



FIRST INTERIM NARRATIVE REPORT

EU-UN JOINT PROJECT - HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL - PHASE 2

Reporting Period: 01 December 2020 - 31 December 2021



Contents

Project Details	3
Contact Details	5
Abbreviations	6
I PART: Narrative Report	8
1. Executive Summary	8
1. Challenges and Lessons Learned.....	15
2. Actual Results	17
SO1 - Relevant public bodies (duty-bearers) develop, implement and monitor national human rights policy and related frameworks (UNDP, OHCHR)	17
SO2 - Law-enforcement and human rights protection bodies effectively implement their duties related to policymaking and enforcement with due oversight and transparency	24
SO3: The human rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations are recognized in law and protected in practice	35
SO5. Citizens are informed on, favorable to, and supportive of human rights for all and efforts to protect them.	42
3. Programme Coordination and Management.....	45
4. Indicator-Based Performance Assessment	46
5. Project Visibility.....	67
6. Other Assessments or Evaluations.....	76
II PART: Annual Financial Consolidated Report.....	76
III PART: Updated Workplan for 2022	76
List of Annexes	77

Project Details

Title of the Action	Human Rights for All – PHASE 2	
Grant Agreement	N - ENI/2020/ 418-10	
Beneficiary Country	Georgia	
National Partner(s)	Prime Minister's Office, State Inspector's Service of Georgia (SIS), Public Defender's Office of Georgia (PDO), Parliament of Georgia, Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (MES), Office of the State Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality (SMR), Ministry for Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs (MoIDPOTLHSA), High School of Justice, local self-governments, academia and media, international organizations (CoE, USAID/PROLoG, EU), civil society organizations (CSOs)	
Target Groups	Government agencies; Local state-authorities; Minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations; Civil Society Organisations.	
Total Duration of the Action	01/12/2020 – 20/11/2023	
Funding Source	EU Delegation to Georgia UNDP OHCHR	USD 2,690,058 USD 181,936 USD 116,959
Participating UN Agencies	Organization/Administrative Agent: UNDP MPTFO Convening Agent: UNDP Georgia Co-delegates: OHCHR	
Total Budget	USD 2,988,954	
Budget Utilized in 2021	USD 738,182.34	
Reporting Period	01/12/2020 – 31/12/2021	
Overall Objective	Citizens of Georgia, primarily those in vulnerable situations, enjoy better protection of their human rights.	
Specific Objectives	SO1: Relevant public bodies (duty-bearers) develop, implement and monitor national human rights policy and related frameworks SO2: Law-enforcement and human rights protection bodies effectively implement their duties related to policymaking and enforcement with due oversight and transparency SO3: The human rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations are recognized in law and protected in practice SO4. Local authorities more effectively protect the human rights of all citizens, primarily those in vulnerable situations and minority groups.	

	SO5. Citizens are informed on, favorable to, and supportive of human rights for all and efforts to protect them.
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2A. Capacitated SIS and other law-enforcement bodies implement relevant national policies and regulatory frameworks on preventing and responding to torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment • Outcome 2B. The State Inspector's Service (SIS) and organizations collecting and processing personal data ensure effective compliance with data protection provisions • Outcome 3A. At the central level, effective mechanisms for the protection of rights of persons with disabilities through implementation and monitoring of the new Georgian Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and UN CRPD are in place and operational • Outcome 3B. Effective systems for the protection of persons in vulnerable situations and minority groups and promotion of a culture of non-discrimination, with a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national and ethnic minorities, are in place and operational • Outcome 4A. Local authorities supported by the Project have the capacity and incorporate into local policies and practices national human rights policy (international human rights treaties of Georgia, NHRS, etc.) at local levels in coordination with central authorities • Outcome 5A. Public awareness understanding of Human Rights Standards and Mechanisms (HRC, HR Strategy and Action plans) is increased, and a culture of human rights, a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national minorities, and PwDs in Georgia is enhanced • Outcome 5B. Citizens are more aware of their rights related to PDP and protection from ill-treatment and recourse to the SIS for redress if needed.

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Abbreviations

AA	<i>Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia</i>
AoG	<i>Administration of the Government</i>
BDD	<i>Basic Data and Directions document of the Government of Georgia</i>
CoE	<i>Council of Europe</i>
CSO	<i>Civil Society Organization</i>
ECE	<i>European Center for Education</i>
ECHR	<i>European Convention on Human Rights</i>
EU	<i>European Union</i>
GDPR	<i>General Data Protection Regulation</i>
GoG	<i>Government of Georgia</i>
HRBA	<i>Human Rights-Based Approach</i>
IACHR	<i>Inter-Agency Council for Human Rights</i>
IDFI	<i>Institute for Development of Freedom of Information</i>
INGO	<i>International Non-governmental Organization</i>
HEI	<i>Higher Education Institutions</i>
HRS	<i>Human Rights Secretariat</i>
HR4ALL	<i>Human Rights for All Project</i>
JP	<i>Joint Programme</i>
LGBTQI	<i>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex</i>
LNOB	<i>Leave no one behind</i>
LRPD	<i>Law of Georgia on Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>
LSGs	<i>Local Self-Governments</i>
MES	<i>Ministry of Education and Science</i>
MFA	<i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>
MIA	<i>Ministry of Internal Affairs</i>
MOJ	<i>Ministry of Justice</i>
M&E	<i>Monitoring and Evaluation</i>
NGO	<i>Non-governmental Organization</i>
NHRI	<i>National Human Rights Institution</i>
NHRS	<i>National Human Rights Strategy</i>
NHRSAP	<i>National Human Rights Strategy Action Plan</i>
NMRF	<i>National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up</i>

<i>NPM</i>	<i>National Preventive Mechanism of PDO</i>
<i>OHCHR</i>	<i>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights</i>
<i>OPD</i>	<i>Organizations of Persons with Disabilities</i>
<i>OSCE</i>	<i>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe</i>
<i>PDO</i>	<i>Public Defender's Office</i>
<i>PDP</i>	<i>Personal Data Protection</i>
<i>PwDs</i>	<i>Persons with disabilities</i>
<i>SIS</i>	<i>State Inspector's Service</i>
<i>UN</i>	<i>United Nations</i>
<i>UN CRPD</i>	<i>United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>
<i>UNDP</i>	<i>United Nations Development Programme</i>
<i>UPR</i>	<i>Universal Periodic Review</i>

I PART: Narrative Report

1. Executive Summary

“Human Rights for All – Phase 2” is a joint initiative of the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN). It is implemented as a cooperative program by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) is the Administrative Agent and UNDP Georgia, the Convening Agent.

The JP builds directly on the achievements of the previous phase of the “Human Rights for All” project, which was likewise a partnership between the EU and the UN agencies. It strengthens and promotes human rights in areas covered in the first phase while identifying and tackling human rights issues in new areas.

The overall objective of the project - Citizens of Georgia, and primarily those in vulnerable situations, enjoy better protection of their human rights – complies with the national priorities of Georgia enshrined in the Constitution and essential policy documents of the country, as well as with the international obligations of Georgia, including EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Sustainable Development Goals, and UN human rights treaties.

UNDP and OHCHR work in close coordination to achieve the overall objective of the JP, among other things, through the support to the implementation and monitoring of national human rights policy and related frameworks, improvement of the independent investigation of crimes committed by law-enforcement officials, combatting torture and other forms of ill-treatment, protection of personal data, addressing challenges to the protection of human rights in the regions of Georgia and human rights of people belonging to minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations, including LGBTQI+ persons, national, ethnic and religious minorities and persons with disabilities, and increasing awareness of human rights among rights-holders.

This is the first annual report submitted to the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia (EUD). It outlines the results and evaluates the progress towards achieving expected outcomes within the framework of the project during the reporting period: 01 December 2020 - 31 December 2021.

The delivery rate of the first received installments by the end of 2021 was 62%. Project activities were implemented according to the Detailed 2021 Action Plan and the project document.

The project maintained a close partnership with relevant government actors, judicial institutions, civil society, and other key stakeholders. In addition, close cooperation was established with the newly appointed Advisor to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and a number of newly elected MPs. To avoid duplication and overlap and identify avenues of synergies, continuous exchange of information was ensured with critical organizations and development projects working on safeguarding human rights. Sharing information and project outputs with other UN agencies was standard practice to reinforce the project impact.

As per the Project Document, the activities were aimed at the progress of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement and Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the recommendations issued by the United Nations (UN) Treaty Bodies. In addition, the project team

incorporated the published guidance to the Government of Georgia (GoG) by international bodies and recommendations of the fact-finding mission delivered by the international human rights expert, Maggie Nicholson.

Overall, 2021 was a challenging year for the EU-UN JP Human Rights for All – Phase 2 (HR4All-2), as political tensions and polarization have negatively affected the country's human rights policy development. This year can be described as a year of ongoing and new crises with unprecedented attacks against independent human rights institutions, media, large-scale patterns of infringement of privacy of individuals, and the ravaging COVID-19 pandemic, to name a few. The situation was exacerbated by the postponement of adopting the next iteration of National Human Rights Strategy and relevant Action Plan.

At the early start of the project implementation, the opposition was boycotting the Parliament after the 2020 contested parliamentary elections while the PM resigned. The departure of the PM led to a change of AoG's management – the primary counterpart of the project. The arrival of the new government and Prime Minister delayed the approval of the country's leading human rights policy document. The new management required time to clarify the context and the importance of the Strategy before deciding on its approval.

The unexpected arrival and subsequent detention of the former president of Georgia, Mr. Saakashvili, on the eve of the municipal elections 2021 deepened political polarization. Public Defender's Office and State Inspector's Service, two independent state agencies, were propelled into the spotlight in 2021 for their involvement in the former president's case.

On the last day of 2021, the Parliament supported the abolition of the State Inspector's Service (and the formation of two new institutions – Personal Data Protection Service and the Special Investigative Service instead), which was the central beneficiary of the Project's support and the critical counterpart.

In 2021, the COVID-19 virus had devastating effects. The slow speed of the vaccination process, which stalled in the autumn, again picked up somewhat later, was a barrier for holding in-person events and, therefore, the visibility and communication part of the project.

Considering the afore-mentioned milestones, it can be concluded that the project faced challenges in the implementation of activities amid the abrupt reduction in governmental counterparts and stalled processes in the Government institutions.

Despite the challenges, the project still delivered significant accomplishments for the reporting period, especially with the independent institutions and civil society working to protect human rights.

A summary of the 2021 work:

SO1: Relevant public bodies (duty-bearers) develop, implement and monitor national human rights policy and related frameworks
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- The initial draft of the National Human Rights Strategy for 2022-2030 was developed based on the findings of an independent assessment of the previous Human Rights Strategy. The draft Strategy is submitted to the Government for further endorsement.
- The report “Georgia’s COVID response: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future” was developed.
- More than 20 representatives of state institutions’ human rights focal points were trained on the Human Rights-Based Approach and prohibition of discrimination/labor rights.
- All departments/representatives of PDO were trained on trends in developing the case law of the Constitutional Court of Georgia.
- The Concept of Separation of Investigative and Prosecutorial Functions was developed and discussed with all law-enforcement bodies and relevant stakeholders.
- A study on the ECHR case law on the differentiation of criminal and administrative charges and proceedings was developed for the Parliament.
- A gap analysis of Georgian legislation and case law on imposition of administrative detention and comparative analysis of Georgian legislation/practice and universal, regional standards were developed for the Parliament.
- Monitoring reports were developed by local NGOs on different HR topics, which were selected in cooperation with the EU delegation.
- Assistance was provided to the MFA of Georgia in finalizing the state report on the UN Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

SO2: Law-enforcement and human rights protection bodies effectively implement their duties related to policymaking and enforcement with due oversight and transparency

- The best international practices of institutions overseeing the personal data collection were analyzed to improve data collection tools (PDP component) of the State Inspector’s Service to facilitate informed decision-making based on collected disaggregated data analysis.
- Based on the analyzed international practice, a relevant methodology for data collection in personal data protection was developed.
- The Guideline on Processing Personal Data for Public Information was developed to facilitate a proper understanding of the norms of the legislation and improve the practice.
- Human Resources Management Action plan and analysis of the human resources management system in the State Inspector’s Service were elaborated to strengthen organizational culture, ensure staff stability, recruitment, promotion, evaluation, and other human resources components.

- Internal communication strategy for the SIS was developed to ensure the SIS's effective functioning and proper internal communication between three key directions (investigation of the crimes committed by law-enforcement officers, personal data protection and oversight of covert investigative activities).
- The first unified Strategy and AP of the SIS covering its all three directions were developed aiming to ensure the practical realization of the SIS's functions, including in terms of personal data protection, and to improve the institutional development of the SIS, resulting in a well-established policy framework for adequate protection of rights holders.
- The working meeting of the SIS managers was supported to discuss SIS's achievements and challenges of 2020.
- The SIS managerial staff training was conducted to enhance their knowledge and capacity on management-related issues for ensuring, inter alia, coordination among three directions.
- ToT was conducted for the SIS staff to equip participants with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to perform the training.
- Interagency Coordination Council against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment under the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) was supported in elaborating the Action Plan on fight against torture other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment for 2021-2022. The Plan was adopted in February 2021.
- MoJ was supported in developing the definition of torture according to international standards. A meeting was conducted with all relevant stakeholders (16 participants from different state institutions) to discuss the definitions of several articles. However, the amendments were not introduced, and the process stalled.
- The process of establishing a national mechanism to support the rehabilitation of victims of torture and other ill-treatment was advocated. To this aim, a study on torture victims' rehabilitation systems was developed, and the findings were discussed with all main stakeholders (14 participants from different state institutions).
- State Inspector Service (SIS) was supported to draft a package of legislative changes improving the effectiveness of the work of the SIS to carry out its mandate.
- Expert advice was offered, and several studies developed for SIS, including and not limited to: covert surveillance legislation in the context of counterintelligence activities in Georgia; international experience in monitoring covert investigative activities; operation–investigative activities, laws, and practices in different countries; international standards on the use of force in the policing of demonstrations; etc.
- The Legal Aid Service of Georgia was supported to ensure that adequate legal aid was accessible for victims of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.
- HR department of the MIA was capacitated through updating a module on second and third articles of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- Two-day training was conducted for the middle management of MIA investigators on the prohibition of discrimination and hate speech (in total, 48 investigators).

- A methodology guideline was developed by an expert on effective communication with PwDs with psycho-social and intellectual disabilities for SIS.

SO3: The human rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations are recognized in law and protected in practice

- Interagency Coordination Committee responsible for the implementation of CRPD was established.
- The MES was supported to elaborate Inclusive Education Development Strategy and Action Plan and the Guideline on Sign-language Interpreters Certification.
- The MIA and Emergency Management Service were supported to develop guidelines on measures oriented towards the needs of Persons with Disabilities in emergencies.
- To promote mental health services into primary healthcare services, UNDP collaborated with NGO “Global Initiative in Psychiatry – Tbilisi.” The project is piloted in Tbilisi, Batumi, and Gori.
- The new Strategy and Action Plan for 2022-2024 on monitoring the implementation of CRPD in Georgia was developed for the Public Defender’s Office.
- Together with European Center for Education, UNDP elaborated a Guideline for lawyers on litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and UN Treaty Bodies.
- Training Course on “Standards of the European Court of Human Rights and the UN Treaty bodies” was conducted for over 50 assistant judges – together with the High School of Justice and European Center for Education (ECE).
- Training for lawyers on Litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and UN Treaty Bodies was conducted in partnership with European Center for Education.
- The representatives of 30 NGOs operating in the western and eastern parts of Georgia underwent training on policy monitoring and anti-discrimination legislation.
- Two grants were issued to the NGOs operating in Batumi and Samtskhe-Javakheti to increase awareness of LGBTQI+ rights, fight stigma and stereotypes, and raise awareness on sexual and reproductive health representatives of ethnic minorities on their civic rights, on the available healthcare and legal services.
- A grant was issued to the Human Rights Council member NGO – Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) to assess personal data protection in the country.

SO4. Local authorities more effectively protect the human rights of all citizens, primarily those in vulnerable situations and minority groups.

The implementation of the activities in light of SO4 was hindered by the pre-election campaign, the 2021 LSG elections, and the change in LSGs. This was named one of the risks while implementing the project, which is described as a hampering assumption in the Risk Logic of the Project Document. The project plans to implement the activities related to the local authorities in 2022 and further.

SO5. Citizens are informed on, favorable to, and supportive of human rights for all and efforts to protect them.

- UNDP, together with the EU, OHCHR, Administration of the Government, and PDO, organized Human Rights Forum on International Human Rights Day. Forum created a space for discussion between legislative and executive branches, the National Human Rights Institution – Public Defender’s Office, International Organizations, and national civil society representatives to assess advancements and challenges within 2021 on gender equality, religious and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQI+ communities and rights.
- First Session of Coordination Committee responsible for implementing CRPD was conducted on the Day of Persons with Disabilities. OPDs took part in the session remotely.
- Strategic workshop was conducted with journalists before IDAHOBIT to increase sensitive reporting around LGBTQI+ issues.
- UNDP and the EU provided space for discussions for preparations of PRIDE.
- In the Personal Data Protection Week framework dedicated to PDP Day 2021 following activities were implemented: the meeting with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Experts, photo contest for school students, and social media campaigns.
- Judiciary Winter school on Human Rights law and International and European standards was conducted for legal staff of judiciary by partnership of CoE, USAID/PROLoG, and OHCHR and in close collaboration with the High Council of Justice of Georgia.
- Training on personal data protection issues was conducted for PDP ambassadors to prepare them to work in the field.
- Training for ethnically non-Georgian teachers from regional schools was conducted on the impact of disinformation on civic equality process and the importance of its prevention in collaboration with the Ministry for Reconciliation and Civic Equality.
- A study of international best practices and standards of right to a fair trial was developed through the prism of lawyers’ duties and responsibilities for GBA.
- Series of training was conducted for the lawyers in a partnership with Georgian Bar Association. Including the rights of freedom of religion and anti-discrimination and the rights of freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. Five training sessions were conducted, and 80 (45 women) lawyers were trained.
- Set of activities were conducted with a particular focus on regions. The well-known experts in the human rights field had a meeting with Batumi State University Students.

They discussed topics such as democracy and the role of legislators in strengthening protecting human rights. Moreover, the training was conducted for the winner of the student contest – dedicated to Human Rights Day.

The project team has gained a solid record of project-based and thematic coordination with public and non-governmental organizations, which has been a primary contributing factor to the implementation of the second phase of the project, despite the obstacles that COVID-19, the political tensions, and staffing changes in the Government posed to the project. Current close coordination with important government partners, thematic NGOs, independent human rights institutions, and a degree of flexibility in the process of project design, implementation, and follow-up will be maintained throughout the project's remaining activities.

1. Challenges and Lessons Learned

During the reporting period, several events related to human rights protection in the country caused a public outcry and provoked special attention from international partners and organizations. Those are 5-6 July 2021 attacks of far-right groups targeting civic activists, LGBTQI+ community members, and journalists who wanted to peacefully exercise the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of expression guaranteed to them by Georgia's Constitution by conducting PRIDE March; the death of the journalist beaten by far-right groups on 5 July; the allegations of politically motivated cases; disagreements by major political actors over the "Agreement of April 19" proposed by the President of the European Council; abolition of the State Inspector's Service despite sharp criticism from local civil society and international actors, as well as Georgia's partner states, Parliamentary boycott, etc. All aforementioned events have resulted in stalling the regular work of the Government and the Parliament of Georgia and weakened the effective functioning of the state institutions.¹

In 2021, one of the significant challenges was the passive role of the Prime Minister's Office in ensuring the approval of the strategy and starting the development process of the action plan and deliver effective coordination through the Council and WGs. Thus, there was a decrease in interest from civil society organizations, resulting in the decline for further lobbying to restore the IACHR operations. The absence of IACHR meetings also caused the weakening of the oversight mechanism on human rights in the country.

2021 LSG elections followed by the crises in the municipal Councils deprived the project of the opportunity to implement activities related to LSGs.

Special verbal attacks on the Public Defender (Ombudsperson) by leading figures in the ruling party and right far-right nationalist activists, which were growing during the reporting period in parallel of her active efforts on some prominent cases, were followed by the statements of EU Parliament and US Ambassador as well as the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Dunja Mijatović, condemning the targeted campaign of hate speech towards the Public Defender of Georgia.²

¹ 5 July events detailed here: <https://osce.usmission.gov/on-july-5-violence-in-georgia/>

Allegations of politically motivated cases, Freedom House Report 2021, para. 87-96, available here: <https://freedomhouse.org/country/georgia/nations-transit/2021>

Political polarization and withdrawal from 19 April Agreement, Carnegie Europe Paper – Divided Georgia: A Hostage to Polarization, available here: <https://carnegieeurope.eu/2021/12/08/divided-georgia-hostage-to-polarization-pub-85937>; U.S. Embassy Statement on Georgian Dream's Withdrawal from April 19th Agreement,

<https://ge.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-statement-on-georgian-dreams-withdrawal-from-april-19th-agreement/>

Abolition of State Inspector's Service, Statement of EU Delegation, available here: https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia/109365/eu-delegation-responds-expedited-procedures-georgian-parliament-relating-state-inspectors_en?fbclid=IwAR0HQ_eKQKAzQofD7DJwAEWnvhygeFaaV76yEm4LKtpxlen2vRM8bQXeuU74

Georgia's opposition returns to parliament after months of boycott, May 30, 2021, <https://www.reuters.com/world/georgias-opposition-returns-parliament-after-months-boycott-2021-05-30/>

² Joint statement by the Chair of the DSCA and the Standing Rapporteur on the importance of the role of the Public Defender of Georgia, <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/joint-statement-by-the-chair-of-the-dsca/product-details/20211115DPU31684>; US Embassy: We Are Concerned about Politicized Attacks on Public

The developments in 2021 demonstrated the dramatic importance of independent human rights institutions in the country and the critical need for their capacity strengthening. Human Rights Institutions have fully displayed the intent of practical cooperation; thus, the absolute majority of the activities carried out in the reporting period aimed at strengthening their institutional capacity for delivering long-lasting results.

Defender's Office, Georgia Today, March 23, 2021, <https://georgiatoday.ge/us-embassy-we-are-concerned-about-politicized-attacks-on-public-defenders-office/>;

2. Actual Results

SO1 - Relevant public bodies (duty-bearers) develop, implement and monitor national human rights policy and related frameworks (UNDP, OHCHR)
Output 1.1. Human Rights Council and its thematic working groups are restructured and can effectively implement NHRS and updated procedures
Output 1.2. Effective monitoring and communication tools, including focal points system, for NHRS and AP in place and operational
Output 1.3. Criminal Justice Reform Council supported with particular emphasis on separation of investigative and prosecutorial functions
Output 1.4 Selected chapters of the Administrative Offense Code drafted.
Output 1.5. Knowledge on human rights issues of the civil servants increased

To achieve the SO1 and its specific outputs, the project implementation process has been focused on the institutional development and capacity building of relevant state institutions at the central level to ensure that robust, independent, and capacitated state institutions implement human rights policy, incorporate international commitments on human rights into national policy and legislation and accountability of duty bearers is monitored through efficient systems. In the implemented notion of its majority of activities, the project team has used capacity/knowledge building, advisory/expert services, policy lobbying, and advocacy.

Output 1.1/Result 1.1 Human Rights Council and its thematic working groups are restructured and effectively implement NHRS and updated procedures.

At the institutional level, the Council and the structuring of its WGs have been legally amended, and positive changes have been carried in.³ The increased mandate concerning the monitoring and evaluation of the NHRS and its AP, the composition and the concept of meaningful participation of non-governmental organizations, the authority to re-structure the set-up of thematic groups, and many more can be emphasized as the step forward.

With the cooperation of the project HR for All-Phase 2, the GoG introduced a concept of the advisory group within the authority of the Council, which was set up and composed with representatives of non-governmental organizations to submit relevant and thematic initiatives related to human rights policy. Any non-governmental organization may become a member of the Advisory Group by offering an appropriate application to the Human Rights Secretariat (Service) of the Government of Georgia.

³ <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/4799953?publication=0>

The main achievement during the reporting period was the establishment of the Inter-Agency Coordination Committee responsible for the implementation of the UN CRPD, while the other two existing WGs⁴ were kept under the umbrella of the Council.

Despite the optimistic changes in institutional and legal procedures, their translation into the practice has become less effective. Namely, the effectiveness of the Council is relatively low, as it did not meet throughout 2021 (despite the legal obligation of conducting the Council meeting three times a year). Council's thematic WG meetings happen also to be held very rarely, with a one-time exception of the newly established Inter-Agency Coordination mechanism on PwDs, which has been assembled in December 2021.

Nevertheless, the frequency of IACHR and its WG meetings cannot be considered a mere indicator for measuring the effectiveness of HR policy implementation and coordination effectiveness. To improve the impact of the NHRS implementation, the project during the reporting period continued to strengthen the capacity of the IACHR Secretariat and other public authorities/members of the Council to enable them to work more aptly on a day-to-day basis and to make the human rights policy planning and coordination process more efficient.

The development of the initial draft of the new NHRS is the major accomplishment under this output.⁵ The policy document was developed based on the fact-finding mission recommendations delivered by the International human rights expert, Maggie Nicholson, and in line with UN HR treaty bodies, UPR and SDGs. The development process of the new Strategy's initial draft was found to be evidence-based, introducing the first-ever logical framework with apt policy indicators enabling the Government and the partners to measure the progress of HR policy implementation in mid-term and long-term perspectives. However, this well-tested approach by the former Administration of developing the first draft of the Strategy has been reconsidered by the new Advisor to the PM on Human Rights, claiming the triviality of the log-frame outcome/output indicators in the National Human Rights Document and suggesting allocating the log-frame within the Action Plan to be developed for the Strategy implementation. In return, his new vision urged so-called narrative format of the Strategy with no specific log-frame and set of the following priorities, confirmed by the project:

- Priority I – Strengthening of justice, the rule of law, recognized democracy, and the effective exercising of civil and political rights
- Priority II - Strengthening the protection of economic and social rights and improving its systemic guarantees
- Priority III - Reflecting constitutional guarantees of equality in state policy implementation and discrimination-free enjoyment of human rights and freedoms
- Priority IV - Protection of the rights and freedoms of the population affected by the illegal occupation of the territories of Georgia by the Russian Federation, including IDPs and

⁴ Interagency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence; Interagency Commission on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Rights of the Child.

⁵ See annex 1, initial draft of the National Human Rights Strategy for 2022-2030.

refugees from the occupied territories of Georgia, the people of the villages across to the occupation line, and people living in the occupied territories.

With the new look to the Strategy development process, the project supported the re-structuring of the Strategy draft with the latest expert who developed the entire narrative of the Strategy, accepted by the new PM Advisor; moreover, the project heavily advocated for putting critical indicators in the narrative part, therefore, also supported by the project team the final narrative of the Strategy reflects the critical thematic indicators for each strategic priority and goal. Although, the final document is not available for the project team, the PM Advisor reports that indicators are well integrated in the final body text and the final draft is being discussed internally within the GoG.

Nevertheless, to recapitulate, it should be underlined that the delay of strategy approval exceeded all current expectations. The current is likely to be caused by deteriorated political environment and changes in government, that significantly hampered the approval. Accordingly, the development of the action plan, planned for 2021, has not even begun yet.

Activity 1.1.1 Capacity/knowledge building of the IACHR and the HRS
Activity 1.1.2 Provide expert (international and national) advice/support to the IACHR and the HRS.

The shift of the Government Cabinet back in March 2021 prolonged the anticipated timeline for NHRS adoption. The newly appointed advisor to the PM on human rights has handed over the ownership of the NHRS finalization and further measures to be taken for the adoption. The strategic priorities, goals, objectives, and relevant indicators of the upcoming NHRS were already determined with the support of the national experts engaged by the project; thus, to finalize the document, there was an urgent need to develop the narrative part of the Strategy providing a historical and current outlook of human rights situation and challenges in that regard existing in the country. For the outlined reasons, it was decided to hire a national expert who supported the Human Rights Secretariat (HRS) in elaborating the narrative part of the final document in partnership with two other national experts.

Recognized as the primary tool in delivering effective HR policy implementation and coordination - the capacity and knowledge-building activities were implemented throughout the reporting year. The working meeting held on 11-12 July 2021 is one of this cycle, participated by the staff of the Human Rights Secretariat, focal points from the public agencies, representatives of UNDP and OHCHR, and experts involved in the drafting process of the NHRS.

The various issues, including the challenges hindering the adoption of the NHRS and the amendments made in the NHRS, were discussed at the meeting. By that time, the Justice Chapter of the draft NHRS was identified as one of the disputed issues, hindering the process of Strategy adoption.

The monitoring and evaluation system of the NHRS and APs was one of the agenda topics. Through the meeting, it was agreed that the existing monitoring and evaluation system required further review and upgrade to strengthen the role of the HRS in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process.

As outlined above, the final draft of the Strategy, which is not available to the project team, is now being discussed amongst the senior management of the GoG Cabinet members and other state institutions with no concrete indication of the deadline. The subsequent AP development shall be shortly followed up to the Strategy adoption in which the project will invest the following resources in 2022.

In addition, the influence of government response to the COVID-19 crisis over the human rights situation in Georgia was assessed with the support of the project. To that end, the report “Georgia’s COVID response: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future” was developed.⁶ The report assessed the efficacy of Georgia’s pandemic response during 2020, identifying past strengths and weaknesses, and suggested recommendations for future pandemics and other major hazard events that grip the nation.

The report:

- I. Examined the effectiveness of the government’s crisis management overall.
- II. Explored the adequacy of the country’s legal system to the crisis management challenges that the coronavirus has posed.
- III. Focused on the impact of the crisis, and the government’s response to it, on human rights in the country. It included assessments of the legal restrictions on certain rights and freedoms introduced during and after the state of emergency; of the government’s economic response; and the effects experienced by vulnerable groups in society, such as persons with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities, LGBTQI+ people, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people. Part III also discussed how the crisis had impacted different aspects of gender equality in Georgia.

In the context of the knowledge building of the civil servants on human rights issues, the project foresaw to conduct a needs assessment of IACHR and the HRS and, based on the findings to develop a training program for HRS existing and new staff that includes international human rights law and responds to the job descriptions of the HRS staff. However, upon the request of the HRS, the needs assessment exercise, corresponding training, and all needed preparatory activities were moved to 2022. An institutional and structural reorganization of the AoG was named an official ground, claiming that it could have had some direct and indirect implications on HRS staff number and their workload (The final information on the consequences of the reorganization concerning the HRS staff is not known for the UNDP).

Furthermore, during the reporting period, the project has contracted local NGOs to draft monitoring reports on the most challenging Human Rights issues selected in advance together with the EU. The report covers the following areas: Prohibition of Torture and Ill-treatment, Gender Equality in Georgia, State of Georgian Judiciary, Labor rights, The Right to Adequate

⁶ See annex 2, the report “Georgia’s COVID response: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future”, February 2021.

Housing, Protecting Freedom of Religion and Status of Religious Minorities in Georgia, Freedom of Expression in Georgia, The State of Ethnic Minorities in Georgia, The Status of Children’s Rights in Georgia, The Situation of Human Rights of Children with Disabilities in 2020 and The rights of persons with disabilities.⁷

Output 1.2 Effective monitoring and communication tools, including focal points system, for NHRS and AP in place and operational

With the project annual work-plan it was planned for 2021 to upgrade the regulatory framework on M&E of the NHRS/AP, set up the focal points system, and support improved communication/exchange of information between the IACHR/HRS and national and local state bodies responsible for NHRS and APs implementation, including the PDO. Nevertheless, because the performance of these activities required a new, approved strategy and action plan, the project team had to change the project plans and transfer the performance of most of the activities for 2022.

Activity 1.2.1 Support in the development of effective M&E system

Activity 1.2.2 Support to improve communication and exchange of information between the IACHR/HRS and national and local state bodies responsible for NHRS and APs implementation

Activity 1.2.3 Capacity building of PDO to monitor NHRS and APs implementation

Due to the above-described objective reasons, activities 1.2.1 and 1.2.2, including the provision of advisory/expert services and policy lobbying/advocacy, will be delivered in 2022.

As for the knowledge-building activities, despite the unforeseen lay-up in the systemic project approach of the knowledge-building plans 2021, the project team organized ad hoc training for the partner institutions. One of these examples is the face-to-face training on **“Human Rights-Based Approach, prohibition of discrimination/labor rights”** conducted on 13-14 July 2021 by the experts engaged by the project team. **The representatives of the Human Rights Secretariat and Human Rights focal points from various state institutions attended the training in 24 participants.** The training aims to build the capacity of public representatives to assist them in introducing a human rights-based approach in their working practices. The participants provided general information on the HRBA and its five principles during the training. The training course also included practical components during which the participants could further explore the knowledge gained through the theoretical part of the training on HRBA.

Apart from conducting the training, the trainer proposed relevant recommendations to encourage the Human Rights Secretariat and HR focal points to apply the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in the strategic planning process.

⁷ See annex 3, Consolidated monitoring report.

In the context of enhancing PDO capacity on monitoring the policy documents, the project organized the knowledge-sharing initiatives **for 20 PDO representatives** during 29-30 November 2021. The training course led by the invited expert covered vital information on the current practice of the Constitutional Court and its critical judgments on issues such as **equality, the right to dignity, freedom of religion, and many more.**

The training is aimed at the professional development of the PDO staff and enhancing their knowledge. As the result of the training evaluation, 90% of the participant stated that they acquired apt knowledge that will help them continue monitoring human rights situations and policy documents - in a long-term perspective facilitating the improvement of a culture of human rights in society.

Other capacity-building activities for PDO and HR focal points were also incorporated in the 2022 workplan.

Output 1.3. Criminal Justice Reform Council supported with particular emphasis on separation of investigative and prosecutorial functions

One of the main challenges for the law enforcement system today is the quality and efficiency of the investigation, which is influenced, among other factors, by the current legal framework. Under the current legislation, an investigator does not have sufficient independence to lead an investigation, determine the direction of an investigation, conduct an investigative action, and have a clearly defined responsibility for a proper investigation.

In response to these challenges, the Ministry of Internal Affairs launched the “Investigation System Reform” in 2018, which, among other issues related to increasing the efficiency of the investigation, includes amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code (from now on the Code) - separation of investigative and prosecutorial powers at the legislative level. This concept of the reform, presented by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the Commission on March 15-16, 2019, at the 118th plenary session⁸, was positively assessed by the European Commission for Democracy through Law - the Venice Commission.

Following that development, in the reporting period, the Project national expert developed a concept based on the recommendations of the Commission.⁹ The document reviewed the challenges the investigative agencies face. The Concept Paper analyzed the gaps of the Code and redefined the powers of the investigator and the prosecutor according to both the stages of the investigation and specific procedural decisions. The Concept Paper was a kind of framework document for legislative amendments.

The Concept Paper aimed at enhancing the quality of the investigation, the efficiency of the investigative and prosecutorial activities, and the independence of the investigation on the one hand, and to ensure the effectiveness of the criminal process on the other hand, through the new

⁸ Venice Commission Opinion on the Concept of the Legislative Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code Concerning the Relationship Between the Prosecution and the Investigators, 15-16 March, 2019. [https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD\(2019\)006-e](https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD(2019)006-e)

⁹ See annex 4, Separation of Powers.

redistribution of investigative and prosecutorial powers at the legislative level and the implementation of follow-up activities in practice.

Unfortunately, reform was delayed, and the initial idea was substantially modified later on. The draft discussed in late 2021 with NGOs presented by the MIA does not fully reflect the recommendations of the Venice Commission or the vision of the concept paper developed under the EU/UN joint project.

Output 1.4 Selected chapters of the Administrative Offense Code drafted
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The Code of Administrative Offences has been an issue of criticism for a long time now. The reform was delayed, while the existing Code creates challenges to the right to liberty and security and fair trial, especially from the standpoint of the advisability of the proceedings, equality of arms, and relevant defendant guarantees during administrative proceedings.

The Project cooperated with the Legal Committee of the Parliament of Georgia to advocate and move the reform forward during the reporting period. The Project provided the chair with the study on the European Court of Human Rights case law on the differentiation of criminal and administrative charges and proceedings. In particular, what criteria ECHR sets for an offense to fall under the criminal proceedings requires higher guarantees.¹⁰

The activity was aimed to help the legislative body to have a view on international standards and plan the reform accordingly.

Moreover, the study was developed on: gap analysis of Georgian legislation; domestic court decisions on imposition of administrative detention adopted by common courts; and comparative analysis of Georgian legislation/practice and universal, regional standards.

Output 1.5. Knowledge on human rights issues of the civil servants increased

Activity 1.5.1 Knowledge building of civil servants
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The project aimed to increase civil servants' knowledge of human rights issues. The initial communication was established with the HRS. By this activity, in 2022, the project will advocate with HRS and cooperate with the Civil Service Bureau of Georgia to incorporate human rights training curricula as an integral part of the curricula of continuous education of civil servants.

The plan also envisaged the study visit of HRS staff in 2021. This was also added to the list of activities to be implemented in 2022, as the worsened COVID-19 situation and the delay in adopting NHRS limited the team to follow the initial plan.

¹⁰ See annex 5, ECtHR Case law on criminal charges and administrative violations.

SO2 - Law-enforcement and human rights protection bodies effectively implement their duties related to policymaking and enforcement with due oversight and transparency
Outcome 2A. Capacitated SIS and other law-enforcement bodies implement relevant national policies and regulatory frameworks on preventing and responding to torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.
Output 2A.1. Relevant policies and legislation for combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment developed based on the needs assessment in place.
Output 2A.2. SIS investigation capacity is strengthened
Outcome 2B. The State Inspector's Service (SIS) and organizations collecting and processing personal data ensure effective compliance with data protection
Output 2B.1. Internal tools/procedures to ensure the practical realization of data protection function of the SIS, including in collaboration with external partners, upgraded and functional
Output 2B.2. Organizations collecting and processing personal data can better implement PDP legislation.

In the context of strengthening the capacity of the human rights protection bodies, the SIS was prioritized. As noted above, the abolition processes of SIS started in late December 2021 and were finally abolished on March 1, 2022. However, a project put a lot of effort into its capacity building.

Since 2019 the SIS has investigated crimes committed by law-enforcement officers. Considering an increased new mandate and responsibilities, the Project offered support in both directions. During the reporting period, the project supported the strengthening of SIS capacity to improve the effectiveness, grow credibility among civil society, safeguard the achievements of the Personal Data Protection, perform investigative mandate in duly manner, gain public trust, and carry-on evidence-based policy. In this regard, several crucial capacity-building and institutional development activities were implemented in 2021.

In 2022, the decision of Georgian authorities to abolish the State Inspector's Service in an expedited manner and with a lack of inclusive and transparent discussions has legitimately challenged the impact of the project contribution delivered during the reporting period. As of now, it is less predictable whether the two successor authorities will retain SIS's institutional memory and credibility. From the institutional viewpoint, the project hopes that the activities invested by the project during 2021 will not be mislaid and will positively reflect on the further institutional functioning of the new authorities. The project will closely observe and monitor the activities of the newly established service to mobilize and navigate the remaining contribution meaningfully.

Output 2A.1. Relevant policies and legislation for combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment developed based on the needs assessment in place.

To realize output 2A.1, the project carried out capacity-building activities of the SIS (investigative mandate), provided Service with the best international practices advisory and analytical studies, and analysis of the national legislation improving secret surveillance practices investigative function of the SIS.

Activity 2A.1.1 Support in upgrading regulatory framework on combatting torture and other forms of ill-treatment

Since 2012, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has implemented the so-called execution of Tsintsabadze Group's cases through an enhanced oversight procedure. This group includes cases in which the European Court of Human Rights has ruled that there has been a violation of the right to life and the prohibition of torture by the State. In December 2019 and 2020, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe reiterated the need for proper classifications for crimes related to torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement officials.

To establish the proper definition of torture according to the international standards, the Project prepared a study reviewing how Georgia is fulfilling its positive commitment to the prohibition of torture and how its legal framework is in line with the universal and regional standards.¹¹ The study also focused on implementing law enforcement agencies' legislative norms, including the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia and the State Inspector's Service of Georgia.

The reporting period based on a study proposition of definition of specific articles on torture and ill-treatment was proposed, and later platforms for discussion were offered. A Meeting was conducted with all relevant stakeholders (16 participants from different state institutions) to discuss the set of definitions of several articles.

However, the developments in the reform process will be supported since the Autumn process has not moved on.

Activity 2A.1.2 Capacity building of state institutions to prevent and fight against torture and other forms of ill-treatment

The project cooperates with and supports the Inter-Agency Council on Combatting Torture under the Ministry of Justice. The project developed the action plan to fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment for 2021-2022. During the reporting period, upon the request of the MoJ, Project trained doctors working at penitentiary institutions on documenting the harm of accused / convicts as a result of possible torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. Two-day training for the doctors of penitentiary institutions was conducted.

¹¹ See annex 6, Research on Torture related articles.

Several awareness-raising activities were conducted for lawyers of the Legal Aid Service. The Service plays a vital role in protecting the alleged victims of ill-treatment and torture. Thus, it is essential to strengthening this institution's capacities and regulatory framework. With this aim, training and a workshop were conducted for the Legal Aid Service of Georgia to ensure that adequate legal aid is accessible for victims of torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. Moreover, the project assisted LAS in conducting the meeting with relevant stakeholders, including the SIS and PDO, on the prohibition of torture where the ways of improving the regulatory framework of the Service and existing gaps in protecting the victims were discussed.

Activity 2A.1.3 Facilitate independent monitoring of the investigation mandate of the SIS.

Since the investigative mandate of the SIS came into force just in 2019, the reporting period was more focused on the support to the Service rather than monitoring. 2022 was supposed to be that year.

As noted above, SIS was abolished on March 1, 2022, while the abolition processes started in late December 2021. After its abolition and creation of a new entity monitoring element became more critical. Monitoring the Investigative Service will be a high priority of the project in 2022.

However, some steps were made during the reporting period in this regard. In particular, Project supported strengthening the cooperation between Public Defender's Office and SIS. A set of joint meetings was conducted due to practical and effective collaboration between these two institutions in eliminating ill-treatment in the country.

Meeting discussions were dedicated to analyzing legal and practical aspects of the activities under the mandate of the State Inspector, in particular, the investigation of crimes committed by the representatives of the state law enforcement bodies. They also touched upon issues related to an effective information exchange about detention cases between those two institutions, the situation in the detention facilities and individual complaints, the mandate of the inspector, and also the issues and challenges identified in the Annual Report submitted to the Parliament by the Public Defender that is relevant to the State Inspector's mandate.

Activity 2A.1.4 Support in the elaboration of state policy on rehabilitation of victims of torture

Due to the nature of the right to the prohibition of torture and its importance, the prohibition of torture imposes a negative obligation on states (no one should be subjected to torture) and a set of positive obligations, including the protection and rehabilitation of victims of torture.

The project prepared a study, the purpose of which was to discuss issues related to the rehabilitation of victims of torture, understand the importance of rehabilitation of victims of torture, identify universal and regional standards, and review existing models in different countries. The study overviewed international standards and practices set out necessary

standards on which to reform further the Rehabilitation System for Victims of Torture in Georgia could be based.¹²

Moreover, findings were discussed with all main stakeholders (14 participants from different state institutions). MOJ can now make policy decisions and move forward with the reform. The project will follow and support further developments.

Output 2A.2. SIS investigation capacity is strengthened

To realize output 2A.2, the project carried out knowledge and capacity-building activities of the SIS (investigative mandate), provided Service with the best international practices advisory and analytical studies, and analysis of the national legislation improving secret surveillance practices investigative function the SIS.

Activity 2A.2.1 Institutional development of the SIS

The State Inspector's Service played a vital role in human rights protection. Since 2019 (before its abolition on March 1, 2022), the SIS, along with the competencies of data protection, investigated crimes committed by law-enforcement officers. Project targeted institutional development of the SIS on the investigative mandate.

Considering an increased mandate and responsibilities of the Service, Project supported the elaboration of the new unified four-year Strategy and action plan of the SIS (reviewed further in greater detail - 2.B.2.1; 2.B.2.2).

To this aim, the Project contracted a criminal justice expert working on a strategy and action plan on investigative direction and policy planning, a monitoring and evaluation expert who ensured coherence of the strategy with the basic policy planning standards and developed a framework for appropriate monitoring of the strategy. Set of meetings among management were also supported.

While the project focus is also enabling better protection of rights of vulnerable groups in Georgia, upon the request of SIS, the project hired an expert to develop guidelines for SIS investigative unit on communication techniques with PwDs with psycho-social and intellectual impairment. The guidelines focus on methods and principles of communicating with PwD witnesses, victims, or complainants.¹³

Activity 2A.2.2 Upgrade of regulatory framework on investigation function of the SIS

Since SIS was a newly established institution with its investigative function since November 2019, after some experience, it was necessary to upgrade the regulatory framework related to its

¹² See annex 7, Study on Torture Victims' Rehabilitation systems.

¹³ See annex 8, communication standard with PwDs for SIS.

investigative mandate. Gaps and deficiencies found in practice were planned to improve through legislative changes.

For this aim, during the reporting period Project hired an expert who studied the practice of the Service, identified the challenges they faced in carrying out their investigative mandate, and developed a consequent package of legislative changes. The package has covered the Law on the State Inspector Service, other related laws (including and not limited to Law on Operative-Investigative Activities, Law on Police, Law on Public, etc.), and internal regulations.¹⁴ This activity was also interlinked with Output 1.3, supporting the separation of investigative and prosecutorial functions. Overall, it aimed to improve the effectiveness of the work of the Service to carry out its mandate as an independent investigative mechanism in line with Georgia's international obligation stemming from the human rights treaties. Discussions on the package norms and articles among the management were also supported.

Regrettably, the Parliament of Georgia abruptly abolished the SIS without discussing the package that aimed to improve Service's effectiveness in carrying out investigative mandate. However, Project will continue advocating tackling challenges and problems on the legislative level that will still be in the new form of the entity established from the 1st of March 2022.

Output 2A.2.3 Capacity building of the SIS

Considering an increased new mandate and responsibilities from 2019 (till its abolition on March 1, 2022), the Service aimed to advocate and initiate evidence-based legislative or institutional changes for their effective functioning. In this way, they, on the one hand, used their experience and identified gaps and flaws in the practice, and on the other shared international rules and standards. The project actively supported the latter process by providing advisory/expert services.

This support aimed to enhance the operational and substantive capacities of the SIS personnel and allow them to absorb the best experience from similar European institutions. This was done by sharing international best practices and recommendations.

During the reporting period, the project developed several studies for this purpose:

- A study containing international standards on the use of force in the policing of demonstrations;¹⁵
- Instructions on the use of force and identification of police special forces (so-called RoboCop);¹⁶

¹⁴ Package submitted to the Parliament of Georgia: https://info.parliament.ge/?fbclid=IwAR3Fuf53sPuim2sHHRQmaAysNyypK-vASt_gxcvBGDQQnrFQCFAeN5Xs3jE#law-drafting/23356

¹⁵ See annex 9, Use of force in the policing of demonstrations.

¹⁶ ibid

- A study based on ECHR recent case-law (since 2015) on ill-treatment in prisons, covering issues related to inadequate medical care in prisons and cases involving the death of prisoners;¹⁷
- A study on international experience on monitoring covert investigative activities. Since one of the functions of the SIS is to monitor covert investigative actions and activities and the scope of its mandate has been often criticized, SIS was willing to look at how it works in different countries, which body monitors, what kind of oversight takes place and how the whole process is regulated;¹⁸
- A study on operation-investigative activities, laws, and practices in different countries, preferably in similar criminal justice systems as Georgia. In particular, how the system works, under whose supervision, accountability and oversight.¹⁹
- A study on international practices, systems, and policies on preventive measures and mechanisms on combatting ill-treatment;²⁰
- Bearing in mind the leakage of a large volume of secret communication tapping, allegedly obtained unlawfully and arbitrarily, Project was interested in studying and analyzing existing gaps in Counter Intelligence Legislation and the mandate of Operative Technical Agency.²¹ On the one hand, there is SIS, an institution with a mandate to protect personal data and monitor covert Investigative actions and activities performed within the Central Databank of Electronic Communications Identification Data. Still, on the other, there is a Law on Counter-Intelligence activities that leave room for carrying out communication tapping without the supervision of SIS or any sufficient oversight.
- Documents/studies on the international standards and practices on the use of handcuffs by the police and a methodology guideline²² on questioning of police officers.²³

Overall, all those aimed at improving the effectiveness of the work of the Service to carry out its mandate as an independent investigative mechanism are in line with Georgia's international obligation stemming from the human rights treaties. All thematic areas were selected upon the consultations with SIS.

Output 2B.1. Internal tools/procedures to ensure effective realization of data protection function of the SIS, including in collaboration with external partners, upgraded and functional

¹⁷ See annex 10, Ill-treatment at penitentiary institutions.

¹⁸ See annex 11, Study on international experience on monitoring covert investigative activities.

¹⁹ See annex 12, Study on operational-investigative mechanisms.

²⁰ See annex 13, International practices, systems and policies on preventive measures and mechanisms on combatting ill-treatment.

²¹ See annex 14, Compatibility Study of Georgian Legislation on Communication Tapping.

²² See annex 15, Use of handcuffs - international practice.

²³ See annex 16, Methodology on Questioning Police Officers.

To realize output 2B.1, the project implemented activities targeting institutional development of the SIS (PDP component), capacity building of the SIS, and improved cooperation with civil society on PDP issues. To that end, the project employed advisory/expert services, knowledge building, and policy lobbying/advocacy.

Activity 2B.1.1 Institutional development of the SIS (PDP Component)
Activity 2B.1.2 Capacity building of the SIS (PDP component)

- Well-defined policy for SIS institutional development

Transformation of the Personal Data Protection Inspector's Office into the SIS required multilateral support from the new organizational and procedural aspects to safeguard the achievements in Personal Data Protection, among others.

It is noteworthy to mention that with the support of the EU and the UNDP during the first phase of the Human Rights for All, the Institutional Development Strategy for 2017-2021 and subsequent action plans of the Personal Data Protection Inspector were developed to make the work of the Office more efficient, foreseeable and transparent. As the earlier Strategy timeline has almost expired, there was a need to set a new unified strategic vision with subsequent action plans covering all three critical directions of the SIS. It should be underlined that SIS prioritized to develop its institutional new strategy with higher standards of policy planning which employed SMART activities and indicators enabling SIS to arrange persistent monitoring and progress evaluation in the upcoming periods.

Upgrading policy documents represent the agreed vision of the Service on the practical realization of the SIS's functions, including personal data protection. They will serve as a well-established policy framework for adequate protection of rights holders.

The strategy and the action plan were developed with three national experts hired by the project: two thematic experts hired to cover both directions of the service; the third one ensured the consistency of the policy planning and M&E standards in the new strategy and action plan.²⁴

Both the strategy and the action plan were developed through the participation of SIS, started with the launching workshop held in October 2021 as a coaching session to exercise the problem-tree analysis and identify the priorities/vision of development from the SIS representation, followed by individual interviews and number of meetings throughout the development process of the Strategy. The document was handed over to the management of SIS one week earlier to its abolition. Given the recent developments on replacing the SIS with two separate institutions, the project initially aims to closely monitor the activities of the newly established services during the first half of 2022 and afterward decide the ways forward, including in terms of support in the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan.

- Improved Human resource management

²⁴ See annex 17, SIS Institutional Development Strategy and Action Plan.

Despite the enlarged role and responsibilities and an increased number of staff, no internal document dealing with the human resources management issues was developed by the SIS, which caused severe challenges for this state institution to effectively perform activities and manage its human capital to achieve set goals.

There was a crucial need for creating a well-functioning **human resource management strategy and HR policy document**.²⁵

For the reasons outlined above, it was decided to hire a national expert to develop a **human resource management strategy and policy document for the State Inspector's Service**. The national expert hired with the support of the project in September 2021 conducted preparatory meetings with the SIS representatives to identify and collect necessary information about existing practice and challenges about human resource management. Based on the specified results, the expert has developed the Human Resource Management Strategy and HR Policy document for SIS, **which was discussed with Service at the workshop held on 15 – 17 October 2021**. The strategic goals and priorities, as well as relevant objectives and activities for the Strategy and AP, were agreed upon during the meeting and based on the final inputs and feedback received during the workshop, the final document has been developed, which, inter alia, covered the issues related to **the strengthening of organizational culture, ensuring staff stability, recruitment, promotion, evaluation and the SIS's policy about other components of human resource**.

- Updated data collection tools for personal data protection

One of the newly emerged needs of the SIS was related to the **improvement of data collection tools of personal data protection**. For this purpose, the project analyzed the international practice of data collection tools, including other oversight institutions operating in other countries with functions similar to the SIS.²⁶

Another national expert hired to analyze the existing data collection practice has developed a proper methodology for institutional data collection based on the best practice analysis.²⁷

The new methodology on data collection developed by the expert in cooperation with relevant SIS representatives **was built on the SIS previous practice founded on the obsolete guidelines on "Practice of supervisory bodies on personal data protection: production and publication of statistics."**

The new methodology serves the aim to ensure effective realization of the SIS's functions, including in terms of personal data protection, improve capacity building of the SIS, resulting in a well-established policy framework for adequate protection of rights holders as well as facilitate informed decision making based on collected disaggregated data analysis.

- Better Processing of Personal Data while Issuing Public Information

Support to SIS and organizations collecting and processing personal data for ensuring effective compliance with data protection provisions is one of the critical priorities of the project.

²⁵ See annex 18, Human Resource Management Strategy and Action Plan for SIS.

²⁶ See annex 19, Practice of Personal Data Protection Supervisors: Production and publication of statistics.

²⁷ See annex 20, Data Collection Methodology for SIS-PDP.

Access to public information stored at state institutions is a significant component of freedom of information. Georgian national legislation and international conventions to which Georgia represents the state's party recognize the importance of openness of public information. Namely, the Council of Europe Convention of 26 November 2008 on Access to Official Documents recognizes freedom and access to information as fundamental rights that stand on the principles of public accountability, transparency, and openness. In addition, the transparency of public information is recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of Georgia and other legislative acts.

The practice of the SIS revealed that the assessment of the practicality of personal data disclosure is relevant when issuing public information. Explicitly, requests from citizens and state institutions on receiving consultations and the initial analysis of information requested from state institutions in 2020 demonstrated that during the administrative proceedings on issuing public information, the state institutions are reviewing and evaluating the issues of processing personal data. It is also common for applicants to request access to personal data or the information containing such data. In recent years, the national courts have also assessed the issues related to processing personal data and access to public information while examining administrative disputes.

In 2020, the State Audit Office of Georgia (SAO) issued the recommendation (also supported by the Parliament of Georgia) for the SIS calling for elaboration of a legislative proposal defining a flexible system with the precise criteria for addressing the issue of disclosure of personal data. This would ensure a reasonable, proportionate balance between personal data protection and freedom of information.

To this end, the project hired the national expert to develop the report on Processing Personal Data while Issuing Public Information to facilitate a proper understanding of the norms of the legislation and improve the practice.²⁸ For achieving this objective, the report analyzed the method of access to public information, which is a significant component of freedom of information. It was further considered this report to serve as a baseline for reviewing the training module for the common courts' judges (which is one of the objectives of the project under Activity 2.B.2.2.).

The developed report reveals that assessing the expediency of personal data disclosure is relevant when issuing public information. The work was done in active collaboration with the SIS. The paper uses the needs assessment carried out by the Inspector's Office, which presents the problems of central and local self-government practices and presents theoretical issues of freedom of information and personal data protection law. The overview of international and national standards on processing personal data by state institutions and the right to access public information is also evaluated. Finally, the document offers recommendations on establishing relevant guarantees to minimize unlawful processing of personal data and defining a flexible system that will strike the proper balance between protecting the privacy and personal data and access to public information.

- Improved internal communication

²⁸ See annex 21, Guideline on Processing Personal Data for Public Information.

Transformed organizational structure and staff exchanges among the units raise the need to enhance internal communication systems to ensure better institutional and structural coordination.

The lack of internal communication among the three key directions (**investigation of the crimes committed by law-enforcement officers; personal data protection and oversight of covert investigative activities**) of the SIS posed a risk of hindering the proper functioning of the institution. Teleworking of the SIS staff during the COVID-19 pandemic period, as well as the fact that the SIS operates at several locations (**two offices in Tbilisi, regional offices in Kutaisi, and Batumi**), further revealed the challenges related to coordinated activities and prompt information exchange between the SIS central and regional staff. Due to the scattered location of the SIS offices, even employees have minimal information on each other's work plans, achievements, etc.

The project, therefore, requested support in organizing a joint working meeting where representatives of all structures would gather and share the action plans and achievements of their system. In April 2021, the project arranged the working session for SIS in Borjomi as a one-time platform where representatives exchanged information and presented the following year's planned steps to each other.

Although the Borjomi meeting was constructive for supporting internal communication, the need to solve the existing system-related problem was still high in the SIS institutional development agenda. To find a proper solution, it was decided to develop an internal communication strategy with a unified vision based on the SIS needs.

The project provided technical support to SIS through the national expert to deep dive into the internal communication complications and delivered the apt solution strategy for improved communications and coordination.²⁹

The national expert conducted the corresponding needs assessment through 16 in-depth interviews, two significant and one small focus group discussion. The findings of the interviews were filled in with an evaluation of existing communication written procedures and international conforming practices. At the final stage of the assignment, the Communication Strategy was developed and submitted to SIS, introducing tailored solutions and steps to better the internal communication flow of the SIS.

-Enhanced capacity of human resources

The successful functioning of any institution depends on the competent, skillful, and motivated human resources - ultimately ensuring the effective operation of the institution. Thus, capacity building of human resources takes a critical role within the concept of institutional development. In the framework of the SIS capacity building, the following training was planned and implemented with the project support for advancing the aptitude of SIS human resources:

- ToT for the SIS staff aiming to equip participants with theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to conduct the training (DATES: 18, 19, 20, 27 Oct 2021, Tbilisi, Georgia; Number of Participants: 19 SIS representatives);

²⁹ See annex 22, SIS Internal communication strategy.

- Training for the SIS managerial staff to enhance their knowledge and capacity on management-related issues for ensuring, inter alia, coordination among three directions. The topics of the training covered the following topics: “Emotional Intelligence and Stress Management”; “Management, Corporate Culture, and Motivation”; “Strategic Management and Communication”; “Leadership and Personnel Performance Monitoring and Evaluation” (DATES: 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 July 2021; Tbilisi, Georgia, Number of Participants: 30 SIS representatives);
- A working meeting of the SIS managerial staff to discuss SIS's achievements and challenges of 2020, plans for 2021, and potential areas where the SIS can strengthen their work (DATES: 23-24 April 2021).

Activity 2B.1.3 Supporting building a partnership with civil society on PDP issues.

Implementation of this activity was postponed to 2022. The project aims to support SIS in setting up the formalized platform for cooperation with civil society ensuring continuous exchange of views with the civil society representatives in a participatory and transparent way. This activity has acquired critical importance since the recent development regarding the SIS. However, the developments in the new Personal Data Protection Service still need to be observed, including the willingness of the new management to cooperate with the CSOs.

Output 2B.2. Organizations collecting and processing personal data can better implement PDP legislation.

The delivery of the Output 2B2 was linked to the adoption of the Amendments to PDP law and regulations ensuring GDPR compliance. Considering that the adoption process is still pending, the two activities below were postponed for 2022.

Activity 2.B.2.1 Support in capacity building of the Organizations collecting and processing personal data

Due to the above-described objective reason, the implementation of this activity was postponed for 2022.

Activity 2.B.2.2 Support the capacity building of judiciary concerning PDP

Due to the above-described objective reason, the implementation of this activity was postponed for 2022.

SO3: The human rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations are recognized in law and protected in practice
Outcome 3A. At the central level, effective mechanisms for protecting the rights of persons with disabilities through implementation and monitoring the new Georgian Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and UN CRPD are in place and operational.
Output 3A.1. Capacitated state institutions implement and monitor Law on Disability and CRPD, focusing on post-pandemic needs.
Output 3A.2. Capacity development program (incl. Coaching, mentoring, training) for state agencies, OPDs, and NHRI, designed and implemented (and evaluated in terms of acquired and applied competence)
Outcome 3B. Effective systems for protecting persons in vulnerable situations and minority groups and promoting a culture of non-discrimination, with a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national and ethnic minorities are in place and operational.
Output 3B.1. Recommendations on improvement of policy and legislation concerning minorities and people in vulnerable situations drafted for government institutions
Output 3B.2. Capacitated NGOs/community organizations prepare shadow reports and submit complaints before the local and international bodies or submit amicus curiae on issues related to national minorities and have the capacity and engage in the protection of rights of minorities and persons in vulnerable situations.

Under the SO3, the project implemented activities related to protecting the rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations, such as PwDs, LGBTQI+, national minorities, religious minorities, etc. The Human Rights for all project focused on institutional development, capacity building of relevant state and civil society organizations, improvement of a regulatory framework within advisory/expert services, policy lobbying, knowledge building, and grants schemes to realize the targets under SO3.

Output 3A.1. Capacitated state institutions implement and monitor Law on Disability and CRPD, focusing on post-pandemic needs.
Output 3A.2. Capacity development program (incl. Coaching, mentoring, training) for state agencies, OPDs, and NHRI, designed and implemented (and evaluated in terms of acquired and applied competence)
Activity 3.A.1. Improve regulatory framework on PwDs to ensure its compliance with the LRPD and CRPD

One of the project's objectives is to improve the regulatory framework on persons with disabilities to ensure its compliance with the CRPD and the Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (LRPD); according to the latter, the state shall introduce an accessible and qualitatively inclusive education system that will allow PwDs to obtain continuous education, develop their personality and creative skills, and realize their mental and physical abilities.

Besides, the Law calls the government institutions, including the Ministry of Education and Science (MES), to prepare the inclusive education strategy and action plan (at the institutional level) for integration into the whole government framework strategy on the implementation of the law, that would require the development of various regulatory documents, especially at early and pre-school and higher education levels.

Thus, the project hired a national expert to support the MES in developing an Inclusive Education Strategy for 2022-2030 and Action Plan for 2022-2023.³⁰ A National Expert, in cooperation with another national expert, conducted preparatory work, collected, and evaluated necessary data and resources for developing an Inclusive Education development strategy for 2022 – 2030, including evaluation of the current policy and based on the results of the preparatory stage, developed an Inclusive Education Action Plan for 2022-2023.

With the same purpose to support Governmental agencies to elaborate comprehensive policy documents, action plans, and programs enshrined in LRPD and ensure their proper implementation, in March 2020, the project also hired a national expert to support the MES to develop a program for the certification of sign language interpreters. This assignment assessed best international standards and best practices, and baseline mapping of country resources has been conducted. Based on the standards and best practices, the guideline for the certification of sign language interpreters was developed, including recommendations on the timeline and persons involved in this process.³¹ The development process was followed by presenting the guideline to the broader public and the high-level officials of the MES.

Furthermore, the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities³², among other things, stipulates the obligation of the state institutions to ensure the introduction of universal design of all types of infrastructure in their governance and ensure adaptation by the universal design for PwDs and full access of PwDs to all relevant services in their system. The law thoroughly determines the obligation of the Emergency Situations Management Agency, a state sub-agency within the governance of the MIA, underlining that the Agency shall supervise and support the elaboration and implementation of measures oriented towards the needs of persons with disabilities in emergency management plans, for their protection during potential emergencies. To this end, in March 2021, the MIA adopted the Action Plan to implement the LRPD, including the relevant goal and objective for envisaging the needs of PwDs during potential emergencies. Therefore, the project has contributed to hiring the international expert, as the subject experience and knowledge in the country is relatively low, to support the Emergency Situations Management Agency in **developing the guideline on measures oriented towards meeting the needs of Persons with Disabilities in emergencies**. The international standards and practices for supervising and supporting the elaboration and implementation of measures oriented towards the needs of persons with disabilities in emergency management plans will be analyzed and assessed against the Georgian situation grasped through interviews with relevant state and non-state representatives and desk-review. The guideline shall further suggest recommendations on

³⁰ See annex 23, Inclusive Education Development Strategy and Action Plan.

³¹ See annex 24, Guideline on the Sign-language Interpreters Certification.

³² <https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/4923984?publication=0>

improving existing policy documents and practices to meet the criteria set by the CRPD and the LRPD.

3.A.2. Facilitate better service delivery to PwDs

The COVID-19 had a high toll on persons with disabilities; Since the conditions of mental health and also stress-related conditions are very relevant to the COVID-19 era, it is crucial to strengthen the protection of the rights of People with Mental Disabilities (PwMD) to access quality mental health services to raise public awareness and reduce stigma.

Although some activities have been implemented in recent years in Georgia, there is still a strong need to continue efforts for strengthening capacities of PHC in mental health and raise awareness among the medical personnel on mental health conditions. In addition, they are promoting preventive interventions – the areas which are the most neglected and action-needed.

To address the problems outlined above, it was decided to promote within this project the mental wellbeing of PwMD through capacity building of PHC staff in specific mental health conditions and providing community-based services to the target groups and their family members.

To implement the objectives outlined above, the Global Initiative on Psychiatry – Tbilisi (GIP-Tbilisi) Fund was decided because of its extensive experience in different fields of mental health care throughout the region. The latter was proved through previous cooperation experience in the framework of SDGs Fund Programme – Transforming Social Protection for Persons with Disabilities in Georgia and partners’ capacity assessments.

The overall objective of this RPA signed between the UNDP and GIP-Tbilisi is to support PwMD to receive accessible, affordable, quality, and equal MH care to support their mental wellbeing. By the finalization of the project, the following outputs will be delivered:

- Increased social awareness of mental wellbeing and mental health needs, especially in times of COVID-19.
- Reduced “treatment gap” and broader accessibility to MH assessment, management, and referrals through the strengthened primary health care.
- Affordable and effective prevention and intervention services at the community level for adolescents, youth, and adults with the most prevalent mental health problem.

The project developed a solid M&E framework for the RPA to ensure monitoring and oversight. Starting from 2020, the project will take a course till the end of 2023.

Activity 3.A.3. Support to the continuity of services for persons with disabilities during and post COVID-19 pandemics

Implementation of this activity was postponed to 2022. In 2021, initial communication was established with the State Care Agency, and the post-crisis service provision plans and psychosocial support mechanisms for PwDs' institutions were discussed. Regrettably, due to the increased number of COVID-19, the State Care Agency adopted relevant internal restrictions, which further complicated the conduct of on-spot visits in the PwDs institutions that were crucial for ensuring staff involvement in the document development process. The project will support the elaboration of the relevant documents in 2022.

Activity 3.A.4. Support in creation and operation of the Coordination Commission on the rights of PwDs under IACHR

The project supported the creation of the Interagency Coordination Committee on the rights of persons with disabilities, from the very first days of the project start through advisory expertise for drafting rules of procedures for the mechanism, including for the setting up an effective system for communication, consultation and information exchange among the Committee and Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) in Georgia. The discussions and consultations were carried out with the involvement of PwDs and their representative organizations, which started just before the beginning of the global pandemic; thus, the consultation process has prolonged on the one hand because the GoG was very busy combating COVID-19 and on the other hand due to the change of the Prime Minister and his Administration. The discussions have resembled soon after the new cabinet was endorsed. On 3 December 2021, the first meeting of the CRPD Interagency Coordination Committee was held to discuss its statute's principles, mission, and vision and identify the future priority plan for the Committee's work. According to the decree on the agency's establishment, the national implementation mechanism is at the Prime Minister's level (functioning under Human Rights Council chaired by PM and headed by the Advisor to the Prime Minister on Human Rights Issues) consisting of Deputy Ministers of Georgia and heads of other state institutions. At the same time, the representatives of OPDs are members of the consultative council created at the Committee.³³ The mechanism will work through working groups. The coordination function is assigned to the Human Rights Secretariat at the Administration of Government.

Activity 3.A.5. Strengthening the capacity of the PDO to monitor implementation of the Law on Disability and the CRPD

As part of the strengthening capacity of the PDO to monitor implementation of the Law on Disability and the CPRD, the project supported the Public Defender's Office to develop the new Strategy and Action Plan for 2022-2024³⁴ for the Department of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Office of Public Defender of Georgia, which was drafted during the two-day working meeting of Consultative Council to the Public defender of Georgia on the monitoring of popularization, promotion and implementation of CRPD (24-26 November 2021). During the

³³ See annex 25, Statute on the establishment of an interagency commission on the rights of persons with disabilities.

³⁴ Draft Strategy and Action Plan of the Department on Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Office of Public Defender of Georgia

meeting, the set of priorities was identified with the involvement of the OPDs and PDO representatives. The project's policy planning expert has ensured the action plan's consistency against the policy planning guidelines; thus, good indicators and an M&E framework have been set. The actions of the department and Consultative Council were identified to meet the following strategic goals:

- Effective detection and response to the facts of individual and systemic rights violations of persons with disabilities
- Strengthening the mechanism for monitoring the legal status of persons with disabilities
- Awareness-raising and educational activities
- Strengthening cooperation and partnership with international human rights institutions
- Strengthening the involvement of persons with disabilities and their organizations, as well as organizations working on disability issues in the activities of the Public Defender
- Strengthening the capacity of the department for effective implementation of the mandate
- According to the evaluation of the working meeting, 99% of participants have assigned the highest assessment to the AP development approach and the process.

Output 3B.1. Recommendations on improvement of policy and legislation concerning minorities and people in vulnerable situations drafted for government institutions
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Output 3B.2. Capacitated NGOs/community organizations prepare shadow reports and submit complaints before the local and international bodies or submit amicus curiae on issues related to national minorities and have the capacity and engage in the protection of rights of minorities and persons in vulnerable situations.

Activity 3B.1 Knowledge building of professional groups concerning human rights protection mechanisms, including UN HR treaty bodies

Under the umbrella of knowledge building, the project emphasized the training of professional groups concerning human rights protection and developed guideline on submission of individual complaints to UN Treaty Bodies and the European Court of Human Rights.

The project delivered two repetitive training courses on **Litigation according to the European Court of Human Rights standards and the UN Treaty bodies on 3-4 July 2021 and 23-24 October 2021 for assistant judges. In total, 50 assistant** judges of Common Courts participated in the training courses organized in close cooperation with the High School of Justice, who ensured dispersal of the information on the training within the judge assistants, and the European Center of Education, which hired two national experts to conduct the training on these issues.

Within the training course, which aimed at increasing the qualification of Assistant Judges concerning international standards established by the European Court of Human Rights and UN treaty bodies, the participants were provided with the information on the following topics:

mandate of the European Court of Human Rights and UN treaty bodies; finding relevant precedents and sources, execution of the rulings delivered against Georgia by the international mechanisms. The course also included practical components during which the participants could further explore the knowledge gained through the theoretical part of the training. The participants could further discuss the challenges they have encountered in practice with the trainers and other participants.

Another training on "Litigation before the UN treaty bodies, and the European Court of Human Rights" took place in **February-March 2021 (20 hours in total) attended by licensed lawyers and practicing lawyers**, 20 participants in total. Given the current situation, the course was conducted online led by three prominent trainers.

In addition, a new guidebook, "Litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and UN Treaty bodies," aiming to help lawyers conduct litigation at international mechanisms properly, was developed by the European Center for Education with the project's support.³⁵ The guidebook covers various issues, including the legal and procedural aspects of applying to the Strasbourg Court and the UN Committees and further examining the application. Proceedings related to the execution process of judgments delivered against Georgia at the national and international levels and the role of the applicant and their representative in the enforcement process.

Activity, 3B.2 Knowledge building, concerning international and regional human rights mechanisms and reporting to it for NGOs/CSOs

Specific attention was paid to the knowledge building of local NGOs in light of the country's new Decentralization reform. The monitoring and evaluation skills of the local NGOs were strengthened to hold the Government accountable for the protection of human rights on the local level. Therefore, two training courses were organized covering the local civil society representatives in West and East Georgia.

The first training took place on 7-8 April 2021 for NGOs operating in Western Georgia, and the second from 30 November – 1 December 2021 NGOs operating in Eastern Georgia. In total, 30 local NGOs working on protecting the rights of Persons with Disabilities, LGBTQI+, and ethnic minorities took part in this training. During the two-day working process, participants were provided with relevant information on strategic planning, strategic development, monitoring, and evaluation. The appropriate materials were also distributed to the participants during and after the training.

In parallel to the M&E training, the NGOs operating in East Georgia had the opportunity to raise their knowledge in anti-discrimination legislation and mandate and practice of the Public Defender in the fight against discrimination.

The project has developed the unified tool – Human Rights Data Collection Methodology to support civil society and state authorities to collect and validate the data related to Human Rights.³⁶ The guide compiles the information on the statistical basics, the variety of statistical

³⁵ See annex 26, guidebook "Litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and UN Treaty bodies".

³⁶ See annex 27, Human Rights Data Collection Methodology.

sources, local and international central statistical systems collecting the data for the Human Rights protection indicators. A methodology is a helpful tool for strengthening critical thinking and statistical information analysis.

Activity 3B.3 Grants schemes for NGOs/CSOs

Two grants were issued to the NGOs operating in Batumi and Samtskhe-Javakheti to increase awareness of LGBTQI+ rights, fight stigma and stereotypes, raise awareness on sexual and reproductive health, raise awareness of the representatives of ethnic minorities on their civic rights, on the available healthcare, and legal services.

The primary objective of the grant issued to the selected local NGO - Democrat Women's Organization of Samtskhe-Javakheti (DWO) is to promote a culture of non-discrimination of national minorities through knowledge building activities for representatives of the ethnic minorities on human rights issues, ensuring access to healthcare and legal services as well as supporting their integration into the society. By the end of June 2022, the project should deliver the following three outputs:

- Women and girls residing in Samtskhe-Javakheti have better knowledge of various human rights issues and standards;
- Women and girls of ethnic minorities have better access to healthcare services;
- Women and girls of ethnic minorities in Samtskhe-Javakheti receive legal assistance and are integrated into society;
- The achievement of the deliverables will be monitored and evaluated in line with the project M&E framework.

Another project selected by the Grants Selection Committee is implemented by the Cognitive Center of Georgia (CCG). It aims to promote a culture of non-discrimination of LGBTQI+ people in Georgia through raising awareness about stigma and discrimination, strengthening the capacity of the NGOs/community organizations, raising awareness about the importance of vaccination, and creating a safe space for the LGBTQI+ community for discussing various topics and sharing personal experiences. The project strives to achieve the goal through the following means:

- Awareness-raising activities for destroying stereotypes and addressing stigma and Discrimination;
- Awareness-raising of Target groups about vaccination and COVID-19;
- Knowledge building of young people about various human rights and health care issues;
- Knowledge building of LGBTQI+ community on existing legal and psychological mechanisms and CSOs Services in Georgia;

- Awareness-raising of youth in Adjara region about LGBTQI+ problems.

To support the building of NGO monitoring capacity, the project issued a grant to the IDFI Georgia - the Human Rights Council member to evaluate and prepare a shadow report on implementing one of the thematic areas of NHRS. Thus, the grant aimed to contribute to personal data protection in Georgia through documenting personal data protection challenges and gaps in light of the priorities envisaged by the Strategy and Action Plan for the Protection of Human Rights. The report assessed developments over the last year, with relevance to the Association Agenda and other human rights implications, including with relation to any COVID-19 measures, and provided respective recommendations. The report's findings were shared with HRS and SIS for further consideration.

SO5. Citizens are informed on, favorable to, and supportive of human rights for all and efforts to protect them.
Outcome 5A. Public awareness understanding of Human Rights Standards and Mechanisms (HRC, HR Strategy and Action plans) increases. A culture of human rights, a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national minorities, and PwDs in Georgia is enhanced.
Output 5A.1. Training institutions, including HEIs and training centers, have increased capacity to deliver HR courses.
Output 5A.2 Rights holders have better knowledge of HRs, including anti-discrimination, focusing on PwDs, LGBTQI+, and national minorities.
Outcome 5B. Citizens are more aware of their rights related to PDP and protection from ill-treatment and recourse to the SIS for redress if needed.
Output 5B.1. Awareness-raising campaign/knowledge building on PDP, including GDPR and complaint procedure to the SIS, designed and implemented
Output 5B.2. Specialized groups (journalists, NGOs, LSGs grassroots organizations, lawyers, HEIs, with a particular focus on regions) are capacitated, which would enable them to keep SIS under scrutiny.

Due to the worsened COVID-19 situation, the implementation of activities planned to meet the SO5 was hampered because the awareness-raising activity is tightly connected with the targeted groups, society, and especially in the local areas. Nevertheless, during the 4th and 5th waves of the pandemics, the project managed to conduct a set of awareness-raising activities.

Output 5A.2 Rights holders have better knowledge of HRs, including anti-discrimination, focusing on PwDs, LGBTQI+, and national minorities.
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Output 5B.1. Awareness-raising campaign/knowledge building on PDP, including GDPR and complaint procedure to the SIS, designed and implemented

Output 5B.2. Specialized groups (journalists, NGOs, LSGs grassroots organizations, lawyers, HEIs, with a particular focus on regions) are capacitated, which would enable them to keep SIS under scrutiny.

Activity 5A.2: Awareness-raising activities in cooperation with IACHR:

The project organized the Human Rights Forum on International Human Rights Day, which created a space for discussion between legislative and executive branches, the National Human Rights Institution – Public Defender’s Office, International Organizations, and national civil society representatives to assess advancements and challenges within 2021 on gender equality, religious and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQI+ communities and rights.

Apart from that, the First Session of the Interagency Coordination Committee responsible for the implementation of CRPD was conducted on the Day of Persons with disabilities (Described in more details under the SO3);

Activity 5A.2. Awareness-raising activities targeting rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations

The Judicial Winter School is another project which was successfully implemented despite the harsh restrictions amid COVID-19. In total, 20 participants had the opportunity to build their theoretical knowledge and improve their qualifications on the following topics: Practice of the Constitutional Court on constitutional submissions; Preparing constitutional concessions; Freedom of Speech and Expression (Georgian Practice Review); Practice of the European Court of Human Rights: Freedom of Expression and Internal stereotypes, ways of revealing and overcoming them.

The Council of Europe organized this training in partnership with UNDP, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, East-West Management Institute, and in close collaboration with the High Council of Justice of Georgia.

A strategic workshop with journalists prior to IDAHOBIT to increase sensitive reporting around LGBTQI+ issues was also organized. The meeting resulted in an agreement to follow the "no harm" principle, not to "sensationalize" LGBTQI+ communities' problems, and limit/omit the airspace for far-right groups. In addition, the project provided space for discussions to the LGBTQI+ community, PDO, MIA representatives, and Ambassadors for preparations of PRIDE Week 2021 and for ensuring the safety and security of LGBTQI+ people and allies during the events.

Training for ethnically non-Georgian teachers from regional schools on “The impact of disinformation on civic equality process and the importance of its prevention” was conducted in

collaboration with the Ministry for Reconciliation and Civic Equality. The training aimed at raising awareness of the participants on issues such as media literacy as a tool to fight disinformation, the impact of disinformation on the process of civic integration, hate speech.

Activity 5B.1. Knowledge building of rights holders on PDP: Support creation of PDP Ambassadors' network

To raise awareness of the rights holders on standards of Personal Data Protection available remedies for data protection, the project supported the State Inspector's Service in implementation of the following activities:

- Personal Data Protection Week framework dedicated to PDP Day 2021, during which the following activities were implemented - the meeting with HEIs and Experts, photo contest for school students, and social media campaigns.
- Three-day training of ten Personal Data Protection Ambassadors selected based on competition within the SIS initiated the project of "Ambassadors of Personal Data Protection" on technics of effective communication, the practice of the European Court of Human Rights on the right to privacy, the mandate of the State Inspector's Service with particular focus on the personal data protection and the rights of data subjects and responsibilities of data processors.

Activity 5B.2 Awareness raising of the investigative function of the SIS among professional groups and for the general public

As for other professional groups, the particular focus was drawn to the Georgian Bar Association during the reporting period. Several awareness-raising activities were conducted for the lawyers. Defense lawyers acquired the knowledge and improved their qualification on the topics such as International Human Rights standards and complaint procedures in times of emergencies, on the prohibition of discrimination, hate speech, and hate-motivated crimes. **Five training were conducted, and 80 (45 women) lawyers were trained.**

In addition to that, a study of international best practices and standards of right to a fair trial was developed through the prism of lawyers' duties and responsibilities for GBA.

Several activities were conducted for students and the group towards which the project has a particular interest. Highly qualified experts completed the training for students of Batumi State University on the role of parliament in human rights protection. The training was organized under the Cooperation Agreement signed between the University and OHCHR. Moreover, with cooperation with RC, the project announced the contest dedicated to Human Rights Day for students from regional universities. Selected candidates attended the training, co-shared between the RC, OHCHR, and this project.

The project continues to put a stronger emphasis on visibility and communication activities in 2022, hoping that the COVID-19 situation allows the plan's implementation for the year.

3. Programme Coordination and Management

The Joint Programme is being jointly managed, coordinated, and implemented by UNDP and OHCHR. The main strategic decision-making body for the HR4ALL program is the Steering Committee (SC), with senior representation from partner organizations (EU, UNDP, and OHCHR). The SC monitors the strategic direction of activities and ensures their consistency with the respective priorities of the partner organizations. On 15 December 2021, the Steering Committee approved all implemented activities based on the consensus and adopted the updated Project Work Plan for 2022.³⁷ The program executive role rests with participating UN organizations, but they request guidance and directions from the SC whenever needed.

UNDP	OHCHR
Project Manager (100%)	Project Manager (100%)
Human Rights Expert (100%)	Project Coordinator (100%)
Finance and Administrative Assistant (100%) Driver (50%)	Finance Associate (25%)³⁸
The UNDP Democratic Governance Team Leader (DG TL) (10%)	
The UNDP Programme Associate (5%)	
HR Associate (10%)	
Communication Expert (40%)	

The designated personnel were responsible for all aspects of the project's execution, including coordination with national partners, oversight of implementing partners, achieving set results under the respective marks, overall monitoring and reporting.

The team is assisted by long-term and short-term international and national consultants.

UNDP Georgia supports project oversight and quality assurance.

³⁷ See annex 28, Updated Project Workplan for 2022.

³⁸ The Finance Associate will be charged for the time spent directly attributable to the implementation of the Project, 25% for the first year, and then 100% for the second and third year of the project cycle.

4. Indicator-Based Performance Assessment

While the specific activities aimed at implementing indicators are presented in section 3, “Actual Results,” this section aims at describing the progress of the project implementation against indicators.

	Results chain	Indicator	Baseline 2020	Target 2023	2021 value ³⁹	Source and mean of verification
Impact (Overall objective)	Citizens of Georgia, primarily those in vulnerable situations, enjoy better protection of their human rights.	1/ Ratings in human rights index	World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2020 - 0.61 points; Freedom in the World Report - 61 points	Increase to <0.64 Increase to <2	Rule of Law Index 2021- 0.61 points; Freedom in the World Report – 60 points (decrease with 1 point)	WJP Rule of Law Index Freedom in the World report
		2/ Level of public trust towards state institutions	Trust in Patrol police – 64%, PDO – 57%, MIA – 42%, common courts – 35%, PDPI -26%	Increase at least 5% (each component)	N/A for 2021	Human Rights Perception Survey of UNDP&OHCHR to be held in 2022
Outcome (s) (Specific objective(s))	SO1. Relevant public bodies (duty-bearers) develop, implement and monitor national human rights policy and related frameworks (UNDP, OHCHR)	SO1.b. Rate of implementation of NHRSAP(s) (UNDP, OHCHR)	80% for NHRSAP for 2016-2017 2021NHRSA n/a	80%	N/A for 2021	HR Secretariat implementation reports CSO monitoring reports

³⁹ * to be included in interim and final reports

	SO2. Law-enforcement and human rights protection bodies effectively implement their duties related to policymaking and enforcement with due oversight and transparency (UNDP, OHCHR)	SO2.a. Proportion of law enforcement officers formally investigated for cases of alleged abuse (OHCHR)	In 2020 SIS has initiated investigation in 10% of cases, i.e., 270 cases out of 2,622 notifications on alleged crimes under the SIS mandate.	Increase of investigations by 7%	In 2021 SIS has initiated investigation in 11,7% i.e., 365 cases out of 3, 115 notifications on alleged crimes under the SIS mandate.	IDFI reports Project reports SIS reports.
		SO2.b. Level of trust towards SIS (PDP component) (UNDP)	Trust in PDPI - 26%	increase at least by 5%	N/A for 2021	Human Rights Perception Survey of UNDP&OHCHR to be held in 2022
	SO3. The human rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations are recognized in law and protected in practice (UNDP, OHCHR)	SO3.a. Status of National Mechanism for PwDs	A national mechanism does not exist	Created and Operational	Created and Operational	Decree of the Government; minutes of the meetings of the National Mechanism
		SO3.b. Level implementation of State Strategy for Civic Equality and Integration 2021-2025 (UNDP, OHCHR)	Non-existent	At least 80%	N/A for 2021	PDO reports; NGO reports
	SO4. Local authorities more effectively protect the human	SO4.a. Extent to which people consider that HRs	51% and 49% of Georgians consider that human rights are not	Increase by at least 5%	N/A for 2021	Human Rights Perception Survey

	rights of all citizens, primarily those in vulnerable situations and minority groups (UNDP, OHCHR)	are protected in regions (UNDP, OHCHR)	protected in cities (other in Tbilisi) and regions			of UNDP&OHCHR to be held in 2022
	SO5. Citizens are informed on, favorable to, and supportive of human rights for all and efforts to protect them (UNDP, OHCHR)	SO5.a Level of awareness of human rights among the general public (UNDP, OHCHR)	57% of Georgians consider that they are either not informed or slightly informed on human rights and their protection mechanisms	Decrease the share of people who are not reported on HR at least by 5%	N/A for 2021	Human Rights Perception Survey of UNDP&OHCHR to be held in 2022

*Other Outcomes (*where relevant)	Outcome 2A. Capacitated SIS and other law-enforcement bodies implement relevant national policies and regulatory frameworks on preventing and responding to torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment (OHCHR)	2.A.a. Level of compliance of Legislation for combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment complies with international standards	Not-compliant (Definition of torture)	The legislation is in line with international standards.	A possible definition of torture is proposed, but the process is delayed in MoJ	www.matsne.gov.ge
		2.A.b. The ratio of prosecutions of the cases investigated by the SIS referred by the Prosecutor's Office to the court	1.7%	Increase at least by 5%	In 2021 SIS submitted five proposals to the Prosecutor's Office to initiate criminal prosecution. None of these proposals was approved by the supervising prosecutor.	SIS report
	Outcome 2B. The State Inspector's Service (SIS) and organizations collecting and processing personal	2B.a. Amendments to PDP regulations ensuring GDPR compliance are adopted (UNDP) and implemented	Amendments drafted	Law adopted by the Parliament and implemented	The Parliament has not adopted a law	www.matsne.gov.ge <u>SIS reports</u>

	data ensure effective compliance with data protection provisions (UNDP)	2B.b. # of judges and court staff, SIS staff, data processors, and data collectors trained in PDP (UNDP)	0 as the training will target newly adopted PDP regulations	at least 150	The Parliament did not adopt the new PDP law.	Training Programme, LoP of training course, evaluation forms of training course
	Outcome 3A. At the central level, effective mechanisms for the protection of rights of persons with disabilities through implementation and monitoring of the new Georgian Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and UN CRPD are in place and operational (UNDP)	3A.a. Rate of implementation of the PwD-related action plans (UNDP)	0 (the indicator refers to a new action plan that is not adopted)	at least 70% of commitments implemented	N/A for 2021	PDO reports; HRC report; UN CRPD report, ECRI report
	Outcome 3B. Effective systems for the protection of persons in vulnerable situations and minority groups and promotion of a	3B.a The status of annual Action Plans for the State Strategy for Civic Equality and Integration 2021-2025 (OHCHR)	Non-existent	3 APs adopted	2021-2022 AP for implementation of the Strategy for Civic Equality and Integration is adopted	Decree approving policy; PDO reports; NGO reports

	culture of non-discrimination, with a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national and ethnic minorities, are in place and operational (UNDP, OHCHR)	3B.b. The status of the Chapter on LGBTQI+ of the NHRS AP (UNDP)	AP ended in 2020	AP adopted	New AP is not adopted	
	Outcome 4A. Local authorities supported by the Project have the capacity and incorporate into local policies and practices national human rights policy (international human rights treaties of Georgia, NHRS, etc.) at local levels in coordination with central authorities⁴⁰ (UNDP)	4A1.b. # of focal points at Local Self Government Bodies trained on universal and regional human rights standards (UNDP, OHCHR)	0	All appointed focal points trained	N/A for 2021	Training materials, agendas, LOPs, and participants' evaluations

⁴⁰ Outcome 4A is closely linked with the activities under outputs 1.1 and 1.2.

	Outcome 5A. Public awareness understanding of Human Rights Standards and Mechanisms (HRC, HR Strategy and Action plans) is increased, and a culture of human rights, a particular focus on LGBTQI+, national minorities, and PwDs in Georgia is enhanced (UNDP, OHCHR)	5A.a. % of people who are informed on HR and their protection mechanisms (UNDP, OHCHR)	9% of the population thinks they are fully informed on HR and their protection mechanisms	Increase at least by 5%	N/A for 2021	Human Rights Perception Survey of UNDP&OHCHR to be held in 2022
	Outcome 5B. Citizens are more aware of their rights related to PDP and protection from ill-treatment and recourse to the SIS for redress, if needed (UNDP)	5B.a. % of people who would apply to SIS, if required (concerning PDP) (UNDP)	16% of the population would apply if needed	Increase by at least 10%	N/A for 2021	HR survey
Outputs	1.1. Human Rights Council and its thematic working groups are restructured and can effectively	1.1.a. Status of NHRS APs	New Human Rights Strategy for 2021-2030 is being elaborated. Work on APs not started.	Developed and approved	NHRS: developed; not adopted AP: not developed; not adopted	National HRSAP; PDO monitoring report; NGO reports

	implement NHRS and updated procedures (UNDP, OHCHR)	1.1.b. # of existing and new HRS staff trained under a new requisite CD program (incl. Coaching, mentoring, training) (UNDP, OHCHR)	0 as CD program does not exist	90% of HRS staff members trained on policy-planning human rights standards	0 as CD program does not exist	CD Programme, LoP of training course, evaluation forms of training course
	1.2. Effective monitoring and communication tools, including focal points system, for NHRS and AP in place and operational (UNDP, OHCHR)	1.2.a. Quality of NHRSAP monitoring/implementation reports (UNDP)	The monitoring/implementation reports of NHRSAP are lengthy and descriptive, which lacks analysis and result-oriented reporting.	The final reports of future APs are concise and include analysis and result-oriented monitoring.	N/A for 2021	Monitoring Guidelines; Final reports of NHRSAP
		1.2.b. Status of guidelines for PDO on monitoring human rights situation (in selected fields) (UNDP)	Non-existing	Elaborated	N/A for 2021	Methodologies; annual reports of PDO; annual reports of NHRS and AP

	1.3. Criminal Justice Reform Council supported with particular emphasis on separation of investigative and prosecutorial functions (OHCHR)	1.3.a. Status of draft legislation on separation of investigative and prosecution functions (OHCHR)	Non-existing	Drafted and agreed with and supported by all major stakeholders, including CSOs (Yes)	The draft is not developed; however, the project elaborated a concept paper on the separation of powers.	Draft Legislation; Evaluation of CSOs and PDO; SIS report
	1.4 Selected chapters of the Administrative Offense Code drafted (OHCHR)	1.4.a. The relevant articles of the Administrative Offences Code on Right to Liberty and Security and the Right to Fair Trial are not in line with international standards	The existing draft has not been presented to relevant stakeholders for review and comments.	Brought in compliance with international standards and agreed with and supported by all major stakeholders, including CSOs (Yes)	The draft is not developed	Draft legislation
	1.5. Knowledge on human rights issues of the civil servants increased (OHCHR)	1.5.a. Status of compulsory human rights education program based on Human Rights Curricula updated (OHCHR)	Not-operational	Approved and implemented	N/A for 2021	Curricula, syllabus and handbook, and the methodology and learning materials on human rights.

		1C.5.b. # of trainers trained based on Compulsory human rights education program (OHCHR)	The number of pilot training participants;	At least 40 trainers	N/A for 2021	Training materials; LOPs and participants' evaluations, training report
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	2A.1. Relevant policies and legislation for combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment developed based on the needs assessment in place (OHCHR)	2A.1.a. Status of Needs assessment of regulatory framework on torture and other forms of ill-treatment)	No updated needs assessment	Assessment conducted	<p>A relevant set of studies was completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study on International practices, systems, and policies on preventive measures and mechanisms on combatting ill-treatment; • A study reviewing how Georgia is fulfilling its positive commitment to the prohibition of torture; to what extent its legal framework is in line with the universal 	Assessment Report
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					<p>and regional standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study on the definition of specific articles on torture and ill-treatment. 	
		<p>2A.1.b. Status of Policy and legislative framework for more independence and effectiveness of SIS is drafted (OHCHR)</p>	Non-existent	Drafted	<p>Package of draft-laws was developed and submitted to the Parliament of Georgia aimed at improving work of the SIS investigative mandate;</p> <p>SIS's new unified four-year strategy/development plan was developed</p>	<p>Draft legislative amendments; the SIS strategic development plan</p>

	2A.2. SIS investigation capacity is strengthened (OHCHR)	2A.2.a. # of the SIS staff and investigators who attended education activities on combating torture and other forms of ill-treatment, including study visits (OHCHR)	44 SIS investigators trained	All investigators and at least 30 other staff members	N/A for 2021	Education activities (inc. study visit) materials, agenda of meetings, training materials, LOPs, evaluation of participants, study visit report
		2A.2.b. Status of Institutional development plan of SIS	No institutional development plan	Drafted and adopted	Drafted; not adopted	Decree on approval of Institutional Development Plan
	2B.1. Internal tools/procedures to ensure effective realization of data protection function of the SIS, including in collaboration with external partners, upgraded and functional (UNDP)	2B.1.a Status of a new SIS Institutional Development strategy	SIS strategy ended in 2021	Adopted	Drafted; not adopted	Decree approving the strategy
		2B.1b % of SIS staff trained in newly adopted legislation	0	at least 70% of the SIS staff (responsible for PDP)	N/A for 2021 (as the new law was not adopted)	training materials, LOPs, evaluation of participants,
	2B.2. Organizations collecting and processing personal data have a better capacity to	2B.2.a. # of judges and court clerks trained on the newly adopted PDP regulations (UNDP)	0	At least 40 training	N/A for 2021	Training materials, agenda, LoP, evaluation of participants

	implement PDP legislation (UNDP)	2B.2.b. # of education activities for data processors and data collectors concerning newly adopted PDP regulations (UNDP)	0	At least five awareness-raising meetings are conducted with data processors and data collectors.	N/A for 2021	Meeting materials, agendas, LOPs, meeting minutes.
	3A.1. Capacitated state institutions implement and monitor Law on Disability and CRPD, focusing on post-pandemic needs. (UNDP, OHCHR)	3A.1.a. Status of procedures to support implementation and monitoring of the LRPD and CRPD (UNDP, OHCHR)	Non-existent	Drafted	Drafted and adopted	PDO reports; HRC report; UN CRPD report
		3A.1.b. # of persons benefiting from mental health services through primary care piloted in Tbilisi (UNDP)	0	At least 100 persons engaged in the pilot	More than 400 persons received MH services	Modified rules and procedures; Pilot assessment
	3A.2. Capacity development program (incl. Coaching, mentoring, training) for state agencies, OPDs, and	3A.2.a. # of the capacity development program for state agencies and OPDs developed (UNDP)	0	Two capacity development programs developed	N/A for 2021	Monitoring Strategy of PDO PwD Department; reports of PDO and OPDs

	NHRI, designed and implemented (and evaluated in terms of acquired and applied competence) (UNDP)	3A.2.b. # of PwDs and their representative organizations that participated in knowledge building activities (UNDP)	PwDs and their organizations do not have resources for capacity building	At least 50 PwDs and their representative attended education activities	N/A for 2021	Curricula, training agenda, LOP, evaluation of participants
	3B.1. Recommendations on improvement of policy and legislation concerning minorities and people in vulnerable situations drafted for government institutions (OHCHR)	3B.1.a. Status of recommendations to address challenges faced by LGBTQI+ people, national and ethnic minorities (OHCHR)	Non-existing	Developed	N/A for 2021	Needs assessment report; research prepared by the project
		3B.1.b. # of Ad Hoc reports (explanatory notes/commentary) on implementation of international and regional human rights standards on minorities developed (OHCHR)	0	Ad hoc reports prepared upon request and justification	N/A for 2021	Ad hoc reports
	3B.2. Capacitated NGOs/community organizations prepare shadow reports and submit	3B.2.a. # of NGO shadow reports prepared (UNDP, OHCHR)	Check baseline	At least three reports for UN HR treaty bodies drafted	IDFI report on PDP was prepared	Prepared reports

	complaints before the local and international bodies or submit amicus curiae on issues related to national minorities and have the capacity and engage in the protection of rights of minorities and persons in vulnerable situations (UNDP, OHCHR)	3B.2.b # of local NGO representatives trained on rights of minorities and persons in a vulnerable situation (UNDP/OHCHR)	0	At least 80 NGO representatives trained	30 NGO representatives trained	Training materials, agendas, LOPs, and participants' evaluations
		3B.2.c. # of grants for local NGOs to promote the protection of rights of minorities and persons in a vulnerable situation with a focus on elimination of discrimination (UNDP)	0	At least four grants	Two grants were issued to local NGOs	Reports of grantees
	4A.1. Focal points at LSG appointed and effectively implemented their functions in selected municipalities (UNDP, OHCHR)	4A.1.a. Status of jobs description for HR focal points (UNDP)	Non-existing	Developed	N/A for 2021	Orders approving job description; contracts, and other documents on the appointment of focal points

	4A.2. LSGs have the capacity and coordinate with central authorities for the implementation of HR policies as well as implement initiatives targeting minorities and persons in vulnerable situations (UNDP, OHCHR)	4A.2.a. # of meetings of a communication platform between LSGs and the IACHR/HRS (UNDP, OHCHR)	Such a platform does not exist	At least two meetings p/year after its creation	N/A for 2021	Minutes of meetings, agenda of the sessions, LoP
		4A2.b. # of LSG employees trained in HRs (UNDP, OHCHR)	288 representatives of LSGs attended HR training/education activities within the framework of HR4All (Phase 1)	At least 225 representatives of LSGs trained (excluding HR focal points)	N/A for 2021	Training materials, agendas, LOPs, and participants' evaluations
		4A.2.c. Status of education materials/manuals concerning mainstreaming rights of minority groups and persons in the vulnerable situations into local policies and practices (Yes/No) (UNDP, OHCHR)	Not developed	Developed	N/A for 2021	relevant materials/manuals

	5A.1. Training institutions, including HEIs and training centers, have increased capacity to deliver HR courses (OHCHR)	5A.1.a. Status of teaching materials on rights of PwDs, LGBTQI+, and national minorities for regional universities in the Georgian language (OHCHR) (yes/no)	Non-existing	Developed	N/A for 2021	training materials
	5A.2 Rights holders have better knowledge of HRs, including anti-discrimination with a particular focus on PwDs, LGBTQI+, and national minorities (UNDP, OHCHR)	5A.2.a. Outreach rate of the HR awareness-raising campaigns (UNDP, OHCHR)	0	At least 100,000 persons	<p>Press Releases sent to 200 journalists for further distribution.</p> <p>Media coverage by more than 25 online news and TV agencies</p> <p>Social Media - Reach: 3,200 and Engagement: 300</p> <p>Videos – Reach: 76,500 and Engagement: 8,000</p>	Media outlets, LoPs of awareness-raising meetings

		5A.2.b. Status of a plan on increasing awareness on IACHR/HRS work and NHRSAP (Yes/No) (UNDP)	Non-existing	Developed and implemented	N/A for 2021	Final plan on increasing awareness
	5B.1. Awareness-raising campaign/knowledge building on PDP, including GDPR and complaint procedure to the SIS designed and implemented (UNDP)	5B.1.a. Outreach rate of PDP awareness-raising campaign (UNDP)	0	At least 50,000 persons	Press Releases sent to 200 journalists for further distribution. Media coverage by more than 25 online news and TV agencies Social Media - Reach: 20,200 and Engagement: 1,500	Media outlets, LoPs of awareness-raising meetings

	Output 5B.2. Specialized groups (journalists, NGOs, LSGs grassroots organizations, lawyers, HEIs, with a particular focus on regions) are capacitated that would enable them to keep SIS under scrutiny (UNDP, OHCHR)	5B.2a. # of persons (representatives of journalists, NGOs, LSGs, grassroots organizations, lawyers, HEIs, s with particular focus on regions) attending awareness-raising activities (OHCHR)	22 persons from NGOs, PO, PDO, and MIA were trained within the HR4ALL (Phase 1)	At least 270 persons trained	80 lawyers were trained in 2021	Meeting agenda, LoPs
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5. Project Visibility

UNDP and OHCHR published information about all critical events organized within the program on the relevant web and social media platforms (UN, UNDP, and OHCHR websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), raising awareness about significant developments in program implementation, and the role and significant contribution of the EU in this regard. The program's visibility and relevant insignia were ensured in all meetings and events organized. The media also covered program events (TV, online media, social media, radio).

The list of relevant social media posts, videos, and campaigns:

09.12.2020 - Human Rights Day

The three-year initiative “Human Rights for All” was signed to mark International Human Rights Day. The programme will be implemented by the two UN agencies in close coordination with the national human rights institutions and legislative, executive and judicial authorities, as well as civil society and communities.

Web

<https://bit.ly/37g6rLL>

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/2NL14uf>

<https://bit.ly/3oorgHO>

Video Message

<https://bit.ly/3psUWoi>

Online Media

<https://bit.ly/2Mwtese>

<https://bit.ly/3iUDu9O>

<https://bit.ly/3iWe3VC>

<https://bit.ly/3adC3iH>

Media

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7414994>

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7415067>

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7415224>

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7415230>

28.01.2021 Personal Data Protection Day

Supported by the European Union (EU), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the week-long campaign by Georgia's State Inspector's Service (SIS) engaged state agencies, civil society, schools and citizens and covered a wide array of topics, from processing health-related information and using social media to launching new educational programmes in data protection.

Web

<https://bit.ly/3pPoMFK>

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/3tdQVqi>

<https://bit.ly/3otEJOm>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1354670544336138244>

Online Media

<https://bit.ly/3iXTKH1>

<https://bit.ly/39mcZa9>

<https://bit.ly/2NAvZcw>

<https://bit.ly/3iVrEfA>
<https://bit.ly/3iRvfeO>
<https://bit.ly/2Yq9OYY>

Media

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7401938>
<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/7516402>

02.02.2021 Announcement on the Training for Lawyers

European Union in Georgia & UNDP Georgia are supporting Georgian lawyers to deepen their knowledge about the UN human rights standards and increase professionalism in lodging applications and running cases in the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

<https://bit.ly/3oEZvee>

22.03.2021 Photo contest

100 schoolchildren from all over Georgia took part in a photo contest, organized by the State Inspector's Service with the EU and UNDP support. Six winners received awards from State Inspector Londa Toloraia and UNDP Deputy Head Anna Chernyshova.

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/3f55Y0z>
<https://bit.ly/3vNXzoe>
<https://bit.ly/3caxGYg>
<https://bit.ly/3vSK9aL>
<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1374279768493993986>

Online Media

<https://bit.ly/3vUZ8kt>

<https://bit.ly/3d8ocMq>
<https://bit.ly/3vUC19F>

27.09.2021 Calls for Grant Competitions

EU and UNDP invited Civil Society Organizations to participate in two Calls for Grant Competitions: “Strengthening the LGBTQI community in Georgia” and “Strengthening the protection of national minorities in Georgia”.

<https://bit.ly/31QrCRJ>
<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6848230088790548480>

15.11.2021 Announcement on Training on Anti-discrimination

European Union in Georgia and UNDP Georgia invited Civil Society Organizations from Eastern Georgia to participate in two-day training “Anti-discrimination Legislation and Practice; Policy Monitoring and Evaluation”.

<https://bit.ly/3qE0xvI>
<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6865915685713833985>

03.12.2021 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, UNDP reaffirms its strong commitment to protecting disability rights, encouraging leadership and participation of persons with disabilities and assisting Georgia to build an inclusive and equal society.

Web

<https://bit.ly/3KpaQKC>

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/3GrQNZP>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1466655717964894208>

10.12.2021 Human Rights Day

On Human Rights Day, the European Union, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the South Caucasus Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Public Defender's Office and the Administration of Government invited decision-makers and civil society leaders to discuss persisting inequalities that jeopardize democracy and hamper Georgia's progress towards a fair and just society.

Web

<https://bit.ly/3w82jrJ>

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/3pUzjii>

<https://bit.ly/3yjrBBY>

<https://bit.ly/3pDLG2c>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1468496733554491397>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1468157800379740166>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1469320610547445763>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1469192657763241984>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CXliwFxlDqP/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CXSp-kQrxCB/>

<https://bit.ly/3qjWHXg>

<https://bit.ly/36wnGYW>

<https://bit.ly/3qliEWa>

<https://bit.ly/3imuUBf>

<https://bit.ly/3qgRFuM>

<https://bit.ly/36grZHP>
<https://bit.ly/3KZTQek>
<https://bit.ly/3ufy3by>
<https://bit.ly/3L1UYy6>
<https://bit.ly/3wkQ1fu>
<https://bit.ly/3ue5Yl6>
<https://bit.ly/3KTdTea>
<https://bit.ly/3ql7rVw>

Video

<https://bit.ly/3IDle09>
<https://bit.ly/3IKmTlt>
<https://bit.ly/31KB75y>
<https://bit.ly/3DRofqW>
<https://bit.ly/3oPT0Zc>

Media

<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/8346946>
<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/8347071>
<https://mediamonitoring.ge/#/media/detailsmedia/8347360>

24.12.2021 Guidebook on Litigation

A new guidebook “Litigation at the European Court of Human Rights and UN Committees” will help lawyers to properly conduct litigation at international mechanisms.

Web

<https://bit.ly/3tGCqMv>

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/32wSHJY>

29.12.2021 Meeting with the State Inspector

At the meeting with State Inspector Londa Toloraia, UNDP Head in Georgia Nick Beresford noted that the State Inspector's Service is an essential national institution that contributes to safeguarding the fundamental rights of citizens, including the right to privacy and personal data.

Social Media

<https://bit.ly/3MDzsBa>

<https://twitter.com/UNDPGeorgia/status/1476243181767467022>

10.11.2021 - Two years anniversary of the Investigative Department of the State Inspector's Service

Social Media

- <https://www.facebook.com/UNGeorgia/posts/4485300614924620>
- <https://www.facebook.com/UNGeorgia/posts/4507578706030144>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DPAGeorgiaOfficial/posts/2635176336625195>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DPAGeorgiaOfficial/posts/2625655230910639>

2.11.2021 - awareness raising actions (though using newly developed quiz module) about the functions of the Investigative Department of the State Inspector's Service

Social Media

- <https://www.facebook.com/DPAGeorgiaOfficial/posts/2626093390866823>
- <https://bit.ly/3CW85xO>
- <https://www.facebook.com/UNGeorgia/posts/4483336438454371>

15-17.10. 2021 - Strategy Planning Meeting of the State Inspector's Service

Social Media

- <https://twitter.com/ungeorgia/status/1450485989009395714?s=20>
- <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.4437161986405150&type=3>

24-26.09.2021 – Bench-bar on Prohibition of Torture topic for the Legal Aid Service of Georgia and the State Inspector's Service

Social Media

- <https://www.facebook.com/DPAGeorgiaOfficial/posts/2584579845018178>
- <https://www.facebook.com/legalaid.ge/posts/4590504957676207>
- <https://www.facebook.com/RazhdenKuprashviliLaw/posts/1182145558862444>

15-16.06.2021 – series of Capacity building actions and working meetings with and representatives of the Legal Aids Service, Public Defender's Office and State Inspector's Service of Georgia

Social Media

- <https://www.facebook.com/legalaid.ge/posts/4286304904762882>
- <http://www.legalaid.ge/en/p/5/2105/there-is-held-a-meeting-about-the-provision-of-eff>
- <https://www.facebook.com/legalaid.ge/posts/4300305403362832>
- <https://www.facebook.com/legalaid.ge/posts/4348457658547606>

- <https://bit.ly/3k3xTkj>
- <https://www.facebook.com/adamianisuflebatadacvisdepartamenti/posts/1243394276112572>
- <https://stateinspector.ge/en/article/the-state-inspectors-service-held-a-working-meeting-with-the-public-defenders-office-/110>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DPAGeorgiaOfficial/posts/2495292337280263>
- <https://twitter.com/DPAofGeorgia/status/1413029383611289606?s=20>
- <https://bit.ly/2T0idD5>
- <https://www.facebook.com/OmbudsmanofGeorgia/posts/359107105583869>
- https://twitter.com/Ombudsman_Geo/status/1412776794542030849
- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/124789731@N04/albums/72157719520119732>

The list of joint Activities with partners (GoG; HRNI; NGOs; Donors) should be listed here (please provide relevant links):

All our activities are implemented with various partners and listed above (respective links provided).

6. Other Assessments or Evaluations

Please list the assessments or evaluations on Human Rights protection made by third parties or in the framework of the project, if any (Please provide the relevant links)

In May 2021, the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI), within the grant issued by UNDP, prepared and published the [report](#) **“Brief Overview of Recent Developments in the Field of Personal Data Protection.”** The report evaluates the state of the art and progress in implementing the main priorities of the Association Agenda and HR Action Plan related to personal data protection. It also summarizes the significant developments and challenges, identifies possible drivers for change, and provides recommendations on the most pressing issues related to data protection.

In February 2021, the Administration of the Government of Georgia (AoG) and a team of development partners and thematic experts produced the **report “Georgia’s COVID response: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future.”** The report assessed the efficacy of Georgia’s pandemic response during 2020 identifying past strengths and weaknesses and suggesting recommendations for future pandemics and other major hazard events that grip the nation. The report is not available online.

II PART: Annual Financial Consolidated Report

The annual financial consolidated report can be found on the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office website, [JP Georgia EU HR4 All Phase 2 | MPTF Office \(undp.org\)](#).

III PART: Updated Workplan for 2022

See Annex 28, JP Workplan for 2022 endorsed and approved by the Steering Committee held on 15 December 2021.

List of Annexes

Annex 1, initial draft of the National Human Rights Strategy for 2022-2030

Annex 2, the report “Georgia’s COVID response: Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Future”

Annex 3, Consolidated monitoring report

Annex 4, Separation of Powers

Annex 5, ECtHR Case law on criminal charges and administrative violations

Annex 6, Research on Torture related articles

Annex 7, Study on Torture Victims’ Rehabilitation systems

Annex 8, communication standard with PwDs for SIS

Annex 9, Use of force in the policing of demonstrations

Annex 10, Ill-treatment at penitentiary institutions

Annex 11, Study on international experience on monitoring covert investigative activities

Annex 12, Study on operational-investigative mechanisms

Annex 13, International practices, systems and policies on preventive measures and mechanisms on combatting ill-treatment

Annex 14, Compatibility Study of Georgian Legislation on Communication Tapping

Annex 15, Use of handcuffs - international practice

Annex 16, Methodology on Questioning Police Officers

Annex 17, SIS Institutional Development Strategy and Action Plan

Annex 18, Human Resource Management Strategy and Action Plan for SIS

Annex 19, Practice of Personal Data Protection Supervisors: Production and publication of statistics

Annex 20, Data Collection Methodology for SIS-PDP

Annex 21, Guideline on Processing Personal Data for Public Information

Annex 22, SIS Internal communication strategy

Annex 23, Inclusive Education Development Strategy and Action Plan

Annex 24, Guideline on the Sign-language Interpreters Certification

Annex 25, Statute on the establishment of an interagency commission on the rights of persons with disabilities

Annex 26, guidebook “Litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and UN Treaty bodies”

Annex 27, Human Rights Data Collection Methodology

Annex 28, Updated Project Workplan for 2022