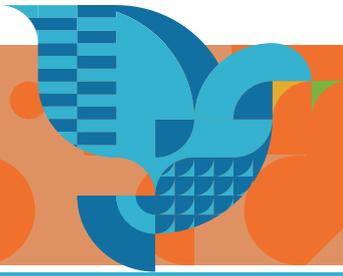


# THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME FOR STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, JUSTICE AND SECURITY FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

PHASE IV (2022-2025)



## ACCESS TO JUSTICE



**A people-centered approach to justice:** Justice is fundamental to preventing and responding to conflict, crisis and fragility, for strengthening the rule of law, and for realising the transformative ambition of Agenda 2030. To remedy injustice, end impunity, and protect the rights of current and future generations, justice systems, services and institutions must be fair, accountable, accessible and able to deliver quality justice services for all, especially the most marginalised, vulnerable and furthest behind. A people-centered approach to transforming justice systems means change efforts must be guided by and respond to the perceptions, needs and experiences of those experiencing injustice. It acknowledges that formal justice systems represent only one avenue for seeking justice, and therefore emphasises the quality and efficacy of the full array of state and non-state justice service providers.

### What we do

- Within the Justice Futures Colab, we test, learn and adapt innovative solutions for increasing access to justice for all, with a focus on the most excluded, marginalized and vulnerable, women and girls, and migrants and displaced persons.
- Support digitalization and e-justice initiatives to increase the accessibility, quality, transparency and efficiency of justice services, institutions and systems.
- Strengthen environmental justice through enabling legal frameworks, people-centered justice institutions and empowered communities who can claim their environmental rights and influence decision-making.
- Support strengthened systems and mechanisms for monitoring, accountability and oversight within the justice sector, including judicial independence.
- Support non-discriminatory legal frameworks and participatory constitution-making processes that promote inclusion, equality and justice.
- Support participatory transitional justice mechanisms and processes that promote accountability and respond to victims' justice needs, especially for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).
- Develop evidence-based gender justice responses for increased access to justice, strengthened national capacities to prevent and respond to violence against women, and enhanced women's representation and participation.
- Advance evidence-informed global policy and practice efforts related to access to civil justice, customary and informal justice systems and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Champion justice and the rule of law as core elements of preventing and responding to conflict and crisis, including through One UN and Triple Nexus approaches.
- Produce and share knowledge and promote continuous learning and innovative approaches and tools that advance rule of law and justice transformation goals.

### Challenges we face

- The global justice gap is widening and justice systems lack the resources and capacities to respond to this challenge. The COVID-19 pandemic intensified pressure on the effective functioning of justice systems worldwide.

- Women, girls and marginalized groups face discriminatory laws, systemic barriers to accessing justice, and are underrepresented in decision-making processes and roles.
- Protracted conflicts, rising levels of political violence, and the weakening of key rule of law and justice institutions are contributing to injustices and inequalities, pervasive impunity and undermining of the social contract.

OHCHR and other key UN partners to deliver joint rule of law, access to justice and transitional justice programmes, and to advance coherence across the TripleNexus.

- UNDP is a member of the Justice Action Coalition, a network committed to advancing people-centered justice.

## Our policy framework

- [The Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [UNDP Strategic Plan \(2022-2025\)](#)
- UN Secretary-General's [Call to Action for Human Rights](#) (2020)
- UN Secretary-General's report "[Our Common Agenda](#)" (2021)
- Women, Peace and Security Agenda
- [Beyond the Pandemic - The Justice Emergency \(2022\)](#)
- [From Justice for the Past to Peace for the Future: A Development Approach to Transitional Justice](#) (2021)
- UN [Global Compact for Refugees](#) (2018)
- OECD [DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus](#) (2022)

## Our partnerships

- UNDP co-chairs with DPO the Global Focal Point for Rule of Law (GFP).
- Through the [Gender Justice Platform](#), UNDP and UN Women implement joint initiatives that seek to close the gender justice gap and empower women to claim and realise their rights.
- UNDP has forged strategic partnerships with UNHCR,

- In Colombia, 45,618 victims of the armed conflict (25,090 women and 20,528 men) accessed measures to redress violations of their human rights through the implementation of collective reparations plans.
- In Burundi, UNDP supported approximately 17,000 people with initiatives for ensuring access to justice, including the provision of legal aid and protection for women through mobile courts.
- In the Arab States, UNDP, in partnership with UN Women, UNFPA and ESCWA, launched the [Gender Justice and The Law](#) regional report and legislative dashboard to enhance advocacy efforts, inform policy making, law reform and gender justice action in the region, and support strategic country-level programming.
- In the Central African Republic, UNDP and MINUSCA supported the operationalization of key transitional justice mechanisms. In 2021, the Special Criminal Court held its first public hearing, received 237 complaints and provided protection measures to over 300 victims and witnesses. Eleven Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation Commissioners, including five women, were sworn in.
- In Bangladesh, UNDP catalysed government efforts towards transforming the court system through the use of technology. A platform for virtual courts enabled 42,894 bail applications and 14,911 virtual hearings, and reduced the pre-trial detention population by almost 12% in its first three months alone.

### About the Global Programme

The Global Programme uniquely combines rule of law, justice, security, and human rights within an overarching umbrella framework, focused on preventing and responding to crisis, conflict and fragility through quality programming, knowledge brokerage and thought leadership, and policy support. The Global Programme's Phase IV commenced in 2022 and is guided by and aligned to the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2022-2025. The programme promotes people-centred and human rights-based approaches to addressing the drivers and symptoms of inequality, exclusion, injustice and insecurity, and accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### To learn more:

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