



Governance and Democratic Participation Programme

GDPP Legacy Compendium
2017- 2022



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GDPP Legacy Compendium of achievements 2017- 2022

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INTRODUCTION

Ethiopia continues to grapple with significant and concurrent structural transitions that encompass fundamental matters of governance, economic growth, an impending demographic shift, and substantial environmental disruptions, notably climate change. Within the domain of governance, critical issues pertaining to identity versus unity, the nature of the Federation and the role of the State, the cultivation of a pluralistic society that accommodates a multitude of diverse stakeholders and voices, participation, inclusion, the rule of law, justice, respect for human rights, and transparency are under active debate and consideration, albeit with varying degrees of certainty and outcomes.

The Governance and Democratic Participation Program (GDPP) was initiated during a period of profound transformation, coinciding with the appointment of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in 2018. This period saw a tangible opening up of the political and democratic space, offering genuine opportunities for progress in the governance sector.

When GDPP was launched in mid-2017, the domain of democratic governance had experienced minimal change concerning the creation of an enabling environment for democratic reforms. Prior to GDPP's launch, it is fair to say that the governance environment provided limited space to contemplate substantial alterations to the democratic landscape. The legislative framework restricted the capacity of civil society to engage in advocacy and policy-level discussions. The media sector played a limited role in providing independent and impartial information to the citizens. Moreover, although democratic institutions were in place, their institutional capacity to effectively promote good governance was weak. In fact, many of these institutions struggled to assert their professional autonomy, and their credibility in the eyes of the public was questioned.

This Compendium serves to document the progress achieved through GDPP support in terms of realizing the Outcomes/Outputs approved in 2017, covering the period from July 2017 to June 2022.

Evident in this GDPP Legacy Document Compendium is a robust foundation of transformational democratization initiatives that have harnessed the enabling environment that emerged post-2018. Despite unforeseen challenges and crises, significant accomplishments have been made. While there has been no regression, the momentum and pace of reforms have decelerated. Therefore, further investment, drawing from the lessons learned during GDPP implementation, offers excellent value for money and represents an essential step toward the resumption of the reform agenda and the realization of a democratic transition in Ethiopia.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACCA: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
ATI: Access To Information
AWPs: Annual Work Plans
ADA: Austrian Development Agency
CCI: Council of Constitutional Inquiry
CSO: Civil Society Organization
CSP: Charities and Societies Proclamation
EBC: Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation
EHRC: Ethiopian Human Rights Commission
EIO: Ethiopian Institute of the Ombudsman
EMA: Ethiopia Media Authority (formerly Ethiopia Broadcasting Authority)
ERC: Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission
FEACC: Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
GESI: Gender & Social Inclusion
HoF: House of Federation
HoPR: House of People's Representatives
IGR: Inter-Governmental Relations
INSA: Information Network Security Agency
IPs: Implementing Partners
IRCE: Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia
LJAAC: Law and Justice Affairs Advisory Council
M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation
MoF: Ministry of Finance
MoP: Ministry of Peace
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
MP: Member of Parliament
NEBE: National Election Board of Ethiopia
NHRAP: National Human Rights Action Plan
NIM: National Implementation Modality
OAG: Office of the Attorney General
OFAG: Office of the Federal Auditor General
OHCHR: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PM: Prime Minister
PMB: Project Management Board
PMO: Prime Minister's Office
PTC: Programme Technical Committee
RBM: Results-Based Management
REACCs: Regional Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commissions
RSCs: Regional State Councils
SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals
SIDA: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNNPR: Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region
TE: Terminal evaluation team
TOT: Training of Trainers
UN: United Nations
UNCAC: United Nations Convention against Corruption
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
VAWiE: Violence Against Women in Elections

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PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

The transformational democratization reform agenda has had a positive impact on many of the democratic institutions partnering with GDPP. However, it's important to note that individual Implementing Partners (IPs) are at varying levels of institutional capacity. This implies that the absorptive capacity of each individual IP varies, necessitating tailored responses to address their specific needs and their ability to effectively utilize GDPP's support for embracing a more transformative approach to the reforms advocated by the Programme. Reform programs like GDPP inherently demand time, patience, flexibility, and agility to effectively respond to changing environments and unforeseen opportunities for adopting innovative approaches to capacity development.

To achieve this overarching goal, the Programme contributed to three broad outcome areas, namely:

a) Improved inclusion, social cohesion, and sustainable peace; b) Responsive, accountable, and inclusive systems of governance; c) Empowered and responsible citizens.

GDPP assistance concentrated on five interrelated and complementary outputs:

1. Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are more inclusive and effective in fulfilling their constitutional mandates.
2. Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent, and deliver public services in a more inclusive and responsive manner.
3. Citizens are more empowered to voice their concerns and actively participate in decision-making processes at all levels of the governance and political systems.
4. Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.
5. Access to justice is enhanced, and human rights are promoted and protected across Ethiopia.

The National Implementation Modality (NIM) ensures strong alignment with the country program and Strategic Plan of UNDP, while also emphasizing national ownership and capacity-building over time. Additionally, the core objectives of GDPP provide a solid framework for supporting the governance and democratic development priorities of the government. The duration of GDPP witnessed numerous changes and the launch of a transformative democratization agenda by the Government of Ethiopia (GoE). GDPP demonstrated its ability to adapt to such changes and make credible progress toward achieving the Programme's goal.

PARTNERING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

Between 2017 and 2021, the Governance and Democratic Participation Program (GDPP) provided support to the following eleven democratic institutions and Implementing Partners (IPs):

A. House of People's Representatives (HoPR); B. House of Federation (HoF); C. Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC); D. Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC); E. Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO); F. Office of the Attorney General (OAG); G. Office of Federal Auditor General (OFAG); H. Ministry of Peace (MoP); I. Council of Constitutional Inquiry (CCI); J. National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE); K. Ethiopia Media Authority (EMA), formerly the Ethiopian Broadcast Authority).

One key feature of the Programme was national ownership at the individual Implementing Partner level. This involved IPs developing their annual workplans based on GDPP's stated outcomes and outputs. The driving force behind this was to encourage more transformational and innovative approaches to enhance democratic governance, moving away from business as usual, where support might not align with the broader goal of capitalizing on existing momentum and opportunities to advance good governance and democratic principles at all levels and across the country.

At the beginning of the Programme, a GDPP Programme Management Board (PMB) was established, co-chaired by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and UNDP, and included all the Heads of Democratic Institutions and Development Partners. The Board's role was to oversee the strategic direction of the overall Programme, approve annual workplans and budget allocations, and receive and review annual progress and financial reports. In monitoring the progress made, the Board made decisions in response to the evolving situation within which GDPP was operating, requiring policy decisions. This reflects the reality that GDPP was implemented during a time of significant change and uncertainty.

Board meetings were held semi-annually, and decisions were reached by consensus. Implementing Partners prepared their individual workplans, detailing their activities for the reporting period, and submitted technical and fiscal reports to track progress toward the agreed outputs of the Programme. External reviews were also conducted at key milestone dates, including a Mid-Term Review in 2020 and a Terminal Evaluation in 2022. The Mid-Term Review, conducted at the halfway point of implementation, produced key recommendations that were considered and endorsed by the Board.

Reflecting the November 2020 GDPP PMB meeting and the recommendations arising from the independent Mid-Term Review, it was agreed that GDPP was delivering on its intended outputs. However, the Board noted that institutional development is a long-term endeavor requiring adequate time to demonstrate results. Board Members recognized that GDPP had been conceived before the new reform agenda launched in 2018, ushering in significant transformative changes across the political and democratization landscapes. This implied that ending GDPP as scheduled in December 2021 would miss an opportunity for institutional development.

The PMB meeting in June 2021 decided to revisit the institutional scope and thematic focus of GDPP, considering the 2020 GDPP Mid-Term Review recommendations. The goal was to maximize GDPP's impact by narrowing its focus. This also highlighted that further investment in a well-established model like GDPP not only makes sense in development terms but also ensures that the gains made through GDPP support are not lost. This paves the way for any future iteration of democratic governance support to build upon GDPP's solid foundation.

Furthermore, the Board commissioned an Options Paper to consider the Mid-Term Review findings and reshape and scale up assistance to those democratic institutions responding positively to GDPP support. The June 2021 Programme Management Board approved the proposal to limit the institutional scope to a more manageable level and reduce the thematic focus of the program, along with a 6-month cost extension period.

This recognized the need for a structural approach based on a thorough understanding of systems and political economy to support transformational change across at least three dimensions: (a) norms and standards; (b) the institutional landscape, both state and non-state, addressing both design and operations, including the acquisition of minimal, sustained capabilities to deliver core mandates and functions; and (c) strengthening of a political culture that aligns with the peaceful, democratic polity that Ethiopia aims to build, capable of reconciling interests and addressing disputes successfully through non-violent, constructive means.

Based on this approach, the Board approved that the following Implementing Partners would be included in the 6-month cost extension phase running from January to June 2022. The IPs retaining support during this extension period included:

1. House of People's Representatives (HoPR)
2. House of Federation (HoF)
3. Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)
4. Federal Ethics & Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC)
5. Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO)
6. Ethiopian Media Authority (EMA)

PROGRAMME CONCLUSION

It was mutually agreed that the Ministry of Peace (MoP), the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), and the National Elections Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) would conclude their participation in GDPP at the end of December 2021. Support for these institutions will be provided through either existing or emerging standalone programs. The remaining Implementing Partners: the Office for the Auditor General (OFAG) and the Council for Constitutional Inquiry (CCI), also departed GDPP at the end of December 2021.

In accordance with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) requirements of the Programme, an external independent Terminal Evaluation was conducted early in 2022, covering the full implementation period of GDPP from July 2017 to December 2021. The evaluation took place between January and April 2022. It included the original eleven Implementing Partners and served as a valuable learning and accountability tool, providing UNDP, donors, national stakeholders, and partners with an impartial assessment of the results achieved by GDPP.

The Terminal Evaluation concluded that the strategic priorities and areas of focus outlined in the program document aligned well with the national needs and UNDP's role as a trusted partner of the Government of Ethiopia (GoE). The National Implementation Modality ensured national ownership and capacity development over time. Additionally, the core objectives of GDPP provided a solid framework for supporting the government's governance and democratic development priorities. Performance varied across different output areas, with the capacity building of officials to strengthen institutions being one of the more successful components.

Key Findings:

- **Relevance:** The Evaluation Team (ET) identified many strengths in the program design, focusing on strengthening the legal and institutional frameworks crucial for delivering results. It addressed gaps in laws and institutional capacities while promoting participatory approaches in policy formulation and institutional reforms. The evaluation determined that GDPP was highly relevant to the GoE's governance and democratic participation agenda and to the needs and interests of the various IPs.
- **Effectiveness:** Based on the analysis of accomplished activities, the ET determined that GDPP effectively achieved its identified outputs. The overall management structure and operational context of GDPP were considered appropriate and professional by implementing partners and stakeholders. It was regarded as accessible, efficient, and effective.
- **Efficiency:** Analysis of budget allocations versus expenditures per Output led the ET to conclude that GDPP used its resources efficiently and effectively. The program efficiently combined resources from the four main donors to support a single program, avoiding duplication of effort.

- **Impact:** Assessing the impact of the program was challenging, given that it provides “soft support,” which is difficult to measure in tangible terms. However, through desk reviews and stakeholder consultations, the ET identified significant immediate results that have the potential to contribute to the realization of the desired impact level.
- **Sustainability:** GDPP has created capacity in several areas, boding well for the future sustainability of the activities developed. Policies and guidelines have been developed, and various training exercises have positioned the GoE to further develop and expand its programs and services in the areas of democratization and governance.

The GDPP has made significant contributions to the governance and democratic development landscape in Ethiopia. Its relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency have been evident, and the sustainability of its initiatives promises to leave a lasting impact.

GDPP PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS (June 2017 – December 2021)

Output 1: Political Processes of Federal and Regional Legislative Bodies are Inclusive and Effectively Delivering on their Constitutional Mandates.

Over the past five years, GDPP has maintained strong investment and witnessed continuous progress towards promoting more inclusive political processes, ensuring that key democratic and accountability institutions effectively fulfill their constitutional mandates, and contributing to the advancement of democratization processes. GDPP has supported the strengthening of oversight functions in relevant democratic institutions, making direct contributions to improving the balance of power among the three branches. Specifically, it has enhanced the oversight capacity of the House of People’s Representatives. The Parliament has focused on establishing systems and enhancing legislators’ skills to effectively carry out their oversight role, making the work of the Parliament more transparent and open. Additionally, other democratic and accountability institutions such as FEACC, OFAG, EIO, EHRC, and NEBE have introduced new tools and systems to boost their institutional capacity in oversight, compliance, and accountability.

The program has supported democratic and accountability institutions in reinforcing their professional independence and expanding the civic space for effective participation, with the aim of creating a conducive environment for greater participation and inclusion. GDPP’s primary contributions have focused on ‘inclusion’ and raising awareness among large segments of society about their rights and providing platforms for political and civic participation.

Sub-output 1.1: Legislative Bodies & Democratic Institutions Capacities Strengthened for Discharging Their Oversight Functions, with Specific Emphasis on Women and Minorities.

House of Peoples’ Representatives (HoPR): Through the support of GDPP, the HoPR implemented an internal Parliamentary Reform Programme to improve the performance and functions of the House. This includes legislative, oversight and scrutiny, representation, IT & communications, procurement, and finance. The reform resulted in new ways of working that enhance the range of human, financial, and material resource services provided by the House Secretariat. An Induction and lessons sharing manual for New Entrant MPs was developed, and training was provided to newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) to better equip them to handle their key lawmaking, oversight, and representational responsibilities. A Secretariat Guideline was devised, outlining the role/functions of the Secretariat to respond to citizens’ demands more effectively. An MPs’ Handbook was developed and formalized as HoPR Regulations to ensure sustainability of the GDPP support at an institutional level.

In 2020, GDPP supported the establishment of a Parliamentary Research Network, serving as a platform to enhance the capacity of the Parliamentary Secretariat to combine practical knowledge with expert contributions from external research institutions, academia, and other stakeholders. The PRN has working guidelines that link the research community to Parliament, resulting in better-informed debates and decisions by HoPR, thus improving lawmaking and oversight. Research assignments included topics like Parliamentary Diplomacy, the Effectiveness of the Standing Committee Structures, Challenges and Recommendations, the Effectiveness of the new CSO Proclamation, challenges, and solutions, and the Effectiveness of Parliamentary Whistleblowing and Complaint Handling Mechanisms. The increased demand for research from legislators demonstrates the growing value of this self-sustaining institutional network within the HoPR.

Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC): With GDPP support, FEACC benefited from a study mission to Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK). The Ethiopian delegation included representatives from FEACC, HoPR, Regional Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commissions (REACCs), Federal Attorney General, Civil Service Commission, Financial Intelligence Center, and Transparency International – Ethiopia Chapter. The key lesson shared with the delegation was the importance of devising an anti-corruption policy and strategy to shape and guide the implementation of anti-corruption efforts. As a result of this South-South experience sharing, FEACC decided to develop a National Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy and to conduct a National Corruption Perception Survey. In 2020/2021, FEACC conducted the National Corruption Perception Survey and developed and published the National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy.

FEACC, as the vanguard of anti-corruption efforts, aims to enhance its internal institutional capacities to fulfill its roles and responsibilities. Staff training was provided on the Institutional Anti-Corruption Strategy, Asset Registration and Disclosure, and ethics and moral values of employees. Additionally, efforts were made to make financial information and assets of the wider public sector accessible and transparent. In the past, FEACC operated a manual, paper-based system that required staff to manually log information about some 220,000 government appointees and public officials' assets, posing storage challenges. However, through the digitalization of the Declaration of Assets Register (DAR), the number of federal-level government appointees and public officials' assets being registered has increased to 629,000. This digitization ensures that information is easily retrievable and demonstrates FEACC's commitment to transparency regarding public sector employees' information.

House of Federation (HoF): As a federal institution, the HoF reflects both the self-rule and shared-rule rights of the Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples (NNP) of Ethiopia. It plays a vital role in resolving disputes or misunderstandings that may occur between NNP or States, with the goal of promoting unity and mutual understanding. GDPP support has developed and strengthened systems and frameworks to represent the voices and needs of the Regional States, including conducting a Reform Assessment on promoting unity in diversity. This assessment led to the development of a Reform document that outlines standards for managing diversity and identity issues, including the right to self-determination and citizenship.

The HoF is responsible for contributing to fiscal federalism, including providing expenditure and revenue assignments to the States. It subsidizes subnational governments to address fiscal gaps, both vertical and horizontal, through different forms of grants. Block Grants, based on a formula, are transferred without earmarking, allowing the Regions to allocate them as they see fit. Specific Purpose Grants (SPGs) are restricted to a specific purpose. Following an assessment, new mechanisms and frameworks were established to ensure the fairness of SPG fiscal transfers and infrastructural distributions. These framework documents were supported by monitoring and evaluation tools to ensure the equitable distribution of federal infrastructure among Regional States. A Reform document on the principles of Constitutional interpretation, Rules of Procedure, and enforcement mechanisms of HoF Constitutional determination was also devised and endorsed by HoF.

The Ethiopian Institute of Ombudsman (EIO): EIO has the authority to initiate investigations into systemic issues or suspected maladministration, even in the absence of a formal complaint. This autonomy is a fundamental aspect of any independent democratic institution. With GDPP support, EIO developed an “Own-Motion Investigation Manual” to standardize self-initiated investigations. EIO staff, both at the federal and regional levels, received training to better understand the importance of comprehensive information management, reporting, and systematic handling of information.

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC): EHRC implemented a range of improvements to enhance its efficiency and responsiveness. It also developed and maintained equitable systems and processes aimed at attracting and retaining motivated employees through training, professional development, and systems planning. These efforts considered and addressed the specific concerns of female employees within the Commission. EHRC upgraded its IT system to improve communication and coordination. The Commission devised a gender mainstreaming guideline to prioritize the human rights of women and girls, integrating gender considerations into all its core functions. The revised establishment proclamation increased the Commission’s independence and institutional capacities. EHRC organized a training on “work ethics for human rights employees,” which played a crucial role in raising awareness among staff about their responsibilities. Manuals on Human Rights & Conflicts and Human Rights & Human Trafficking were developed with GDPP support. The Commission also introduced various systems and instruments, including a monitoring manual for juvenile detention centers and a user-friendly grievance redressing and complaint management mechanism. EHRC organized two national consultative forums, one on the rights of people with disabilities, particularly related to access to public services and infrastructure, and another on violence against women and children.

The Ethiopia Media Authority (EMA), formerly EBA: EMA provided training for 47 “News Content and Advertisement Monitoring Experts.” The training focused on critical thinking, content and advertisement monitoring, and conflict-sensitive reporting. Its objective was to enhance the skills and understanding of trainees regarding these important topics, fostering self-regulation of content and advertisement.

The New Mass Media law expanded EMA’s role and responsibilities, necessitating an enhancement of its capacity to regulate and monitor the media sector, especially in response to an alarming trend of hate speech and misinformation during the 6th National Election. Through GDPP support, EMA conducted technical and system audits, identified gaps, and organized tailored training about Media Content and Advertisement Regulation for its staff. This training enhanced the skills and knowledge of trainees in professional ethics, data capture, analysis, and reporting techniques. It allowed EMA to effectively engage with media and advertising companies and implement its new monitoring and regulatory mandate. GDPP supported EMA in conducting an assessment study about hate speech and disinformation and then developing and rolling out a manual and training materials on these topics. EMA also organized public meetings and published articles about media ethics and responsibilities. Furthermore, EMA staff participated in a training program on women’s empowerment and gender mainstreaming to better integrate gender considerations into their programming and administrative activities.

The Office of the Auditor General (OFAG): OFAG recognized as a designated Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), focused on enhancing and strengthening its role by introducing various technologies and systems to better monitor the use of public sector finances and audit grants/subsidies awarded to Regional Governments. OFAG upgraded its Audit Training Institute (ATI)/Data center (Disaster Recovery Site) with hardware and software solutions, including Audio & Video Conference Solutions, training rooms, Network Operation Center (NOC) Wall Screen, and monitoring Software Solutions. These interventions improved OFAG’s ability to fulfill its Constitutional mandates more effectively and efficiently. Skills-

based training manuals and guidelines were developed for the OFAG Audit Recommendations Tracking System and Application of the Software on the Balanced Score Card System.

OFAG invested in the institutional development of its staff through short-term and long-term training courses, focusing on leadership, communication, IT Audit, Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), and Certified Internal Auditors (CIA). This helped raise awareness and improve the capacity of the institution. A total of 1,119 staff, including Federal and Regional Auditor Generals, technical staff, and other stakeholders, benefited from the training, with 30% being women. To cope with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, OFAG enhanced its Remote Audit capabilities and technology-based communications to share and integrate all audit information. This enabled OFAG to conduct remote audits and enhance communications as part of its business continuity plan. The institution improved its Audit Recommendation Tracking Information System (ARTS), essential for monitoring the implementation and resolution of audit recommendations. These interventions enhanced transparency and accountability, particularly when public sector organizations were grappling with social distancing and remote working measures during the pandemic.

The National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE): NEBE received support from the multi-donor Supporting Elections for Ethiopia's Democracy Strengthening (SEEDS) 2019-2022 project. GDPP's assistance was specifically directed at building the institutional capacities of NEBE to better fulfill its role as an electoral management body. This support included the development and operationalization of NEBE's Communication Strategy, aimed at enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of NEBE's election-related communications. The strategy's operationalization ensures good communication and information provision during the pre-election, election, and post-election phases, adhering to international ethics and procedures.

NEBE created and disseminated various communication tools and materials related to elections. These materials included video productions, brochures, newsletters, and websites containing information on major election process milestones. These materials were shared with political parties, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders. Additionally, NEBE translated, published, and institutionalized new laws, directives, manuals, strategies, and guidelines. To foster inclusivity, the new election law Proclamation Number 1162/2019 was made available in braille, audio, and video formats. Customized training programs were designed and delivered to address topics such as civic education, election-related dispute resolution, electoral planning and management, information communication technology, and election operation systems. As part of the effort to enhance NEBE's long-term capacities, senior NEBE staff in Addis and in branch offices received Training of Trainers (ToT) on election planning and management. The senior leadership also underwent training on team building and emotional intelligence to enhance their leadership skills.

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG): OAG developed a policy that was supported by training, education, and awareness-raising to strengthen its strategy for crime prevention and suppressing trafficking of persons abroad. The policy has improved OAG's capacity to fulfill its oversight role, with particular emphasis placed on protecting women, children, and other vulnerable groups. Following the transfer of the mandate for tackling stolen assets recovery and management from FEACC to OAG and the Federal Police Commission, OAG developed the Asset Recovery Management law and manual. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) developed training manuals on investigation, prosecution, and litigation skills to standardize the training provided to its staff and stakeholders, aiming to improve the delivery of its investigative functions. Crime investigation training for prosecutors and staff from the 11 Branch Offices was conducted to enhance their capacities, improve their understanding, and strengthen their skills, knowledge, and competencies related to crime investigation handling and management. The endorsement of Federal Court Proclamation No. 1234/2021 also necessitated additional support to familiarize participants from Branch Offices and 29 respective directorates

with the revised Proclamation. This Proclamation, which had undergone frequent amendments since the original Federal Court Proclamation No. 25/1996, had created some confusion regarding its interpretation and intent.

OAG undertook three research studies and assessments and compiled a compendium of over 250 laws and directives to support its efforts in strengthening OAG's investigation and execution functions. These studies and assessments focused on addressing legal gaps to improve the handling of issues such as violence against women and children, the implementation of the crime justice policy, and case interruptions. With GDPP support, OAG developed and delivered skills enhancement training on the implementation of the Training Manual on Tackling Corruption Cases and Criminal Justice Administration to Federal judges, prosecutors, journalists, and civil society members. This training ensured that all stakeholders had a clear understanding of the concepts and principles related to these areas.

The Ministry of Peace (MoP): MoP conducted a comprehensive institutional capacity assessment focused on the federal level. This recognition stemmed from the realization that the Ministry's multitude of mandates required a clear understanding of the skills needed and the capacity gaps within the organization. At the beginning of GDPP, each Implementing Partner underwent a capacity assessment exercise to identify strengths and weaknesses within the IP. However, the assessment for the Ministry of Peace was deferred as the Ministry was undergoing significant reorganization with a newly appointed Ministerial team who were still defining their management approach. The objective of the assessment was to identify existing skills within the Ministry and develop a tailored capacity building plan that integrated knowledge management approaches to strengthen the Ministry's overall capacities. This, in turn, would enable the Ministry to deliver on its core mandate more effectively and efficiently. The assessment has been completed and submitted to the Ministry of Peace, where it is now integrated within the Ministry's training directorate.

Sub-Output 1.2: Professional independence of Democratic Institutions enhanced to effectively discharge core functions.

GDPP provided support to democratic institutions to enhance their independence and effectiveness. The program has created and renewed several platforms that emphasize the importance of building strong institutional networks for advocacy and the advancement of key priority issues. These interventions focused on solidifying the representation function of parliament with new revamped guidelines and expanding integration among various democratic institutions, resulting in improved coordination of democratic and human rights issues in the country. NEBE also played a significant role in improving the political sphere through coalition building training targeting political parties.

- The House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) developed guidelines to strengthen the representation function of the federal parliament and regional state councils. These representation guidelines aimed to standardize the execution of MPs' representation functions to their constituencies/electorates, improving Parliamentarians' responsiveness to citizens as per their constitutional mandates. The representation guidelines were endorsed and became the Code of Conduct for MPs, leading to increased visibility of elected representatives and guiding the focus of their constituency visits. These visits allowed for consultations on areas for improvement and the identification of common concerns at the constituency level to be discussed within the Parliamentary Committees or on the Floor of the House, as appropriate. Additionally, a set of guidelines was devised to enhance the vertical and horizontal integration of the Democratic Institutions (DIs).

GDPP supported the establishment of the Democratic Institutions Forum (DIF), which includes institutions accountable to Parliament. The DIF serves as a platform for discussing issues relevant to the collective work of these institutions and emerging matters that require shared decisions or have potential policy implications. Consequently, the DIF facilitates coordination between federal and regional parliaments and provides a learning platform for parliamentarians and professional staff from federal, regional, and city councils. To facilitate and enhance the horizontal and vertical integration of their activities, guidelines for joint operations were developed and endorsed. These guidelines were formulated with the active participation of all Democratic institutions that are members of the DIF, which is coordinated by the House of People's Representatives. The intent behind these guidelines is to harmonize and improve the functional relationships among Democratic Institutions, particularly concerning matters that span both federal and regional states. The collaboration within the DIF further strengthens the parliament's ability to fulfill its core oversight function.



The 2nd platform of Democratic Institutions Forum held in arba Minch, June 2019

The House of People's Representatives (HoPR) established external and multi-stakeholder platforms to enhance the accessibility and transparency of the legislative body. One important platform is the Speakers' Forum, comprising all the Speakers of Regional State Councils, two City Administrations, HoPR, HoF Standing Committees Chairpersons, and senior-level managers. This platform offers the opportunity to share experiences from the Federal parliament on topics such as the development of the House's communication and outreach strategy and HoPR reforms. This exchange of democratic practices, principles, and processes helps shape the democratic culture and builds institutional capacity as part of the broader transformational democratization reforms pursued by the Government.

- The Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (FEACC) organized an awareness creation and sensitization workshop for Regional-based Ethics Officers. This training explored the duties and responsibilities of Regional Anti-Corruption Commissions in preventing corruption and promoting ethics and integrity. The relationships between the Federal and Regional Anti-Corruption Commissions were strengthened through the formation of two FEACC and REACCs coalition forums. These coalition forums brought together technical experts and helped raise awareness about the importance of implementing interventions to reduce corruption and enhance ethics and integrity. The coordination aspects of these forums have improved the ability of REACC staff to share experiences and foster a more collaborative culture to emphasize the importance of working together at both the Federal and Regional levels to combat corruption. Although the DARS system transitioned from a paper-based to a digital system at the Federal level, two regions, Afar and Somali, did not have Proclamations regarding asset registration. However, with GDPP support, Asset Registration Proclamations were formulated and ratified, ensuring that these regions now have a formal policy framework mirroring that of the Federal level.

FEACC recognized that previous anti-corruption interventions were not evidence-based, as they lacked regular surveys and studies to enable experts to fully understand the nature and extent of corruption in Ethiopia. The last survey was conducted in 2011, and in the intervening years, no other specific surveys about corruption were produced. To inform the new Anti-Corruption policy and strategy, the program supported the work to conduct the third National Corruption Perception Survey in 2020/2021. The survey findings and recommendations were widely disseminated and informed the range of interventions incorporated into the new Anti-Corruption policy/strategy for action. An important feature of FEACC's work is raising public awareness about anti-corruption and how it undermines public services delivery. To that end, FEACC organized a Strategic Communication training workshop for FEACC and REACC media and communication experts. The topics covered within the training included developing a creative brief for a specific problem in their sector and creating character profiles for their target audiences, along with using digital and social media for more effective public relations and awareness-raising about anti-corruption, ethics, and integrity. This helps ensure that anti-corruption messaging is fit for purpose and tailored to meet the needs of specific audiences.

FEACC's gender mainstreaming manual was developed, enabling the Commission to revisit its strategies and policies to foster more inclusive practices for ensuring gender equality at the Commission. The manual provided the opportunity to establish a platform to discuss the merits of having a similar manual at the REACC level. FEACC conducted an Assessment of Corruption in Mega Projects, examining procurement and contractual issues and practices related to major public sector projects. This sector was identified within the Corruption Perceptions Survey as one of the high-risk sectors, including tax and urban land administrations, construction, and justice. The assessment allowed FEACC to review and update institutional corruption prevention strategies and provide support to ensure their effective enforcement. FEACC commissioned two studies on the prevention of corrupt practices in the mining sector, assisting FEACC and other key stakeholders in gaining better insights into the transparency and accountability concerns that hinder service delivery. These studies identified interventions and mechanisms to mitigate and reduce challenges within the mining sector to ensure a coordinated and results-focused response to the prevention of corruption in the sector.

- HoF implemented activities to improve the institutional support available to legislators. These initiatives included the restructuring and professionalization of the HoF Secretariat, along with the development of new organizational structures, standards, and procedures. The restructuring involved a comprehensive review of the existing organizational structure, legal framework, work methods, and relevant staff profiles in relation to the House's needs. This process led to the design of a new and responsive HoF Secretariat structure, including the implementation of a performance evaluation system/tool. These reform efforts and related changes received approval from HoF.
- EHRC developed a Human Resource System and Process, which significantly enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of its HR function, especially in the context of the new EHRC organizational structure. The tasks undertaken included finalizing the Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS), reorganizing the HR department, and revising HR policies and procedures with a specific focus on ensuring equity for female employees. An important milestone for EHRC was its recognition as a credible and appropriately skilled National Human Rights Institution (NHRIs). EHRC collaborated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to conduct a joint investigation into alleged human rights violations, abuses, violations of international humanitarian law, and refugee law related to the conflict in Tigray. The investigation followed relevant international legal norms, including international human rights law, humanitarian law, refugee law, criminal law, and Ethiopian domestic law. The Joint Investigation Team (JIT) defined its methods of work to guide the investigation

and applied best practices for victim and witness protection, procedural rules, international investigative standards, report writing, and archiving. The JIT used a “reasonable grounds to believe” standard of proof for factual determinations on individual cases, incidents, and patterns of violations, in line with international fact-finding bodies’ practices.

EHRC also developed and relaunched a user-friendly and interactive website to enhance its visibility and outreach. This effort included building the capacity of staff in various areas of IT, including IT security, email and internet use, digital advocacy, and social media analytics. The Commission created promotional audio-visual materials to boost its visibility and rebrand EHRC as an independent, credible voice for marginalized communities. These materials conveyed key human rights messages and fostered collaboration and partnership with media outlets to promote and deepen a human rights culture. Furthermore, EHRC made strategic IT investments aligned with its immediate and long-term needs, including the development of an IT security policy. This policy ensures the Commission can securely store and protect sensitive and confidential information as part of its mandate. The IT system upgrade and internet network enhancements have increased the efficiency of EHRC’s operations, a critical element of an effective national human rights institution. GDPP support contributed to strengthening EHRC’s partnership with the media, analyzing media and communication work, identifying gaps, and clarifying EHRC’s stakeholders and target audiences. This support also played a role in developing the EHRC communication strategy, including customized guidelines and tools to guide its communication work in line with EHRC’s 5-year Strategic Plan.

EHRC addressed a structural challenge related to financial reporting to the Parliament and development partners. Financial documents sometimes were not hand-delivered by branch offices to the Head Office. With assistance from the Ministry of Finance and GDPP support, capacity building was provided to all eight branch offices of EHRC to facilitate the effective introduction of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS). IFMIS offers a secure and regular way to store financial information for efficient operations. As a result, all branch offices now use IFMIS, with ongoing support to enhance its effectiveness. This has streamlined and improved the efficiency of the Commission’s financial operations. EHRC also provided Result-Based Management (RBM) capacity-building training to 25 of its Head and Branch offices. Staff members were equipped with skills for developing terms of reference, proposals, action plans, monitoring, and reporting on activities for both regular and donor-funded projects, using the results-based management approach.

EHRC took steps to create greater awareness among staff members from Head and Branch offices, including Assosa, Jimma, Mekelle, and Hawassa, to better understand the interplay between mental health and human rights. Training covered identifying psychosocial issues in a state of crisis, dealing with burnout and vicarious trauma prevention, stress management and relaxation techniques, psychological first aid, and trauma-sensitive interviewing. These efforts promoted mental wellness and equipped EHRC’s investigators with the skills to appreciate the “Do no Harm” principles, prevent unintentional harm or repercussions on the mental well-being of victims, and address secondary trauma, a condition with cognitive, emotional, and behavioral consequences, including elevated anxiety and distress, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Based on the EHRC Gender Mainstreaming Guideline (GMG) developed in 2020, GMG training was cascaded to the Head Office, Hawassa, Bahir Dar, Semera, Jimma, Gambella, Assosa, and Jigjiga Branch Offices. This training enabled all staff members to better understand and implement gender mainstreaming in all Commission functions and services. EHRC engaged a gender consultant and developed an anti-sexual harassment and workplace ethics policy, along with a grievance redress mechanism guideline. To foster greater social inclusion, EHRC collaborated with the Ethiopian Lawyers with Disabilities Association to conduct a disability audit of its new head office premises, enhancing a culture of inclusion in the work of EHRC.

- EIO, in compliance with international election principles, conducted field observation and media monitoring to ensure the availability of information to the electorate. Civic and voter education, as well as special considerations for persons with disabilities and the elderly, were taken into account. Field observations were carried out in 58 selected constituencies and 187 polling stations. Recognizing the importance of the right to information during elections, EIO provided recommendations to address observed gaps to all relevant stakeholders. The recommendations included ensuring that all information related to persons with disabilities (PWDs) was communicated through various media and other communication means throughout the election process. They also emphasized raising awareness in rural communities through various media approaches and providing access to media in a simple and consistent manner with the help of technology.

Building on key recommendations from the 2019 GDPP Gender Analysis, EIO conducted a gender assessment to identify the socio-economic, cultural, and politico-legal factors influencing gender-related issues within the IP's mandate. A gender strategy was developed by EIO to promote gender equality, particularly in decision-making roles. The assessment revealed a significant gender gap in women's participation within EIO's Head Quarter and Branch Offices. Consequently, a Gender Strategy Manual was created, affirming EIO's commitment to ensuring that women benefit from hiring, placement, and internal transfer processes. As a result, EIO conducted an assessment that highlighted the need to revise the EIO gender mainstreaming guidelines for better integration and understanding across all EIO directorates. Additionally, EIO decided to establish a Children's Day-care Centre in Addis to empower its female employees. Unfortunately, this facility was launched just as the COVID-19 pandemic affected office-based operations.

EIO recognized that individuals with hearing disabilities had difficulty communicating with staff when lodging complaints at EIO and Branch Offices. To address this challenge and enhance inclusivity, EIO organized training for frontline employees at EIO Head Office and eight Branch Offices on sign language, using a specialist trainer from the Ethiopian Sign Language Association. This training was integrated into the newly developed Human Resource Management regulation, Planning and Budgeting System, and Procurement and Audit system. A total of 104 EIO employees, including those from EIO HQ and Branch Offices, benefited from this training intervention.



- NEBE developed a specialized data security policy and IT guidelines and conducted familiarization sessions to educate their staff working at both the Head Office and regional branch offices. These awareness-raising sessions improved the skills and knowledge of NEBE staff in effectively managing information technology to maintain the professional independence of an election management body. NEBE also conducted sessions on change management, election operational reforms, and how to use the newly developed IT system. These sessions were instrumental in building the institutional capacity of NEBE to manage change effectively and to enhance the understanding of the added value brought about by efficient electoral operational reforms.

NEBE representatives traveled to South Africa to gain insights and share experiences and lessons learned from a well-established election management body. This South-South engagement helped NEBE, as a nascent election management body, gain insights on key themes such as leading and coordinating election observation, inclusivity in elections, civic and voter education, and external relations. The findings from the study tour were presented to the Board and contributed to a broader lessons learned exercise conducted at the end of the 2021 election cycle.

NEBE implemented several institutional reforms and changes, especially in the areas of legal reforms, organizational structure reform, and the amendment of electoral legal regulations. New Board members were appointed, and a gender analysis of the draft electoral law of Ethiopia (2019) was conducted. The analysis revealed shortcomings in providing adequate guarantees for equal representation of women and men in elected bodies and in the electoral process. The draft law also lacked provisions for increasing the representation of women in elected bodies and ensuring higher levels of participation in the electoral process. To address these challenges, NEBE engaged with political parties to emphasize the importance of gender issues and coalition formation to enhance democracy. A workshop on coalition formation attracted 92 political party members, of which 5 were female. The event provided an opportunity for participants to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the value of coalitions in political processes and the rules of coalition formation. This is particularly important as political parties in the region are still in a nascent stage of development.

- EMA established a call center, allowing the public to file complaints about media reports by dialing 9192. This initiative aims to enhance EMA's capacity to handle complaints and report incidents or claims of hate speech, aligning with its monitoring mandate. The call center has brought EMA closer to the public, making it easier for citizens to use the free-phone service to register complaints. EMA has confirmed an increase in the number of callers since the launch of the call center. EMA staff received training in media monitoring to track incidents of hate speech or reports that could incite violent extremism. EMA also organized training for media practitioners and staff on new election directives, impartiality principles in media coverage of elections, and election monitoring. Notably, 41 women media practitioners received training on the role of women's participation and ownership of media, laying the foundations for future collaborations between Ethiopian women media practitioners and EMA. EMA's media monitoring staff benefited from training and lessons learned from Kenya about media election monitoring experiences, contributing to media professionalism during the 2021 6th National election.

Sub-output 1.3: Political and civic spaces expanded for effective citizens' participation and inclusion.

- EMA, with GDPP support, developed two crucial documents: the National Media Policy and the Government Communication Strategy. The National Mass Media Policy was formally adopted by the Council of Ministers, marking a significant milestone in creating a better enabling environment for the media sector. The Government Communication Strategy outlines information flow horizontally and vertically, along with procedures for accessing information. This strategy was submitted to the Press Secretariat for consideration.
- NEBE organized training on pre-election to highlight the importance of gender-responsive reporting and enhance journalists' skills and knowledge. The training recognized the different treatment of women and men by the media when it comes to political discourse. Journalists' capacity was strengthened, including their skills, knowledge, and competencies related to gender and elections, electoral processes, the national electoral system, roles and responsibilities of various actors, responsible reporting, and gender-sensitive reporting.
- FEACC established a university ethics and anti-corruption club's forum with the aim of

expanding the political and civic spaces for citizens' participation in more inclusive ways to strengthen transparency and the accountability system in universities. The forum was launched in the presence of the director of the university ethics liaison office, presidents of student associations, and university club heads. This was further augmented by a consultative workshop with higher education officials, CSOs (Civil Society Organizations), and civic association leaders to discuss the implementation of the national children and youth ethics development strategy, which was developed in 2018 with support from GDPP. The consultative workshop facilitated a common understanding among different stakeholders regarding their roles and responsibilities as specified in the strategy document. As part of the children and youth ethics development strategy, the program also organized 54 student competition programs (Q&A) in 54 different schools (50 in Addis Ababa and 4 in Dire Dawa), using school ethics and anti-corruption clubs as entry points to promote ethical values and integrity in schools. Additionally, two rounds of consultative workshops were organized for members of teachers' associations, both federal and regional, to enhance their capacity in promoting integrity and combating unethical behaviors in schools. The platform provided teachers' association members with an opportunity to share lessons learned and experiences related to issues of integrity and prevalent unethical behaviors in schools, as well as how to address them. Furthermore, this platform fostered the opportunity for FEACC to collaborate and revitalize its partnership in the fight against corruption with federal and regional teachers' associations.

Output 2: Federal and regional state systems of governance are now more accountable, transparent, and are delivering services in a more inclusive and responsive manner.

Over the past five years, GDPP has supported democratic institutions in enhancing transparency and accountability by strengthening information systems and improving citizens' ability to access information. GDPP's assistance has contributed significantly to fostering a greater commitment to transparency and accountability. Leveraging the increased openness of political and civic spaces and the government's proactive engagement with the public, along with its commitment to ensuring stronger accountability of public institutions and more effective service delivery, GDPP has focused its efforts on enhancing access to information and making democratic and accountability institutions more accessible to the public.

In addition to managing and disclosing information, GDPP has aimed to cultivate a culture of transparency and accountability across the public sector. Emphasis has been placed on implementing complaints recording mechanisms at the institutional level. GDPP has supported Implementing Partners in strengthening their respective capacities for handling complaints and grievances.

Sub-output 2.1: Information recording, analysis, management, and dissemination systems and accountability mechanisms strengthened.

FEACC conducted the 3rd National Corruption Perception Survey, which contributed to the development of the National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy. The survey findings, lessons learned, and recommendations underwent validation in a national workshop involving various stakeholders, including democratic institutions, government bodies, non-governmental organizations, and private institutions. This participatory process allowed participants to reflect on the survey's findings and methodology and provided valuable inputs to enrich the end-of-assignment report. After incorporating these inputs, the survey report was endorsed, published, and widely distributed to relevant institutions, including HoPR, universities, and other stakeholders.

FEACC developed a comprehensive National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy following lessons learned from a GDPP-funded study tour to Indonesia in 2019. These documents offer clear directions on actions needed to combat corruption. The draft National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy underwent validation in a national workshop and was subsequently endorsed by HoPR in late 2021.

FEACC also developed a Code of Conduct for higher public officials, designed to enhance transparency and accountability in the government system. This code was endorsed by FEACC's top management and subsequently submitted to HoPR, where it was endorsed in 2021.

Through GDPP support, FEACC enabled the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of UNCAC (United Nations Convention against Corruption) review recommendations, focusing on two key chapters: corruption prevention and asset recovery. A National Technical Committee, comprising representatives from various federal institutions, collaborated to gather information for the UNCAC report, submitted to UNODC at the end of 2021.

The Declaration of Asset Registration System (DARS), established with GDPP support, has significantly improved the quality of asset registration. The introduction of DARS has allowed FEACC to access asset registration data more efficiently and provide public officials with asset information more easily. The data encoded in the system is verified and approved by FEACC employees. Furthermore, FEACC has reduced its environmental footprint by minimizing the need for paper-based records, resulting in cost reductions due to the elimination of storage expenses.

In collaboration with the Information Network Security Agency (INSA), FEACC organized a capacity-building training for DARS operating staff, including the Asset Registration and Disclosure Directorate, data encoders, data verifiers, networking experts, and database experts. This training primarily focused on Cyber Security and the system functionality of DARS.

Previously, in 2020, only 220,000 government appointees and public officials' assets were manually registered. However, following the implementation of DARS, the number increased to 629,000 federal-level government appointees and public officials.

FEACC conducted a sensitization workshop for Ethics Officers working within federal institutions, including public offices, government enterprises, and universities. The workshop aimed to familiarize them with the Commission's mandate, provide information about the required technical procedures for their duties, and clarify their responsibilities within the broader context of FEACC reforms. A total of 475 federal-level Ethics Officers participated in the workshop, fostering experience sharing and positive competition among them to fulfill their core mandates.

EIO developed and launched a hotline and call center system, enabling complainants to remotely file their complaints from their respective localities. Previously, complainants had to physically visit EIO offices to report their cases, which became impossible during the pandemic due to movement restrictions. The call center has resolved such challenges, allowing complainants to lodge their complaints from anywhere in the country. The system has also enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of EIO's information recording, analysis, and case management systems.

EIO partnered with the National Archives and Library Agency (NaLA) to develop a guideline for its Record Management System, ensuring transparency and accountability within the EIO. The absence of such a guideline had been a significant challenge for EIO in guaranteeing access to information, security of information, preservation of vital records, file retrieval processes, and the classification and declassification of information.

EIO organized a series of training sessions for its Communication and ATI experts from head and branch offices. These sessions focused on the Access to Information (ATI) directive called 'Disclosure of Information for Public Interest' to shift mindsets and improve internal practices within the office regarding the handling of public information. Additionally, EIO assessed the existing fee system for accessing information in various organizations and, based on the findings and recommendations, developed an Information Fee Regulation policy that was approved by the Council of Ministers. This policy ensures that access to information process is transparent,

EHRC, as part of the implementation of the Access to Information (ATI) Law, established a data center where all hard copy and soft copy information is appropriately sorted, organized, and accessible to information seekers. The Commission developed and rolled out a guideline on information recording, analysis, management, and dissemination, providing clear guidance on information handling and enhancing information systems, accountability mechanisms, and transparency. The Commission also conducted in-house training sessions on access to information and communication for both Head Office and Branch Office staff, further strengthening information systems and accountability mechanisms.

EMA finalized organizational reform activities aimed at fostering more constructive relationships and expanding opportunities to work with the media and promote freedom of speech principles. The EMA reform was reviewed and approved by the HoPR and the Civil Service Commission.

OAG conducted a comprehensive baseline study on criminal justice administration, focusing on the institutional aspects of the criminal justice system in Ethiopia. Research was also conducted on judicial independence, impartiality, and judicial administration. The findings and recommendations from this research informed the draft laws, contributing to the final draft of the Federal Courts Proclamation and the Judicial Administration Proclamation. GDPP supported the OAG, Legal Justice Affairs Advisory Council (LJAAC), by providing human rights legal expertise and assisting in the development of a manual on human rights impact assessment. This manual was informed by a diagnostic study on children's rights, including aspects of compensation for human rights violations during criminal proceedings, collectively strengthening the rule of law and modernizing the justice sector.

CCI upgraded its free call center and case-flow management system to enhance service delivery. This upgrade has improved CCI's efficiency and effectiveness in handling constitutional cases brought by individual citizens or citizen groups. The free call center and case-flow management system enable citizens to complete their requests for Constitutional Inquiry Council cases online and track the status of individual cases, reducing the need for physical visits to CCI offices and promoting transparency and accountability. CCI also developed the Gender Mainstreaming Manual of the Secretariat to address the special needs of women, children, and other vulnerable groups. This manual was published and rolled out in 2021.

CCI conducted three research assignments on various constitutional issues and related topics and organized discussion forums on the findings and recommendations. The three research documents were published and disseminated to strengthen CCI's accountability mechanisms. Furthermore, CCI developed a bilingual interactive website and web portal for the organization, serving as a resource tool for people seeking information about the organization and its objectives. The fully functional bilingual interactive website can be accessed at <https://www.cci.gov.et/>.

Sub-output 2.2: Complaints Handling and Feedback Mechanisms for Ensuring Accountability and Customer/Client Satisfaction Installed/Strengthened, with Emphasis on Women and Youth.

- HoPR, in collaboration with FEACC, EHRC, and EIO, recognized the need for a single, common database accessible to citizens for raising complaints or engaging with key democratic institutions. Consequently, HoPR, in partnership with the three Implementing Partners (IPs), initiated efforts to develop this common database, fostering more accessible and transparent mechanisms for citizen engagement. This initiative will also enhance understanding of the roles of key democratic institutions in relation to citizen engagement.

- EIO conducted an assessment of sexual harassment complaints handling systems in federal-level public institutions. Relevant data was collected from 14 selected federal institutions, including the Federal Attorney General, the Ministry of Women, Children, and Youth Affairs, the Addis Ababa Police Commission, One-Stop Centers for Victims at Minilik Hospital and Gandhi Hospital, and selected Sub-Cities Administrations. The findings and recommendations from the assessment were further validated during a consultative workshop, where issues such as poor complaints systems, unclear legal frameworks to address domestic sexual violence/harassment, limited access to timely justice for victims, and a lack of awareness about the unacceptability of sexual harassment were thoroughly discussed. EIO continues to monitor and follow up on the remedial actions arising from the assessment and its investigations.

Sub-output 2.3: Promotion of Awareness among Information Providers and Seekers to Ensure Quality Service Provision.

- EIO created nine promotional billboards in four languages (Amharic, Afan Oromo, Tigrigna, and Afar) and displayed them in nine locations/towns, including Addis Ababa, Adama, Bahirdar, Harar, Hawassa, Mekelle, and Semera. These billboards conveyed essential messages about EIO's mandate, good governance, access to information, and the role of citizens. Telephone numbers for HQ and respective Branch Offices were included on the billboards to ensure ease of access and the recording of complaints.
- EHRC produced five informative spots on selected and timely human rights issues, such as the right to movement, human rights and conflict, the rights of disabled persons, development-induced evictions, and the implementation of the NHRAP II. These spots were broadcasted on selected media outlets, contributing to raising public awareness about critical human rights issues that play a vital role in ensuring the provision of high-quality public services. Promoting human rights through various approaches and media is one of the Commission's fundamental functions. Additionally, the Commission produced and translated these five spots into three local languages, which were aired on Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, SNNPR, and Afar TVs.
- OAG is mandated to conduct legal reform studies, draft laws, perform codification, compilation, and consolidation of federal laws, as well as collect regional laws and consolidate them as needed. With support from GDPP, the OAG Legal Studies, Drafting, and Dissemination Directorate published the "Higawinet" law journal. This journal serves as a trusted and valued resource for existing and new legal studies and developments, examination of case law, and assessments of current legal studies and research. This initiative contributes to building a knowledge base within the broader justice sector institutions.

Output 3: Empowering Citizens to Actively Participate in Decision-Making and Political Processes at All Levels of Governance

Since the initiation of GDPP and its support for Implementing Partners within the broader transformative democratic governance agenda launched in 2018, various measures have been taken to expand the political landscape at the governmental level. The reform agenda aimed to create an enabling environment and address structural governance challenges, with a strong emphasis on systematic public engagement. GDPP Output 3 recognizes the importance of these approaches.

GDPP has consistently provided a platform for Government Partners to promote the active participation of citizens and non-governmental actors in decision-making and political processes. It supported the development of the National Civic Engagement Policy, which was published in late 2019. This policy emphasizes a participatory approach to governance, with the goal of nurturing a democratic society where the voices of the people can influence the government. It provides a foundation for civil society and citizens to engage more proactively in public life. Importantly, the policy outlines an implementation strategy that recognizes the cross-cutting, multi-sectoral nature of promoting

public participation. The policy prioritizes three key areas: creating an enabling environment for civil society organizations and media, mainstreaming participation mechanisms across government, and implementing measures for participation and consultation in key thematic areas. This development encourages participation with various groups, including civil society, citizens, academia, and think tanks, as standard operating procedures.

Furthermore, GDPP-supported initiatives by CCI and EMA which include awareness-raising sessions to acquaint citizens with the upgraded mechanisms and media channels for submitting appeals and conveying their inquiries and concerns. These sessions involved over 356 citizens from diverse regions and groups. The increased awareness among citizens is evident in the reduced number of appellants who physically visit the CCI, thanks to the use of the upgraded website and web portal of the CCI.

Sub-output 3.1: Strengthening Policies, Systems, and Institutional Frameworks for Active Citizen Participation, Especially Among Women, Youth, and Other Vulnerable Groups in Decision-Making Processes at All Levels

GDPP was launched at a key stage in Ethiopia's journey towards greater openness and transparency. Despite its ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and social plurality, Ethiopia has had limited opportunities to create greater diversity with low levels of women's participation in democratic institutions in key areas of democratic governance such as the parliament, public media, and civil society. The transformational democratization agenda including liberalization of the press and freedom of expression as well as creation of a more enabling environment for civil society have opened up opportunities for citizens to have a say on public issues including the way they are governed. The Programme has been able to take advantage of these changes which are also set out in the 10-year National Development Plan

In the past, civic space in Ethiopia was restricted by the Civil Society Proclamation (CSP), with the government often perceiving itself as the primary authority. This hindered the state-society relationship, where public engagement culture was weak. The media space was similarly restricted, leading to limited media capacity in the country. GDPP has been a crucial advocate for civic engagement and gender mainstreaming, providing technical support in designing key policy documents. These documents include the Civic Engagement Policy Framework, the Media Policy Framework, and the Gender Analysis, which have informed the institutional development plans for several GDPP Implementing Partners and sectors more broadly.

GDPP has also supported policy-level interventions, particularly the development of the media policy and communication strategy, which has created a favorable policy and legal framework for citizen and media practitioners to actively participate and express their voices and concerns on the country's socioeconomic and political development. The programme prioritized support for the media industry cognizant of the importance of participation as the cornerstone of democratic governance and the exchange of information between citizen and state, particularly to improve public services delivery.

GDPP also enhanced the capacities of stakeholders in the media industries- the national and regional broadcasters and publishers, community, commercial and public media operators. The training and awareness raising initiatives have further opened new spaces for engagement between media, government officials and citizen.

UNDP, in collaboration with the GDPP Implementing Partners, conducted a comprehensive Gender Analysis to identify capacity gaps and recommend strategic interventions for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment across all Implementing Partners. The Gender Analysis Report document was produced, published, and widely disseminated. The analysis examined the overarching socioeconomic and political legal contexts influencing gender equality in the governance domain and assessed the GDPP's programme document review its inclusion of gender sensitive considerations

during programme design. Ips' gender mainstreaming capacities were also examined by the extent to which gender issues are well integrated into Ips' overarching mandate and whether conducive gender structures (systems, procedures, and organized culture) are institutionalized within each implementing partners. It also disclosed several overlapping and context-specific challenges in integrating gender considerations across their lines of work and within their organizational way of working. The report also provided several recommendations to ensure that gender issues are adequately mainstreamed and systematically integrated at each stage of the programme cycle by each of the GDPP implementing partners (Ips). The report also incorporated recommended action points for individual Ips which aimed to overcome the IP-specific institutional and gender-focused challenges observed.

Since the political transition and reforms initiated in 2018, a range of measures have been taken by the government to advance democratization and to open up the political and civil space in the country. The development of Civic Engagement Policy was one of the important measures taken by the government to this effect. In view of that, UNDP in collaboration with the Democratic Systems Strengthening Centre (DSSC) of the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) produced a Civic Engagement Policy Assessment Report which was very instrumental to the development of a National Civic Engagement Policy for Ethiopia. The report reviewed the existing legal and policy framework relevant to civic engagement. It also provided an overview and analysis of key issues and a range of barriers and challenges related to civic engagement in Ethiopia.

Moreover, it highlighted the practical impacts of then Charities and Societies Proclamation regime on the work of civil society and also governance processes. It also outlined a set of factors which shaped the context for participation and civic engagement practices. This called for a new approach towards fostering greater citizen engagement and participation in the reform's agenda. The new policy approach was a means to promote consensus on, and ownership of the development and democratization processes by citizens and civil society and to nurture voice and participation. The civic engagement policy process was linked to the repeal and replacement of the restrictive Charities and Societies Proclamation (CSP) with a new Civil Society Organizations Proclamation.

- **HoPR** developed and rolled out a Parliamentary Civic Engagement Framework/Guide, providing the public with a key role in democracy. This framework has enhanced transparency and accountability in the work of the HoPR. As part of the joint work of UN Women and UNDP, a Parliamentary Gender Audit (of both the Legislators & House Secretariat) was conducted. The audit sought to enhance the gender issues in the Parliament's core lawmaking, oversight, and representational functions. As a result of the gender audit actions plans tailored to the needs of both the Legislators and the House Secretariat to mainstream gender in the House were agreed which would ultimately help make Parliament more gender sensitive. In order to institutionalize gender within the work of the HoPR a Gender Equality Advisory Team (GEAT) anchored in the House Secretariat was established. The GEAT provides a platform to bring together renowned Ethiopian gender experts and practitioners to help enhance and support gender mainstreaming in the HoPR. A range of gender advisory services including supporting the scrutiny of draft legislation, overseeing the work of the Executive in implementing public policies, production of knowledge documents such as policy briefs are the key functions of the GEAT. This would further anchor and institutionalize gender into the work of the HoPR as the leading democratic institution responsible for law making, oversight and representation in Ethiopia.

To make parliamentary documents accessible, HoPR digitized its documentation, preserving historical records and fostering transparency, accountability, and understanding of the House's work. The House developed a Parliamentary System Policy document to provide information on the decision-making processes, laws and regulations, minutes of MPs' debates and decisions, and reports from

the Executive, enhancing transparency. HoPR also engaged with media and CSOs to promote greater citizen engagement and participation.

A long-standing goal of HoPR was the digitization of its documentation. This ensures that researchers and the broader public have access to a wide range of parliamentary documents. Additionally, digitization helps preserve historical records of Ethiopia's democratic development, promoting transparency, accountability, and understanding of the work of the House. This digital library also expands access to books and periodicals, allowing MPs and the Secretariat to access e-books and over 30,000 other online materials. This helps legislators access independent information, enhancing decision-making and the quality of parliamentary debates. HoPR introduced the Parliamentary System Policy document, providing the public with information on the decision-making processes, types of laws and regulations passed, minutes of MPs' debates and decisions, and reports from the Executive. These efforts were complemented by initiatives to make the Parliament more accessible to the public through engagement with media and civil society organizations (CSOs). HoPR organized two consultative sessions with the media and CSOs working on governance and human rights issues. These sessions facilitated the sharing of experiences on how other parliamentary democracies collaborate with CSOs and media. As a result of these sessions led by HoPR, representatives from both groups and the House Secretariat agreed to collaborate more closely to promote greater citizen engagement and participation.

As part of its efforts to empower women and ensure their active involvement, the House established women's caucuses at both federal and regional levels. These caucuses have played a crucial role in empowering women parliamentarians at various levels. Over the years, the program has supported the caucuses by organizing two forums. The first forum focused on advancing the women's agenda within the Houses, with an emphasis on making gender central to legislative, oversight, and representational functions. The second forum reviewed the performance of the Caucus and identified recommended critical activities for enhancing its overall effectiveness and efficiency in promoting gender equality. This is particularly important because, following the 2021 general election, the number of women parliamentarians in the parliament increased to 195 out of 470, accounting for 41.49%, a rise from 38.9% in 2015. Additionally, as of February 2021, with the exception of the two federal chambers (House of People's Representatives and House of Federation), all state councils appointed women as house speakers. Despite these gains, gender imbalances in representation still persist.

- **EHRC** embarked on two joint initiatives with civil society organizations to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights. In collaboration with the Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations, EHRC jointly organized a national dialogue and two regional CSO consultation dialogues in Hawassa and Bahir Dar on elections and human rights prior to the 2021 General Election. The national dialogue was livestreamed to reach a wider audience through the CEHRO and EHRC websites. These platforms created civic space for the enhanced and active participation of CSOs in monitoring human rights during the General Election, fostering coordination among CSOs working on human rights monitoring of the electoral process.

EHRC also collaborated with the Ethiopian Lawyers with Disabilities Association (ELDA) to conduct a disability audit of EHRC as part of the Commission's organizational reform. The audit findings informed the establishment of a dedicated EHRC department focused on the rights of persons with disabilities.

In collaboration with the Center for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria, EHRC organized the first Ethiopian High School Human Rights Moot Court Competition, aimed at promoting education, participation, and the protection of children's rights. The event sought to promote children's rights to education, the right to be heard, the right to be free from corporal punishment, sexual harassment, and harmful traditional practices. The competition involved more than 40 teams (comprising 80 students), with 20 winning their respective regional competitions. In addition, eight finalist teams were brought

to Addis Ababa for the final round, where two female students from Etege Menen Females' Residential School emerged as the winners.

This competition provided participating students with an opportunity to explore the concepts of child rights and avenues for upholding and defending access to justice and due process rights. It enabled students to apply national and international laws and human rights principles in their written essays and oral pleadings, enhancing their communication skills and confidence in asserting their rights and arguments in public. . Regional and national competitions also benefited non-participating students, school communities, and society at large by promoting awareness of human rights through attendance and watching recorded oral pleadings.

EHRC produced three TV programs about human rights and elections, which were aired on Fana TV station. The broadcasts helped raise awareness about human rights issues before, during, and after the 2021 elections.

EHRC assessed the challenges and risks of human rights violations against persons with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic in collaboration with the Ethiopian Federation of National Associations of Persons with Disabilities. The findings were discussed through a webinar, and joint advocacy messages were identified. Two discussion forums with CSOs aimed to enhance EHRC-CSO collaboration for the promotion of human rights. As a result, EHRC developed terms of reference to formalize the EHRC-CSO collaboration platform, ensuring its long-term sustainability and increasing the diversity of voices involved in the governance arena. Using this platform and recognizing the importance of engagement with civil society, particularly organizations of persons with disabilities, EHRC conveyed messages and created awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities during events commemorating the International Day of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The first Ethiopian Human Rights Film Festival was organized by EHRC in three cities: Addis Ababa, Adama, and Hawassa, in commemoration of the 73rd annual Human Rights Day. The festival featured two feature films and five short documentary films addressing human rights issues. It was attended by students, academic institutions, filmmakers, artists, civil society representatives, and the media. The films covered various topics, including women's and children's rights, disability rights, civil and political rights, freedom of association, and movement. The festival attracted 382 participants in Addis Ababa, 804 in Adama, and 607 in Hawassa. The festival was regarded as an essential platform for promoting human rights messages and was well-received by attendees.

- **EIO** established Good Governance Collaborative Forums in two regions - Amhara/Bahir Dar and South/Dila. A consultative workshop was conducted in Adama with the previously established Federal level forum. These forums have been engaged with EIO to enhance good governance and service delivery at all levels. In addition, the forums helped the swift implementation of recommendations and decisions provided by the Ombudsman to correct malpractices identified through its investigations.

EIO also established Good Governance Collaborative Forums in two regions and one city administration, including Gambella, Oromia, and Dire Dawa City Administration. In these regions, consultative forum sessions addressed issues such as the role of democratic institutions and good governance forums in promoting good governance and peace. They also discussed the nature and solutions to administrative abuses against children, women, people with disabilities, and the elderly. To ensure the sustainability of these forums, EIO and the regional forums signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). During the consultative sessions, the forum's member institutions committed to playing an exemplary role for other government organizations by implementing the EIO's findings and recommendations.

EMA organized a pre-election consultative workshop for 80 Political Party representatives to consider the issue of fair media utilization and reach consensus on media coverage during the elections. The workshop also aimed to discuss a basic Code of Conduct. The workshop enabled EMA to brief the Political Parties on how to use the media to engage with their constituencies, ensuring peaceful election campaigns and preventing potential conflicts.

EMA assisted community radio groups through the provision of technical hands-on training for 10 community radio and school mini-media and community media center staff. This training strengthened their in-house capacity to manage their community radio stations and address technical issues. EMA also organized a national platform to support and strengthen the Media Council and Media Associations as part of its mandate to enhance the media association. This platform helped the National Media Council continue promoting media self-regulation and expand its membership base.

EMA conducted various activities to enhance the skills and awareness of commercial, public, and community media operators, as well as EMA staff, on topics related to journalism and effective communication principles and practices. Moreover, EMA held meetings with democratic institutions that contribute to increased citizen awareness and participation in decision-making and political processes. Media review meetings were conducted with reporters, editors, and media experts from broadcasters and publishers, providing a platform for stakeholders in the media industry to present and discuss the challenges and opportunities in the prevailing media environment. These meetings allowed for firsthand feedback on areas requiring modifications to ensure that the reforms met the expected outcomes. EMA also conducted advocacy training for the House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) media Standing Committee to create greater awareness of the Government-approved Media Policy and Communication Strategy.

- **NEBE** undertook consultations with various stakeholders, including political parties, to identify the need for improvements in their own communication strategies. Core messaging components were developed, including communication tools, products, structured platforms, and tailored design mechanisms for each audience. Appropriate communication channels, dissemination methods, and media, including video, print, web/online media, traditional media, and social media, were developed in preparation for the 2021 elections.

NEBE was also supported in conducting a National Case Study of Mapping of Political Parties and Gender Equality (Gender Audit of Political Parties) to assess women's political participation and their inclusion in decision-making processes. The gender mapping study examined the gender balance and gender sensitivity of political parties registered and operating in the country, identifying priority needs for greater gender integration. The study report was validated and endorsed by the political parties.

Additionally, NEBE conducted assessments to identify its own gaps and the actions required to strengthen operational systems. These assessments included the Civic and Voters Education Impact Assessment, Training Center's Needs Assessment, and NEBE's training needs assessment. The training needs assessment identified the medium and long-term training needs of the Electoral Board to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of NEBE's operations at federal and regional levels. NEBE established an operational system to strengthen networking, integration, and coordination between federal and branch offices, as well as key stakeholders.

Sub output 3.2: Awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions raised.

- **FEACC** supported CSOs to enhance their capacity and play their critical role in the fight against corruption in the country. FEACC has been collaborating with 10 selected leading civil society organizations, including Vision Ethiopian Congress for Democracy (VECOD), Initiative for Social Accountability Promotion (ISAP), and Transparency International Ethiopia (TIE), along with other groups focusing on ethics and anti-corruption themes. In partnership with these CSOs, FEACC organized four forums/workshops to discuss and explore the role of CSOs, civil society's contributions to good governance challenges, the role of the media and political parties in ensuring good governance, and the rule of law in fighting corruption. These forums brought together 198 civil society and media leaders, public sector experts, representatives of political parties, youth associations, women's associations, and government institutions. The discussions facilitated the sharing of best practices and experiences in promoting ethics and anti-corruption efforts across civil society. Furthermore, they strengthened the partnership between civil society and FEACC, working on a common anti-corruption agenda at the community and CSO members' level. This intervention laid the foundation for future collaborations outlined within the new Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy, specifically the engagement with civil society.
- As per its mandate, EIO seeks to promote good governance, freedom of information, constitutional and human rights of various segments of the population, including women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly, to ensure the protection of rights and the resolution of administrative abuses. With support from GDPP, EIO established ten regional educational centers in Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, and Sidama, using three languages - Amharic, Afan Oromo, and Sidamigna. Since the program's inception, five promotional spots and eight programs were broadcast through educational media channels. Additionally, these promotional spots and programs were disseminated to schools via the school's mini media. Collectively, these interventions increased awareness among rural communities in four regions about EIO's role, ensuring that more citizens are aware of their rights. As a result, more people became aware of the facility to file complaints through the EOI 7502 toll-free line. The introduction of the toll-free line was well-received, leading to a significant increase in the number of complaints. EIO had projected 3,800 complaints a year before the new toll-free number, but following its introduction, EIO received 4,465 complaints in its first year of operation. This demonstrates the added value of a system that does not require citizens to travel to EIO to lodge complaints and indicates increased awareness of EIO's role.
- **NEBE** transcribed and published a new electoral law into braille and provided it in video, audio, and sign languages to reach people with disabilities, including those with sight and hearing impairments. They produced and distributed 10,000 copies in braille and 15,000 copies in video, audio, and sign languages. The distributed copies of audio and sign languages helped more than 100,000 people with hearing impairments better understand the impact of the new electoral Proclamation/Law and actively participate in exercising their electoral voting rights. NEBE also supported 13 Voter Education Providers and CSOs to reach 7.4 million women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups to inform them about their voting rights.

With the support of GDPP, NEBE organized three consultative sessions with three observer CSOs to discuss election-related issues such as observation, monitoring, voter registration, voter education, gender, disability, inclusion, and more. These sessions enabled CSOs to actively engage and fulfill their roles in the June 2021 General Election.

- **UN Women**, in collaboration with NEBE, organized a conference to provide feedback about the gender mapping study conducted among political parties. The mapping study, which sampled seven political parties, revealed that only two parties had women in leadership positions (one party leader and one deputy leader). In response to these findings, NEBE organized a platform to discuss and advocate for political parties to be more gender-sensitive and inclusive. The advocacy platform was attended by 125 participants (56 women and 65 men) from political parties and discussed the findings and recommendations of the gender mapping study. Participants confirmed their commitment to increasing the number of women in leadership positions within their respective political parties by restructuring their leadership. A platform for advocating political parties on gender sensitivity and responsiveness was established, and the first conference brought together 45 participants (36 women and 9 men) representing NEBE, political parties, media, and CSOs to address the prevention of Violence Against Women in Elections (VAWiE). This helped to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of VAWiE on women's participation in elections.
- **CCI** organized an awareness-raising training session for 62 women, youth, and other vulnerable groups, increasing their awareness about constitutional rights and how to exercise those rights. CCI also developed a digital library to enhance the efficiency of the Council's service delivery and case management system. Given the critical Constitutional Interpretation work conducted in 2020 and the transition to remote working, more innovative ways were needed to publicize the work of the CCI. This entailed the purchase of video conferencing equipment, upgrades to establish a network storage system capable of high-capacity storage for housing the CCI digital library, and operationalizing the case flow management system to enhance service delivery.

CCI organized an awareness-raising session for the regions to explore the possibility of setting up similar institutions (CCIs at the regional level). During the session, CCI officials and legal professionals presented how regional councils could benefit from technical support for constitutional interpretation at the regional level to address any questions that might arise. The forum also paved the way for strengthening existing regional constitutional inquiries on platforms and mechanisms. CCI committed to providing ongoing support to regions in setting up and strengthening regional constitutional inquiries, which included awareness-raising and training events to promote a better understanding of the CCI's mandate.

OUTPUT 4: Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.

Over the past five years, GDPP has provided support to MoP and HoF to improve systems and mechanisms through interventions promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing conflicts through fostering dialogues and peace-building processes. The focus on social cohesion and diversity management remained one of the key areas of focus in support of the policy frameworks that the Government seeks to pursue to ensure a peaceful democratic transition and build bridges between various segments of Ethiopian society. The combination of political uncertainty associated with the delayed elections, which eventually took place in 2021, the impacts of the pandemic, pre-existing economic vulnerabilities, desert locust infestations, frequent climate shocks, and various violent conflicts across several parts of the country put strains on the country's democratic infrastructure.

In the past years, and as a result of the reorganization within the lead IP (Ministry of Peace), GDPP sought to diversify its support, working with and through MoP partners to explore options for diversity management and social cohesion initiatives. HoF and MoP conducted assessments about diversity management and how to address and manage identity-based claims. These assessments helped improve the HoF's internal system for diversity management and social cohesion, and the MoP's policy in ensuring that identity issues are tackled in the most effective and peaceful manner. Subsequently, MoP conducted various national and regional events that enabled the Ministry to raise awareness about the value of peaceful coexistence. It also allowed the Ministry to gather valuable data about examples of best practices at the grassroots to understand why such practices developed and consider their potential for replication where appropriate.

GDPP remained committed to engaging at the policy level and provided support to MoP and HoF in conducting conflict mapping and analysis, developing a conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategy, and determining the best peacebuilding architecture that would allow Ethiopia to resolve conflicts peacefully. Although progress on conflict data collection and analysis for conflict mapping, as well as the drafting of the peacebuilding strategy, was slow due to the sensitivity of the data, the foundational work and information gathered will help inform the development of a holistic peacebuilding strategy.

Sub output 4.1. Policy/Strategy and platforms established/strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance.

GDPP supported national efforts and initiatives towards managing diversity, strengthening social cohesion and reconciliation, and building national consensus by engaging various stakeholders and actors. The Programme supported the organization of a variety of consultative dialogues and peace conferences at national and regional levels to maintain open channels among various protagonists and provide platforms for discussing peace. Various stakeholders, including government officials, community and traditional leaders, CSOs, women, and youth representatives, have participated in these peace-building dialogues.

The Ethiopian Federal System has been challenged in many dimensions, mainly due to the multi-ethnic federalism exercise, leading to disputes across almost all federal boundaries, many of which have turned violent and resulted in loss of human lives and valuable property. The situation in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region was one of the critical challenges of the ethnic federal system. Multiple claims for autonomy have arisen in recent times, and the perpetuity of such claims has led both regional and federal governments to explore more research-based options for settling the claims and resolving conflicts. With GDPP support, Wolkitte University, in collaboration with the Southern Region administration and the Ministry of Peace, conducted a study on conflict management in the SNNPR. This contributed to building an informed decision within the government about handling existing disputes and putting strategic mechanisms in place to sustainably resolve disputes arising from unclear diversity management mechanisms.

- MoP conducted a comprehensive assessment on diversity management. The report shed light on the management of ethnic, occupational, and other forms of diversities, including the structural and attitudinal constraints impacting minority rights at national and regional levels. Additionally, two workshops were organized aimed at raising community awareness to enhance community participation in decision-making processes in matters related to peace, development, and prevention of conflict and violence. MoP also conducted an assessment of the Inter-Governmental Relations (IGR) institutional frameworks, functions, knowledge, and skill gaps, including gender issues at the regional and sub-regional levels. A key finding was that the concept of Intergovernmental relations and the newly ratified IGR legal framework was very new and not well understood by stakeholders. However, the IGR forums established in regions

provide the means for wider dissemination of the strategic policy documents and help create greater awareness about the implications of the IGR policy. MoP, in collaboration with HoF and the IGR Technical Committee from the Regional States, developed a 3-year Comprehensive Capacity Development Plan to guide the implementation of the IGR.

In addition, MoP conducted a workshop to develop the needed procedural manuals, charters, and directives that underpin the establishment and effective functioning of the IGR Secretariat and supporting platforms. The participants included the IGR Technical Committee members from the Regional States, the leadership, and experts from MoP, experts, and officials from the House of Federation. An awareness-raising forum was held for members of the IGR Technical Committee representing the Regional States in the Eastern and South-Eastern Regions - Afar, Somali, Oromia, Sidama, SNNPR, and Gambella. Moreover, support was provided towards strengthening 4 existing IGR Peace and Development Cooperation forums in Tigray-Amhara-Afar; Oromia-Gumuz-Amhara-Gambella; SNNPR-Oromia-Sidama-Gambella, and Somali-Oromia-Harar-Afar-Dire Dawa Peace and Development Cooperation Forums. Likewise, 2 new IGR forums between Amhara and Afar; and Sidama-Oromia-SNNPR were formed.

MoP conducted regional and national conferences between different social groups to facilitate building national consensus. Two rounds of conferences were conducted at the national level; one of which was a national dialogue between civil society groups and another with artists, renowned individuals, and traditional leaders (such as Abba Gaddas and Ugazes). A total of 900 people, of which 200 were women, participated in these conferences. At regional levels, a total of 3,680 people participated in these peace conferences, of which 704 were women. As an immediate outcome of the conferences held, the participants agreed to cascade the dialogues in their localities, thereby facilitating national consensus on significant agenda items for resilient nation building and sustainable peace. The Ministry also undertook campaigns through artistic approaches, including art exhibitions, peace songs, drama, and literature. MoP developed a training module on the basic knowledge of Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations, which was trialed and approved by the Ministry.

Three further modules focused on Language Policy, Concessional Occasional Democracy, Human Rights Democracy, and Good Governance and the Rule of Law have been devised. In line with the IGR, awareness-raising training was provided to 70 institutional leaders about the concept of Intergovernmental Relations, the ratified IGR legal framework, and issues related to IGR forums' establishment among neighboring Regional States. In order to build the capacity of various stakeholders, including scholars, leaders, federalism experts, and MoP staff, to understand the implications associated with the IGR Policy, a national conference was organized by MoP about Federalism, the Ethiopian Federal Constitution, and IGR. Eight scientific research papers were presented at the conference by professors and scholars. These efforts all sought to increase citizen engagement and participation in the debates about national identity and consensus building.

In 2020, with the formal approval of the Programme Management Board (PMB) Co-Chairs and additional funding from SIDA, attention was directed towards support for reconciliation efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. This support also aligned with the existing GDPP outputs/outcomes and was able to take advantage of the existing GDPP synergies and complementarities. The rationale for this support was that it was important to avoid the threat of pre-existing socio-political tensions being exacerbated because of the pandemic. Without such support, there was a fear that the initial progress towards peace and reconciliation could be lost. Beyond the impacts on public health, the secondary impacts of the pandemic were expected to further stress already weakened social cohesion mechanisms due to the economic shock that could lead to an increase in poverty, criminality, and heightened stigmatization. Inter-regional tensions could also increase due to restrictions on the movement of people and goods, increased inter-ethnic tensions due to scarcer resources and inequalities in accessing emergency and development support. Therefore, it was against that background that the agreed entry point for some limited support was directed to the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission (ERC). The support aimed to introduce new approaches to be tested and considered for possible scale up in the future support for a broader package of Comprehensive Support to National Reconciliation in Ethiopia. GDPP, in collaboration with the ERC, identified the parameters of such high-level, targeted strategic support focused on three main areas: 1) strengthening institutional capacity; 2) advancing a political consensus on a national reconciliation model; 3) increasing social cohesion, public knowledge of the ERC, and support for the national reconciliation process.

UNDP was able to provide technical support through the direct deployment of five short-term technical advisers and the mobilization of international experts in transitional justice and communications. This additional technical capacity has thus far enabled the ERC Secretariat to finalize its strategy, develop its organogram and staffing plan, draft a communication strategy, initiate a revision of its legal framework, produce statement-taking training guides, templates, statement takers' code of conduct, and guidelines. Machinery of Government changes required a reassessment of the limited support, and the ERC was eventually disbanded, and its mandate was subsumed into a new body, the Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission.

Through GDPP support, MoP and the Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE) collaborated in facilitating seminars aimed at strengthening the role of faith institutions in conflict prevention and peace-building. Training involved participants from different religious institutions on topics such as promoting the culture of peace, religious communication, and "do-no-harm" (conflict sensitivity) and mediation. In addition, targeted training sessions were offered to radicalized members of the religious communities in different clusters, focusing on mediation, inter-religious tolerance, and secularism, emphasizing the need for transforming the attitudes of vulnerable youth towards constructive engagements and fostering tolerant behavior. Enhancing the facilitation and mediation skills of facilitators of intra-religious dialogues and the culture of peace remains an ongoing area for further support in Ethiopia.

- HoF commissioned an assessment of the gaps and limitations of existing systems and mechanisms for Constitutional interpretation. The assessment examined how and what mechanisms HoF has made use of for constitutional interpretation in relation to existing theories of constitutional interpretation used in other analogous federal countries. The assessment was based on both pure literature review and analysis of the country context's reality. The targeted institutions considered during the assessment were justice institutions, both at federal and regional levels, and included courts and the Office of the Attorney General. The assessment produced key findings that, once adopted, will help strengthen the existing systems and mechanisms of constitutional interpretation in Ethiopia.

- CCI worked with various stakeholders in the country and outside the country to effectively deliver its mission and mandates. To put it into effect, CCI has become a member of the World Constitutional Courts Jurisdiction (WCCJ) and African Constitutional and Courts Jurisdiction (ACCJ). WCCJ and ACCJ facilitate membership conferences for member countries, and CCI attended these membership conferences. The Chairperson and Supreme Court President participated in 'The 3rd Cairo High-Level Meeting of the Chief Justices of the African Constitutional and Courts' Jurisdiction (ACCJ) conference in Egypt in February 2019. CCI member and Research and Study Directorate Director also participated in the African Constitutional Court with a theme of 'Conference of Constitutional Courts for Security of Basic Rights and Freedom' in Luanda, Angola in June 2019. In addition, the Vice-Chairperson and CCI members attended the African Constitutional Courts' conference in Angola. This knowledge sharing and exposure visits helped CCI gain access to best practice knowledge-sharing opportunities.

Sub output 4.2: Policy/Strategy and platforms established/strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace-building at all levels of governance.

With GDPP support, strong collaboration and synergy have been created across levels and sectors (Ministry of Peace, House of Federation, regional states, and academic institutions like AAU/Institute for Peace and Security Studies). This increased joint responsibility and ownership to work together to manage national issues related to conflict management and peace-building in the country. The partnership has been considered a good platform to scale up the experience of collective response to collective challenges.

- MoP conducted a consultative forum that brought together community leaders, religious leaders, women, and youth representatives, along with officials from all over the country whose jobs were concerned with peace and stability. The motto of the forum was "Challenges of peace-building and solutions." Three live programs and seven documentaries were transmitted through different local media about community dialogue, a national public opinion survey assessment, the national dialogue process, and other peace works in collaboration with the Peace Media Network. MoP developed a new 10-year strategic plan that complements the National 10-year Perspective Plan. The strategy document focuses on Peace Mapping, aiming to identify and use social capital as a positive resource rather than focusing on conflict. It also emphasizes community-based dialogues, strengthening local peace structures, peace media (to counter hate speech, promote peace, and reconciliation), human-centered rule of law, improving federal-regional and inter-regional relations, community participation (especially of women and youth), and strengthening institutional capacity to prevent and resolve conflicts.

MoP, under the umbrella of the Inter-Religious Council, helped religious institutions create permanent mechanisms for consultation, mutual understanding, and cooperation, thereby facilitating peaceful coexistence among the different faith groups and their followers in Ethiopia. Religious institutions have the leverage of faith-based motivations, long-term commitments, long-term presence on the ground, moral and spiritual authority to condemn violence, and the ability to mobilize others for peace. They have opportunities to promote peace-building both individually and institutionally. Strengthening the umbrella organization, the IRCE, was instrumental in sustaining peace-building efforts initiated by both individual religious institutions and their Council. GDPP, through the Ministry of Peace, provided equipment to IRCE, such as printers, photocopiers, and computers, to strengthen its capacity and effectively deliver its role and mission. This support helped IRCE to continue its services of promoting peace and hosting high-level representatives of the different religious institutions in the country.

- HoF undertook a national conflict mapping exercise, which was one of the different phases of the strategy formulation for national conflict prevention and peace-building. Data on conflicts were gathered from nine regional states and two city administrations, and documents were compiled for all regions and the two cities. The collected sub-national level conflict data document was the first key milestone of the project phases and one of the major outputs of the efforts toward the formulation of the national conflict prevention and peace-building strategy. The data collection was undertaken by a team of experts drawn from the respective regional states, different universities within the regions, and a group of experts from the respective cities. The conflict mapping primarily focused on the collection of actual and potential conflict issues in the country. The data were verified by key stakeholders in the regional states and the two cities through different workshops. HoF has been supported to successfully map and analyze actual and potential conflicts across all regional states and two city administrations. This national conflict mapping exercise was achieved by incorporating key stakeholders' direct participation, thereby ensuring ownership of the project. The documentation capturing the verified data per regions was integrated into the national-level conflict data compilation. Using the findings and recommendations of the conflict mapping and analysis report as input, HoF developed a national conflict prevention and peace-building strategy document. The ownership and responsibility for the development of the national peace-building strategy between MoP and HoF remained an ongoing discussion topic throughout the program implementation.

Sub output 4.3: Developed/strengthened systems & mechanisms to promote national consensus & nation building at all levels.

- MoP, with the support of the program, created Community, Youth, Women, Elders, and Students' peace forums at different levels of the regional structure, as well as in public universities and schools. Monitoring and evaluation of existing forums were also undertaken to assess if the forums remained active. Based on the assessments, capacity development training was delivered to 2 University student's peace forums. MoP recognized the importance of targeted support to engage the youth in discussions about national consensus and nation-building. A national-regional network of University Peace Forums was established with skills-based training about handling conflicts provided to University Peace Forum Leaders. The training helped create a sense of motivation and raised awareness among the students about their role in peacebuilding work and handling conflicts in and around their universities. The expectation arising from the training was emerging young leaders for conflict prevention measures that are well-planned, inclusive, and engage stakeholders, thus helping to transform the country.

MoP organized community peace dialogue sessions at the regional level, where participants were able to discuss and better understand the key role that local community members can play in mitigating conflicts in their local communities. MoP organized a training workshop for leaders from political parties, media, and professional associations under the motto "Peace Starts from Me" with the intention to help develop a culture of dialogue. The training enabled participants to enhance their emotional intelligence, discuss social capital, the rule of law, citizens' dignity, and better understand the ambitions of Ethiopia's draft Peace Policy and related strategic documents. A consultative forum was conducted for 80 peace actors, including religious leaders, parliamentarians, and traditional leaders, to discuss and share experiences about the individual and institutional roles and responsibilities concerning the creation of sustainable peacebuilding and national consensus in Ethiopia. The forum also provided the opportunity for participants to consider their role in the process and the strategies needed to help support the anticipated National Dialogue.

MoP, in collaboration with the Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE), held a training and consultation forum under the theme “Our Religious Values for Peace and Unity.” At this forum, current common challenges of religious institutions were discussed. This was further supplemented by a workshop under the theme of ‘The Role of Religious Institutions in Peace Building, The Opportunities, and Challenges.’ This brought together 200 Religious organization leaders, youths, women, preachers, as well as officials from each Regional Peace and Security Bureau.

MoP organized a consultative workshop for returnees and the host communities in SNNP region- Mizan Tepi and Gurage Zones, and in the Amhara Region – Western Gojam and Semen Shewa Zones, in collaboration with local civil society groups, to assess the livelihoods, coexistence, and social cohesion challenges facing the communities. These locations were places where IDPs, returnees, and host communities from the surrounding areas had been affected by ethnic violence and conflicts (Guraferda, Hallaba, Metekel, Chagni, and Ataye). Local government and non-state actors jointly assessed local situations in these localities, specifically their livelihoods and how to strengthen co-existence between communities in conflict, and the social cohesion challenges. This event revealed weak integration/coordination capacities within the policymaking and technical level support. Lessons learned from this exercise could help in developing future recovery, stabilization, and resilience projects to support communities that need the support of MoP and other federal agencies, and development partners.

The police reform work forms part of the remit within the MoP, and specifically the Federal Police. Support provided, including the installation of software technology that could help to control the illegal arms movements in the country. Training was provided to 300 Regional Community Police Officers and Community Representatives about the revised concepts and approaches involved in community policing. The development of the new Police Doctrine was finalized and adopted. Implementation manuals and roadmaps necessary to implement the Police Doctrine, for example Neighborhood Police; Community Patrolling; and an Independent Advisory Group (IAG) were established. Two rounds of Training of Trainers for 68 Police and Security Office leaders of all the Regional States and City Administrations were completed. The Police Doctrine and implementation standards, and the IAG and Community Patrol manuals were translated into four languages (Oromifa, Tigrigna, Somali, and Amharic) and widely disseminated. The IAG and Community Patrolling have been implemented at the national and local level administrations (Kebeles) in cities and Regional States including Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, Benishangul Gumuz (except Metekel Zone Assosa Woreda), Harari, Sidama, Afar, and Addis Ababa, all of which are now operational. A monitoring visit was conducted by the experts of MoP and the Federal Police to selected regional states with the objective to evaluate the results of the IAD and Community Patrolling Structures in selected regions including Amhara, Sidama, SNNPR, Harari, Oromia Regional states, and the two city Administrations (Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa). Based on the findings, a consultative forum with 60 participants from Regional Peace and Security Bureaus and Federal Police experts took place in Bahir Dar.

MoP provided conflict early warning and conflict management training, organized in partnership with the Federal Police and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, to 63 Federal Police leaders assigned to oversee the security at universities. The aim of the training was to prevent incidents of conflict and seek to secure peace at all Federal Universities. Another training on conflict early warning and response was provided in Hawassa for 45 Police Commissioners and Peace and Security Bureau Directors. MoP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, formed Peace Clubs at different Public Universities with financial and technical support from GDPP. The formation of Peace Clubs in different universities was a critical intervention to avert violence arising in the universities. These Clubs gradually evolved into Peace Incubation Centers, which aimed to serve university communities to enjoy sustained peace through continuous peace dialogues and bringing

students together to appreciate the value of peace and harmony. MoP established peace forums and peace clubs in 5 Woredas, 20 kebeles, in 10 secondary schools, and 3 higher learning institutions as part of strengthening peace incubation centers in conflict-prone areas. In addition, capacity-building training was given to 340 peace committee members, 102 peace club leaders, 190 University Peace Forum executive members, and 150 members of the Media Forums with the aim of strengthening the peace incubation centers.

Output 5: Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopian society.

In recent years, the Government of Ethiopia has launched a series of bold and comprehensive reforms, including various new initiatives aimed at strengthening justice, the rule of law, and creating more accountable systems of governance. The policy priorities set out in 'Ethiopia: A New Horizon of Hope' have a clear emphasis on peace and inclusion, justice sector reform, democratization, public service delivery, transparency, accountability, and effectiveness. GDPP Implementing Partners, EHRC, and OAG, played a critical role in improving internal systems for investigation, case management, and reporting. These initiatives illustrated the added value of the GDPP, with investment in Government/ Executive Institutions and Democratic Institutions aimed at establishing systems for human rights monitoring and reporting, allowing the development of transparent checks and balances in policies and strong independent democratic institutions to provide effective oversight of the overall system.

- EHRC conducted a baseline study/survey on human rights awareness and also assessed rights of movement and minority rights. The findings and recommendations of these assessments enabled EHRC to devise activities targeting the general public and law enforcement bodies to raise their awareness about human rights laws and regulations, with the aim of reducing human rights violations.

Within the justice sector, OAG received support following the establishment of the Legal and Justice Affairs Advisory Council (LJAAC). The Council was entrusted with the task of examining restrictive laws, flaws in the justice system, and developing recommendations for revisions, including amendments to the laws and restructuring of institutions. Reforms introduced in the justice sector included legislative reviews, structural and leadership changes in key justice institutions. Technical assistance was also provided to enhance legal drafting skills in the OAG Legal Studies, Drafting, and Dissemination Directorate. This has helped to build a firm foundation for future justice sector reform programs.

Sub output 5.1: Regulatory and procedural systems strengthened for effective access to justice and redress mechanisms.

- EHRC, in collaboration with a local CSO, Northeast Policy Think Tank (NEPTT), developed background papers on the rights to adequate housing and the right to work and workers' rights. The topics included an overview of economic, social, and cultural rights, the conceptual underpinning of socio-economic rights, the right to adequate housing, and the right to work and workers' rights. Staff members were also trained on how to collect data on the right to adequate housing and the right to work and workers' rights in their respective regions. This helped to further enhance the institutional capacities within EHRC at the Federal and Regional levels.

EHRC, in collaboration with ELDA, examined issues associated with the rights of persons with disabilities to identify the main barriers, overlapping or multiple discrimination on several or combined grounds, assess the availability and quality of data collection and analysis systems on disability. This helped identify issues requiring further investigation, such as gaps in data or information about disability and the incidence of disability rights violations. This work informed the newly established EHRC Department on Persons with Disabilities' Rights. It was further supplemented by a consultation workshop with organizations working with persons with disabilities at both the Federal and Regional levels. The participants discussed issues including concepts, figures, and basic facts on disability, legal and institutional frameworks on disability, stakeholders in the implementation of disability rights, barriers to the effective realization of disability rights in Ethiopia, and intervention areas for EHRC to consider further.

EHRC was able to equip the Head and branch offices of the Commission with the necessary legal and human rights materials, including codes and international instruments, as well as basic national legal instruments, such as the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Civil Code, Civil Procedure Code, Family Law, Commercial Code, and Labor Proclamation. EHRC, through GDPP support, engaged a digital specialist company to design and develop a mobile application and a Telegram Chatbot focused on providing information on human rights standards and the work of the Commission to the public. Using the Telegram Chatbot facility means that any forwarded message contains a link to its original sender. This means any message from the "bot" forwarded to a person or group is a messaging equivalent of a retweet. Together with the website, the Mobile App, and Telegram Chatbot, these provide updated and reliable information (including human rights news, resources, publications/guidance, events) for the public as an integrated digital information management system, creating an enhanced digital media and communications capacity. The intention was to make these databases easily accessible in a user-friendly manner, to a wider public, including persons with disabilities, particularly visually impaired individuals.

EHRC, through program support, was able to revamp the free legal aid service in four public universities, namely Assosa, Semera, Wolega, and Adigrat Universities. The four universities had a total of 20 free legal aid centers within their structures. Through those centers, in 2019, a total of 7,051 beneficiaries (2,821 males, 4,230 females), including 28 people with HIV/AIDS, 68 people with disabilities, 98 elders, 120 children, and 1,700 of the poorest individuals, obtained legal advice, preparation of pleadings, and case representation. Out of the total, 3,875 beneficiaries obtained free legal aid advice, 2,976 had preparations of pleadings, and 230 cases had representation. Moreover, the centers provided awareness creation to 1,148 beneficiaries on various legal issues. The support also contributed to enhancing the capacity of public bodies to promote human rights and make legal aid accessible to vulnerable segments of the community.

Sub output 5.2: Capacity of public and law enforcement bodies to abide by human rights laws and regulations strengthened.

- EHRC, over the past years, conducted various awareness-raising sessions to enhance and strengthen the capacity of the public and law enforcement bodies to abide by human rights laws and regulations. One of the strategies the Commission uses to promote human rights is organizing face-to-face awareness-raising sessions with citizens. In this regard, the Commission organized awareness sessions for 375 citizens (43% of whom were women) in Dilla, Hageremariam, Adama, and Dire Dawa on human rights, conflict, and human trafficking. These awareness-raising sessions strengthened the capacity of the public to better understand and abide by human rights laws and regulations. Most importantly, they raised awareness on how to access redress mechanisms and demand their rights.

EHRC undertook a review and developed a human rights education manual about women and children's rights. The manual was developed not only to educate community members on women and children's rights and the mechanisms that protect them but also to enable them to acquire or reinforce the skills needed to apply human rights practically in daily life. This includes developing values, attitudes, and behaviors that uphold women and children's rights, as well as taking action to defend and promote their rights.

EHRC conducted nine training sessions about women and children's rights for sector officials working with women and children in Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, and 7 Regional States. Participants discussed how to apply the new knowledge and skills in their day-to-day work and committed to include reflection sessions with lower-level government structures on women and children's rights as part of their action plans arising from the training.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put strains on the protection and promotion of human rights around the world. The severity of the situation required the government to announce a state of emergency and introduce extraordinary measures that would, under normal conditions, restrict human rights. While monitoring and investigation are core functions of EHRC, special focus on monitoring the COVID-19 related human rights situation was necessary to ensure that the state of emergency and the measures taken by the government did not create new vulnerabilities or have a negative impact on human rights. EHRC also recognized that the pandemic put the rights of different vulnerable groups under particular threat, warranting a specific response to protect those groups. The monitoring work of EHRC thus gave special attention to vulnerable groups, such as women, children, persons with disabilities, IDPs, prisoners, etc., who were potentially at risk of being missed out or excluded or made even more vulnerable.

EHRC developed a checklist and indicators to assess the protection of the right to health and education in relation to the pandemic. Using the checklist and indicators, rapid assessments were conducted in Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Assossa, Gambella, and Mekelle. Monitoring of prisons and detention centers in Jimma and Jijiga regions in relation to COVID-19 was also conducted. In addition, EHRC developed a standard checklist used by the Commission to monitor prisons, police stations, and juvenile detention centers. Over the past years, ERHC monitored 84 prisons, 59 police stations, and 2 juvenile detention centers using international standard checklists. Reports on the findings and recommendations of the monitoring were accordingly produced, and stakeholder consultations were also organized.

EHRC conducted research on various human rights issues aimed at providing recommendations for itself and different stakeholders involved in the promotion and defense of human rights. The research findings on access to public services for the disabled were validated by relevant stakeholders and staff of the Commission. The findings contributed to strengthening the capacity of public and law enforcement bodies to abide by human rights laws and regulations. With the aim of enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights, EHRC established a partnership with the Forum for Democracy and Governance and organized two dialogue forums about emerging issues related to the reform agendas. The forums highlighted priority topics that needed immediate attention from the Commission and all democratic institutions, including the right of movement, the right to own assets, the right to information, as well as the right to social media activism in light of its contribution to fostering democratic culture.

EHRC also facilitated two national consultative fora, one about the rights of people with disabilities, particularly as related to access to public services and infrastructures, and another on violence against women and children. These sessions considered the rights of people with disabilities and the need to take their needs into account when seeking to launch public infrastructure projects. The forum on

violence against women and children emphasized ways to end violence against children and women, as well as identifying problems and gaps in the course of protecting children and women's rights.

- OAG organized a consultation pre-election to consider the role and responsibilities of the Police and the Justice sector in relation to promoting and protecting human rights during the electoral process in 5 Regions. In addition to discussions about the roles and responsibilities of the Police and the Justice sector, the discussions also dealt with how Duty Bearers should put the knowledge acquired into practice as they perform their tasks. OAG provided skill enhancement and awareness training about the rule of law to enhance the capacity and skills of the Prosecutors, Legal personnel, and Law Enforcement bodies.

OAG conducted three training sessions and raised the awareness of police officers, prosecutors, regional senior officials, OAG's middle-level officials, and federal & regional public prosecutors about the prevention of violence & crimes against women & children; human rights-based investigations; anti-terrorism laws & crime investigation tools and techniques. Since 2018, as part of the transformational agenda, the Government has launched a number of bold and comprehensive reforms, which also includes the justice sector. This has been evidenced by legislative reviews, structural and leadership changes in key justice institutions. The thematic areas to be addressed as part of the wider efforts to reform the Justice Sector include a) advancement of respect for fundamental rights and institutional accountability; b) promoting integrated justice delivery; c) improving criminal justice services; d) promoting Civil Justice Service; and e) raising public awareness and understanding of the law. Separate support outside of GDPP was provided to undertake a rapid justice sector assessment in Ethiopia covering all the key justice institutions. The assessment sought to capture the current policy framework, standards, institutional setups, and implementation practices directly related to justice sector reform in Ethiopia. The assessment was completed and identified potential entry points across the justice sector and recommended specific areas for reform, elaborating the short, medium, and long-term reform initiatives needed to support reforms across the justice sector.

OAG designed and conducted human rights complaint investigation techniques awareness-raising sessions for middle-rank and freshly graduated Police Officers to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and capacity to abide by human rights laws and regulations. OAG finalized and launched Ethiopia's second generation of the National Human Rights Action Plan, which reflected the government's vision and intentions concerning the promotion and protection of human rights in the years to come. OAG also translated the National Human Rights Action Plan into the English language and published it for international partners. The Action Plan emphasized all the actions that should be taken by all government institutions to ensure the rights of citizens are met. OAG geared its efforts towards strengthening internal systems and structures at all levels for the implementation and reporting of the National Human Rights Action Plan.

Sub output 5.3: Established/Strengthened mechanism for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protections and violence.

- EHRC conducted a stakeholder meeting that brought together stakeholders to consider the human rights situation of women who had been forced to live on the streets with their children. The monitoring work revealed that most of the women were forced to live on the streets with their children because they were unable to generate enough income to sustain their families due to the COVID-19 restrictions. In the context of EHRC's work to support people with disabilities, a consultation meeting was held with key stakeholders to monitor the implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities in Anjibara Town.

EHRC undertook a study tour to the Kenyan National Commission for Human Rights (KNCHR) in collaboration with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and OHCHR. The study tour included five staff members, including the Chief Commissioner and one female member. The study tour was organized to share experiences and learn from other NHRIs and included discussions about the use of technology in case management, as EHRC wanted to modernize its complaint handling mechanism. This demonstrates the importance EHRC places on sharing South-South experiences as both a learning and networking opportunity. As a result of that visit, a new digitized case management system was designed and installed in EHRC.

EHRC conducted monitoring of the implementation of the UPR recommendations provided to Ethiopia. The aim of the UPR was to assess the human rights situation of member states of the UN as per the recommendations provided by other member states and improve the human rights situation as per the recommendations. Ethiopia also reviewed the UPR recommendations twice, and in the 2014 review cycle, 252 recommendations were forwarded by peer states, with Ethiopia accepting to implement 188 of the recommendations. In line with this, the Commission monitored selected executive organs of the government and produced a shadow report on the status of implementation. The report was validated with the presence of relevant stakeholders. Conducting the monitoring visits and preparation of the report through the support of the project strengthened the capacity of the Commission for proper implementation of the mechanisms and for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protection and violations.

- OAG, as part of its core mandate, has the responsibility to follow up on the status of the implementation of international and regional human rights treaties that have been ratified or adopted by Ethiopia. It consulted with relevant bodies about the implementation of the treaties. The inputs and reflections obtained from the consultations were assembled into a national report detailing the work to implement the Treaties.

OAG organized an evaluation forum to consider the achievements of the NHRAP II, which involved field visits to all regional states with discussions held with all regional focal persons of the NHRAP about the need to ensure effective planning, implementation, reporting, and evaluation of the NHRAP. The preparation of the NHRAP was led by a high-level Board, the members of which include the Attorney General; Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs; Deputy Minister, Ministry of Women & Children; Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance; Deputy Commissioner, Planning Commission; Deputy Minister, Ministry of Peace; and the Chief Commissioner of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. Based on the Board's review decision, the next steps were undertaken by OAG's NHRAP Coordination Office by incorporating the Board's comments and conducting a series of consultative forums with relevant government organs, both federal and regional; CSOs; and political parties. Then, a second Board level review meeting was conducted to ensure that comments received had been incorporated. The revised document was submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval and then formally submitted to the HoPR.

OAG worked to operationalize Ethiopia's National Recommendation Tracking Database for Human Rights. The tracking database is aimed at improving monitoring, compilation, and reporting of human rights to respective organs and treaty bodies. OAG conducted three consultative sessions with key stakeholders, comprising CSOs, federal & regional officials, higher education institutions, and other key actors, about the draft 3rd National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP). OAG developed the NHRAP III, drawing on the inputs received from the stakeholders, which were instrumental in demonstrating the wider ownership of the NHRAP to guide the work of taking actions to enhance human rights in Ethiopia. Unfortunately, the pandemic meant that the NHRAP III was unable to progress further. OAG, in collaboration with MoP, jointly conducted monitoring of the human rights situation in 28 Police and 11 Prison centers and carried out consultations with the appropriate authorities about the

findings and recommendations. The monitoring was intended to monitor the human rights situation of detainees and prisoners in police and prison centers to identify gaps and actions required to ensure the promotion, protection, and respect of the human rights of persons in the prison or under police custody.

III. PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS (January – June 2022)

As approved by the GDPP PMB, the number of IPs was reduced from 11 to 6. The approved 6-month cost extension with funding from Norway, Sweden, and UNDP enabled the x6 IPs to complete activities funded by GDPP. The overarching goal of GDPP remained unchanged, seeking to capitalize on existing momentum and opportunities to further advance good governance and entrench democratic principles at all levels and across the country. The program supported the government to enhance its responsiveness and to promote an all-inclusive and sustainable development agenda by strengthening public institutions, mechanisms, and processes that facilitate and promote transparency, accountability, the rule of law, access to justice, and wider civic participation, dialogue, national cohesion, and peace.

Output 1: Political Processes of Federal and Regional Legislative Bodies are Inclusive and Effectively Delivering on their Constitutional Mandates.

GDPP supported the strengthening of oversight functions of relevant democratic institutions and made direct contributions through the support provided to improve the balance of power among the three branches, more specifically through a stronger oversight capacity of the HoPR. Indeed, the Parliament focused on establishing systems and enhancing the skills of new parliament members/legislators to effectively undertake their oversight role and taking steps to make the work of the Parliament more open and transparent.

The program support also strengthened/enhanced the institutional capacity of EHRC to ensure the Commission effectively and efficiently conducts its human rights oversight mandate. There has been a perfect match between the period the GDPP program implemented and the recent phase of organizational development of EHRC. Given that the Commission has undergone a profound restructuring and reform process to enhance its ability to discharge the EHRC Constitutional mandates. All the six GDPP IPs contributed to the achievement of the output, as evidenced below.

Output 1.1. Legislative Bodies & Democratic Institutions capacities strengthened for discharging their oversight functions, with specific emphasis on women and minorities.

GDPP has been supporting the HoPR internal Parliamentary Reform Programme. The HoPR Parliamentary Reform program seeks to achieve holistic improvements in supporting the core mandates and functions of the House. The support has helped in strengthening systems and mechanisms to enhance efficiency & effectiveness in the work of the House. Supporting the human resources activities of the House about its key responsibilities and resourcing some key initiatives, such as the expansion of outreach activities through improved information sharing and open parliament platforms, are some of the achievements.

During the reporting period, HoPR organized a number of induction trainings and consultation forums for the new entrants of Members of Parliament (MPs) and Regional State Council Members to familiarize them with their key responsibilities and functions. Also, through GDPP support, various manuals, guidelines, and tools that are indispensable for effectively delivering the legislative and oversight mandates of the House were provided. The legislative and oversight manuals of the House were the core source documents shared and formed the basis of the new Members' induction training.

From the induction training provided in three rounds and one consultation session organized, the Standing Committee Chairs, Secretariat Heads, and Legal Unit Directors of the Regional State Councils of the Addis Ababa City Administration, Dire Dawa Administration, Afar, Harari Regional State, Sidama, SNNPR, Oromia, Somali, the new Southwest Regional State, and Amhara were supported to better

understand their key legislative and oversight functions and acquainted with the various manuals, guidelines, and tools. A total of 158 MPs (39 women and 119 men) participated in the induction training, which will help equip them to better discharge their core lawmaking, representation, and oversight responsibilities.

HoPR organized a dialogue forum with MPs from both the Federal and Regional parliaments and selected executive sectors, including the Ministry of Water, the Ethiopian Electricity Authority, and the Ethiopian Roads Authority. A total of 250 MPs from the federal parliament and the Regional State Councils (Secretariat Heads & Speakers) participated in the forum. The event enabled the elected representatives from both Federal and Regional Parliaments to pose questions to the Executive about infrastructure development, which constituents had raised with MPs. The forum, for the first time, provided an opportunity for MPs to seek answers and receive information about infrastructure issues which they could report back to their constituents. This improves the relationship of the public and the MPs in their constituents.

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Through GDPP support, the skills and knowledge of the members of the eleven HoPR Standing Committees were enhanced. HoPR conducted 11 panel discussions/sessions, each focusing on the respective themes of the Standing Committees. The topics discussed in the panel sessions included: Health standards in the country; MPs' role in association with the Ethiopian Educational policy; Role of the Media in the democratic process and the policy environment; Key issues in public Finance Administration; Regional Economic Cooperation for domestic growth; Mining and natural resources governance; Fiscal and Tax policy issues in the country; Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in Foreign relations; Challenges in Irrigation Development and Possible policy solutions; Gender and disability strategies & policies, among others.

A total of 161 Standing Committee MPs, comprising 74 women and 87 men, attended the panel discussions. As a result of the panel briefing sessions, Committee Members now have a better appreciation of their key role and responsibility in holding the Executive accountable and ensuring that they adopt an evidence-based oversight and scrutiny approach in their Committee work.

Currently the legislative body of the government (the parliament) adopted a structure of eleven Standing Committees. The main tasks of the Parliaments, as evidenced from all parliamentary democracies, is accomplished by the Standing Committees. The current eleven Standing Committees of the House comprise 161 Members of Parliaments (67 Women and 94 Men).

HoPR organized the second annual Parliamentary Research Conference to enhance the research capacity of the Standing Committees and other MPs in discharging their oversight functions. In the research conference, research papers on three thematic areas, such as parliamentary functions, national dialogue & reconciliation, and Parliament in the digital era, were presented and discussed. A total of 250 participants (100 women & 150 men) attended the research conference. As an immediate outcome of the conference, the leadership and MPs recognized the relevance and usefulness of the research papers and their dissemination in a conference to enhance capacity for discharging mandates at all functions. The participants also confirmed that evidence-based decision making coming out of research is crucial for the House to effectively deliver its oversight mandates. More work will be required to enhance the accessibility of the information shared/generated through the research conferences.

Based on lessons learned from various developed parliamentary democracies, HoPR established the Public Budget and Expenditure Unit. The purpose of the Unit is to analyze and scrutinize the work of the Executive. In the reporting period, the initial setup/preparatory work commenced to assess the existing gaps. During the reporting period, work was undertaken to devise the financial and budgetary analysis tool, and the development of a checklist to follow-up and analyze the Auditor General Reports. Such tools will guide and support the work of the new Unit. The expectation is that once fully operational, the Unit will serve as a strong technical arm supporting the budgetary and expenditure oversight of the two Standing Committees dealing with budget planning and public expenditure.

A core function of any Parliament is lawmaking, and as evidenced globally, the Executive tends to lead in the development of laws that reflect stated Government policies and objectives. Thus, the Parliament has a key role in ensuring that lawmaking is an inclusive process and reflects the needs of the citizens. This requires the Parliament to have the ability to scrutinize draft legislation through its committees and to ensure that laws are fit for purpose. HoPR also sees that the implementation of laws that are passed also needs to be scrutinized to ensure that the objective of the law is being achieved. Through the support of GDPP, HoPR established a Law Center which includes a Legislative and Post Legislative Scrutiny Unit. This unit will help enhance the ability of the HoPR to discharge its key lawmaking functions more systematically, which will strengthen the work of the House.

HoF continued to strengthen its reform initiatives to address existing institutional gaps/limitations to ensure more result-oriented project management. HoF implemented three interlinked activities to strengthen its institutional capacity, including raising awareness and enhancing the skills of the sectoral institutions of the newly established Sidama and South-Western Region. HoF organized two skill-based training sessions on the preparation of the General-Purpose Grant formula and data management for the Specific Purpose Grant formula. A total of 130 participants (59 women & 71 men) attended the skill-based training. The skills and knowledge gained through the training were instrumental in ensuring that the newly created Region understood the Grant formulae and the process of Federal fiscal transfers to the respective Regional States.

HoF also organized two stakeholders' consultation sessions for representatives of 11 federal Executive institutions about the tools and techniques to be used in preparing the transformative Specific Purpose Grant formula. The training session was organized to equip the federal institutions on how to apply the formula for allocating the specific purpose grant to the regions. Following the 2021 elections and the inauguration of the new cohort of HoF Members, HoF organized two awareness-raising sessions for the leadership and senior officials of HoF and the senior management of the Sectoral Institutions about HoF's reform initiatives and change management processes. The awareness-raising sessions were conducted at both the national and sub-national levels. A total of 230 participants (70 women and 160 men) took part in the awareness-raising sessions. Through these sessions, participants recognized the importance of enhancing the strategic collaboration between national and sub-national levels by creating a greater understanding of the need for strengthening transparency, accountability, and responsiveness. The participants also used the forum as an opportunity to ensure collective engagement on cross-cutting issues and shared responsibility about issues of national importance, underlining the need for informed and knowledge-based decision making that impacts the socio-political landscape and the economic growth of Ethiopia.

EIO was established to strengthen good governance and ensure efficient public service delivery by investigating and redressing complaints of maladministration and raising awareness of the public and the Executive. Upgrading EIO's information management system to full digitalization and enhancing the capacity of the staff is crucial for EIO to effectively deliver its mandates of investigation and redressing complaints about maladministration and also overseeing the rules and administrative procedures of the Executive. Through GDPP support, EIO has successfully achieved the development and operationalization of a new IT-based case-flow management and database system. The development of a comprehensive self-help User Manual, a step-by-step guide for EIO staff on how to use the EIO information management system, was completed. This User Manual now means that there is an institutional tool in place to sustain the GDPP support and thus removes the need for further external funded training. In addition, the Human Resource access-based database was upgraded to a web-based system to efficiently and securely store and more easily retrieve personnel records. The newly developed web-based system has helped to exchange accurate human resource data in a more transparent manner for efficient decision-making on EIO human resource management. The skills of the case-flow and database management staff were enhanced through the tailored training provided on the newly developed IT-based systems and tools. In addition, EIO conducted skill-based training and organized experience sharing platforms to enhance the skills of both Head and Branch office staff on using IT-based information management tools and systems, including the document management database, case registration and management system, as well as the EIO integrated financial information management system. In total, eighty-two (43 men and 39 women) EIO staff benefited from the training.

An important cross-IP collaboration took place with the HoPR Executive Committee members, representatives of Regional Councils, Federal communication service, Regional communication bureaus, the Media Council, media organizations, and other key stakeholders highlighting the need for strong partnership and collaboration to improve access to information to the public and journalists through more effective implementation of the Access to Information law.

The consultative forum about the implementation of the Access to Information law saw the participation of 112 (84 men & 28 women) key stakeholders. As an immediate outcome of the consultation, the key stakeholders agreed to establish an ad-hoc team to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that would clearly set out the roles and responsibilities of EIO, HoPR, Regional Councils, and Government Communication Service regarding the implementation of the Access to Information law. The MoU was fully endorsed and signed by EIO and Government Communication Service and is now in place.

EIO also organized an experience sharing platform for its Head and Branch offices' staff to foster better cross-learning across EIO offices. By compiling and documenting the good practices identified at EIO Federal and Regional offices, the platform created the opportunity for learning and the importance of standardizing the provision of services in all EIO offices. The Amhara, Oromia, and SNNP Region EIO branch offices shared their good practices related to improved accessibility, strengthened accountability systems, and enhanced information management systems with other branch offices in the remaining seven Regions. This not only helped foster better learning and adaptation, drawing on lessons learned, but also ensures that the EIO institutional development is now firmly anchored across all EIO offices.

EMA saw a change in the EMA leadership in 2021 and sought to enhance its institutional capacities to deliver its mandate. This included the formulation of a new Media Policy endorsed by the Council of Ministers and the development and adoption of 15 new guidelines in line with the new Media legislation (Proclamation 2138/2021). These interventions, supported by GDPP, aim to enhance the institutional capacities within EMA to be better able as an institution to undertake its core duties.

The reporting period saw research/assessments conducted on topics such as the media and communication landscape in Ethiopia, the impact of UNDP-assisted training programs on media operators, Community media stations from the perspective of community ownership and citizens' participation, International Media Reports on the Law Enforcement Operation in Northern Ethiopia, and Media Coverage of Gender issues in the 2021 National election, leading to improved skills and knowledge of its staff and journalists.

In order to enhance the capacities of journalists, EMA provided various capacity-building trainings. Journalists from public, commercial, and community radio stations all benefited from the capacity-building trainings provided. The reporters and editors who work at national and local media houses also improved their skills by participating in the consultation meetings, advocacy forums, and different tailor-made trainings organized by EMA with the support of GDPP.

In the reporting period, EMA conducted two media review forums with the management bodies and owners of media organizations on the compliance of the media with the national media law and professional code of ethics. A total of 181 (96 men & 85 women) media owners and representatives of the senior management of the invited media organizations participated in the review forums. In the review forum, the participants confirmed their commitment to work with professional ethics and integrity.

EMA developed a media monitoring manual as well as an air-time allocation manual and electronic service package/software for effectively and efficiently discharging its mandates and functions. EMA, the media council, and public and commercial media practitioners would benefit from the newly developed manuals and electronic service package. It also provided tailored training on the newly developed manuals/guidelines and electronic service package/software to Media Council Members, its media monitoring staff, public and commercial media practitioners, chief editors, and other key stakeholders. In the training provided for enhancing the skills of the trainees on media monitoring and familiarizing with the new manuals/guidelines and software, a total of 288 (100 females and 188 males) media practitioners and editors participated.

EHRC, with GDPP support, sought to address gaps in the inclusion and social cohesion agenda by enhancing the skills and knowledge of the Commission staff about the investigation of human rights violations. EHRC has also equipped the selected duty bearers with a human rights-based approach for promoting inclusion and social cohesion.

In the reporting period, EHRC developed two manuals, the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) guidelines and the Investigation Skills Training Manual. These two newly developed manuals are instrumental in standardizing the Commission's training program on HRBA and investigation skills. With these two manuals, EHRC is now better placed to support the duty bearers in undertaking improved HRBA and conducting investigations delivering on their Constitutional mandates. With the development and application of the Investigation Skills Manual, the EHRC's internal capacity has also been improved to effectively discharge its investigation functions in a more standardized manner, as the different stages in an investigation process are clearly defined in the investigation skill manual.

To ensure that such tools and techniques are institutionalized within EHRC operations, HRBA has been integrated into all the training manuals developed to ensure that the approach is mainstreamed in all human rights training sessions that EHRC provides.

In addition to ensuring that not only EHRC staff use HRBA, selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) also received support to acquire the skills and knowledge about the newly developed manuals. EHRC organized HRBA training sessions using the new HRBA manual for 44 trainees (11 females and 33 males) who were selected from the NGOs and EHRC. The training improved the human rights knowledge of all participants, enhancing their understanding of HRBA and highlighted the important links and the need to address poverty, development, and human rights more holistically.

In order to familiarize EHRC's investigators with the new investigation skills manual, EHRC organized tailored training. In the training, 20 investigators (new recruits and investigators who have worked for many years in EHRC) participated, and their skills in the investigation of human rights issues were enhanced. The training session provided the opportunity to transfer knowledge and skills on international human rights investigation.

EHRC organized an induction training about disability inclusion for EHRC's senior leadership and 16 leadership staff (50% females). The induction training addressed the different impairments and the barriers that can lead to disability. As an immediate outcome of the induction training, EHRC's senior leadership committed itself to take all necessary measures to make its internal procedures and services disability-inclusive.

Based on the findings of a comprehensive disability audit conducted by the Commission in 2021, EHRC organized disability inclusion training for its staff. The training was attended by 38 staff (including 12 women and 3 persons with disabilities). The training enhanced the knowledge and skills of participants on how to integrate the rights of persons with disabilities and older persons into the diverse work of EHRC to ensure impactful change.

Using EHRC's Gender Mainstreaming Guidelines developed with prior GDPP support in 2020, EHRC provided gender mainstreaming training to 26 EHRC staff (13 women). The training enhanced participants' knowledge and skills in making gender issues an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of EHRC policies and programs/projects. The training also improved the knowledge of participants about the normative framework of sexual harassment, types of sexual harassment, objectives of the anti-sexual harassment policy, and the responsibilities of all staff members and officials.

Output 1.2: Professional independence of Democratic Institutions enhanced to effectively discharge core functions.

GDPP support enabled several platforms to be created/renewed that will serve to sustain the importance of building strong institutional networks for advocacy and the advancement of key priority issues within the IPs.

FEACC organized skill-based training for its staff at both federal and regional levels and also an awareness-raising forum. The skills and knowledge of the staff improved for more effective and efficient discharge of their core functions. The skill-based training focused on trainee assessment, competency-based training material preparation, enhancing digital literacy, network administration, and corruption information recording and management. The main objective of the training was to equip staff for the effective and efficient use of digital systems for recording and managing corruption information. The training was organized in collaboration with Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU) and included hands-on sessions using the IT lab of the University. A total of 152 FEACC Experts (82 women and 70 men) from both Federal and Regional branches benefited from the training. As FEACC is working hard to digitize all its service delivery for enhancing effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency, the training helped effectively register, compile, and retrieve asset registration records and reports in a more transparent manner. FEACC senior leadership and directors of various directorates also participated in the training sessions. GDPP supported the training on trainee assessment and competency-based material preparation for 14 FEACC training experts. This helped enhance the skills of the participants to better prepare and develop various training modules/materials for Ethics Officers as well as raise public awareness on corruption prevention, which is the core mandate of the Commission. To sustain the support provided, a Training of Trainers (ToT) was devised and put in place. This will ensure that FEACC's institutional capacities will be better equipped to continue to support training development for Ethics Officers.

As part of the drive to raise awareness among FEACC staff about the work underway to fully digitize the institution, FEACC senior leadership provided orientation to about 284 staff (194 men and 90 women) from Federal and Regional branches regarding its future plans related to the digitalization of its core functions and services. FEACC organized the 2nd national Anti-Corruption joint forum with key stakeholders to promote FEACC anti-corruption initiatives in line with the recommendations of the 3rd National Corruption Perception Survey (July 2021), which was funded by GDPP. The forum was organized in two sessions with a total of 430 participants (142 women and 288 men) representing different key stakeholders, including Federal and Regional relevant institutions, media, CSOs, and other key stakeholders. Specifically, federal sector institutions, regional sector institutions, Addis Ababa city administration officials, Ethics officers, Dire Dawa City Administration, Trade Unions, Consumer Association, and media institutions took part in the joint forums organized in two sessions.

The main objective of the forum was to exchange information among key stakeholders and create a conducive environment for working together and taking joint action for the prevention of corruption through raising public awareness to provide reliable information on corruption and for the public to be part of the solution in preventing corruption. The forum considered discussion papers on topics such as corruption in the trade sector, Conflict of Interest (CoI), and Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) tools and methodologies. These were presented to inspire participants to openly discuss and show joint commitment to take action in preventing corruption.

As an immediate outcome of the forum, key stakeholders confirmed the importance of working holistically to tackle and prevent corruption. Media institutions specifically committed to undertake public campaigns about minimizing conflicts of interest and corruption risks in the public sector. Commitments were made to foster an improved culture of corruption information sharing among themselves and with FEACC to support the effective implementation of the FEACC corruption prevention

strategy. The forums and awareness-raising sessions conducted with the key stakeholders helped strengthen the collaboration and working relationship of FEACC with the participating stakeholders in the prevention of corruption. The public campaigns by the media institutions raised public awareness about corruption and its reporting, demonstrated by an increase in the number of complaints and corruption-related incidents reported to FEACC through the Ethics Officers assigned in the federal and regional sector institutions.

HoF conducted three complementary activities that could be instrumental in enhancing its independence to effectively discharge core functions. In the reporting period, HoF provided tailored capacity-building training to its staff about planning, performance monitoring, and evaluation. In the skills-based training organized in two sessions, a total of 130 HoF staff (55 females and 75 males) participated. It also conducted orientation training/consultation forums for stakeholders about the principles of Constitutional interpretation and the implementation of HoF's Constitutional decisions. In the orientation training conducted in two sessions, around 105 participants (40 women and 65 men) took part. HoF undertook an assessment of existing technical gaps and developed a constitutionalism of laws monitoring tool, which enables the effective monitoring of the Constitutionalism of existing and potential laws at the national and subnational levels. The skills-based trainings provided, as well as the tools developed and rolled out in the reporting period, are crucial for enhancing HoF's institutional and professional competence. As an overarching federal institution with the legal capacity to safeguard the Constitutional order and proactively regulate the dichotomy of laws across states or federal and state governments while exercising the federal constitutional order.

Output 2: Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent, and deliver services in a more inclusive and responsive way.

GDPP continued to support democratic institutions during its bridging period to enhance transparency and accountability through strengthening information systems and improving citizens' access to information.

2.1. Information recording, analysis, management, and dissemination systems and accountability mechanisms strengthened.

FEACC engaged in developing various training materials, modules, protocols, and tools, conducting different assessments, and providing skills-based training to build strong information management and dissemination systems and accountability mechanisms.

To standardize the training that FEACC provides to the Ethics Officers deployed at both federal and regional levels, four new training modules were developed, and three existing training modules were revised. These training modules will enable FEACC to provide standardized and focused training for Ethics Officers and others. The newly developed modules included ethics basics, procurement and corruption, conflict of interest, and corruption risk assessment. In developing and revising training modules/materials, FEACC used its in-house capacities by training 14 staff to prepare and develop training materials. The enhancement of FEACC will ensure the long-term sustainability of the support provided and minimize FEACC operating costs. The newly developed and revised training modules/materials were validated, which means FEACC now provides standardized training to its Ethics Officers/staff using the new/revised modules.

To strengthen the accountability system, FEACC conducted two assessments, including corruption risk assessment and conflict of interest. The assessments covered 14 federal, regional, and zonal level institutions, including Oromia, SNNPR, and Addis Ababa City Administration. The priority sectors identified by the 2021 3rd National Corruption Perception Survey where corruption prevention attention was needed included the Education, Revenue Authority, and Justice Sectors, which were included in the assessments. The findings and recommendations of the two assessments were validated in a

workshop that engaged different stakeholders. The validation workshop was instrumental in providing immediate feedback to the assessed institutions on what immediate, mid-term, and long-term measures need to be collaboratively put in place to mitigate and prevent corruption in the sectors. A total of 150 participants (43 women and 107 men), representing various stakeholders, attended the validation workshop.

As a direct result of the assessments, the findings of which were discussed and agreed upon in a validation workshop, they will be used in the preparation of training modules about conflict of interest, corruption risk assessment, and procurement and corruption. Furthermore, the senior management of the assessed institutions was able to collect immediate feedback on the risk areas for corruption in the work process and how the risks should be addressed to mitigate and prevent corruption. The validation workshop fostered cross-learning among participating stakeholders about the need and how to minimize corruption risks and develop corruption mitigation/prevention strategies for adoption within their respective institutions.

To enhance FEACC's capacity for improved and more effective service delivery, FEACC, in collaboration with the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), organized online anti-corruption training on international standards for its federal and branch office management staff and senior officers. The main objective of the training was to equip FEACC's management and senior staff with international standards and approaches on corruption risk assessment, conflict of interest management, ethical decision-making, organizational integrity, and to familiarize FEACC staff with the different tools for assessing corruption and integrity.

The online training, the first of its kind for FEACC, was provided in two rounds, and a total of 50 management and senior officers of FEACC at both federal and regional levels participated. The training equipped participants with the skills and knowledge of the concepts, practical approaches, and tools for ethical decision-making, organizational integrity, conflict of interest, and corruption risk assessment. The training also empowered participants to organize and facilitate online training in FEACC's future training programs, ensuring sustainability of the support.



Photo: Online Training Facilitated by IACA.

As an outcome of the skills and knowledge gained from the online training, FEACC immediately developed four new training modules on conflict of interest, corruption risk assessment, ethics, and procurement and corruption. The training helped FEACC's research team to effectively engage in corruption risk assessment. The FEACC training team also started to apply the skills gained by preparing to conduct online training for FEACC's Federal and Regional Ethics Officers and Experts. The partnership and collaboration with IACA have both been formally established and strengthened, helping ensure that FEACC is better able to access information and keep up to date with international standards and developments in anti-corruption globally.

EIO validated & disseminated user manuals (ICT user manual & HR database system manual), upgraded its IT-based database systems, conducted various assessments, and organized consultative workshops to strengthen its information recording & management systems and accountability mechanisms for ensuring effective service delivery. In the training organized to familiarize EIO's relevant staff with the newly developed users' manuals, about 130 Head and Branch offices' staff (93 men & 37 women) were trained.

One of the roles & responsibilities of EIO is to undertake systemic investigation of service delivery in the public sector. During the reporting period, EIO conducted a systemic investigation of service delivery systems in the transport sector, particularly the provision of driver's license services.

The investigation was conducted using the Standard Systemic Investigation Manual, which was previously developed with the support of GDPP. The investigation identified problems related to the governance and administration procedures associated with the provision of services. These problems/issues included a lack of a training curriculum for providing standardized training on driving, a lack of consistency and standards in the driving skill training provided across regions and training institutions, no standardized training field for practical training, a lack of technology, such as security cameras, for transparency in the quality of practical training and tests, a lack of complaint handling mechanisms, and a lack of certification of competency tests for driving skills by independent bodies. These were the main issues identified by the EIO investigation.

The systemic investigation recommendations included the need to ensure standardization and consistency by developing and implementing a comprehensive driving skills training curriculum, ensuring transparency in the process and issuance of driving licenses, standardizing the assessment system, and putting in place quality assurance mechanisms such as certification of competency tests to address the identified problems and gaps.

The findings and recommendations of the systemic investigation were validated with key stakeholders such as Regional and City Administration Transport & Road Development Bureaus, Oromia Drivers and Vehicles Control Authority, Drivers' Training Institutes, and other stakeholders. As an immediate outcome, the participants showed commitment and agreed to immediately implement the recommendations, with the responsibility of monitoring the implementation given to EIO. The systemic investigation report was also submitted to HoPR as the oversight body for further action.

GDPP supported EIO to conduct an assessment of the war-torn communities/areas in the northern part of Ethiopia to check the status of rehabilitation works and the Government's delivery of basic services. The assessment gave special emphasis to analyzing the situation of people with special needs, such as women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, etc. The assessment was conducted in the Amhara and Afar regions. The assessment identified that the war in the two regions caused massive destruction and damages to the infrastructure, including educational and health facilities, district sector office buildings, individual houses, and religious institutions. Education institutes and health centers were used as war camps, and medical facilities were used for various purposes during the war.

The assessment also indicated operational gaps since the rehabilitation work in the two regions started. The identified operational gaps in the rehabilitation process included the inability of government institutions to provide services, a lack of accessible and permanent offices at all levels to serve the public, insufficient humanitarian and material assistance for displaced people (women, children, disabled, and the elderly) in temporary shelters, lack of infrastructure (electric power, banking services, telecommunications, etc.), judiciary bodies being out of their offices due to various reasons, and damage and looting of medical equipment, medicines, and ambulances in health facilities, which affected health services, especially for pregnant mothers and emergency patients.

The assessment underscored the recommendations that should be implemented by the legislatures (HoPR and Regional Councils), Regional Administration, relevant Federal sector ministries, and public enterprises like Finance, Education, Health, Electricity Authority, Ethio-Telecom, National Bank, DIs (EIO), CSOs, and religious institutions. The main recommendations stressed that the relevant Federal and Regional actors should collaborate and seek to implement collectively to reconstruct and rehabilitate the war-torn communities/areas by restoring the basic services and amenities by working with all concerned bodies to avoid/mitigate the threat of war in the areas which may disrupt the rehabilitation work. This includes soliciting and allocating adequate budgets for the reconstruction/restoration of the damaged infrastructure, working closely with all concerned actors at Federal and Regional levels to reinstate basic service delivery, securing additional resources for the rehabilitation work in the regions to be integrated into the planning and budget systems, rehabilitating and restoring education facilities to enable children currently forced into temporary shelters to return to school, repairing and restoring health facilities, repairing and restoring electricity and telecom services, and making public and private banks operational. The effective implementation of the recommendations will be closely monitored.

The findings and recommendations of the EIO assessment were validated in a workshop with the participation of all relevant federal and regional actors, journalists, and other key stakeholders. As an immediate outcome of the validation workshop, the participants reached an agreement to work collectively and collaboratively with a clear division of work and responsibilities among the concerned parties and pertinent institutions to ensure the rehabilitation of the destructed/damaged communities/areas as quickly as possible.

Based on the assessment findings and recommendations, a press conference was conducted with about 20 journalists representing local and international print and electronic media organizations. The press conference paved the way for the issues to be better understood and received due attention from relevant federal and regional government bodies regarding the urgency and need for concerted efforts to reconstruct and rehabilitate the war-torn communities/areas in Amhara and Afar regions.

Output 3: Citizens are empowered to actively participate in decision making and political processes at all levels of governance.

GDPP, through its support to implementing partners within the context of the wider transformational democratic governance agenda being pursued since 2018, has witnessed a variety of steps taken to open up the political space and take advantage of the enabling environment. There is a recognition that the reform agenda also needs to address structural governance and political challenges, underpinned by more systematic public engagement. GDPP Output 3 recognizes the importance of such approaches.

Output 3.1: Policies, systems, and institutional frameworks for citizen active participation, particularly women, youth, and other vulnerable groups in decision-making processes strengthened at all levels.

In order to enhance partnership and collaboration with stakeholders for promoting citizens' participation in human rights issues, GDPP supported EHRC in developing and implementing a partnership strategy. EHRC conducted a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise focusing on women's and children's rights, disability and older persons' rights, and civil and political rights. Both the partnership strategy and the comprehensive stakeholders' mappings will enhance the active participation and engagement of EHRC with different stakeholders, including CSOs in general and organizations working with women, youth, and other vulnerable groups at all levels.

The partnership strategy defines a partnership framework for enhanced coordination, collaboration, and cooperation with strategically identified and selected organizations, drawing on comparative advantages, complementary mandates, and expertise. Furthermore, it will enable EHRC to ensure that there is a greater plurality of voices, particularly those of marginalized groups, including women,

youth, people with disabilities, and others, to be included and able to participate in the democratic and decision-making process.

Output 3.2: Awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions raised.

In the reporting period, FEACC, through GDPP, has supported CSOs like VECOD to enhance their capacity and play a critical role in fighting corruption in the country.

For raising awareness and empowering the public and journalists to play an active role in the prevention of corruption in the country, FEACC organized multidisciplinary intellectual dialogue forums on the role of media and journalism, with special emphasis on the importance and role of investigative journalism in corruption prevention in Ethiopia. The theme of the dialogue was 'The Role of Media in Corruption Prevention with a Special Emphasis on Investigative Journalism.' In the dialogue forum, a total of 97 participants (76 men and 21 women) representing media institutions, investigative journalists, democratic institutions, and CSOs working in the media and on anti-corruption issues participated in the dialogue forum.

In the forum, issues, including the use of research and corruption risk assessment findings as inputs into investigative journalism, the need for media institutions to work in collaboration with key stakeholders, the need for media institutions to be free from corruption to lead the anti-corruption struggle, and how media institutions can obtain information and evidence from the public sector to enhance the quality of investigative journalism, were discussed. The lack of media direction on investigative journalism and how to obtain adequate information and evidence were identified as serious problems for using investigative journalism as a key pillar for the prevention of corruption in the country.

As an immediate outcome of the dialogue forum, an ad hoc four-member task force was established and tasked with developing an investigative journalism manual to standardize tasks related to investigative journalism. The manual will also be instrumental in strengthening collaboration and integration among various key stakeholders involved in corruption investigation and prevention at large. The established ad-hoc task force was composed of members from FEACC, EMA, and EIO, demonstrating excellent collaboration between key responsible democratic institutions working in the sectors. The ad-hoc task force has developed the draft investigative journalism manual, which is currently being reviewed, with expected endorsement by EMA.

EIO's mandate seeks to promote good governance and freedom of information, especially the constitutional and human rights of women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly, in order to ensure that rights are upheld, and administrative abuses are tackled. In the reporting period, EIO organized a consultative forum with the Authority for Civil Society Organizations (ACSOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to strengthen collaboration and partnership to promote citizens' participation in decision making and enable people's voices to be heard. In the consultative forum, around 20 representatives of different CSOs participated, with a total of 82 participants (28 women and 54 men). Out of the total participants, five of them were Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

The immediate outcomes of the consultative forum organized with the CSOs included that a better mutual understanding of the importance of fostering collaboration between EIO and CSOs for ensuring that citizens' voices, especially those with special needs, are heard. Also, the importance and need to report any administrative abuses and malpractices to EIO, which can pursue such matters with the public institutions that committed the administrative abuses to enable corrective measures to be taken. To materialize the agreements reached between EIO and CSOs during the forum, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the EIO and 20 civil society organizations/associations, including ACSOs, to establish a strong working relationship for the enhancement of Good Governance.

In the reporting period, EMA organized skill-based trainings, awareness-raising forums/workshops, developed and broadcasted messages/documentaries, and conducted assessments/studies. The training and awareness-raising sessions provided to media workers were instrumental in enhancing the awareness of journalists and media practitioners about EMA's mandates/functions and working procedures for collaboration.

EMA organized training on fact-checking, hate-speech, and misinformation/disinformation mitigation techniques, and content tracking for media practitioners and journalists to enhance their skills and knowledge. A total of 93 media practitioners/journalists (13 women and 80 men) were trained, and their skills in identifying fake news and misinformation programs were enhanced.

Public awareness about the causes and consequences of hate-speech and disinformation was also addressed by EMA through research-based messages and documentaries, which were broadcast as TV spots. This is one strategy EMA uses to mitigate hate-speech by exposing false narratives and ill practices through communication campaigns. To this effect, EMA has made contract agreements with three national media stations (EBC, FANA, and WALTA) to broadcast research-based messages and a documentary. The broadcast messages and documentary have had a positive impact on viewers' understanding of the risks and disastrous effects of hate-speech and fake news, as well as their mitigation measures.

Additionally, EMA uses public consultation forums as an entry point for raising public awareness of the detrimental effects of hate-speech and disinformation. EMA organized a high-level consultation forum with the theme: 'Fighting Hate-Speech and Disinformation to Build Democratic Governance.' In this high-level consultation forum, representatives from the Government Communication Service, Police, CSOs/NGOs, UNDP, national and regional Public Media Stations, Commercial Media, Religious Organizations, Political Parties, Activists, Journalists, Bloggers, Students from Secondary Schools, Scholars, and other stakeholders participated. The Minister of the Government Communication Service, H.E. Dr. Legesse Tulu, attended the high-level consultation forum. A total of 138 participants (105 men and 33 women) took part in the forum.

Forum panelists highlighted issues associated with hate-speech and disinformation in the country based on media monitoring and fact-checking data, the Ethiopian law on hate-speech and disinformation, and the role of public and private media in combating hate-speech and disinformation. The forum underscored the need to promote improved media/digital literacy, enforce the rule of law, familiarize and promote the new media law and policy to the public, raise public awareness about the dangers of hate-speech and disinformation and their detrimental effects, and the need to mitigate hate-speech and disinformation, which participants believed were pervasive in Ethiopia. The forum garnered significant attention and prime-time coverage by the national and regional media, as well as online media. The points raised in the discussion and media live transmission of the event were believed to have stimulated further discussions among concerned bodies and stakeholders for tackling the problems associated with hate speech and allied ill practices of online and offline media.

EMA conducted a rapid audience assessment and produced a report on community media stations to assess the degree of community participation, whether community-level voices are being heard or not. The findings and recommendations of the assessment were validated in the workshop with the participation of 45 key stakeholders (15 females and 30 males).

EMA demonstrated its gender sensitivity by organizing tailored training for female journalists. The training was devised to raise the awareness of female journalists and communication professionals about the Media Proclamations, the current anti-hate-speech and disinformation law, and related guidelines/manuals. Around 100 women journalists from formal press/media houses and female communication professionals working outside media but engaged in media and media-related activities, advocacy, and activism participated in the training.

EHRC organized various awareness-raising sessions and produced and disseminated materials/messages on human rights issues to promote public awareness of human rights.

EHRC, with GDPP support, conducted the 2nd National High Schools Moot Court, which engaged 63 high schools and 130 students (50% girls) in 12 cities representing 10 regions and 2 city administrations. The topic selected for the Moot Court was Internal Displacement and its Impact on Human Rights. As part of the preparation for the Moot Court, three existing moot court competition guidelines and manuals were revised and updated. Nineteen moot court events throughout the country were organized, and three products were produced and shared with all concerned bodies. The achievement of the target was 314%, with an achievement of more than three times the target. The mobilization of additional resources from the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, contributed to the significant over-achievement. In addition, there is now a strong South-South collaboration between EHRC and the University, which will help inform and sustain the intervention drawing on a new South-South collaboration. EHRC was able to conduct a total of 12 regional events and 7 national level events (as part of the national competition), which engaged 63 high schools and 130 students (50% girls) in 12 cities representing 10 regions and 2 city administrations.

The quarter-finals, semi-finals, and final competitions at the national competition level were conducted in Addis Ababa among 8 teams (16 students) – for further info, see <https://ehrc.org/?p=26015>. The moot court competition was successful in terms of exposing participants and the audience to general human rights concepts and the rights of internally displaced persons. It also contributed to enhancing the critical thinking and speaking skills of the participants, among other benefits.

For raising public awareness of the human rights violations and suffering of internally displaced persons, EHRC produced and disseminated an 8-minute documentary film.

As part of the HoPR's stated commitment to ensure that its decision-making processes are informed by access to good quality and independent sources of research, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Secretariat of the HoPR and the Parliamentary Research Network (PRN) Members. The MoU which was formally endorsed/ signed and deals with the modality and technical operations of the Network.

Following the signing of the MoU, a PRN technical guideline was developed and endorsed. The endorsed technical guideline is one of the tools that helps facilitate and guide how the Network would function at a technical level. The guideline identifies areas of cooperation among these PRN Members, details procedural issues to help identify thematic areas emerging from the Standing Committees, establishes the internal governance architecture, including the roles and responsibilities of the PRN for the formation of the General Assembly, Technical Committee, Evaluating Committee, and the Coordination Office.

In line with the endorsed guideline, the PRN members have committed themselves to jointly work on the research topics identified and requested by the newly established Standing Committees. This endeavor, on one hand, lends experiences to the researchers of the Secretariat and, on the other, responds to the requests of the Committees for scientific evidence. Many of the members of the PRN underscored that "...there will not be a better time than this current endeavor to work with the House and improve the relationship that existed between the House and PRN members."

In the reporting period, HoPR organized two PRN consultative meetings. Two solid results were achieved from the consultative meetings: the endorsement of the PRN technical guideline and the establishment of a pool of PRN focal persons to facilitate the initiation and execution of joint research assignments.

Building on prior GDPP support, HoPR developed and made functional three parliamentary educational modules. The Child's module was translated into an audio-visual format for ease of understanding by lower-grade students and children outside of the formal education system. The work remains in progress at the end of GDPP, but once finalized, visitors to the House will be able to learn about Ethiopian Parliamentary culture and democracy more broadly.

OUTPUT 4: Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.

In December 2021, the Ministry of Peace ceased to be a GDPP Implementing Partner, and assistance has since been provided through separate support channels. Nevertheless, the key role of the House of Federation (HoF) in responding to the oversight of the Federation, marked by rapid socioeconomic growth and reductions in poverty, remains vital. However, there have been increases in inequality and exclusion based on several factors, both state and non-state, some of which have triggered conflicts and violent unrest and increased demands for holistic reforms. Thus, HoF plays a critical role in seeking to address conflicts, foster greater social cohesion, and devise peace-building initiatives. In the reporting period, GDPP has been supporting HoF to improve systems and mechanisms that support interventions aimed at promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing conflicts, and fostering dialogues and peace-building processes.

Output 4.1. Policy/Strategy and platforms established/strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance.

HoF undertook two major activities, including: A) a comprehensive assessment of the challenges of diversity management and the importance of consolidating transformational systems to strengthen social cohesion in Ethiopia, and B) the Training of Trainers (ToT) for media professionals to enhance Constitutionalism and Federalism. These two activities aimed to be transformative in strengthening unity in diversity, particularly in terms of identity recognition and equitable accommodation of diversity as a whole.

The development of the diversity management and accommodation system aimed to better understand and sustainably integrate both needs in the process of building one political community without compromising individual views or beliefs. The role of the media can be either destructive or constructive in the process of Nation State building in Ethiopia. Therefore, the media needs to maintain professional standards protecting and safeguarding the people's sovereignty and the political integrity of the country and should always remain impartial.

Against that background, HoF organized ToT training for media professionals from government and private media enterprises/houses to enhance their capacity and professional knowledge about Constitutionalism and Federalism. The ToT training was provided in three rounds, and a total of 230 participants (70 women and 160 men) from the media industry took part.

Output 4.2 Policy/Strategy and platforms established/strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance.

In the reporting period, HoF organized two consultative forums with key stakeholders and adopted a national conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategy for ensuring an effective peace architecture for conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of government.

The adoption of the new national conflict prevention and sustainable peacebuilding strategy was inaugurated during the consultative forum, which was attended by the leadership of HoF and key stakeholders. In the inauguration session, the key stakeholders confirmed their collaboration and commitment to the implementation of the new strategy. Further work will be required to ensure that the HoF initiative aligns with and complements other peace-building initiatives being undertaken by the Ministry of Peace and others, including the newly formed Ethiopian National Dialogue Commission.

Output 5: Access to justice enhanced and human rights promoted and protected across Ethiopian society.

As approved by the 2021 GDPP PMB meeting, December 2021 saw the departure of the Ministry of Justice (formerly the Office of the Attorney General) from GDPP, so core support for access to justice and rule of law ceased. However, such support continues but through another separate intervention. Nevertheless, during the reporting period, GDPP supported EHRC to strengthen efforts to enhance access to justice and promote/protect human rights across Ethiopian society.

Output 5.1: Regulatory and procedural systems strengthened for effective access to justice and redress mechanisms.

As part of its efforts to ensure effective access to justice and redress mechanisms, EHRC conducted systemic investigations and organized platforms to discuss the findings, recommendations, and develop action plans to redress human rights violations.

EHRC conducted three systemic investigations and reports, including the human rights impact of the recent drought in Somali & Oromia Regions, the human rights situation of employees recruited by employment agencies in Bahardar, Hawassa, Jimma & Addis Ababa cities, and human rights violations following the conflict between religious groups in Gondar & Debark. The findings were used in EHRC's Annual Human Rights Situation Report, submitted to HoPR and launched on 8 July 2022.

The findings and recommendations of the systemic investigation on the human rights situation of employees recruited by employment agencies were discussed in a workshop with key stakeholders to jointly develop an action plan to address the issues.

During the reporting period, EHRC organized six platforms/consultations with key stakeholders and concerned bodies to discuss human rights issues and strengthen collaboration for promoting human rights and redressing human rights violations.

These consultations included a workshop with the Media and CSOs to foster a tripartite relationship in the dissemination of human rights principles and a forum to engage with key stakeholders to discuss and share the findings of EHRC's human rights situation monitoring report on refugee camps in Amhara, Gambella, and Somali Regions. EHRC also organized an advocacy workshop on the regional and national legal framework for the protection of older persons' rights.

Output 5.2: Capacity of public and law enforcement bodies to abide by human rights laws and regulations strengthened.

EHRC conducted two training needs assessments to identify gaps in training needs for law enforcement bodies, other government organizations, and stakeholders working on human rights issues, including CSOs. Based on these findings, EHRC developed two training manuals to address knowledge and skills gaps in detainee rights, internally displaced persons' rights, and other human rights issues.

EHRC organized six training sessions using these manuals, targeting law enforcement bodies, CSOs, youth, and other stakeholders.

During the reporting period, EHRC also organized two consultation/dialogue sessions with federal and regional representatives of the Ministry of Education and other stakeholders to advocate for mainstreaming human rights education in primary and secondary school curricula.

Output 5.3: Established/Strengthened mechanism for monitoring, compiling, and reporting human rights protections and violence.

To ensure the protection of human rights across the country, EHRC conducted monitoring activities on the human rights situation of citizens, especially women, children, and persons with disabilities.

EHRC conducted 35 monitoring visits to detention centers and prisons in the Oromia, Gambella, and Somali Regions to oversee the human rights situation and the conditions of prison detention and treatment of detainees. Findings and recommendations from these visits were shared with relevant regional stakeholders and incorporated into EHRC's Annual Human Rights Situation Report.

EHRC organized a study tour to the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) to learn from its experiences with the development and use of electronic case management systems. The skills gained from this study tour helped EHRC refine and improve its newly developed Case Management System, ensuring a more effective and efficient operation.

Achievement of Intended Programme Results Against Indicators

Output 1: Political processes of federal and regional state legislative bodies are inclusive and effectively delivering on their constitutional mandates
The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: HoPR, EHRC, FEACC, EIO, OAG, EBA/EMA, HoF, and OFAG; NEBE; CCI

Indicators	Targets (as per 2020/2021 AWP)	Cumulative annual results achieved current fiscal year per target/ indicator	Remarks
Sub-output 1.1: Legislative bodies and democratic institutions capacities strengthened for discharging their oversight functions;			
Sub-output indicator 1.1.1: Number of systems, frameworks, and tools developed or strengthened for enhancing oversight capacity;	<p>1 IT & data system for upgrading Audit Training Institute (ATI) - OFAG.</p> <p>1 IT security policy & 2 communication strategies (EHRC & NEBE); and 1 policy on training, education & awareness raising and 1 strategy on crime prevention & suppressing trafficking of persons (OAG).</p> <p>7 frameworks for strengthening oversight functions (HoPR & HoF); and also 9 guidelines/manuals for induction, training, gender, and sexual harassment (HoPR, HoF, EHRC, FEACC, EIO and OAG).</p> <p>1 policy & strategy (FEACC), 4 guidelines/manuals on oversight functions (1 guideline on legislation & 1 guideline on oversight by HoPR & 2 training manuals by EHRC), and 2 IT systems (EHRC)</p>	<p>The legislative bodies and democratic institutions such as HoPR, HoF, FEACC, EIO, OAG, EBA/EMA, EHRC, OFAG strengthened systems, developed policy & strategy, conducted research/assessments, and also developed frameworks/guidelines/tools for enhancing their capacity for effectively discharging their oversight function.</p> <p>The ATI of OFAG strengthened through upgrading the IT and data centre system. 1 IT Security Policy & 1 Communication Strategy developed and made ready for rollout by EHRC.</p> <p>OAG: developed and put in place 1 policy on training, education, & awareness raising, and 1 strategy on crime prevention & suppressing trafficking of persons to abroad.</p> <p>NEBE: developed communication strategy and rolled out and publicized the strategy for its own staff and key stakeholders/partners.</p> <p>HoPR: developed 1 framework for horizontal & vertical integration of democratic institutions.</p> <p>HoF: developed and put in place 6 operational frameworks/standards (2 frameworks for promoting national security & ensuring sustainable peace; 2 on constitutional supremacy & constitutionalism; and another 2 on grant distribution fairness & implementation effectiveness).</p> <p>EHRC, FEACC and EIO: developed and rolled out gender audit & mainstreaming manuals/guidelines. The gender guideline developed by EIO encompassed other vulnerability issues like disability & elderly.</p> <p>EHRC: develop and rolled out one tool on sexual harassment and also three guidelines such as anti-sexual harassment & workspace ethics guideline, grievance redressing mechanism guideline, and disability audit guideline.</p> <p>HoPR developed induction & lessons sharing manual for new entrant Parliament Members for familiarization of House's oversight functions when they would be onboard.</p> <p>OAG: developed assets recovery & management manual and validated it with the participation of 35 key stakeholders. OAG also developed 3 training manuals on investigation, prosecution, and litigation skills.</p> <p>FEACC: developed 1 national anti-corruption policy & strategy and also 4 guidelines/manuals to strengthen oversight functions.</p> <p>HoPR: developed 1 guideline on legislation & 1 manual on oversight.</p> <p>EHRC: developed and rolled out 2 training manuals and 2 IT systems.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for developing systems, policy/strategy, frameworks, and tools was 100 percent.</p>	<p>Notable achievements that have enhanced the oversight functions through the development/introduction of systems/policies but further work to monitor and ensure that there are strong accountability mechanisms within the IPs will be required</p>
Sub-output indicator 1.1.2: Number of platforms established or organized to enhance oversight functions.	<p>16 assessments/studies/ research in various topics/ areas for strengthening oversight functions.</p> <p>HoPR: (6 assessment/study/ research).</p> <p>EHRC: (1 assessment)</p> <p>EIO: (2 study)</p> <p>HoF: (2 assessments) and OAG (3 studies/assessments & 1 compendium).</p> <p>EBA/EMA: 1 assessment on hate speech</p> <p>OFAG: 6 channels for disseminating information on Audit issues and OFAG's oversight function (regional TVs, national TV, and magazine);</p> <p>HoPR: 2 forums to strengthen oversight functions at both federal and regional levels;</p>	<p>HoPR conducted 3 assessments: 1 assessment of the standardized oversight & legislative guideline of the House; and another 1 assessment on structure of the Secretariat. HoPR also undertook 4 research/studies on topics such as parliamentary diplomacy, effectiveness of standing committee's structure, effectiveness of new CSO's proclamation, and effectiveness of parliamentary whistleblowing for using the findings & recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness & efficiency of the Parliament in discharging its legislative & oversight functions and roles.</p> <p>EHRC conducted 1 institutional capacity assessment for identifying gaps for strengthening the Commission through reform. Based on the assessment findings & recommendations, the Commission entered into structural reform to make itself gender sensitive and responsive to the needs of its clients & the public.</p> <p>HoF carried out 2 reform assessments for making structural adjustments. Two assessment reports produced and made ready for validation & endorsement.</p> <p>EIO conducted 1 study on its achievement to identify gaps and another 1 on country-wide own motion investigation for improving the service it provides to workers in the industrial parks.</p> <p>OAG undertook 3 research/studies/ assessments and compiled 1 compendium of over 250 laws & directives. The themes/agendas of the three studies/assessments focused on such as legal gaps for addressing violence against women & children, the implementation of crime justice policy, and case interruptions.</p> <p>EBA/EMA: conducted the assessment on hate speech; and public meeting on hate speech and ethics organized.</p> <p>OFAG: used 6 regional and national TVs and magazine/newsletter for disseminating information on Audit and OFAG's oversight function.</p> <p>HoPR: established 2 forums as platform for strengthening oversight functions at both federal and regional levels.</p> <p>The overall achievement was 100 percent.</p>	<p>The established platforms now need further support to help enhance the space for greater inclusion with a greater variety and number of voices being engaged to enhance oversight.</p>

<p>Sub-output indicator 1.1.3: Number of training sessions for enhancing knowledge and skills of staffs on oversight functions conducted;</p>	<p>EBA/EMA targeted 702 of its staffs, journalists/media professionals and other key stakeholders to provide training on various topics which would be instrumental to effectively discharge of its oversight functions and mandate.</p> <p>The IPs such as HoPR, OAG, EIO, EHRC, OFAG and FEACC targeted 1,644 of their staffs to participate in skill-based training for enhancing their knowledge and skills on oversight functions.</p>	<p>EBA/EMA provided training to 465 experts & media professionals for enhancing their skills and knowledge on various areas/topics. The topics that the training focused on were critical thinking, content & advertisement monitoring; conflict sensitive reporting; women empowerment & gender mainstreaming; and hate-speech & dis-information proclamation.</p> <p>The IPs such as HoPR, OAG, EIO, EHRC, OFAG and FEACC provided capacity building training to 1,636 staff about a variety of topics to enhance their skills and knowledge to effectively discharge key oversight functions. The training topics included: minutes/note taking & legal drafting (HoPR); assets recovery & legal drafting, and assets evaluation & forensic account (OAG); consultative training workshop on findings of monitoring visit (EIO); HR programming & performance-based management, and gender mainstreaming & sexual harassment (EHRC); and leadership & strategic management, effective service delivery, and ethics & corruption prevention (FEACC). The overall achievement of targets of the indicators for capacity building trainings was 100 percent</p>	<p>Continuous professional development through structured training will remain a key area of support.</p> <p>The turn over of staff remains a challenge with staff being moved eroding the critical mass of well skilled staff.</p>
<p>Sub-output 1.2: Professional independence of Democratic Institutions enhanced in discharging their core functions;</p>			
<p>Sub-output Indicator 1.2.1: Number of standards, procedures, and tools developed or strengthened to enhance professional independence;</p>	<p>4 coalition & coordination forums among federal & regional actors (FEACC); 1 data security policy & 1 IT guideline (NEBE); and also 1 assessment on restructuring & 4 operational standards (HoF).</p> <p>3 standards/procedures/platforms/tools (1 multi-platform website by EHRC to enhance visibility; 1 national anti-corruption/integrity coordination platform by FEACC; and 1 procedure/regulation for enhancing professional independence by EIO);</p>	<p>FEACC organized 4 coordination and coalition forums for enhancing integration and support among federal and regional actors for promoting integrity and anti-corruption. Two coordination forums organized with federal and regional officials & key stakeholders for promoting integrity and fighting corruption. The other two coalition forums conducted with federal and regional Ethics Officers for strengthening their collaboration and integration in fighting corruption, as well as monitoring & reporting corruption. In the organized four coordination & coalition forums about 1,100 federal and regional representatives & participants were attended.</p> <p>NEBE developed 1 data security policy & 1 IT guideline and rolled out for enhancing professional independence. 20 staff of NEBE's Head Office and Regional Branch Offices were familiarized with the new data security policy & IT guideline. The achievement is 100% of the target.</p> <p>HoF conducted 1 assessment on restructuring of the Secretariat & produced report, and also developed and rolled out 2 operational standards/frameworks in supporting the professional independence of staffs of the newly restructured Secretariat.</p> <p>The relaunching of the multi-platform website to enhance EHRC's visibility by EHRC was finalized and put in place; the national anti-corruption/integrity platform of FEACC was established; and also 1 procedure/regulation developed and put in place for enhancing professional independency (EIO);</p> <p>The overall achievement was 100% of the targets.</p>	<p>Greater awareness by DIs about their accountability responsibilities to the citizens remains a key area for further support.</p>
<p>Sub-output Indicator 1.2.2: Number of advocacy or awareness raising sessions organized for enhancing professional independence;</p>	<p>1 awareness raising training (EIO);</p>	<p>1 awareness raising training session conducted for enhancing professional independence (EIO); 100 percent of the target was achieved;</p>	<p>Ongoing need for support at Federal and Branch office levels.</p>
<p>Sub-output Indicator 1.2.3: Number of professional staffs whose knowledge on application of standards, procedures and tools confirmed for securing professional independence;</p>	<p>EBA, EIO and NEBE targeted 577 (EBA = 300, EIO = 217, and NEBE = 60 in three sessions) of their staffs, media professionals & other key stakeholders for improving knowledge on standards & tools for securing professional independence. EIO also planned to organize 5 awareness raising sessions.</p>	<p>EBA provided training to its staff and media professionals (184) for enhancing their knowledge on election reporting, and also new media laws, mass media policy & election directives.</p> <p>EIO conducted knowledge enhancement training with participation of 265 of its staffs. The training increased knowledge of staffs on the areas of use of sign language; strategic planning & management; and communication.</p> <p>NEBE organized 2 sessions for enhancing the knowledge of its staff on change management, election operation reform & reform initiative, and also how to use the newly developed IT system. 55 NEBE staff participated in the sessions organized.</p> <p>The overall achievement of targets for the indicator was 85%</p>	<p>The restriction of movement and gathering of peoples due to COVID 19 pandemic impacted on the number of events that could be held between 2020 - 2022. The media professionals/journalist and other key stakeholders who were supposed to take part in the planned knowledge & skills enhancement training sessions couldn't attend due to busy schedule on election related media activities and other issues.</p>

Sub-output Indicator 1.2.4: Number of reports publicized by Democratic Institutions;	2 reports to publicize the professional independence of FEACC	2 reports produced and disseminated (1 study report on prevention of corruption in the mining sector and 1 comprehensive report on training needs assessment of FEACC to enhance its professional independence). 100 percent of the target was achieved;	Follow up actions need to be more systematically publicized
Sub-output 1.3: Political and civic spaces expanded for effective citizens' participation and inclusion;			
Sub-output indicators: 1.3.3: Number of awareness raising sessions organized on expanding space for civic societies & citizens participation;	8 forums/consultative workshops (2 forums with CSOs – most of them working on women and vulnerable groups –and 6 forums/ awareness raising sessions on human rights issues, election, role of the media, ethics & integrity, and fight corruption & unethical behaviour by IPs such as EHRC, NEBE, EBA/EMA, FEACC);	In the two forums conducted by EHRC to expand civic engagement in identification of human rights concern, monitoring of human rights issues and data sharing, 15 CSOs, of which 8 working on women and vulnerable groups, participated. NEBE were able to translate, publish and institutionalize new laws, directives, manuals, strategies and guidelines including the conversion of the new election law into braille, audio and video. The capacity of 35 journalists (17 female and 18 male) were enhanced about gender responsive election reporting through a training organised by NEBE. EBA/EMA organized and led a series of public consultations about the role of the media and created a platform for the public to scrutinize and evaluate the media. FEACC conducted 6 forums/consultative workshops with Universities, High Schools, media workers, and teacher associations for promoting ethics, integrity and fighting corruption. Four hundred thirty-seven participants took part in the consultative forums/workshops which promoted ethics, integrity and fighting corruption and unethical behaviour. One forum established and eight awareness raising and/or training sessions conducted by IPs such as EHRC, FEACC, EIO, EBA & NEBE for expanding space for civic society and citizens participation; and also 967 civic societies and citizens representatives participated in the awareness raising sessions/trainings. The overall achievement was 100 percent of the set targets.	Good achievements but a greater focus on "demand" side of governance will help foster greater inclusion.

Output 2: Federal and regional state systems of governance are more accountable, transparent and are delivering services in inclusive and responsive ways; The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: FEACC, EIO, & CCI;

Sub-output 2.1: Information recording, analysis & management systems and accountability mechanisms strengthened;

<p>Sub-output indicators 2.1.1: Number of systems established or strengthened, and regulations introduced for improving information recording, analysis & management. 2.1.2: Number of accountability mechanisms in place for ensuring effective service delivery.</p>	<p>Targets: Indicator 2.1.1 and 2.1.2: The IPs such as FEACC, EIO and CCI targeted to develop or strengthen policy & regulations, systems, guidelines and mechanisms and also database and IT systems for improving information recording, analysis, and dissemination. 7 systems & regulations/guidelines (EHRC, FEACC, EIO, OAG & CCI); FEACC: Indicator 2.1.1: National Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy Document; National Corruption Perception Survey Report; and 1 system/web-portal for anti-corruption information & knowledge management. Indicator 2.1.2: FEACC and OAG planned to introduce 2 accountability mechanisms/regulation (code of conduct). FEACC targeted 1 review report on UNCAC two chapters. Indicator 2.1.1: EIO targeted to automate IT system by upgrading 1 case-flow management system, and 1 hotline & call center system. Indicator 2.1.2: EIO planned to upgrade 1 case-flow management system. Indicator 2.1.1: CCI planned to upgrade 1 free call centre and 1 case-flow management system and also develop Gender Mainstreaming Manual. Indicator 2.1.2: CCI targeted 3 research on various topics which relate to constitutional issues; and 3 discussion forums;</p>	<p>2 systems on information recording & management developed and put in place (EHRC & CCI), and also 4 laws/regulations/guidelines developed and put in place for improving information recording, analysis, management and dissemination (EIO, OAG). FEACC completed the National Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy and also Third National Corruption Perception Survey. The National Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy as well as the Third National Corruption Perception Survey finalized, reports produced, and disseminated. The findings, recommendations and lessons learned from both policy & strategy and perception survey were validated and disseminated during the validation workshop conducted with the participation of key federal & regional partners & stakeholders. The policy & strategy as well as the perception survey are instrumental for formulation and strengthening of laws, directives, frameworks, and tools for effective prevention and combatting of corruption and also strengthening of integrity & ethics at different levels in the nation. FEACC strengthened its functional IT-based system for Declaration and Registration of Assets System (DARS) through provision of capacity building training to its staff working on the IT system of DARS. FEACC also developed and operationalized 1 system/web-portal for enhancing anti-corruption information & knowledge management. FEACC developed and endorsed 1 Code of Conduct for public officials, and 1 draft report on UNCAC two chapters (corruption prevention & assets recovery) submitted to the National Steering Committee for review. When the two documents endorsed, they would be instrumental for strengthening accountability mechanism for effective service delivery. OAG developed and put in place Code of Conduct for ensuring effective & efficient service delivery. EIO strengthened its call centre & synchronized IT system to ensure effective service delivery through hearing complaints, handling cases, and providing feedback. The system has enhanced efficiency and effectiveness of the information recording, analysis & management system of EIO by giving access to the public for airing their complaints immediately and receiving faster feedback. EIO also upgraded 1 case-flow management system via improved VPN infrastructure for strengthening accountability mechanism. EIO also developed and launched hotline & call centre system for enabling complainants to lodge their complaints remotely from their respective localities. The system has enhanced efficiency and effectiveness of the information recording, analysis & management system of EIO by giving access to the public for airing their complaints immediately. CCI upgraded 1 free call centre and 1 case-flow management system for improving service delivery. The upgrading of the systems helped CCI to enhance its efficiency & effectiveness in handling constitutional cases. CCI also developed Gender Mainstreaming Manual through consultation and solicitation of inputs from the staffs and key stakeholders. CCI conducted 3 research assignments about various Constitutional issues & related topics, and also organized 3 discussion forums on findings & recommendations for soliciting inputs. The overall achievement of set targets for the indicators was 100%.</p>	<p>Anti-Corruption Policy & Strategy developed and provides the framework to seek to reduce corruption. The Action Plan now requires close follow up and support to meet agreed GoE – FEACC targets. Toll free call centres established. Code of Conduct for public officials published</p>
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Sub-output 2.2: Complaints handling & feedback mechanisms for ensuring accountability and customers'/clients' satisfaction installed/strengthened, with emphasis on women and youth;			
Sub-output indicator: 2.2.3: Number of awareness raising, or familiarization tools and channels developed and used to promote complaints and feedback mechanisms, with emphasis on women and youth;	EIO targeted for 1 platform and 1 assessment on complaint handling & information/feedback mechanisms.	EIO conducted 1 assessment on complaint handling of sexual harassment in federal public institutions. The findings & recommendations of the assessment have been instrumental for raising awareness of victims, CSOs and citizens on complaining and combating harassments against women and youth in public institutions. EIO established one outlet/platform for raising awareness of information providers and seekers through billboards/signboards prepared in four languages and posted in nine places in six towns in different regions. The achievement of the target was 100%;	Much more support is required to promote and raise awareness about the complaints/feedback systems of EIO plus other DIs.
Sub-output 2.3: Awareness of information providers and seekers promoted for ensuring quality service provision;			
Sub-output indicator: 2.3.2: Number of sessions conducted for raising awareness of information providers and seekers on service delivery;	EIO planned to conduct 1 forum for raising awareness of information providers & seekers.	The planned 1 forum for raising awareness of information providers & seekers was organized by EIO The achievement was 100% of the target.	Further support required to help all DIs to understand the importance of the provision/delivery of quality public services.
Output 3: Citizens are empowered to voice their concerns and participate in decision-making and political processes at all levels of governance. The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: HoPR, EIO, EHRC, FEACC, MoP, NEBE; EBA/EMA and CCI			
Sub-output 3.1: Policy, system, and institutional frameworks for citizens active participation, particularly women, youth and other marginalized groups in decision making processes strengthened at all levels;			
Sub-output indicators: 3.1.1: Number of policies, systems and institutional frameworks established or strengthened for ensuring active participation in decision-making process. 3.1.3: Number of staff awareness raising forums on participation platforms/mechanisms in decision making and political processes organized;	Targets: Indicator 3.1.1 and 3.1.3: The IPs such as HoPR, EIO, and EHRC targeted to establish/strengthen policy, systems, and frameworks and/or organize awareness raising forums/platforms/mechanisms for ensuring active participation of citizens in decision making and political processes. Indicator 3.1.1: HoPR targeted to develop/establish 3 strategy, guidelines & handbooks, 1 parliamentary research network, and also 1 comprehensive assessments on law making mechanisms & practices, and civic engagement. Indicator 3.1.1: EIO planned to 3 functional & effective collaborative networks/forums. Indicator 3.1.1: EHRC targeted for 4 platforms to be organized for expanding political & civic spaces. Indicator 3.1.3: EHRC planned 80 CSOs (30% working on women and vulnerable groups) to participate in platforms/forums to promote citizens participation. Indicator 3.1.1: NEBE planned to develop NEBE Communication Strategy and also undertake national case study of mapping political party and gender audit Indicator 3.1.2: 4 forums/workshops, and 364 participants (CCI & EBA/EMA);	HoPR developed a new Parliamentary Handbook of the House which launched in October when the new Parliament established. The handbook would be instrumental to familiarize and guide the work of the new Member of Parliaments (MPs). As part of the development of Civic Engagement Strategy, HoPR conducted an assessment on civic engagement and produced report & validated. Based on the assessment on civic engagement, HoPR also developed the framework on civic engagement. The development of the Gender Mainstreaming Guideline was not undertaken due to delay on compilation of the Gender Audit Assessment document which was prerequisite. HoPR conducted an assessment on law-making mechanism & capacity on gender mainstreaming and produced report to make ready for rollout. HoPR established the parliamentary research network to enhance working relationship between the House and think-tank/academia. EIO established 2 good governance collaborative forums in two regions (Amhara and SNNPR) for strengthening collaboration of federal & regional actors with EIO for promoting good governance and improving service delivery. In the forums organized in the two regions, 95 participants took part. EIO also conducted one consultative workshop at federal level for strengthening collaboration in the already established federal forum for promoting good governance and service delivery. 44 key actors participated in the consultative workshop. EHRC organized 2 platforms for expanding political and civic spaces. 20 CSOs (of which 70% working on disability) participated in the platform/consultative forum organized to raise awareness on concerns of people with disabilities. The forum has been instrumental in motivating and inspiring the CSOs to work and advocate on the human rights issues of peoples with disability. EHRC also organized consultation forum with 60 CSOs and other key stakeholders for gathering feedback on draft Criminal Procedure and Evidence Code. EHRC organized 3 national & regional dialogue sessions with 20 CSOs on election and human rights related issues; with attendance of 124 participants. The organized dialogue forums created civic space to enhance the active participation of CSOs on human rights monitoring in the general election. EHRC also organized 3 platforms on the rights of peoples with disability: with participation of 124 CSOs' representatives (of which 40% working on women and vulnerable groups) for promoting the rights of peoples with disability. NEBE developed an integrated NEBE Communication strategy. Core messaging components, tools, communication channels were defined in preparation for the future elections. A National Case Study of Mapping of Political Parties and Gender Equality (Gender Audit of Political Parties) was completed for NEBE to assess women's political participation and their inclusion in decision making processes. Four forums/workshops/sessions conducted by CCI and EBA/EMA for raising citizens' awareness on participation in political processes; and also 356 citizens who represented different stakeholders' groups participated in the forums/workshops. The overall achievement of targets for the indicators was 100%.	Systems established and has thus created an enabling space, but more support is required to bring a greater plurality of voices into the decision-making processes. HoPR Civic Engagement Strategy published MPs Induction Handbook & training devised and rolled out. Parliamentary Research Network established. Citizen engagement platforms established. NEBE successfully managed a general election in 2021 largely judged to be free & fair despite COVID & violent unrest. The COVID pandemic impacted on the proposed elections planned for 2020 and these were deferred until 2021. This placed and unforeseen additional burden on NEBE. GDPP support focused on helping support the institutional capacities of NEBE particularly about inclusion – women and minorities plus seeking to influence the political parties about the value addition increasing the numbers of women candidates.

Sub-output 3.2: Awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs and democratic institutions raised;

<p>Sub-output indicator: 3.2.1: Number of outlets developed and put in place for raising the awareness of citizens on the functions of IPs. 3.2.2: Number of citizens who are aware of or familiarized with the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions.</p>	<p>Targets: Indicator 3.2.1 and 3.2.2: The IPs such as HoPR, EIO, EHRC, FEACC, MoP, NEBE, EBA/EMA and CCI planned to develop & put in place outlets and also raise awareness of citizens on the functions of legislative bodies, executive organs, and democratic institutions. Indicator 3.2.1: HoPR targeted to establish 1 digitized parliamentary documentation system, and 1 representation function guideline. Indicator 3.2.2: EIO planned to organize 1 training session to 400 mini-media members; 5 radio spots via 4 regional channels; and 15 radio programmes. Indicator 3.1.2: EHRC targeted 12 awareness raising sessions/platforms on human rights related issues. Indicator 3.2.1: FEACC planned 3 forums on ethics, integrity & anti-corruption for supporting 2 CSOs and 1 Professional Association. Indicator 3.2.2: MoP targeted 5 training & community dialogue sessions on peace & citizens engagement: with 1500 participants/community members. And also 2 awareness raising workshops to community members for enhancing participation in decision making in matters of common concerns. Support to 1 CSO to enable to engage in prevention of violence & conflict. Indicator 3.2.1: NEBE targeted to organize 6 sessions for raising awareness of CSOs on election related issues. And also planned to transcribe and publish amended laws & directives into braille and sign languages. Indicator 3.2.2: NEBE targeted to support 5 Voter Education Providers, and also 400 CSOs for consultation on election related issues. NEBE planned to raise awareness of 120 of its staffs. NEBE/UNWOMEN planned 1 conference for raising awareness on preventing Violence Against Women in Election (VAWE); 1 gender mapping of Political Parties for identifying gaps; and 1 platform to advocate about gender sensitiveness & responsiveness of Political Parties. Indicator 3.2.1: EBA/EMA planned to organize 4 promotional spots & 1 national platform to strengthen Media Council. Indicator 3.2.2: EMA targeted to raise awareness of 1000 media workers & volunteers and political party members. Indicator 3.2.2 CCI planned to organize 3 sessions to raise awareness of 300 citizens/ participants on constitutional issues. CCI planned 1 session to 224 participants to raise their awareness on the mandates & functions of CCI.</p>	<p>1 digitized system for documentation of parliamentary materials, documents, and tools was established by HoPR. The scanning of documents, materials, and tools for inputting in the digitized system was also carried out for making the system functional for reaching the public through information sharing and awareness creation. HoPR developed a representation function guideline and rolled out for effective dissemination of information to the public by representatives. EIO organized consultative workshop with the officials of Education Media Centre (EMC) and raised the awareness of 65 officials/participants on EIO's mandates, access to information & good governance. EIO also established 14 Ombudsman Clubs in different regions and provided awareness raising training to 350 Clubs' members and raised their awareness on access to information & good governance. 5 promotional Spots on good governance and freedom of information transmitted through 10 Regional Media Centres in four different languages for raising awareness of the public on access to information, reporting/filing complaints and good governance. The promotional Spots and awareness raising sessions enabled the public to file their complaints online using the toll-free line. EHRC produced and transmitted 3 programmes for raising the publics' awareness on human rights issues at the time of pre, during and post-election. FEACC selected 3 CSOs for providing support and organized 4 forums with the 3 CSOs to strengthen collaboration and exert joint effort on anticorruption promotion and combating corruption at community & citizens levels. MoP conducted 2 rounds of national dialogues/conferences among community groups on peace. In the two rounds of national dialogue sessions around 1500 community representatives participated and committed to work on peace in their communities. MoP also conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on management of ethnics, occupational & other forms of diversity; and produced report. NEBE transcribed 1 new electoral law/proclamation into braille and also video, audio, and sign languages to reach persons with disability (sight & hearing impairments). 10,000 copies in braille and 15,000 copies into video, audio and sign languages were produced and distributed. The distributed copies of the audio & sign languages helped to reach over 100,000 peoples with hearing impairment with the new electoral proclamation/law for enabling them to exercise their rights for voting and participation in election. NEBE supported 13 Voter Education Providers & CSOs to enable them reach around 74 million women, disabled persons, and other vulnerable groups about their rights of voting & participation in election. 3 election observation sessions organized with 3 observer CSOs. NEBE & UNWOMEN collaboratively organized 1 conference on preventing Violence Against Women in Election (VAWE) and raised the awareness of the participants on the causes and consequences of VAWE on women's participation in election. The awareness raising conference was attended by 45 participants (36 women & 9 men) who represented NEBE, Political Parties, Media, and CSOs. NEBE with support from UNWOMEN undertook 1 gender mapping study of political parties. Seven sample Political Parties selected and covered by the mapping exercise. Then only 2 parties were found to have women in leadership position (1 as party leader and another 1 as deputy leader). NEBE & UNWOMEN organized 1 platform to advocate for political parties to be gender sensitive & responsive. Around 125 (56 women & 65 men) who represented political parties were advocated to enable them gender sensitive and responsive in their political activities and appointment of members in the leadership positions. NEBE raised the awareness of its 120 staffs on electoral legal laws. EMA established 1 national platform on anti-hate speech and raised awareness of public representatives on the new anti-hate speech & disinformation proclamation. EMA conducted onsite monitoring visit and provided technical support to 5 Community Radio/Promotion Spots. 1 national platform organized to strengthen Media Council. EMA organized 1 sensitization workshop with 80 political party representatives on fair utilization of media coverage & basic code of conduct during elections. EMA also provided training to the staff of 10 Community Radio, and School & Community Media Centres and enhanced their capacity in managing Community Radios. CCI organized 2 awareness raising training sessions to 180 women, youth and other vulnerable groups and raised their awareness on constitutional rights and need & how to exercise those rights. CCI also conducted awareness raising session to 123 participants so as to familiarize them on establishment and strengthening contribution of regional inquiries as platform for reaching the public. CCI raised the awareness of 224 decision makers on the mandates & functions of CCI. The overall achievement of targets for the indicators was 100%.</p>	<p>Targets/indicators were achieved however the overall impact of how many citizens were actually made more aware of the functions on legislative bodies/ DIs. This indicates the need for more targeted "demand" side of governance approaches where citizens are more systematically engaged. This will require the development of bespoke citizen engagement strategies and tools to build greater numbers of citizens into the governance discourse. The COVID pandemic posed a challenge to the planned 2020 General Elections. Through GDPP support when HoPR sought guidance from CCI about the legal lacuna in the Constitution which was silent on what actions to take in circumstances where an election needed to be postponed. GDPP supported CCI to conduct a series of open discussion forums with legal/ constitutional experts to help inform the ultimate guidance provided to HoPR that the elections could be postponed on an exceptional basis until 2021. Elections saw more attention focused on inclusivity with materials being made available for PWDs. Gender/inclusivity discussions held with Political Parties in the run up to the 2021 elections. Ant- Hate speech advocacy undertaken. Community Radios supported</p>
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Output 4: Systems and mechanisms for promoting social cohesion, managing diversity, preventing, and managing conflicts, fostering dialogues, and building peace are further strengthened at national, regional, and local levels.

The implementing partners which performed the activities to contribute to achievement of the output are: HoF, MoP & CCI

Sub-output 4.1: Systems on diversity management and social cohesions developed and put in place at all levels;

<p>Sub-output indicators 4.1.1: Number of systems on diversity management and social cohesion developed and put in place. 4.1.3: National comprehensive assessment on diversity management and social cohesion conducted, with emphasis on women and marginalized groups. 4.1.4: Number of awareness raising forums organized for promoting diversity and social cohesion;</p>	<p>Targets: Indicator 4.1.1, 4.1.3 and 4.1.4: The IPs such as HoF, MoP and CCI targeted to develop and put in place systems on diversity management and social cohesion at all levels. Indicator 4.1.1: HoF: 1 system upgrade and 2 laws (1 law for standardization of agricultural products for commodity exchange (with collaboration with MoA), and another one law on citizens benefits from national health insurance (in collaboration with MoH). Indicator 4.1.3: HoF targeted 1 comprehensive assessment and 4 regional arrangements Indicator 4.1.4 HoF planned 1 consultative platform/forum for raising awareness Indicator 4.1.1 MoP targeted 1 capacity development plan: and 2 modules on federalism, 1 manual, 2 charters and 1 directive for effective functioning of IGR. Indicator 4.1.3 2 dialogue forums (2 national and 10 regional) and 3000 participants; and 1 comprehensive assessment Indicator 4.1.4 MoP planned 4 awareness raising training session; 3 panel discussion forums; 1 high level conference with 160 participants. Indicator 4.1.1: CCI: 1 constitutional interpretation in line with the deferment of third national election due to COVID - 19 pandemic- CCI Indicator 4.1.2: 3 assessments</p>	<p>HoF conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on constitutionalism & the supremacy of law. HoF also organized 1 consultative platform on the newly established administrative arrangement for South-Western Peoples of Ethiopia for soliciting inputs in drafting constitutional document. HoF upgraded its IT system to enhance documentation & knowledge management for effective knowledge management & social cohesion. HoF in collaboration with MoA developed and endorsed the law which standardized agricultural products for commodity exchange in order for enhancing social cohesion. HoF in collaboration with MoH also drafted legislation about citizens benefits from national health insurance. These laws help to build one political and economic policy which would eventually consolidate national consensus and national unity. MoP developed 1 capacity development & response plan for strengthening IGR. The plan is ready for roll out. For strengthening IGR, the Ministry developed 1 manual, 1 charter, and 1 directive and made them ready for action to ensure effective function of IGR. MoP conducted 1 comprehensive assessment on IGR institutional frameworks, functions, and knowledge & skills gaps and put in place for strengthening IGR. MoP formulated 1 national & regional IGR framework to help establishment of 2 IGR forums. Developed 1 training modules on federalism and IGR. MoP also organized 2 platforms/forums for discussing on issues of federalism (1 high-level conference on federalism, constitution, and IGR and 1 panel discussion session on federalism & IGR). In the organized 2 forums, 180 representatives from relevant institutions and staffs of MoP participated. It also conducted 2 awareness raising & capacity building training sessions (1 on inter-governmental relations and 1 on federalism & IGR). 92 participants who represented federal & regional IGR focal institutions and other stakeholders attended the two training sessions. MoP conducted two rounds of forums on national consensus & sustainable nation building, and 900 relevant stakeholders participated in the forum conducted in two rounds; and also 3680 participants attended the ten forums organized at regional level. MoP conducted one comprehensive assessment on diversity management and handling of identity-based claims and report produced. CCI interpreted the Constitution following House of Peoples Representatives endorsement for constitutional interpretation due to impossibility of conducting the election in August 2020. CCI conducted the comprehensive assessment of the Ethiopian's Constitution and held Amicus Curiae and then interpreted the Constitution and presented its recommendations which informed the decision to postpone the general election due to the pandemic. The HoPR also confirmed that the elections will be held once the health authorities. CCI conducted three assessments on FDRE's Constitution for getting inputs for reform on the Constitution.</p>	<p>Although Output 4 targets/indicators were achieved through completion of assessments, systems development and citizen awareness efforts there was an escalation of violent unrest/conflict from late 2020. This indicates the need for a more holistic cross sectoral approach to peace building and social cohesion. Such efforts saw the formation of the National Dialogue Commission tasked with identification and proposing citizen driven solutions to address the root causes of unrest and thus address how to foster greater social cohesion in Ethiopia.</p>
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Sub-output 4.2: Policy/strategy and platforms established/ strengthened for an effective peace architecture of conflict prevention and peace building at all levels of governance;

<p>Sub-output indicators: 4.2.1: National peace policies/strategies and mechanisms developed/adopted. 4.2.4: Number of awareness raising forums organized on conflict prevention and peace building, with specific emphasis on women and marginalized groups/minorities;</p>	<p>Targets: Indicator 4.2.1: HoF targeted 1 comprehensive conflict assessment & mapping; and 1 national conflict prevention & peacebuilding strategy to be formulated/adopted. HoF also planned to formulate a national conflict prevention & peace-building strategy – HoF in collaboration with MoP. CCI targeted to develop 1 IT-based case flow management system/mechanism</p> <p>Indicator 4.2.4: MoP planned 2 national dialogues and 1 Peace Day event; 10 TV & Radio programmes; and 1 national event.</p>	<p>HoF conducted a comprehensive conflict assessment & mapping and produced report. HoF in collaboration with MoP formulated a national conflict prevention & peace-building strategy.</p> <p>1 IT-based case flow management system/mechanism developed and put in place by CCI for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of case-flows on constitutional related appeals of the public. HoF formulated 1 national conflict prevention & peacebuilding strategy. The comprehensive conflict assessment & mapping exercise was completed. 1 IT-based case flow management system/mechanism developed and put in place by CCI for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of case-flows on constitutional related appeals of the public. MoP conducted 2 national peace dialogues and 1 Peace Day event to support communities for recovery and building peace. In the sessions conducted 200 community & religious leaders, women & youth representatives and public officials participated. MoP also broadcasted through local media 8 radio & TV programmes and raised awareness of communities on peace, social cohesiveness, and national identity. The overall achievement of targets/indicators was 100% in terms of quantity of indicators being completed.</p>	<p>Further support will be required to see how the HoF initiated strategy will link to the work of the newly established National Dialogue Commission plus the intersection with the work of the Ministry of Peace. The violent unrest/ conflicts in different parts of Ethiopia during programme implementation indicates a greater focus on qualitative targets that address the broader challenges of peaceful co-existence in the country. This will require a clear articulation about the value addition of peacebuilding and more concrete steps to bring citizens particularly women, youth, and minorities into the conflict prevention/ peace building efforts.</p>
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Sub-output 4.3: Developed/strengthened systems and mechanisms to promote national consensus and nation building at all levels;

<p>Sub-outputs indicators: 4.3.1: Number of peace reconciliation initiatives organized by different social groups (women, youth, elders, etc.). 4.3.2: Number of networks with relevant stakeholders established for national consensus and nation building;</p>	<p>Target: Indicator 4.3.1: MoP targeted establishment of 5 national & 10 regional dialogue forums; and 2 assessments (1 situation and another 1 public & private media). Indicator 4.3.2: MoP planned to establish 6 Peace Council Networks (2 national & 4 regional); and 12 Independent Advisory Groups Networks.</p>	<p>MoP established 2 community, youth, women, elder and students' peace forums, and also provided 2 capacity building trainings to University Students' Peace Forum's members for promoting national consensus & nation building. It also established 1 national-regional network of Universities' Peace Forums in a national event which attended by 198 representatives of Universities. MoP organized 5 workshops/forums for promoting peacebuilding, national consensus, and nation building (1 national workshop on peacebuilding, and 4 consultative & discussion forums with peace actors, representatives of religious institutions and also returnees & host communities). The topics discussed in the workshops/forums focused on peacebuilding & national consensus; concerns of sustainable peace building & national consensus; challenges of religious institutions and roles of religious institutions on peace building; and peaceful coexistent & social cohesion. The total of 1576 peace & religious actors and other key stakeholders participated in the workshops/forums organized. MoP also conducted 3 training sessions to 300 regional community police officers & community representatives on the revised concept of community policing for enhancing skills to promote sustainable peacebuilding. The overall achievement of the targets was 95%</p>	<p>Greater emphasis on strengthening the links between Federal & Regional peace building efforts will be necessary to help support efforts to promote nation building. This will include creating feedback loops, collecting information of lessons learned and mapping what actions worked well and why to assess if such actions can be scaled.</p>
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Sub-output 5.1: Regulatory and procedural systems strengthened for effective access to justice and redress mechanisms;			
<p>Sub-output indicators 5.1.2: Number of legal frameworks and platforms established or strengthened to promote and enhance information provision on access to justice;</p>	<p>Target: Indicator 5.1.2: EHRC targeted to conduct 4 investigations on selected human rights violation; establish 2 platforms to promote and enhance information provision; and conduct 2 research assignments on systemic human rights issues; and. 19 national legal & human rights instruments/procedures/tools (13 basic national legal instruments and 6 national & international legal & human rights instruments/tools/procedures - EHRC; EHRC targeted to revamp 4 legal centres.</p>	<p>EHRC conducted 8 investigations on the complaints against denial of access to justice and violation of the rights of IDPs, women & children and other vulnerable groups. The monitoring and investigations were carried out in two regions (SNNPR & Amhara), and Mikahadra. The investigation reports produced and discussed then passed to the responsible bodies to take actions. The target for investigation of human rights violation is over-achieved (200%). EHRC established 2 platforms to promote/enhance information provision.</p> <p>EHRC collated and distributed 13 national legal instruments/tools/procedures and 6 national and international legal & human rights instruments/tools to enhance the capacity of head office and branch offices' experts on analysis of legal & human rights issues and recommending redressing mechanisms. Four legal centers revamped with support of EHRC and provided support to vulnerable peoples to ensuring access to justice. The overall achievement of the targets was 100%.</p>	<p>Good progress but there remains an on-going need to support efforts to integrate more human rights-based approaches towards promoting more effective access to justice with HRBAs factored into the redress mechanisms.</p>
Sub-output 5.2: Public and law enforcement bodies' awareness on human rights laws and regulations promoted.			
<p>Sub-output indicators 5.2.3: Number of awareness raising sessions conducted to advocate or enhance awareness and knowledge of law enforcement organs on human rights promotion.</p>	<p>Target: Indicator 5.2.1: 1 human rights education manual - EHRC; Indicator 5.2.3: EHRC targeted to organize 4 human rights education sessions. 2 awareness raising session, and 775 participants (EHRC); 1 baseline study/survey on awareness on human rights issues, and 1 assessment on rights of movement and minorities rights (EHRC); Indicator 5.2.3: OAG planned 7 awareness raising trainings (1 training on human rights-based investigation, and another 1 on prevention of violence against women & children).</p>	<p>EHRC developed and disseminated human rights education manual on women & children rights to educate and raise awareness of the public on human rights issues including the rights of women & children.</p> <p>EHRC organized 9 awareness raising training sessions to 449 sector officials working on women & children and raised their awareness on women & children rights and committed themselves to reflect issues related to women & children rights in their lower-level government structure. The participants of the awareness raising sessions on human rights particularly women & children were drawn from 7 regions and two city administration. The target for organizing human rights education sessions is overachieved (225%). Two awareness raising sessions conducted to promote public awareness on human rights laws/regulations and issues, and 775 citizens and students participated in the awareness raising sessions which promoted human rights issues. EHRC conducted baseline study/survey on human rights awareness & report produced, and also undertook an assessment on rights of movement & minorities rights carried out, and analysis & report writing in progress. OAG conducted three training sessions and raised awareness of 423 police officers, prosecutors, regional senior officials, OAG middle level officials, and federal & regional public prosecutors on prevention of violence & crimes against women & children; human rights-based investigation; and anti-terrorism laws & crime investigation. In the five awareness raising sessions on human rights investigation techniques conducted, 510 federal & regional police leadership members/officers were trained for enhancing their skills and knowledge on human rights investigation techniques. Out of the 510 police leaders & officers who took part in the training, 40% were women leaders and officers The achievement of targets for the indicator was overachieved (150%);</p>	<p>Over target The training of trainer organized earlier on human rights education helped to increase the number of trainers to conduct the awareness raising sessions. In addition, the extra effort made by the EHRC were the factors for the over-achievement of the set target. Further support will be needed to enable ongoing support to the judicial reforms required at Federal & Regional levels to enhance the rule of law and access to justice.</p>

Sub-output 5.3: Established/strengthened mechanisms for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protection and violation;			
<p>Sub-output indicators: 5.3.1: Number of mechanisms established or strengthened for monitoring, compiling, and reporting of human rights protection and violations. 5.3.3: Number of stakeholders participated in familiarizing forums organized on the mechanisms for reporting of human rights protection and violations;</p>	<p>Targets: Indicator 5.3.1: EHRC targeted assessing effectiveness of 1 mechanism/case-flow management and establishing 1 electronic case-flow management mechanism/system; and 4 monitoring/assessments on human rights situation.</p> <p>Indicator 5.3.1 OAG planned 2 consultations and launching sessions on National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP)</p> <p>Indicator 5.3.2: OAG targeted 2 consultation sessions (CSOs engagement); and 3 training sessions (for awareness raising on the NHRAP); and 4 media programmes on human rights issues; and 1 Communication Strategy</p> <p>2 human rights monitoring visits and reports for prisons and detention centres in relation to COVID-19 and also 1 rapid assessment on the protection of the right to health and education in relation to COVID 19 pandemic – EHRC</p> <p>EBA/EMA: 1 training session for media professionals.</p>	<p>EHRC assessed the existing case-flow management & complaint handling mechanism for identifying gaps on systems' effectiveness, gender responsiveness & child friendliness. EHRC conducted 8 monitoring/assessments on various human rights situation of women, youth, IDPs and other vulnerable groups. The Commission compiled/produced the reports of its 8 assessments and validated and disseminated the findings and recommendations to relevant stakeholders at federal and regional levels. 3 monitoring/assessments focused on human rights issues of women, children, and other groups. The focus areas of the three assessments were on such as 1 on status of prevention of and response to Gender Based Violence (GBV)/ Violence Against Women & Children (VAWC) in selected institutions; 1 on the impact of COVID 19 on the prevention and response to GBV and Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP) in the seven regions and Addis Ababa City; and another 1 monitoring of rehabilitation centres for children in conflict with law. EHRC also monitored 2 prisons and detention centres and consultation of findings and recommendations conducted in Amhara and Gambella regions. Two monitoring/assessments of human rights situation of Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) in Shire (Tigray region) and Metekel (Benishangul and Gumuz region). One monitoring/assessment of human rights situation of Peoples with Disability (PWD) & elders living in Jijiga, Harar & Dire Dewa. OAG conducted three consultative sessions with different categories of stakeholders, which comprised CSOs, federal & regional officials, higher education institutions and other key actors, on the draft 3rd NHRAP. In the three consultation sessions around 247 representatives of key stakeholders participated and provided inputs. OAG also developed the 3rd NHRAP with inputs solicited in the three consultations sessions conducted on the draft document. OAG with MoP jointly conducted monitoring of human rights situation in 28 police and 11 prison centres and carried out consultation on the findings. OAG conducted 3 awareness raising training sessions on NHRAP; 4 media programmes on human rights issues. EHRC conducted monitoring of prisons and detention centers in 2 selected areas (Jimma and Jijiga) in relation to COVID 19 as prisoners identified as one of the vulnerable groups; and the Commission produced reports with recommendations on what should be done to protect, reduce negative impact of COVID 19 on persons in the prisons and detention centers. EHRC conducted one rapid assessment in Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Assossa, Gambella and Mekelle on the rights for health and education vis-à-vis COVID 19. EBA/EMA conducted a training workshop on court case reporting so as to ensure human rights protection. The overall achievement of targets for the indicators was 100%</p>	<p>TARGET ACHIEVED Further support to provide further support to the Justice sector will be important to promote and protect human rights particularly in a violent unrest/ conflict situations.</p> <p>Greater consultations undertaken in the development of the National Human Rights Action Planning processes</p>



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