

In 2019 OHCHR piloted its new Gender Accreditation Programme in OHCHR Cambodia and OHCHR in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The programme was rolled out in 2020 in OHCHR Colombia and in the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine. The purpose of the programme is to translate our commitments to gender equality, diversity, and inclusion into concrete actions and to build the capacity of staff on gender and diversity integration. It is a different way to promote learning and to track and reward progress. At the same time, it fosters accountability through a process that recognizes good performance and the delivery of results. The programme helps OHCHR to “walk the talk” on gender equality and diversity. In our inaugural newsletter we will share updates from our four participating offices; Cambodia, Colombia, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU).

The Gender Accreditation Programme selects two field country offices annually, offering intensive support over 16-month in order to: (1) strengthen capacity on gender and diversity integration into programmatic and advocacy work and; (2) translate our commitments to gender equality, diversity and inclusion into very concrete actions in relation to country offices composition, culture, structure and processes.





'We were brainstorming and coming up with lots of innovative ideas that maybe we should have been doing a long time ago. Equally important, it was fun and there was a competition element to it..'
Simon Walker, Former Cambodia Head of Field Presence



Cambodia's Spotlight on COVID-19 Campaign

Together with UN Women, the Cambodia office launched a campaign about the impact of COVID-19 on human rights. The campaign included striking posters with a particular focus on domestic violence, discrimination and hate speech. Two radio spots on domestic violence were aired for three months in the three largest cities, Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and Battambang. On social media, the campaign addressed discrimination and hate speech, with a call to action to share stories of kindness using the hashtag #ShareStoriesOfKindness.



Under the 2020 global Human Rights Day theme "*Placing human rights at the heart of the COVID-19 recovery*", the Cambodia office also developed the *Right to Create initiative*, bringing together the UN Country Team, the Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia, the Embassy of Sweden, artists, at-risk groups and civil society organizations. The goal of the campaign was to inspire a new generation of human rights champions to build back better placing human rights and gender at the center of the COVID-19 recovery. A video was produced by young women centered around the music of Cambodia's first all-female drum troupe.



"It's been a fantastic opportunity to pause and look at how we deal with our programmatic and operational work through a gender lens [...] It will be a big tick for our donors. They are all looking for an independent and concrete assessment on gender"

James Heenan, Occupied Palestine Territory Head of Field Presence

OPT's Powerful Gender-Based Violence Campaign

Tapping into the global campaign #16Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the team in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Women's Affairs developed messaging and media content for TV, radio, electronic LED screens and social media.

"Women with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups in the face of social-based violence and face greater barriers to access justice, so the competent authorities should ensure that services are provided in a way that is responsive to their needs."

The campaign raised public awareness about women's rights and gender equality, in particular about gender-based violence in the context of COVID-19, and provided information about services providers that victims and survivors could contact. The Office published its first report on women's rights and gender issues giving visibility to the experiences of Palestinian women and girls. The report analyses in detail how pre-existing gender-based discrimination and gender inequalities can result into a differentiated impact of human rights violations.



Our 2020/2021 OHCHR Offices: Colombia & Ukraine



OHCHR Colombia Protective Environments Methodology

Working jointly with UN Women, the Colombia office implemented a model for access to justice of youth and women victims of sexual violence and enforced disappearances during the armed conflict. The "*protective environments*" methodology was designed and implemented in Vista Hermosa (Meta). Thanks to this initiative, bridges between public institutions and women's organizations have been strengthened. Women's organizations and government officials received capacity building on international human rights standards and discussed opportunities for the advancement of women's rights in the municipality. These activities have encouraged women to use their voices to participate actively in the implementation of this project and in other available platforms such as in the Territorial Development Plans.

Achievements

14 local authorities' knowledge strengthened

28 specific commitments to create protective environments

47 women empowered as community leaders

Ukraine Assesses COVID's Impact

Amidst the global COVID-19 crisis, the Human Rights Monitoring Mission Ukraine (HRMMU) has been assessing the impact of the pandemic and the authorities' response on the rights of individuals who are part of populations facing marginalization and vulnerabilities, when preparing a [thematic report on the impact of the pandemic on the human rights in Ukraine](#). As a result, HRMMU has found that women and healthcare workers (83% women) are suffering the most from the pandemic. The pandemic has further exacerbated inequalities and discrimination and increased risks for women to be subjected to domestic violence.

Svitlana is a nurse in Toretsk city in Eastern Ukraine. There she faces both the pandemic and the ongoing armed conflict. She has been treating people with COVID-19 since the pandemic began in spring 2020. While the pandemic created new vulnerabilities, affecting the lives of thousands of healthcare workers involved in COVID-19 response, the vast majority of whom are women, it also motivated her to take actions to build back better.



"My plans for the future...I really want to help the medical staff of our hospital to remember their dignity. I want to help them stand up for their rights," says Svitlana and adds: "The only thing I want to change is to teach people not to be afraid and to fight for their rights."

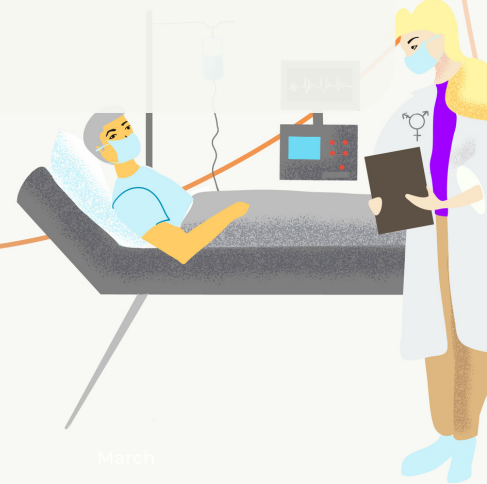
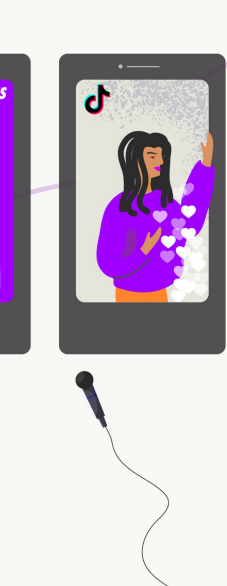
RECOVER BETTER.

I STAND
WITH HER

We are grateful to the many initiatives implemented by our participating offices during the 2021 International Women's Day Campaign!

Thanks to all for your support and engagement in the campaign, and for your continued efforts to keep standing up for gender equality!

Below some of the initiatives of our Offices.



Leading the fight for climate justice

Mitzi Tan
CONVENOR, YOUTH ADVOCATES FOR CLIMATE ACTION PHILIPPINES



I STAND WITH HER

Women political participation in Palestine

OHCHR-Opt led this year IWD campaign, which was designed and implemented in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Women's Affairs, UNWomen and the European Union. With reference to the upcoming Palestinian elections in May 2021, the campaign focuses on women's political participation and representation in Palestine. The campaign material includes a series of social media cards, radio spots and animated videos distributed throughout the week on 4 national television stations, 9 independent radio channels and social media platforms, in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

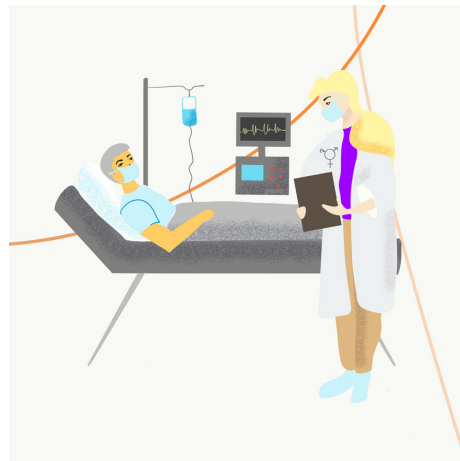


OHCHR Colombia pays tribute to women and mothers of victims of human rights violations



Colombia Office used the hashtag #DíaInternacionalde laMujer in its social media platforms and disseminated the material developed by the Office for the IWD campaign.

The Office published in its website the statement delivered by the Head of the Office, Ms. Juliette de Rivero in commemoration of the International Women's Rights Day, paying tribute to women, mothers and families of victims of extrajudicial executions for their fight for truth, justice and reparations.



6 messages in Twitter

6 Instagram posts

6 posts in Facebook with stories

Día Internacional de la Mujer 2021

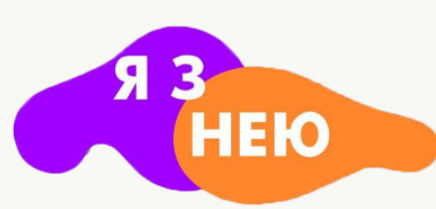
Cree en ti misma

Michelle Bachelet

ALTA COMISIONADA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS
PARA LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS



ВІДНОВИТИСЯ
КРАЩЕ,
НІЖ БУЛО



#САМАВИРІШУЮ



OHCHR celebrates women's achievements in Ukraine

The Human Rights Monitoring Mission Ukraine (HRMMU) launched a social media campaign ((#самавиришую "I decide for myself") to celebrate women's achievements encouraging women to share their personal stories of how they chose to pursue their dreams, ambitions, studies and occupations. 30 women published their personal stories. Two articles were also published in tochka.net media. One story explains why we celebrate the International Women's Day, and a second one – provides an overview of events to celebrate this day. HRMMU's social media flash mob was shared by the UN Resident Coordinator Office in Ukraine, UNICEF and Ukrainian civil society organizations. UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Osnat Lubrani joined the Office flash mob campaign #самавиришую #IStandWithHer and shared her personal story.

