



**United Nations
Human Rights
Appeal 2022**



**UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS**
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

**United Nations
Human Rights
Appeal 2022**

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Foreword by the High Commissioner



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This is a critical period in world affairs. Humanity is reeling from setbacks sparked by COVID-19, and struggling to prevent further environmental catastrophe. Poverty, hunger and inequalities have sharply increased – and with them, deeply rooted grievances.

Yet we can prevent catastrophic climate change. And even in low-income contexts, we can establish universal social protection measures and take action to end discrimination, advance the rule of law and uphold human rights. Not only is this work feasible – it has demonstrated its efficacy in the COVID-19 pandemic's terrible first two years.

The Common Agenda set out by the UN Secretary-General in September 2021 calls for renewed solidarity between peoples and future generations; a new social contract anchored in human rights; better management of critical issues involving peace, development, health and our planet; and a revitalised multilateralism that can meet the challenges of our times.

This is an agenda of action – and an agenda of rights.

In 2022 and beyond, my Office will be working within this framework to help States and our partners anchor trust, social cohesion, justice and human rights into their policies and achievements.

Concretely, this means strengthening implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and pushing back against discrimination of all kinds.

It means moving from the temporary pandemic measures to shore up health

And even in low-income contexts, we can establish universal social protection measures and take action to end discrimination, advance the rule of law and uphold human rights.

care and income protection to long-term investments in universal social protections – including universal health coverage – as well as decent housing, decent work, and access to quality education. It also means investment to bridge the digital divide.

It means decisive action to uphold climate justice and the universal human right to a healthy environment.

It means empowering people everywhere to speak up freely and protecting civic space so that individuals can meaningfully participate in the decisions that may affect their lives.

In 2022, combatting inequalities will be at the core of our work, reinforcing everything the Office achieves across our 103 field presences and headquarters.

We will further strengthen the Surge Initiative that has helped us expand our work for the realization of economic and social rights, with development policies

that advance climate solutions and work harder to leave no one behind.

Across the world, we will continue to advance our Agenda Towards Transformative Change for Racial Justice and Equality – reversing the systemic racism endured by people of African descent. We will seek to strengthen accountability for law enforcement officials involved in the deaths of people of African descent, and aim to bring more visibility to the obstacles that impede their families' pursuit of truth and justice.

We will also continue to develop concrete guidance for a gender-responsive recovery from crises, encompassing the pandemic, environmental crises and conflicts.

Real dialogue that allows for all voices to be heard – and vibrant debate, offline and online – is essential for countries to build back better. We will promote participation and advance a rights-based approach to the use of digital technology. We will also better leverage data for the promotion and protection of human rights.

You will find in this Appeal many examples of our concrete work to restore and uphold human rights in every region.

But we need your help.

Your financial assistance has been essential to our work, and I take this opportunity to thank the 84 donors who demonstrated their commitment to human rights and their confidence in the Office, by donating US\$210.5 million* last year.

* Figures are estimated as of 10 December 2021 and will be adjusted and confirmed upon the final closure of the 2021 accounts.

I am also grateful for your partnership. Your advice, suggestions and your critiques – are deeply valuable to us. As we take on this challenging, but essential work of building back from disaster, I count on your support.

Michelle Bachelet

United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights

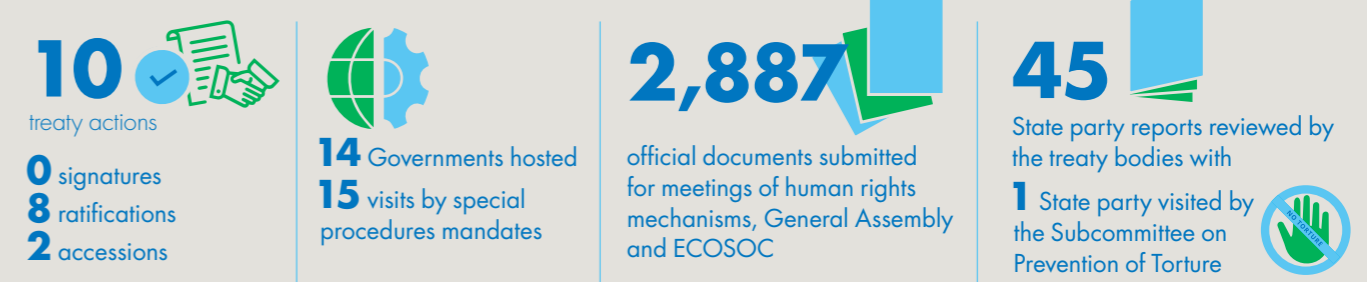
UN Human Rights in 2021

Mandate

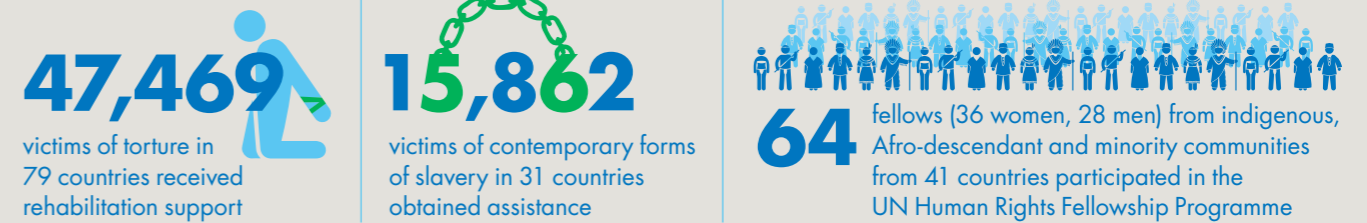


2021 Facts and figures

MEMBER STATE COOPERATION



PEOPLE-CENTERED



HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS SUPPORT



HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION IN THE UN



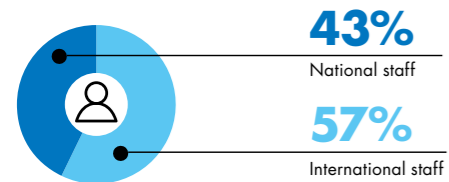
CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT



Global presence in 2021



Staff distribution by category



1,632 staff

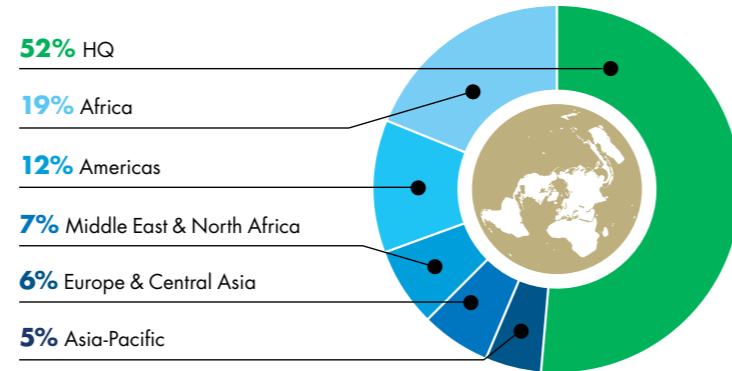
152 nationalities

560 staff in peace missions

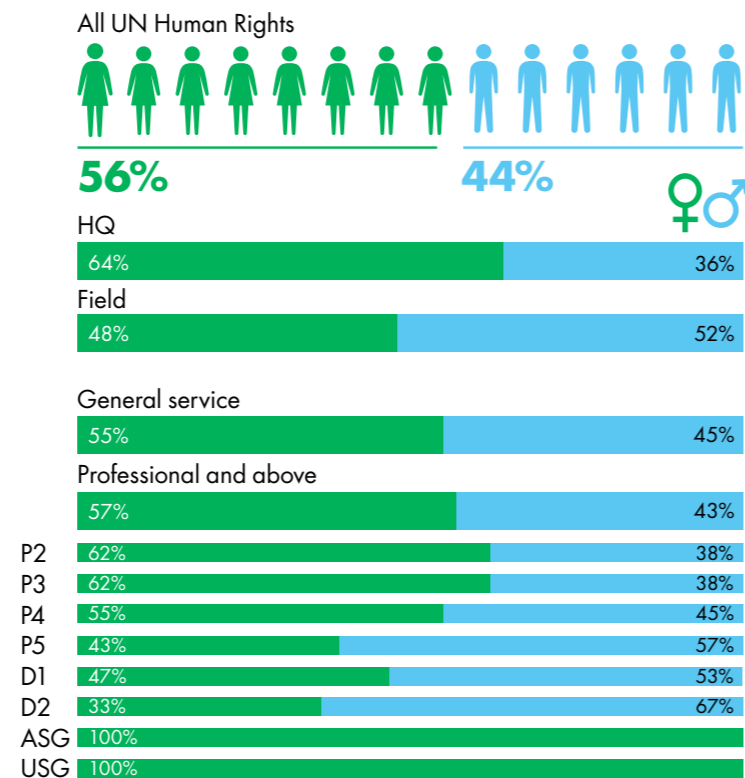
25 JPOs sponsored by **12** Member States

Notes: The data include all UN Human Rights and UNDP-administered staff in the General Service, National Officer, Professional and higher categories on temporary, permanent, continuing and fixed-term appointments. Locally recruited staff in the General Service category are considered as national staff. HQ includes staff at the Geneva and New York locations.

Staff distribution by location at HQ and in the field

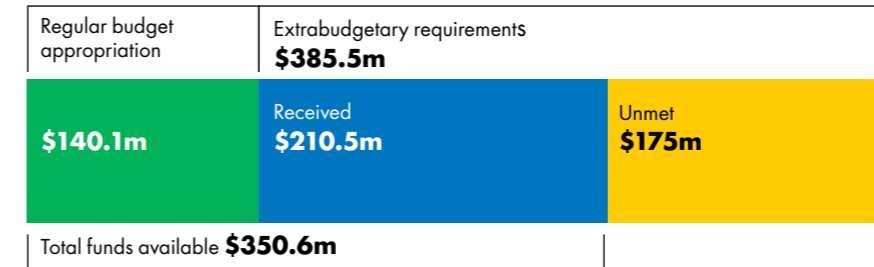


Staff distribution by gender

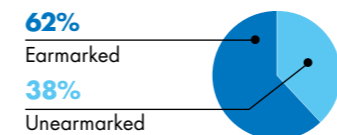


Funding overview in 2021

Income



Voluntary contributions

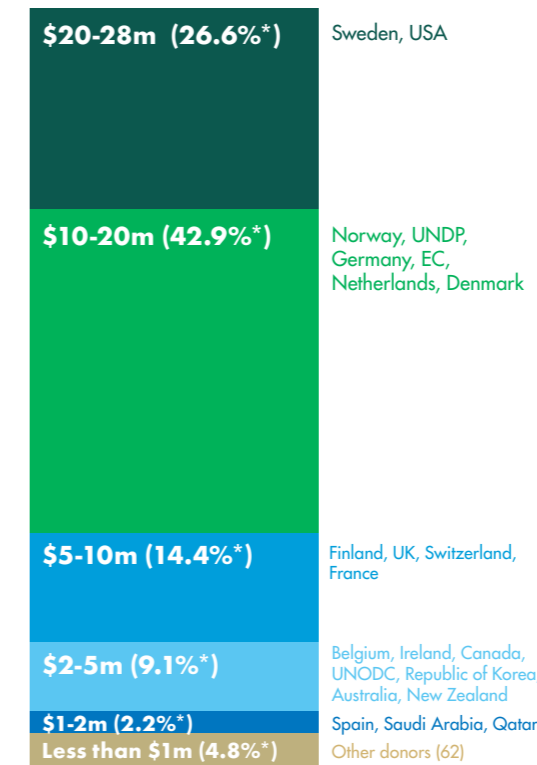


* Of total amount of voluntary contributions.

** Donors are listed according to their level of contribution.

Figures are estimated as of 10 December 2021 and need to be adjusted and confirmed upon the final closure of the 2021 accounts.

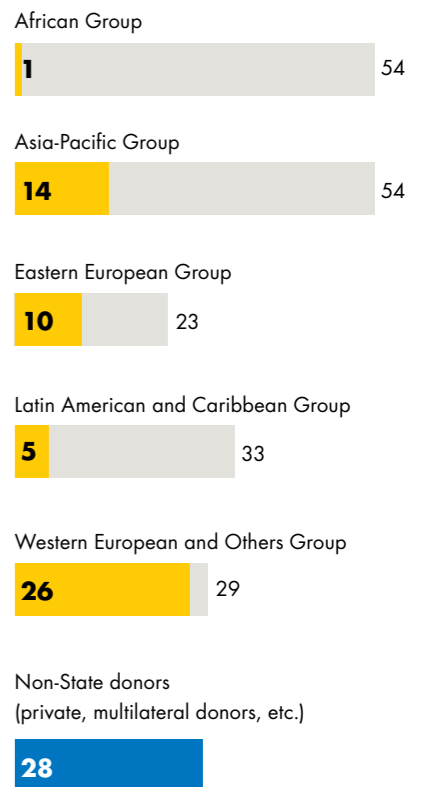
Breakdown of donors by brackets of contributions**



Donors



Breakdown of donors by geographic group



Roadmap to 2022

This Annual Appeal presents the financial requirements for our work in 2022, under the Secretary-General’s Strategic Framework and as guided by the OHCHR Management Plan (OMP).

Our OMP combines the High Commissioner’s vision for the Office with a strong results framework. It details our priorities, expected results and strategies, and is a tool to hold ourselves accountable to the people we serve, to Member States and to the entire UN System.

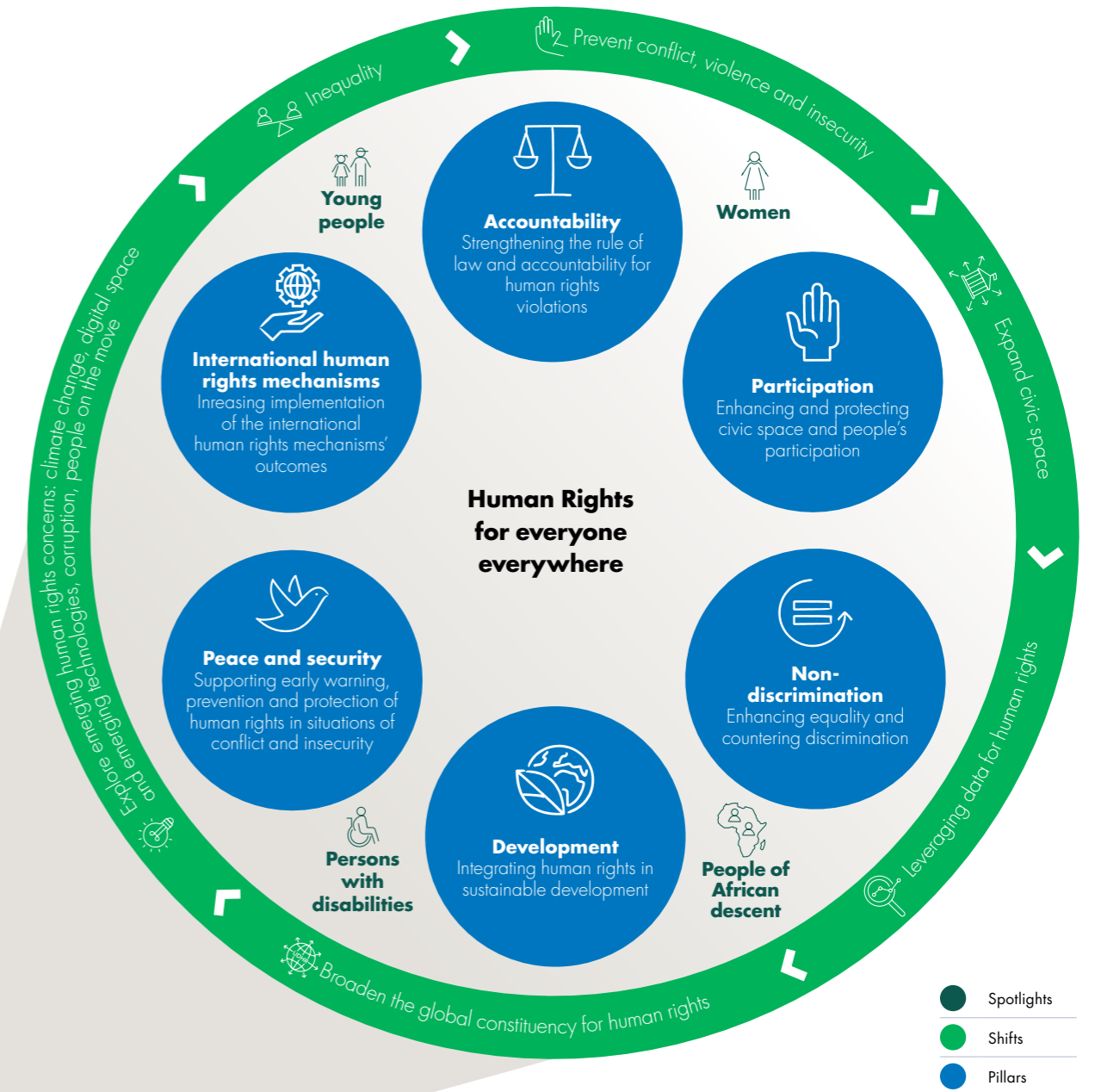
While our Management Plan usually covers a four-year period, we decided to extend the 2018-2021 OMP through 2022 and 2023. We made this choice because the existing OMP is comprehensive and has proven to be an adaptable framework as we address the daunting human rights challenges we confront, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to extending the current OMP, we are updating it to recalibrate, renew and introduce work areas to sharpen our engagement on immediate opportunities and challenges. We will maintain the six pillars that undergird our global efforts to advance the enjoyment of all human rights, by all. Building on the foundation established by these pillars, we have defined two additional shifts for 2022 and 2023, namely inequality and leveraging data for human rights, along with one additional spotlight population. While we will continue combatting all forms of discrimination, these spotlight populations allow us to focus on specific groups, bolstering our contribution to the 2030 Agenda’s guiding principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB).

Within this framework, in 2022 and 2023, we will confront today’s most compelling human rights challenges by giving more prominence to three areas of work:

- **Inequality** – The global pandemic has brought extraordinary challenges to our world. It has exposed a generation of underinvestment in public health systems, with devastating results for humanity, and has uncovered the many negative human rights impacts that result from growing inequality.
- **The situation of people of African descent** – The discrimination that accompanies inequalities affects all marginalized groups, and people of African descent have long borne the harmful effects of heightened discrimination and violence. Transformative change for racial justice and equality is set out in the High Commissioner’s four-point agenda to end systemic racism and human rights violations by law enforcement agencies against Africans and people of African descent.
- **Leveraging data for human rights** – The focus on leveraging data will improve analysis and decision-making along the full spectrum of human rights. This expansion responds to the Secretary-General’s vision for the United Nations to be a data-driven organization and to deliver optimal value for people and the planet.

OMP at a glance





A New Andong village resident grills meat for sale in New Andong village, a relocation site established in 2016 by the Municipality of Phnom Penh. Thanks to OHCHR and CSOs' advocacy, improvements in terms of housing and water and sanitation were made to the original plans and positioned New Andong as a relatively good example of resettlement site. Cambodia on November 14, 2018. ©OHCHR

Build back fairer

“The triumph of the vaccines — developed and brought to market in record speed — is being undone by the tragedy of an unequal distribution. Three quarters of all vaccines have gone to high- and upper-middle-income countries. Vaccine nationalism and hoarding are putting us all at risk.”

António Guterres,
UN Secretary-General

The spread of COVID-19 has had far-reaching socioeconomic consequences. It has eroded years of progress achieved around the world towards fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with vulnerable and marginalized people bearing the brunt. The pandemic has exposed the weaknesses of political, economic and social systems. It has intensified patterns of poverty, inequalities, stigma, discrimination, exclusion, environmental degradation and other gaps in human rights protection. Existing structural and systemic discrimination and pervasive inequalities, which harm millions of people and hold back every society, continue to deteriorate. COVID-19 also highlighted the importance of core human rights issues such as access to reliable and free flow of information, the ability to influence decision-making and voice opinions, and the crucial role of civil society in responding to the crisis.

The slow and uneven rollout of COVID-19 vaccines exacerbated inequalities within and among countries and has emerged as the principal fault line of the global recovery, since access to vaccines remains one of the most successful approaches to fighting the pandemic. In low- and middle-income countries, lack of access to vaccines along with fiscal constraints

prevent countries from addressing the worst impacts of the pandemic and hinder recovery. The optimism that prevailed at the beginning of 2021 has faded with new waves of the pandemic, the appearance of COVID variants, vaccine inequity and the related uneven economic recovery.

In light of this deterioration, UN Human Rights has called for an end to vaccine nationalism. Inequitable distribution of vaccines across countries, or stockpiling of vaccines, runs contrary to States' human rights obligations for international cooperation and undermines the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Vaccines must be treated as global public goods available to all, especially those most in need, without discrimination.

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to inflict untold suffering and loss, it also provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform societies by addressing discrimination and inequality, exclusion, gaps in social protection systems, the climate crisis and the many other fragilities and injustices that have been exposed. UN Human Rights is actively working with Member States and other key partners to ensure that we do not backslide into unsustainable systems and unfair approaches, and instead seize the opportunity to transition

to a more inclusive, equal, resilient, just, and sustainable system anchored in human rights.

In 2022, UN Human Rights is committed to playing an active part in the UN Secretary-General's vision of a "renewed social contract anchored in human rights" as set out in his report, "Our Common Agenda". UN Human Rights will further support efforts to foster a "global new deal" to underpin the new social contract to recover better together towards a society of equal opportunities and respect for the rights and freedoms of all.

States have an obligation to use their maximum available resources for the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights. Long-term investment in public health and social protection is a critical step towards the Secretary-General's social contract. Robust universal public health systems and social protection are essential building blocks to deliver adequate standards of living and ensure the resilience of societies and economies to future crises.

Our Management Plan for 2022 and 2023 sharpens the Office's engagement on these immediate challenges and seizes opportunities to build back better and fairer.

UN Human Rights' role in the COVID-19 response and recovery

Our work relating to COVID-19 aims to embed human rights in the response of States, UN partners, civil society and the private sector, and to ensure that inequalities and human rights gaps are addressed in efforts to build back better.

In 2022, we will build on our achievements and continue to:

- Step up tailored support to countries to integrate human rights in their recovery efforts as they address the economic and social rights impacts of the crisis. We will feed expertise into field presences and UN Country Teams regarding emerging good practices, including on macroeconomic policies (budgets, debt, taxation, austerity measures) and structural reform demonstrating the value-added that a human rights lens can bring. Our perspective looks both at how to avoid exacerbating current protection gaps, and also at how this crisis can transform economies and social protection going forward.
- Enhance our engagement on vaccines, social protection, health and other economic and social rights. We will continue to advocate for equal access to vaccines and for States to invest in long-term strengthening of health systems through universal health coverage. Together with our UN system partners, we will also continue our work to support the building of universal social protection systems to overcome and prevent crises.
- Monitor, report and analyse COVID-19 impacts and government actions and responses. Our field presences, especially at the regional level, will consider the COVID-19 context in monitoring human rights, with emphasis on COVID-19 related impacts, including gendered impacts, on marginalized and vulnerable groups, and the use of the pandemic to restrict human rights and freedoms as well as civic space. These reports will allow

UN Human Rights' senior leadership to better engage and advance the human rights agenda with key stakeholders.

- Support the human rights mechanisms to contribute to the COVID-19 response and recovery. The UN Human Rights Council, the Treaty Bodies, the special procedures, and the Universal Periodic Review

all play helpful roles in building a stronger, more effective human rights-based response to COVID-19, and to addressing the human rights implications of this crisis. Through its role supporting those mechanisms, UN Human Rights works to ensure their expertise is brought into the response, and informs practical guidance for States and the UN system.



During 2020, UN Human Rights launched an art and illustration-based campaign to raise awareness about the human rights impacts of COVID-19. With the support of UN Human Rights, the CSO, Imprint of Hope, worked with artists to produce 20 murals, ranging from 20 to 45 metres in length, in 10 of Baghdad's neighbourhoods. ©OHCHR



A schoolboy walks to school during the partial reopening of schools, after the government scrapped plans to cancel the academic year due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, in Kibera slums of Nairobi, Kenya October 12, 2020. ©REUTERS/Thomas Mukoya

The inequality shift

The pervasiveness of adverse human rights impacts that flow from inequality requires us to renew our focus in our programming. The pandemic has brought extraordinary challenges to our world, exposing a generation of underinvestment in public health systems and in economic and social rights more broadly, with devastating results for humanity. Still, as the Secretary-General makes clear in Our Common Agenda and in his Call to Action for Human Rights, effectively answering calls to Build Back Better and Leave No One Behind can overcome the challenge of inequality, if pandemic response and development policies and programmes are anchored in a comprehensive approach to human rights.

Across our six pillars of work, we will mainstream an inequality shift to better leverage our human rights impact and ensure greater coherence in all we do.

ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH HUMAN RIGHTS

In the context of COVID-19 recoveries, UN Human Rights is stepping up its work to place human rights at the centre of concerted efforts by the United Nations (UN) at the country level to support States and national stakeholders in addressing inequalities and achieving the SDGs.

Building the UN Secretary-General's vision of a "renewed social contract anchored in human rights" calls for a renewed commitment to economic and social rights, including investing the maximum of available resources in the realization of these rights, aligning development financing with States' human rights obligations and reversing decades of under-spending on health care, social protection, quality education, clean water, housing and other fundamental rights. This requires particular attention to the critical role of macroeconomic policies in curbing inequalities and advancing the enjoyment of human rights for all, without discrimination. It is in this context

that the High Commissioner has called for a human rights-based economy that promotes the right to a clean and healthy environment and people-centred economic policy-making, through greater transparency, accountability, and meaningful participation.

The triple planetary crises of climate change, pollution and nature loss disproportionately affect the rights of persons and groups in vulnerable situations. While they contributed very little, if anything, to these crises, they are often among the first to be harmed by them. A human rights-based approach to environmental action addresses this inequity, demands proactive action to prevent foreseeable harms, and guarantees their rights to participation, access to information and access to justice in environmental matters. Throughout 2021, UN Human Rights worked to advance a rights-based approach to environmental action, promote recognition and strengthen implementation of the

"Gross inequalities within and between our countries have shaped the course of the pandemic, directing its impacts towards those least protected from harm."

Michelle Bachelet,
UN High Commissioner for
Human Rights

human right to a healthy environment. It proved to be a landmark year, with new Human Rights Council resolutions recognizing the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (48/13) and the establishment of a Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change (48/14).

In 2021, UN Human Rights also worked to better protect environmental human rights defenders in the **Pacific, Kenya and Mexico**, to protect the rights and river basins of **indigenous and Afro-descendant communities in Colombia**, to address human rights protection gaps emerging from climate change-related human mobility in the **Sahel**, to develop principles and guidelines to protect children's rights to a healthy environment in **Southeast Asia**, and to advance climate justice, including at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Office supported the implementation of the landmark Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement. And together with the UN Brussels Team, OHCHR continued to share expertise and advocate for a strengthened integration of human rights principles and norms in the EU Green Deal and related policy and legislative proposals.

OHCHR's **Surge Initiative** aims to accelerate the realization of economic and social rights and creates conditions to build back better, leave no one behind and reduce inequalities, contributing to the rights-based implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Surge Initiative focuses on engagement at country level, working closely with UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and in the

context of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) and Common Country Analyses (CCAs). It brings together economists and human rights experts to insert human rights into fiscal and macroeconomic policymaking. This takes place through the UN economists network and includes human rights-based budgeting and progressive taxation¹. By addressing inequalities in UN risk analysis and early warning processes such as Regional Monthly Reviews (RMRs), the Surge can also contribute to the Prevention Agenda.

A lesson from the Surge Initiative is the value of field-led, multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches to policy analysis and advice that are country- and context-specific. In **Lebanon**, for example, we supported the development of a UNCT position paper for use during International Monetary Fund (IMF) technical discussions on required financial, economic and social reforms, processes and programmes. One of the paper's recommendations, concerning the need to strengthen national human rights mechanisms and adequately resource the National Human Rights Institution, was taken on board by the Lebanon Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction Framework led by the UN system, the World Bank and the European Union. In **Ukraine**, we developed a [UN Policy Paper on Social Protection](#). In 2019, the Government spent 23 per cent of its total budget on social protection, more than half of it on pensions. But weak targeting and low coverage continued to undermine Ukraine's efforts to reduce poverty and inequality. The paper therefore aimed to initiate a dialogue with national authorities on the need for ongoing pension

¹ See story on pp. 32-33 of this brochure for an illustration of the Surge Initiative's work.



A slum dweller woman carries drinking water in Dhaka, Bangladesh, September 15, 2020. ©REUTERS/Mohammad Ponir Hossain

reforms to be aligned with human rights obligations, norms and standards and to provide concrete suggestions on the design of a universal social protection system. In **Cambodia**, we provided human rights-based macroeconomic inputs for the country's socioeconomic recovery plan, within the framework of leaving no one behind and incorporating a gender-sensitive perspective. Our inputs identified the need for counter-cyclical measures to ensure minimum essential levels of the rights to health and social protection and the use of tax policies to generate maximum available resources, while highlighting the different impacts on workers in the informal or formal sectors. This work strengthened collaboration among members of the UNCT in addressing uneven development, and paved the way for joint strategic advocacy to expand fiscal space for the realization of economic and social rights, especially for marginalized

communities. An example of this collaboration was a recent UNCT public information note which shows that the UNCT has firmly prioritized the protection of ESCR and is working in close collaboration with the Royal Government of Cambodia to curb inequalities and inform critical changes. In **Zambia**, we supported the joint Government-UN-EU-World Bank task force, which conducted a COVID-19 pandemic recovery needs assessment amid a debt crisis and risks of instability. The Surge Initiative's analysis of the impact of debt-servicing on economic and social rights and possible options to expand fiscal space for increased social spending through progressive taxation were incorporated into the recommendations of the COVID-19 needs assessment report, leading to a decision by the Government to continue increasing its social sector spending.

In 2022, we plan to:

- Continue to enhance and decentralize our work on environment and climate change by greatly increasing dedicated capacity in field presences and shoring up support and expertise at Headquarters.
- Work to increase our effectiveness in the environmental arena through strategic collaboration within the UN system. We are developing a three-year joint programming proposal with UNEP to operationalize the OHCHR-UNEP Memorandum of Understanding and contribute to activities that support the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights. The programme will focus on joint action to enhance protection of environmental human rights defenders and expand civic space; integrate human rights, including the right to a healthy environment, in UN processes; and enhance States' and other actors' abilities to promote and protect the right to a healthy environment.
- Continue, through the Surge Initiative, to provide field presences and UNCTs with specialized policy advice on COVID-19 socioeconomic recovery plans that place human rights and gender equality at their centre.
- Focus, in collaboration with other parts of the UN development system, on curbing discrimination and inequalities and avoiding further economic burden on disadvantaged groups disproportionately affected by COVID-19.
- Advise on human rights-based public budgeting, maximizing available resources for investment in economic and social rights; aligning development financing with States' human rights obligations; and designing human rights-based SDG country strategies.

- Reinforce our partnerships within and outside the UN system and expand our engagement with the International Financial Institutions (IFI), contributing to joint advocacy to address economic inequality.
- Develop guidance grounded on evidence-based research and good practices on human rights-based approaches to social protection and universal health coverage to curb inequality and build resilient and equitable societies.
- Work with WHO and other UN partners under the Global Health Cluster to monitor global access and distribution of vaccines, especially for marginalized and excluded groups, and support field presences in vaccines-related work with guidance and advocacy tools.
- Scale up our support to States in developing and collecting data on human rights indicators, including the four SDG indicators under our custodianship, COVID-19 human rights indicators, indicators on early warning, inequality, structural causes of racism and racial discrimination, and evidence-based monitoring efforts to advance human rights protections for all.
- Improve the availability of data for UNCTs and governments to support Leave No One Behind efforts and promote human rights and SDG indicators to guide new CCAs and monitor sustainable development cooperation frameworks.



A little boy plays with a dog in the Roma village of Schinoasa, Republic of Moldova, July 2018.
©OHCHR

ENHANCING EQUALITY AND COUNTERING DISCRIMINATION

At the core of UN Human Rights' work is the promotion of equality, non-discrimination, diversity and inclusion of all groups of people, particularly those most marginalized and vulnerable.

The current global crisis has highlighted glaring disparities between different groups' enjoyment of human rights. It again demonstrates that racism, discrimination and poverty form a vicious cycle, as discrimination leads to economic deprivation, while poverty heightens the multiple impacts of bigotry. In "building back better" from the pandemic, governments will be called upon to identify innovative and inclusive ways to develop more resilient, equitable and sustainable societies, in which the human rights of citizens are more effectively guaranteed and the most vulnerable are reached. Additionally, gathering and publishing data disaggregated by sex, age, racial or ethnic origin and other status on testing, cases and deaths and access to vaccines related to COVID-19 is key to finding tailored solutions. Finally, it is also essential to leverage such data to develop evidence-based policies that specifically target those most in need.

UN Human Rights works to support the participation and inclusion of **persons belonging to minorities**. Our Minority Fellowship Programme places Senior

Minority Fellows in field presences or UNCTs to enhance the UN's work on minorities at country level. We also co-chair, with UNESCO, the United Nations Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, which in 2021 launched a [Checklist to strengthen UN work at country level to combat racial discrimination and advance minority rights](#), a tool that helps integrate minorities into development programming and conflict prevention efforts.

The Office also works to promote the human rights of **people of African descent**, who often face racial discrimination, marginalization and exclusion shaped by historical legacies, mutually reinforced through cycles of structural inequalities. In June 2021, a report by the High Commissioner on racial justice and equality, pursuant to HRC resolution 43/1, introduced her agenda to end systemic racism and human rights violations by law enforcement officers against Africans and people of African descent, and called upon States to translate this agenda into action plans and concrete measures.

UN Human Rights conducts multiple efforts at country, regional and international levels to protect and promote the rights of **indigenous peoples**, and we advocate for their effective and meaningful participation and leadership in

COVID-19 response and mitigation strategies. For example, in **Ecuador, Guatemala and Paraguay**, we supported assessments on the human rights impact of the pandemic on indigenous peoples, provided recommendations for action, and facilitated spaces for dialogue to address the crisis. We also support stronger State capacity to ensure that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples is obtained on all matters affecting them. In **Uganda**, UN Human Rights, together with UN DESA and UN Women, is supporting the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to develop an Affirmative Action Programme on the rights of indigenous peoples, in close consultation with the indigenous communities concerned.

We also work to promote and protect the rights of **young people**, particularly through the work of the OHCHR4Youth Network, which among other things includes youth officers in **Geneva, Beirut, Bishkek, Dakar, Guatemala City and Suva**, and engages with young people, youth-led organizations and national youth councils. We work to advance the participation of youth in political and public affairs, and we advocate for human rights education and training of young people. We also mainstream the rights of young people into the work of human rights mechanisms and advocate for youth participation in human rights intergovernmental forums. Finally, we support governments in integrating a human rights-based approach into the development of youth policies. For example, we provided inputs to the National Youth Policy of **Fiji** and the draft constitution of **Kyrgyzstan**. We also delivered capacity building workshops to the National Youth Council of **Guatemala** (CONJUVE) on how to meaningfully engage with youth.

COVID-19 has also exacerbated social and economic inequalities among **women**, undermining their economic security and resilience against shocks. Pre-existing gender inequality and discriminatory gender stereotypes – reflected as gender pay gaps, concentration of women in low-paid, precarious and often informal work, unequal access to financial and productive resources and social protection, undervaluation of unpaid and underpaid care work mostly performed by women and girls – have led to slower recovery compared to men. UN Human Rights also works on women's economic security and COVID-19 responses in the field through the Surge Initiative. For example, the Regional Office for West Africa conducted a joint rapid regional survey with UN Women and UNICEF to assess the impact of COVID-19 on women and men in nine countries in the **Western and Central Africa** region, including the impact on their economic life.

The COVID-19 emergency also showed that **persons with disabilities** were further excluded from community life during the pandemic, with a disproportionate impact on the right to life for those living in institutions. Community-based support systems serve to mitigate this disproportionate impact. Human support, assistive technologies, transportation, housing, supported decision-making to uphold the right to legal capacity and provision of other support services that prevent institutionalization are preconditions for engaging in health, education and employment, and development generally. The Office works to provide technical advice and support to countries to enhance the participation of persons with disabilities in policy and decision-making. For example, the Office developed tools to support identifying and addressing challenges faced by persons with disabilities in the

COVID-19 pandemic by implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the SDGs. This includes guidelines and a report on case studies from eight countries with immediate and long-term recommendations for the inclusion of persons with disabilities throughout the COVID-19 response and recovery.

We are strengthening our advocacy to promote the human rights of **older persons** in the COVID-19 response. With WHO and other UN partners, we are co-leading interagency efforts to support the implementation of the new UN Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-2030. We have also co-launched the new Global Report on Ageism, as well as a regional initiative to uphold the rights and dignity of older persons in connection with the COVID-19 response in **Eastern Europe and Central Asia**. Moreover, several UN Human Rights field presences have monitored the situation of older persons in the pandemic and advocated for their protection, including in **Azerbaijan, Bolivia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Guatemala, Panama, the Republic of Moldova, Mozambique, Serbia, Ukraine and Zimbabwe**.

Finally, the COVID-19 crisis has also exacerbated many of the human rights challenges already faced by **migrants**, including limited access to health care and other essential services. At the same time, the pandemic highlighted the crucial role of migrants as providers of essential services and valued members of communities around the world. In 2021, we released guidance on the human rights of migrants in the context of COVID-19 and on access to vaccines for all migrants. We also co-led the UN Migration Network's efforts to produce guidance note on pathways for admission and stay for migrants in vul-

nerable situations. The note builds on the promising practice by States to regularize or improve the status of migrants during the pandemic. We also monitored and reported on the impact of the pandemic on migrants' rights in several national and regional contexts, including in **Libya**.

In 2022, we plan to:

- Work with States to implement the High Commissioner's four-point agenda to end systemic racism and human rights violations by law enforcement agencies, including against Africans and people of African descent. This will include strengthening assistance to States and other stakeholders, documenting and following up on specific incidents, consulting and partnering with victims, survivors and affected communities, and providing guidance for relevant racial justice processes in States.



A vaccination center against the coronavirus in Kigali, Rwanda, 13 March 2021. Rwanda has administered the Covid-19 vaccine to 416 refugees and asylum seekers as part of its immunization campaign. ©Str / Latin America News Agency via Reuters Connect

- Train 20-25 young leaders of African descent from all regions. UN Human Rights' annual three-week Fellowship Programme for people of African descent is designed to help protect and promote human rights of people of African descent in their respective countries and is instrumental in building up a global constituency to support and promote the implementation of the International Decade for People of African descent.
- Increase our engagement with youth at the national and regional levels, through cooperation with youth-led organizations and platforms, and mainstream a rights-based approach to youth throughout the UN system's work.
- Consolidate the work on COVID-19 responses developed in 2020-2021 through different streams of work – women's leadership and feminist movements, gender and socioeconomic equality, gender-based violence (including harmful practices), sexual and reproductive rights, and discrimination against LGBTI people – and develop actionable guidance for a comprehensive gender-responsive approach to recoveries from crises.
- Work on community-based support systems to ensure the participation of persons with disabilities.
- Work with partners to combat ageism and age discrimination under the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing and support the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing to develop a dedicated international instrument on the human rights of older persons.
- Release guidance on human rights monitoring in the context of migration, including during COVID-19, and build the capacity of civil society organizations, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI) and other stakeholders to monitor and report on the human rights of migrants.
- Continue to roll out campaigns and actively engage in challenging and reframing harmful narratives on migration, capitalizing on the lessons of this pandemic.
- Support UNCTs to leverage recommendations emanating from the human rights mechanisms to promote anti-discrimination activities in support of the most vulnerable and marginalized persons.

“We need to rebuild our nations - instead of leaving people behind, and holding them back, we must value and promote the contributions of everyone, for the benefit of all.”

Nada Al-Nashif,
UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

ENHANCING PARTICIPATION AND PROTECTING CIVIC SPACE

Meaningful participation is at the core of UN Human Rights' work.

The Secretary-General, in “Our Common Agenda”, has described trust as a key ingredient for resilient, well-functioning societies and, consequently, for sustainable development and peace. Trust relies on people feeling that they are taken seriously, that their dignity is respected, and that their voices are heard. Inclusive and meaningful participation at all levels is the tool that can make this a reality.

Safe, effective and inclusive participation implies that people from different communities, with different backgrounds, can express their opinions and engage in vibrant debate, influencing public decision-making. Participation relies on respect for human rights, which includes access to information, a free media, an empowered civil society, transparency, and an open, accessible and privacy-respecting internet. These conditions are needed to identify common ground and chart a way forward on which different constituencies can agree.

For those who participate in public debates and decision-making, safety is key, offline and online. People who advocate for environmental rights, for better health and education and for the rights of excluded groups and populations, or who

speak out against development projects they find flawed, against dubious business practices or against corruption often put themselves at risk.

COVID-19 has also reinforced the urgency of preserving and expanding civic space. In 2021, we continued advocating for the participation of civil society in developing responses to the pandemic, including groups likely to be left behind. This includes making the internet safe and accessible without resorting to blank shutdowns and censorship.

We assist governments in their efforts to design better and more inclusive participation channels and support human rights defenders networks in different regions, including women's rights networks. For example, we helped strengthen the East Africa Women Human Rights Defenders Network. In **Fiji**, we launched an academic course on Human Rights Defenders and in **Kosovo**, we supported organizations from different ethnic backgrounds in documenting and monitoring human rights on a common platform. We also worked with State mechanisms in **Mexico** and **Colombia** that protect participation and engagement.

Journalists play an indispensable role in our societies, yet they increasingly lack the safety and space essential for their import-

ant task. Working closely with UNESCO, we support national mechanisms that prevent attacks on media freedom and protect journalists. In **Mexico**, UN Human Rights conducted public campaigns to end impunity for crimes against journalists. In **Somalia**, we provided human rights training for journalists in the Jubba Hoose region.

The Office has also monitored human rights and provided technical assistance for many electoral processes around the world, including in **Bolivia**, **Chad**, **Congo (Rep.)**, **Ecuador**, **Ethiopia**, and **Peru**. In the **Central African Republic**, the **Niger** and **Uganda**, we helped strengthen the capacity of State institutions and civil society in early warning and monitoring human rights during elections.

In 2022, we plan to:

- Continue supporting the UN in building trust through renewed strategic civic space efforts in line with the system-wide Guidance Note on Civic Space and based on the Secretary-General's “Our Common Agenda”. Special attention will be paid to the UN's convening and advocacy roles regarding good practices and challenges relating to online civic space.

- Work with UNCTs to improve civic space analysis and strategies and identify innovative UN practices at country level.
- Continue to support and strengthen networks and coalitions, establish better links between networks and develop more compelling narratives to increase public support. We will also redouble efforts in the field to include the online dimension in protection efforts, such as digital security and better identification and documentation of organized online attacks. Finally, we will continue to facilitate learning about innovative protection practices, including on social media platforms.
- Advocate for genuine elections that respect human rights standards and provide tools for State authorities and civil society to increase public participation in electoral and non-electoral contexts.
- Continue our efforts to inject human rights into discussions on regulating the online space to serve humanity. We will produce guidance and policy papers on key issues, including freedom of expression, internet shutdowns, the right to privacy in the digital space and online surveillance, online content moderation, effective remedies for online censorship and thresholds between illegal and unpleasant speech. We will also continue to identify ways to better document online attacks and their impact on civic space.
- Pursue our efforts to strengthen UN online participation channels for civil society, at international and country levels, including with the human rights mechanisms.
- Continue to support the work on reprisals and intimidation human rights defenders may face due to cooperation with the UN. We will raise awareness of online issues and digital security needs and develop further guidance to improve prevention.

INCREASING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS

Provisions for equality and non-discrimination feature in most international human rights treaties, special procedures, treaty bodies and UPR recommendations. These provisions are at the heart of the work of several special procedures, notably those on economic, social and cultural rights, the human right to a healthy environment, poverty, health, disabilities, sexual orientation, minorities, racism and racial discrimination and other forms of discrimination. Special procedures address discrimination and inequalities in all their activities, particularly in their thematic work and recommendations, their country visit conclusions and recommendations, their communications to States and non-state actors and all related outreach activities. The cross-cutting topic of equality and non-discrimination represents a broad recurring theme in the recommendations of treaty bodies and covers various grounds of discrimination, depending on the treaty and its specific provisions. Recommendations focus on national or domestic implementation and are specific, such as discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity or gender equality. Other broad topics cover the right to health, employment and education, and include more specific issues such as environmental health, mental health, sexual and reproductive health, the right

to work and working conditions, and access to inclusive education for children with disabilities.

In 2022, we plan to:

- Support special procedures in their work on inequalities and discrimination, particularly their prevention and early warning role in this context, their strategic engagement with the UN system on these matters and their thematic research on related topics.
- Support the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls in its work on girls' and young women's participation, activism and collective action for building just, peaceful and sustainable societies.
- Support the CRPD in developing a General Comment on the right of persons with disabilities to work and employment, guidelines on de-institutionalization, thematic tools for strengthening gender equality and non-discrimination, and promoting the rights of women and girls with disabilities.
- Provide support for the implementation of the outcomes of the human rights mechanisms. For example in Côte d'Ivoire, we will enhance the report-writing capacity of members of

the National mechanism for Reporting and Follow up (NMRF) to deal with pending CRPD reports. In South Africa, we will provide technical support to organizations of persons with disabilities by preparing a shadow report on CRPD implementation.

- Support the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in developing a General Recommendation on the rights of indigenous women.
- Support a new international independent expert mechanism to advance racial justice and equality in the context of law enforcement in all parts of the world.

PREVENTING VIOLATIONS AND STRENGTHENING PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING IN SITUATIONS OF CONFLICT AND INSECURITY

Addressing human rights deficits helps deal with the root causes of conflict and crisis, by resolving grievances, eliminating inequalities and exclusion and allowing people to participate in decision-making that affects their lives. Societies that protect and promote human rights for everyone are more resilient and better equipped to weather such crises as pandemics and climate change.

The Office will continue to invest in developing its early warning and early response capacity. In Geneva, pursuant to HRC resolution 45/31, we are strengthening early warning analytical capacity to support the role of the Human Rights Council in preventing human rights violations and to improve situation awareness, including by using new technologies for data-driven analysis. In New York, we are supporting the development of early warning and prevention systems to ensure that senior leadership decision-making is informed by human rights and protection risks, including in the context of the Secretary-General's Call to Action on Human Rights and his proposed Agenda for Protection. Our prevention efforts are aimed primarily at leveraging human rights in reducing the risk of conflict, violence and crisis by engaging at the field level. We are therefore ramping up our engagement at field level by engaging in CCA processes

and expanding our network of Emergency Response Teams (ERTs), which make dedicated rights-based early warning analytical capacity available to Resident Coordinators through our regional offices. The Secretary-General's Call to Action has identified human rights risk and opportunity analysis as a key way to ensure that UN development assistance is aligned with human rights protection and addresses root causes. In 2021, ERTs led and supported the creation of prevention platforms in **Zambia** and the **Gambia**, strengthened the human rights and prevention analysis in the COVID-19 response in **Central Africa**, contributed to UN regional crisis risk analysis in **South-East Asia**, and highlighted risks related to elections and the migration crisis in **Central America**. New ERTs were established in our regional offices in **Yaoundé**, **Santiago de Chile** and **Panama**, to join the ones already established in **Dakar**, **Bangkok** and **Pretoria**.

We also support an integrated approach to early warning and situational awareness analysis across the United Nations system through our engagement at UN Headquarters in the prevention platform processes, including the Regional Monthly Reviews and the Deputies Committee, as well as through strategic partnerships with the Peacebuilding Support Office

(PBSO) and the UN Operations and Crisis Centre (UNOCC). The risk analysis framework being developed by the United Nations Secretariat contains a strong human rights imprint, including a focus on inequalities, civic space and gender equality.

We will also continue to improve how we use, produce and manage information, including data and statistics, and generate rigorous analyses that integrate human rights and can guide UN prevention and response efforts. We will develop effective systems for governance, analysis and visualization of data to continue to step up our prevention role.

The UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on UN support to non-UN security forces (HRDDP) continues to be a strategic tool to address and place human rights issues on the agenda of UN entities working with security forces. The HRDDP policy has proven its value in preventing violations and responding to human rights crises, as well as providing leverage for other UN priorities. A major focus will be the roll-out of the revised Inter-Agency Guidance Note on the HRDDP, including specific aspects related to implementation in peace operations, as well as completing a study to expand the scope of the HRDDP beyond support to non-UN security forces.

“Only action to address the human rights violations inflicted on people can prevent the recurrence of conflict. This is the work that human rights components of peace operations are mandated and trained to do – by detecting and addressing the inequalities and grievances that underlie specific conflicts.”

Michelle Bachelet,
UN High Commissioner for
Human Rights

In 2022, we plan to:

- Establish a new ERT in our Fiji regional office, with plans for additional teams in Addis Ababa and Bishkek.
- Continue to support the use of this risk framework within the CCA processes at UNCT level, ensuring that headquarters and the field are informed by the same human rights-based risk and opportunity analysis called for in the Secretary-General's Call to Action. This approach can help make a stronger case for human rights-based development assistance and ensure progress on SDGs is not undermined by foreseeable conflict or crisis and peace is sustained.
- Build up OHCHR's capacities to identify, verify, manage and analyse data and early warning signs emanating from all sources, with stepped-up technology and the development of tools to structure and view relevant data.
- Further develop and anchor early warning analysis integrating human rights methodologies with UN partners, regional organizations and other partners.
- Support consistent and coherent implementation of the UN HRDDP by HQ entities, field presences, UNCTs and UN peace operations, including in counterterrorism, migration and border controls.
- Contribute to awareness and application of a broader human rights due diligence approach to trigger policy development and application to achieve greater UN coherence and impact of field work.

STRENGTHENING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

SDG16 is about the commitment of States to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The 2019 “Justice for All” report identified a global justice gap: it estimated that 65 per cent of the world population lacks meaningful access to justice, and concluded that “without increased justice, the world will not be able to end poverty, reduce inequality, reach the furthest behind first, create conditions for shared and sustainable prosperity, or promote peace and inclusion.”²

The justice gap appears greatest in countries experiencing or emerging from violent conflict or repression. The enormous number of potential legal claims by victims – in combination with the exclusion, marginalization and stigmatization of communities, societal divisions, as well as weakened institutions – demands extraordinary justice responses if the goal is to “leave no one behind”. SDG16+³ also lays out a framework for taking local contexts into account in development policy, including for transitional justice and rec-

² Taskforce for Justice (initiative of the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies), “Justice for All” (2019), p. 18.

³ SDG16+ is a larger framework of indicators connected with peace, justice and inclusive societies. The framework combines the original SDG16 targets with an additional 24.



UN Human Rights Officer Jackeline Ruiz interviewing families of people injured and witnesses during post-electoral violence. Cochabamba, Bolivia, December 2019. ©OHCHR

onciliation. It provides governments with a path towards achievement of the SDGs through action from the bottom up.

UN Human Rights further contributes to closing the justice gap and supporting States’ realization of SDG16 by promoting and assisting with the design and implementation of comprehensive and strategic transitional justice responses aligned with international human rights norms and standards. We will continue to promote people-centred justice, fostering inclusion, participation and local ownership.

UN Human Rights also draws attention to the rights of vulnerable groups and those most affected, highlighting who is left behind and demonstrating how laws and policies (especially macroeconomic policies) affect access to employment or decent work, social protection, housing and infrastructure, and discrimination. In Serbia, for example, after urgent outreach to those most left behind during the COVID-19 outbreak, UN Human Rights continued advocating for systemic change in policies on housing, social protection and non-discrimination.

This led to amending the Anti-Discrimination Law, recognizing housing segregation as a particularly grave form of discrimination mostly experienced by communities in substandard settlements, such as the Roma.

Between 2014-2020, our data shows that in 44 countries, almost one in five people reported having personally experienced discrimination on at least one of the grounds established by international human rights law.⁴ Given the additional negative impact of COVID-19 on groups who already suffer disproportionately from discrimination, data on discrimination and inequalities are essential to inform UN and countries’ COVID-19 responses working to diminish the pandemic’s adverse effects on those most left behind. In Moldova, for example, UN Human Rights is working with the National Statistics Office, the People’s Advocate and the Equality Council to build their capacity and provide technical expertise to establish a practice of collecting, disaggregating and analyzing data to better understand inequalities, discrimination and deprivations faced by vulnerable groups. The data will support the drafting of data-driven policies to reduce inequalities.

Finally, recommendations from UN human rights mechanisms are also helpful entry points to conduct LNOB analyses and engage with a wide range of stakeholders on remedial action. OHCHR’s co-leadership of the UN High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) Inequalities Task Team (ITT) provides an opening to ensure a rights-based discussion across the UN System on inequalities and LNOB.

⁴ 2021 Secretary General’s Report on the SDGs: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2021/secretary-general-sdg-report-2021--EN.pdf>

In 2022, we plan to:

- Continue to promote and support accountability and transitional justice processes that help address root causes of conflict and serious human rights violations, especially as they relate to inequality, exclusion and marginalization. This will help prevent recurrence, close the justice gap, build trust, and realize SDG16. This work is based on the premise that transitional justice is not only a retrospective process to provide redress to victims, but can also be a human rights-based catalyst for transformative change for the future.
- Continue investing in promoting data collection at the national level using the Human Rights-Based Approach, including through the [SDG 16 Survey Initiative](#), in partnership with UNDP and UNODC. The survey will increase the availability of disaggregated data, which allows users to compare population groups and understand specific vulnerable groups’ experiences on access to justice, corruption, governance, discrimination, human trafficking and violence. The survey has been piloted in **Cabo Verde, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia and Somalia** and will be implemented in other countries in 2022.
- Continue to nurture more systematic institutional collaboration between NHRIs and national statistical offices, as we have done in **Albania, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, occupied Palestinian territory, the Philippines and Uganda** and strengthen our partnerships with UN entities and regional mechanisms in this critical area.

Facing and recovering from crises: time to invest in economic and social rights

Societies become stronger when people's economic, social and cultural rights – those basic rights that help us live our lives well – are protected. This is especially true during a crisis like COVID-19: countries with a strong human rights foundation stand a better chance of coping with the pandemic and resuming the path towards well-being for all. A UN Human Rights special initiative is helping shore up these essential rights by building bridges and partnerships.

All human rights are fundamental to our dignity: they guarantee our liberty and security, freedom of expression, freedom from torture or discrimination, as well as a roof over our heads, food to lead healthy and active lives, access to education for us and our children, or health care when we fall ill.

They are our birth rights, the basic rights that help us survive and thrive. Economic, social and cultural rights, or ESCR for short, are part of that basic package of rights that make our societies stronger and development just and sustainable. The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is based on human rights and is an additional vehicle to creating inclusive and thriving communities.

Violating economic, social and cultural rights or not fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals can send our lives into a spiral of poverty and deprivation, and often have a ripple effect: social unrest can break out when people cannot provide for their families, or conflict can emerge where people have to fight for basic resources, like water and land.

In a crisis, these rights are even more crucial. Their deterioration weakens our social structures, whereas their protection strengthens our resilience and improves our ability to recover. As COVID-19 has amply demonstrated, a crisis disproportionately affects the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, the very people who are in greatest need of a strong set of guarantees.

BRINGING IN EXPERTISE

Upholding human rights and delivering on the 2030 Agenda clearly involves significant investment. Anchoring social and economic rights in government policy requires sound policies that incorporate human rights considerations.

“Structural economic and fiscal issues often lie behind the non-realization of ESCR,” said Marcella Favretto, UN Human Rights’ Chief of Sustainable Development Section. “This is highly technical and requires meaningful input from economists.”

We need to step up our ability to analyze budgets with a human rights lens, assess the impact of economic measures on the most disadvantaged and put forward suggestions that place human rights at the centre of economic recovery strategies.

To fill this gap, in 2019 UN Human Rights created the Surge Initiative, which pairs human rights experts on economic, social and cultural rights and sustainable development with economists in the field. These joint teams have been working on developing strategies to advance human

rights by strengthening their inclusion in economic policy.

At the core of this Initiative is a strategy that ensures close collaboration with the UN Development System by stepping up country-focused operational advice on integrating human rights in efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, addressing inequalities and promoting transformative economies.

The Surge Initiative is also establishing strategic partnerships with other key stakeholders and particularly with international financial institutions, given the critical role they play in informing State’s human rights obligations on social protection, education, housing, water and sanitation and health, for example, through their negotiations on debt and conditionalities that might involve fiscal consolidation.

CEMENTING ESCR IN GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Working with economic, social and development experts to analyze policy options to ensure ESCRs are realized is already demonstrating promising results by helping reduce inequalities, protecting human rights and reinforcing societies’ ability to cope.

In **Serbia**, a mapping exercise provided essential data on almost 170,000 Roma, who live in sub-standard settlements, and made practical recommendations to improve critical ESCRs, such as access to water and sanitation. This mapping, con-

ducted in collaboration with concerned communities, supported local government efforts to remove obstacles faced by Roma communities in accessing these essential rights.

In **Paraguay**, Surge carried out a human rights analysis of the social protection system, recommending specific policy options to strengthen it. The UN Country team is using this study to engage with the Technical Unit of the Social Cabinet and the Ministry of Social Development to promote the extension of the new Government programme “Vamos!” to segments of society thus far excluded from social protection including youth, indigenous peoples, women, older persons, children and persons with disabilities.

These actions all contribute to strengthening the social fabric, deeply frayed by years of neglect and rife with inequalities that have become all the more glaring in a world battered by COVID-19 and the worst economic crisis since World War II.

Monitoring and addressing the violations of ESCR can help prevent violence, social unrest and conflict. Human rights can be seen as both a prevention tool as well as a litmus test of progress made in addressing the situation of the most vulnerable and in contributing to sustainable development.

We stand at a critical juncture to counter a dangerous trend of ‘divergent recoveries’ and we have a once in a generation opportunity to rebuild inclusive economies that work for everyone. ESCR are a critical equalizer and an essential ingredient of a human rights economy, which in turn is

the bedrock of sustainable development. “Both ESCRs and civil and political rights must be respected,” said Todd Howland, UN Human Rights’ Chief of Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch. “It’s important that we begin to see ESCRs as modest practical investments for a better tomorrow for everyone.” Robust societies require all rights – they are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

Partnerships within the UN, with States, civil society organisations, international financial institutions, academics and others is essential for this. Solidarity is a sine qua non. And more importantly, placing the affected people at the heart of all efforts to ensure that responses are grounded in the lived realities of people and their active participation so that they are relevant and meaningful.

Inequalities stem from policy choices, they are not the result of chance. They can – and should – be dismantled. Placing human rights at the centre of our economic and development policies can address inequalities, build social justice, develop stronger economies, deepening trust, and reaching those furthest behind.

This is challenging – but vital – work. We have a long way to go, but we have the tools – the human rights tools – to do what’s necessary.

“The international human rights framework provides the strongest basis on which to rebuild the social contract, address the deepening inequalities at global and national levels, and get us back on track to achieve the 2030 Agenda.”

Ilze Brands Kehris,
Assistant Secretary-General for
Human Rights



30th Special Session of the Human Rights Council on the grave human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, Palais des Nations. 27 May 2021. ©UN /Violaine Martin

Shifting gears: a pathway to organizational change

To deliver human rights results more effectively, we are realigning and reinforcing our internal organizational arrangements.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

The COVID-19 pandemic has made UN Human Rights' digital transformation even more urgent.

The Office's vision is to be innovative and effective as we promote and protect all human rights for all. To meet that goal, we seek to capture the value offered by digital technologies, while responding to the risks they pose. We need to harness digital technologies if we are to create new or improved ways of delivering services, and apply digital solutions that will enhance the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of our work.

Our digital transformation vision has three components: integrating new technologies in our human rights work, leveraging data in support of our human rights mission, and ensuring a strong, secure, digital environment for our work. This will improve our performance across virtually all aspects of our mandate and will:

- Enhance the efficiency of existing work by creating an integrated information environment.
- Expand the evidence base to support all aspects of our work to promote and protect human rights.
- Broaden the reach and traction of UN Human Rights' voice, reporting and analysis.

- Increase the transparency and accessibility of the Office's work.
- Better protect the security of our work, our data and our staff.
- Boost our ability to learn from our work and to apply and share with partners the most effective approaches to protect and promote human rights.

In 2022 and beyond, we plan to:

- Advance data consolidation and interoperability, as foreseen under the UN Data Strategy, to enhance our prevention efforts. This will increase the speed, rigour and efficiency of lead identification and of trend and pattern analysis of human rights incidents.
- Follow up on the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights to ensure the outcomes of the human rights mechanisms are accessible to policy-makers and place human rights at the core of sustainable development.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

As the UN system focuses on efforts to build back better and more sustainably from the COVID-19 crisis, UN Human Rights is contributing to these efforts and strengthening partnerships and global standard-setting, especially on the right to a healthy environment and climate change.

In 2019, the High Commissioner signed a MoU with UNEP and called for global recognition of the human right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. In October 2021, the Human Rights Council adopted resolution 48/13, which recognizes, for the first time, that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a human right.

Many sustainability practices are already underway at UN Human Rights. For instance, the Office has calculated its carbon footprint annually since 2010, with indicators for travel, facilities, waste and water. The Office developed an Emission Reduction Strategy (ERS) in 2011, and later participated in the Digital Secretariat Initiative to reduce paper use and embrace digital processes for information sharing and smart working. The Office has also sought to reduce the use of paper, reduce travel, employ digital platforms for training and meetings, reduce the use of plastic in canteens and raise staff awareness. Our footprint was offset for the first time in 2019, making our operations “carbon neutral”.

The Office has also stepped up its environmental engagement externally. We supported the integration of human rights in the Paris Agreement and its implementation. Collaboration between UN Human Rights and UNEP helped pave the way for the Secretary-General’s Call to Action on Human Rights that calls for the UN system to support Member States to “regulate and promote the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment”.

In 2022 and beyond, we plan to:

- Establish an environmental management system (EMS) by 2025, like other entities of the UN Secretariat.
- Report carbon emissions under the methodology developed by UNEP and participate in group-wide initiatives, as a member of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on environmental sustainability management under the EMG (Environmental Management Group).
- Join 2050Today, the sustainability initiative set up by the Swiss Permanent Mission to the UN in 2020, which requires participation in joint initiatives in collaboration with UNOG and UNEP.⁵

⁵ <https://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/resources/updates/greening-international-geneva/>

STRENGTHENING OUR PRESENCE IN THE REGIONS

The rapidly evolving international context requires a more comprehensive, predictable and efficient response by UN Human Rights to optimize and further strengthen the engagement with States and all stakeholders in the provision of human rights technical advice and expertise in line with the High Commissioner’s comprehensive mandate (GA48/141). Being closer to our partners and the people we serve would better position the Office to deliver on its mandate.

Through strengthened regional offices, UN Human Rights seeks to:

- Better respond to regional and national challenges and opportunities, expand trust and foster human rights dialogue with States, regional partners, UN Regional Teams, UN Resident Coordinators and Peace Missions to enhance political, technical and financial support for human rights work.
- Provide stronger support to our field presences, contributing to improved results, impact and quality of our work on the ground.
- Expand human rights expertise, responding to the specific requests of governments, United Nations partners, regional organizations, national human

rights institutions, civil society organizations and academic institutions.

- Sharpen our engagement with Agenda 2030 and the UN reform process and provide further support to UN efforts for peace, security, prevention and humanitarian responses, at country and regional levels.
- Effectively implement regional and sub-regional strategies to advance human rights priorities and capacities in the regions, fostering inclusion of people-centred policies and practices.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Diversity and inclusion are at the heart of our human rights work. Reflecting human rights principles, including non-discrimination and gender equality, is core to both our values and our organizational mandate. As part of the UN Secretariat, the Office addresses racism and racial discrimination through the Strategic Action Plan elaborated by the Secretary-General’s Task Force on Addressing Racism and Promoting Dignity for All.

The High Commissioner committed, during a special session at the Human Rights Council, to address the issue of racism in the Office as a matter of urgency. A Working Group on Inclusion was subsequently established in July 2020 to prepare the Organizational Effectiveness Action Plan (OEAP) on Diversity and Inclusion, which sets out our strategic priorities and commitments over the next two years for a diverse and gender-balanced workforce and to foster an inclusive culture within our office. The Senior Diversity and Inclusion Adviser, appointed in 2021, leads the implementation of the OEAP and supports the High Commissioner in fulfilling her responsibilities to achieve equitable geographic representation, an inclusive workplace culture and a diverse workforce.

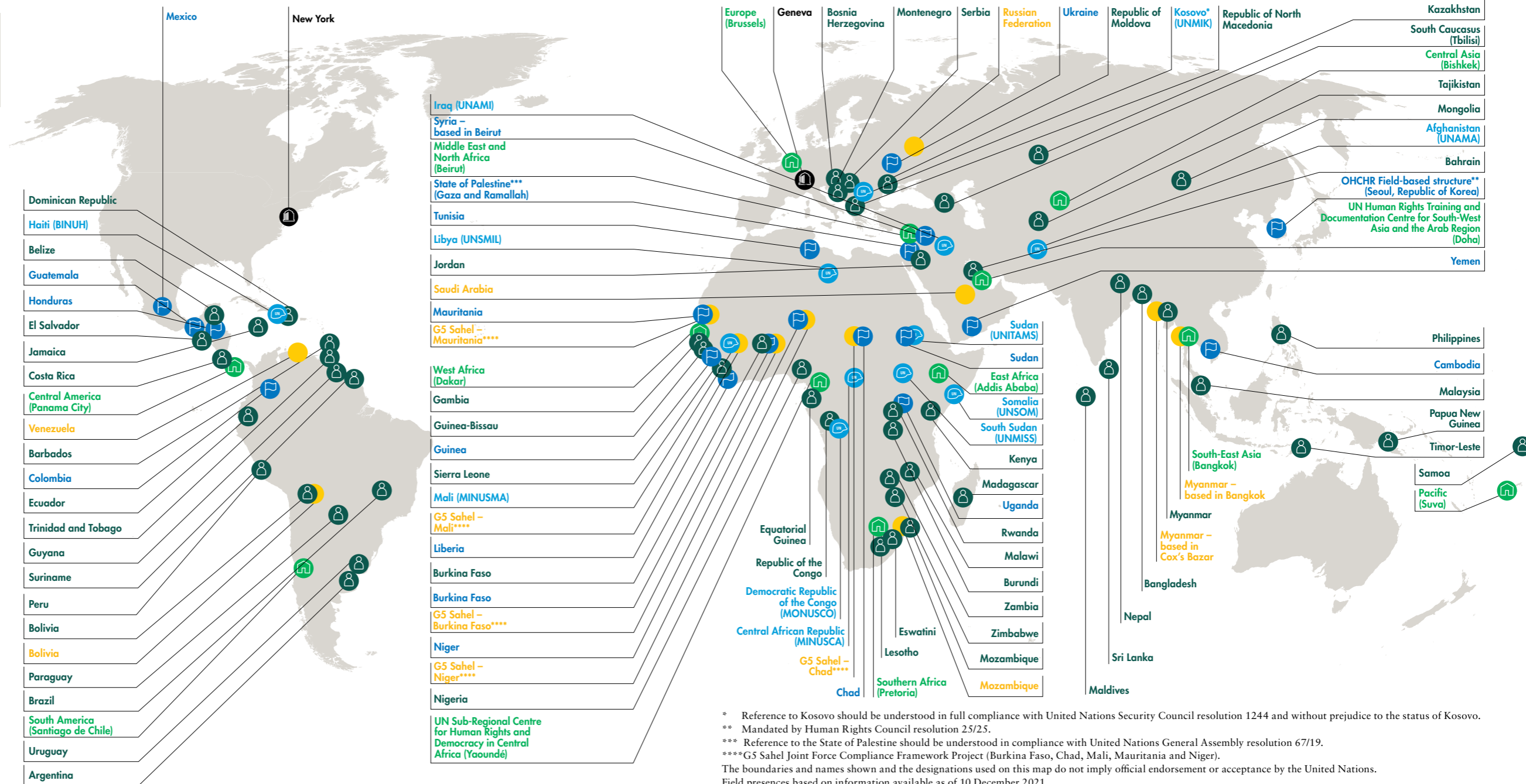
In 2022 and beyond, we plan to:

- Continue to identify and address gaps, imbalances and barriers to recruiting and appointing a diverse and gender-balanced workforce.
- Provide a safe and supportive work environment with zero tolerance for discriminatory attitudes and practices.
- Strengthen accountability mechanisms to ensure progress on implementing our diversity and inclusion objectives are regularly reviewed and monitored.

UN Human Rights around the world in 2022

2 + **103**
 HQ locations field presences

-  **2** Headquarters
-  **19** Country/Stand-alone Offices/ Human Rights Missions
-  **12** Regional Offices/Centres
-  **11** Human rights components of UN Peace/Political Missions
-  **54** Human Rights Advisers deployed under the framework of the UNSDG
-  **7** Other types of field presences



* Reference to Kosovo should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.
 ** Mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 25/25.
 *** Reference to the State of Palestine should be understood in compliance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/19.
 ****G5 Sahel Joint Force Compliance Framework Project (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).
 The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
 Field presences based on information available as of 10 December 2021.

Funding and budget

FUNDING

Almost two thirds of UN Human Rights' income comes from voluntary contributions from Member States and other donors. The remainder is covered by the UN regular budget.

The UN regular budget, approved by the General Assembly, is funded by “assessed contributions” from each Member State. These are determined by a formula that takes into account the size and strength of their respective national economies.

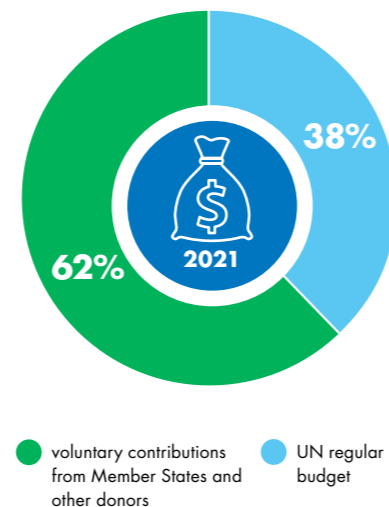
The 2022 regular budget is the third annual budget prepared in accordance with the UN management reform agenda. The UN regular budget should finance all activities mandated by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, including the Human Rights Council. Human rights are Charter responsibilities, recognized as one of the three pillars of the UN system, the other two being development, and peace and security. While the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights clearly underscores the centrality of human rights to the work of the entire UN Secretariat, the regular budget allocated to human rights is highly limited. Of all regular budget resources directed to these three pillars in 2021, human rights received less than 7 per cent, while the other two pillars received more than 93 per cent. The regular budget submission for the Office for 2022 is US\$138.8 million*, representing just over 3 per cent of the total UN regular budget.

* Includes all regular budget allotments for the Human Rights Council, before recosting and before the 5th Committee's approval.

As in previous years, the 2022 regular budget reflects “zero growth”, as well as a number of across-the-board reductions from previous years decided by the General Assembly. In reality, this means resources allocated to human rights are in decline: official human rights mandates continue to grow in number and scope, and Member States have formally requested consideration of an increase in the budget share for human rights. As a result, UN Human Rights continues to rely heavily on voluntary contributions to finance as much as 20 per cent of the mandated activities that should be financed by the regular budget, primarily treaty body and special procedures work.

In 2021, voluntary contributions, or extra-budgetary resources, represented around 62 per cent of our overall budget and were insufficient to respond to all requests for assistance or needs identified by UN Human Rights. Meeting all the demand will require greater financial support from Member States and other donors, including the private sector.

At the time of finalization of this Appeal (10 December 2021), the Office had received US\$210.5 million in extra-budgetary contributions and was expecting a total amount of US\$220-225 million by the end of the year, which is similar to the sum received in 2020. Of these contributions, 38 per cent are expected to be unearmarked, an increase of 10 per cent compared to 2020. While this trend, and all contributions, are gratefully appreciated, the high level of earmarking limits the Office's capacity to allocate resources where they are most urgently required and demands constant budgetary adjustments over the year.



Total extrabudgetary resources needed for 2022 amount to US\$400.5 million

2022 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Total extra-budgetary resources needed for 2022 amount to US\$400.5 million. These are the funds the Office would require, in addition to the regular budget allocation, if it were to address all assistance needs, both requests received and those identified by UN Human Rights. Ideally, contributions should be flexible and provided through multi-year agreements to help increase the predictability and sustainability of our work. Early payment is also critical as it helps to mitigate cash flow constraints during the year.

Rather than limiting ourselves to operating cost plans, this Appeal represents the full extent of our financial requirements and their justification. At the same time, this overall budget remains limited to what can realistically be implemented within a single year. For this reason, and due to the lengthy recruitment process to which the Office must adhere, some increases, notably in the field, remain modest. Expanding the reach of field presences requires a steady build-up of human resources and budgets over time.



“Tata”: Indigenous authority of Yamparas Nation, Chuquisaca Department Bolivia, November 23, 2020. ©OHCHR

Overview

Regular budget allocation and extrabudgetary requirements for 2022

OPERATING RESOURCES

All figures in US\$

	REGULAR BUDGET	EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL (PLANNING FIGURES)
Programme of Work			
Subprogramme 1 Human Rights Mainstreaming, Right to Development, Research and Analysis*	18,858,000	48,863,000	67,721,000
Subprogramme 2 Supporting the Human Rights Treaties Bodies	16,812,000	3,927,000	20,739,000
Subprogramme 3 Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation*	35,510,000	24,944,000	60,454,000
Subprogramme 4 Supporting the Human Rights Council and its Special Procedures*	24,701,000	31,941,000	56,642,000
Headquarters			
Executive Direction and Management and New York Office	8,161,000	28,067,000	36,228,000
Policy-making Organs	9,810,000	-	9,810,000
Other			
Headquarter effectiveness	-	4,000,000	4,000,000
Unmet requests for HRAs (activities)	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
Support to the Programmes	4,941,000	9,569,000	14,510,000
Subtotal Headquarters	118,793,000	153,311,000	272,104,000

	REGULAR BUDGET	EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL (PLANNING FIGURES)
Field Presences			
Africa	5,366,000	98,269,000	103,635,000
Americas	2,101,000	52,266,000	54,367,000
Asia and the Pacific	4,778,000	24,358,000	29,136,000
Europe and Central Asia	1,063,000	18,192,000	19,255,000
Middle East and North Africa	4,306,000	29,182,000	33,488,000
Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation	2,425,000	-	2,425,000
Programmatic, Outreach and Administrative Functions at Regional or Country level	-	7,000,000	7,000,000
Subtotal Field Presences	20,039,000	229,268,000	249,307,000
Total Operating Resources (HQ + Field Presences)	138,832,000	382,579,000	521,411,000
OTHER TRUST FUNDS			
Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	-	13,299,000	13,299,000
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	-	408,000	408,000
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	2,424,000	2,424,000
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	-	266,000	266,000
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	-	452,000	452,000
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the HRC's work	-	562,000	562,000
Special Fund for the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture	-	567,000	567,000
Total Other Trust Funds	0	17,978,000	17,978,000
Grand total	138,832,000	400,556,000	539,388,000

*Include all regular budget allotments for the Human Rights Council, before recosting and before the 5th Committee's approval.

Headquarters

Regular budget allocation and extrabudgetary requirements for 2022

SUBPROGRAMME 1 - HUMAN RIGHTS MAINSTREAMING, RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS All figures in US\$

	REGULAR BUDGET	EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL (PLANNING FIGURES)
Coordination and Management	415,000	14,569,000	14,984,000
Rule of Law, Equality and Non-discrimination Branch	5,184,000	15,598,000	20,782,000
Development, Economic and Social Issues Branch	5,692,000	18,697,000	24,389,000
Human Rights Council Mandates	7,566,000	-	7,566,000
Subtotal Subprogramme 1	18,858,000	48,863,000	67,721,000

SUBPROGRAMME 2 - SUPPORTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES BODIES

Coordination and Management	-	3,464,000	3,464,000
Human Rights Treaties Branch	16,812,000	463,000	17,275,000
Subtotal Subprogramme 2	16,812,000	3,927,000	20,739,000

SUBPROGRAMME 3 - ADVISORY SERVICES AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION*

Coordination and Management	3,097,000	7,706,000	10,803,000
Africa Branch	2,203,000	3,320,000	5,523,000
Americas, Europe and Central Asia Branch	2,330,000	4,005,000	6,335,000
Asia-Pacific, Middle East and North Africa	2,934,000	6,659,000	9,593,000
Human Rights Council Mandates	24,947,000	-	24,947,000
Investigation Capacity	-	3,254,000	3,254,000
Subtotal Subprogramme 3	35,510,000	24,944,000	60,454,000

SUBPROGRAMME 4 - SUPPORTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND ITS SPECIAL PROCEDURES

	REGULAR BUDGET	EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL (PLANNING FIGURES)
Coordination and Management	415,000	4,690,000	5,105,000
Human Rights Council Branch	2,814,000	3,528,000	6,342,000
Universal Periodic Review Branch	4,411,000	2,560,000	6,971,000
Special Procedures Branch	9,683,000	13,792,000	23,475,000
Special Procedures Branch - Earmarked/Specific Funding	-	7,371,000	7,371,000
Human Rights Council Mandates	7,378,000	-	7,378,000
Subtotal Subprogramme 4	24,701,000	31,941,000	56,642,000

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT AND NEW YORK OFFICE

	8,161,000	28,067,000	36,228,000
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POLICYMAKING ORGANS

	9,810,000	-	9,810,000
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OTHER

Headquarter effectiveness	-	4,000,000	4,000,000
Unmet requests for HRAs (activities)	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
Support to the Programmes	4,941,000	9,569,000	14,510,000
Subtotal Other	22,912,000	43,636,000	66,548,000
Subtotal Headquarters	118,793,000	153,311,000	272,104,000

OTHER TRUST FUNDS

Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	-	13,299,000	13,299,000
Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples	-	408,000	408,000
Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	-	2,424,000	2,424,000
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Participation	-	266,000	266,000
Trust Fund for Universal Periodic Review - Technical Assistance	-	452,000	452,000
Trust Fund for Participation of LDCs and SIDS in the HRC's work	-	562,000	562,000
Special Fund for the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture	-	567,000	567,000
Total Other Trust Funds	0	17,978,000	17,978,000
Total Headquarters and Trust Funds	118,793,000	171,289,000	290,082,000

Field

Extrabudgetary requirements for 2022

AFRICA

All figures in US\$

EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS	
Country Offices	
Burkina Faso	1,965,000
Chad	5,819,000
Guinea	5,223,000
Liberia	2,408,000
Mauritania	3,529,000
Niger	2,452,000
Sudan	10,207,000
Uganda	5,912,000
Regional Offices	
Central Africa, Yaoundé - Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy	2,045,000
East Africa, Addis Ababa	8,578,000
Southern Africa, Pretoria	3,054,000
West Africa, Dakar	7,933,000
Human Rights Advisers	
Burkina Faso	262,000
Burundi	1,458,000
Equatorial Guinea	285,000
Eswatini	260,000
Gambia	247,000
Guinea-Bissau	582,000
Kenya	3,108,000
Lesotho	603,000
Madagascar	1,598,000
Malawi	326,000
Mozambique	242,000
Nigeria	787,000
Republic of Congo	210,000
Rwanda	619,000
Sierra Leone	285,000
Zambia	392,000
Zimbabwe	308,000

EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

Human Rights Components in Peace Mission	
Central African Republic	96,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	9,631,000
Mali	735,000
Somalia	283,000
South Sudan	165,000
Other	
Ethiopia	5,217,000
Mozambique	1,763,000
Sahel G5	9,681,000
Subtotal Africa	98,269,000
AMERICAS	
Country Offices	
Colombia	14,588,000
Guatemala	5,736,000
Honduras	6,373,000
Mexico	3,504,000
Regional Offices	
Central America, Panama City	4,149,000
South America, Santiago	4,665,000
Human Rights Advisers	
Argentina	187,000
Barbados	220,000
Belize	113,000
Bolivia	159,000
Brazil	165,000
Costa Rica	280,000
Dominican Republic	270,000
Ecuador	160,000
El Salvador	1,520,000
Guyana	91,000
Jamaica	403,000
Paraguay	288,000
Peru	138,000
Suriname	105,000
Trinidad and Tobago	166,000
Uruguay	176,000
Human Rights Components in Peace Missions	
Haiti	1,965,000

EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

Other	
Bolivia	2,158,000
Nicaragua	439,000
Venezuela	3,457,000
Caribbean	790,000
Subtotal Americas	52,266,000

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Country Offices	
Cambodia	2,636,000
Republic of Korea - Field-based structure	421,000

Regional Offices	
South-East Asia, Bangkok	8,320,000
Pacific, Suva	3,087,000

Human Rights Advisers	
Bangladesh	435,000
Malaysia	312,000
Maldives	418,000
Mongolia	83,000
Myanmar	282,000
Nepal	344,000
Papua New Guinea	700,000
Philippines	1,936,000
Sri Lanka	614,000
Timor-Leste	545,000

Human Rights Components in Peace Missions	
Afghanistan	217,000

Other	
Myanmar	4,008,000
Subtotal Asia and the Pacific	24,358,000

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Regional Offices	
Central Asia, Bishkek	2,753,000
Europe, Brussels	871,000

Human Rights Advisers	
Bosnia Herzegovina	956,000
Georgia, South Caucasus	1,065,000
Kazakhstan	141,000

EXTRABUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

Montenegro	249,000
Republic of Moldova	2,395,000
Republic of North Macedonia	101,000
Serbia	571,000
Tajikistan	143,000

Human Rights Mission

Ukraine	6,825,000
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Other	
Azerbaijan	844,000
Georgia	435,000
Russian Federation	843,000
Subtotal Europe and Central Asia	18,192,000

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Country Offices	
State of Palestine*	4,392,000
Syria	3,984,000
Tunisia	3,072,000
Yemen	7,263,000

Regional Offices	
Middle East and North Africa, Beirut	4,324,000
South-West Asia and the Arab Region, Doha - Training and Documentation Centre	2,341,000

Human Rights Advisers	
Bahrain	233,000
Jordan	296,000

Human Rights Components in Peace Missions	
Iraq	879,000
Libya	162,000

Other	
Egypt	612,000
Iran	71,000
Saudi Arabia	1,556,000
Subtotal Middle East and North Africa	29,185,000

Programmatic, Outreach and Administrative Functions at Regional or Country Level	7,000,000
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Total Field	229,268,000
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*Reference to Palestine should be understood in compliance with UN General Assembly resolution 67/19.

Trust funds

Voluntary contributions to support UN Human Rights' activities are channelled and managed through nine United Nations trust funds, as well as three special funds. In addition, the Office receives contributions from United Nations multi-partner trust funds. While UN Human Rights encourages funding to be unearmarked whenever possible, contributions to some of these Funds must be specifically earmarked in order to be attributed.

UN TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS

UN Trust Fund for the Support of the Activities of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Established in 1993 to supplement regular budget resources, it is the largest fund administered by UN Human Rights and it is used to manage approximately 75 per cent of all extra-budgetary funds received (especially unearmarked funds).

UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment

Established in 1981, it awards grants to organizations working to alleviate the physical and psychological effects of torture on victims and their families. The types of assistance provided by Fund-supported organizations range from psychological, medical and social assistance to legal aid and financial support.

UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples

Established in 1985, it provides indigenous peoples with the opportunity to raise issues faced by their communities at the international level and participate in the development and implementation of international standards and national legislation for the protection of their rights. Funds are distributed in the form of travel grants to enable indigenous peoples to participate in UN meetings and events.

UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

Established in 1987, it supports national efforts at building human rights protection frameworks, including strong legal frameworks, effective national human rights institutions, independent judiciaries and vibrant civil society organizations.

UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Established in 1991, it distributes small grants to grassroots projects that provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of contemporary forms of slavery. The Fund primarily focuses on projects that assist individuals who are suffering from the most severe forms of human rights violations occurring in the context of contemporary forms of slavery and other forms of exploitation.

UN Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia

Established in 1992, its aim is to contribute to the development and implementation of a human rights education programme in Cambodia to promote the understanding of and respect for human rights.

UN Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review mechanism

Established in 2008 to facilitate the participation of official representatives from developing and least developed countries in the UPR process and to provide training for the preparation of national reports.

UN Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review

Established in 2008 to provide financial and technical support to implement recommendations issued under the UPR review process, at the request of and in consultation with the country concerned.

Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council

Established in 2013 through Human Rights Council resolution 19/26 to enhance the institutional and human rights capacity of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States through the provision of targeted training courses, travel assistance for delegates attending Council sessions and fellowship programmes.

SPECIAL FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS

Contingency Fund

A Contingency Fund of US\$1 million was established in 2006 by the Office to enable it to respond to human rights emergencies in a timely and adequate manner. The revolving Fund is maintained through voluntary contributions to facilitate, implement or carry out activities within the priorities, overall strategies and policies of the Office, in particular in the context of the establishment of a rapid response capacity. The Fund has greatly increased the capacity of UN Human Rights' headquarters to provide conceptual and operational support to unforeseen mandates or situations that require a rapid response.

Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture

Established in 2006 through article 26 of OP-CAT, the objective of this Fund is to help finance the implementation of recommendations issued by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (SPT), following a visit of the Subcommittee to a State Party, as well as education programmes of national preventive mechanisms (NPMs). Recommendations have to be contained in a report made public upon request of the State Party. Applications may be submitted by State Parties and NPMs, by national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles and NGOs, provided that the proposed projects are implemented in cooperation with State Parties or NPMs.

Special Fund for the Participation of Civil Society in the Social Forum, the Forum on Minority Issues and the Forum on Business and Human Rights

Created in 2013 by Human Rights Council's decision 24/118, its objective is to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders. It also aims to give priority to the participation of local or national-level non-governmental organizations active in relevant fields, with particular attention to participants from Least Developed Countries, in the annual meetings of the three forums. The Special Fund became operational soon after the receipt of the first contributions in 2014.

MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND (NOT ADMINISTERED BY UN HUMAN RIGHTS)

UNSDG-Human Rights Mainstreaming Multi-Donor Trust Fund

Established in 2011 and administered by the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO), it provides support to the work of UN agencies and UN Country Teams in mainstreaming human rights and strengthening coherent and coordinated responses to national needs. Over the last decade, there has been significant progress in mainstreaming human rights into the work of the UN system. An increasing number of UN agencies are not only integrating human rights into their internal policies but are also actively advocating for human rights through their mandated work. The Trust Fund is used to support the placement of human rights advisers in UN Country Teams.



A community member briefs an OHCHR monitoring team member during a field visit on settler violence against Palestinian farmers. Kufur Malek, West Bank, February 2, 2021. ©OHCHR

You can make a difference

The opportunities for advancing the impact of human rights are many and we need your support! We rely on voluntary donations from governments, as well as private donors and businesses. To carry out our mission, maintaining our independence is vital – and so is diversifying our funding mix.

MEMBER STATES

In 2021, 56 of the 193 UN Member States provided a voluntary contribution to UN Human Rights, with donations ranging from US\$2,000 to US\$30 million. Some contributions were entirely free of earmarking, while others were partially or fully earmarked for specific themes and areas of work as set out in our Management Plan.

We highly encourage Member States to explore the various modalities for funding which exist within their national structures and to discuss available options with the Office. While the most common budget lines used for UN Human Rights are those that correspond to human rights, there is also wide scope for the Office to receive money from other budget lines, such as development and humanitarian.

FOUNDATIONS

The Office has partnered with a number of foundations on country-specific and thematic programmes around the world. We welcome opportunities to expand and strengthen our co-operation with foundations in the future.

CORPORATE SECTOR

A world in which human rights are respected is more prosperous, more stable and, ultimately, better for business. We invite companies to demonstrate their commitment to human rights through greater engagement. Support can come in many forms:

- Making human rights central to all corporate strategic decisions and practices, taking into account the effect of its operations on supply chains, employees and customers.
- Working with us to develop policies that make your company's commitment to human rights a reality.
- Engaging in strategic discussions to improve human rights wherever your company has business interests.
- Developing a genuine partnership with UN Human Rights where your skills, experience and resources are used to promote and improve respect for human rights.
- Providing pro bono or financial support, to help us achieve the goals in our ambitious four-year plan.

INDIVIDUALS

The Office receives donations from individuals through the following website: donatenow.ohchr.org

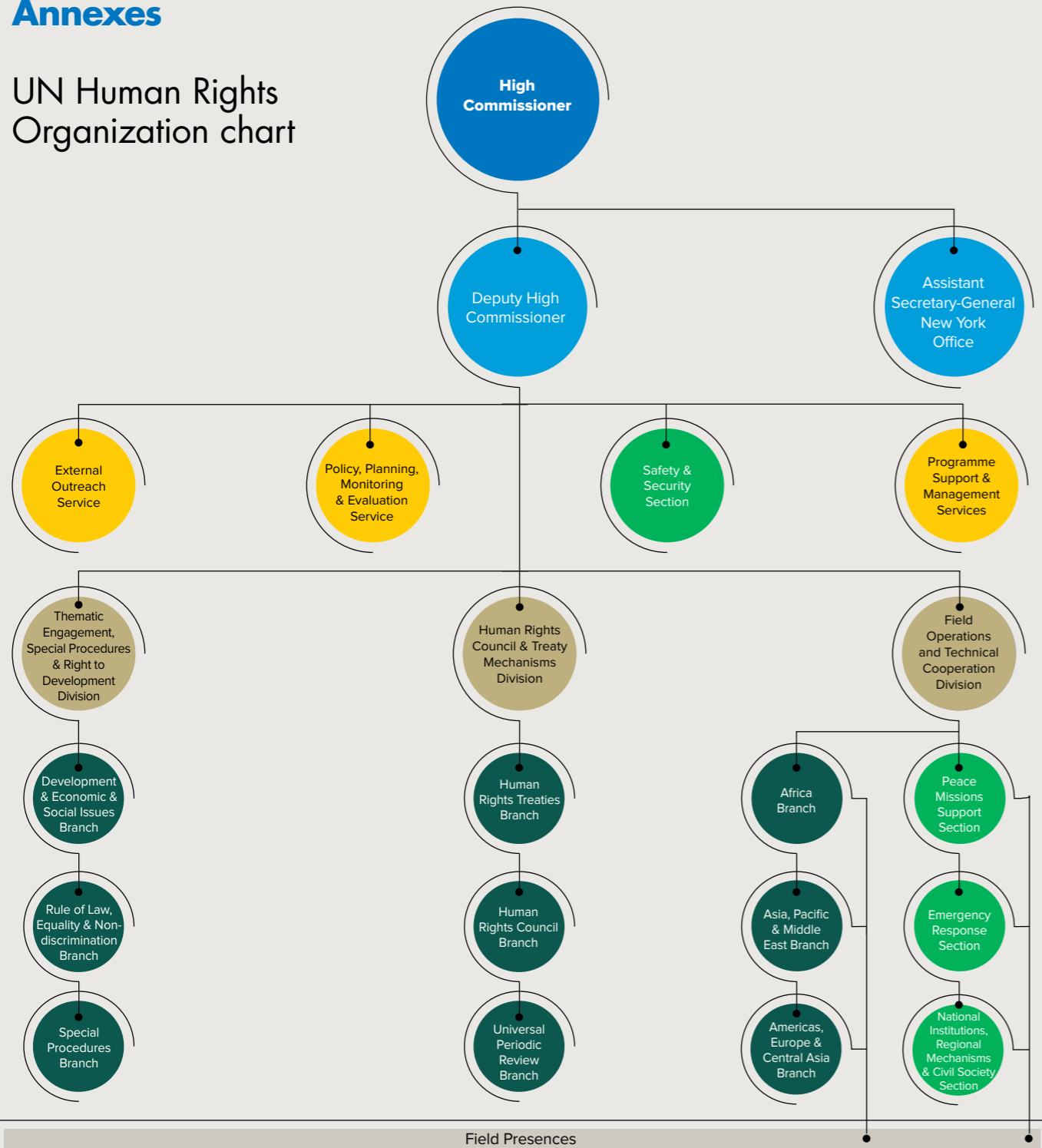


If you, or the organization you represent, would like to make a contribution, please contact UN Human Rights Donor and External Relations Section in Geneva, or go to our website to make an online donation.

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Annexes

UN Human Rights Organization chart



Abbreviations and acronyms

- CCA**
Common Country Assessment
- CEDAW**
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- CRPD**
Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ECOSOC**
Economic and Social Council
- EMS**
Environmental Management System
- ERS**
Emission reduction strategy
- ERT**
Emergency response team
- EU**
European Union
- HLCP**
High Level Committee on Programmes
- HRDDP**
Human rights due diligence policy
- ILO**
International Labour Organization
- IMF**
International Monetary Fund
- IMG**
Issue Management Group
- ITT**
Inequalities Task Team
- LNOB**
Leave No One Behind
- MoU**
Memorandum of Understanding
- MPTFO**
Multi-partner Trust Fund Office
- NGO**
Non-governmental organization
- NHRI**
National human rights institution
- NMRF**
National mechanism for Reporting and Follow up
- NPM**
National Preventive Mechanism
- PBSO**
Peacebuilding Support Office
- OHCHR**
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- OMP**
OHCHR Management Plan
- OP-CAT**
Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture
- RMR**
Regional monthly review
- SDG**
Sustainable Development Goal
- SERF**
Socio-economic response framework
- SG**
Secretary-General
- SPT**
Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- UN**
United Nations
- UNCT**
United Nations Country Team
- UNDP**
United Nations Development Programme
- UNEP**
United Nations Environment Programme
- UNESCO**
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNOCC**
United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre
- UNODC**
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- UNOG**
United Nations Office in Geneva
- UNSDCF**
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
- UNSDG**
United Nations Development Group
- UPR**
Universal Periodic Review

Cover

Afghan refugees ride aboard a bus taking them to a refugee processing center upon arrival at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia August 25, 2021.

©REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque

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