

# Rule of Law and Human Rights: 2019 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

**UNDP's Global Programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development** seeks to underpin broader UN efforts in achieving lasting peace and sustainable development. The programme seeks to contribute to establishing a culture of respect for the rule of law and embedding human rights principles in UNDP's work to build integrated and sustainable solutions for people and planet. As the Decade of Action for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals has commenced, creating peaceful, just, and inclusive societies has never been more crucial.

Through the vessel of the Global Programme, which funded more than 40 crisis-affected contexts in 2019, UNDP strives to guarantee international human rights norms and the rule of

law as a cornerstone of international development. The Global Programme underwrites the Global Focal Point on the Rule of Law (co-led by UNDP and the UN Department of Peace Operations) as well as a number of catalytic partnerships with UN Women, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights among others. In 2019, these partnerships continued to scale-up and deliver coherent rule of law and human rights assistance.

In coordination with vital national partners and other actors, and with the crucial support of donors, the Global Programme focusses on seven key interlinked areas to strengthen the rule of law and human rights: Political Engagement; Institution Building; Community Security; Human Rights Systems; Access to Justice; Transitional Justice; and Gender Justice.

UN Photo / Albert Gonzalez Farran

## GLOBAL IMPACT

*82% of targets achieved in 2019*

**26** contexts have access to justice programmes at the community level

**22** contexts have improved capacities for oversight/governance in the security sector

**19** contexts have community-oriented policing programmes

**15** contexts have transitional justice processes/mechanisms

**24** contexts have strengthened institutions supporting the fulfillment of human rights obligations

**24** contexts have justice and security services in place to prevent, respond to, and address sexual and gender-based violence

# KEY RESULTS



## Political Engagement

**Burkina Faso:** A people-centred National Security Policy was developed and validated through a consultative, inclusive, and holistic process in a context of high insecurity.

**Malawi:** Through the Global Focal Point, UN OROLSI's Standing Police Capacity were deployed to assess the preparedness of the Malawi Police Service during the 2019 Tripartite elections. Based on that assessment 2,782 national police officers were trained on electoral security management, public order management and communication strategy, with respect to human rights. The electoral process and election day were held peacefully.



## Institution Building

**Armenia:** The Ministry of Justice received advisory capacity on justice sector reform, including constitutional amendments. The Government subsequently formed a Constitutional Review Commission.

**The Gambia:** Wide-ranging support to the Gambian constitutional review process was provided, including strengthening the institutional capacity of the Constitutional Review Commission and Secretariat through an induction, and by enabling office space and working tools for the Commission and its staff.



## Community Security

**Iraq:** The Police Affairs Agency and the Ministry of Interior initiated implementation of the Local Police Service Road Map which provides a strategy to transition the local police service from a military focused security force to a people centred public security service.

**Lebanon:** 552 out of 866 municipalities in 21 out of Lebanon's 25 districts were sensitized on the Municipal Police efforts to reform with 8 pilot municipalities fully implementing the reforms. More than 800 Municipal Police agents benefited from the specialized human rights-based Municipal Police trainings.



## Human Rights Systems

**Ukraine:** The Office of the Ombudsperson confirmed its A-status as a national human rights institution fully compliant with the Paris Principles, and the percentage of people expressing trust in the Office increased to 42.1% in 2019 (from 25.2% in 2018).

**Sudan:** Three new branches of the Sudan National Human Rights Commission were established, located in North Darfur and Kassala State.

**Bangladesh:** A sub-office of National Human Rights Commission was established in Cox's Bazar, the area hosting a high number of refugees from Myanmar, and capacitated with equipment and trained professionals to protect and promote human rights.



## Transitional Justice

**Colombia:** In partnership with the Victims Unit and the Presidential Cooperation Agency, the right to reparation of 12,475 victims of the armed conflict in 10 regions was fulfilled through 15 socio-economic initiatives indirectly benefiting over 55,220 people.

**Tunisia:** The Tunisian Truth and Dignity Commission, which investigates gross human rights violations committed by the Tunisian State since 1955 and provides compensation and rehabilitation to victims, transferred 214 cases to the 13 specialized criminal chambers. To date, 145 cases have been reviewed, with sensitization campaigns for 200 magistrates and 100 lawyers. A total of 105 judges, 117 lawyers and 16 prosecutors received a specialized training on transitional justice.



## Gender Justice

**Bangladesh:** 57 women seeking justice used the newly established Women's Police Desk and its facilities to submit their complaints and receive counselling services.

**Maldives:** UNDP supported justice sector reform efforts and advocated for greater gender representation in the judiciary. For the first time in the country's history two women were also appointed to the Supreme Court as part of the reform efforts.

**Haiti:** 298 police officers, magistrates, judges, and civil society leaders were sensitised and trained on mechanisms for investigation of sexual and gender-based violence reports.



## Access to Justice

**Myanmar:** In Rakhine State, legal assistance sessions were provided to fifteen out of seventeen townships on housing, land, and property rights.

**Guinea-Bissau:** A House of Justice was established as a one-stop shop for all basic justice services in Gabu region.

**Syria:** Four legal counselling clinics were established, which provided legal assistance to 1,190 people (390 men and 800 women) and resolved 274 of these cases.

# SIGNATURE INITIATIVES



## Sierra Leone Justice App

Online case management system designed to improve coordination of the overburdened case management system, fast-track court cases, improve justice sector information sharing and minimize logistical case transportation issues.

Designed to be used on tablet devices powered by a SIM card to enable data to be entered into the database in courtrooms without WIFI access, and with solar powered charging packs in case of power outages.

Approximately 150 cases were registered in 2019, with judges, magistrates and clerks from all 16 districts receiving training on the app, with 750 cases since its inception in 2017.



## Gender Justice in the Arab States

The regional report on [Gender Justice & Equality before the law: Analysis of progress and challenges in the Arab States region](#) was launched, in partnership with UN Women, UNFPA and ESCWA.

[The Gender Justice and Law Dashboard](#) illustrates the status of legislation related to gender justice in 18 Arab States, and serves to incentivize gender-sensitive legal and policy reform.

These tools also provide a roadmap and a baseline for governments and civil society to measure progress in the field of law and justice and to ensure that gender-specific indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals are met across the region.



## Regional War Crimes Project

Regional cooperation in war crimes processing in the Western Balkans has resulted in the identification and transfer of 9 war crimes cases from Bosnia and Herzegovina to Serbia and Croatia.

Regional cooperation between relevant national judicial services has created the possibility of finding practical and legal solutions to improve cross-border assistance to victims and witnesses of war crimes, thereby encouraging their participation in the justice process, including trials, investigations and the provision of testimonies.



## Global Focal Point for Rule of Law (GFP)

5 joint rule of law programmes were active in mission contexts in 2019 (Somalia, Libya, Central African Republic, Mali and Darfur, Sudan)

In 2019, GFP partners also continued to fill capacity gaps in UN Country Teams by offering joint rule of law assistance in at least 3 countries (Gabon, Liberia, and Malawi).

Accountability for gross human rights violations and survivor's access to justice has been strengthened in two fragile settings, DRC and CAR.

# FINANCIALS

## 2019 Contributions

United States\*  
\$16,336,161.00

Canada  
\$1,994,680.00

**Earmarked Contributions  
\$18,330,841.00**



**Unearmarked Contributions  
\$14,988,435.00**

- The Netherlands  
\$10,035,295.00
- Sweden  
\$1,691,557.00
- UNDP Core Funds (Staffing)  
\$1,297,863.00
- Switzerland  
\$995,976.00
- United Kingdom  
\$640,769.00
- Norway  
\$326,975.00

### In-Kind Contributions

Sweden  
Loaned staff

Japan  
Loaned staff

University of Pennsylvania Law School / Chubb  
Fellow

\*Does not include 2019 United States/INL contribution for the Community-Based Agriculture and Rural Development - Access to International Market (CBARD-AIM) project in Afghanistan (total = \$8,900,000.00 USD).

## 2019 Overall Support

*Activities and Expenditures*

**TOTAL \$5,436,379 (USD)**

- Technical Capacity  
\$2,929,617
- Policy Development  
\$423,304
- Policy Development (SDG16)  
\$84,115
- Policy Development (Human Rights)  
\$76,729
- Knowledge Management  
\$95,326
- Global Capacity Building and UN Agency Grants  
\$537,457
- Field Support from HQ  
\$215,529
- Programme Support  
\$671,607
- Support Costs (GMS)- 8%  
\$402,695



### Delivery Rate for 2019

\$13,828,238  
Opening 2019 Budget

\$4,286,120  
HQ/RH total

\$1,150,258  
CO total

\$6,727,500  
Pipeline allocation total

\$12,163,879  
Combined TOTAL for ROLHR GP



# PARTNERSHIPS

**The Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP).** The GFP, which provided joint rule of law support to 12 contexts in 2019 (Burkina Faso, CAR, Gabon, Haiti, Cameroon, Mali, Malawi, Darfur, Libya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Sao Tome and Principe)

**The Tripartite Partnership to Support National Human Rights Institutions (TPP).** The TPP between UNDP, OHCHR, and the Global Alliance for National Human Rights Institutions, was operationalized programmatically in Africa through joint initiatives to support 6 NHRIs (Egypt, The Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mali, and Mauritania).

**UNDP-UNHCR Global Partnership on Rule of Law and Governance.** In 2019 at the Global Refugee Forum, UNDP contributed to the Global Pledges by committing to work with UNHCR under the rule of law and governance partnership framework to support 20 countries.

**UN Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards.** In November 2019 UNDP and DPO finalised and co-launched Level 2 modules of the IDDRS outlining the revised UN Approach to DDR as co-chairs of the Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR along with its other 23 UN members and the Folke Bernadotte Academy of Sweden and BICC of Germany as strategic partners.



UNDP DRC/Aude Rossignol