

GENDER ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME

United Nations Human Rights



INVEST TO PREVENT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

In 2023, the implementation of the Gender Accreditation Programme continued across all six participating offices, including operating under increased challenges and conflict situations. Our offices in Guatemala and Syria (based in Beirut) underwent final assessments conducted by independent evaluators, showcasing deepened gender integration across all aspects of their work, and achieving excellent results. OHCHR in the occupied Palestinian Territories, (oPt) underwent reassessment and not only maintained its accreditation but also elevated it to level 3. Additionally, our offices have sustained their dedicated support to women human rights defenders and led impactful campaigns including the campaign for the 16-days of activism against gender-based violence. They have also continued to provide essential capacity-building and technical assistance on women's rights and gender equality. Explore the latest developments in our offices in the sixth update below!

IN THIS ISSUE:

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

The International Day of women human rights defenders

Supporting women's human rights defenders

Capacity Building

Rights of LGBTI people

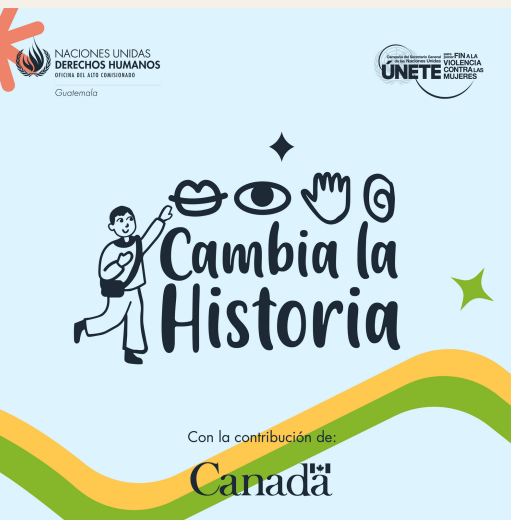
Human Rights of indigenous women

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

OHCHR Guatemala - Cambia la historia

OHCHR Guatemala launched its social media campaign "Change the Story" / "Change History" for a third consecutive year. In 2023, the campaign was aligned with the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and particularly the right to a life free from violence. OHCHR Guatemala, in partnership with the media outlet Quorum, produced eight informative videos, which were shared

across social media platforms. The videos addressed a wide range of topics, including root causes of violence against women, digital harassment, and the role of men in the prevention of violence against women. OHCHR Guatemala broadened the campaign's reach through strategic alliances with both public and private sectors. Notably, collaborations were forged with the Municipality of Guatemala and the Banco Industrial.



OHCHR GUATEMALA



Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) expressed solidarity with survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. HRMMU published social media posts on Facebook ([ENG](#) and [UKR](#)) and Instagram ([ENG](#) and [UKR](#)). HRMMU emphasized support for activists breaking the culture of silence that often surrounds sexual violence.

HRMMU also raised awareness of available services and hotlines open for all genders. Survivors and those at risk were encouraged to reach out to [Survivor Relief Centers](#), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-sponsored online psychotherapy platform "[Aurora](#)", and the National GBV Hotline.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

HRMMU

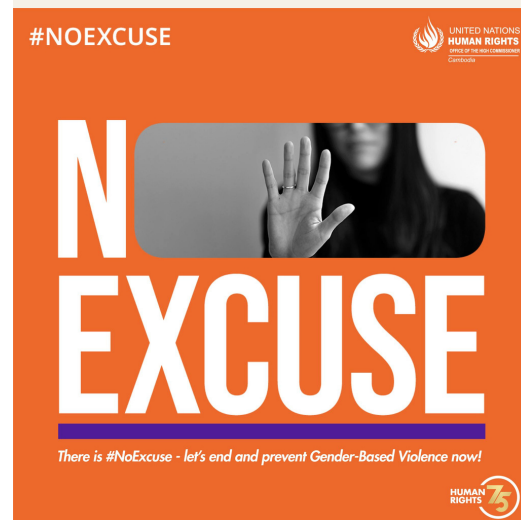
In November 2023, an HRMMU staff member participated in the “Acting for Survivors” Run in the city of Irpin near Kyiv. The Run was initiated by the Office of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The goal of this event was to draw attention to gender-based violence, including violence linked to armed conflict, to display solidarity with survivors, and to raise awareness about available support services for victims and survivors.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

OHCHR Cambodia

In collaboration with the NGO Cambodian Centre for Human Rights, OHCHR Cambodia launched a campaign to raise awareness about gender-based violence and recognize the crucial role of women human rights defenders (WHRDs). OHCHR Cambodia conducted numerous advocacy campaigns, including for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, International Days of Persons with Disabilities and Women Human Rights Defenders.



SUPPORTING WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS



OHCHR Colombia

OHCHR Colombia was honored to attend the 25th anniversary of its partner organization, Sisma Mujer, recognizing their impactful work and legacy advocating for women's rights.

(Programa Integral de Garantías para Lideresas y Defensoras de Derechos Humanos) by participating in regional consultations, providing moderation support and recommendations on protection, prevention and non-repetition issues for the new Action Plan.

OHCHR Colombia supported the Ministry of Interior in developing the new Action Plan for the Comprehensive Programme of Guarantees for women leaders and women human rights defenders

HRMMU

HRMMU continued its social media campaign “A Day with a Women Human Rights Defender” by handing over its Instagram page to women human rights defenders, providing them with a platform to showcase their invaluable work and increase visibility. In July 2023, HRMMU featured Yuliya Segeda, head of the organization “The League of Ukrainian Human Rights Defenders”, which provides legal assistance to survivors

of gender-based violence, and conducts trainings on prevention and response to gender-based violence for police officers, social workers and civil society organizations (CSOs). Yuliya Segeda has also been assisting conflict-affected people in obtaining compensation for damaged or destroyed housing, as well as working with CSOs providing legal and psychological assistance to survivors of missile and other attacks.



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ

ЮЛІЯ СЕГЕДА

допомагає постраждалим у війні,
ГО "Ліга українських правозахисників"

CAPACITY BUILDING

OHCHR Syria

Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution [77/301](#), OHCHR Syria led the start-up team for the Independent Institution on Missing Persons in Syria (IIMP). The Office contributed to the consultation process and the drafting of the institution's terms of reference (ToRs), annexed to the report of the Secretary-General ([A/78/627](#)).

Both the resolution and the ToRs frame gender inclusivity as one of the guiding principles of this new body. In this connection, gender sensitivity and inclusion shall inform all aspects of the operationalisation and work of the IIMP. It shall ensure a gender analysis across its programming such as identifying gender differentiated reasons as to why persons are forcibly disappeared, and the specific gendered impact, risks, and challenges faced by all those whose relative went missing. Due consideration to the gendered impact will also be implemented in its mandate to support families of missing persons based on their rights and needs.

OHCHR Cambodia

In October 2023, OHCHR Cambodia organised a two-day pilot training course for judges and prosecutors titled “Addressing Gender Bias in the Judiciary” in collaboration with the Royal Academy for Justice of Cambodia, following a recommendation by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on the importance of equipping judges and legal professionals with national and international standards in order to deliver justice in a gender-sensitive and gender-inclusive manner.

Thirty-five people participated, (21 women and 14 men) including representatives of the regional court of appeals, judges, and prosecutors from various provinces, as well as officials from the Royal Academy for Justice of Cambodia and the Ministry of Justice. The pilot training aimed at raising awareness of international human rights norms relating to gender stereotyping, to strengthen the protection of human rights and access to justice for women and individuals who are discriminated against on the basis of sex, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation.



CAPACITY BUILDING



**NAB'IL
PROJECT**

OHCHR Guatemala

In November, OHCHR Guatemala conducted a mission to the Izabal department, to follow-up the human rights situation of Garifuna and Afro descendant women. The office delivered several capacity building activities to civil society organizations and the Presidential Commission on Discrimination and Racism against Indigenous Peoples of Guatemala (CODISRA). The Office also held follow-up meetings regarding the participation of Garifuna and afro descendant women organizations in the review of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) of Guatemala in 2023.

Mayan and Mestizo youths to enhance their inclusion in civic space at the community and municipal levels. This initiative aims to enhance youth participation in the project's design and implementation. The Council comprises five young women from Huehuetenango Department. As part of this project, billboards were produced in Spanish and Mayan languages (K'iche, Kaqchikel and Mam), to raise awareness about the right to a life free of violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and online security.



NAB'IL PROJECT

In December, as part of the framework of a Peace Building Fund project (PBF), OHCHR Guatemala along with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), assisted in the establishment of the Nab'il Youth Council. Nab'il aims to promote the creation of new, safe participation models for

Between March and October, OHCHR Guatemala delivered human rights sessions for three youth organizations. Among them two are led by women ("Jóvenes Artistas por la Justicia Social" and "Asociación de Estudios Jurídicos Superiores") while the third focuses on advocating for the rights of the LGBTIQ+ people ("Visibles").

CAPACITY BUILDING



OHCHR Colombia

OHCHR Colombia participated in the participatory process to elaborate a National Action Plan to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Six consultation forums on the national action plan were supported by the Office, engaging women from Villavicencio, Chocó and Bogotá-Cundinamarca. In addition, the office contributed to two thematic forums on “Women in the International Borders” and on former women members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia–People’s Army (FARC-EP).



NATIONAL ACTION PLAN RESOLUTION 1325 IN COLOMBIA



OHCHR Colombia provided recommendations for integrating an intersectional ethnic and gender- perspective into the regional implementation of the “Public Policy to prevent recruitment and sexual violence against children”. Additionally, the office conducted training sessions for the policy implementation team.

In September 2023, the Special Jurisdiction announced the opening of Case 11 to investigate gender-based violence, including sexual and reproductive violence, and hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people within the context of armed conflict. OHCHR Colombia has consistently advocated for the opening of this case in its Annual Reports. In addition, the Office provided recommendations to the Jurisdiction to ensure the integration of a gender perspective in the reparations provided to victims of the armed conflict.



CAPACITY BUILDING

OHCHR Cambodia

In August 2023, OHCHR Cambodia in collaboration with the organization Indigenous Women's Association and Gender and Development for Cambodia organised a three-day training session. The session, attended by 30 participants, focused on monitoring and reporting on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and other human rights violations. The training aimed to strengthen capacity in monitoring, reporting, and effectively following up on allegations of human rights violations, with a specific emphasis on addressing SGBV cases.



ENGAGING WITH TREATY BODIES

OHCHR Guatemala

In anticipation of the CEDAW Committee session scheduled in October 2023, OHCHR Guatemala conducted a workshop in July 2023 for women's rights organizations. Over 60 civil society representatives were briefed on the examination of the State report by the Committee, along with guidance on submission of alternative reports. In addition, in September, OHCHR Guatemala provided technical assistance to the delegation of the State of Guatemala, tasked with presenting the State's report to the CEDAW Committee. This support included familiarizing the delegation with the format and assessment criteria of the treaty body review, ensuring a thorough preparation process.

OHCHR Cambodia

In June 2023, OHCHR Cambodia supported the Cambodian Human Rights Committee (CHRC) to hold a national consultation on follow-up to the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee, with a focus on gender. OHCHR's Country Representative delivered opening remarks. Over sixty people from the Royal Government of Cambodia, civil society and UN entities participated. Government Ministries presented their workplan for the implementation of the recommendations. NGO representatives also presented their contributions to the implementation of the recommendations and presented actions to advance gender equality. OHCHR supported the event financially and supported CSOs on advocacy strategies.

**E IS #NOEXCUSE FOR
NCE AGAINST WOMEN
GIRLS THERE IS
XCUSE FOR VIOLENCE
ST WOMEN AND GIRLS
E IS #NOEXCUSE FOR**

HUMAN RIGHTS OF LGBTI PEOPLE



In July, OHCHR Guatemala delivered a training session on international human rights norms and standards to protect LGBTI people for United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) staff, following their invitation. In addition, the Office monitored the Pride parade in Guatemala City on 22 July, where hundreds of members of the LGBTIQ+ community and allies marched, calling for the full recognition of LGBTIQ+ people's rights. These efforts underscore the Office's commitment to strengthen respect and protection for the human rights of LGBTI people in Guatemala.



professionals, prosecutors, and investigators across the Latin American region.

OHCHR Colombia participated in the First National Convention on LGBTIQ+ people's rights organized by the LGBTIQ+ section of the Ministry of Interior. In the meeting, LGBTIQ+ defenders built an advocacy agenda and a national participation mechanism. OHCHR Colombia also participated in the 2023 Pride Parade.

In December, OHCHR Cambodia supported a dialogue between the LGBT community and the Government in follow-up to supported recommendations in the 3rd cycle of the Universal Periodic Review. Over two hundred participants attended the dialogue, including representatives from the LGBT community, family members, provincial and national government officials, civil society, UN entities, and members of the international community. Representatives from State institutions and stakeholders agreed to make collective efforts towards forming a joint working group led by the government. Participants also discussed initiatives aimed at advancing legislation concerning the recognition of same-sex marriages in Cambodia.

In September, OHCHR Colombia and Guatemala, in collaboration with OHCHR offices in Latin America and the organization Red Sin Violencia LGBTI+, organized the Second Regional Forum on "Justice without impunity or prejudice for LGBTIQ+ people: Moving towards the Creation of a Regional Protocol for the Investigation of Violent Deaths of LGBTIQ+ People". Held in Bogota, the Forum addressed the urgent need for a specialized approach in identifying and investigating cases of killings of LGBTIQ+ people as hate crimes.

Discussions centered around conceptual frameworks and the identification of practical tools tailored for forensic

La Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos y la Red Regional Sin Violencia LGBTI, se complacen en invitarle al:


SEGUNDO FORO REGIONAL

Justicia sin impunidad ni prejuicios para las personas LGBTIQ+

Avanzando hacia la construcción de un protocolo latinoamericano de investigación penal de muertes violentas de personas LGBTIQ+

FECHA Miércoles, 6 de septiembre de 2023

HORA De 7:30 am a 11:30 am Honduras
De 8:30 am a 12:30 pm Colombia
De 9:30 am a 1:30 pm Chile
De 10:30 am a 2:30 pm Brasil y Argentina

 Conexión a través del Facebook de ONU DDHH Colombia



HUMAN RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN



OHCHR Colombia provided trainings on human rights standards of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, for indigenous authorities and women human rights defenders from the Gran Cumbal people in Nariño. These efforts are aimed at facilitating access to justice for victims, particularly in addressing cases of gender-based violence and child recruitment, through the autonomous judicial and governing systems established within the community.

OHCHR Colombia also played a crucial role in fostering dialogue and solidarity among marginalized communities by facilitating a meeting between peasant women human rights defenders and indigenous Yukpa women. This initiative aimed at exchanging knowledge and experiences amidst ongoing territorial conflicts. Additionally, the Office supported two meetings, one with Yukpa women organizations from Serranía del Perijá and the second with Jiw women organizations from Guaviare and Meta. The gatherings aimed to create common initiatives and strategies, to improve their human rights situation, taking into account their culture.



HUMAN RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN



In August, OHCHR Guatemala participated in the Annual Meeting of the National Weavers' Movement, led by indigenous women. OHCHR's Representative delivered a speech, stressing the need to protect the intellectual collective property rights of Indigenous Peoples and reiterating the support of the Office to the work of the National Weavers' Movement.

In September, OHCHR Guatemala provided technical assistance to the Communicators' Network comprised of community radio stations, led by indigenous women communicators from the Sobrevivencia Cultural Association. The technical assistance included presenting tools to create news with a focus on human rights including gender equality and rights of indigenous peoples. Also in September, as part of the commemoration of the International Day for Universal Access to Information, an event was held to launch the "IX news programme".

Hacernos visibles



Las mujeres garífunas y afrodescendientes hacen visibles sus aportes y exigen sus derechos



HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF ELECTIONS

OHCHR Guatemala conducted human rights monitoring in the context of the 2023 general elections, with a gender-sensitive and intersectional approach.



A pesar de barreras sistémicas y grandes obstáculos, las mujeres garífunas y afrodescendientes en Guatemala defienden sus derechos, emprenden y participan políticamente. A través de sus organizaciones ellas reivindican su derecho a ser tomadas en cuenta en la toma de decisiones en espacios públicos y en la defensa de sus derechos.

Las **mujeres indígenas** son defensoras de los derechos humanos, **luchando por el acceso a la tierra y territorio, un medio ambiente saludable, atención sanitaria y otros derechos fundamentales para todas las personas.**



For further information about the Gender Accreditation Programme please see www.ohchr.org/en/women/ohchr-gender-accreditation-programme



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of
Foreign Affairs FDFA



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland



Government Offices of Sweden
Ministry for Foreign Affairs



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER