of accountability and protection mechanisms.

The HRD documented approximately 200 incidents of CRSV during outbreaks of violence in the states of Unity, Warrap and Upper Nile. Armed groups and community-based militia were responsible for the majority of documented cases.

The UNMISS Women's Protection Advisory Unit (WPAU) collaborated with the Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) of the Action Plan for the Armed Forces on addressing conflict-related

sexual violence in South Sudan (Joint Action Plan), which was developed with the HRD's support. In June, the WPAU facilitated a meeting between the Minister of Defence and the JIC on progress achieved in the implementation of the Joint Action Plan (Benchmark 5). The outcome of the meeting was incorporated into the Government's report to the Security Council. The WPAU also supported the JIC in conducting five visits to military training centres to deliver messages to graduating defence forces on zero tolerance for CRSV. The JIC carried out outreach activities for training centres and radio talk shows to mark the first anniversary of the launch of the Joint Action Plan and to discuss key achievements and future plans.

UNMISS conducted a series of activities at the national and state level to raise awareness and engage with stakeholders on the prevention of and response to CRSV in commemoration of the International Day on Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (19 June). From 23 to 24 June, UNMISS facilitated a workshop, in Juba, for CSOs, lawyers and other stakeholders on the domestication of model legislative provisions on CRSV. An outcome statement from the workshop was submitted to the Minister of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, requesting support from relevant ministries on the inclusion of the model legislative provisions on CRSV in South Sudan's Criminal and Civil Justice Framework.



Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



Through technical support, advocacy and capacity-building activities, the HRD contributed to the increased compliance of security forces with international human rights norms, standards and principles and the ability of citizens to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association.

The exercise of freedom of opinion and expression and effective civic participation remains challenging. The HRD documented 94 incidents of media outlet closures, killings, injuries, abductions, harassment, threats, arbitrary arrests and the detention of journalists, activists and individuals expressing views that were critical of the Government.

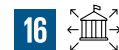
The HRD engaged with the Government, including the Ministry of Information, Communication, Technology and Postal Services and the Media Authority, to advocate for accountability for human rights violations and abuses committed against human rights defenders, journalists and the media.

The HRD also engaged with CSOs, the South Sudan Human Rights Commission (SSHRC), human rights defenders and media practitioners and provided technical support to initiatives to promote civic space and participation. Further, the capacities of civil society actors were strengthened through training on human rights issues for the South Sudan Human Rights Defenders Network and during

sensitization workshops for the Union of Journalists of South Sudan (UNJOSS) on international human rights standards and principles, including relevant legal frameworks that guarantee freedom of the press. A total of 220 media practitioners, 65 of whom were women, attended the workshops from the states of Aweil, Unity, Upper Nile, Eastern Equatoria and Western Equatoria. A town hall meeting was held with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for South Sudan and 75 civil society representatives, including 26 women, from all 10 states. The meeting provided an interactive platform for participants to share their concerns over shrinking civic space, widespread censorship and harassment. The SRSG reiterated the commitment of UNMISS to support the implementation of individual benchmarks of the Revitalized Peace Agreement for South Sudan and the building of civil and political space for engagement.

In consultation with other mission components, the HRD drafted the UNMISS Strategy and General Guidelines on Mission-wide Interventions for the Protection of Civic Space and Non-State Actors at Risk, which was adopted, in April, and is being implemented to better coordinate, protect and expand civic space.

P2 – Institutional, judicial and civil society mechanisms that protect human rights defenders are strengthened at all levels and operate in compliance with international standards.



Through technical support and capacity-building activities, the HRD contributed to strengthening protection

mechanisms that conform to international human rights norms and standards.

The HRD took steps to sensitize the public through the radio talk show, *Know your rights*, on UN Radio Miraya. A total of 31 segments were aired that were facilitated by panels of experts composed of CSOs and government partners and covered various topics, including the protection of victims and survivors of human rights violations, women's empowerment, prolonged detention, the equal and effective participation of women in decision-making processes, equal access to education for persons living with disabilities and the role of the Government and CSOs in the implementation of transitional justice initiatives. The goal of the segments was to increase the community's awareness about human rights issues and empower citizens to claim their rights, denounce violations and share early warning alerts with UNMISS to prevent human rights violations.

P5 – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space takes place, including threats to it.

The HRD contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of the NHRI in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

The HRD provided technical support to the SSHRC on human rights documentation. In response to reported allegations of human rights violations, including extrajudicial executions and enforced disappearance in the states of Warrap and Lakes, the HRD offered reporting and logistical support, in January, to enable the SSHRC to conduct independent human rights monitoring and investigations. The SSHRC produced investigation reports that were used to advocate at the

national level and with respective state and local authorities to address human rights concerns and the protection of civilians. In Upper Nile, the SSHRC intervened in Renk, where local youths were held in prolonged detention following their attacks on humanitarian actors.



Peace and Security

PS1 – The Government and opposition parties adopt mechanisms and initiatives that increase the protection of civilians in the context of conflict, in compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

5 16

Through capacity-building initiatives, OHCHR strengthened selected State institutions/programmes in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR provided training for 240 members of the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF), including 40 women, on the prevention of SGBV/CRSV. In commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict (19 June), OHCHR conducted a retreat, in Juba, on 17 June, to discuss the establishment and modalities of a specialized team on CRSV within the SSPDF Military Justice Directorate. On 21 June, a specialized team was established, composed of three women and three men, which is responsible for investigating and prosecuting CRSV cases.

OHCHR also delivered capacity-building support to 1,349 officers (including 264 women) from the SSPDF and the SSNPS, on international human rights law and international humanitarian law; the South Sudan Bill of Rights and the Transitional

Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan; national obligations to promote and protect human rights; challenges to the administration of justice; linkages between traditional and statutory justice; reporting of crimes and human rights violations; the rights of suspects during arrest, search, investigation and detention; arbitrary arrest and prolonged detention; the rights of prisoners; the protection of victims; GBV and CRSV; women's rights and participation in decision-making.

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

16

Through advocacy, technical and capacity-building support, the HRD contributed to strengthening oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms, in conformity with international human rights standards.

Outreach and capacity-building initiatives were conducted to foster national ownership of the CRSV agenda and the application of a survivor-centred approach to activities on preventing and responding to CRSV. These included: a training for senior officers of the SSNPS on the implementation of the 2019 action plan to address CRSV; a consultative dialogue on access to health for survivors of CRSV that was delivered to representatives of ministries, CSOs, academia, lawyers and social workers; and a workshop to develop survivor-centred monitoring, investigation and reporting skills for members of

the Joint Consultation Forum on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, drawn from national NGOs and CSOs.

With regard to transitional justice, the HRD supported public consultations on the establishment of the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) and the implementation of Chapter V of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). Chapter V calls for the establishment of the CTRH, a Hybrid Court for South Sudan and a Compensation and Reparation Authority to address the impacts of the protracted conflict and massive violations hindering progress towards reconciliation and nationhood. The HRD provided technical assistance and capacity-building support to the Transitional Justice Working Group (TJWG) to enable it to streamline its activities and identify priorities for advocacy and engagement on Chapter V. In March, the HRD assisted the TJWG to review its Transitional Justice Strategic Plan. Following the review, the 2023-2026 plan was adopted. Further, the HRD assisted the TJWG to conduct the Transitional Justice Monthly Forum, in Juba, under the theme “To accelerate the implementation of the transitional justice mechanism for a peaceful South Sudan.”

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflicts.



The HRD supported the creation and functioning of a human rights early warning and response system, issued regular reports to inform UN prevention strategies and built the capacities of actors to address and follow up on documented human rights violations.

Using its incidents tracking system, the HRD generated reports on trends in casualties on a weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual basis. The HRD also developed hotspot maps, identifying major areas where conflict-related violations took place. It provided regular contextual updates and analyses to humanitarian partners, including UN agencies and donors, as well as relevant components of early warning information that could be used to trigger actions by UNMISS and partners for the protection of civilians.

The HRD carried out specific investigations on conflict-related violations and abuses in major hotspots, such as the states of Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Warrap, Lakes, Unity, Jonglei and Upper Nile. On 1 March, the HRD issued a public report on the Tambura crisis, which served as an important decision-making tool during deliberations for the renewal of the UNMISS mandate in 2022. On 6 September, the HRD published a comprehensive investigation report entitled *Attacks against civilians in southern Unity State, South Sudan*. The HRD published four quarterly casualty briefs.

PS6 – UNMISS and UN agencies apply the standards set out in the HRDDP when they provide support to national security forces, the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army-in-Opposition (SPLM/A-IO), the police and other security forces.

16

OHCHR led the HRDDP Task Force and supported the integration of international human rights norms, standards and principles into the work of the Peace Mission.

Since the adoption of the SOP on the HRDDP in June 2021, 11 sensitization and capacity-building activities were conducted for 403 individuals, 105 of whom were women. Participants included government officials, security sector actors, UNMISS components and field offices and the public to ensure effective compliance with the HRDDP.

In 2022, an annual report was produced, focusing on the first year of implementation of the SOP on the HRDDP. The report highlights that the HRDDP Taskforce approved 61 HRDDP risk assessments, including 636 accompanying mitigation measures, 38 per cent of which related to advocacy, followed by monitoring, reporting, training, corrective measures, technical assistance and screening of tailored support.

To enhance monitoring and reporting on the implementation of mitigation measures, two digital platforms were developed, with the support of HRD information management colleagues. Through compiled Kobo Toolbox forms, sponsoring and responsible entities can report on the status of implementation of the UN support and the accompanying mitigation measures outlined in the HRDDP risk assessments. The Power BI platform enables users to track the

real-time progress of the implementation of reports from sponsoring and responsible entities.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

The HRD supported national stakeholders in the implementation of UPR recommendations through technical and capacity-building support.

The HRD strengthened the capacities of CSOs to contribute to the UPR process and address rule of law issues through technical support to 11 rule of law and transitional justice forums at the state level. The forums included the participation of CSOs and featured discussions on accountability and the administration of justice. Further, the Office facilitated a stakeholder reflection on the third UPR cycle. The event brought together a coalition of CSOs and an interministerial committee, resulting in the collection of recommendations, such as: the need to develop tools to monitor the implementation of the UPR recommendations; the need to raise awareness about the UPR recommendations; and the complementary roles of various stakeholders that necessitate their engagement, including the SSHRC, in the UPR process. The recommendations were presented to the Government and are under consideration by the Council of Ministers.

SUDAN

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
46.87 million	-	0.508 (rank: 172/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Ad Damazin, El Fasher, Kadugli and Khartoum	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2021 (extended to 2022)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		39	

Total income	US\$5,381,167
XB requirements 2022	US\$10,207,000
XB expenditure	US\$4,643,928
Personnel	Non-personnel PSC ⁴
83%	6% 11%
\$3,838,789	\$270,882 \$534,257
RB expenditure	US\$1,611,971
Personnel	Non-personnel
85%	15%
\$1,377,001	\$234,970

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Development**

D7 – National stakeholders apply a human rights-based approach to the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SDGs and are aware of their obligations regarding ESCRs.



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

Following the coup, technical cooperation was suspended, limiting engagement with the Ministry of Social Development. Nevertheless, OHCHR continued to advocate for a comprehensive social protection system that defines protection floors to ensure everyone is able to enjoy minimum essential levels of ESCRs, particularly disadvantaged groups. With the support of the Surge Initiative, and in collaboration with the Commission for Social Security, Solidarity and Poverty Reduction and Kul Almehan' Multi-purpose Cooperative Association

(KAMPCA), OHCHR carried out an assessment of the socio-economic situation of women tea and food sellers in Khartoum. The objective of the assessment was to provide a basis for developing human rights policies and engaging in advocacy to address the economic and social needs of women informal workers, with a focus on their right to social protection and an adequate standard of living (food and housing). One of the recommendations highlights the importance of reforming and expanding social protection coverage to ensure their access to food and shelter in order to protect against poverty. In December, OHCHR conducted a validation workshop on the assessment and its findings and recommendations, which was attended by 39 participants, including 32 women, representing government ministries and departments, UN partners, CSOs and the women's association of food and tea sellers. The results of the assessment will contribute to the Office's advocacy strategies on ESCRs and related activities.

OHCHR held a two-day training workshop on monitoring ESCRs for 30 CSO members from each of Darfur's five states. The participants, including lawyers, WHRDs, representatives of CBOs and native administration members, were equipped with the knowledge and skills to investigate and verify violations of ESCRs. The training resulted in the formation of the Darfur Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Civil Society Network, which intends to monitor, advocate for and share experiences on ESCRs. The Network is co-chaired by the Darfur Bar Association and the Sudan Social Development Organization (SUDO).

D8 – National institutions, assisted by communities, systematically collect, disaggregate and use data relevant for promoting human rights when they monitor and implement the SDGs.



OHCHR strengthened the capacities of national stakeholders to adopt an HRBA to data collection and use while monitoring and implementing the SDGs.

OHCHR strengthened its partnership with the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) to integrate human rights into data collection and disaggregation. In September, OHCHR trained 36 officials, including 29 women, from various government ministries and departments, on human rights indicators and a human rights-based approach to data (HRBAD). Participants included CBS staff members, representatives of Sudan's NMRF, officials from the Ministries of Finance, Health, Water and Sanitation, Education and Federal Affairs and the Director General of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities. The training outlined the Government's obligations under human rights, including on ESCRs, and concluded with the development of an action plan for integrating human rights indicators and an HRBAD. Following the training, the CBS Director General committed to establishing a working group on human rights that will be chaired by the CBS and include all relevant government agencies, international partners and CSOs. The working group will work towards the adoption of a national framework for human rights indicators and an HRBAD. OHCHR will support the CBS and provide technical support in relation to this work.

In October, the CBS granted OHCHR membership in the Technical Committee of the Multidimensional Poverty Index Survey. OHCHR participated in the meetings of the Committee and offered technical support to advocate for the adoption of an HRBAD and the inclusion of ESCR indicators in the Survey. The Committee agreed to include a number of OHCHR-suggested indicators (i.e., education, standard of living and health). Most notably, the Committee unanimously agreed with OHCHR's suggestion to include the Washington Group Questions on Disability, allowing officials to estimate the number of persons with disabilities in Sudan, their overall poverty level and the extent to which they enjoy or are deprived of their rights to education, a standard of living and health. The latest available statistics on disability in Sudan were generated following the 2008 census. The Washington Group Questions will enable OHCHR, its partners and various stakeholders to develop and implement targeted projects and advocacy work to ensure the realization of the CRPD.

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.



OHCHR built the capacity of the Government and the Transitional Legislative Council to enhance the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The Joint Council, the provisional legislative body that was established pending the creation of the Transitional Legislative

Council, was dissolved after the October 2021 military coup. This halted all legal and institutional reforms that were initiated by the Transitional Government. OHCHR continued to engage with justice and law enforcement institutions to improve their compliance with Sudan's human rights obligations in relation to law enforcement and the administration of justice. For example, OHCHR cooperated with UNITAMS and UNDP to organize five-day workshops for the AGO on the responsibility of prosecutors to protect the right to peaceful assembly and other human rights, including the right to life during protests against the coup and the oversight role of prosecutors under Sudanese law, to ensure the conduct of law enforcement officials conforms to international norms and standards. OHCHR provided prosecutors with tailored practical tools to assess the use of force in crowd management and the extent to which it complies with international standards. The workshops were delivered in five locations that recorded the highest number of victims of unlawful killings and cases of excessive use of force during the protests (Khartoum, Port Sudan, Wad Madani, Nyala and Al Obeid). A total of 124 prosecutors, 25 of whom were women, attended the workshops. Discussions focused on ways to improve the protection of the right to peaceful assembly in law and in practice.

OHCHR maintained its collaborative engagement with the Ministry of Interior through advocacy and capacity-building support to increase human rights protection with regard to enforcement and prisons, particularly regarding the deprivation of liberty and the prevention of torture and ill-treatment. From 22 to 29 June, in the Blue Nile region, OHCHR trained 25 prison guards, including six women, and 25 police officers, including

one woman, on the application of an HRBA to detention and law enforcement. High-ranking federal officials attended the trainings and renewed their commitments to continue this cooperation.

Further, OHCHR enhanced the knowledge of lawyers and members of volunteer legal aid initiatives, in particular the Emergency Lawyers Group, on international human rights standards and increased their understanding of how those standards can be applied by judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials in their daily work with courts, prosecutions and security agencies. OHCHR conducted a series of trainings with the Steering Committee of the Sudan Bar Association in Khartoum on: monitoring, documentation and reporting on torture and other ill-treatment (March); trial monitoring (July); and the investigation of SGBV (October). The training was organized in response to patterns of torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary arrest and detention that were recorded after the coup and an increased number of reports of SGBV and the prosecution of political dissent in the context of anti-coup protests. A total of 86 lawyers, including 45 women, attended the training, thereby strengthening the network of human rights lawyers across the 18 states of Sudan, which serves as a reliable source of information on human rights violations.

OHCHR will scale up the capacity-building programme for prosecutors and prisons and law enforcement officials in 2023.

A3 – Judges assigned to GBV cases apply national legislation, in compliance with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to the justice system more effectively investigating and prosecuting gender-related crimes.

In Darfur, OHCHR organized a workshop in El Fasher, in June, to build the capacities of victims of past human rights violations and abuses in Darfur and of CSOs working on SGBV. The workshop focused on facilitating the integration of gender into transitional justice mechanisms in the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA) and their participation in the shaping and monitoring of a possible transitional justice process. A series of recommendations were outlined with regard to a victim-centred, gender-sensitive transitional justice process in Darfur and Sudan and the creation of an informal network of actors that is committed to this goal.

In October, OHCHR collaborated with UNITAMS, the Sudan Bar Association and UNFPA to strengthen the capacities of 23 women lawyers to investigate cases of sexual violence. The workshop focused on the obstacles faced by victims of SGBV and lawyers in pursuing accountability for SGBV cases and the absence of measures to protect victims. The participants formulated recommendations on ways to address gaps in law and in practice relating to the investigation of cases of rape and other forms of sexual violence and to ensure a victim-centred investigation process. The workshop also led to the creation of a network of women lawyers that is committed to securing justice for SGBV victims.

A4 – Rights holders increasingly participate in public processes and have access to information for accountability purposes.

16 

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the level of meaningful participation by rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups in selected public processes.

In Darfur, OHCHR's advocacy with the Governor, in July, led to the organization of a Human Rights and Rule of Law Forum in North Darfur. OHCHR provided the Governor's Office with technical support to identify the objectives of the Forum, draft its terms of reference and host its inaugural meeting. It is anticipated that the Forum will facilitate the exchange of information on human rights situations to address, prevent and reduce violations in law enforcement and the administration of justice and inform responses to outbreaks of intercommunal violence. The Forum will also seek to foster enhanced cooperation and coordination between different State actors, as well as the UNJHRO, through the regular exchange of information and discussions about corrective actions that need to be undertaken by authorities. Further, it will provide participants with an opportunity to discuss projects, capacity-building activities and other initiatives to be implemented by the UNJHRO, authorities and relevant actors to address gaps in human rights protection and expertise, including the implementation of relevant recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The inaugural meeting took place on 12 December and brought together State actors, such as the UNJHRO, the military, judiciary, prosecutors, police and armed opposition groups that are signatories to the JPA. In 2023, the UNJHRO will support the Forum by encouraging

dialogue between Forum members, rights holders and civil society.

Participation

P5 – International, regional and national protection mechanisms are responsive to the particular protection needs of CSOs and individuals, which are not limited to political participation.



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

OHCHR established an initiative to strengthen the protection of HRDs in Sudan. In October, OHCHR organized two consultations with 20 national, regional and international protection service providers (PSPs), including donors. This enabled OHCHR to map threats faced by HRDs in Sudan; protection services that are provided by PSPs; the level of coordination among PSPs; and available resources. Based on its findings that there was a lack of coordination among PSPs, OHCHR organized a follow-up consultation, in November, with 25 PSPs and donors to develop coordinated responses. Participants agreed to establish an informal working group for the protection of HRDs, which would be coordinated by OHCHR and share information and verify cases.

Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

The extent to which critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR have been taken up in international forums in a timely manner has increased.

Following the military coup and the deterioration of the human rights situation in the country, the Office shifted its focus to monitoring, recording and reporting and produced regular updates (from once a day immediately after the coup to the current monthly report, flash reports and ad hoc thematic reports). The UN in Sudan regarded the information gathered by OHCHR, which was delivered in written and oral updates, as the most reliable information on human rights developments and served as the basis for the UN's advocacy with de facto authorities, including on the arbitrary detention of politically influential figures and the excessive use of force by security forces during mass protests. A qualitative analysis of OHCHR's contribution to the reports of UNOCC during the first six months of 2022 indicates that the percentage of OHCHR's contributions included in UNOCC reports is considerably higher than any other UN source.

OHCHR conducted 25 field missions to assess the human rights and humanitarian situation and undertook human rights advocacy. OHCHR monitored 31 court hearings, primarily of protesters arrested in relation to demonstrations, including those facing criminal charges. The Office also conducted 26 detention visits. In April, the Office met with the Director of the General Administration of Prisons to renew the agreement on the SOPs for prison visits.

Similar meetings were held with prison authorities at the state level. OHCHR monitoring activities included follow-up on individual cases of protesters or political activists who were arbitrary arrested and detained at different locations through engagement with the Attorney General.

 **Mechanisms**

M1 – Increased ratification of international and regional human rights instruments.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to the ratification and accession of two international human rights treaties by the Government of Sudan.

Sudan’s third UPR cycle took place in February. On 1 February, OHCHR supported the screening of the consideration of Sudan for 60 civil society representatives and organized a briefing on the UPR and the role of civil society in advocating for the acceptance and implementation of the recommendations issued in the final outcome. In 2021, in anticipation of Sudan’s review, OHCHR assisted the NMRF in drafting the first national report that was submitted following national consultations; enhanced the capacities of CSOs to engage with the UPR, leading to an increase in the number of submitted national CSO reports from two to 18; and supported the UNCT, resulting in the submission of the first UNCT report to the UPR. In January 2022, OHCHR organized a workshop for eight members of the NMRF and its Secretariat. The workshop equipped the participants with the skills they needed to draft Sudan’s oral statement and responses to the advance questions and recommendations. On 4 July, the Human Rights Council adopted the outcome of the review of Sudan.

UGANDA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
47.25 million	242,000 km ²	0.525 (rank: 166/191 in 2021)	“A” Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2005	
Field office(s)		Gulu, Kampala, Moroto	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		35	

XB income	US\$4,244,304	
XB requirements 2022	US\$5,912,000	
XB expenditure	US\$3,925,656	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
62%	26%	12%
\$2,447,355	\$1,021,792	\$456,509

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

 **Accountability**

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

16

With technical support from OHCHR, selected policies were revised to enhance their compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR worked with the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) to advise and assist the Government on the

formulation and implementation of laws/policies to promote and protect human rights. It also supported UN agencies, government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) and CSOs to review draft laws and policies.

In early 2022, OHCHR organized meetings with CSOs to review the Bail Guidelines for Courts of Judicature and the Sentencing Guidelines for the High Court. As a result, CSOs prepared a joint position paper, led by the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), outlining their human rights concerns related to the Guidelines. The position paper was submitted to the Rules Committee

of the Judiciary, in February. In addition, OHCHR worked closely with the UHRC to analyse both Guidelines. A virtual meeting was held with development partners, during which human rights concerns were raised. The UHRC then submitted a memorandum to the judiciary on elements of the Guidelines that did not align with international human rights standards. OHCHR's analysis also informed the UHRC's 2021 annual report, launched in June, which includes recommendations to the judiciary to ensure the Guidelines comply with human rights standards.

In October, OHCHR supported the UHRC and the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) to commemorate the World Day Against the Death Penalty (10 October). A moot competition was held, in Kampala, between law students from the Islamic University in Uganda and the Kampala International University. The objective of the competition was to raise awareness about human rights concerns related to the death penalty, advocate for stakeholders to address the human rights challenges of death row inmates and call for the abolition of the death penalty in Uganda. A total of 54 participants attended, including 22 women, members of the diplomatic community, judges, law students, opinion leaders, parliamentarians and lawyers.

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

10 16

Through advocacy and technical cooperation, OHCHR contributed to strengthening national accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure they are

functioning in increased compliance with international human rights standards.

OHCHR supported the UHRC in training and advocating with national justice institutions to implement the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act (PPTA) and the Human Rights (Enforcement) Act (HREA). A total of 500 copies of the simplified HREA were distributed to courts, public libraries and legal aid centres to increase awareness among criminal justice actors. In March, OHCHR, the UHRC and the Uganda Law Society (ULS) held an HREA symposium, which was attended by 43 participants, including 16 women, from the Uganda Police Force (UPF), the UHRC, the UPS, the ULS, CSOs, academia and the media. The symposium identified challenges in implementing the HREA, resulting in a policy brief on the HREA that was launched by the ULS, in July. From July to September, OHCHR supported the UHRC, LASPNET and Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF) to train the judiciary, the police, prison officers, State attorneys and lawyers on the HREA and pretrial detention and provided copies of the HREA to the 144 participants, including 74 women, in Hoima, Wakiso, Gulu, Kitgum and Arua. In July, the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal in *Paul Mugoya Wanyoto v Sergeant Oumo Joshua and the Attorney General*, which included allegations of torture. The Court ruled that victims of torture do not have a legal requirement to produce medical evidence of torture. OHCHR tracked and analysed HREA cases and will continue this work in 2023 to inform advocacy and capacity-building initiatives.

OHCHR undertook 42 monitoring missions to investigate individual human rights complaints relating to disarmament in the Karamoja subregion. In addition, 14 human rights cases were remotely

monitored. These efforts led to the registration of 73 new complaints and the investigation of 31 backlogged complaints by the UHRC. OHCHR monitored 10 disarmament-related trials, including alleged forced evictions that caused the displacement of over 2,000 people and five court-martial trials of civilians arrested in cordon and search operations.

From February to December, OHCHR supported the joint inspections of detention facilities by the UHRC and the UPF to monitor the treatment of persons in detention and compliance with international standards. A total of 51 detention facilities, including two police posts that are non-gazetted places of detention, were inspected in seven districts of Northern Uganda. As a result of OHCHR's advocacy, 23 people who were arbitrarily detained were released. The inspection team noted that the detention facilities lacked cells for women and juveniles. In addition, most women officers were posted in sub-county office premises and no women officers were working in some offices. These non-gazetted detention facilities, where torture and ill-treatment are more likely to occur due to an absence of formal oversight, is a long-term advocacy priority of OHCHR and the UHRC. To this end, OHCHR and the UHRC provided briefings to 74 police officers, including 20 women, on the rights of suspects, compliance with the 48-hour rule and the prohibition of torture. OHCHR distributed 280 copies of the UPF Human Rights Policy to enhance the knowledge of officers. In December, follow-up monitoring revealed that joint inspections resulted in improved conditions for suspects in detention (cell hygiene and the issuance of Police Bonds, in accordance with the 48-hour rule).

Participation

P5 – Civil society systematically monitors and identifies threats to civic space.



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

OHCHR continued building the capacities of CSOs and HRDs to monitor and report on the human rights situation and facilitated their engagement and advocacy with national authorities.

From 18 to 19 October, OHCHR, the UHRC and UN Women trained 31 journalists, including nine women, from the West Nile Press Association, covering 12 districts, on the application of an HRBA to reporting. The goal of the training was to build their knowledge and skills to ensure that human rights and gender issues are integrated into media reporting. The training demonstrated the importance of human rights protection policies, including on sexual harassment, in media houses. The participants committed to engaging media owners to protect the rights of journalists, with the support of OHCHR, the UHRC and UN Women. OHCHR donated 30 copies of the core international human rights instruments to the West Nile Press Association.

In Northern Uganda, OHCHR cooperated with the UHRC, UN Women, the ULS and the African Centre for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV) to conduct a ToT, with the participation of 67 senior and mid-level officers, including 12 women, on human rights standards and principles. The trainees subsequently conducted

human rights briefings for their colleagues and undertook community-based human rights awareness-raising initiatives to encourage cooperation with communities in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Non-discrimination

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



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

OHCHR cooperated with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and the albinism community in relation to the launch of the National Action Plan on Albinism. OHCHR supported various advocacy efforts, including through the production of a situational analysis, the commemoration of the International Albinism Awareness Days and the preparation of IEC materials. Moreover, the Office supported the MGLSD to launch and adopt the NAP in June. The NAP will contribute to the National Comprehensive Action Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2020-2024). The Plan outlines strategic actions to address albinism in Uganda.

Development

D2 – The Government adopted the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. National programmes and mechanisms are increasingly compliant with international human rights norms and standards on business and human rights, including the UNGPs.



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

The Office supported the MGLSD to disseminate the Uganda NAP on Business and Human Rights through regional meetings in three subregions, namely, the West Nile, Bunyoro and Greater Masaka. A total of 142 participants attended, including 36 women, representatives of CSOs and district local governments, as well as religious and cultural leaders and private sector actors. The meetings covered 28 districts and three cities within the three subregions. During the meetings, OHCHR raised awareness about the UNGPs and the MGLSD provided an overview of the NAP.

In November, the Office promoted the business and human rights agenda at the national level through support for the Fourth Annual Symposium on Business and Human Rights. The Office collaborated with the UHRC and civil society partners to organize the Symposium from 9 to 10 November. The event brought together more than 100 stakeholders (in person and online) from government agencies, CSOs, the private sector and trade unions, from within and outside Uganda, to discuss key developments around business and human rights and develop strategies for the effective implementation

of the NAP. This helped to situate the business and human rights agenda within the broader public discourse on development and human rights.

D7 – The UNDAF and UN agencies, funds and programmes increasingly comply with international human rights norms, standards and principles.



OHCHR contributed to the incorporation of an HRBA into the operations and guidelines of UN entities.

As co-Chair of the Human Rights and Gender Advisory Group (HRGAG), OHCHR provided analysis and guidance to the UNCT, programme partners, national authorities and CSOs to promote, protect and fulfil human rights and advance gender equality. Though the HRGAG, OHCHR coordinated and shared information on human rights and gender equality-related activities undertaken or supported by participating agencies and ensured their alignment with the goals of the UNSDCF. OHCHR facilitated a training for members of the UN Technical Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals as part of preparations to review the CCA, with a focus on human rights analysis. OHCHR also provided analysis and guidance to the CCA Review Team, contributing gender and human rights data and analysis to strengthen the revised CCA. Further, OHCHR provided detailed analysis and briefings on opportunities to increase the number of gender-sensitive indicators in the UNSDCF indicator matrix, including through the sex disaggregation of all population-based indicators.

In May, the UNCT conducted a system-wide gender and human rights

capacity assessment. Based on the results of the assessment, and other sources, OHCHR helped to develop the Gender and Human Rights Capacity-Building Plan 2022-2025 for the UN system in Uganda.

In July, under the HRGAG, OHCHR delivered a three-day workshop for 24 members of the Parliament and technical staff, including seven women of the parliamentary Human Rights Committee. The workshop brought together representatives from seven UN agencies, namely, OHCHR, UN Women, UNFPA, UNAIDS, WHO, IOM and UNODC, to deliver a comprehensive workshop on human rights and gender equality. The workshop focused on building the capacity of parliamentarians to integrate human rights and gender equality into the legislative process and advocate for human rights issues in the Parliament.

In Northern Uganda, a training was provided for UN agencies to enhance their knowledge and skills on human rights programming, provide a common understanding of an HRBA and outline a step-by-step process of applying an HRBA throughout the programming cycle. The training was delivered to 49 participants, 24 of whom were women, in September.

D8 – Increased compliance with international human rights norms, standards and principles of the State statistical framework, including the National Standards Indicator Framework (NSI) and the Results and Resources Framework (RRF), in relation to data collection for national development.



Through capacity-building initiatives, OHCHR contributed to the enhanced compliance with international human rights norms and standards of State institutions/programmes.

OHCHR strengthened the capacities of national institutions to integrate human rights indicators into the national statistical framework through capacity-building activities. Training was provided to Uganda's Bureau of Statistics, the UHRC, the National Planning Authority and the Office of the Prime Minister. Participants agreed to follow-up engagements to finalize the alignment of human rights indicators with the SDGs and the NSI. The tools of the upcoming national census, which is scheduled for mid-2023, integrate an HRBA and will be applied.



Mechanisms

M2 – The Government, the UHRC and civil society increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

17

OHCHR enhanced the number of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR by the NHRI, CSOs, individuals and UN entities.

On 9 March, OHCHR-Uganda supported the efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) to prepare Uganda's second periodic report to CESCER on the implementation of ICESCR. Following consultations with various stakeholders, OHCHR supported MoFA by facilitating a meeting to finalize and validate the report, with the participation of 35 attendees, including 23 women.

To enable tracking and reporting on the progress achieved in implementing

recommendations issued by national, regional and international mechanisms, OHCHR-Uganda supported MoFA in a refresher training for MDAs and the Interministerial Committee on Human Rights (IMCHR) on populating the NRTD and its search engine. The NRTD is available to the public and allows users to track progress on the implementation of recommendations for follow-up and advocacy purposes. From 30 August to 1 September, OHCHR facilitated a training for representatives of MoFA, the UHRC, the IMCHR and representatives of MDAs on how to populate the database. A total of 37 participants, including 15 women, attended.

From 15 to 17 November, OHCHR conducted a training on the NRTD for CSOs to address gaps identified in the documentation of human rights cases and enable CSOs to document cases in a secure, coherent and simplified way. The database is a tool that was developed for CSOs to report human rights concerns and can be used to collect evidence to strengthen advocacy with human rights protection mechanisms. A total of 55 participants, including 26 women, from across the country attended the training and were familiarized with the recommendations issued during Uganda’s third UPR cycle and learned how to follow up on those recommendations.

WEST AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Dakar
Staff as of 31 December 2022	16

Total income	US\$ 1,860,929		
XB requirements 2022	US\$7,933,000		
XB expenditure	US\$1,820,923		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
	36%	54%	10%
	\$658,620	\$978,227	\$184,076
RB expenditure	US\$1,044,662		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	90%	10%	
	\$944,384	\$100,278	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – In three countries, NHRIs operate effectively or have been strengthened, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

16

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and functioning of NHRIs, in compliance with international standards.

At its March session, the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation granted “A” Status to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of the Gambia. The NHRC monitors, investigates and

documents complaints of human rights violations, recommends appropriate remedial action to the Government and promotes a culture of human rights in the country. OHCHR contributed to this result through advocacy and supported Gambian authorities in drafting the NHRC Bill and developing the capacity of NHRC staff members.

A2 – In two countries, accountability or protection mechanisms operating in conformity with the international human rights standards are in place and functioning.

10 16

With OHCHR's assistance, effective accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards are in place.

OHCHR is a member of the technical committee responsible for elaborating the National Human Rights Strategy of **Senegal**. The draft was finalized and validated, in June, during a workshop convened by the Ministry of Justice. It was attended by 35 participants, including 12 women, from the Government, CSOs, the NHRI and other relevant partners. The final validation and endorsement of the Strategy is expected in 2023.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – In ECOWAS countries, national laws, policies and programmes increasingly protect children from abuse and exploitation.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to strengthened legal, political and institutional frameworks for the protection of the rights of the child.

Through the *Projet d'Appui à la Protection d'Enfants Vulnérables (PAPEV)*, OHCHR developed a number of studies that benefited the six countries covered by the project. For example, a mapping of reception and care centres was carried out in each beneficiary country and fed into a regional training on psychosocial care and the strengthening of reception

centres, held in Bissau, in June, which was attended by 37 managers and professionals of reception centres, including six women. The recommendations of the study enabled the **Gambia** to adopt a document on minimum standards of care for children in protection institutions. It also served as a reference framework for the **Gambian NHRI** to carry out monitoring missions of childcare institutions.

In addition, OHCHR provided financial support to reception and care centres for child victims and their families in their work on the socio-economic reintegration of children removed from the streets. In 2022, 24 reception centres received such support, benefiting approximately 5,000 children in the six countries.

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child. To this end, a number of key policies and guidelines were adopted for foster families in **Guinea** and **Niger**. The Office advocated for the harmonization of national frameworks with international standards, monitored the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and provided technical assistance in the planning, implementation and monitoring of child protection actions in the six countries.

In partnership with ECOWAS, OHCHR supported the Ministerial Meeting on Child Protection, held in Banjul, in May. The meeting was chaired by the Vice-President of the **Gambia** and was attended by Ministers responsible for child protection in the **Gambia**, **Guinea-Bissau**, **Niger** and **Senegal**. The meeting adopted a Call to Action for the implementation of six priority activities to strengthen collaboration in the field of child protection in a cross-border context.

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

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 11
13 16

OHCHR supported participatory processes to contribute to the functioning of oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms, with a focus on the human rights of migrants.

Through the *PROMIS* project, OHCHR provided legal and technical assistance to **Niger** to facilitate the reform of Law No. 2015-36 (26 May 2015) on the smuggling of migrants, in accordance with international standards. A revised draft was finalized after a workshop that gathered together 21 State and non-State representatives, including four women. The draft law is expected to be tabled during the next session of the National Assembly, in June 2023. In **Senegal**, OHCHR supported the revision of the national strategy against irregular migration. The document is expected to be adopted in 2023. Additionally, advocacy by the Office contributed to the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) by the Governments of **Chad** and **Côte d'Ivoire**.

In terms of capacity-building initiatives, the *PROMIS* project organized a regional training for 18 members, including eight women, of NHRIs and other key stakeholders from **Burkina Faso**, **Chad**, **Côte d'Ivoire**, **the Gambia**, **Mali**, **Mauritania**, **Niger**, **Nigeria** and **Senegal**. This enabled participants to gain skills to identify protection needs and human rights violations of migrants and undertake related human

rights monitoring activities. Joint monitoring missions with these NHRIs are envisaged to ascertain the level of implementation of the skills acquired.

Awareness-raising was an important component of the PROMIS project. In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the members of the public were sensitized through a partnership with the human rights film festival “Cine Droit Libre,” which provided a platform for discussion on human rights in the context of migration. In **Niger**, the project supported the National Agency for the Fight against Trafficking in Persons and the Illicit Transport of Migrants and Médecins du Monde Belgique (an NGO), which collaborated with the local branch of the NHRI to organize an awareness-raising activity targeting migrants and the host community, local authorities and CSOs as part of the commemoration of International Migrants Day, on 17 and 18 December. Finally, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Senegal, partnerships were created with high schools in areas bordering the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania to raise the awareness of at least 200 students about human rights issues related to migration, gender and youth.



Participation

P1 – At least seven countries increasingly protect civic space, including by adopting laws or policies.

16



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

In **Senegal**, more women were candidates and 73 were elected (out of 165 members

of the Parliament) during the 2022 parliamentary elections. Women also submitted complaints to courts about the lack of respect for parity in the establishment of municipal offices. OHCHR supported the National Parity Office by: proposing to amend relevant provisions of the electoral code to ensure the application of parity in elections; and disseminating a brochure on the procedures of the seizure of jurisdiction when parity is not respected in the establishment of municipal offices. Moreover, OHCHR commissioned a study on lessons learned through a watchdog system that was developed by women's groups in Senegal 10 years ago, under the leadership of Femmes Africa Solidarité, to monitor the enjoyment by women of their rights in the context of elections. The study contributed to the creation of a repository of good practices, which serves as a reference tool for youth and women's mobilization, mediation and election monitoring in Africa.

On 25 May, in **the Gambia**, the Government publicly presented a white paper that outlines its findings and recommendations regarding the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC), as required by the TRRC Act. The paper was developed following extensive discussions with CSOs and victims on the results of the TRRC. In addition, the Ministry of Justice partnered with the American Bar Association to conduct a three-day national consultation with victims and CSOs in order to gather their views on the TRRC report and the Victims' Reparations Bill.



Development

D7 – UNCTs and UN agencies in Cooperation Framework roll-out countries and countries that support separate SDG planning or programming have adopted a human rights-based approach to development planning and implementation that complies with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

OHCHR contributed to mainstreaming human rights approaches and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into UN programmes in countries in the region.

OHCHR provided technical support and advisory services to UNCTs on the application of an HRBA and the integration of the LNOB principle into relevant programmes, including by actively participating in country-specific results groups. For example, in **Cabo Verde**, the Office participated in the UNSDCF development process by providing HRBA training to UNCT members and inputs related to outcome indicators to ensure a fully human rights-compliant formulation. As a result, the UNSDCF for 2023-2027 contains a strong commitment to promoting human rights.



Peace and Security

PS2 – The UN human rights system incorporates human rights into its risk analysis, early warning technical cooperation and practical guidance in the context of counter-terrorism.

16

OHCHR contributed to early warning and risk analysis, thereby improving levels of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards.

Through the UN Joint Programme in the Liptako-Gourma region, OHCHR worked closely with ILO, UNECA, UNESCO, UNICEF and UNODC to strengthen community resilience and human security in the face of environmental and climatic shocks and threats in the Sahel, particularly in the cross-border areas of the Liptako-Gourma region. A number of significant results were achieved, for instance, hundreds of local and regional stakeholders in **Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger** learned about local mechanisms to access criminal justice for victims. More than 300 individuals (40 per cent women) participated from the cross-border zones of Burkina Faso. Moreover, communities in cross-border areas now have access to the justice system through mobile court hearings. Another key result was the commitment undertaken by more than 70 civil-military partners in **Mali and Niger** to share information for the effective coordination of interventions, bearing in mind the specificities of the security and social contexts. Furthermore, OHCHR undertook 11 human rights monitoring activities in **Burkina Faso and Niger**, in collaboration with NHRIs.

In **Benin**, through capacity-building sessions and the sharing of documentation, OHCHR supported a process initiated by the NHRI to collect the views of youth in the context of the fourth UPR cycle, held in January 2023. More specifically, the NHRI undertook consultations with a coalition of Beninese youth representatives from all provinces of the country to solicit their views on the implementation of the recommendations emanating from the third UPR cycle. This information fed into the alternative report that was prepared and submitted by the NHRI in anticipation of Benin's fourth UPR cycle.



Mechanisms

M2– CSOs, NHRIs and non-traditional actors increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

17

OHCHR contributed to the increased engagement of civil society actors with the international human rights mechanisms, including the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

ZAMBIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
20.02 million	753,000 km ²	0.565 (rank: 154/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2021		
Field office(s)	Lusaka		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2016-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	1		

XB requirements 2022 **\$392,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:
 **Development**

D7 – OHCHR supports the Government in making progress on human rights for all and a UNSDCF that creates space for greater work and achievements on human rights.

OHCHR's continued advocacy contributed to a rights-based UNSDCF.

The Zambia UNSDCF 2023-2027 was launched on 4 November at an event that was led by the RC and Vice-President of the Republic. The development process of the UNSDCF was positive. UNCT members supported the integration of human rights, resulting in 80 references to rights in strategic places, including in the results matrix, to ensure accountability of all relevant actors for delivering on UNSDCF commitments. OHCHR is contributing to two key outcomes and outputs in all four pillars.

 **Mechanisms**

M3 – Zambian policymakers, legislators and courts make increased use of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms.

The Office continued to advocate for the establishment of the Zambia NMRF.

Zambia is a State Party to eight of the nine international human rights treaties. Steps were taken to implement their provisions. For instance, the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP) establishes targets to strengthen the Constitution, human rights and the rule of law, including through constitutional reform and human rights protection. Following three years of technical assistance and advocacy by OHCHR and UN partners, on 22 August, the Cabinet approved the establishment, terms of reference and membership of the NMRF, which will enable Zambia to follow up on recommendations issued by the

international human rights mechanisms. Following OHCHR's advocacy and cooperation, the President abolished the death penalty, in December, and assented to the repeal of a 1965 law on defamation of the President, which was an offence. The Government also undertook actions to review, amend and enact ordinary laws, including the Penal Code and the Public Order Act.

Engagement with the international human rights mechanisms was partially strengthened through an OHCHR-convened subregional workshop for officials serving as permanent members of the NMRF or other entities responsible for coordinating reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations in the region.

OHCHR and the UNCT prepared and submitted comments to the Zambia Law Development Commission on the new Public Gathering Bill to ensure its alignment with international human rights standards. The new Bill, which integrates key recommendations from OHCHR, was finalized and will be tabled in the Parliament.

ZIMBABWE

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
16.32 million	391,000 km ²	0.593 (rank: 146/191 in 2021)	*A>Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		Harare	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022 **US\$308,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – At least three countries adopt legal and policy measures rooted in human rights to protect women, migrants, persons with albinism and persons with disabilities from discrimination.

5 10 16  

OHCHR supports the enhanced compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards in relation to persons with disabilities and gender equality.

The HRA provided technical assistance for the development of a UN Joint Programme for Disability Rights (inter-agency pooled fund). Through the Programme, financial resources will be mobilized to ensure that strategic and integrated support is directed towards the Government's effective implementation of CRPD, with the involvement of independent constitutional

commissions, CSOs, particularly OPDs, the UN and development partners.

In 2020, CEDAW reviewed Zimbabwe's sixth periodic report under the Convention and issued its concluding observations. In response, the SHRA collaborated with UN Women to assist the Government with the development of an NAP to implement the Committee's recommendations. The NAP was finalized and published and preparations are underway to disseminate the NAP and conduct awareness-raising sessions in local communities across the country.

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.

17 

OHCHR contributed to an increase in the number of alternative reports submitted to the human rights treaty bodies and the UPR.

Zimbabwe underwent its third UPR cycle on 26 January. In anticipation of the review, the HRA coordinated UN entities to assist the Government with drafting its State report. It also provided technical support to the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and CSOs in preparing their submissions. The number of joint submissions increased from eight in the second cycle to 23 in the third cycle and the number of individual submissions increased from eight to 16. A joint submission with inputs from 68 CSOs was translated into two major languages spoken in the country, namely, Shona and Ndebele. In addition, the UNCT made a joint submission. In August, CERD considered the combined fifth to eleventh periodic reports of Zimbabwe. For the first time, CSOs participated in the process by submitting a joint parallel submission.

Zimbabwe submitted its overdue reports to CRPD and CESC. Plans are now underway to facilitate the engagement of CSOs in the treaty body reporting processes, including through the preparation of alternative reports. To this end, the HRA collaborated with UNDP and the CRPD Secretariat to conduct a training for OPDs on reporting to the human rights treaty bodies and their role in the

process. OPDs subsequently undertook consultations with their constituencies and began drafting an alternative report in anticipation of the Committee's review of Zimbabwe's initial report. The HRA collaborated with UNDP to organize another two workshops on the international human rights system, which covered the reporting processes and the submission of alternative reports. The workshops were attended by 88 participants (35 women, 53 men) from civil society organizations.

include human rights updates as a regular item on the monthly meetings agenda, the HRA collaborated with the ERT and the Regional Office for Southern Africa to provide the UNCT with human rights and protection analysis/risk assessments for early warning and to inform preventive action. The updates will pay specific attention to the environment prior to the elections that are scheduled for the third quarter of 2023.



Peace and Security

PS5 – UNCTs in at least four countries in the subregion integrate human rights into their early warning, prevention, preparedness and response plans.

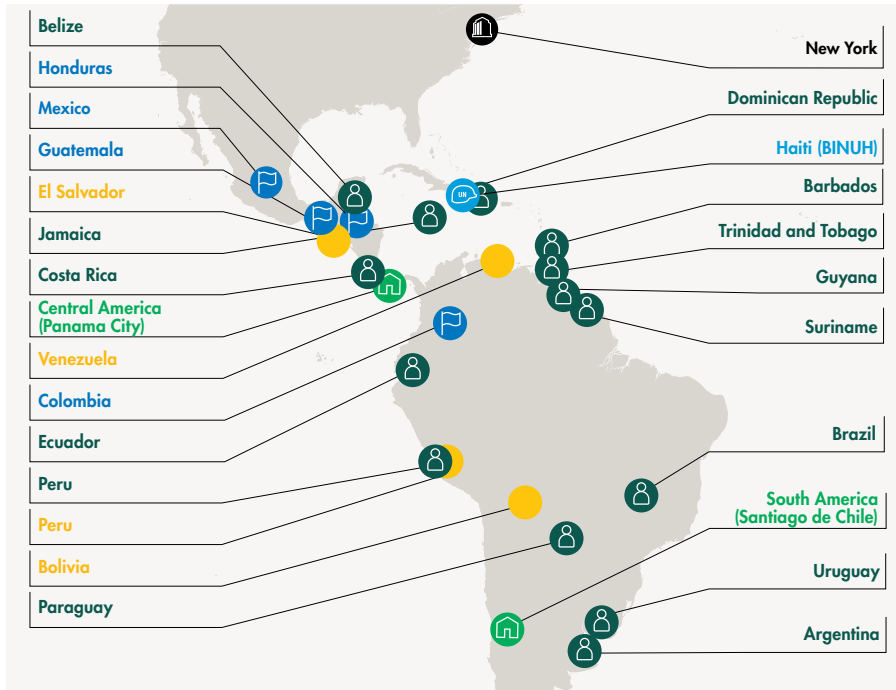
3 5 8 10 13 16 17

OHCHR advised specific programmes of UN entities on the application of an HRBA.

The HRA collaborated with the Peace and Development Adviser and relevant UN entities to develop a multifaceted prevention strategy, which was adopted by the UNCT. The strategy informed the concept note that was submitted to the Peacebuilding Fund in relation to preventing violence and sustaining peace in Zimbabwe during the 2023 harmonized elections and beyond. The UN is engaged in consultations with the Government to secure a letter of support for the proposal.

In collaboration with the Peace and Development Adviser and UNDP, the HRA provided technical advice on the information management system that provides regular updated political, human rights and protection analysis/risk assessments. Following the UNCT's decision to

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.

5 10 16 

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.

1 11 

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.

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 13
16 17  

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.

8

16



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 Ñatubaiyibarí (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**

XB requirements 2022 **US\$5,736,000**

XB expenditure **US\$4,498,635**

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.

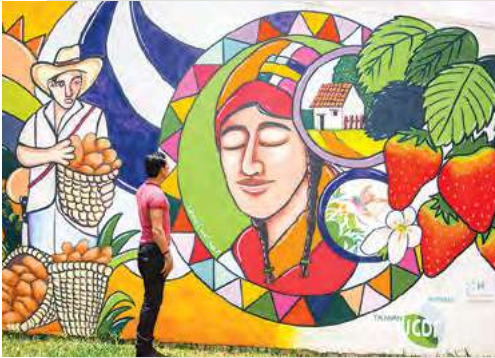


OHCHR contributed to selected government entities and programmes, with a focus on labour rights and poverty reduction, in alignment with standards on ESCRs.

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.

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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
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XB requirements 2022	US\$3,457,000
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XB expenditure	US\$1,867,368
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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.

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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

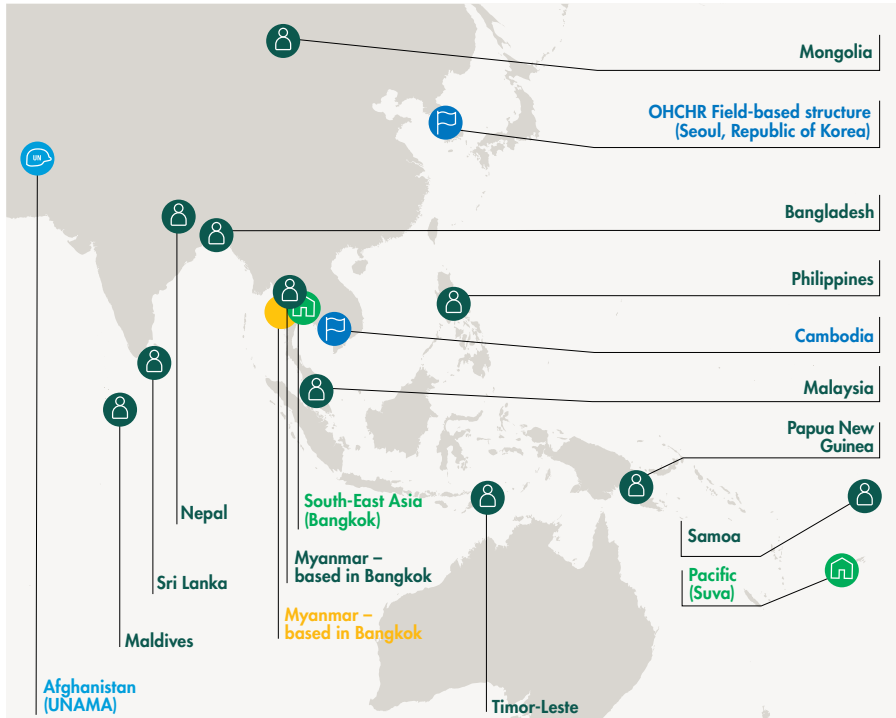
D7 – The international community urges Venezuelan authorities to undertake measures to address critical human rights issues/situations raised by OHCHR, in particular in situations related to the right to food and health.



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.

UN Human Rights in Asia-Pacific



TYPE OF PRESENCE

	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

Cambodia and Republic of Korea (Seoul) ^b
South-East Asia (Bangkok, Thailand) and the Pacific (Suva, Fiji)
Afghanistan (UNAMA)
Bangladesh, Malaysia ^c , Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar (based in Bangkok, Thailand), Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste
Myanmar (based in Bangkok, Thailand)

^a Human rights advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
^b Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.
^c On hold until funding is available.

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:



OHCHR coverage of the Asia-Pacific region extends from Afghanistan to the west, Mongolia to the north, Kiribati to the east and New Zealand to the south. The region is comprised of some of the most populous countries in the world, including China and India, some of the poorest and least developed, and some of the smallest and most remote island states. The Office supports 17 field presences, including two regional offices (the Regional Office for South-East Asia in Bangkok and the Regional Office for the Pacific in Suva); one country office (Cambodia); nine international human rights advisers (HRAs) (Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Maldives, Myanmar (based in Bangkok), Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste); two national human rights officers (Mongolia and Nepal); one human rights component in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA); and two “remote” presences (one for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), based in Seoul, and another for Myanmar, based in Bangkok).

The Office supports four special procedures country mandate holders for Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Myanmar. It also oversees the implementation of six country-specific Human Rights Council (HRC) resolutions on Afghanistan, Cambodia, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Myanmar, the Philippines¹¹ and Sri Lanka. This includes two special accountability mandates on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, which are outlined

in Human Rights Council resolutions 46/17 and 51/1, respectively.

In 2022, the former High Commissioner conducted country visits to Afghanistan, Bangladesh and China. In a visit to the refugee camps in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, she highlighted the situation of Rohingya refugees five years after their expulsion from Myanmar. In the Philippines, OHCHR rolled out the implementation of the innovative UN Joint Programme for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Philippines (UNJP), focusing on strengthening accountability mechanisms and promoting human rights in counter-terrorism and drug control.

OHCHR provided substantive policy support and advice to resident coordinators (RCs) in the context of the UN reform, including by deploying senior human rights advisers (SHRAs) and/or national human rights officers. All presences, including regional and country offices, engage in UN coordination related to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) to ensure a focus on human rights in sustainable development programmes. This is further supported by missions and remote engagement, facilitated by new communication technologies.

The aftermath of the pandemic, combined with energy and food price inflation, created economic stress and political fractures in many countries. The social and economic impacts exposed weak social protection floors and generated new migration flows. In many countries, there was a trend towards increased control of civic and political space.

Profound human rights and humanitarian crises continued in Myanmar (following the military coup in February 2021) and Afghanistan (following the Taliban

takeover in August 2021), which will continue to be a priority focus for the Office. In August 2022, OHCHR published an independent assessment of human rights concerns in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China and has pursued follow-up engagement.

Developments in the region are being increasingly shaped by geopolitical tensions and competition. New political, trade, investment, security and infrastructure agreements are realigning economic integration, the right to development and economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCRs). Regional forums, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), have an important prevention role to play.

In addition to this country-focused approach, the Office fostered a broader regional approach, with a focus on cross-country thematic issues, including accountability, the rule of law, strengthening national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and transitional justice, civic space, human rights defenders (HRDs) and youth engagement, business/international financial institutions (IFIs) and human rights, climate change, migration and the human rights of people on the move, discrimination against minorities, including persons with disabilities, and gender equality.

¹¹ An update on the implementation of HRC resolution 45/33 on technical cooperation and capacity-building for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines and the UNJP was presented to the HRC at its fifty-first session (A/HRC/51/58).

AFGHANISTAN: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN (UNAMA)

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
41.13 million	653,000 km ²	0.478 (rank: 180/191 in 2021)	Suspended due to dissolution of National Human Rights Institution

Type of engagement	Special Political Mission
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Kabul
UN partnership framework	One-UN Transitional Engagement Framework 2022
Staff as of 31 December 2022	66

XB requirements 2022

US\$217,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Authorities adopt laws, policies and practices that address gender discrimination and inequality in relation to the economic, social and cultural rights of women and girls.

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OHCHR and UNAMA provided support to enhance the compliance of legislation/policy in line with international human rights norms and standards.

UN Human Rights and UNAMA continued to monitor the situation of women and girls. Despite the Taliban's initial assurances that women's rights would be upheld under sharia law, the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention

of Vice (MoPVPV) enforced Islamic rules as interpreted and prescribed by the de facto authorities.

In 2022, monitoring undertaken by OHCHR and UNAMA demonstrated that incidents of violence against women and girls continued to be reported, due in part to the 2021 abolition of all courts dedicated to upholding the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW). On 3 December 2021, the Supreme Leader issued a decree on women's personal rights, which asserts that women cannot be forced to marry against their will, urges respect for women's inheritance rights and reaffirms women's right to access justice through courts. Nevertheless, fewer channels were available for complaints and most cases were mediated, primarily through

traditional mechanisms. Cases that were not settled in mediation were reportedly referred to the police or prosecution for further investigation.

In this increasingly repressive context for women and girls, UNAMA and OHCHR documented 186 cases of alleged criminal offences of violence against women and girls between 1 January and 30 October. These crimes included murder, forced self-immolation/suicide, so-called "honour" killings, injuries, beatings and rape.

OHCHR and UNAMA conducted 16 advocacy meetings in 15 provinces with de facto officials, including from the MoPVPV, the police, judges and prosecutors, to promote the implementation of the decree. OHCHR and UNAMA supported four roundtable discussions on the subject. It has not been possible to directly monitor progress in the implementation of the decree, however, anecdotal reports suggest that de facto authorities have responded to women's complaints regarding inheritance and property rights.

Development

D7 – Human rights considerations, norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, are integrated into the policies and programmes of UNAMA with respect to peace and security and of the UN Country Team (UNCT) with respect to the protection of civilians, security for Afghan civilians, humanitarian support and socio-economic development initiatives.

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced participation of rights holders in selected public processes.

OHCHR and UNAMA provided human rights advice to humanitarian

actors, including the Protection Cluster and sub-clusters, with an emphasis on their guiding documents related to the Humanitarian Programme Cycle. In addition, OHCHR and UNAMA attended the meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Operation Peer-to-Peer Review Team, providing support and guidance on human rights and protection issues.

To help the de facto Office of Prison Administration (OPA) meet basic detention standards and obligations outlined in the Mandela Rules relating to adequate food, health care, accommodation and educational and vocational support, OHCHR and UNAMA facilitated dialogue and engagement between the OPA and the RC/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) to explore how UN agencies, funds and programmes could extend support to the incarcerated population within their mandated areas. As a result, in November, WHO donated US\$250,000 worth of medicine and medical supplies to four prisons and UNFPA donated approximately 2,000 Dignity Kits for women.¹² UNODC led the coordination of potential longer-term programmatic support for vulnerable incarcerated populations.

¹² Comprised of basic supplies to maintain the health and dignity of women and girls in humanitarian situations, such as the aftermath of a natural disaster or during a conflict. The kit includes underwear, a reusable menstrual pad set, sanitary napkins, bath soap, washing powder, a flashlight, a comb, a toothbrush and toothpaste.



Peace and Security

PS1 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

5 | 16

OHCHR and UNAMA contributed to the increasing compliance of parties to the conflict and actors involved in peace operations with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and the provision of greater protection to civilians.

Following the Taliban takeover, despite a notable decrease in levels of armed conflict, there was a significant increase in human rights violations committed by de facto authorities, in particular against former government officials and members of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF), individuals accused of affiliation with armed groups, civil society and the media. OHCHR and UNAMA shifted their monitoring to respond to the change in situation, developing a methodology for the documentation and recording of human rights violations and expanding the usage of the OHCHR Human Rights Database. Recording of conflict-related incidents continued, in accordance with established methodology.

OHCHR and UNAMA recorded persistent allegations of human rights violations attributed to the de facto authorities, which included the excessive use of force, extrajudicial killing, arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment. These monitoring activities became more challenging following the dissolution of mechanisms that were established under the former Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to prevent and respond to these types of cases, such as the Afghanistan Independent Human

Rights Commission (AIHRC). On 23 February, the de facto Ministry of Interior Affairs (MoI) issued instructions to the Security Forces to take precautions when dealing with the civilian population, prohibiting torture, harassment and insults, and stressed that the use of force was only permissible in cases of self-defence. Nonetheless, OHCHR and UNAMA continued to record high levels of civilian harm as a result of indiscriminate attacks on ethnic and religious minorities, which were primarily claimed by ISIL-Khorasan Province (KP).

OHCHR and UNAMA engaged with the Human Rights Focal Points of the de facto MoI, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the General Directorate of Intelligence (GDI) to share credible allegations of human rights violations and advocate for the investigation of perpetrators and holding them to account. Written feedback was received on these allegations. OHCHR and UNAMA also facilitated an awareness-raising discussion with 50 de facto MoD investigators, in October, on core principles of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In December, a similar session was held for another group of investigators.

With regard to child protection, UNAMA and OHCHR monitored and reported on six grave child rights violations that were committed against children in Afghanistan in the context of conflict. OHCHR and UNAMA conducted five joint workshops with UNICEF on the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) for 225 regional members, including 42 women of the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR), aimed at strengthening their monitoring and reporting capacities.

The de facto authorities did not have a strategy of engagement on child protection

and did not commit to implementing laws and policies affecting children's lives. As a result, OHCHR and UNAMA undertook advocacy through the CTFMR to prevent underage recruitment and the use of children in the de facto Security Forces. This contributed to the issuance of a decree by the Supreme Leader, on 8 March, to prevent the recruitment and use of minors (with no signs of puberty) in the military. In accordance with the decree, the de facto MoD directed, in its Code of Practice of 11 May, that all military units must avoid recruiting boys with no signs of puberty. A total of 494 boys were consequently demobilized and released from various de facto security ranks. Yet, child recruitment and use remained a challenge. Although the de facto authorities define "a child" as a person without physical signs of puberty, more boys under 18 years of age were recruited and used by the de facto security forces. Allegations of child recruitment and use by the ISIL-KP and National Resistance Front have been difficult to verify.

Accountability

A2 – Inclusive and accountable peace and reconciliation processes are established in conformity with international human rights standards and internationally recognized principles of transitional justice.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

Formal mechanisms to provide redress and accountability for victims of human rights violations were not re-established. Progress was hampered by the overhaul

of the justice system across the country. All former judges and staff were replaced with personnel who were instructed to apply sharia law in the resolution of disputes, rather than laws enacted under the former Republic. Ministries such as the de facto MoI, MoD and GDI installed human rights directorates with responsibility for overseeing human rights issues within their respective areas, while former institutions, such as the AIHRC and other agencies, were abolished.

OHCHR and UNAMA developed working relationships with the human rights focal points of the de facto ministries to support the establishment of procedures or mechanisms contributing to oversight, accountability and protection in relation to human rights violations committed by the de facto authorities. Regular meetings were held to share credible allegations of human rights violations, namely, extrajudicial killing, torture and ill-treatment and arbitrary arrest and detention, and stressed the need for thorough investigations and perpetrator accountability. While impunity for human rights violations remained a serious concern, the level of engagement of de facto ministries, which included regular meetings, discussions on human rights issues and written feedback on credible allegations shared by OHCHR and UNAMA, indicated a willingness to engage with OHCHR and UNAMA regarding accountability for human rights violations.

BANGLADESH

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
171.19 million	148,000 km ²	0.661 (rank: 129/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2015)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018 (following earlier deployment 2014-2016)	
Field office(s)		Dhaka	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022**US\$435,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**
 **Participation**

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving the compliance of legislation/policy in line with international human rights norms and standards to ensure that processes are more democratic and participatory.

Efforts were made to safeguard civic space and the right to freedom of opinion and expression. The Office provided opportunities to discuss critical issues through organized events, such as CSO consultations on the freedom of the media, climate change and human rights.

The Human Rights Adviser (HRA) consistently engaged with the Government regarding the review of the Digital Security Act and submitted its written recommendations, in June. In addition, the Government invited the HRA to participate in a consultation on the draft data protection act. The HRA worked with key interlocutors and submitted written feedback. Decisions are pending regarding the recommendations on the Digital Security Act and the draft data protection act.

 **Accountability**

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for ESCRs.

16

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or strengthening of the capacity of non-judicial mechanisms, including NHRIs, in conformity with international standards (Paris Principles).

The HRA regularly engaged with the National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh, although the independence of the institution has deteriorated in the last few years. New commissioners were appointed in December.

CAMBODIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
16.77 million	181,000 km ²	0.593 (rank: 146/191 in 2021) -	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	1993		
Field office(s)	Phnom Penh		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	19		

Total income	US\$1,630,595		
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,636,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$1,064,598		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
60%	32%	8%	
\$643,544	\$339,595	\$81,459	
Total RB expenditure	US\$1,391,077		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
86%	14%		
\$1,197,501	\$193,576		

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P7 – Public recognition increases that human rights and accountability make important contributions to effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.



OHCHR improved the awareness and understanding of and support for human rights issues among relevant stakeholders, including youth, HRDs and CSOs.

OHCHR partnered with the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) to celebrate Human Rights Day (10 December) under the theme “Dignity, freedom and justice for all,” as part of the Secretary-General’s Call to Action for Human Rights. Approximately 250 participants attended, 45 per cent of whom were women, including university students, NGOs, government ministries and personnel of UN entities. Through interactive discussions, the event raised the profile of human rights in an engaging

and informative manner. Two sessions were held. During one panel discussion, speakers from OHCHR, RUPP, the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO), the European Union (EU), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and the Ministry of Justice discussed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), achievements and challenges, the role of human rights in education and the contributions of development partners. During a group discussion with university students, participants focused on several key thematic areas, such as sustainable development and climate change, rights in times of crisis, gender equality and women’s rights, public participation and civic space. In the thematic group discussions, relevant human rights principles were presented and questions were posed to encourage the engagement of the students.

Accountability

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including ESCRs.



OHCHR supported the establishment and/or functioning of oversight, accountability or protection mechanisms that conform to international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided support to the Cambodian Human Rights Committee (CHRC) in drafting a law on the establishment of an NHRI, in accordance with the Paris Principles. In July, OHCHR provided inputs to the revised draft, which were discussed with the CHRC drafting committee. Participants discussed

a variety of issues, such as the required qualifications, selection process and composition of its members and the mandate and duties of the CHRC. In October, OHCHR and the CHRC organized a conference to review the draft law with relevant stakeholders and line ministries. OHCHR invited NHRIs from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines and additional feedback was provided and integrated into the draft. It is anticipated that the draft law will be submitted to the Parliament and Senate in 2023.



Development

D3 – Laws, policies and strategies on land, housing and property increasingly comply with international human rights standards. Their implementation by government entities, including the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Rural Development and subnational authorities are in compliance with international standards.



OHCHR advocated for the improved compliance with international human rights standards of legislation, policies and practices on land and housing.

OHCHR advocated for people who were subject to evictions and had their right to adequate housing violated. In March, OHCHR launched the *Study on the human rights situation of communities living in resettlement sites in Cambodia and draft resettlement guidelines*, which includes findings from 17 resettlement sites in Phnom Penh and eight provinces. In addition, a briefing was held to inform

relevant partners about the human rights situation of communities living on resettlement sites. The Office was a guest on a live radio talk show by the Voice of Democracy, a local independent news outlet, and discussed the right to adequate housing in Cambodia. It also convened a meeting with the Sugar Justice Network to discuss land and housing rights for communities impacted by sugar plantations.

In developing recommendations, OHCHR consulted Indigenous communities on the draft amendments of the Law on Forestry and the Law on Natural Protection Zones. Further, it held consultations with the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Rural Development, representatives from the National Assembly, Oxfam, Diakonia, UNDP, Client Earth and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
26.07 million	121,000 km ²	-	-
Type of engagement		Field-based structure	
Year established		2015	
Field office(s)		Seoul, Republic of Korea (ROK)	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Strategic Framework 2017-2021 (extended to 2022)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		11	

Total income	US\$50,000
XB requirements 2022	US\$421,000
Total XB expenditure	US\$52,910
Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
88%	12%
\$46,823	\$6,087
Total RB expenditure	US\$926,267
Personnel	Non-personnel
97%	3%
\$897,002	\$29,265

Key OMP pillars in 2022

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

PILLAR RESULTS:
Mechanisms

M1 – The Government engages with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who is able to conduct a visit, and two thematic rapporteurs, who are able to visit the country.

16 | 17

OHCHR supported the work of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of

human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and liaised with other special procedures mandate holders.

In 2022, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea conducted three visits to the ROK (February, June and August). The February visit was a regular visit and resulted in the submission of the Special Rapporteur's report to the HRC. The June visit followed the presidential elections, in May, and took

place in the context of a change in government. During the visit, the Special Rapporteur urged the new authorities to prioritize human rights in its policies and engagement with the DPRK. In August, a new Special Rapporteur was appointed and shortly thereafter, visited the ROK to meet with government officials, CSOs and DPRK escapees. The Special Rapporteur also visited Thailand, in June, and Japan, in December, where she met with representatives of the Government of Japan, the families of abductees, victims and CSOs.

The Special Rapporteur's report to the Human Rights Council reiterated the need to implement a two-track policy of engagement and accountability and the report to the General Assembly outlined the Special Rapporteur's priority areas. Both reports, drafted with the support of OHCHR, were well received by Member States and other stakeholders. OHCHR facilitated the Special Rapporteur's engagement with the media, helping to increase the visibility of the human rights situation in the DPRK.

Requests have been sent to the Government for country visits from the Special Rapporteurs on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences and on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and from the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID). The DPRK has not yet responded to any of these requests. OHCHR has encouraged the DPRK to invite at least one mandate holder every year to demonstrate its commitment to engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.

Based on information and guidance from the Office, three CSOs and the UNCT submitted confidential inputs to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) for the preparation of

its list of issues. The Committee sent the list of issues to the DPRK in September and the Human Rights Committee sent a list of issues to the DPRK in April 2021. No response was received by the April 2022 deadline. As of September, the WGEID had sent communications to the DPRK on 362 cases, none of which have been addressed. The Office in Seoul shared all public documents, communications and statements related to DPRK human rights from the international human rights mechanisms on its website and social media, which were widely covered by the media.



Accountability

A2 – National institutions in the DPRK curb violations of human rights in response to international pressure.

10 16

OHCHR undertook analyses and raised awareness about human rights concerns in the DPRK, including among the DPRK leadership, through public reporting and strategic media engagement.

OHCHR documented facts and patterns of grave human rights violations in the DPRK through interviews with escapees, open-source monitoring and by engaging with CSOs and other stakeholders. In 2022, the Office interviewed 38 escapees and victims, including 14 women. Thirty-four interviews were carried out at ROK settlement centres and the remaining four were undertaken at other locations in the ROK or by video link. COVID-19 border restrictions that were imposed in early 2020 remained in place in the DPRK and restrictions on movement in transit countries significantly reduced the number of escapees arriving in the ROK. As a result, access to first-hand information

on the human rights situation inside the DPRK was limited. OHCHR continued to engage with the Ministry of Unification to facilitate interviews with escapees at government settlement support centres.

In May, the DPRK officially acknowledged the country's first COVID-19 outbreak. The Office monitored and analysed the human rights implications of COVID-19 policies. In May, the High Commissioner for Human Rights sent a letter to the Government, offering OHCHR's support to ensure that response measures respected and protected the human rights of the people of the DPRK. The Office also shared relevant COVID-19-related human rights guidelines with the Government. In a public statement that was issued in May, the Office raised concerns about the impacts of COVID-19 measures on the right to food, access to health care and livelihoods, as well as on civil and political rights, particularly restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

Public reporting is an important tool used by the Office to: advocate with the DPRK on issues of concern; provide a platform for North Korean escapees; bring human rights issues in the DPRK to the attention of the international community; and better inform public discourse on human rights in the country. The Office finalized its *report* on the crimes of enforced disappearances in and by the DPRK, which was launched in March 2023. Another report on labour rights in the DPRK is being finalized and will be launched in 2023. The High Commissioner's *report on Promoting accountability in the DPRK* was finalized and submitted to the HRC in March 2023. Moreover, the Office supported the drafting of the reports of the Special Rapporteur and the Secretary-General to the HRC and the General

Assembly, which were used as advocacy tools to engage with the Government. These reports were translated into Korean, distributed to stakeholders and posted on the OHCHR-Seoul website.

A2 – The international community continues to hold accountable perpetrators of crimes against humanity.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the timely consideration of critical human rights issues in international forums.

In March, at the forty-ninth session of the HRC, the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights delivered an oral update on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, including initiatives to promote accountability. More specifically, the Office worked closely with CSOs and other stakeholders to explore options for accountability and justice in the DPRK. For example, in February, OHCHR organized a webinar on “Magnitsky-style sanctions to combat human rights abuses and corruption and the role of NGOs.” The event generated awareness about the Human Rights Sanctions Regime in the United States of America, the EU and the United Kingdom and the role that NGOs can play in supporting accountability. More than 25 NGOs from Japan, the ROK and other countries participated in the event. In June, OHCHR organized a discussion with CSOs and criminal law experts (21 participants, 17 of whom were women) on the use of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) for accountability in the DPRK. In August, OHCHR collaborated with a CSO to organize a two-month training programme for

17 university students (12 women, five men) on enforced disappearances and human rights.

The Office continued to expand its repository with interviews, reports, UN communications, information from CSOs, maps, court documents, videos and audio recordings, as well as open-source materials. The repository contains more than 500 interviews carried out by the Office with victims and witnesses, most of whom were women. In addition, OHCHR developed and shared a cover sheet and user-friendly form for the submission of information by NGOs and individuals. At a meeting on 30 March, the Office briefed 16 CSOs on how they can submit information to the repository.

The Office closely engaged with several government organizations, the Center for North Korean Human Rights Records, the North Korean Human Rights Documentation Office, the Ministry of Unification and the Ministry of Justice in the ROK to exchange information and good practices, to cooperate on documentation and explore avenues for accountability for human rights violations by the DPRK. The Office organized three training programmes on accountability, international criminal law and human rights investigation techniques for around 30 investigators and lawyers working with the Centre for North Korean Human Rights Records and the North Korean Human Rights Documentation Office. These engagements and trainings supported the efforts of the Government of the ROK to document human rights violations in the DPRK.

The Office also organized a series of consultations with victims, affected communities, CSOs, academia, domestic and international legal practitioners and other relevant stakeholders on their views

about truth, justice, accountability and reparations for human rights violations committed by the DPRK. These consultations were also used as an opportunity to inform victims and affected communities about their rights, international human rights law and accountability. The findings of these consultations will be published in a report in 2023.



Peace and Security

PS3 – Strategies to prevent and respond to conflict consistently integrate human rights protection.

16

OHCHR consistently raised awareness in relation to critical human rights issues with international partners, thereby contributing to the increased integration of human rights into the peace process.

OHCHR advocated with the international community and the DPRK for the peaceful resolution of the conflict on the Korean peninsula and the integration of human rights into the inter-Korean and denuclearization engagements with the DPRK. The Office participated in high-level forums on the DPRK peace process and human rights that were organized by the Government of the ROK. The Office held regular briefings and shared analysis/reports on the human rights situation in the DPRK with the international community and diplomatic missions. Several joint briefings on various topics, such as freedom of expression and freedom of the media, disappearances, security and human rights, were conducted with diplomatic missions based in Seoul. In September, the Office organized an event during the “Korean Global Forum for Peace” on promoting human rights through a dual approach

of accountability and engagement. It also made a presentation at the Women, Peace and Security Forum, which was organized by the ROK’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in December. Also in December, OHCHR co-organized a forum on advancing human rights in the DPRK with the Ministry of Unification and the ROK Ambassador on Human Rights. Together, these efforts were instrumental in supporting the Office’s advocacy regarding the importance of discussing human rights in all engagements with the DPRK on the peace and security agenda.

PS5 – Humanitarian programmes adopt a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and comply with the requirements of the Human Rights up Front (HRuF) Action Plan.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to increasing the integration of human rights into humanitarian responses and advocacy.

Integrating human rights into the humanitarian response remained a primary focus for OHCHR. Since late 2020, however, due to COVID-19 border restrictions, most organizations, including humanitarian and UN agencies, have been out of the country. It is unclear when the DPRK will allow them to return. OHCHR has urged the Government to facilitate their return as a priority. Due to this situation, the timeline for the finalization of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the development of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) is still unclear. Yet, the Office provided inputs to the RCO in the drafting of human rights sections of the CCA. In addition, OHCHR is collaborating with

the DPPA, the UNCT, the RCO and FAO on the Environmental Dashboard for evidence-gathering and rights-based monitoring of the right to food. A briefing on the Environmental Dashboard was held in Geneva, in December, which included the participation of the Office. This, and other joint programmes, sought to foster closer coordination among UN agencies and mainstream rights on issues of concern in the DPRK.

MALAYSIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
33.94 million	331,000 km ²	0.803 (rank: 62/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Kuala Lumpur	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		Vacant	

XB requirements 2022

US\$312,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Mechanisms

M1 – A comprehensive plan has been developed for the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) monitors their implementation. OHCHR and the UNCT engage with the Government on follow-up to the recommendations in a more systematic manner.

16 | 17

OHCHR supported the establishment of a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) on the implementation of outstanding recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures, the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In 2022, UN Human Rights collaborated with the UNCT to support the development of a matrix (monitoring mechanism) for the implementation of the UPR recommendations issued in relation to Malaysia. The objective of the matrix is to link the UPR recommendations to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and identify the relevant departments that are responsible for implementing and reporting on progress achieved. Since OHCHR began to support the development of the matrix, the Government has conducted four workshops with relevant departments on its use. It has been recognized as an essential tool for the Government to track UPR implementation.

OHCHR has also conducted a series of workshops to strengthen the capacities of the NMRF (including working on its terms of reference and consultation and coordination capacities) and

to support the roll-out of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD). A two-day workshop was conducted in Putrajaya, Malaysia, to launch the NRTD and build the capacities of the focal points from various State institutions to use the database to record implementation progress. Malaysia was the first country to use the second version of the NRTD.



Participation

P6 – Victims of human rights violations and marginalized groups are empowered and included in discussions on issues that affect them at the national, regional and international level.

16 | 17

OHCHR supported the meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

In partnership with the UNCT, OHCHR provided technical and advisory support to a civil society forum known as the “Human Rights 365 Group,” to enable CSOs to share information on human rights, build networks, collaborate on human rights advocacy and enhance consultations with the UN regarding their plans and programmes. Biannual meetings are organized with the Group to enhance civil society collaboration on human rights and provide technical support, as needed.

MALDIVES

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
0.52 million	-	0.747 (rank: 90/191 in 2021)	“B” Status (2010)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2020	
Field office(s)		Malé	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022

US\$418,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:



Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.

16 

Through capacity-building initiatives, OHCHR supported the increased participation of civil society actors in public affairs.

In cooperation with the RCO, the HRA delivered a series of workshops on the right to participate in public affairs, in August. Participants included representatives from the Government, the Human Rights Commission, civil society and the media. The workshops enhanced the capacities of rights holders to claim their right to participate and increased the

understanding of duty bearers about their roles and responsibilities in respecting and fulfilling this right.

The HRA successfully advocated for the expansion of the UNCT’s Gender Theme Group to include human rights. This will encourage better coordination and a sense of ownership by the UNCT in the implementation of its human rights responsibilities.

MONGOLIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
33.94 million	1,564,000 km ²	0.739 (rank: 96/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2019		
Field office(s)	Ulaanbaatar		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	1		

XB requirements 2022**US\$83,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**
Participation

P2 – A National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) is established and a comprehensive and human rights-centred UNSDCF for 2023-2027 is finalized.

16

By providing technical support, OHCHR supported the establishment of an NPM and mainstreamed human rights into the UNSDCF 2023-2027.

As a result of the active presence of the HRA in Mongolia and through a series of consultations with the National Human Rights Commission, OHCHR supported the establishment of a commissioner in charge of coordinating the implementation of the new Law on Human Rights Defenders, and a commissioner in charge of implementing the new NPM.

The HRA was also instrumental in mapping the restrictions faced by persons with disabilities in accessing their right to housing. The final report served as a basis for follow-up under the new UNSDCF. The HRA advised the RC throughout the drafting of the new UNSDCF, provided inputs and liaised with all UNCT agencies to ensure that human rights were mainstreamed into all outcomes of the document. Consequently, the UNSDCF 2023-2027 was approved and OHCHR became a non-resident implementing partner agency for the new programmatic cycle.

MYANMAR

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
54.18 million	677km ²	0.585 (rank: 149/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2015)
Type of engagement	Human rights staff (other type of field presence)/ Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2014 (Human rights staff)/2021 (Human Rights Adviser)		
Field office(s)	Bangkok, Thailand		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	7		

XB requirements 2022**US\$4,290,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:****Accountability**

A2 – Relevant national actors take steps to incorporate human rights standards into their work and framework.

10 16

Through advocacy efforts and engagement with relevant stakeholders, OHCHR sought to contribute to increased accountability for perpetrators of grave human rights violations.

OHCHR published two reports on the human rights situation in the country and the economic interests of the military. This contributed to OHCHR's efforts to promote accountability for perpetrators of grave human rights violations and violations of international law. OHCHR also focused on building the capacities of civil

society actors and organized and delivered eight training modules to 188 beneficiaries, including 87 women, lawyers, journalists, grassroots organizations and CSOs. The training modules covered the international human rights system and its reporting mechanisms, international human rights law, international humanitarian law, international criminal law, human rights analysis and reporting and documentation of specific crimes in the post-coup environment.

A5 – UN policies and practices comply with international human rights standards and guidance on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). They focus on accountable institutions, access to justice and the participation of civil society in planning and monitoring.

16

OHCHR contributed to incorporating an HRBA into the work of the UNCT through reporting and by co-chairing the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group (HRTG).

During the year, the Office engaged with the UNCT, with a view to facilitating the full incorporation of human rights principles and indicators into the work of the United Nations in Myanmar. A training was organized on the HRBA and the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) principle, which was attended by more than 80 participants. In addition, as co-Chair of the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group, the Office supported actions to implement the revised UNCT Human Rights Strategy. To address human rights concerns on the ground, OHCHR led a review of the Strategy to ensure that responses and actions by the UN in Myanmar are coherent, coordinated and anchored in human rights. Moreover, the Office made substantive contributions to existing mechanisms in Myanmar, including the United Nations Communications Group, the Humanitarian Communications Group, the Early Warning Analysis Group, the HCT and the Protection Cluster. The Office also participated in the drafting of a wide range of documents, including the CCA, a Guidance Note on Human Rights Communications, the HCT Protection Strategy, the Protection Cluster Strategy

and policy papers on monitoring and investigating conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and gender-based violence (GBV).

Development

D3 – Relevant ministries, departments and parliamentary committees take steps to integrate human rights standards and frameworks into the fulfilment of their respective mandates in relation to land, housing and poverty policies, with particular attention paid to gender-specific concerns.

1 11

Through monitoring and reporting, OHCHR contributed to raising the awareness of international actors on the human rights implications of the economic activities of the Myanmar military.

OHCHR tracked the economic fallout from the military's coup and its impact on the country's humanitarian needs, as well as the regression in achieving the SDGs. The information gathered enabled OHCHR to contribute substantive analyses and inputs into a second round of the CCA, led by the RCO. These inputs fed into sections that integrate a human rights situational analysis of the conflict dynamics in the country and a discussion on the SDGs as central pillars of the humanitarian and development responses.

At the same time, while researching and publishing a report on the economic interests of the Myanmar military, the Office produced an evidence-based analysis of the implementation of the recommendations issued by the 2019 Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, documenting human rights violations and concerns in relation to

sanctions, arms embargoes, human rights due diligence, consumer spending, boycotts and market withdrawals, domestic reforms and development financing and programming. The report includes several recommendations ranging from the imposition of a global embargo to targeted sanctions to prevent cash flow support for military operations. It also calls on the UN to enhance its capacity to identify its exposure to military-owned businesses and products through due diligence processes.

Peace and Security

PS3 – Relevant intergovernmental forums, processes and mechanisms, including the HRC, the General Assembly and the Security Council, highlight human rights concerns when they address situations of conflict and insecurity in the subregion.

16

OHCHR continued raising human rights issues in several relevant UN forums, including at the national and international level.

OHCHR helped the UNCT to implement the Agenda for Protection and mainstream human rights into its public and private messages, statements and programmes. Much of the support provided to the UNCT related to the documentation and analysis of violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Within this framework, OHCHR provided technical assistance on legal matters, including the applicability of international humanitarian law, and took steps to ensure that accurate legal terminology was used in UNCT products and messages. Moreover, the Office shared its human rights analysis, which was based on

verified information, to support political analysis and the development of humanitarian operations and activities. It also presented mandated reports to the HRC and provided substantive contributions and inputs to the reports and products of other mechanisms.

Participation

P2 – The international community effectively protects CSOs and individuals and promotes an increasingly safe and enabling environment.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the advocacy of the international community in relation to specific human rights issues.

In 2022, the civic space in Myanmar further deteriorated. Civil society actors, including HRDs, had limited access to third country resettlement options and/or emergency support provided by international and regional protection actors. The unilateral adoption by the military of a Law on Registration of Associations reduced the already limited civic space. Throughout the year, the Office supported CSOs and HRDs in accessing protection mechanisms and facilitated referrals to embassies or relevant UN agencies for relocation to third countries or safe shelters in-country.

To promote protection awareness, OHCHR cooperated with a renowned and trusted local organization to deliver two training sessions for 34 HRDs and journalists, including 16 women, on digital security and the online protection of HRDs, victims and sources. In addition, the Office worked closely with legal aid organizations to support protection actions and strategies for lawyers in light

of the increased risk of arrest they face, particularly when defending individuals accused of supporting the resistance.

As a co-Chair of the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group, the Office began mapping UNCT protection experiences for HRDs and other civil society partners in order to streamline procedures and increase coordination and effectiveness. The mapping has not been finalized. At the same time, the Office organized regular multisectoral consultations between civil society and members of the UNCT. This enabled rights holders to share their protection and operational concerns and recommendations on ways that the UN could increase the efficacy of its protection activities.

Finally, as a member of the HCT, the Office provided substantive comments and recommendations related to the new HCT Protection Strategy, which was approved in September.

NEPAL

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
30.55 million	147 km ²	0.602 (rank: 143/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Kathmandu	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		Vacant	

XB requirements 2022

US\$344,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Legislation that outlines constitutionally-protected rights is based on international human rights law and is implemented, as guaranteed by the Constitution.

16

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

The HRA carried out an analysis of the bills to amend the Citizenship Act and the Transitional Justice Act to determine their compliance with international human rights standards. This analysis was used in joint advocacy initiatives, although the bills were not finalized before the term of the House of Representatives expired, in October.

A2 – Transitional justice mechanisms are strengthened to investigate conflict-related cases, including the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Commission of Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons (CIEDP), the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) or any other institution developed for that purpose.

10 16

OHCHR contributed to ensuring that transitional justice mechanisms are in place and functioning in conformity with international human rights norms and standards.

Following sustained advocacy by survivors of CRSV, who were supported by the Office, including through technical guidance, the Government organized consultations with them to inform the ongoing review of transitional

justice-related legislation. This represents a significant development for rights holders as the Government did not previously recognize CRSV survivors as victims of the armed conflict.

Through the RCO, the Human Rights Adviser advocated for the endorsement of the Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which was drafted in collaboration with women victims of conflict. The Government endorsed the Action Plan in September. The HRA is working with UN agencies to identify measures to support the Government for the implementation of the Action Plan.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Marginalized and vulnerable populations, including Dalits, women, persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons, are able to enjoy their equal status, as guaranteed by the Constitution, and have access to functioning mechanisms to redress grievances related to discrimination.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the capacities of marginalized populations to claim and protect their rights.

In anticipation of the local, provincial and federal elections that took place in Nepal in 2022, the HRA facilitated a workshop on “monitoring human rights in the context of elections,” in September, for CSOs, journalists, HRDs and representatives of the NHRC and other constitutional bodies. As a result, 31 participants (10 women, 21 men) from across the country and from diverse social groups, such as Dalits, Indigenous Peoples, Madhesi people, Muslims, youth, LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities, strengthened their skills and capacities to identify human rights issues at stake during the elections and to monitor human rights violations. The participants engaged with the HRA to share their concerns, provided first-hand information and initiated and expanded partnerships with other actors at the provincial level.

THE PACIFIC

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands (Republic of), Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau (New Zealand), Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Year established	2005
Field office(s)	Suva
UN partnership framework	United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022
Staff as of 31 December 2022	13

Total income	US\$1,668,783		
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,087,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$918,884		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
61%	28%	11%	
\$558,179	\$256,287	\$104,418	
RB expenditure	US\$147,103		
Personnel	100%		
\$147,103			

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The police academy in Fiji includes human rights training in the curriculum of pre-service and in-service training.

5 10 16   

OHCHR contributed to the institutionalization of human rights training for members of the police force by providing technical advice and facilitating training.

UN Human Rights continued to build the capacities of the Fiji Police Force on the protection of human rights and law enforcement, including through the application of a victim-centred HRBA, in collaboration with partners, including Fiji women's organizations, the Pacific Disability Forum, UNDP and UNICEF. The Regional Office also engaged with the Police Human Rights Cell around

strengthening an accountability system for reviewing alleged violations.

A total of 325 police officers, 100 of whom were women, received training at six remote locations in Fiji in order to enhance service delivery and prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

In addition, community-based discussions, which were facilitated by the Office and attended by 750 community members, 475 of whom were women, including chiefs, community leaders, youth and representatives of faith-based organizations, raised awareness about legislation on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and strengthened the capacities of community members to detect violations of the human rights of women and children and to handle SGBV cases.



Participation

P1 – National protection systems receive capacity-building training. Civil society actors receive technical assistance, including training, to increase their capacities to monitor and influence national protection systems. Oversight and accountability mechanisms improve access to justice and expand civic space.

16 

OHCHR contributed to increasing the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights standards.

UN Human Rights supported the Pacific Human Rights Defenders Network and various human rights organizations, networks and HRDs through capacity building and providing platforms for engagement. The Regional Office

collaborated with the University of the South Pacific (USP) in developing two courses for the Diploma in Leadership, Governance and Human Rights. The courses focus on developing and strengthening knowledge about methods of protection, legal mechanisms and the organizational development of human rights, the diverse situations of HRDs, strategic actions to take and how to mitigate risks. The courses are available to all Pacific Islanders in the 12 member USP countries. In 2022, a total of 54 students, including 27 women, from the region enrolled in the courses.



Development

D2 – Human rights training is institutionalized within the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Maritime Authority, relevant government departments and by CSOs.

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to institutionalizing human rights training in selected areas related to business and human rights.

From 21 to 22 November, UN Human Rights organized the “Third UN Pacific Forum on Business and Human Rights,” in a hybrid format. It was attended by more than 200 participants, including representatives from Pacific Island governments, businesses, NHRIs, CSOs and the donor community. During the Forum, participants discussed issues of relevance for the Pacific region, such as labour migration, modern slavery, climate change, development finance, food security, responsible business conduct in the extractive and minerals sectors and access to remedies.

D5 – Environmental and climate policies and plans increasingly respect, protect and fulfil human rights, guaranteeing access to information, decision-making, public participation and remedies for those who are affected.

5 10 13 16 17

OHCHR contributed to the application of a human rights-based approach to selected regional processes related to climate change.

Through its participation in the joint UN Pacific Climate Change, Migration and Human Security Programme, OHCHR contributed to the development of a human security-based response to climate change related displacement, migration and planned relocation in the Pacific. Also, through collaboration with governments and the Pacific Islands Forum, capacity and coordination was strengthened with a view to establish an intergovernmental regional framework on climate-related mobility, which has reviewed inputs from national, regional and expert consultations. OHCHR supported the participation of civil society and affected communities and provided normative human rights guidance on an HRBA to migration and climate mobility.

D7 – Increased capacities of Member States to integrate human rights, including recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, into national sustainable development plans.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening UN support to Member States in fulfilling their commitments, in accordance with international human rights standards, including by enhancing the capacities of RCs/UNCTs in relation to human rights.

UN Human Rights strengthened human rights engagement by UN leadership, notably the three Pacific Multi-Country Offices and UNCTs in Fiji, Micronesia and Samoa. OHCHR supported the development of the new Pacific UNSDCF 2023-2027 to ensure it integrates human rights into its vision, four key outcome pillars, results framework and coordination and implementation architecture. OHCHR and ILO co-chaired the United Nations Pacific Strategy (UNPS) 2018-2022 Outcome Group 6 on Human Rights and supported the application of an HRBA. Its Disability Inclusion Working Group contributed to the successful piloting of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), which led to the recruitment of persons with disabilities, changes in procurement practices and improved access and accessibility of UN offices in support of the implementation of the Strategy in the work of the UNCTs.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
10.14 million	463,000 km ²	0.558 (rank: 156/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Port Moresby	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		3	

XB requirements 2022

US\$700,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC) and the Papua New Guinea Correctional Services receive regular human rights training.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the development of human rights training modules and trainer manuals and to strengthening the human rights capacities of police officers through training in selected provinces.

Following two pilot training sessions in 2021, the HRA worked closely with the RPNGC Bomana Training College Centre of Excellence to deliver trainings to police and other uniformed personnel. A training was held in the Highlands region in anticipation of the July elections and a potential increase in violence. Trainings on human rights in law enforcement were also conducted in other areas, in

cooperation with the RPNGC Bomana Training College, and delivered to various law enforcement professionals, such as fraud investigators, as part of a UNODC-led training. This contributed to increased awareness about the human rights principles that are applicable to law enforcement. Additional trainings will be undertaken to reach a substantial number of police officials.

The HRA collaborated with the PNG Correctional Services on human rights trainings and the Office engaged with the newly appointed Director of Human Rights and Compliance to promote this collaboration. The appointment of the Director represents an important step in the institutionalization of human rights in the Correctional Services.

Participation

P6 – Disenfranchised youth and persons with disabilities meaningfully participate in the referendum and thereafter.

OHCHR contributed to the meaningful participation of vulnerable groups by raising awareness and strengthening the capacities of duty bearers in relation to human rights and inclusiveness.

The HRA held a consultative session with CSOs/HRDs in order to raise awareness about the protection and rights of HRDs, including through a review of the international legal framework, discuss the protection challenges faced by HRDs and explore protection strategies. The HRA facilitated the engagement of HRDs with Frontline Defenders, an INGO, which held a session on its work and protection options.

In addition, the HRA conducted four refresher training sessions on human rights monitoring for CSOs/HRDs in four locations (Arawa and Buka in Bougainville, Mendi in Southern Highlands and Port Moresby). The trainings were developed to increase their capacities to gather and share information, undertake reporting and improve their understanding of the evidence base to enhance advocacy. Based on the positive feedback received from participants, further training is planned for 2023.


Development

D7 – The UNCT actively works with the Government and civil society to address the latest UPR recommendations issued in relation to PNG by ensuring their inclusion in the implementation of the UNDAF.



OHCHR contributed to the increased integration into UN policies and programmes of international human rights standards and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The Working Group on Human Rights and Gender was re-established under the UNCT. The HRA and UN Women serve as co-Chairs. The Working Group will significantly improve the capacities of the UNCT to integrate human rights into the UNDAF and the UNSDCF.

Support was also provided for mainstreaming human rights into the preparation of the UNSDCF and the implementation of UNCT activities. For instance, the HRA provided inputs to the CCA update and the UNCT pre-meeting to identify the priorities of the multi-stakeholder strategic process and participated in preparing the joint UN input that was submitted to the Government in relation to Phase IV of its Medium-Term Development Plan.

In 2023, efforts will be undertaken to increase the capacities of the UNCT to incorporate human rights into its work, including while conducting the Call to Action for Human Rights Country-Level Dialogue.


Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated into early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.



OHCHR contributed to the integration into the work of humanitarian operations of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA engaged with the Protection Cluster to support the mainstreaming of human rights into humanitarian action. This included participation in contingency planning exercises for all Clusters and regular participation in the Disaster Management Team and Protection Cluster. The HRA also reviewed and provided inputs on key documents, such as the revised Protection Cluster terms of reference (ToRs) and planned assessment tools.

The capacities of the UN and other actors to integrate human rights into prevention-related programming and joint UN analyses were enhanced through the establishment of the Electoral Violence Incident Tracking Platform and the HRA's production of biweekly situation reports, which were shared with the UNCT during the electoral period. The HRA played a crucial role in the development of the Platform, including in relation to incident classification and definition, human rights-related analyses and reporting. This increased the UNCT's awareness about prevention approaches and measures that may be available.

The Papua New Guinea Human Rights Film Festival

The first Papua New Guinea Human Rights Film Festival was held in Port Moresby, in 2010, on the initiative of OHCHR. Since then, it has become a beloved annual event with screenings in various centres around PNG. The Festival aims to raise awareness about human rights issues among various audiences, including university students, detainees and local community members.

Due to the pandemic, the event was held virtually and on television for two years and in 2022, the thirteenth edition was re-launched as an in-person activity. OHCHR led its organization under the theme “Equal participation, equal representation for a better PNG,” with the support of UNDP, UNFPA, the European Union and the World Bank. A local artist was engaged for the poster design, representing unity in diversity, as provided in the Preamble of the Constitution of Papua New Guinea, and the importance of equality and human rights for all.

The Festival was held over three days in three secondary schools in the Southern Highlands Province, known for high rates of violence. On the first day, in Buyebi High School, approximately 100 Grade 9 students (15-17 years of age), including 40 girls, attended the event, along with women, men, girls and boys from the local community. On the second day, at Mongol Secondary School, in an area with many cases of sorcery accusation-related violence, close to 350 students from Grades 9 to 11 (15-18 years of age,) including 175 girls, attended the event. On the third day, nearly 200 students, including 109 girls,

from the Lalibu Secondary School participated in the Festival.

A series of short films were shown, which touched on the right to equality and non-discrimination, the right to health, the right to education and the right to work. During the post-film Q&A sessions, the students discussed gender equality, sorcery accusation-related violence, the rights and equality of persons living with HIV, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights framework.

Key questions asked by the students included:

“How did human rights come about?”

“When did the UDHR come into effect?”

“What are some basic human rights?”

“How does HIV affect the rights of people?”

Following the Q&A sessions, t-shirts featuring the Festival artwork were awarded as prizes.

Kicking off on 18 November, the Festival coincided with the launch of the annual “20 days of human rights activism” campaign, which begins in PNG on World Children’s Day (20 November).



Participants at the Papua New Guinea Human Rights Film Festival in November 2022. ©OHCHR



Banner of the 2022 Papua New Guinea Human Rights Film Festival which took place from 15 to 18 November 2022. ©OHCHR

PHILIPPINES

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
115.56 million	300,000 km ²	0.699 (rank: 116/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2017)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2014		
Field office(s)	Manila		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (2019-2023)		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	3		

XB requirements 2022

US\$1,936,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – Policies and procedures are adopted to protect HRDs and civic space, including through dialogue between rights holders and duty bearers.

16

Through advocacy and support for relevant processes, OHCHR contributed to constructive engagement between rights holders and duty bearers.

After the new administration came into power, the Government expressed an openness to engaging with CSOs, including those that were considered to be critical of the Government. In the context of the implementation of the UN Joint Programme for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Philippines, OHCHR helped to organize forums to facilitate engagement between

the Government and civil society. Six technical working groups, which cover the human rights areas outlined in HRC resolution 45/33 and are composed of representatives from the Government, civil society and UN agencies, met regularly to discuss these issues. This work supported a momentum for cooperation that could be seen as a positive step towards policy reform. In addition, the UNJP, led by OHCHR, organized a three-day session on human rights, from November 21 to 23, for 65 government officials, civil society actors and UN representatives. This session was one of the first times in many years that civil society and government actors had come together to address human rights situations in sensitive areas.



Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 | 17

OHCHR contributed to enhanced engagement with the international human rights mechanisms.

On 5 October, the NMRF participated in the Human Rights Council session on the Philippines and led the development of national reports in anticipation of their reviews by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (September), the Human Rights Committee (October) and the fourth UPR cycle. The HRA supported the NMRF by participating in mock sessions prior to reporting to the human rights treaty bodies. During the UPR session, the Government accepted 200 recommendations, representing a significant increase over the previous cycle. OHCHR rolled out its NRTD and focal points were appointed in different departments. The recommendations that were issued by the UPR, the Human Rights Committee and the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, following her official visit from 28 November to 8 December, will be included in the NRTD.

M3 – The international community continues to engage through the HRC to support OHCHR’s work in the Philippines. The HRC effectively responds to developments on the ground.

5 16

OHCHR promoted the engagement of the international community in relation to the human rights situation in the Philippines.

On 5 October, at the fifty-first session of the HRC, OHCHR organized an interactive panel on the situation of human rights in the Philippines and the implementation of HRC resolution 45/33. The panel speakers included the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, the RC, the Secretary of Justice and a representative of civil society (NoBox). In September, prior to the session, a report was published on the implementation of HRC resolution 45/33 (A/HRC/51/58). While Member States welcomed the progress achieved, they called for increased efforts to ensure accountability for extrajudicial killings and to guarantee civic space and freedom of expression.

The UNJP maintained a high profile in the country, including among development partners. In coordination with the RC, the HRA actively engaged with development partners, organizing four partner meetings and individual ad hoc meetings throughout the year. The HRA drafted two progress reports on the implementation of activities, which were shared with partners. The UNJP Steering Committee met twice, in September and December. The meetings were co-chaired by the RC and the Secretary of Justice and included the participation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Philippine National Police Human Rights Affairs Office, the Anti-Terrorism Council Program Management Center, the Philippine Drug

Enforcement Agency, the Presidential Human Rights Committee, as well as representatives of participating UN agencies and civil society.



Development

D7 – The UNCT integrates human rights norms, standards and principles into the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects.

OHCHR significantly contributed to the integration of human rights into joint programming documents and strategies, such as the Socio-economic and Peacebuilding Framework and the CCA.

The HRA convened meetings of the Leave No One Behind Thematic Working Group, an inter-agency forum that was established as part of the Socio-economic and Peacebuilding Framework 2020-2023. Ten agencies participated in quarterly meetings, agreed on the ToRs and contributed to the UNCT report to the UPR and the CCA analysis. In addition, the HRA led the CCA review process to mainstream human rights into the document, including by developing a policy note and facilitating consultation meetings among drafters and Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities and CSO networks. As a result, the CCA draft contains stronger human rights references than previous versions.



Accountability

A1 – Improved compliance of the security sector with international human rights norms and standards, in particular in relation to the right to life.

16

OHCHR advocated for the increased compliance of the National Police with international human rights norms and standards.

The Philippines National Police took steps towards improving its human rights compliance. After the Government took office, there was a shift in the approach to drug control, with an increased emphasis on rehabilitation and health-based approaches. This impacted the way in which anti-drug operations were conducted. Despite an overall decrease in the number of killings by police, human rights and research institutions continued to report killings by police on an almost daily basis. Only a few cases were brought to justice. Nevertheless, as of the end of the year, more than 300 police officers were reportedly under criminal investigation in connection with killings or murder. Such efforts, though limited, reportedly serve as an important deterrence to unrestrained police violence. Through the UNJP, and in coordination with the Resident Coordinator, the HRA will continue to advocate for investigations in cases of human rights violations. Furthermore, the HRA engaged with the National Police through technical working groups. Following a postponement in 2022, trainings on the Minnesota Protocols for investigating potentially unlawful deaths will be conducted in 2023.

A2 – Accountability mechanisms of the Department of Justice, the National Police and other relevant actors are strengthened.

10 16

Through regular engagement and the provision of technical assistance to the Government, OHCHR supported the functioning of accountability mechanisms in compliance with international human rights standards.

Accountability efforts were delayed before, during and after the electoral period. Towards the end of the year and after the new Government was in place, some government actors began reaching out to victims and witnesses, many of whom were afraid to report this intimidation to formal justice mechanisms due to a fear of retaliation. The Administrative Order No. 35 (AO35) mechanism, which is led by the Department of Justice, strengthened its engagement by increasing the number of case consultations and holding them in the locations where alleged violations occurred. This improved access to victims and witnesses. The HRA supported these efforts by engaging with all parties and leading monthly UNJP Technical Working Group meetings on accountability, which were co-chaired with the AO35 Chief.

SAMOA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
0.22 million	3,000 km ²	0.707 (rank: 111/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2022	
Field office(s)		Apia	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022

US\$165,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – Oversight and accountability mechanisms contribute to strengthening access to justice and widening civic space.

10 16 

OHCHR sought to enhance the capacities of rights holders to allow them to claim and exercise their right to participate and to protect a safe and enabling environment.

In September, the HRA facilitated a session on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment at the Youth and Children's Human Rights Forum, organized by the National Human Rights Institution of Samoa and the Pacific Community. The Forum was established following an extraordinary session of CRC, held in Samoa in 2020, to provide a platform for youth and children to exercise their right to be heard and participate

in decision-making processes. The consultation enabled youth and children to better understand the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change on their rights and also provided a safe space for them to share feedback on a range of issues that affect them, including abuse and violence in their homes and schools, discrimination in schools on the basis of disabilities, sexual orientation, ethnic background and mental health issues. The final report developed by the youth and children will be used to inform the NHRI's annual "State of human rights" report, which will be submitted to the Parliament in June 2023.

Non-discrimination

ND7 – Public support for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination, increases.

10

Through awareness-raising campaigns, OHCHR aimed to increase the visibility of human rights issues of concern among the wider population.

In anticipation of Human Rights Day (10 December), the HRA supported a group of youth to start their own media production company, through which they produced a video on the “voices of the people” in Samoa. The four-minute video features Samoans from all walks of life, explaining what human rights means to them, and was used to introduce a panel discussion on television, which was broadcast on 9 December. The RC and representatives from the National Human Rights Institution, the Samoa Blind Persons Association and the University of South Pacific discussed the legacy of the UDHR and topical human rights issues in Samoa. Both the video and the panel discussion were posted on social media websites, which contributed to raising awareness about human rights and groups that are at particular risk of discrimination and marginalization in Samoa.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Bangkok, Thailand
Staff as of 31 December 2022	27

Total income	US\$3,895,119		
XB requirements 2022	US\$8,320,000		
Total XB expenditure	US\$4,095,878		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
	65%	24%	11%
	\$2,674,626	\$970,839	\$450,413
Total RB expenditure	US\$812,521		
	Personnel	Non-personnel	
	91%	9%	
	\$736,624	\$75,897	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P1 – In Malaysia, legislation that curtails the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association is amended or repealed and complies with international standards.

16

By providing technical guidance, OHCHR supported the integration of human rights standards into national legislation and policies.

OHCHR engaged with the Government of Malaysia through the UPR follow-up process and offered technical guidance on specific UPR recommendations related to legislative amendments. The Office collaborated with UNDP, SUHAKAM and UN agencies on drafting the National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights, with a focus on strengthening the participation of rights holders and other stakeholders in the discussion. In October, OHCHR worked closely with SUHAKAM to organize two consultations on a national baseline assessment for the Action Plan in the states of Sabah and Sarawak, respectively. The consultations, co-hosted by the Collective of Applied Law of Legal Realism

and the Legal Affairs Division of the Prime Minister's Department, provided a platform for a multi-stakeholder dialogue on business-related human rights impacts, gaps and challenges in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). As a result, priorities and concrete actions were identified, with a focus on labour, environmental and governance issues, for inclusion in the Action Plan. At least 40 participants attended the consultations, including representatives from Indigenous communities, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), HRDs and academic experts. The Action Plan is expected to be launched by 2023.

In **Thailand**, OHCHR and the UNCT submitted comments and recommendations on the draft second NAP on Business and Human Rights, including on environmental and climate change-related issues, as well as the protection of environmental HRDs. The Ministry of Justice is finalizing the second NAP, which is expected to be launched in mid-2023. Moreover, the Office successfully advocated with the Ministry of Justice regarding the draft non-profit organization bill, which was put on hold following strong criticism from civil society, the UN and development partners.



Participation

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



OHCHR supported the meaningful participation of rights holders in selected public processes by delivering technical advice and capacity-building activities.

In **Lao PDR**, OHCHR provided mentoring and coaching to CSOs on documenting and reporting human rights violations to the international human rights mechanisms. Furthermore, the Office partnered with UNDP to build the capacity of 11 OPDs to engage with CRPD. This resulted in the submission of an alternative report to the Committee, the first report to be submitted by CSOs in Lao PDR, ahead of its review of the Government's initial report, in August. The Committee's concluding observations include issues raised by the OPDs in the alternative report. In addition, OHCHR worked alongside the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) to increase the awareness of Indigenous communities about human rights, how to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and report to the human rights treaty bodies and the special procedures, undertake advocacy and build networks. To date, UNPO has delivered 12 training sessions.

In **Viet Nam**, OHCHR monitored and documented human rights violations and shared relevant information with the international human rights mechanisms. The Office mentored several Vietnamese CSOs on documenting violations of civil and political rights and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms. It also assisted CSOs to submit reports to CRC in anticipation of the review of Viet Nam, in September, on violations of the rights of the child, especially regarding the children of ethnic minorities. Issues raised by CSOs were included in the CRC concluding observations. In addition, OHCHR cooperated with UNDP to support a network of OPDs to prepare for the CRPD's Pre-sessional Working Group. The OPDs updated their previous submission and included suggestions for the list of issues, some of which were included in

the Committee's list of issues that were sent to the Government.

OHCHR cooperated with women journalists from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand to enhance their knowledge about human rights, trends in threats that women journalists face in the region and protection mechanisms that are available to them. It also built their capacities to navigate challenging safety and security issues, including digital security and mental well-being. To this end, OHCHR worked closely with UN Women and UNESCO, as well as a range of other partner organizations, to establish and support a community of practice of women journalists, through which they shared their knowledge and experiences and promoted new learning opportunities, including during live sessions and in-person workshops. Through this sustained engagement, the women journalists gained access to the latest updates and information, found a safe space to express their concerns and developed a safety network that could be contacted when needed.



Development

D3 – In Indonesia, NHRIs and civil society are better equipped to advocate with the Government for amendments to national legislation, policies and human rights-based strategies on land rights and forced evictions.



OHCHR facilitated the increased capacities of rights holders to claim their rights through training and information-sharing.

The Office supported CSOs and HRDs in **Indonesia** to strengthen their capacities

to engage with the international human rights mechanisms, including by monitoring, documenting and reporting on human rights issues and concerns linked to the environment, climate change, land, business and human rights issues, in close cooperation with partner organizations and NHRIs. This led to the inclusion of these issues in submissions from CSOs, the NHRI and the UNCT to the UPR and in recommendations made to Member States, which called for the recognition and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their customary lands and resources, including through the establishment of appropriate mechanisms.

D5 – Increased compliance of legislation and policies on the environment, climate change, the extractive industries and urban planning with international human rights standards and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Enhanced support is provided to national institutions and civil society to ensure the participation of rights holders in decision-making processes related to the environment and climate change and to promote advocacy and their engagement with duty bearers and the private sector on these issues.



OHCHR supported the participation of environmental HRDs in discussions and decision-making processes related to the environment and climate change.

OHCHR collaborated with UNEP, UNICEF and UNDP to organize the first Asia Regional Dialogue on Climate Justice for Children, Youth and Future Generations, from 28 to 30 May. Over 1,100 children and youth from 61 countries across the Asia region participated

virtually to present their perspectives, ideas and concerns about climate justice for children and youth in the region. They also shared good practices and experiences in negotiations and decision-making processes at the regional and global level, participated in an orientation on risk assessment for youth advocates and learned about the work of CRC as it prepares General Comment No. 26 on children's rights and the environment with a special focus on climate change. The Dialogue was an associated event under the Stockholm +50 international meeting, hosted by Sweden from 2 to 3 June.

The Office organized the Second Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Forum, which showcased good practices, shed light on systemic issues that require solutions and supported peer learning and the sharing of tools and resources. A total of 107 participants attended in person, in Bangkok, and 100 participants attended online. At least 20 countries from the region were represented. Following the Forum, OHCHR supported the participation of environmental HRDs at COP27 and the UN Global Forum on Business and Human Rights to present key recommendations. OHCHR also supported the development of the [Environmental Human Rights Defenders Toolkit](#), led by the Asia Pacific Network of Environmental Defenders.

D7 – UNCTs and agencies in priority UN common country planning processes (UNDAF roll-out countries) and priority countries involved in supporting separate SDG planning/programming, incorporate an HRBA into their joint UN development programme planning and ongoing implementation, with a focus on universality and alignment with international human rights norms, standards and principles.

OHCHR supported the mainstreaming of human rights into the process leading to the adoption of new CCAs and UNSDCF's in the region.

OHCHR continued to use the development of CCAs and UNSDCF's as an entry point for strengthening the UNCT's implementation of an HRBA in relation to development. As the Secretariat and co-Chair of the Issue-based Coalition (IBC) on Human Rights and Gender Equality, OHCHR collaborated with UN Women and UNFPA to provide technical advice and HRBA training to 16 UNCTs in the region. As part of the regional inter-agency Peer Support Group, OHCHR contributed to the reviews of seven CCAs and UNSDCF's and submitted inputs on the integration of human rights, gender equality and the LNOB principle.

In Lao PDR, OHCHR held a prominent role in the new structures set up to implement the UNSDCF and co-led the Programme Oversight Group (POG) with WFP. The POG is responsible for monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of UNCT programmes and policies to ensure that human rights and the LNOB and other principles are mainstreamed throughout the implementation phase.

OHCHR co-chaired three POG meetings, during which members approved the workplan and reporting timelines.

In Viet Nam, OHCHR co-chaired the Human Rights Theme Group and is a member of the UNSDCF's Result Group 4 on Governance and Access to Justice, through which it advocated for the mainstreaming of human rights at the outcome and output levels. As a result, the UNSDCF now includes three human rights specific outcome-level indicators. Nevertheless, despite OHCHR's extensive support to the UNCT in developing the UNSDCF and its commitment to actively participate in its implementation, the Government did not allow OHCHR and other non-resident agencies to sign the UNSDCF.

Peace and Security

PS5 – UN country policies and programmes, including CCAs and UNSDCFs, successfully integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles, including recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

3 5 8 10 13 16 17 

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced integration of international human rights standards into the UN development and humanitarian cooperation mechanisms at the country and regional levels, including by building capacity and providing analysis and technical expertise.

OHCHR supported the roll-out of the Call to Action on Human Rights by co-organizing Country Dialogues in Lao PDR and Thailand. The Country Dialogue in Lao PDR was organized into two separate sessions. The first session, held on 19 May, was attended by 33 staff members

from different agencies and discussed the human rights situation in the country and identified primary risks and opportunities based on a background analysis. The second session took place on 7 July and was attended by 34 UNCT members. It aimed to facilitate an agreement among UN agencies on risk drivers and factors that are critical to realizing people's rights. It also focused on identifying risk mitigating actions that can be undertaken by the UNCT and highlighted the UNCT's capacities to do so. The Country Dialogue in Lao PDR is being showcased as a good practice within the UN system.

In Thailand, OHCHR co-facilitated an analysis session, on 22 September, which was attended by 30 UNCT members. The goals of the session were to establish a shared understanding of the key human rights challenges, risks and opportunities and to identify priority actions that the UNCT could collectively take forward to protect and strategically advance human rights in Thailand. The dialogue led to the identification of key human rights focus areas and the development of a coordinated approach to UNCT advocacy on identified human right challenges.

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) supported the inclusion of human rights risk analyses in the CCAs of countries in the region. This opened up opportunities to strengthen the UN's work on early warning and risk analysis. Over the past three years, the ERT integrated inputs into the risk analysis sections in CCAs through a combination of trainings, workshops and written analytical inputs. In 2022, the ERT provided inputs to the draft CCAs of Afghanistan, Cambodia, India, Nepal and Papua New Guinea.

Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.

16 17

OHCHR supported the establishment and functioning of the NMRF.

In Lao PDR, OHCHR worked with the RCO to support the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to finalize the UPR Plan of Action for the implementation of recommendations accepted by Lao PDR. OHCHR provided guidance to the Ministry and inputs to the draft, participated in public consultations and translated the final version into English. The Office of the Prime Minister endorsed the UPR Plan of Action, in June.

Accountability

A1 – Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16

OHCHR advocated for the increased compliance of national legislation and policies with international human rights standards.

On 25 October, the Government of Thailand enacted the Act on Prevention and Suppression of Torture and Enforced Disappearance. OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice, the custodian of the Act. The Act includes provisions that need to be amended to ensure its full compliance with international human rights standards, however,

its promulgation will help the Government to fulfil its commitment to zero tolerance for torture and enforced disappearances and to ensure access to justice for the victims of torture and enforced disappearances. The Act also provides victims of torture and of involuntary and enforced disappearances and their families with the necessary framework to seek legal redress and hold accountable the perpetrators of such crimes.

Non-discrimination

ND6 – Migration governance measures (national and regional laws, regulations, policies, processes and agreements and their implementation) increasingly comply with international human rights law. Sustained advocacy is undertaken with States to ensure migrants in vulnerable situations have improved access to their human rights, with particular attention paid to their specific experiences, views and needs. Positive public narratives based on human rights, shared values and common humanity increasingly challenge and reframe negative narratives against migrants and minorities.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring international human rights norms and standards on migration and people on the move are integrated into legislation/policies by producing high-quality knowledge products and enhancing the capacities of governments, national and regional CSOs and other stakeholders to protect and advocate for the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations.

Following its launch at the first International Migration Review Forum

(IMRF), in May, the Office disseminated a regional report on *Pathways to migrant protection: A mapping of national practice on admission and stay on human rights and humanitarian grounds in 17 countries in Asia and the Pacific*, through a virtual consultation with 88 attendees from 15 countries in the region. The mapping has been referenced in reports of human rights mechanisms and the work of civil society actors in the region.

As the co-lead of the Workstream on Alternatives to Detention (ATDs) of the Regional UN Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific, the Office published, in October, a report on *Mapping of immigration detention and alternatives to detention in the Asia-Pacific Region*. This was followed by a hybrid launch at a workshop that was attended by 17 representatives (nine women, eight men) from leading CSOs on building advocacy strategies to end immigration detention and promote human rights-based alternatives in the region.

In **Thailand**, the Office increased the understanding of international human rights standards related to international borders among 75 frontline immigration officers, the police and other relevant government departments through two trainings co-organized with IOM. A trainers guide was prepared to accompany these capacity-building efforts and was translated into Thai and other regional languages.

SRI LANKA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
21.83 million	66,000 km ²	0.782 (rank: 73/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2022)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser		
Year established	2004		
Field office(s)	Colombo		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	4		

XB requirements 2022 **US\$614,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:
 **Development**

D3 – Measures are in place to ensure the return of all land that is occupied by the military, the payment of appropriate compensation and the settlement of land-related disputes that are linked to displacement that occurred during the 30-year conflict.

1 11

OHCHR contributed to the improved compliance of land legislation/policies with international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued to monitor land issues in recognition of their potential to trigger conflicts. Land issues were reflected in the reports of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the HRC and in the UNCT's early warning and prevention tools. Local partners were

supported in monitoring land conflicts at the district level, particularly in the districts of Mannar and Batticaloa, where disputes have arisen.

The CCA and the UNSDCF were finalized. OHCHR participated in their development and two outputs relating to human rights/social cohesion and governance/access to justice were integrated into the UNSDCF.

**Peace and Security**

PS6 – All Sri Lankan military or police personnel proposed for deployment in UN peacekeeping operations undergo a stringent screening process, which is led by civilians.

16 

OHCHR supported the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL), the UN and the Government to integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles into their work.

With assistance from UN Human Rights, the UNCT consistently applied the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces in all activities involving the security forces or entities with security components (i.e., civilian bodies operating under the Ministry of Defence or directed by acting/former military personnel). Support was also provided to the HRCSL in screening candidates for peacekeeping operations.

TIMOR-LESTE

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
1.34 million	15,000 km ²	0.607 (rank: 140/191 in 2021)	"A" Status (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2013	
Field office(s)		Dili	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		4	

XB requirements 2022**US\$545,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:****Accountability**

A1 – The police and army comply with international human rights standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment.



Through technical support and tailored capacity-building initiatives, OHCHR supported the police and the army in their compliance with international human rights norms and standards that prohibit torture and ill-treatment.

OHCHR maintained its long-standing human rights training programme for members of the security forces, in partnership with the NHRI (the Provedoria dos Direitos Humanos e Justiça (PDHJ)), the police training centre, the Minister of Defence and the Armed Forces of Timor-Leste (F-FDTL).

Trainings were delivered in Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima and Dili for 187 security forces members, including 21 women. The trainings covered human rights principles, with an emphasis on those related to the use of force, freedom from torture and ill-treatment, human rights in detention, the role of the police and the army during states of emergency and ways to better protect the rights of vulnerable groups. OHCHR organized an end-of-year meeting with the programme partners to reflect on the impact of the training, discuss challenges and explore how to increase the effectiveness of the training. Partners positively assessed the impact of the training and expressed interest in continuing the programme. Complaints of excessive use of force by the police represent the majority of complaints received by the PDHJ,

however, it confirmed that none of the participants of the programme were identified as perpetrators of the received complaints.

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including ESCRs.



OHCHR contributed to building the capacities of judicial actors to increase their knowledge and apply human rights standards in legal proceedings.

In response to a request from the NHRI/PDHJ, OHCHR trained 40 participants from the PDHJ and CSOs on monitoring human rights in the context of elections. The two-day trainings were undertaken twice in February and covered early warning and prevention, emerging challenges related to technology, the role of the media and the participation of rights holders, such as women and persons with disabilities. Representatives of national electoral authorities and the police were invited to share with participants how their institutions were preparing for the electoral process, the relevant legal framework and complaint mechanisms that enable the PDHJ and CSOs to support voters and victims of alleged violations of their right to participate in political and public life. After receiving positive feedback from participants and a request from PDHJ for training on specific human rights issues, OHCHR will organize additional trainings in 2023.

Further, the Directorate of Legislation of the Ministry of Justice requested

that OHCHR provide training to its staff on international human rights law and its applicability in Timor-Leste. Training materials were prepared and are being translated for trainings that are scheduled for 2023.

Participation

P6 – Youth, women and discriminated groups, and those who represent them, regularly advocate for human rights.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes by providing technical expertise, funding and support for advocacy campaigns.

OHCHR held three quarterly meetings with CSOs and the PDHJ, which were also attended by relevant ministries. The meetings focused on human rights issues of concern in the country, including: the outcome of the UPR process; the integration of human rights concerns into the census, for instance, through accounting for persons with disabilities and aiming to ensure they are not negatively impacted by budgetary allocations and other government actions); and the right to social protection, the development of the Timorese social protection system and the implementation of the national strategy on social protection.

The Human Rights Defenders' Network (HRDN), which was established in 2015 with a grant from OHCHR and is now composed of 11 NGOs, conducted joint public advocacy that focused on addressing impunity and called for

improved respect for human rights. OHCHR supported the Network by sharing guidance on addressing human rights issues, developing strategies and undertaking analysis.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Legal drafters and judicial actors take into account the rights of persons with disabilities.



OHCHR contributed to laws, policies and practices that more effectively combat all forms of discrimination and responsible authorities actively worked to Leave No One Behind, including by tackling the root causes of inequality.

OHCHR advocated for and promoted the rights of person with disabilities. More specifically, it reinforced the calls of OPDs for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which was one the recommendations issued during Timor-Leste's third UPR cycle. Following extensive advocacy by OHCHR and CSOs, the Government approved a draft resolution, on 4 May, for the country to become a State Party to CRPD and its Optional Protocol. The resolution was subsequently approved by the Parliament and the President of the Republic promulgated the resolution in the Official Gazette. The Government has not yet deposited the instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General. OHCHR is supporting the process by providing technical advice to the Office of the President, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant actors.

Timor-Leste conducted the 2022 Housing and Population Census during the last quarter of the year. During preparations, OHCHR and UNFPA advocated for the use of methodologies, such as the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability, to collect more accurate and disaggregated data. In particular, emphasis was placed on collecting information on persons with disabilities, including the total number and types of disabilities. As a result, the census questionnaire included the Washington Group Questions.

ND7 – The public supports the application of an HRBA to disability and opposes discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the narrative on the rights of persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons in Timor-Leste by providing expert advice on compliance with international human rights law and supporting advocacy campaigns.

On the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (17 May), OHCHR launched the report, *Discrimination and access to education of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons in Timor-Leste*. The report outlines concrete recommendations to ensure that educational institutions are more inclusive and respect the rights and needs of LGBTI students by developing measures to prohibit, prevent and punish bullying and discriminatory harassment at schools

and universities. The event was opened by the RC and the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports. The Minister acknowledged that the National Inclusive Education Policy does not include LGBTI students and committed to addressing this gap, while highlighting the need for teachers and school staff to receive training. The Director General of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture (MHEYS) expressed support for initiatives that will increase awareness about the issue at universities. In October, OHCHR organized a one-day workshop on “Inclusive schools: Raising awareness on the rights of LGBTI students,” for representatives/managers of universities and institutes operating under the MHEYS. The workshop was undertaken in partnership with NGOs and covered the international and national legal framework and the role of educational institutions and their staff in promoting an inclusive environment for LGBTI students and preventing bullying and harassment. Participants welcomed the workshop and requested the support of OHCHR in developing advocacy initiatives in their respective institutions, which will be undertaken in 2023.



Mechanisms

M1 – Reports to the international human rights mechanisms are submitted in accordance with guidelines and include adequate information.

17


OHCHR provided support to State institutions to ensure that the reports that are submitted to the international human rights mechanisms substantially or fully conform to reporting guidelines and allow for a meaningful review.

On 27 January, Timor-Leste’s human rights record was examined by the UPR Working Group during its fortieth session. OHCHR provided support to various stakeholders in the submission of reports and participation in the different phases of the process. Timor-Leste confirmed the acceptance of 186 recommendations and took note of eight recommendations. OHCHR translated into Tetum the outcome document and the recommendations and developed a shortened, thematically organized version, all of which were widely shared with stakeholders online and during bilateral meetings. OHCHR also cooperated with the National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship of the Ministry of Justice to organize three meetings to follow up on the recommendations issued in relation to Timor-Leste by the international human rights mechanisms since the country restored its independence in 2002 and ratified most of the human rights treaties. The meetings focused on: the rights of persons with disabilities (in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion); the rights of

LGBTI persons; and the rights of children (in partnership with UNICEF). Participants discussed achievements and priority areas related to the implementation of recommendations. Concrete suggestions were put forward and communicated to relevant State institutions. Sessions are being planned for 2023 that will focus on other thematic issues.

Timor-Leste has several overdue reports relating to the international human rights treaties and there is no national process in place to systematically follow up on the implementation of issued recommendations. OHCHR met with the Minister of Justice and reached an agreement to organize formal discussions with other State entities for the establishment of an NMRF. OHCHR will continue its advocacy in 2023.

M2 – The NHRI, the UNCT and civil society coalitions that work on emerging human rights issues submit reports for each scheduled review by the human rights treaty bodies. NGOs submit information to the special procedures.

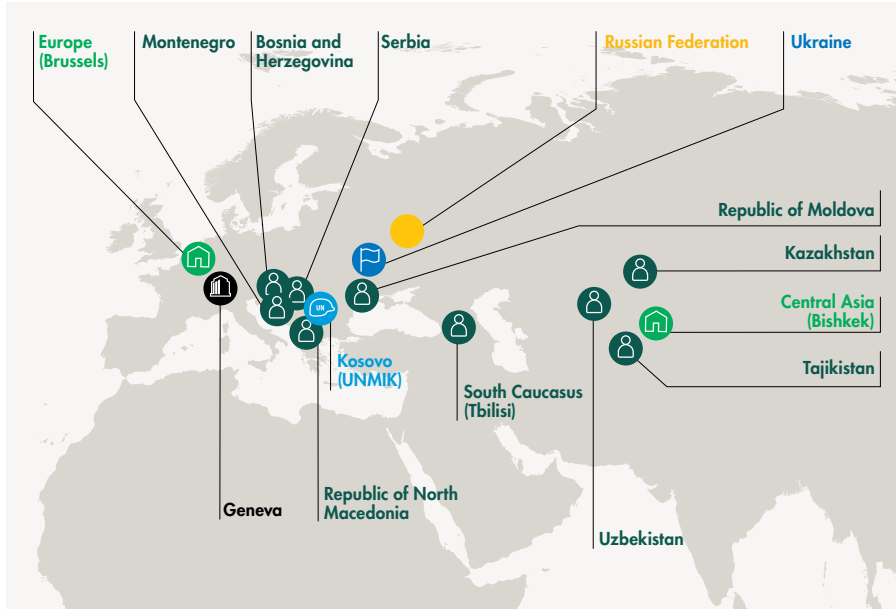
17 

OHCHR provided support to the NHRI, CSOs, UN entities and individuals in the development of substantive submissions to the human rights treaty bodies, the special procedures and the UPR.

Following Timor-Leste’s third UPR cycle, in January, OHCHR organized a meeting with the NHRI, the PDHJ and CSOs to discuss the interactive dialogue, the outcome of the review and follow-up actions. OHCHR also

included the NHRI and CSOs in three meetings that were co-organized with the National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship of the Ministry of Justice in order to follow up on the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The NHRI and CSOs presented their assessments on the status of implementation of the recommendations, which were based on their monitoring and advocacy activities. They also participated in group discussions that identified priority areas in need of implementation. Additional thematic meetings are planned for 2023.

UN Human Rights in Europe and Central Asia



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

- Geneva
- Ukraine (HRMMU)
- Central Asia (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) and
Europe (Brussels, Belgium)
- Kosovo^b (UNMIK)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Montenegro,
Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova,
Serbia^c, South Caucasus (based in Tbilisi, Georgia and
also covering Armenia and Azerbaijan), Tajikistan and
Uzbekistan^d
- Russian Federation

^a Human rights advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.
^b All references to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.
^c On hold until funding is available.
^d Temporary support availed in 2022, to be discontinued 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, UN Human Rights' work in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) covered a vast region comprised of 54 countries, including members and candidates of the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe (COE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as well as several disputed territories controlled by de facto authorities. OHCHR field operations consisted of 14 field presences: two regional offices (the Regional Office for Europe in Brussels and the Regional Office for Central Asia in Bishkek); one country office (Ukraine); one human rights component in a peace mission (United Nations Mission in Kosovo¹³ (UNMIK)); nine human rights advisers (HRAs) (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Caucasus (Georgia) and Tajikistan and Uzbekistan); and one project in the Russian Federation.

An increase in conflicts and crisis situations across the region posed significant challenges. In many of these situations, violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law were reported, notably in Russia's armed attack against Ukraine on 24 February. Other clashes took place along the Armenia-Azerbaijan border and in Tajikistan's Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region and cross-border hostilities erupted between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Protests were held in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. OHCHR ensured there was consistent coverage and monitoring of and reporting on unfolding developments. It also participated in consultations on the UN's response, engaging with the international human rights mechanisms, UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and

permanent missions. In 2022, OHCHR deployed HRAs in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan and engaged with Belarus through the UN system.

During the year, the Office implemented old and new reporting mandates established by the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly, including on the human rights situations in Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia and Ukraine/Crimea. It promoted human rights engagement, including in the contexts of Cyprus, Kosovo, Moldova, the three countries of the South Caucasus and Ukraine, participated in political processes (Geneva International Discussions on the Conflict in Georgia), provided human rights inputs to UN responses and facilitated avenues for conflict resolution/prevention processes. In the Western-Balkans region, OHCHR supported the implementation of the Secretary-General's Strategy for the Western Balkans, "Sustaining peace through trust-building, dialogue and reconciliation," which included transitional justice consultations with the UN in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia.

OHCHR supported monitoring and advocacy on human rights issues related to people on the move, regardless of their migration status, including through its report "Nowhere but back: Assisted return, reintegration and the human rights protection of migrants in Libya."

OHCHR contributed to United Nations development, early warning and prevention mechanisms by participating in the preparation of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) (and the Ukraine Transitional Framework), 18 Common Country Analyses (CCAs), six road maps and six joint workplans, the regional Issue-Based Coalitions on Gender Equality (IBC-GE) and on Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience (IBC-LMPDR).

To support prevention and accountability efforts, OHCHR promoted the implementation by six UNCTs of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces.

¹³ All references to Kosovo should be understood in compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
3.23 million	51,000 km ²	0.780 (rank: 74/191 in 2021)	Status A (2017)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2021	
Field office(s)		Sarajevo	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		3	

XB requirements 2022**US\$956,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:****Participation**

P1 – Enhanced promotion and protection of the rights to freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, as well as the right to participate in public affairs.

16

OHCHR raised critical human rights issues and advocated for them to be taken up by local actors and in international forums in a timely manner.

Following the general elections that took place on 2 October and due to increased polarization, the Office prioritized the enhancement and protection of civic space and public participation. In the context of deteriorating political crises and the general elections, OHCHR conducted monitoring, providing timely analysis to the Resident Coordinator (RC) and supporting their

advocacy on civic space through events, media and bilateral engagement.

The HRA organized other activities to promote civic space and fundamental freedoms, including a conference on civic space, from 15 to 16 June, with 45 participants (28 women, 17 men), including from civil society, human rights defenders (HRDs), the national human rights institution (NHRI), the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, the Parliament, as well as representatives of embassies, international organizations and the UN. This resulted in the drafting of a road map that was focused on recommendations to strengthen civil society's participation. A consultation on hate speech was also organized with 17 CSO representatives (eight women, nine men) and the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), as

well as a meeting with six journalists (two women, four men) in the context of the visit of the Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications. Furthermore, in September, OHCHR issued a report entitled The Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression: The Safety of Journalists and Access to Information in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

OHCHR coordinated the development of the plan of action of the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina to counter hate speech, which was endorsed in February. OHCHR published a factsheet on hate speech that was developed in consultation with and in support of four State institutions with a mandate to address hate speech, namely, the Human Rights Ombudsman Institution, the Gender Equality Agency of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the Central Election Commission and the Communications Regulatory Agency. In June, on the occasion of the first International Day for Countering Hate Speech (18 June), which was commemorated under the auspices of the RC, the four agencies signed a pledge reaffirming their commitment to counter hate speech and all forms of discrimination, in accordance with their respective mandates, including ahead of the general elections.



Mechanisms

M2 – More systematic and inclusive engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and follow-up on the implementation of their recommendations is undertaken.

17



Through technical support and advocacy, OHCHR sought to encourage the increased understanding and engagement by national actors of the international human rights mechanisms.

In September, OHCHR coordinated UNCT inputs and drafted an alternative report for the follow-up assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW). Together with the EU, OSCE and CSOs, OHCHR advocated for the implementation of recommendations issued by the Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) in relation to civilian victims of war and its decision concerning reparations for a survivor of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV).



Accountability

A2 – Strengthened national mechanisms provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including for economic and social rights.

10

16



By advocating with local and international actors, OHCHR promoted accountability and transitional justice and helped to focus the attention of the international community on these topics.

OHCHR engaged in regular early warning monitoring, analysis and reporting, which focused the attention of the UN system, including the international human rights mechanisms, on the human rights situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

OHCHR played a central role in ensuring that transitional justice was one of the RC's priorities, particularly following the December 2021 visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. OHCHR widely disseminated the Special Rapporteur's report ([A/HRC/51/34/Add.2](#)) and engaged in discussions with various actors, highlighting his recommendations. As a result of the HRA's analysis and inputs, the High Commissioner emphasized transitional justice in messages that were delivered during her visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in June.

OHCHR supported the RC's advocacy on dealing with the past. This included: issuing a press statement on 19 June that focused on reparations for survivors of CRSV and children born as a consequence of rape; engaging with civil society working with survivors of war-time violations and victims' associations; and supporting the RC's advocacy for comprehensive reparations and the elimination of court fees that are imposed on victims due to statutory limitations.

CENTRAL ASIA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
Year established	2008
Field office(s)	Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), with field offices in Nursultan (Kazakhstan); Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Ashgabat (Turkmenistan) and Tashkent (Uzbekistan)
Staff as of 31 December 2022	13

XB income	US\$639,152	
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,753,000	
XB expenditure	US\$963,235	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
42%	48%	10%
\$399,943	\$465,736	\$97,556
RB expenditure	US\$881,549	
Personnel	Non-personnel	
86%	14%	
\$757,502	\$124,047	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Institutions that train judges, law enforcement officials, the staff of security-related agencies, lawyers and other educational institutions, consistently include human rights in their training.

16

OHCHR contributed to the delivery and institutionalization of human rights training for law enforcement officials and State authorities, including in relation

to criminal justice, enforced disappearances, torture investigations, economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs) and non-discrimination.

In **Kazakhstan**, capacity-building efforts that were postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions were resumed. OHCHR delivered two trainings for 34 judges on international standards related to the right of peaceful assembly.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, OHCHR assisted the Academy of the Ministry of the Interior

and the Republican Training Centre in developing and institutionalizing training modules on human rights, diversity and minority rights and enhanced the capacity of 25 trainers at these institutions through a training of trainers for cadets and as part of the professional development offerings for police officers. This work will continue in 2023.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR collaborated with civil society to develop training modules for lawyers on the right to adequate housing. OHCHR reached an agreement with the Union of Lawyers to incorporate the training modules into the curricula of the Training Centre of Tajikistan's Union of Lawyers. In October, OHCHR organized two trainings on the right to adequate housing for 40 lawyers, including 13 women. In May and September, OHCHR conducted a training for 39 judges, including 15 women, on the right to adequate housing in light of the new Housing Code.

In **Uzbekistan**, OHCHR cooperated with the National Human Rights Centre (a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF)), to host the “Global Forum on Human Rights Education” in Samarkand, in December. The Forum gathered together 150 experts from the field of human rights education, including those working in educational institutions, international organizations and international/national NGOs. Participants discussed the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training and prepared proposals in relation to the fifth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education. The outcome document, *The Samarkand Action Plan for the Development of Human Rights Education 2023-2025*, included these proposals and other inputs from participants.

A2 – NHRIs are more effective, independent and interconnected, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and play a leading role in promoting and protecting human rights at the national level and across the region.



OHCHR contributed to ensuring that the work of NHRIs in the region complies with the Paris Principles, including through advocacy efforts and tailored training.

OHCHR worked closely with UNDP to lead regional consultations for Central Asian NHRIs on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and human rights. A regional capacity-building workshop was organized for Central Asian NHRIs, parliamentarians and NMRFs from 21 to 22 November, in Istanbul, Turkey. The workshop provided a platform for 44 participants to learn about and share information on central themes, including: accreditation with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI); engagement with the international human rights mechanisms; the role of NHRIs in promoting and protecting human rights in a context of challenges and interlinked fragilities of conflict, climate change and business-related violations of human rights; and Central Asian experiences with repatriation, rehabilitation and the reintegration of nationals from conflict zones and the role of NHRIs in these processes.

In **Kazakhstan**, on 5 November, OHCHR's long-term advocacy efforts resulted in the adoption of a Constitutional Law on the Ombudsperson, thereby strengthening the legal basis of the NHRI, as well as its potential impact at the local level. Prior to this result,

OHCHR advocated with the Office of the Ombudsperson on the draft law to ensure it integrated the recommendations issued by the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditation. It also sought to undertake a capacity assessment of the NHRI, however, this is now being planned for 2023. Following the long-awaited establishment of the NHRI, OHCHR and UNDP conducted an introductory training for 31 newly recruited NHRI staff members at the regional and central level, including on the role of NHRIs. The training was founded on international standards.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, under a project supported by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), OHCHR assisted the Ombudsperson Institution in monitoring access to justice for vulnerable groups, such as migrants and stateless persons in the south of the country. OHCHR also assisted the Ombudsperson Institution of the Kyrgyz Republic in developing a toolkit to monitor the situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the affected population of the Batken Province during the border conflict. From September to December, OHCHR ensured the inclusion of the Ombudsperson Institution into the Protection Sector, under the Disaster Response Coordination Unit (DRCU); facilitated the engagement and collaboration of the Institution with relevant civil society and humanitarian organizations in the Batken region; and shared protection concerns related to the affected population to inform the Institution's monitoring work in the region and on the rights of IDPs.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR organized a workshop on 23 August to raise the awareness of 16 Ombudsperson staff members about the Paris Principles, the accreditation process and their

capacities to engage with stakeholders, including the judiciary and the Parliament. Further, from 24 to 25 August, a workshop was organized for 20 human rights focal points from 16 State institutions to increase their understanding of human rights protection as a precondition for development. Entitled "Applying a human rights-based approach to development in the context of the implementation of the Agenda 2030," the workshop also highlighted how reporting on human rights and the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to data can be used when reporting on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Participation

P1 – CSOs, HRDs and marginalized groups increasingly claim their rights and promote the rights of their constituencies and participate more freely in public life.

16



OHCHR contributed to the increased use of national protection systems in compliance with international human rights standards by supporting strategic litigation and training programmes for HRDs, persons with disabilities and underrepresented minorities in State institutions.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, OHCHR provided six three-day trainings to build the capacities, knowledge and skills of 125 young people on human rights, participation in decision-making processes at the local level and inclusive local governance. On International Youth Day (12 August), OHCHR organized a two-day festival, in Osh, to provide a platform for young

people to exchange views and build their capacities in relation to human rights promotion and advocacy. A total of 70 participants attended the festival, including 40 women and 30 men, 12 of whom were persons with disabilities and 25 of whom were from ethnic minorities. Further, OHCHR provided support to the Ministry of Education to develop educational modules on human rights, non-discrimination, diversity and tolerance for introductory lessons at all school levels in the country. The modules are expected to be finalized, tested and widely implemented by the beginning of the academic school year, in September 2023.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR conducted training sessions and increased the knowledge of 40 activists on human rights, non-discrimination and public participation.

In **Uzbekistan**, OHCHR conducted a human rights and gender analysis of the national legal framework and an assessment of State programmes, with a focus on their compliance with international human rights standards in the repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegration of Uzbek nationals returning from conflict zones. In April, under the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), OHCHR conducted a two-day capacity-building session for NHRIs and CSOs, including organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), to support the preparation of an alternative report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In May, a public discussion was held on the implementation of recommendations issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). In July, a preparatory meeting was organized with five human rights activists to support the submission of an alternative report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC). As a result, the report was submitted and activists attended the CRC session in October. OHCHR also trained 20 persons with disabilities, including 11 women, on human rights, non-discrimination, advocacy and participation.

Development

D7 – When implementing the SDGs and other development plans, more Central Asian States and UNCTs adopt an HRBA and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.



OHCHR contributed to the satisfactory integration of human rights into the international and national frameworks for the SDGs and other development plans in Central Asia.

In April, OHCHR and UNDP partnered to organize “The Central Asian regional consultations on human rights and the SDGs: Integration of human rights recommendations into SDG implementation mechanisms in Central Asia.” Over 70 representatives from government agencies and civil society from five Central Asian States attended, representing national institutions responsible for monitoring and reporting on SDGs and human rights and collecting and analysing data on the SDGs and human rights. Participants shared their experiences in

linking human rights recommendations to the SDGs and their implementation practices in national monitoring, implementation and oversight processes towards the achievement of the SDGs. The consultation provided insight on relevant national stakeholders and existing SDGs and human rights monitoring and reporting mechanisms in the five Central Asian States. Participants expressed their appreciation for the consultation and interest in continued regional exchanges.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, several capacity-building sessions were organized. In August and October, a session was held for the NMRF and human rights focal points on the linkages between reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the Voluntary National Review (VNR). In November, OHCHR organized a workshop with the Danish Institute for Human Rights to raise the awareness of State officials about the application of an HRBA to the implementation of the SDGs. Moreover, OHCHR supported the Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO) and the UNCT by monitoring legislative and political developments and issues of concern with human rights impacts and shared information and key messages with UN agencies and the RCO as needed. Following the border clashes with Tajikistan from 14 to 17 September, OHCHR and UNHCR co-led the activated Protection Sector of Kyrgyzstan’s DRCU and engaged with civil society. This enabled them to convey the human rights concerns of local communities and increase the awareness of the international community about the human rights and humanitarian situations in the Batken region.



Mechanisms

M1 – NMRFs successfully fulfil their mandates, engage with the international human rights mechanisms, coordinate reporting and follow-up, consult with relevant national actors and share information with them and the public.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to strengthening the NMRFs and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, following OHCHR's technical and capacity-building support, the Government submitted its initial report to CRPD, in April. OHCHR also supported the Coordination Council on Human Rights in drafting the National Human Rights Action Plan 2022-2024, which was adopted, in November. In July, OHCHR conducted a workshop for the Ombudsperson's Office on alternative reporting to the Human Rights Committee. As a result, the NHRI submitted its first alternative report, with a focus on the rights of women and children.

In **Tajikistan**, OHCHR and UNICEF supported the Government in organizing national consultations, in May, to discuss the drafting process of Tajikistan's periodic reports to CAT and CRC. Also in May, OHCHR participated in a meeting of the Inter-Agency Commission on the implementation of Tajikistan's international obligations in the field of human rights, organized by the Government of Tajikistan. The draft periodic reports to CAT and CRC were adopted during the meeting.

M3 – Increased use of the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms by policymakers, legislators and the judiciary.

5 16

OHCHR contributed to a number of selected policy areas where the level of compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards has significantly improved.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, from 12 to 14 May, OHCHR cooperated with the UNCT, as well as development partners and CSOs, to co-organize an induction workshop for 60 newly elected Members of Parliament and staff of the Office of the Parliament. The workshop was part of a series of induction workshops aimed at strengthening their knowledge and skills, in line with constitutionally defined responsibilities, parliamentary rules and regulations and national and international commitments. OHCHR delivered a presentation on human rights concepts, international frameworks and the international human rights commitments of Kyrgyzstan.

EUROPE

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	European Union
Year established	2009
Field presence(s)	Brussels
Staff as of 31 December 2022	9

XB income	US\$242,500		
XB requirements 2022	US\$871,000		
XB expenditure	US\$339,059		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
48%	41%	12%	
\$162,003	\$138,049	\$39,007	
RB expenditure	US\$869,579		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
89%	11%		
\$772,015	\$97,564		

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:



Participation

P5 – National, regional and international actors respond more effectively to threats to civic space.



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

The UN-EU high-level policy dialogue, “Protecting the safety of journalists, media freedom and pluralism in the European Union: Challenges and

opportunities” took place on 24 February. Approximately 100 attendees participated in the dialogue, both online and in person, including high-level representatives of UN bodies, all three EU institutions and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, the COE, OSCE, member states, civil society, media actors, representatives of online platforms, academia and think tanks. It provided an opportunity for OHCHR to showcase its work and identify areas for cooperation and synergy between the UN and the EU.

OHCHR and the EU organized a joint public campaign on an open, free and secure Internet, aimed at tackling key

challenges faced by HRDs and citizens operating in restricted online environments. The campaign ran from the end of June until September and included a joint statement and other communication materials that were disseminated on the OHCHR and European External Action Service (EEAS) platforms.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – The EU expands and implements its policies for equality and protection against discrimination to better reflect international human rights law, especially in relation to Roma, persons with disabilities, older persons, LGBTI persons and women.



OHCHR contributed to strengthening the EU policy framework for equality and protection against discrimination, with an enhanced focus on implementation.

OHCHR collaborated with the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL), a user-led network of persons with disabilities, to organize “The European launch of the guidelines on deinstitutionalization, including in emergencies” on 1 December. The goal was to present the guidelines, which were adopted by CRPD, in September, and to discuss funding implications and the provision of support and services for persons with disabilities of all ages with relevant EU, UN and civil society stakeholders.

As part of ongoing efforts to prevent and counter antigypsyism, hate crimes and hate speech, OHCHR participated in an EU high-level group on hate speech and an expert meeting in June. Following OHCHR’s advocacy, the recently published EU guidelines for National Action

Plans against Racism (NAPARs) refer to OHCHR's *Developing national action plans against racial discrimination: A practical guide*. OHCHR also contributed to the discussion on policy monitoring and the evaluation of the EU Action Plan and presented OHCHR's human rights indicators for non-discrimination and equality.

ND6 – The EU and its member states respect the right to information and procedural safeguards in migration processes and work towards ending the detention of children in migration.



OHCHR supported the Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights to advise Frontex (the European Border and Coast Guard Agency), on human rights-compliant policies.

As a member of the Frontex Consultative Forum, OHCHR continued its support to ensure that Frontex implemented human rights safeguards in its activities, in line with international human rights standards. It deployed a dedicated expert on human rights and migration as part of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) project, which ended in mid-August. The expert contributed to issuing recommendations aimed at strengthening human rights safeguards in Frontex operations and mainstreaming international human rights standards into Frontex internal documents and procedures. The final assessment concluded that the project had exceeded its objectives. OHCHR participated in Consultative Forum missions to Poland and Spain. As a result of its engagement with national authorities during missions and during post-mission

briefings to the Frontex Management Board, OHCHR increased the awareness of EU member states about international human rights standards. OHCHR also contributed to training new Frontex Fundamental Rights Officers on international law standards in migration and helped increase their understanding of how to apply international human rights standards at the borders. This was achieved by providing expertise to the training on the Standing Corps, which will be composed of 10,000 EU border guards by 2027.



Development

D7 – The EU and the UN Brussels Team increasingly integrate an HRBA into their work on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



OHCHR contributed to the extent to which UN common country programmes (i.e., the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)) have satisfactorily integrated international human rights norms, standards, principles and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

In October, OHCHR collaborated with Social Platform, a civil society network of organizations working on social policy, to deliver a workshop entitled “International economic, social and cultural rights: A tool for sustainable inclusive societies in Europe.” The workshop aimed to build the capacities of 20 participants, 14 of whom were women, to use international human rights standards and an HRBA in their advocacy with EU institutions and to strengthen the collaboration of partners

working on social rights. A segment was dedicated to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to facilitate the engagement of CSOs in the EU's Voluntary National Review (VNR), which will be held in 2023.

MONTENEGRO

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
0.63 million	14,000 km ²	0.832 (rank: 49/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2019	
Field office(s)		Podgorica	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Assistance Framework 2017-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022**US\$249,000****Key OMP pillars in 2022**^{1,2,3} Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155**PILLAR RESULTS:**

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat all forms of discrimination and responsible authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind (LNOB), including by addressing the root causes of inequality.



The HRA contributed to the increasing compliance of national laws, policies and practices with international human rights norms and standards on equality and non-discrimination, in particular with regard to persons with disabilities, minorities and women.

The HRA provided comments on the new draft law on the prohibition of discrimination in May, several of which were incorporated into the draft law.

By the end of the year, a final round of public consultations was held on the draft law. The HRA will continue to analyse the draft and provide further comments, as needed, before it is adopted by the Government and the Parliament in 2023.

With a view to addressing unequal treatment and realizing the rights of persons with disabilities, the NHRI initiated a process to establish an Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM) to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The mechanism will work closely with OPDs and will operate as part of the joint 2022-2023 UN project entitled “Accelerating disability inclusion for children and adults with disabilities,” which is funded by the UNRPD. The HRA shared guidance on IMMs from the CRPD Committee, facilitated exchanges among OHCHR's disability focal point

and UN and other partners and supported the NHRI in drafting a funding proposal. Furthermore, the NHRI and OPDs increased their knowledge about different IMM modalities during a regional online conference that was organized by the NHRI and the UN in North Macedonia, in March. As of the end of 2022, the NHRI had prepared an open call for applications for OPDs to participate in the mechanism. Once established, the NHRI and participating OPDs will identify priority areas for joint monitoring and capacity-building activities in 2023. The HRA will continue providing technical assistance by sharing guidance, facilitating exchanges and commenting on documents prepared by the NHRI.

OHCHR took steps to enhance awareness about international human rights standards and practices and provided technical assistance and relevant materials to the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and officials drafting legislation on gender recognition, based on the right to self-determination. These materials included an amicus curiae brief by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, a factsheet from the Equal Rights Coalition on standards and good practices related to legal gender recognition and a report by the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. In July, a workshop was held with members of the drafting working group, on which the HRA sits as an observer. During the workshop, the HRA reiterated the UN's support for the drafting process and commitment to ensuring the equal protection of the rights of the LGBTI community. As of late December, the draft law had been tabled for further discussion by the working group.

The HRA will continue to follow the drafting process and provide specific comments as needed.

ND8 – The new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 fully integrates an HRBA and furthers the commitment to the LNOB principle outlined in the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

10 16 17 

The HRA contributed to the integration into the UN common country programmes of international human rights norms, standards and principles, as well as the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The HRA contributed to drafting the new UNSDCF 2023-2027 and designing the vision, priorities, theory of change and indicators. The new UNSDCF was signed by the Government and the United Nations in July. It sets out an overall vision of increased respect for human rights, social justice and the inclusion of the most vulnerable. One of the UNSDCF's three priorities focuses on improved implementation of the rule of law, human rights, strengthened social cohesion and people-centred governance, in accordance with recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. Some of the outcome indicators that will be used to measure the enjoyment of human rights include employment, gender equality, the prevalence of child marriage and violence against children, discrimination, access to health care and education, equality before the law, the rule of law and accountability. In 2023, the HRA will lead the new inter-agency group on human rights and LNOB.

With the HRA's support, the UNCT actively engaged with various international

human rights mechanisms. It submitted three reports, with concrete recommendations for action, to CAT in March, CEDAW in July and the UPR in October. UN agencies helped a government delegation to prepare for the interactive dialogue with CAT during a mock session in Podgorica, in April. The HRA led the UNCT's work with the international human rights mechanisms.

The UNCT implemented its action plan to combat hate speech, which was drafted under the leadership of the HRA and adopted in late 2021. OHCHR's activities under the plan focused on monitoring and analysis that was used for consistent awareness-raising and advocacy by the RC and the UNCT. The HRA was featured in a documentary entitled *The virus of hate*, which was aired on national television, in February. In it, the HRA noted the increase in hate speech, including against women, and the limited engagement of leaders in respectful debate on hate speech and crime. With the support of the Senior Minority Fellow and UN agencies, the HRA facilitated a panel discussion with victims to raise awareness about hate speech. Furthermore, 60 representatives from the Government, civil society and the international community participated in the "Silencing hate" event that took place on Human Rights Day (10 December).

Throughout the year, the HRA used reporting to the international human rights mechanisms as opportunities to increase awareness about hate speech and encourage the development of relevant recommendations. The RC published two opinion pieces, which were drafted with the support of the HRA. The first was published on the occasion of the International Day for Countering Hate Speech (18 June) and the second, issued on the International Day of Peace (21 September), emphasized

the need to ensure transitional justice and made reference to genocide denial and hate speech. Despite these and other efforts, hate speech remained prevalent and by the end of the year, appeared to have increased in the context of heightened political tensions.

Mechanisms

M3 – Policymakers and legislators make use of outcomes issued by international and regional human rights mechanisms (strategy on inclusion of persons with disabilities, media legislation).

5 16   

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

In July, the Government adopted a new Strategy for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities from Discrimination and the Promotion of Equality 2022-2027, which was developed with the technical support of OHCHR, UNICEF and UNDP and integrated recommendations from CRPD and CRC. The Strategy seeks to address violence against women and girls with disabilities, facilitate the deinstitutionalization of children and increase community-based services as a priority. Yet, the National Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is not functional, the new Directorate on Disability, set up in 2021 within the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights, was abolished in 2022 and an entity to monitor the implementation of the Strategy has not been established. In 2023, OHCHR will advocate for its implementation and the functioning of central structures to promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

Following the adoption of the Roma and Egyptian Inclusion Strategy 2021-2025, designed with the technical support of OHCHR, UNICEF and UNDP, the Ministry of Justice, Human and Minority Rights established a Commission that consists of various ministries, the Roma Council and CSOs to monitor its implementation. OHCHR did not participate in the Commission in 2022 but it will observe meetings and provide recommendations in 2023.

Under the joint OHCHR/UNESCO Global Media Drive, an internal analysis was conducted on the right to freedom of expression, access to information and the safety of journalists in Montenegro, which was validated with 15 journalists, in September. The Montenegro assessment, together with similar assessments undertaken by field presences in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Serbia, were presented at a regional meeting from 18 to 19 October, in Montenegro, to 30 participants, including journalists, their associations, editors and civil society. Participants also learned how to engage with the UPR, the special procedures and the human rights treaty bodies to advocate for the improved compliance of legislation, mechanisms and practices with international standards. In December, the HRA attended a panel discussion on freedom of the media and presented information on how the international human rights mechanisms have monitored the freedom of the media at the global level and in Montenegro over the past 10 years. The HRA also highlighted how their recommendations and processes can be used for advocacy. Other participants included 20 journalists, government officials, the national broadcaster, the police chief and the public prosecutor, members of civil society and diplomats.

REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
2.09 million	26,000 km ²	0.770 (rank: 78/191 in 2021)	"B" Status (2011)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2007	
Field office(s)		Skopje	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		1	

XB requirements 2022

US\$101,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

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



OHCHR contributed to the alignment of anti-discrimination and gender equality legislation with international human rights standards and to ensuring effective protection against all forms of discrimination.

The HRA contributed to the development of the new National Strategy on Equality and Non-Discrimination, adopted in May, by engaging in national consultations and providing inputs to facilitate

its compliance with international standards. The Strategy serves as a blueprint for the identification of strategic areas, as well as the objectives and priority actions that are to be undertaken to ensure equal rights and opportunities. Discrimination is prohibited on all grounds recognized by international human rights law.

The HRA offered technical advice on drafting the Gender Equality Law, which recognizes diverse gender identities for the first time and envisions a robust gender equality machinery. More specifically, the HRA and several UN agencies produced a comprehensive assessment of the draft law, which is in the final stage of review by the Government.

The HRA delivered technical advice and actively participated in the development of legislative initiatives to enhance access to justice and the rule of law.

As a result, the Parliament adopted the Law on State Compensation for Victims of Violent Crimes, in November. The Law provides access and redress for the harm suffered by victims/survivors of violent crimes, such as torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment, police brutality, hate-motivated crimes, rape, domestic violence and gender-based violence (GBV) and trafficking in persons.

In addition, the HRA worked with the Ministry of Justice and shared its technical expertise regarding the revision of the Criminal Code, including through a detailed assessment of the definition of rape to ensure its alignment with the framework for legislation on rape (Model Rape Law), CEDAW recommendations and the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention. The Criminal Code revisions were enacted in February 2023.

ND1 – National mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of CRPD are effective, adequately resourced and comply with international standards.



OHCHR provided strategic direction and technical support on international standards to the CRPD national monitoring framework. With OHCHR's support, the monitoring framework was established in 2021 as a strategic partnership between the Ombudsperson, OPDs and civil society. In March, OHCHR, the UNCT and the Ombudsperson organized an online conference on "Strengthening national human rights institutions as independent monitoring mechanisms for the implementation of the UN CRPD." More than 120 representatives attended from NHRIs, disability movements and civil society from across the Western Balkan

region and other European countries, as well as representatives of the CRPD Committee and the UN Development System. The participants came together to share their experiences and good practices on the role of NHRIs in monitoring CRPD implementation at the national level and emphasized the importance of the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the monitoring framework.

ND3 – National laws on GBV contribute to protecting women from GBV and comply with international human rights standards.



OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance with international human rights standards of laws and policies on protection against GBV.

Following the January 2021 adoption of the Law on Prevention and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GBV Law), OHCHR supported its implementation by providing advice on the implementation of a holistic, victim-centred approach to prevention, protection, support and the criminal justice response in secondary legislation, in compliance with international human rights standards. This support included comments and advice on the congruence and compliance with new and existing legislative initiatives on improved access to justice, new legal provisions to curtail violence against women and girls and provide compensation for GBV victims, with a focus on addressing intersectional and multiple forms of discrimination, as well as negative gender stereotypes and narratives associated with GBV.

The HRA continued to chair the UNCT Theme Group on Gender and Human Rights, in cooperation with UN Women. It assisted the RC in convening regular gender coordination meetings to improve the understanding of partners and the UNCT on national legislative and policy developments related to GBV and gender equality and their compliance with guidance issued by the international human rights mechanisms. With HRA's support, the participation of national stakeholders from the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and Ministry of Health was secured, for the first time, resulting in a presentation of national commitments and priorities.

The HRA led the UNCT's collective efforts to operationalize the Secretary-General's strategy to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by developing a standard operating procedure (SOP) for addressing allegations/complaints of SEA at the national level, which was endorsed by the UNCT.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
3.27 million	34,000 km ²	0.767 (rank: 80/191 in 2021)	Status A (2018)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2008	
Field office(s)		Chisinau	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Partnership Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		11	

XB requirements 2022 **US\$2,395,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:
Mechanisms

M1 – A national mechanism implements and reports on outstanding international human rights commitments in an integrated and participatory manner.

5 **16**

OHCHR provided support to 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 supporting the Government in the development of national procedures for the implementation of decisions/views issued by the human rights treaty bodies, a study was undertaken on the conditions that are needed to facilitate the implementation of the decisions/views issued by the human rights treaty bodies in domestic law. OHCHR submitted

a proposal to the Ministry of Justice, suggesting a review of the normative framework and the establishment of a mechanism to ensure the implementation in domestic law of these decisions/views. To this end, OHCHR will continue to advocate with the Ministry and provide additional support in 2023.

In April, the State Chancellery took steps to increase knowledge at the national level about UPR recommendations and conducted four consultations on the recommendations issued during the country's third UPR cycle, with OHCHR's support. More than 60 representatives from State institutions, NHRIs, CSOs and UN agencies participated in the consultations, enabling them to analyse the recommendations. CSOs and NHRIs advocated for the Government's acceptance of the recommendations and suggested measures

that could be put in place for their implementation.

OHCHR provided support to facilitate the inclusive consultation and meaningful participation of NHRIs and CSOs in the evaluation of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) and the establishment of priorities for the proposed Human Rights Framework. More than 210 representatives of State structures, NHRIs and CSOs, including from the Transnistrian region, engaged in a constructive dialogue through eight thematic consultations. During consultations on the State Party report to CESCR, OHCHR facilitated the engagement of CSOs to review and provide feedback on the report.

To strengthen the knowledge of government officials in relation to reporting to the human rights treaty bodies, three human rights thematic trainings were conducted. In April, OHCHR collaborated with an expert member of CESCR and the State Chancellery and organized a training on the preparation of the fourth periodic report of the Republic of Moldova on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Attendees included representatives of State institutions and members of the working group tasked with preparing the State Party report. In May, OHCHR partnered with the State Chancellery and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to deliver a two-day workshop on gender mainstreaming in public policy, benefiting 28 civil servants from line ministries and State agencies in various sectors. The training combined theoretical knowledge and practical skill-building, including identifying and improving

gender gaps, gender and human rights-based budgeting and gender mainstreaming. In December, OHCHR collaborated with the State Chancellery to conduct a training on the application of an HRBA to policy development for 25 civil servants serving as members of the working group on the evaluation of the NHRAP and preparation of the new human rights framework.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Laws, policies and practices more effectively prevent and prosecute discrimination against women, persons with disabilities, Roma and other minorities.



OHCHR continued its advocacy efforts to support the increased compliance of legislation and policy with international human rights standards.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Government and the Parliament to ensure cross-sectorial coordination and consultations on disability inclusion. Persons with disabilities participated in the consultations through the National Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and seven sectorial groups. In consultation with OPDs, a scoping study was prepared on good practices and options for the operation of consultative cross-sectorial bodies. The main findings of the study were used as a basis for reviewing the regulation of the activities of the National Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Further advocacy will be conducted for increased and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and OPDs in the cross-sectorial body.

OHCHR supported the training of 24 trainers from six residential institutions on the application of an HRBA to disability. As a result, more than 160 staff from six residential institutions received training and increased their knowledge on this issue. With OHCHR's assistance, the Standards on legal aid for persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities were developed by the National Legal Aid Council and adopted, in December. The standards will be used by lawyers in providing legal aid to persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in penal, civil and contravention processes. OHCHR will provide additional assistance to the National Legal Aid Council in 2023 to build the capacity of lawyers and support the development of instruments to monitor their activity.

In advancing the goal to draft the first Human Rights Framework in the Transnistrian region, 40 thematic sub-working group meetings were held, with the participation of CSOs and members of the de facto authorities. A total of 56 participants reviewed and submitted 48 proposals on the implementation of 137 recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms and outlined in Hammarberg reports regarding the Transnistrian region. The first draft of the Framework, consisting of six thematic tables, is being finalized.

A first draft of the assessment report on the compliance of the regional regulatory framework with CRPD is expected to be finalized by mid-2023. Following 60 consultations on legal and psychological support and assisted employment, a total of 52 persons with disabilities and their relatives received community-based services in the Slobozia district of the Transnistria region.

As a result of coaching sessions, 32 Roma community mediators from both banks of the Nistru River strengthened their knowledge about international and national human rights standards related to minorities and the identification of legal solutions for the documentation of Roma. A total of 570 Roma benefited from this support in five localities of the Transnistrian region that are densely populated by Roma. The institution and impact of these mediators remains highly appreciated. The mediators were also recognized as an effective instrument for empowering the Roma community by Roma activists from both banks of the Nistru River and duty bearers from educational, social protection institutions, employment centres and de facto local authorities.

ND7 – Public discourse and media reports are more inclusive and non-discriminatory.



OHCHR supported significant improvements in the narrative on selected human rights issues.

UN Human Rights increased the knowledge and capacity of journalists and media professionals to promote diversity and equality in the media. Eight human rights-related articles were prepared and integrated by lecturers into the teaching materials of eight disciplines in order to promote the mainstreaming of human rights and an HRBA to journalism at the Journalism and Communication Sciences Faculty of Moldova State University. OHCHR developed a terminology guide on communication with and about groups experiencing discrimination for staff of public and private institutions,

including media professionals, public relations and communication specialists, in line with the United Nations Global Communications Strategy. Furthermore, the Office organized a media brunch, in October, which was attended by 30 national media professionals, journalists and bloggers. During the event, participants increased their awareness about the human rights situation of Roma refugees and the multiple vulnerabilities they face. In October, OHCHR organized a human rights capacity-building session for 30 students and lecturers from the Faculty of Journalism of Tiraspol State University in the Transnistrian region. Attendees learned more about the history and consequences of the Holocaust and the prevention of hate speech, xenophobia and racism.

OHCHR collaborated with the Department of Sociology and Social Work of Moldova State University to organize two information sessions to raise the awareness of youth about human rights, groups with a heightened vulnerability to human rights violations, redress mechanisms and the State's human rights obligations. The sessions were attended by more than 60 students from four faculties.



Development

D8 – Data on education, employment and justice are more consistently available and disaggregated by disability status and type.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the capacities of relevant State structures to ensure the availability of data, including disaggregated data.

With OHCHR's facilitation and guidance, a national methodology for developing and contextualizing indicators from the perspective of human rights was developed, in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which was signed in March 2021 by the National Statistics Office, the People's Advocate Office and the Equality Council. The MoU affirmed their commitment to cooperate on strengthening data collection, disaggregation, dissemination and analysis in the context of ensuring human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The national methodology was developed to anchor the data collection process in the area of official statistics on a strong human rights foundation and to help ensure that official statistical indicators can be used for human rights analysis and implementation. The methodology is also intended to be used as a reference point for the coordinated implementation of and follow-up on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. The methodology was validated at a workshop with the participation of over 25 representatives of public authorities and institutions that are parties to the MoU. The set of indicators developed in the workshop will be finalized and piloted to collect data that is relevant to the right to health.



Participation

P6 – Vulnerable rights holders, notably persons with disabilities, participate more fully and frequently in the drafting of public policy and legislation, including by taking public office.



The Office supported the meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups, in selected public processes.

With the support of UN Human Rights, 22 human rights activists and representatives of vulnerable groups from the Transnistrian region completed an 18-month human rights capacity-building programme. As a result of the programme, four advocacy papers and one video were developed and submitted by human rights activists to duty bearers to address human rights issues and concerns related to persons with disabilities, survivors of domestic violence, the rights of Roma people and people living with HIV. In addition, during April and May, human rights activists from the Transnistrian region organized and conducted 19 human rights awareness-raising training sessions for 280 representatives of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, persons from the Roma community, people living with HIV and women who experienced GBV. Participants increased their knowledge and practical skills related to the application of an HRBA and relevant regulatory frameworks, international standards and human rights obligations.

OHCHR supported the network of parents of children and youth with disabilities in organizing awareness-raising activities to promote the acceptance of persons with disabilities among pupils

and teachers of three educational institutions. More than 1,000 books entitled *Equality ABC* were printed for use by Prietenamea, an NGO that promotes awareness-raising activities for children in schools. In 2023, the book will be used for awareness-raising activities in 35 educational institutions throughout the country.



Accountability

A1 –Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

16

OHCHR continued to contribute to protection against human rights violations.

OHCHR worked in collaboration with the National Social Assistance Agency to mainstream an HRBA into the training of social workers. Six training curricula on social work were reviewed and recommendations were provided. A three-day training of trainers on human rights was delivered to 22 university lecturers. Moreover, a separate training course on human rights and the application of an HRBA to social work was developed. The course became available as an optional course in January 2023 and will be compulsory for first year students as of September 2023.

As part of joint efforts with the National Social Assistance Agency, a training programme for the continuous learning of social workers was developed, based on the results of a training needs assessment that was undertaken in cooperation with 560 social workers. A three-day training of trainers was conducted and the course

will be integrated into the Agency's online training platform.

OHCHR conducted an assessment of the human rights situation of Roma, including Roma refugees, and the underlying causes that limit their access to human rights in Moldova and in particular, in the Transnistrian region. The report will be finalized, including through consultations on findings and recommendations, in 2023.

UN Human Rights in Moldova: Providing vital support to Ukrainian refugees

Since the war in Ukraine began on 24 February, UN Human Rights in Moldova has played an integral part in monitoring the country's borders and mobilizing support for refugees entering the country.

It is estimated that close to 700,000 refugees have chosen to stay in Moldova. This is a significant number for a poor and small country with a resident population of 2.59 million people, Bea Ferenci, UN Human Rights Adviser in Moldova, explained. "We've had the largest influx of refugees in terms of per capita figures of all the countries receiving refugees," she said.

AT THE CENTRE OF THE CRISIS

When Ferenci's team began providing support at the border, there was a 30-kilometre line of cars and hundreds of people, primarily women, children and older people who were waiting to cross. The team observed the situation, spoke to people and identified necessary support and protection services, such as access to information, shelter, health services, food, clothing, education, translation and legal assistance.

They also monitored the Refugee Accommodation Centres to understand their capacities to accommodate particularly vulnerable people, including Roma, persons with disabilities and families with small children. Issues of concern were identified, for instance, discrimination against Roma, potential sexual exploitation and trafficking of people, limited documentation and a lack of accessibility to essential services for persons with physical disabilities.

IDENTIFYING AND SUPPORTING VULNERABLE GROUPS AT HIGHEST RISK

Roma face many obstacles, such as racial discrimination, bias-based exclusion and stigmatization. In response, UN Human Rights developed a project to provide humanitarian support to Roma refugees, including in the Transnistria region, with financial support from the Swiss Development Cooperation. "They require access to education and other basic services, like medication and food, as well as legal counselling related to documentation for children and adults," said Elena Cuijuclu, Senior Minority Fellow at UN Human Rights-Moldova.

Children with disabilities and their families require additional assistance and support in adapting to unknown environments. Tatiana Cernomorit, National Human Rights Officer at UN Human Rights-Moldova, found that children with disabilities, such as children with autism spectrum disorder, do better in smaller shelters. They also require support and assistance for inclusion in schools, including through infrastructural and informational accessibility, and training is needed for teachers working with these children.

The Government has now established the infrastructure to support incoming refugees and is working with 16 UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs to create protection action plans, including through a protection working group and taskforces on Roma and refugees with disabilities.



Ukrainian child, escaped from the war, after crossing the border with Moldova, waiting to be transported to a reception centre. © Andrea Mancini/NurPhoto via Reuters Connect

UN Human Rights has consequently shifted its focus to the long-term needs of those who have decided to stay in the country, said Ferenci. It will work to address issues that arise, such as misinformation, hate speech and social cohesion, while facilitating assistance for people with other concerns, including mental health.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
144.71 million	17,098,000 km ²	0.822 (rank: 52/191 in 2021)	Status A (2021)
Type of engagement	Human rights staff (Other type of field presence)		
Year established	2008		
Field office(s)	Moscow		
UN partnership framework	-		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	4		

XB income **US\$0**

XB requirements 2022 **US\$843,000**

XB expenditure **US\$386,208**

Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
74%	14%	12%
\$286,564	\$55,213	\$44,431

Key OMP pillars in 2022



¹²³⁴ Please refer to Data sources and notes on p.155

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – Human rights higher education programmes are expanded and institutionalized in the Russian Federation and selected CIS countries.



OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on human rights by raising awareness about and integrating human rights into university curricula across the Russian Federation.

OHCHR continued to support the Consortium in an effort to expand the Human Rights Education Programme

in the Russian Federation. A total of 52 students (27 women, 25 men) graduated from the Human Rights Master’s Programme and 60 students were enrolled in 2022. With OHCHR’s coordinating support, the Consortium of Russian Universities submitted a proposal for the latest phase of the Programme, which will develop new textbooks, case law and comprehensive online courses. OHCHR will provide guidance and methodological support to the Consortium by facilitating access to resources, data, documents and good practices. The Consortium will further develop internship schemes in State ministries and

the Federal Ombudsperson’s Office, providing students with opportunities for future human rights jobs. The Consortium’s expansion to the Far Eastern and Northern regions of Russia is foreseen during the 2022-2023 academic year, following the Consortium’s decision to include two universities based in Krasnoyarsk and Vladivostok.

Furthermore, OHCHR cooperated with the Consortium to organize the eighth Human Rights Summer School on “Sustainable Development Goals, human rights and the challenges of globalization.” The week-long event brought together more than 100 students from a variety of Russian universities who had the opportunity to listen to 32 lecturers, including eminent national and international professors, practitioners, HRDs and UN experts. The first United Nations human rights treaty body mock session was organized, which saw five Consortium teams competing and the participation of current and former treaty body experts.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – NHRIs and CSOs significantly strengthen their anti-discrimination work, with a particular focus on domestic violence, gender equality, disability and the rights of Indigenous Peoples, in compliance with international human rights standards.

5 10 16

OHCHR contributed to increasing awareness about the compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights standards in relation to the rights of women, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities.

On 29 November, OHCHR and the Federal Ombudsperson's Office collaborated to deliver a workshop to strengthen the capacity of NHRIs at the Centre for Human Rights Education of the Moscow State Law University. Newly appointed regional human rights commissioners from more than 15 regions and staff of the Federal Ombudsperson's Office (approximately 25 persons, half of whom were women), enhanced their knowledge about the functioning of the human rights treaty bodies, including with regard to the reporting cycle, complaints procedures and jurisprudence related to the Russian Federation. In light of Russia's withdrawal from the Council of Europe, participants appreciated the timeliness of the training as the human rights treaty bodies may become increasingly solicited for guidance.

Facilitated by OHCHR, a three-week Russian-speaking Indigenous Fellowship Programme was conducted from 24 October to 11 November, in cooperation with the Peoples' Friendship University, after a two-year break caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to attending academic lectures by university professors, the group of seven fellows (five women, two men) met government officials from the Federal Agency for Nationalities, the State Duma, the Federal Ombudsperson's Office, members of the Council of the Federation, current and former members from the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous activists and practitioners and UN agencies working in Russia. Participation in the Programme helped the fellows build their expertise on the protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and increasing coordination for promoting rights in their respective communities.

SERBIA

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
7.22 million	88,000 km ²	0.802 (rank: 63/191 in 2021)	A Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		1996	
Field office(s)		Belgrade	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		3	

XB requirements 2022

US\$571,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Participation

P6 – Organizations of persons with disabilities, organizations of national minorities and other human rights CSOs are more visible, consistently included in relevant policies and decision-making and engage more frequently with the international human rights mechanisms and with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



OHCHR enhanced the level of meaningful participation of rights holders, especially women, in selected public processes.

Following OHCHR's 2021 delivery of a training on Leaving No One Behind to the 20 leading CSOs of the Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with UN Human Rights Mechanisms, the CSOs

became actively engaged in the development of a Tool for the introduction of the 'Leave No One Behind' principle into legislative and strategic acts of the Republic of Serbia. This was undertaken in collaboration with the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue, the RCO and academia. In 2022, the Tool was presented and widely distributed. Furthermore, on Human Rights Day (10 December), the Minister for Human and Minority Rights, the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Parliament underlined the need to implement the Tool in all future law and policy development processes.

The Office also advocated for increased civil society participation in policy development. This helped to facilitate the participation of CSO representatives in working groups focused on the development of legislative and policy documents.

In 2022, the HRA initiated discussions regarding monitoring and reporting on attacks against journalists, with a particular focus on female journalists. The discussions were held with journalists, media representatives, media associations and CSOs working in the area of media freedom, with the aim of assessing capacity-building needs and raising the awareness of media workers on the role of the international human rights mechanisms. In addition, within the context of the Global Drive for Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists, implemented jointly with UNESCO, the HRA organized a two-day regional meeting with journalists, media workers, media freedom activists and civil society representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia to exchange experiences related to protecting media freedom in the region. In the course of the meeting, the participants mapped areas that require further capacity-building support.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – The Government adopts or reforms five policies, laws or practices that prevent or sanction discrimination to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards. In doing so, it pays particular attention to the rights of women, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons, Roma, migrants and refugees.

5 10 16 

OHCHR contributed to improving the level of compliance of policies and legislation with international human rights standards by providing expert legal advice to key partners.

Legislative processes were largely stalled in 2022 due to the presidential, parliamentary and local elections that were held in April and the subsequent late formation of the Government. Advisory support on several pieces of legislation was requested from the HRA, either directly or through the UNCT. Technical advice from the HRA and the UNCT was instrumental in the preparation, discussion and adoption of the Anti-discrimination Strategy and its corresponding Action Plan, both of which are largely compliant with international human rights standards.

To support the implementation of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD), the Office continued to deliver several workshops on human rights indicators, international human rights standards, reporting and follow-up and the expansion of the NMRF's mandate. Moreover, the HRA provided technical support to the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue on the first steps of developing a Human Rights Strategy, with the meaningful participation of civil society. The development of the Strategy will continue in 2023.

The HRA supported the Platform of CSOs in submitting a joint report to the UPR and youth rights defenders in the preparation and submission of the first youth-specific UPR report on Serbia.

Mechanisms

M1 – The NMRF verifies that recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms are implemented. The NMRF uses human rights indicators.

5 16 

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced functioning of the NMRF and/or the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms.

The NMRF, chaired by the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue, continued to regularly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and follow up on their recommendations. As a result of OHCHR's technical support to the NMRF, the Government drafted and submitted its periodic report to CRC and prepared its UPR report, which was submitted in February 2023. The Government also submitted a follow-up report in relation to three urgent recommendations that were outlined in the latest concluding observations of CAT. Finally, the NMRF developed a monitoring plan to follow up on the implementation of recommendations, which was approved and accepted by the Government.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

Type of engagement	Human Rights Adviser (based in Georgia); Human rights staff (based in UNCT Azerbaijan)
Countries of engagement	Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia
Year established	2007
Field office(s)	Baku (Azerbaijan) and Tbilisi (Georgia)
UN partnership framework	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Armenia); United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Azerbaijan); United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (Georgia)
Staff as of 31 December 2022	11
XB requirements 2022	US\$1,065,000

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. The National Human Rights Action Plan in Georgia complies with international human rights standards and is periodically updated to reflect recommendations issued by the international and regional human rights mechanisms. The High School of Justice, the police academy and the Legal Affairs Committee in Parliament, as well as the Bar Association and its Training Centre in Georgia, deepen their knowledge of international human rights standards.

16

OHCHR supported the capacity development of national institutions and programmes to enhance their knowledge about applying an HRBA and to contribute to achieving SDG 16.

In Georgia, OHCHR organized a series of trainings for 252 investigators and managers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, including on the right to life, the prohibition of torture, the rights of persons with disabilities and the prohibition of discrimination.

From 17 to 18 February, OHCHR cooperated with UNDP to conduct the first Training of Trainers (ToT) session on the rights of persons with disabilities. The training focused on CRPD, equality and non-discrimination, access to justice

and communication approaches for the police. Prior to the training, OHCHR translated the publication *For inclusive quality police services for persons with disabilities: Ten areas of action*, which was prepared under the auspices of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility. A total of 21 police officers attended the training. Similar ToT sessions were organized for investigators and instructors of the police academy. From 28 October to 1 November, OHCHR delivered two training sessions on the rights of persons with disabilities and communication standards for 37 senior officers from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. From 19 to 20 November, OHCHR worked closely with UNDP to deliver a training for members of the Consultative Council of the Interministerial Coordination Committee of the Government of Georgia on the rights of persons with disabilities and highlighted relevant jurisprudence of the CRPD Committee and case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

OHCHR cooperated with the Legal Aid Service (LAS) to strengthen its capacities in relation to cases of ill-treatment. Support was provided in the development of a training module on ill-treatment for LAS lawyers and consultants, with a focus on practical and theoretical aspects, international standards, Georgian legislation, challenges faced by victims and identifying actions that can be undertaken by LAS for victim protection. The training module formed the basis of a two-day ToT session for LAS consultants who are working on cases of victims of alleged ill-treatment. From 23 to 24 March, OHCHR supported the LAS at a meeting that was held for 25 staff members to discuss strengthening their capacities to provide effective legal aid to alleged victims of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment.

As part of its long-standing partnership with the Georgian Bar Association, OHCHR conducted a series of trainings for lawyers on freedom of religion, anti-discrimination, the right to peaceful assembly and the rights of persons with disabilities to raise awareness about anti-discrimination and human rights issues. The trainings were delivered to 96 lawyers from western Georgia, in the Samtskhe Javakheti region (a region with a significant Armenian minority population), and in Tbilisi.

Additionally, OHCHR provided support on the reform of the Administrative Offenses Code by holding discussions with the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Issues and sharing recommendations that aligned with international standards. OHCHR also supported the development of the National Human Rights Strategy and provided recommendations based on international human rights standards. These efforts will continue in 2023.

A5 – United Nations efforts related to the rule of law, justice, counter-terrorism and accountability put human rights at the centre.

16

OHCHR strengthened the UN's assistance to the justice sector to promote and respect international norms and standards and the institutionalization of processes for discussing justice sector reform by the Government and international human rights bodies.

In **Azerbaijan**, on 1 July, OHCHR organized a meeting between the RC and national HRDs and CSOs to discuss challenges to civic space and the role of the UN in expanding civic space. Concerns were

raised with national authorities regarding restrictions on freedom of association, such as registration of CSOs and financial resources, as well as challenges in seeking authorization to hold events. The RC underlined the importance of continuing these meetings and indicated its willingness to facilitate a dialogue between CSOs and national authorities.

OHCHR continued leading the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group. On 3 February, the Theme Group signed an MoU with the Ombudsperson to establish a joint working group with the aim of advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by promoting the universal values of human rights, gender equality, the rule of law and strengthening human rights education at all levels. In April, the Theme Group agreed upon a tentative action plan for 2022, focusing on monitoring and following up on recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, institutional capacity-building and activities to support the implementation of the UNSDCF. In June, OHCHR cooperated with the Bar Association and the National Union of Artists to organize a four-day art exhibition to commemorate National Human Rights Day, bringing together over 100 representatives from various government institutions, including Members of Parliament, the media, CSOs and lawyers. More than 80 artworks prepared by schoolchildren were exhibited. In July, OHCHR, UNHCR, the Bar Association and regional offices of the Ombudsperson co-organized a free legal aid campaign for vulnerable groups in Baku, benefiting over 500 persons, including IDPs, economically disadvantaged persons, persons with disabilities and victims of GBV.

In **Georgia**, OHCHR continued leading the Human Rights Theme Group and

contributing to the implementation of the UNSDCF's work on Outcome 1 on good governance and Outcome 2 on equitable and inclusive access to services. OHCHR led the process of elaborating the UNCT alternative report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and contributed to the development of the UNCT alternative report to CEDAW.

Non-discrimination

ND7 – Public support increases for equal, inclusive and diverse societies, without discrimination.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the level of engagement and awareness of various groups in relation to tolerance, diversity and inclusivity.

In **Azerbaijan**, OHCHR supported the UNCT Gender Theme Group's efforts to advance gender mainstreaming across joint programmes and activities. On 7 March, as part of International Women's Day celebrations, OHCHR collaborated with the RCO and the Baku Book Centre (a local public library organization), to organize a roundtable entitled "Addressing gender bias and discrimination through policy and practice." The roundtable brought together more than 50 participants, including representatives from government bodies, international organizations, diplomatic missions, NGOs, academia and media. The roundtable provided an opportunity to raise awareness about gender bias and stereotypes and enabled CSOs to raise their concerns and present recommendations on measures to eliminate gender-based violence.

In October, OHCHR provided support to the Assessment of the UNFPA Gender Equality Scorecard, a validation exercise organized by the UNCT on an annual basis to review and discuss the UNCT-System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (SWAP) actions undertaken by each United Nations agency in the previous year. OHCHR helped the UNCT to assess progress achieved with regard to one of three chosen indicators (Indicator 5.1: Gender coordination mechanism is empowered to influence the UNCT for Gender Equality and Empowerment) and analysed the Action Plan for 2023. OHCHR also provided recommendations on how to improve the indicator score for 2023.

On 7 April, in Georgia, OHCHR participated in an event organized by the Council of Europe Office in Georgia on freedom of expression and access to information. During the event, OHCHR presented on article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), relevant jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee and case law of the European Court for Human Rights, as well as recommendations issued by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression. Participants from media outlets expressed their intention to use the information received to expand coverage on the situation of vulnerable groups.

From 19 to 20 July, OHCHR conducted a training for 20 representatives of CSOs, including 14 women working on the rights of LGBTI persons, on the international human rights mechanisms and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). The training aimed to build the capacity of participants to draft alternative reports and submit individual communications,

use the international human rights mechanisms for effective advocacy and strategic litigation and strengthen their knowledge about the mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Throughout the year, OHCHR delivered lectures to three school-based youth clubs for 50 young people in the cities of Telavi (eastern Georgia), Batumi and Kutaisi (western Georgia) on human rights, with an emphasis on tolerance, diversity and combating discrimination. Another set of lectures was delivered to 120 university students in three universities in the same regions during Human Rights Week in December.

UKRAINE

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
39.70 million	604,000 km ²	0.773 (rank: 77/191 in 2021)	Status A (2019)
Type of engagement	Human Rights Monitoring /Mission (HRMMU)		
Year established	2014		
Field office(s)	Kyiv; field offices in Dnipro, Donetsk, Luhansk, Odesa, Poltava and Uzhhorod; satellite offices in Chisinau (Republic of Moldova) and Krakow (Poland)		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Transitional Framework 2018-2022		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	80		
XB income	US\$17,148,577		
XB requirements 2022	US\$6,825,000		
XB expenditure	US\$8,247,314		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
70%	19%	11%	
\$5,797,499	\$1,582,297	\$867,518	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:


Peace and Security

PS3 – The UN’s early warning systems and strategies in Ukraine integrate and update human rights information and analyses.

16 

OHCHR supported the application of an HRBA to programmes implemented by UN entities.

The Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) continued to support and inform the Resident Coordinator, the UNCT and UN agencies on the human rights situation in Ukraine following the armed attack of the Russian Federation on Ukraine, on 24 February, which included alleged war crimes and grave violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. The HRMMU participated in the UNCT workshop entitled “Scenario building for the Transitional Framework 2022-2023

on UNCT-Ukraine cooperation,” and provided inputs on the application of an HRBA.

The HRMMU shared with the RC an analytical note on the application of Russian legislation in the newly occupied territories of Ukraine. In its note, the HRMMU analysed the potential impact of the application of Russian legislation on NGOs, as well as the primary international human rights law and international humanitarian law concerns. This analysis increased the UNCT’s understanding of the human rights situation in the newly occupied areas and provided guidance to the UN in its activities and interactions with organizations in the occupied territories.

In addition, the HRMMU sent a joint UNCT submission to the Ministry of Justice with proposed amendments to the National Human Rights Strategy. The Office of the President amended the Strategy to better reflect the context following the armed attack of 24 February and requested civil society and international organizations to submit proposals. Through the UNCT Human Rights Working Group, the HRMMU ensured a coherent and high-quality submission to the Ministry of Justice, thereby contributing to the alignment of the Strategy with international standards.

The HRMMU also coordinated the submission of a joint UNCT contribution to the Secretary-General’s report on conflict-related sexual violence. The contribution was submitted to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, on 20 December. As part of the UNCT Action Plan on addressing hate speech, the HRMMU coordinated the data collection and analysis of hate speech incidents, thereby contributing to early warning and

strengthening a joint UN approach to combating hate speech. To inform the UN's early warning and prevention work in the context of the armed conflict, the HRMMU prepared a briefing note on hate speech and incitement to discrimination, violence and hostility against the Ukrainian population by State-owned media outlets in the Russian Federation.

PS3 – State authorities adopt and implement laws and programmes to prevent sexual violence from occurring in the context of conflict, violence and insecurity and investigate and prosecute allegations of sexual violence.



OHCHR helped to strengthen oversight, accountability and protection mechanisms to ensure their compliance with international human rights standards by monitoring CRSV.

Since 24 February, the HRMMU has been the only international entity systematically verifying and documenting allegations of CRSV, thereby helping to inform national and international advocacy and technical assistance on the issue.

As a result of long-term joint advocacy by the HRMMU, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and other UN agencies in Ukraine signed the Framework for Cooperation on the Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, in May. The HRMMU is providing implementation support. Following the HRMMU's advocacy in cooperation with other UN agencies, the Parliament ratified the Istanbul Convention, which entered into force on 1 November.

In advocating for protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, the HRMMU engaged with the Ministry of Defence and the Ombudsperson on the issue of harassment against gay soldiers by their peers in the Ukrainian Armed Forces (UAF). The Ministry initiated internal investigations, provided the soldiers with psychological support and committed to promoting non-discriminatory principles in the UAF.

PS3 – State authorities and non-State actors promote and protect the human rights of populations living in territories affected by conflict.



OHCHR supported the compliance of legislation/policy with international human rights norms and standards.

The HRMMU raised awareness about and enhanced the capacities of State and non-State actors to address human rights issues. In April, the President of Ukraine established a Working Group on Human Rights within the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the War, which was mandated to propose policies and legislation that would serve as a road map for post-conflict reconstruction. The HRMMU participated in meetings of the Working Group and made recommendations to ensure compliance with international human rights standards and the implementation of recommendations issued by human rights protection mechanisms. The HRMMU also provided recommendations to the draft Recovery Plan for Ukraine that was developed by the Cabinet of Ministers and the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the War. In particular, the HRMMU

focused on the section on remedy and reparations for civilian victims of hostilities and called for free and accessible administrative procedures related to civil status registration for residents of territories occupied by the Russian Federation, including residents of Crimea.

In April, the HRMMU published a briefing note on the human rights situation of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in Ukraine. The briefing note presents the results of the HRMMU's monitoring and reports on human rights violations and concerns affecting these persons in Ukraine, in particular institutionalization and the denial of legal capacity. The note includes concrete recommendations, thereby providing guidance for authorities and outlining measures needed to ensure that Ukrainian legislation and social policy is in line with the human rights standards enshrined in CRPD and other international human rights instruments applicable in Ukraine.

The HRMMU completed the human rights budgeting analysis of the draft State budget of Ukraine and followed the process of its adoption in the Parliament. The HRMMU's findings will be shared in a forthcoming briefing note on the impact of the Russian armed attack on the rights of older persons in Ukraine, which will be published in 2023.



Accountability

A1 – State institutions hold to account a higher proportion of those who are responsible for grave violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law.

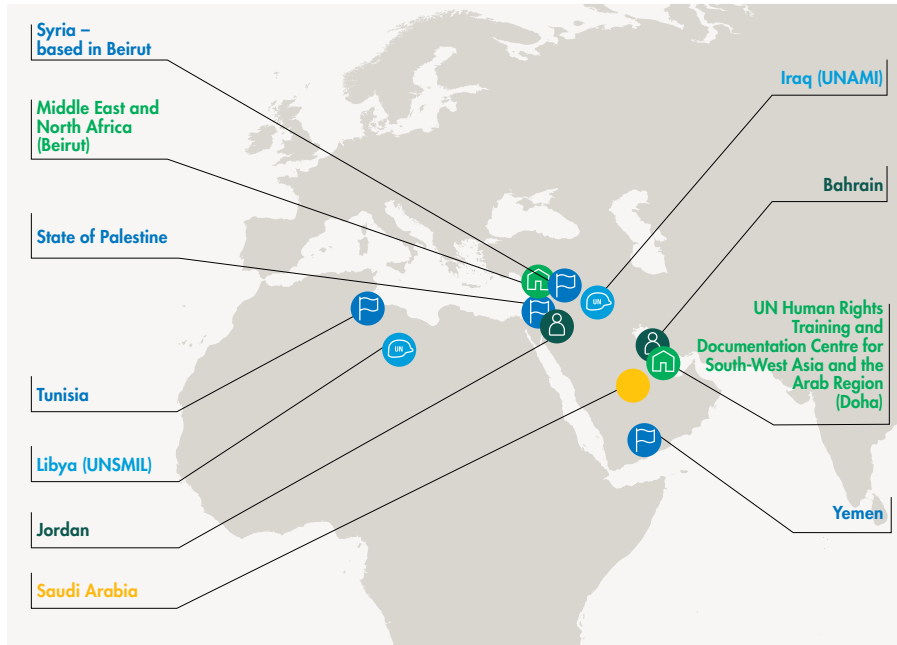
16

OHCHR supported the compliance of State institutions and programmes with international human rights and international humanitarian norms and standards.

The HRMMU's advocacy with the Office of the General Prosecutor and the State Penitentiary Service for unimpeded access to prisoners of war (POWs) resulted in the agreement of authorities to provide the Mission with full and confidential access to POWs from Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups, as well as former Ukrainian POWs released from captivity by Russian armed forces. The findings from the interviews strengthened the HRMMU's perceived capacities to objectively report on and advocate with Government stakeholders to promote accountability and ensure compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

In June, following the HRMMU's extensive advocacy, the Ministry of Defence recognized the responsibility of the UAF to comply with the treatment of POWs in line with international humanitarian law and that violations would lead to criminal responsibility. Further, the Office of the General Prosecutor launched investigations into several incidents, including in Dmytrivka, where Ukrainian servicepersons killed Russian POWs who were hors de combat and tortured Russian POWs in the Mala Rohan village in Kharkiv region. The Office of the General Prosecutor of Ukraine assured the HRMMU that they had instructed regional offices on international humanitarian law provisions and that the practice of prosecuting POWs from Russian armed forces for the mere fact of the participation in the combat operations had ceased.

UN Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa



TYPE OF PRESENCE

	Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
	Regional Offices/Centres
	Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
	Human Rights Advisers ^a
	Other types of field presences

LOCATION

State of Palestine ^b , Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut, Lebanon), Tunisia and Yemen
Middle East and North Africa (Beirut, Lebanon), UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (Doha, Qatar)
Iraq (UNAMI) and Libya (UNSMIL)
Bahrain ^c and Jordan
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

^a Human rights advisers are deployed under the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. All references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.
^b On hold until funding is available.
^c On hold until funding is available.

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 and activities of UN Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa region covered 19 countries and included 11 field presences. The Office's engagement in the region was supported by the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa in Beirut, the UN Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region in Doha; four country offices (the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt),¹⁴ the Syrian Arab Republic (based in Beirut, Lebanon), Tunisia and Yemen); two human rights advisers (HRAs) (one in Jordan and one to be deployed in Bahrain); two human rights components in United Nations peace missions (in Iraq and Libya); and a project in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Office continued to implement country programmes from headquarters, in Geneva, in the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Office provided support to two special procedures country mandates, namely, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Support to these mandates was provided through a number of activities, including contributions to mandated reports, communications and press releases on human rights issues and engagement with States and civil society.

The Office served as the Secretariat to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, as mandated by the General Assembly. In addition, the Office cooperated with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, the Independent International Commission on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel and the Fact-Finding Mission on Libya. It also supported the establishment of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The year 2022 was marked by the lasting impacts of COVID-19, which were exacerbated by the war in Ukraine, contributing to increased food insecurity. Protests took place in various parts of the region in relation to inequality, governance, discrimination, the rights of women and representation. Meanwhile, some States strengthened or adopted new measures limiting or eroding the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly and civic space was increasingly threatened, including online. Religious and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons and other groups in vulnerable situations faced marginalization in some countries, which was exacerbated by hate speech both online and offline.

Women faced discrimination in law and in practice in several States. At the same time, protracted conflicts and violence in the region led to the loss of life and damage to physical infrastructure, causing instability in the midst of ongoing violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In a number of States, significant concerns were raised regarding the conduct of security forces and adherence to the rule of law, fair trial standards and due process. Arbitrary detention, extrajudicial killings, torture and disappearances were documented. Various States imposed the death penalty, including on child offenders. Positive developments were observed, however, including engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and partnerships with State and non-State institutions on initiatives aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Office monitored, publicly reported on and undertook strategic advocacy on the human rights situation in the region, alongside increased engagement, technical cooperation and capacity development with States, regional organizations, CSOs, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and other actors to strengthen the protection of human rights and prevent violations. The Office repeated calls for the promotion and protection of the rights of civilians in

¹⁴ Hereinafter, all references to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with General Assembly resolution 67/19.

situations of armed conflict through the preparation of reports and briefings to the Human Rights Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council. In order to enhance engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, the Office implemented tailored capacity-building and technical assistance initiatives at the national and regional level, as well as with regional organizations, such as the League of Arab States. Field presences worked with essential partners, including UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Resident Coordinators (RCs), to support the integration of human rights into development agendas.

Looking forward, the Office will remain committed to engagement and technical cooperation, monitoring, reporting and strategic advocacy and supporting the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms, including through its presences and country programmes working on Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, the oPt, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. The Office will continue to prioritize certain areas, such as the protection of civic space, prevention, building a global human rights constituency, including in the context of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration for Human Rights (UDHR), gender equality and economic, social and cultural rights (ESCRs), as it works to achieve progress in relation to accountability, participation and peace and security.

IRAQ: UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR IRAQ (UNAMI)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
44.50 million	435,000 km ²	0.686 (rank: 121/191 in 2021)	A Status (2021)
Type of engagement		Peace Mission	
Year established		2004	
Field office(s)		Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul	
UN partnership framework		UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2024	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		49	

XB requirements 2022

US\$879,000

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Iraq respects the rule of law in the administration of justice. In particular, courts comply with due process and fair trial standards, in accordance with international law and the Constitution of Iraq. Allegations of torture are thoroughly investigated, victims are provided with appropriate care, protection and compensation and those responsible are held legally accountable.

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OHCHR strengthened advocacy efforts to prevent torture and ill-treatment and promoted local youth-led and capacity-building initiatives on issues related to social cohesion, tolerance between members of different religious communities and adherence to international human rights standards.

OHCHR continued to implement its detention and trial monitoring programme, with a specific focus on observing the trials of ISIL suspects, in order to monitor procedural guarantees, detention safeguards and fair trial standards in Iraq. OHCHR conducted 53 visits to places of detention, holding 82 detention monitoring interviews with five women and 77 men detainees, and monitored prison conditions in federal Iraq and the Kurdistan region. The Ministry of Justice denied a request to access facilities from 11 July to 31 December. As a result, detention monitoring was suspended in July. Dialogue with the Government is ongoing to resume this monitoring.

In 2022, OHCHR monitored 524 trials in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul; 76 cases of domestic violence and 29 civil cases in Baghdad related to

violence against women; 42 trials at the Rusafa Juvenile Court; and 62 anti-corruption trials.

On 2 June, OHCHR and UNAMI co-published a report entitled *Update on Accountability in Iraq: Limited progress towards justice for human rights violations and abuses by 'Unidentified Armed Elements.'* This was the seventh issue published on the subject since October 2019. The report, which covers the period from 1 May 2021 to 15 May 2022, highlights progress made on compensation for victims, but notes that progress towards accountability remains limited. It further underlines that many of those seeking accountability have been subjected to threats and violent intimidation. The report makes recommendations to the Government aimed at ending impunity, ensuring redress for victims and protecting families and witnesses from threats.

OHCHR conducted two capacity-building sessions: 1) from 11 to 13 January, three one-day trainings were delivered in Erbil to 55 participants from the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Ministry of Interior, including law enforcement officials on the protection of the rights of detainees in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules); and 2) on 14 April, a presentation was delivered to 17 women staff members from different departments at two Asayish facilities, in Erbil, on the rights of prisoners and detainees.

In addition, OHCHR held a workshop with eight judges and prosecutors in Baghdad as part of its ongoing engagement with the High Judicial Council to develop judicial guidelines on fair trial standards and the rights of detainees that comply with international law and

national legislation. OHCHR will finalize the draft guidelines, incorporating recommendations from the workshop, and submit the draft to the High Judicial Council for its review, approval and subsequent dissemination among courts in federal Iraq.

A1 – Iraq has an independent NHRI that complies with the Paris Principles, fulfils its mandate under the Constitution and meets international standards.



OHCHR continued to strengthen the capacities and functioning of Iraq's High Commission for Human Rights (IHCHR) to ensure the promotion of human rights in legislative processes.

OHCHR continued to promote the independent functioning of the IHCHR and the selection of its commissioners, in accordance with the Paris Principles. Since July 2021, when the four-year term of the IHCHR Board of Commissioners expired, disagreements between Iraqi political factions regarding its composition prevented the selection and appointment of a new Board. With the formation of the new Government in Iraq, in November 2022, OHCHR engaged with the second Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives and discussed the selection process, including the nomination procedures, and advocated for the procedures to be carried out in compliance with relevant domestic law and the Paris Principles.

A3 – Women and children who are the victims of sexual and gender-based violence/conflict-related sexual violence (SGBV/CRSV) or so-called “honour crimes,” including women from Iraq's ethnic and religious minority communities, have access to justice and appropriate support services.



OHCHR enhanced monitoring, reporting and advocacy and continued to promote legal reforms to ensure accountability for victims of SGBV/CRSV crimes.

Four consultative workshops were conducted between June and September. During the workshops, participants elaborated on the challenges faced in the administration of justice and recommendations were proposed to promote accountability. On 8 December, OHCHR and UNAMI collaborated with the Kurdistan Regional Judicial Council and High Council for Women and Development to conduct a high-level policy dialogue on accountability for criminal violence against women and girls in domestic settings. As a result of these activities, authorities committed to increasing the number of female judges working in domestic violence courts and expanding the mandate of the Directorate of Combating Violence against Women to enable the investigation of criminal violence against women and girls.

In October and November, OHCHR and UNAMI conducted focus group discussions with more than 100 women survivors in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs), in Duhok, to learn about their current living conditions. Another two workshops were organized in Duhok, with 40 survivors from different camps. The objective was to empower them to

claim their rights, rebuild their lives and support others. In collaboration with CSOs and donors, additional efforts will be pursued to support survivors in rebuilding their lives.

Non-discrimination

ND1 – Iraq develops as a multi-ethnic and religiously inclusive State in which the country’s ethnic and religious minority communities are protected from violence and can fully participate on equal terms in political, social and economic life. All sectors of Iraqi society are protected from violence and have equal access to justice without discrimination, irrespective of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other status.

5 10 16 

OHCHR contributed to protecting the human rights of women and girls and members of minorities through advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives.

OHCHR and UNAMI organized five workshops in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul on basic human rights concepts. The workshops aimed to strengthen the protection of the human rights of ethnic and religious minorities and promote social cohesion. They were attended by 75 youths, including 25 women, from various religious and ethnic groups. A series of roundtables were organized in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul between October and December, with the same objectives. The roundtables gathered together more than 120 participants, including Arabs, Armenians, Chaldean Assyrian, Fali Kurds, Iraqis of African Descent, Turkmen, Yazidis and Sabeen Mandeans, who shared their ideas on challenges facing Iraqi society and

recommended solutions. The outcomes of these roundtables informed OHCHR's ongoing advocacy with the Government, including to implement the necessary legislative and policy measures to prevent discrimination and promote diversity and inclusion.

In collaboration with representatives of minority communities, linguistic experts, academics, CSOs and HRDs, OHCHR and UNAMI translated the UDHR into eight minority languages, namely Avestan, Bahdinan, Fali Kurd, Macho, Mandaic, Shabaki, Sumerian and Turkmen. The translations, which were published on the OHCHR website on 28 November, will help to build knowledge and strengthen and expand awareness-raising efforts.

On 17 May, OHCHR and UNAMI and the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG) co-facilitated a dialogue on countering hate speech, discrimination and marginalization. Nineteen representatives (five women, 14 men) from CSOs, the IHCHR, the Iraqi Bar Association and the Communications and Media Commission in Iraq raised concerns and identified solutions for countering hate speech in Iraq.

On 30 June, OHCHR and UNAMI held an event for children from different communities entitled “We are Iraq.” The goal of the event was to counter hate speech and celebrate diversity. It was attended by 32 primary school children, including 19 girls, as well as five tribal leaders, four government officials, three teachers and civil society representatives. Performances, such as songs, dances, poetry and play, highlighted the consequences of hate speech.

Peace and Security

PS1 – Civilians are protected, to the greatest extent possible, from the effects of armed conflict. The policies of the Government and the Iraqi Security Forces to combat terrorism, armed violence and conflict fully respect and protect human rights at all times and in all circumstances and comply with international humanitarian law.

5 16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the protection of civilians by monitoring and reporting on human rights violations and disseminating relevant information to inform the responses of key stakeholders.

From 1 January to 31 December, OHCHR and UNAMI documented 158 incidents of armed conflict, causing 327 civilian casualties (114 killed, including six women, 10 girls and 23 boys; and 213 injured, including 40 women, 15 girls, 37 boys and two children whose sex was unknown). This represents a 58 per cent decrease in civilian casualties compared with 2021. The highest number of civilian casualties were caused by explosive remnants of war (37 deaths, 69 injuries), followed by the indirect fires of mortar and rocket rounds (14 deaths, 61 injuries), small arms fires (35 deaths, 37 injuries), improvised explosive devices (IEDs) (10 deaths, 26 injuries), air attacks (eight deaths, nine injuries) and abductions and executions (10 deaths).

OHCHR, UNAMI and UNOCT conducted a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop with 20 government officials, from the Ministry of Interior Training Academy, from 6 to 8 March, to mainstream human rights into counter-terrorism operations. Another workshop was held for Ministry of Interior recruits, from 9 to 10 March,

to promote compliance and the application of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) for law enforcement officials involved in counter-terrorism operations. A third workshop was held from 12 to 13 December for 20 law enforcement officials. Participants reviewed the domestic legal framework of Iraq and relevant international human rights law and identified areas for further improvement.

From 15 to 16 December, UNAMI and UNOCT held a policy dialogue with senior government officials, with a view to developing a road map towards enhanced compliance with international human rights standards as part of the Government's efforts to counter terrorism.



Mechanisms

M1 – Iraq develops a plan to implement the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and those issued by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that it accepted. By the next reporting deadline, Iraq is implementing all recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies and has accepted the recommendations issued by the UPR.

16 17

OHCHR supported the launch of the Human Rights National Action Plan of Iraq and continued to engage the Government regarding the implementation of the recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies.

OHCHR facilitated the visit to Iraq, from 12 to 24 November, by a three-member delegation of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED). The delegation visited Anbar, Bagdad, Erbil, Mosul and Sinjar and held 24 meetings with at least 60 government officials and seven group

discussions with 171 victims and CSOs. The delegation shared its preliminary findings with the Government, including: that enforced disappearance is not criminalized under the Iraqi legal framework; the institutional fragmentation and complexity in federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region is revictimizing victims; families of disappeared persons are being extorted for false promises that their loved ones will be located or released; victims are experiencing intimidation, threats and reprisals; no centralized database exists for persons deprived of their liberty and missing persons, including victims of enforced disappearances; and allegations related to secret detention facilities. The Committee will adopt a full report about the visit at its twenty-fourth session in Geneva, scheduled for March 2023.



Participation

P1 – The rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are fully respected and protected in law and policy. The roles of journalists and media professionals are respected and protected by law and policy and are protected from threats, intimidation or violence when they carry out their professional duties.

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OHCHR continued to engage with civil society and the Government for the promotion and protection of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

OHCHR supported digital security assessments for 13 Iraqi NGOs. The assessments classified the digital security environment for activists, human rights defenders (HRDs), bloggers, journalists and CSOs as high risk. OHCHR and UNAMI partnered with the Iraqi Network for Social

Media (INSM) to launch a social media campaign entitled “Be safe.” The campaign raised awareness about digital security and highlighted the security risks in the digital space. It included daily tips for HRDs and CSOs to stay safe both online and offline.

On 31 October, UNAMI and INSM published a manual entitled *Online protection and digital security: User guide for human rights defenders*. The guide provides HRDs and journalists with practical information on how to mitigate online risks, protect privacy and data and preserve their rights and freedom online.

During October and November, OHCHR and UNAMI collaborated with the Iraqi Women Journalists Forum and conducted 18 online dialogues with over 150 women journalists, young influencers and bloggers to enhance their understanding about the gender dimensions of the challenges they face in the course of their work.

JORDAN

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
11.29 million	89,000 km ²	0.720 (rank: 102/191 in 2021)	A Status (2016)
Type of engagement		Human Rights Adviser	
Year established		2018	
Field office(s)		Amman	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Jordan (2018-2022)	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		2	

XB requirements 2022 **US296,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



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

PILLAR RESULTS:**Development**

D7 – States integrate human rights, including the right to development and the outcomes of the international human rights mechanisms, as they implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other development and poverty eradication efforts. The United Nations supports them in these objectives and integrates human rights into its own development work.



OHCHR helped to improve the level of compliance with international human rights standards of the policies, programmes and practices of the UNCT and national institutions, including through technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives.

The HRA supported the UNCT in integrating human rights into the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027. UPR recommendations were added to the UNSDCF as an infographic. In addition, a 50-page matrix was prepared, linking human rights recommendations with the results matrix indicators to inform the use of the human rights markers in the Joint Workplan 2023-2024.

As Jordan prepared its second Voluntary National Review (VNR), the Senior Human Rights Adviser (SHRA) engaged in the process. It also provided support to the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO)/ UNCT in advocating for the integration of human rights into the VNR through: advocacy meetings with authorities; the delivery of three webinars with UNDP,

UN Women, UNESCO, UNODC and ILO on the application of an HRBA to data and indicators for SDG reporting for the Ministry of Planning, Department of Statistics, SDG16 Taskforce members and UN colleagues; the organization of briefings for civil society on the links between human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the preparation of a document on good practices related to the VNR for the UNCT; the development of a resource tool for data collection for SDG16 Taskforce members; inputs on the draft VNR report; and supporting the launch of the Amman Voluntary Local Review.

With support from the HRA, the UNCT published a series of papers on prioritizing a norms and standards-driven development agenda in Jordan's engagement with the [UN human rights](#), [ILO](#) and [UNESCO](#) mechanisms.

The HRA and the Economist of the RCO supported the finalization of a joint UN/Economic and Social Council in Jordan (JESC) policy brief on Domestic revenue mobilization: A human rights-based approach to tackling inequalities. As a part of this work, the RCO entered into a new partnership with JESC to implement the recommendations of the policy brief, in accordance with Maximum Available Resources (MAR) obligations.

Further, the HRA supported the UNCT to mainstream human rights into the Jordan National Nutrition Strategy 2023-2030 and a number of public and internal UN policy briefs on the right to food and energy prices.



Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the legal, policy and accountability environment to protect civil society groups, HRDs and activists.

In ensuring a participatory approach to the drafting of the UNSDCF 2023-2027, the HRA organized a consultation with 25 civil society members, including human rights organizations, on the draft results framework of the UNSDCF. Technical assistance from the HRA ensured that one of the UNSDCF's four priorities is dedicated to strengthening the accountability of institutions and ensuring meaningful participation. The UNCT will seek to achieve results in relation to all four of these priorities, while also taking into account people's perspectives, empowering them to be agents of change and ensuring their access to justice.



Mechanisms

M1 – National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their recommendations.



OHCHR contributed to increasing awareness about Jordan's engagement with the international human rights mechanisms and facilitated synergies between different implementation and reporting processes.

At the request of the Government, the HRA supported the Government's Coordinator for Human Rights in the Office of the Prime Minister and the Director for Human Rights in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in preparing Jordan's fourth State report to the UPR (the review is scheduled for early 2024). In cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights, a national workshop for 30 members of the drafting committee was conducted, from 16 to 18 September, to enhance the knowledge of participants about human rights and Jordan's engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, provide more technical details on UPR reporting and explore how to further institutionalize engagement in relation to human rights issues across all line ministries, in consultation with governmental and non-governmental entities. On 7 November, the previous UPR report was jointly assessed by representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Prime Minister's Office and other line ministries. Technical assistance will continue in 2023.

LIBYA: UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN LIBYA (UNSMIL)

Population size ¹	Surface area ¹	Human Development Index ²	NHRI (if applicable) ³
6.81 million	1,676,000 km ²	0.718 (rank: 104/191 in 2021)	B Status (2014)
Type of engagement		Political Mission	
Year established		2011	
Field office(s)		Tripoli and Tunis, Tunisia	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		14	

XB requirements 2022 **US\$162,000**

Key OMP pillars in 2021



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Libya’s penal code, criminal procedures and related laws are increasingly compliant with international human rights standards. They increasingly provide legal guarantees against discrimination, including for women.

16 

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the compliance of legislation, criminal procedures and related laws with international human rights standards by providing technical assistance to the judiciary and facilitating increased coordination with partners.

As part of its ongoing advocacy to promote compliance with international human rights standards, OHCHR provided technical assistance to national institutions on key legislative reform processes, including the drafting of the new Law on Violence against Women. OHCHR worked closely with UNFPA, UN Women and the Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence to convene the Committee of Libyan Experts in Tunis, in May, to discuss provisions and develop an advocacy strategy in the lead up to its endorsement. In February 2023, the draft Law was officially submitted to the House of Representatives. OHCHR also partnered with UNICEF and UNODC in the establishment of a team of national experts to review legislation on the rights of the child, in collaboration with the Supreme Council for Childhood.

Further, OHCHR, the International Center for Transitional Justice and other partners presented a joint analysis of the draft reconciliation law to the Presidency Council and the Legal Drafting Committee, with the goal of developing a victim-centred transitional justice process. The primary observations of this analysis focused on the rights of victims to justice, accountability, reparations and guarantees of non-recurrence.

In addition to supporting national legislation processes, OHCHR increased its technical assistance to the Bar Association in Libya, resulting in the adoption of its first Code of Ethics and related by-laws. OHCHR organized five capacity-building trainings for 49 Libyan junior female lawyers, which enhanced their understanding of international human rights standards and their practical application. The second phase of the training is scheduled for the first week of May 2023, in Benghazi, aimed at enhancing the capacities of 60 junior female lawyers from across Libya.

To improve the coherence and effectiveness of efforts aimed at strengthening Libya’s judicial system, OHCHR established a Working Group on the Rule of Law, composed of UN entities, INGOs and members of the international community operating in Libya. The Working Group met on a monthly basis to discuss arbitrary detention, conditions of detention and the effectiveness of the Libyan justice system, which led to an improved alignment of action, transparency and information-sharing between contributing organizations.

A1 – Detention centres are operating legally and under the control of the State, with trained judicial police officers, and procedures are in place to prevent torture and ensure the release of those who have been unlawfully detained.



By leveraging regional cooperation, OHCHR contributed to increasing capacities in the justice sector, with a view to ensuring that the reform of prison services was in compliance with international human rights standards.

While working in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Judicial Council, CSOs and other relevant actors in the judicial system, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the judicial police to ensure the reform of prison services was aligned with international standards and commitments. As one of its initiatives to improve prison conditions, OHCHR prepared a situation assessment on the security of prisons and issued recommendations to improve the safety and security of inmates, particularly women and children, including unaccompanied minors. With advisory support from experts from the United Nations Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI), OHCHR developed an advisory road map to strengthen the capacities of the judicial police to deal with arbitrary arrests and detentions in accordance with international human rights standards.

Between March and June, OHCHR facilitated two study visits for representatives of the Attorney General's Office (AGO) to Egypt and to Italy in order to share lessons learned and good practices on the management of the Public Prosecution Service.

As a result, the Attorney General established a Judicial Inspection Department within the AGO, in May, which is mandated to monitor the work of public prosecutors at the national level and provide technical assistance. Advocacy with the AGO to increase national capacities to better respond to human rights complaints resulted in the establishment of Human Rights Offices across the country. These offices, which are all linked to a centralized Human Rights Department at the AGO, are tasked with monitoring the human rights situation in Libya and following up on reported violations. They also serve as monitoring mechanisms for the performance of the public prosecutors, including by ensuring they observe and respect international standards while assuming their duties and responsibilities.

With the goal of fostering regional cooperation on the review of the penal system, OHCHR and the AGO of Egypt organized a pilot capacity-building training for 23 Libyan senior chief prosecutors, during the second half of 2022, at the Public Prosecution Training and Research Institute of Egypt, in Cairo. The training focused on new investigation techniques of crimes of terrorism, transnational organized crime and trafficking in persons. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between UNSMIL's Human Rights Component and the AGO of Egypt on mutual cooperation in criminal matters, an exchange of visits and the delivery of several training workshops for Libyan prosecutors in Cairo.

A1 – Those who are charged are prosecuted within a reasonable time. Crimes committed after 2011 are prosecuted.



OHCHR contributed to the increased compliance with international human rights standards and rule of law principles of national reform efforts undertaken by the justice and military sectors.

OHCHR provided substantive support to the UN Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Libya, including monitoring cases of arbitrary arrest and detention and facilitating two visits by the International Criminal Court, one of which included the Prosecutor. This contributed to increased evidence-based advocacy related to detention facilities in Libya.

OHCHR supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in December. This visit was instrumental to discussions with Libyan experts about the compliance of the draft law on violence against women with international human rights standards and the country's human rights commitments. OHCHR also promoted compliance of national efforts to reform the Penal Code and the military justice system, including on provisions related to the death penalty and sharia law, with international provisions on the rule of law. Through regular contact, the sharing of good practices with judicial bodies and communications with the Supreme Court, OHCHR consistently highlighted Libya's international obligations regarding the reform of criminal law, while simultaneously collecting information and updates about ongoing death penalty cases.

Participation

P1 – Strengthened networking and coordination among national and international stakeholders, including to create civil society-operated referral mechanisms for HRDs and victims related to legal aid and other forms of assistance for victims of torture or other violations.

16

OHCHR contributed to enhancing protection and referral mechanisms in support of HRDs, particularly survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), with an emphasis on preserving civic space and engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.

In response to the alarming erosion of civic space in Libya due to surveillance and arbitrary detention of civil society representatives, OHCHR collaborated with the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to support HRDs in the preparation of a draft criminal law on proceedings, collecting evidence, investigations and the protection of victims. This led to the introduction of the concept of civil society-run referral mechanisms for HRDs. At the same time, OHCHR monitored trends in online hate speech and incitement of violence and reported cases to authorities and other stakeholders. During the protests, in July, OHCHR engaged with Facebook and Twitter to remove online content that incited violence against women and youth activists. Moreover, OHCHR is developing a strategy for the establishment of a joint commission on the protection of HRDs.

While raising awareness about persistent gaps in referral mechanisms for SGBV survivors, OHCHR responded to several requests for support. It referred 10 cases to Tunisia-based INGOs and 10 survivors received legal aid from the OHCHR-supported Legal Aid Coalition. In partnership with No Peace Without Justice, OHCHR promoted the creation of a complaints system within the Libyan Bar Association. Under the Working Group on Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA), OHCHR strengthened coordination with other UN agencies on protection mechanisms for survivors of CRSV.

To promote meaningful engagement and participation with the international human rights mechanisms, OHCHR organized a workshop, from 6 to 8 December, for 20 civil society representatives on the implementation of UPR recommendations. Outcomes included strengthening the skills of participants on data collection, engagement with the UPR process and the use of the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD).

Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored and reported by HRDs, leading to increased responsiveness of the international community, with a special focus on abuses by armed groups, in particular arbitrary and unlawful detention, torture, hostage-taking, extrajudicial killings, protection of civilians and freedom of expression and the elimination of discrimination against women and migrants.

5 16 

OHCHR contributed to strengthening national capacities, increasing evidence-based advocacy and promoting regional coordination to address human rights violations against migrants.

A new report was released by the Office, in October, which sheds light on gaps in the human rights protection of migrants who are assisted to return to their countries of origin from Libya. While such returns are in principle “voluntary,” the report finds that many migrants in Libya are unable to make a truly voluntary decision to return, as provided by international human rights law and standards, including the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

Although the space to investigate violations was limited, OHCHR organized a regional workshop on the rights of migrants and international borders (in Tunis, from 23 to 24 November), convening 30 INGO and NGO representatives from Libya, Morocco and Tunisia to exchange good practices and strengthen the UN Network on Migration in Libya. The workshop provided participants with an opportunity to discuss the situation of vulnerable migrants and the application of an HRBA to border governance in North Africa. One of the primary recommendations of the workshop was the need to build capacities to monitor violations related to interceptions, search and rescue operations, enforced disappearances, immigration detention, refoulement and return procedures. To bring this about, participants agreed to establish a referral network to assist migrants and asylum-seekers, which will include legal aid.

PS4 – Vetting processes, transitional justice processes and compliance mechanisms are established or strengthened.

16

OHCHR facilitated an inclusive and rights-based approach to the national reconciliation process through technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives.

By promoting exchanges on lessons learned and good transitional justice practices with globally recognized experts from North Africa, Latin America and South Asia, OHCHR contributed to increasing the awareness of the Libyan Presidential Council about the foundational principles of transitional justice, thereby promoting an inclusive, victim-centred and rights-based approach in national efforts. OHCHR engaged the African Union (AU) in this process, including by participating in the Preparatory Forum for the National Reconciliation Conference. OHCHR submitted its observations on the Presidential Council's draft reconciliation law, in partnership with the International Center for Transitional Justice. Based on widespread consultations and OHCHR's observations, the draft reconciliation law was amended, placing victims more at the centre and guaranteeing amnesties would not be granted for international crimes. While the law has yet to be finalized, OHCHR consulted with victims of gross human rights violations in Libya to record their views, needs and demands and ensure their active and informed participation in future transitional justice efforts in Libya.

OHCHR also finalized a report on killings in Tarhuna, which will be published in 2023. The report documents grave atrocities that were committed and promotes accountability for perpetrators.

PS6 – With the UN's support, risk assessments of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces are conducted for all national security forces, including non-State actors and de facto authorities as applicable, and appropriate mitigation measures are adopted and acted upon.

16



UNSMIL continued to implement the HRDDP in Libya and leveraged new tools developed by OHCHR.

From 26 to 30 June, OHCHR convened INGOs, NGOs and members of the international community in Tunis to discuss central elements required to facilitate the implementation of the HRDDP, including updating the country's risk assessment and identifying joint mitigation measures. A draft incident report and a vetting sample were developed and presented to partners for endorsement before being sent to the Government.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Type of engagement	Regional Office
Countries of engagement	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates
Year established	2002
Field office(s)	Beirut, Lebanon and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Staff as of 31 December 2022	17

XB income	US\$2,408,073		
XB requirements 2022	US\$4,324,000		
XB expenditure	US\$2,238,836		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
73%	16%	11%	
\$1,641,406	\$340,571	\$256,859	

RB expenditure	US\$236,351
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Personnel

\$236,351

Key OMP pillars in 2021



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – Enhance the capacity of States to adopt legislation/policy to protect human rights that is in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

16

OHCHR contributed to improving access to justice and remedy for human rights violations, in compliance with international human rights norms and

standards, through capacity-building, technical support and advocacy.

In partnership with the Arab Organization for Human Rights, OHCHR organized a regional conference on the independence of the judiciary, on 5 April, in Beirut, Lebanon. The conference brought together over 100 representatives from the justice sector, NHRIs and civil society, as well as academics, government officials and United Nations experts.

Participants shared good practices and recommendations on how to initiate legislative reforms to strengthen the independence of the judiciary. They also reflected on challenges and opportunities to ensure alignment with international human rights law and standards. In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the Justice and Administration Parliamentary Committee, the Ministry of Justice, the Beirut Bar Association and the Tripoli Bar Association on the draft law on the independence of judges and lawyers, which has not yet been endorsed.

These activities were combined with increased efforts to enhance the capacities of non-judicial mechanisms, including NHRIs, to support the rights of victims of human rights violations to remedy. In **Lebanon**, advisory support was provided to the National Human Rights Commission in the development of its report to the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), which was presented in May.

OHCHR continued to provide strategic support to countries in the region on the implementation of recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. In **Lebanon**, OHCHR provided technical assistance for the review of the national human rights strategy and its action plan. A road map was finalized for the development of a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. In **Saudi Arabia**, OHCHR organized a workshop, from 18 to 19 December, on business transparency and the right to access information.



Participation

P1 – The legal, policy and accountability environment is enhanced to protect civil society groups, HRDs and activists.

16



OHCHR contributed to promoting civic space, participation and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms through youth engagement, evidence-based advocacy efforts and technical assistance.

By leveraging its regional network, OHCHR galvanized youth action through various initiatives aimed at raising awareness about human rights and hate speech. In August, 31 youth representatives from 14 countries in the Arab States region participated in a two-day forum that was organized by OHCHR entitled “The role of youth in countering hate speech and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies.” The forum examined the rise in hate speech in the region, including the root causes of intolerance, and emphasized the role of youth in promoting peaceful, diverse and inclusive societies. On Human Rights Day (10 December), OHCHR launched an art competition that will run until June 2023, inviting young people to present an artistic interpretation of one or more articles of the UDHR. Competition applicants can use digital tools, for instance, mobile phones, to capture a photograph or film a video, or more traditional art forms, such as drawings, paintings or poetry.

To mark the first International Day on Countering Hate Speech (18 June), OHCHR partnered with the UN Information Centre in Beirut to launch and disseminate a series of multimedia messages to raise awareness about hate

speech in the region. This included a joint statement on the centrality of freedom of expression in countering hate speech, a series of short videos with messages from international and regional actors addressing the multifaceted nature of this phenomenon and social media post-cards. OHCHR also called upon social media platforms to maximize access to pluralistic information, promote transparency in content moderation and activate accessible redress channels for users targeted by online incitement or censorship.

In collaboration with the Saudi Human Rights Commission (SHRC), OHCHR organized a workshop, from 15 to 17 March, for CSOs and relevant national institutions of Saudi Arabia on monitoring human rights trends, particularly human trafficking. The event brought together 38 participants who benefited from knowledge-sharing and discussions on methods and means of identifying violations based on relevant laws and international standards and collecting information and facts to inform evidence-based advocacy. OHCHR and SHRC also conducted a virtual training from 6 to 8 June to strengthen civil society’s engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. The event, which convened 79 participants, aimed to widen the civic space in the country by building the capacity of organizations to obtain ECOSOC status and fully engage with the Human Rights Council (HRC).

Finally, in an effort to raise awareness about the freedom of the media, OHCHR organized a two-day regional consultation, in November, to review national laws. The objective of the consultation was to present recommendations to decision-makers on measures to protect journalists and improve access

to information, with particular attention paid to the specific risks faced by women journalists. The findings will be used to promote joint advocacy on the review of discriminatory legislation and measures limiting the freedom of the media.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination, particularly discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants and women. Authorities actively work to Leave No One Behind (LNOB), address the root causes of inequality and link the implementation of the SDG agenda with human rights.

5

10

16



OHCHR strengthened national capacities to improve legislation, policies and practices to effectively combat discrimination and promote gender equality, inclusion and tolerance.

OHCHR increased its efforts to promote equality in nationality rights between women and men across the Arab region through joint advocacy and capacity-building for legislators. In partnership with the Arab Women Parliamentarians Network for Equality (Ra’edat), OHCHR organized a regional workshop at the Dead Sea, Jordan, from 31 October to 2 November on the role of national parliaments in implementing State Party obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The workshop was the result of a two-year advocacy campaign on inequality in nationality laws and included the participation of 33 members of the

Network. It sought to foster an open dialogue between legislators on legislative reforms in response to recommendations issued by the human rights treaty bodies. OHCHR and core partners in the region launched a short documentary on the key milestones of the equal rights for nationality campaign to raise awareness among the general public about discriminatory laws on nationality.

To mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), OHCHR convened its youth regional network to discuss inclusive approaches in their work and enhance their awareness about the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), its Optional Protocol and relevant special procedures mandates. Further, OHCHR engaged with topical experts to develop a national action plan on the rights of persons with disabilities in Lebanon.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Beirut Declaration and the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Rights of Minorities, OHCHR collaborated with the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect to host a regional roundtable on the role of religious leaders in countering hate speech. The event, held in Beirut, on 1 September, brought together representatives of different religious institutions and faith-based organizations from across the Middle East and North Africa region, including participants from ethnic and religious minorities. Participants engaged in dynamic discussions on various topics related to hate speech, including: the international normative framework; the root causes of hate speech; the role of religious leaders and actors in addressing hate speech; and practical initiatives in the region using interfaith dialogue to combat hate speech. The roundtable

discussion was part of OHCHR's broader regional engagement on the issue of hate speech, freedom of religion or belief and the rights of minorities. This and other awareness-raising activities on addressing hate speech contributed to increased cooperation between national, regional and international institutions, civil society, the media and religious leaders to prevent atrocity crimes and violence targeting religious minorities and marginalized communities.

Development

D7 – UNCTs integrate human rights and the linkages between the SDGs and human rights into their work and programmes.

OHCHR helped to improve the level of compliance with international human rights standards of the policies, programmes and practices of the UNCT and national institutions, including through technical assistance and capacity-building.

OHCHR continued to support the UNCT in mainstreaming an HRBA into inter-agency efforts in the region. In Lebanon, OHCHR promoted the integration of human rights into the development of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the UNSDCF, including during the national consultation process that led to its finalization. Under the leadership of the RC in **Bahrain**, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of the UNCT to effectively engage with the UPR process by sharing guidelines and good practices on inter-agency coordination and report submission, data collection and analysis against the human rights indicators and the SDGs. In **Saudi Arabia**, OHCHR supported the Government in the preparation of its VNR to the High-level Political Forum.

In order to strengthen the nexus between human rights and development, OHCHR partnered with ESCWA to organize a regional seminar on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights in Beirut, from 8 to 9 November. The seminar brought together Member States, UN entities, international and regional organizations, NHRIs, CSOs and other stakeholders to identify challenges and share good practices. The seminar also provided participants with the opportunity to discuss how development policies can be leveraged to promote more inclusive economies, alleviate poverty, boost prospects for young people and guarantee equal access to food, water and sanitation infrastructures and how good governance can facilitate the enjoyment of human rights for all.

Mechanisms

M2 – The role of CSOs and NHRIs as essential stakeholders in engaging with the international human rights mechanisms is promoted and protection from reprisals is ensured.

17

OHCHR supported substantive submissions by NHRIs, CSOs, UN entities and individuals to the UPR and other international human rights mechanisms, while also promoting wider engagement among youth.

OHCHR continued to build the capacities of the NHRI, civil society and UNCTs on effective engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. As part of these efforts, OHCHR organized a training for UNCT members to raise their awareness about the UPR in the context of inter-agency efforts. In addition, with support from the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF),

OHCHR established a strategic partnership with nine universities in Lebanon to engage young people in developing tools to promote transitional justice and prevent new cycles of violence. In February, students participating in the “Dealing with the past: Memory for the future” project presented their theses, which examined various aspects of the Lebanese Civil War and forced disappearances.

Peace and Security

PS6 – The UN’s support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the HRDDP.

16

OHCHR contributed to increasing the understanding and application of a human rights-based approach to national and inter-agency efforts on peace and security.

OHCHR provided human rights analysis to UNCTs across the region, based on its monitoring and recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR also led the UNCT Human Rights Working Group in Lebanon, ensuring information-sharing and coordination of human rights efforts across the UN. In addition, OHCHR provided technical assistance to UNSCOL in the review of the HRDDP risk assessment and supported UNDP in the development of interventions tailored for security sector agencies.

STATE OF PALESTINE

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
5.25 million	6,000 km ²	0.715 (rank: 106/191 in 2021)	A Status (2015)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		1996	
Field office(s)		East Jerusalem, Gaza, Hebron and Ramallah	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2018-2022	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		42	

XB income	US\$1,963,157		
XB requirements 2022	US\$4,392,000		
XB expenditure	US\$2,278,143		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
71%	18%	11%	
\$1,614,503	\$402,371	\$261,269	
RB expenditure	US\$3,103,102		
Personnel	Non-personnel		
86%	14%		
\$2,677,876	\$425,226		

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – A higher proportion of Palestinian legislative instruments and policies, particularly in the security and justice sectors, comply with the State of Palestine’s international human rights obligations.

16 

OHCHR contributed to increasing the compliance with international human rights standards of the Government’s

oversight, accountability and/or protection mechanisms.

OHCHR monitored detention centres, with a focus on the legality of detention, ill-treatment and torture and violations against women and girls. A total of 29 visits were carried out, with 12 in Gaza and 17 in the West Bank. OHCHR regularly interacted with partners working on detention-related matters in Gaza, the West Bank and those working on Israeli detention.

OHCHR had no access to Israeli detention facilities and access to official Israeli data regarding Palestinians in Israeli detention was restricted. Monitoring violations of the rights of Palestinians in Israeli detention was conducted through interviews with released detainees, lawyers, family members of prisoners and prisoners' organizations.

OHCHR documented cases of arbitrary detention, allegations of ill-treatment and torture and concerns regarding fair trial guarantees. These concerns were raised with relevant authorities in Gaza and the West Bank and informed the development of recommendations. The review of the State of Palestine by the Committee against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), in July, and its subsequent concluding observations, provided a useful framework for tailored technical assistance. Despite the openness to dialogue of Palestinian authorities, the human rights situation further deteriorated in the occupied West Bank. This was exacerbated by serious abuses of the Palestinian Security Forces and presidential decrees that undermined the separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary. OHCHR employed a multipronged approach to advocacy, including in meetings with the Prime Minister, through messaging from the High Commissioner for Human Rights and discussions on detention-related concerns with Member States and donors that support the security and justice sectors.

The Office took steps to strengthen the capacity of justice and security sector actors to apply international human rights standards to arrests, detentions and investigations of alleged human rights violations. In March, the Office cooperated with the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR) to organize a workshop on human rights in the context of law enforcement, which was attended by 18 members of the Palestinian Special Police Forces. The workshop covered issues related to law enforcement and human rights, such as the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and the principles regulating the use of force and the protection of journalists and HRDs, with an emphasis on women.

In May, OHCHR held a joint meeting on the referral of human rights complaints, which was attended by 12 participants (four women, eight men) from the public prosecution, the military prosecution, military intelligence and civil police. Participants discussed the need to strengthen the referral system by enhancing cooperation between the civil (public prosecution) and military prosecution and agreed on the establishment of a protocol on the referral of cases, supported by OHCHR and UNDP.

From 24 to 26 October, the Office cooperated with ICHR and the Palestinian Police to conduct a three-day training on the prohibition of torture in international human rights treaties and domestic laws. A total of 25 police personnel attended from the criminal investigations and anti-narcotics departments.

On 1 November, OHCHR worked closely with the Ministry of Interior and the Palestinian Security Forces Justice Commission to deliver a workshop for the internal complaints units of the Palestinian Security Forces. The workshop highlighted international human rights standards that are relevant to systems of internal control and accountability of law enforcement. It also focused on the handling of complaints of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement, with reference to standards outlined in the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

From 16 to 17 November, OHCHR and ICHR conducted a two-day workshop for 22 members (six women, 16 men) from the Palestinian Security Forces Justice Commission on the application of the international human rights treaties in military tribunals.

A1 – Palestinian duty bearers have agreed to and sustained a de facto moratorium on the death penalty in the oPt and made progress towards establishing a formal moratorium.

16

OHCHR continued to engage with and facilitate dialogue between diverse stakeholders, with a view to establishing a moratorium on the death penalty.

The Office closely monitored and documented death sentences and decisions issued by courts in Gaza,¹⁵ including three emblematic cases.

¹⁵ The Palestinian Authority in the West Bank continued to apply a moratorium on the issuance of death sentences.

This contributed to an in-depth understanding of limitations to fair trial guarantees in proceedings that resulted in the issuance of death sentences. The Office advocated with relevant authorities to meet their obligations under international law by establishing an immediate moratorium and working towards the full abolition of the death penalty. Despite these efforts, the de facto authorities in Gaza carried out executions, for the first time since May 2017, of five men, in September. The total number of death sentences issued and confirmed on appeal in Gaza is significant. In 2022, 22 death sentences were issued by first instance courts, 16 were confirmed on appeal and at least six death sentences were upheld by the cassation courts. In addition, courts of appeal departed from the recommended life sentences that were imposed in five cases and instead issued death sentences. Military courts issued eight death sentences, including five against non-security personnel. Further, the civil court in Gaza issued the first death sentence in a case of drug trafficking. In the past, a death sentence was only issued in such cases by the military courts.

On the occasion of the World Day Against the Death Penalty (10 October), the Office organized awareness-raising events involving approximately 150 students from Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. An animated video depicting experiences of victims of torture in the oPt and highlighting legal and psychosocial services for survivors of torture and their families was produced in Arabic. The video reached nearly 270,000 people. On 10 October, in partnership with ICHR and the legal clinic at Al-Istiqlal University, the Office conducted a workshop for students of law and political science on human rights perspectives with regard to the abolition of the death

penalty. On 11 October, the Office cooperated with ICHR, the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights and Palestine University in Gaza to organize a debate on the death penalty for law and journalism students. On 11 October, OHCHR collaborated with Al-Quds University in East Jerusalem, ICHR, the Ministry of Justice, the SHAMS Centre and Al-Haq to deliver a workshop for students on Palestinian obligations under international law and the current status of national legislation, policies and practices relating to the death penalty in the oPt.



Participation

P1 – Laws, policies and practices that protect civic space and the right to participate, including online, are strengthened and respected by both Israeli and Palestinian authorities.

16



OHCHR raised the awareness of stakeholders, including authorities, human rights organizations and defenders and the international community, on the Government's obligations and rights related to civic space and participation.

OHCHR monitored and reported on civic space-related violations (11 new cases were documented) that took place in a hostile environment for HRDs and NGOs. OHCHR supported bilateral and group meetings with CSOs to exchange information and discuss protection measures for HRDs, in particular women human rights defenders (WHRDs). The Office provided several trainings to representatives of civil society, the NHRI and government institutions on the international human rights mechanisms, standards and monitoring on HRDs. From February to October,

OHCHR partnered with the Ministry of Women's Affairs to deliver four two-day workshops on WHRDs, digital safety and security and advocacy for women's rights for CSOs from Gaza, Hebron/Bethlehem, Nablus and Salbit. In March, the Office held trainings for six young lawyers, including three women, working with the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights. In Gaza, the Office organized a workshop on "The role of lawyers in defending human rights" for 34 young lawyers, including 30 women, working with the Palestinian Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (MUSAWA). The workshops focused on the rights to freedom of expression, opinion and assembly, the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment, as well as arbitrary detention.

OHCHR integrated its tracking of civic space incidents into its new information management system, strengthening analysis and reporting on negative trends faced by HRDs, including online space restrictions. The Office also provided inputs to several reports on HRDs and civic space, including the joint UN submissions to CAT, the Human Rights Committee and the UPR.

OHCHR actively engaged with Palestinian authorities and provided substantive support for interactions between the Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) with Israeli authorities. Diplomatic briefings, including with donors, kept them informed and advocated for their support. Social media campaigns that incorporated civic space concerns, such as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, contributed to increased awareness.

Non-discrimination

ND3 – Practices in Israel (as the occupying power) and Palestinian laws, policies and practices related to SGBV and other discriminatory practices against women increasingly comply with international human rights standards, representing a first step towards the promotion of women's equality.



OHCHR contributed to promoting the autonomy and choices of women and girls and protection from violence, including in the digital space, in legal and social frameworks.

OHCHR systematically integrated gender into its monitoring and reporting activities. Monitoring focused on the gendered impacts of occupation, violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, GBV, violations against WHRDs and violations against women in Israeli and Palestinian detention. Of the 133 cases that were recorded, 15 cases involved violations of women's rights. Twenty-three cases that integrated a gender perspective were monitored. The Office remained one of the few entities that carried out visits to female detention facilities in Gaza and the West Bank, which were crucial to making linkages between GBV, discrimination and the detention of women.

On 17 February, OHCHR collaborated with ICHR and the AMAN-Coalition for Integrity and Accountability to conduct a workshop on women's rights and accountability in Gaza. A total of 18 civil society representatives attended, including 13 women. On 8 March, the Office partnered with the European Union (EU) to mark International Women's Day and raised awareness about Palestinian

women working in the agricultural sector. A video was produced, telling the story of two women farmers, which was widely distributed on social media platforms and resulted in the engagement of more than 350,000 people.

ND7 – OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on selected human rights issues.



OHCHR contributed to improving the narrative on selected human rights issues.

OHCHR provided technical assistance to government institutions and strengthened civil society engagement with the international human rights mechanisms, such as the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It also undertook public awareness and advocacy campaigns on disability and ensured disability was mainstreamed into broader processes, such as the new CCA and UNSDCF. In November, the Office held workshops in Gaza and Ramallah for 24 civil society representatives (five women), including organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), on parallel reporting to CRPD in anticipation of the pre-session working group scheduled for March 2023. Nine parallel submissions were provided by OPDs from Gaza and the West Bank and, with support from OHCHR, several organizations briefed the Committee on the substance of the reports and the situation of persons with disabilities in the oPt.

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), the Office partnered with UNCT agencies, including the RCO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA, and published a joint statement reaffirming the UN's commitment to persons with disabilities.

With regard to LGBTI rights, the Office carried out situational and case monitoring, including documenting the killing of a Palestinian gay man in Hebron, while also exploring the protection measures through the Protection Cluster for LGBTI individuals at risk. The Office provided information on the situation of LGBTI persons in the oPt and requested the support of Member States to advocate with West Bank authorities against censoring cultural events perceived to be associated with the LGBTI community. Progress was made in strengthening the mapping and analysis of the situation across the oPt, including an analysis of applicable domestic legislation. In Gaza, however, work on LGBTI rights continued to put staff and interlocutors at risk and no progress was made on mapping the situation.

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.

17

OHCHR contributed to the increasing use of the international human rights mechanisms by Palestinian CSOs, the Independent Commission for Human Rights and non-traditional human rights organizations to hold both Israel and the State of Palestine accountable for their human rights obligations and to assist Palestinians in claiming their rights.

OHCHR continued to support and partner with ICHR and CSOs based in Gaza and the West Bank, including to strengthen their knowledge and skills on parallel reporting under the international

human rights treaties and engagement with the international human rights mechanisms. On 29 March, in joint sessions held in Gaza and Ramallah, OHCHR organized a briefing on alternative submissions to the Human Rights Committee for civil society and ICHR. The briefing convened 24 persons, 10 of whom were women, and informed them about the process of submitting their reports on the implementation of ICCPR. On 30 March, in Gaza, OHCHR and the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) conducted a workshop on alternative reporting to CAT, which was attended by 22 representatives (10 women) from civil society and ICHR. Ten alternative reports were submitted to CAT. On 26 April, in Ramallah, OHCHR and the OMCT conducted a briefing session for ICHR and CSOs from the West Bank and East Jerusalem on alternative reporting to CAT, which was attended by 12 participants, five of whom were women. From 28 to 29 June, OHCHR provided a training on the UN individual complaints mechanisms, with a focus on the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). On 15 June, the Office cooperated with UN Women and held a workshop for 40 representatives from civil society on CEDAW and the simplified reporting procedure. On 29 August, the CEDAW Secretariat held a workshop for CSOs from Gaza and the West Bank on alternative reporting to CEDAW. A total of 56 participants attended, including 52 women, and 11 parallel reports were submitted, including one from a coalition of members, as encouraged by the Committee.



Peace and Security

PS3 – Human Rights are integrated into humanitarian strategies, planning and response, including HC/Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) advocacy and the Humanitarian Programming Cycle.



OHCHR supported the integration of a human rights-based approach and international standards into the humanitarian response in the oPt.

In its capacity as the Protection Cluster Lead Agency and through its strategic role in the HCT, the Office participated in and shaped humanitarian decision-making, policy and planning and closely advised the HC on key human rights issues and protection risks in the oPt. The Office reinforced key messaging for public awareness and advocacy on critical issues of concern by effectively ensuring that protection was incorporated into inter-agency strategies and outputs.

To strengthen adherence to protection principles by humanitarian actors, the Office launched a series of detailed Do No Harm checklists for donors, diplomats and humanitarian staff involved in advocacy field visits. The Office also developed and launched an oPt-wide protection service directory and dashboard to support case referrals for protection services, trained protection partners on disability and age inclusion in the humanitarian response and supported the humanitarian sector more broadly on the mainstreaming of protection across humanitarian interventions. Vulnerable groups, such as women with cancer, women and girls with disabilities and children impacted by violence, were prioritized.

PS5 – Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems, and influence policy-making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to crises.



Through technical assistance and guidance, the Office ensured the integration of human rights concepts and standards into key UN programmes.

The Office ensured that programmes to monitor and document violations of international law were included in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). OHCHR led the Protection Sector's annual needs analysis and response planning through extensive consultations with implementing partners, contributing to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and HRP 2023. These inputs ensured that protection, including international human rights and humanitarian law, remained central to the humanitarian context analysis.

The Office also developed a protection analysis framework and produced comprehensive Protection Analysis Updates for Gaza and the West Bank, in line with the new methodological framework developed by the Global Protection Cluster. Moreover, the Office contributed to the completion of the second oPt-wide Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and used the findings and data from the MSNA to guide the prioritization of protection needs.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
22.13 million	185,000 km ²	0.577 (rank: 150/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2018		
Field office(s)	Based in Beirut, Lebanon with presence in Gaziantep, Turkey and Amman, Jordan		
UN partnership framework	-		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	16		
XB income	US\$3,367,514		
XB requirements 2022	US\$3,984,000		
XB expenditure	US\$3,371,228		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
83%	9%	8%	
\$2,767,477	\$318,145	\$285,606	

Key OMP pillars in 2022

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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A5 – Regular integration of human rights-based issues into the ongoing work of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria (OSES).


16

OHCHR contributed to the integration of international human rights standards and principles and the recommendations issued by the international human rights mechanisms into the work of United Nations political, humanitarian and development actors.

OHCHR published two legal notes, namely, on the right to know and persons with disabilities. It also provided regular advice and analysis on the rule of law and justice issues to political, humanitarian and development actors working on Syria. This included the review of draft statements and publications from human rights and rule of law perspectives. Moreover, the Office ensured that the security and human rights situation in the country remained high on the UN agenda, primarily through the distribution of regular flash reports to key partners.

OHCHR continued to promote the rule of law and equal access to justice in its engagement with partners. In particular, it supported the work of OSES with the Constitutional Committee. To this end, the Office shared proposals to strengthen language in order to improve rights protection and address critical issues arising from the conflict, such as missing persons and housing, land and property rights. The Office shared its reports and analysis with the OSES to support the application of an HRBA to their programming. As a result, the OSES became more outspoken about rights-related issues, such as detentions and missing persons, including in their briefings to the Security Council and public statements.


Participation

P4 – Syrian civil society contributes more effectively to the promotion and protection of human rights.



8 16

OHCHR contributed to increased protection against human rights violations through the establishment of protection systems/procedures.

OHCHR helped to strengthen CSOs working inside and outside the country. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the second round of the Office's small grants project aimed at providing financial and technical support for Syrian CSOs, including through capacity-building. This enabled OHCHR to enhance partnerships with NGOs working on different issues. The Office also engaged in multiple bilateral consultations and offered workshops and trainings to its partners on a variety of issues to support their work and build their capacity.

The third cycle of the UPR review process took place in 2022. OHCHR built the capacity of civil society and other international actors to fully participate in the review process. In addition to the UPR, OHCHR provided trainings and support on the international human rights mechanisms.

Furthermore, the Office contributed to the Secretary-General's work on missing persons. This culminated in his report (A/76/890), which calls for the creation of a new institution dedicated to determining the fate of missing persons in Syria and providing adequate support to victims, survivors and their families. To this end, the Office consulted with CSOs and Member States. The Office will continue to assist Member States in the development of the framework for this new institution and is seeking their support for its establishment in a resolution.



Peace and Security

PS5 – Human rights are effectively integrated into the humanitarian response in Syria, including in planning, strategic approaches and operational terms.



OHCHR helped to ensure that humanitarian operations integrate international human rights norms, standards and principles and the recommendations of international human rights mechanisms into their work.

During the reporting period, the Office provided support to humanitarian actors involved in the Syria response in integrating human rights into their programming. This included providing trainings on an HRBA to members of the UNCT, sharing its reporting and analysis to inform their

work, reviewing public advocacy materials to support the inclusion of issues related to human rights and strengthening legal analysis and connecting them with international independent experts working on relevant thematic areas. The Office also worked extensively on the development of a Risk Register and other resources to support an HRDDP framework for the UNCT's procurement.

OHCHR also continued to share its data and analysis with UN actors and Member States to inform their work. The Office contributed to the Secretary-General's bimonthly report by focusing attention on human rights developments and adding an early warning element. In addition, the Office regularly disseminated flash reports to its core partners, which were regularly used to shape their responses and advocacy on Syria. An increased emphasis on legal analysis in the Office's products was welcomed.

Moreover, the Office's work on human rights in humanitarian action was recognized and valued. This led to enhanced engagement and the establishment of new relationships with key humanitarian partners, including through workshops and providing inputs to their materials. The importance of OHCHR's work was illustrated by the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) donation to the Office, which acknowledged the central role of human rights in humanitarian action.

TUNISIA

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
12.36 million	164,000 km ²	0.731 (rank: 97/191 in 2021)	B Status (2009)
Type of engagement		Country Office	
Year established		2011	
Field office(s)		Tunis	
UN partnership framework		United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2021-2025	
Staff as of 31 December 2022		23	
XB income		US\$2,412,219	
XB requirements 2022		US\$3,072,000	
XB expenditure		US\$1,739,591	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴	
56%	33%	11%	
\$971,510	\$573,468	\$194,613	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices combat racial discrimination more effectively, including discrimination against ethnic and national minorities, people of African descent, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, migrants, women and LGBTI persons.

5 10 16  

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

OHCHR continued to advocate for the promotion and protection of women's rights in Tunisia, including their right to participate in public life. The new electoral decree law omitted the previous provisions that guaranteed the proportional representation of women candidates in political lists running for parliamentary elections, which had an immediate negative impact. Out of 1,055 candidates for the December parliamentary elections, only 122 were women, constituting approximately 11.5 per cent of all candidates. Prior to this law, women held 44 per cent of the seats in the 2018 municipal elections and 26 per cent of the

seats in the 2019 parliamentary elections. In response, OHCHR and UN Women sent a joint letter to the Presidency of the Government expressing their concerns about the lack of women's participation in public life.

In November, a seminar was organized by UN Women and the Tunisian Association of Democratic Women on effective CSO engagement with and reporting to the human rights treaty bodies ahead of CEDAW's review of Tunisia's seventh periodic report, scheduled for February 2023. During the seminar, the Office stressed the importance of CSO engagement with CEDAW and other international human rights mechanisms to promote women's human rights. OHCHR provided concrete advice on technical aspects of engaging with the Committee. CSOs submitted their alternative report and recommendations to the Committee.

The Office continued to work closely with HRDs and persons with disabilities and their organizations to raise awareness about the promotion of their rights. It also advocated with governmental bodies to include persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and ensure that national legislation and policies on disability rights comply with CRPD. In May, OHCHR and the Danish Institute for Human Rights co-organized a training workshop on the rights of persons with disabilities for members of the National Committee for the Harmonization of Legal Texts Relating to Human Rights with the Constitution and Ratified International Conventions. The Office focused on the general principles related to the rights of persons with disabilities regarding participation, non-discrimination and accessibility, while mapping steps taken by the Government to respect those principles.

The workshop aimed at analysing human rights gaps in Tunisia's legislative framework and identifying legal provisions that need to be amended in order to be aligned with international standards. The Office will continue providing the necessary technical assistance to the authorities, with a view to finalizing these legal revisions.

ND6 – National capacity is enhanced to protect human rights at borders and protect the rights of migrant workers and their families.



OHCHR provided support for the protection of the human rights of all migrants, particularly those in vulnerable situations.

OHCHR partnered with other UN agencies and CSOs to advise the Government on migration and human rights issues, with a view to bringing national legislation and policies on migrants in line with international human rights standards.

In January, as part of the UNOPS border control and management project, OHCHR participated in the first meeting of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC). Through the project, maintenance services were provided to vessels and unarmed equipment of the Tunisian National Maritime Guard. UNOPS invited OHCHR, IOM and UNDSS to participate in the PAC in order to provide human rights-based advice on the implementation of the project. OHCHR emphasized the importance of placing the human rights of migrants at the centre of the project, which primarily focused on the security aspects of border

management at sea. The Office provided technical advice to strengthen the project's risk assessment and ensure that the human rights of migrants were protected.

In July, OHCHR and EuroMed Rights co-organized a training session that focused on strengthening cooperation between CSOs and the international human rights mechanisms. Nearly 40 representatives of CSOs working in the field of migration and asylum attended the training.

In light of the recent increase in interceptions by the Tunisian National Maritime Guard of migrants attempting to leave Tunisia irregularly via the dangerous Mediterranean migration route, OHCHR facilitated a two-day monitoring mission to the governorate of Sfax, focusing on protection issues related to law enforcement in the context of border control. During the mission, OHCHR met with stakeholders and CSOs to better assess the situation of migrants in Sfax and their cooperation with the authorities in applying international standards in relation to the protection of the human rights of migrants.

In November, OHCHR and UNSMIL organized a regional workshop on human rights at international borders in Northern Africa. A total of 30 representatives of CSOs and activists from Libya, Morocco and Tunisia were in attendance. OHCHR emphasized that international borders are not exclusionary zones when it comes to complying with international human rights obligations. It also commended CSOs for their role in mainstreaming human rights, stressing the importance of their participation in the formulation and implementation of migration policies at the regional and national level.

In light of the looming migration crisis in the country, OHCHR will continue to strengthen its work in this area over the next year.

Mechanisms

M1 – The National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF), NHRI, UNCT and CSOs effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

16 17

OHCHR contributed to national institutionalized structures, facilitating an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.

In anticipation of Tunisia's fourth UPR cycle review, scheduled for November, OHCHR provided support to CSOs, the UNCT, the NMRF and independent authorities mandated to protect human rights. OHCHR supported the UNCT and more than 40 CSOs in drafting their reports. It also assisted CSOs in their advocacy with stakeholders and during the pre-sessions of the HRC in relation to the recommendations outlined in their alternative reports to strengthen the country's international commitments and human rights situation. Capacity-building and technical assistance was provided to the NMRF for the drafting of its report and prior to the HRC session and the NMRF's consultation with CSOs. A coaching session was held on 27 October, which was attended by 35 participants. The objective was to provide technical assistance and advice on the modalities of the interactive dialogue with the UPR Working Group, the preparation of the dialogue, accessing information

through available tools and the outcome of the review. During the UPR review, Tunisia accepted the recommendations on the establishment of an NHRI, in line with the Paris Principles, and the establishment of a Constitutional Court. OHCHR will support the Government in the establishment of these institutions.

OHCHR also supported the visit of SPT. The delegation met with the Head of the Government, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, representatives of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), the UNCT and CSOs. Following its visit to places of deprivation of liberty, SPT published a press release on 6 April that expressed its deep concern regarding the persistence of police violence and prison overcrowding in Tunisia.

In addition, OHCHR supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking and sanitation, in July. During the visit, the Special Rapporteur met with authorities and a network of civil society, community-based organizations (CBOs) and rights holders. The Special Rapporteur's preliminary findings and recommendations will inform a final report that will be presented to the HRC at its fifty-fourth session, in September 2023.



Participation

P1 – Laws, policies and practices protecting the right to participate and civic space, including online, are strengthened and civil society faces an increasingly safe and enabling environment.

16

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

and standards of selected policy areas.

OHCHR faced challenges in implementing its activities with the judiciary due to the continuous interference of the Executive Branch, resulting in the dissolution of the High Judicial Council. The situation was aggravated by the Ministry of Justice's delayed nomination of judges. OHCHR conducted an analysis of several pieces of legislation, including: 1) the leaked draft law amending legislation on associations, which raised concerns about the rights to assembly and association and civic space and led to a joint communication from four special procedures to the Government; 2) the new Constitution and its compliance with international human rights standards; 3) the decree-law revising legislation on elections, which raised concerns about the right to participation in public affairs and women's rights to participation and representation; and 4) the new decree-law on cybercrimes, which poses risks to freedom of expression and the right to privacy. OHCHR undertook advocacy with authorities in relation to the two latter decree-laws and offered technical assistance to help align the legal framework with international human rights standards. The Office also shared its analysis with relevant special procedures mandate holders to inform their communications (three of which were sent to the authorities). In addition, OHCHR monitored cases of online and offline restrictions of freedom of expression against protesters, bloggers, journalists and HRDs for criticizing the regime, including during the constitutional referendum and in the context of the December parliamentary elections. These restrictions effectively silenced dissent and shrunk the civic space. Furthermore, OHCHR monitored and reported on a significant increase

in criminal prosecutions of journalists and bloggers that were brought before military courts to stifle dissenting voices and harass journalists, including women journalists. The number of these cases dramatically increased after the "25 July events" and are another example of the repression exercised by the Executive Branch and judiciary to limit freedom of expression in the country.

P5 – Independent public institutions to promote and protect the civic space and public freedoms, as well as CSOs, including media actors, increasingly conduct monitoring and public reporting on human rights issues and assist victims of human rights violations.

OHCHR contributed to enhancing the use of national protection systems, in compliance with international human rights norms and standards.

OHCHR monitored cases of women journalists and bloggers being harassed and prosecuted, including before military courts, for exercising their right to work and freedom of expression. OHCHR participated in two regional consultations on the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, which brought together authorities and stakeholders working on this topic, including UN agencies, civil society and academic experts. During these events, OHCHR outlined its efforts to support the establishment and capacity-building of the Monitoring Unit on Attacks against Journalists of the Tunisian National Syndicate of Journalists (SNJT). OHCHR expressed its concerns regarding impunity for crimes against journalists in Tunisia, a situation that has been exacerbated by violations committed by the police and the justice sector. OHCHR also noted its

concerns regarding the freedom of the media and the security of journalists in Tunisia, especially in light of an increased targeting and prosecution of journalists by military courts. The Office called on Tunisian authorities to put an end to such practices and adopt a legal framework that meets international standards and fully guarantees the rights to due process, freedom of expression and the media and the security of journalists.

In December, OHCHR partnered with the Independent Authority for Audiovisual Communication (HAICA) to organize a workshop with community-based radio stations to enhance human rights at the local level and support their efforts in drafting a guide on monitoring human rights violations, including in relation to the freedom of the media.

P7 – Public recognition is increased about the contribution of human rights education to development and effective responses to violence, including terrorism and violent extremism.



OHCHR enhanced the capacities of underrepresented groups to participate in decision-making and public life and the capacities of educational staff to design, develop and deliver trainings.

As part of its joint project on preventing violent extremism and human rights education, OHCHR organized a focus group meeting, in June, with CSOs working on this issue. The workshop provided information on human rights education-related data in this field, discussed preliminary findings and identified data gaps. In July, the Office received the final version of the mapping of the training network's existing and forthcoming training,

development and capacity-building initiatives on preventing violent extremism, which was prepared by a consultant. OHCHR also organized a regional workshop, in Kairouan, for CSOs from the country's central region, to discuss the resilience factors, risks and needs of education stakeholders. In December, the Office organized two regional workshops, in Sousse and Tabarka, to discuss the needs of education stakeholders with local CSOs.



Accountability

A2 – The NPM is operational and fulfils its mandate, in compliance with international human rights law.



OHCHR contributed to strengthened national mechanisms that provide redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations, including in relation to ESCRs.

OHCHR held two consultation sessions, in Sousse and Tunis, for CSOs working on ESCRs, including the right to health, the rights of women and the rights of persons with disabilities. OHCHR received inputs from more than 50 CSOs, which identified current challenges, priority areas and ways that OHCHR can support them in promoting the implementation of ESCRs. These inputs will inform OHCHR's planning for 2023 and ensure it develops impact-oriented and needs-based interventions to better support CSOs in their work. The consultations included several sessions that focused on: 1) the UPR process and the instrumental role of CSOs in the implementation of recommendations on ESCRs; 2) the importance of a human rights-based approach in efforts related

to ESCRs; and 3) the Social Expenditure Monitoring tool, launched by ESCWA and the Ministry of Finance, which can be used by CSOs to monitor government expenditures on ESCRs and increase accountability. The events also included sessions that enabled CSOs to discuss the challenges they face and the support they need from OHCHR in their work to promote and protect ESCRs in Tunisia.

A2 – The judicial sector functions in compliance with international human rights standards and provides increased redress to victims and accountability for human rights violations.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the extent to which international human rights law and jurisprudence was used in court proceedings and decisions.

OHCHR conducted eight joint monitoring missions with the National Authority for the Prevention of Torture (INPT) to places of deprivation of liberty, including prisons, police stations and migrant reception centres, to monitor the detention conditions and assess their compliance with international human rights standards. This included three visits to the Bizerte hospital, two visits to an unrecognized place of detention in Beja and one visit to the Mornaguia Prison. In September, OHCHR conducted two monitoring missions, one of which was undertaken with the INPT. The missions were conducted to investigate the deaths of two individuals as a result of the reported unnecessary use of force by law enforcement during their arrests. OHCHR will consider the recommendations of the mission reports in follow-up discussions with the Ministries of Justice, Interior and Health. OHCHR

also met with representatives of different ministries and CSOs and shared a manual on international human rights standards for the treatment of prisoners, which was developed in collaboration with partners.

Development

D2 – The Government of Tunisia begins implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

1 2 3 5 8 9 13 16 17



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.

On 25 October, OHCHR collaborated with the UN Global Compact to facilitate a session on business and human rights, with a focus on the UNGPs and UNGP 10+. Twenty-five participants attended from 16 enterprises in Tunisia, representing a variety of sectors, including banking, cement, oil and gas and the automotive industry. The session featured a workshop on “Operationalizing business and human rights within our firms,” during which participants discussed how to integrate business and human rights, identified challenges and recommended solutions for enhanced implementation. Participants appreciated the sessions and requested additional sessions for their colleagues. The Office highlighted the need to engage with other stakeholders, such as CSOs, to develop more meaningful projects within their communities (particularly in the case of the cement, oil and gas companies). During two consultation sessions with CSOs, OHCHR emphasized that business and human

rights and the UNGPs are essential to addressing the rights of women in vulnerable situations and stressed that CSOs can play an important role in advancing this work. Moreover, OHCHR worked with Avocats Sans Frontière (ASF) to prepare an upcoming baseline study on business and human rights in the textile industry, featuring women as the spotlight population.

Peace and Security

PS4 – The Truth and Dignity Commission, the Specialized Criminal Chambers, the Government, the Parliament and civil society have the capacity to deliver on their respective mandates and roles in relation to the transitional justice process.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the establishment and/or functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in conformity with international human rights norms and standards.

In June, OHCHR delivered a workshop on the role of young people in support of the transitional justice process in Tunisia and the promotion of truth and accountability and justice for all, in particular for victims. A total of 29 participants attended, including 15 women. From 30 June to 1 July, OHCHR delivered a second workshop on the role of civil society in the process of transitional justice for 33 persons, including 32 women. The two workshops focused on violations that have taken place since the revolution, underlined that the goal of the process is the non-recurrence of grave violations and indicated that the current situation facing the country is due to insufficient institutional reforms on several levels, notably in the security and judicial systems.

In partnership with IBSAR Association for the Culture and Leisure of blind and visually impaired people, OHCHR produced a Braille version of the 529-page executive summary of the Truth and Dignity Commission final report, in Arabic and French. With IBSAR’s support, OHCHR also produced an electronic format of the executive summary that is accessible from smartphones. Audio files in EPUB3 format have been integrated into the platform.

The Office continued to facilitate the monitoring of trials before the Specialized Criminal Chambers and supported the participation of CSOs and journalists in hearings before them in several regions, on 10 occasions.

In March, the Office collaborated with the Ministry of Justice to organize a training session for recently appointed judges to the Specialized Criminal Chambers. During the training, the national legal framework for transitional justice in Tunisia was presented and the important role of the Specialized Criminal Chambers in guaranteeing the non-recurrence of violations was discussed. In addition, the experts and magistrates discussed impediments to the progress of trials in the Specialized Chambers and possible remedies.

Finally, the Office completed a handbook for the judges of the Specialized Criminal Chambers. In December, OHCHR held a webinar to present the handbook, which will be disseminated in 2023.

YEMEN

Population size¹	Surface area¹	Human Development Index²	NHRI (if applicable)³
33.70 million	528,000 km ²	0.455 (rank: 183/191 in 2021)	-
Type of engagement	Country Office		
Year established	2012		
Field office(s)	Sana'a, Aden (2019)		
UN partnership framework	United Nations Strategic Framework 2022-2024		
Staff as of 31 December 2022	24		

XB income	US\$4,300,707		
XB requirements 2022	US\$7,263,000		
XB expenditure	US\$4,812,633		
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC⁴	
57%	32%	11%	
\$2,724,001	\$1,536,407	\$552,225	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – National institutions, including the Ministry of Interior’s Corrections and Rehabilitation Authority and the Yemeni National Commission of Inquiry, curb human rights violations.

16

OHCHR contributed to an increasing number of laws, policies and practices that address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems.

Between April and December, OHCHR held several capacity-building sessions for

personnel from national human rights entities, including the National Commission of Inquiry (NCOI), the Yemeni Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR) and the Ministry of Human Rights and Legal Affairs (MoHRLA). The objective of the sessions was to enhance their capacities in relation to accountability and increase their knowledge about international human rights investigations standards and laws.

In March, OHCHR delivered a four-day consultative meeting to 38 field monitors, including eight women, in Aden, to improve their knowledge about international human rights and humanitarian law and monitoring and its application to the Yemeni context.

In October, OHCHR organized a two-day training workshop in Aden for eight assistant investigators, all of whom were men, to improve their knowledge regarding the impacts of human rights violations on persons of different gender identities and ages and how to integrate gender into human rights investigations.

Through a series of six meetings, in April, OHCHR strengthened the capacities of officials from the de facto authorities to monitor and document human rights violations in relation to priority areas that were identified by CEDAW in its 2021 concluding observations. The meetings were attended by 40 participants, including 26 women, from the MoHR in Sana'a and the women's departments of other de facto ministries.

In December, OHCHR facilitated a three-day consultative meeting with staff of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood to strengthen reporting on the rights of the child and enhance the capacities of government officials to investigate violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law. The meeting was attended by 22 participants (16 from MoHRLA, six from MoFA; 11 women, 11 men).

Participation

P4 – Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened.

8 16

OHCHR contributed to the increased capacity of civil society actors to provide effective assistance to victims of human rights violations.

In Sana'a, 15 meetings were held with INGOs and CSOs, including journalist unions and local associations, such

as Mwatana for Human Rights, the Maysarah Foundation, the Abductees' Mothers Association, the National Prisoner Foundation and Muhamasheen groups, as well as the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

In June, OHCHR held a meeting with representatives of the Abductees' Mothers Association, in Aden, to discuss cases of enforced disappearance and follow-up actions. OHCHR also held a meeting with the Civil Network for Media, Development and Human Rights to establish a network of human rights monitoring and reporting. In addition, OHCHR held a meeting with the President of the National Prisons Foundation to discuss rule of law issues.

Furthermore, the knowledge of Yemeni CSOs about the work of the international human rights system was enhanced through the dissemination of 36 weekly e-newsletters on news, documentation, reports, resources and opportunities to participate in the work of the international human rights mechanisms. Seventy-two subscribers were added in 2022, bringing the total to 395.

To strengthen the protection of freedom of expression in Yemen, with a focus on journalists, OHCHR organized three meetings with journalist unions on the situation. In December, five journalists were invited to join a focus group to validate a report on freedom of expression. Partnerships were developed with professional groups, such as the Yemeni Writers Union, trade unions, lawyers' associations, universities and minorities, such as marginalized groups and persons with disabilities, to better address their advocacy needs.

From 12 to 14 December, OHCHR facilitated a three-day consultation to empower

the National Union of Yemeni Disabled Associations in relation to CRPD. Discussions focused on identifying issues of concern, intervention priorities and practical implementation mechanisms. In addition, OHCHR disseminated its recent thematic report on the situation of persons with disabilities and presented a short film it had developed, which addresses the right to education of persons with disabilities. The sessions were attended by 28 participants, including eight women. The report was disseminated at an event organized by OHCHR and MoHR Sana'a to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (4 December), which was attended by 30 participants (six women, 24 men). It provided an innovative forum for the exchange of views and experiences between associations of persons with disabilities and relevant authorities, including the State Handicap Care and Rehabilitation Fund.

P5 – The capacities of CSOs to promote and protect human rights are strengthened.



OHCHR continued to monitor and report on violations of freedom of expression and opinion.

During the reporting period, OHCHR documented 19 human rights violations related to civic space and people's participation, which were included in OHCHR-Yemen's database. Between January and June, OHCHR submitted cases of violations of the right to civic space and participation to the attention of the special procedures and other international human rights mechanisms. OHCHR followed up on comments issued by the special procedures on documented

human rights cases, such as the enforced disappearance of two UN staff members, which were transmitted to authorities in Yemen, including the de facto authority.



Peace and Security

PS1 – Violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are monitored and reported. Particular attention is paid to abuses perpetrated by parties to the conflict, especially arbitrary detention and abuses that target civilians and civilian objectives. Gathered information informs UN responses.



OHCHR strengthened the capacities and knowledge of relevant authorities of the Government and the international community through monitoring, documenting and reporting on human rights violations, including those affecting vulnerable groups.

OHCHR collaborated with the Ministry of Human Rights, Sana'a and authorities in Aden to raise awareness about the promotion and protection of human rights through the commemoration of United Nations celebrations, such as International Women's Day (8 March), the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March), the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (26 June), the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December) and Human Rights Day (10 December). On these occasions, curated messages were shared in public forums with the participation of civil society, authorities and the media.

OHCHR produced public and internal reports and carried out advocacy with the international community, national counterparts and in coordination with

civil society. Six press briefing notes and statements were issued and 38 advocacy meetings were held with relevant authorities, members of the UNCT, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen and the United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) to ensure that human rights concerns informed the humanitarian response. Inputs were provided to the reports of: the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the General Assembly (seventy-seventh session); the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict; the Secretary-General on reprisals and intimidation against those seeking to cooperate with the UN, its representatives and mechanisms on human rights; and two thematic reports on the situation of persons with disabilities and freedom of expression.

In June, OHCHR conducted high-level advocacy meetings with the Saudi-led Coalition in Riyadh to advocate for accountability in relation to alleged human rights violations, including indiscriminate airstrikes and attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure migrants along the Saudi/Yemeni border. In December, in Aden, OHCHR improved the knowledge and skills of 30 participants, including six women from the AGO, on the promotion and protection of human rights.

OHCHR documented over 1,000 cases of human rights violations: 894 civilian casualties (316 killed, 578 injured); 32 arbitrary detention cases; three cases of enforced disappearance; 19 violations of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; four cases of GBV, including CRSV, child marriage, SGBV and domestic violence; and 58 attacks against civilian objects.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE FOR SOUTH-WEST ASIA AND THE ARAB REGION

Type of engagement	Regional Centre
Countries of engagement	Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen
Year established	2009
Field office(s)	Doha, Qatar
Staff as of 31 December 2022	6

XB income	US\$679,997	
XB requirements 2022	US\$2,341,000	
XB expenditure	US\$250,044	
Personnel	Non-personnel	PSC ⁴
58%	30%	12%
\$144,644	\$76,634	\$28,766
RB expenditure	US\$875,100	
Personnel	Non-personnel	
64%	36%	
\$556,619	\$318,481	

Key OMP pillars in 2022



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

PILLAR RESULTS:

Accountability

A1 – The capacities of States to adopt legislation/policy to protect human rights in compliance with international human rights norms and standards are significantly enhanced.

16 

OHCHR contributed to the enhanced capacities and knowledge of State officials on international human rights norms and standards.

Between February and March, OHCHR collaborated with the Saudi Human Rights Commission to deliver a ToT session for prison staff. The session developed the training capacities of

prison staff to share their experiences and knowledge with their colleagues about international human rights standards in relation to prisons. To that end, each participant was requested to facilitate at least two ToT trainings at their respective institution. Twenty-five participants attended the session, including 15 women, from the Ministry of Interior, the Public Prosecution Office and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development.

In an effort to provide stakeholders with access to relevant publications, OHCHR translated and published several publications, which are also used in trainings by the Centre and other OHCHR field presences in the region. These included: the manual on *Preventing Torture: The role of National Preventive Mechanisms – A practical guide* (2018); reference materials related to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; *The resource book on the use of force and firearms in law enforcement* (co-published with UNODC) (2015); and *Human rights at international borders: A trainers' guide* (co-published with UNOCT) (2015). Additionally, the Office reviewed the *Frequently asked questions on human rights and climate change* (2021) and the *Frequently asked questions on human rights and elections: A handbook on international human rights standards on elections* (2021).

In September, OHCHR participated in the “National Forum on the role of law enforcement institutions in the protection of human rights during the World Cup Qatar 2022.” The event was organized by the National Human Rights Commission of the State of Qatar, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Interior and the Supreme

Committee for Delivery and Legacy, with contributions from national and international organizations. The Forum sought to promote respect for human rights during the World Cup, with an emphasis on the role of law enforcement in protecting human rights and ensuring the organization of a civilized and safe international tournament. OHCHR presented a working paper entitled *Human rights in sports events: An international approach*. The Forum was attended by more than 200 participants from all ministries and relevant official bodies, in addition to representatives of international organizations.



Mechanisms

M1 – Stronger NMRFs are established/promoted, with a clear and comprehensive mandate.



OHCHR strengthened the capacities of States in the Arab region to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms.

In May, OHCHR cooperated with the Danish Institute for Human Rights to deliver a workshop for members of the Tunisian NMRF on reporting to the HRC in the context of the fourth UPR cycle. The workshop brought together representatives from line ministries, including the Ministries of Justice, Economy, Finance, Communication and Information Technology, Interior, National Defence and the National Institute of Statistics, and focused on drafting methodologies and techniques.

In June, OHCHR and the Arab Charter Committee for Human Rights co-organized a workshop, in Cairo, for

government officials from 16 Arab countries on “Strengthening complementarities between international and regional human rights mechanisms.” Participants discussed ways to link the UN global review calendar and the Arab human rights regional system to facilitate the enhanced engagement of Member States with the international human rights mechanisms.

From 28 November to 1 December, OHCHR and the Jordan Institute of Diplomacy (JID) co-organized a four-day regional training course, in Amman, Jordan, for junior Arab diplomats on “Engaging with the international human rights mechanisms.” The objective of the training course was to fully integrate human rights into diplomatic work and encourage Arab diplomats to engage with the international human rights mechanisms and the UN system. It also sought to provide an in-depth understanding of human rights concepts, principles and standards, with a focus on international human rights mechanisms and treaties that reference the obligations and responsibilities of Member States to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. The training enabled Arab diplomats working in the field of human rights at their respective foreign ministries to exchange their experiences. A total of 21 trainees participated, representing 18 foreign ministries from the Arab region, namely, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the State of Palestine, Sudan, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

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.



OHCHR strengthened the capacities of actors in the Arab region to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.

In August, OHCHR organized an online workshop for Syrian CSOs on the “Engagement of Syrian civil society with the international human rights mechanisms.” A total of 24 participants, including eight women, from 24 organizations, attended the workshop. Topics included the international human rights mechanisms, the ratification of international human rights treaties and civil society engagement with the human rights treaty bodies. It also provided an overview of CEDAW, intersectionality, gender mainstreaming and civil society engagement with the special procedures.



Non-discrimination

ND1 – National laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination against religious, ethnic and national minorities, persons with disabilities, migrants and women. Responsible authorities work to Leave No One Behind, including by addressing the root causes of inequality and creating linkages between human rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



OHCHR continued to enhance the knowledge of WHRDs on monitoring and protecting human rights.

In September, OHCHR and the coordinator of the We Network for Women Human Rights Defenders co-organized an online workshop on “Monitoring and protecting women’s human rights” for young WHRDs in the Arab region. The workshop aimed to strengthen the knowledge of participants about international principles for monitoring and documenting women’s human rights. Participants were introduced to the principles of human rights monitoring and documentation; methodologies for monitoring women’s human rights and the international legal framework for the protection of women’s rights; and regional mechanisms for advocacy. A total of 50 participants attended, representing 15 countries from the Arab region, including Algeria, Comoros, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.



Participation

P1 – Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the legal, policy and accountability environment to protect civil society groups, HRDs and activists.

In June, OHCHR reviewed and delivered the annual training programme for journalists, in collaboration with the Mauritanian Journalists Syndicate and

Al Jazeera’s Centre for Public Liberties and Human Rights entitled “Freedom of the press and the public interest: Between rights and responsibility.” A total of 36 journalists attended, half of whom were women, from Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. The training aimed to increase the capacities of the participants to integrate human rights principles and take human rights concerns into account in their work. Sessions covered human rights principles and standards, international human rights mechanisms related to journalism, the human rights of media professionals and journalists and how to respect and address human rights in journalism.

In October, OHCHR partnered with the Arab Network for National Human Rights Institutions (ANNHRI) and the Algerian National Council for Human Rights to deliver a ToT in Algeria on “Designing, managing and delivering human rights training” for NHRIs in the Arab region. The training was based on the OHCHR manual entitled *From planning to impact: A manual on human rights training methodology*, and included a training needs assessment, training styles and techniques and participatory methodologies. A total of 28 participants, including 10 women, attended from 15 NHRIs in the Arab region, including Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, the State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia.

In November, OHCHR worked closely with ANNHRI and the National Human Rights Commission in Lebanon to organize a training, in Beirut, on “The role of NHRIs in human rights monitoring and reporting,” for NHRIs in the

Arab region. A total of 35 participants from 15 NHRIs, including 20 women, participated from Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, the State of Palestine, Sudan and Tunisia. The training introduced them to OHCHR monitoring and reporting methodologies, with a focus on basic principles of human rights monitoring, collecting information, conducting interviews with victims, protecting victims and witnesses and integrating a gender perspective into human rights monitoring and reporting.

P4 – The capacities of WHRDs in the region to address areas of concern and participate have increased.



OHCHR contributed to enhancing the level of participation of rights holders, especially women and discriminated groups.

From 31 October to 1 November, OHCHR supported the organization of a regional workshop, in Jordan, on “The role of parliaments in implementing and following up on CEDAW recommendations,” in collaboration with the Arab Women Parliamentarians Network for Equality. The workshop focused on the role of parliaments in monitoring the implementation of State Party obligations under the human rights treaties and the recommendations issued by CEDAW and the other human rights treaty bodies. It also highlighted how to effectively engage with the international human rights mechanisms, with the goal of protecting the rights of women and girls through legislation. A total of 25 current and former women Members of Parliaments attended.

On 19 November, OHCHR participated in delivering a training session on human rights monitoring in the framework of the FIFA Volunteer Programme. OHCHR and the Centre for Sport and Human Rights were invited to support FIFA in pioneering its Human Rights Volunteer Programme at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 to support human rights due diligence during events. FIFA volunteers were introduced to the principles of human rights and how to monitor, document, gather information and write reports. More than 100 youth volunteers from 21 countries, including 35 women, participated.

P5 – More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.



OHCHR contributed to increasing the knowledge and skills of CSOs to apply an HRBA to their programmes and activities.

Between May and June, OHCHR organized a four-day training on the application of an HRBA to programming and advocacy to promote new work methods among Syrian CSOs that incorporate a people-centric approach. A total of 17 participants attended, including 11 women, representing six local Syrian CSOs. The workshop focused on increasing the knowledge and skills of CSOs to apply an HRBA and provided a safe space to share ideas and experiences. Additional trainings are planned to further develop their capacities.