

SAWASYA

PROMOTING THE RULE OF LAW IN PALESTINE

ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2022



Photo 1: Launch of the legal incubator. Gaza. ©UCAS

The UNDP, UN Women and UNICEF Joint Programme ‘*Sawasya II: Promoting the Rule of Law in the State of Palestine*’ is generously funded by the Government of the Netherlands, Sweden – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Spain - Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and the European Union (EU).

Programme Title & Project Number	Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme Title: “Promoting the Rule of Law in Palestine” (Sawasya II) MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00111750 	<p>State of Palestine</p> <p><i>Agenda 2030: <u>Goal 16</u>: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels; <u>Goal 5</u>: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</i></p> <p><i>2018-2022 UNDAF: <u>SP2</u>: All Palestinians, especially those exposed to vulnerabilities, have equal access to accountable, effective, and responsive democratic governance, in line with international human rights standards</i></p> <p><i>2017-2023 National Policy Agenda: <u>Pillar 1</u>: Path to independence; <u>Pillar 2</u>: Governance reform; <u>Pillar 3</u>: Sustainable development</i></p>
Participating Organization(s)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP/UN Women/UNICEF 	
Programme Cost (US\$)	Programme Duration
<p>Total approved budget as per project document: USD 50,000,000</p> <p>Agency Contribution UNDP BPPS: USD 945,000</p> <p>Contributions from Donors to MPTF/JP Netherlands: 20,208,120 SIDA: 12,023,266 European Union: 3,355,019</p> <p>Total Contributions to MPTF/JP USD 35,586,405</p> <p>Contributions from other donors parallel to MPTF/JP Spain (earmarked/non-MPTF): USD 1,420,560</p> <p>TOTAL: USD 37,987,355</p>	<p>Overall Duration: 60 months</p> <p>Start Date: 01 July 2018</p> <p>Original End Date: 30 June 2023</p> <p>Current End Date: 31 December 2023</p>
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	Report Submitted By
<p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>19.01.2021</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name: D. Christopher Decker Title: Joint Programme Manager Participating Organizations: UNDP/UN Women/UNICEF Email address: chris.decker@undp.org

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME

Sawasya II represents the primary programmatic vehicle of the United Nations (UN) for advancing the rule of law, gender justice, justice for children and human rights in the State of Palestine for the period 2018-2023. *Sawasya II* is designed to contribute to key priorities of the five-year United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the State of Palestine (2018-2022), to the realization of the 2030 Agenda and of its sustainable development goals (particularly SDG 16 and SDG 5) and to the implementation of the National Policy Agenda of the State of Palestine (2017-2023).

Bringing together the main UN entities mandated and invested in these areas – the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations’ Children’s Fund (UNICEF) - in an integrated Programme framework, *Sawasya II* seeks to support the Government of Palestine in building a progressively functioning and increasingly inclusive rule of law system that respects, protects and fulfils human rights and gender equality and, in parallel, promotes peace and security.

Sawasya II targets specific bottlenecks in justice and security service provision. Security and justice institutions are supported to strengthen the quality and efficiency of the services they provide to Palestinian rights holders. Moreover, *Sawasya II* supports all relevant Palestinian government institutions and civil society organizations in providing legal aid to the Palestinian population. This support is developed and tailored to respond to the specific needs of the different areas of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

Acknowledging that the ability to access justice is a human right in itself and is key to the realization of all other human rights, *Sawasya II* also addresses gender justice gaps and discrimination against women, which are deeply entrenched in the Palestinian justice and security systems. Finally, *Sawasya II* works with relevant national partners in strengthening the services provided to children in contact with the law as offenders, victims, and witnesses by promoting effective partnerships and integrated constructive work among constituent entities of the child protection sector.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out achievements of the Joint UNDP/UN Women/UNICEF Programme “*Sawasya II: Promoting the Rule of Law in Palestine*”¹ realized in 2022. By every measure, the operational situation continued to prove exceptionally volatile.² 2022 was the deadliest year for Palestinians since the end of the second intifada, claiming 154 lives in the West Bank, in addition to 32 civilian deaths in Gaza during the August 2022 hostilities. The lack of prospect on the peace front, the ever-shrinking human rights space and the rise in authoritarianism continued to represent the greatest obstacles to the promotion of the rule of law in Palestine during the period. Domestically, it translated further into a stalling reconciliation process, the lack of a functioning legislature leading to legislative inflation and a mass lawyers’ mobilization, which paralyzed courts for weeks.

Despite a total of 80 days of lawyer-led strikes, **enforcement progress continued to be observed**, particularly for criminal cases. This progress was underpinned by the deployment of a **task team dedicated to supporting backlog reduction and the delivery of nine motorcycles to improve the mobility of notifiers and enforcement authorities**. Additionally, **various judicial police offices were rehabilitated to enhance the enforcement experience for both users and staff**. Significant strides were also made in the enforcement of family law cases, building on the rollout of automated payments directly dispatched through enforcement departments last year. In 2022, **600,000 marriage and divorce certificates were added to the civil records registry, and e-Warrants between the judicial police and family enforcement departments were implemented**. Given that alimony payments often constitute a lifeline for recipients, such progress holds great potential for advancing women's access to justice. Digitalization was also leveraged to further institutionalize the **use of the e-Prison monitoring system** and extract around 750 legal principles from **6,000 family court judgments uploaded onto the Al-Muqtafi database**. The advanced analysis of these decisions can form the basis for evidence-based strategic litigation and interventions aimed at reducing discrimination, particularly against women. In line with this, obstacles faced by litigants in accessing justice, particularly people with disabilities, continued to be removed through **sign-language signalization placed in various courts across the West Bank**.

Work continued to focus on ensuring the predictability of justice outcomes, with the **issuance of a new volume of Legal Precedence** aimed at providing guidance to judicial actors and promoting uniformity in legal decisions. Additionally, this year saw **efforts to expand the single-judge pilot court model to other regions in the West Bank**, building upon a positive preliminary evaluation conducted by the Programme. **Seized item rooms in both the Ramallah and Nablus public prosecution offices were also refurbished**, to ensure that assets are handled in a more efficient and reliable legal process and that the risk of tampering or contamination is minimized. Efforts to ensure more predictable justice outcomes also translated into the monitoring of **3,383 criminal trial sessions in the West Bank and Gaza during the period** and the **production of the 6th edition of the legal monitor** this year, indicating key areas of progress and priority reform areas based on solid evidence and informed by public perceptions. Enhanced institutional practices were also promoted through **the piloting of M&E systems in the Ministry of Justice and High Judicial Council** before their expansion to all justice institutions, and the strengthening of a cross

¹ The “Programme” refers to the *Sawasya* Programme. Both *Sawasya* and the “Programme” are used interchangeably.

² See *Implementation Challenges and Lessons Learned*.

institutional planning community of practice with **advanced training delivered on project cycle management.**

Ensuring equal access to justice for all requires that parties have an equal standing in legal proceedings. To this end, there were ongoing efforts to institutionalize legal aid elements in the justice system. Significant steps were to **legally create a unified legal aid mechanism at the Ecclesiastical court level.** In addition, the **establishment of MENA's first legal incubator in Gaza** marked a milestone in the operationalization of grassroots and sustainable legal aid networks. Despite the lawyer-led social movement that impacted court work, a **memorandum of understanding was formed between the Ministry of Justice and the Palestinian Bar Association to establish a law-based aid system,** following a bilateral dialogue supported by the Programme. A total of **21,568 vulnerable Palestinian individuals accessed legal aid services** (67 per cent being women, 10 per cent boys, and 0.3 per cent girls). In addition, **21,789 individuals were made aware of their legal rights in-person** (59 per cent women, 6 per cent boys, and 8 per cent girls). These achievements were made possible, in part, by the work of **822 law students (59 per cent women) who utilized their legal skills to support marginalized individuals in their communities.** The development of grassroots legal networks is essential not only for resolving conflicts but also for preventing them. Therefore, the promotion of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms was also a focus, with the **development of a database of practitioners and a code of conduct for arbitrators** to ensure the mainstreaming of human rights, gender justice, and the rule of law principles in arbitration practice

The ability of survivors of violence to access the formal justice system is a crucial indicator of progress towards improving access to justice for the most vulnerable. A steady increase in prosecution and adjudication of cases of violence against women (VAW) since the beginning of *Sawasya II* has been witnessed, with a **respective percentage increase of 3 per cent in cases transferred to courts and 16 per cent in the number of convicted perpetrators** as compared to 2021. This progress is underpinned by a holistic **revision of the national referral system for women victims of violence** and the **establishment of Palestine's first specialized VAW court** in Nablus in 2022, where **107 cases have been adjudicated so far.** In addition, **706 individuals (63 per cent women) contacted the Family and Juvenile Protection Unit helpline,** and the **One-Stop Centre model was further expanded to the cities of Nablus and Hebron** with refurbishment work concluded this year. Efforts to promote gender-responsive service delivery require attention to the particular challenges faced by women with disabilities who are disproportionately impacted by violence and often receive inadequate support from service providers. To this end, a **stigma tool to address the negative attitudes and biases that prevent women with disabilities from accessing justice was piloted** along with a **developed protocol on behavioural change and advocacy for the rights of women with disabilities.** Such work is essential as the **National Violence Survey Analytical report, which is based on data collected by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics in 2019 and produced this year,** shows that over 59 per cent of ever-married women have been exposed to violence. The **studies on arbitration in front of family courts and on the cost of violence against women produced this year** highlight discriminatory processes of justice and the need for ring-fenced budget allocations and responsive monitoring systems across institutions to address the lack of adapted laws and measures. To support these efforts, a **facility assessment was conducted in nine police districts, standard operating procedures for the Human Rights Unit were developed** at the level of the Supreme Judge Department and a **Gender Support Team was deployed in the Ministry of**

Justice. This was supported by continuous capacity building, notably at the level of the Attorney General’s Office. **Nineteen (19) Chief Prosecutors (5 per cent women) contributed to the revision of the standard operating procedures of the Family Protection Unit** and administrative staff were trained to better manage cases involving for survivors of violence. Capacity building efforts were also supported through the **endorsement of 10 e-Learning courses** developed in 2021, making widely available much-needed resources to judicial actors.

Significant strides were also made in advancing justice for children, as evidenced by a **10 percent increase in children accessing mediation** and a **32 percent rise in the number of children benefiting from alternatives to detention**. Notably, **there was a 46 percent reduction in custodial sentencing for children** as compared to the previous year. This reflects a strong commitment to safeguarding the best interest of the child. This commitment was further solidified by the **adoption of the executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law** and the **revision of the national referral protection system was revised** that makes the policy framework more responsive to the needs of all children, particularly for children with disabilities. Other policy strides were made with the **endorsement of legal aid standards for children by the Palestinian Bar Association** and the adoption of **guidelines on child-friendly and gender responsive treatment during legal procedures** at the level of Attorney General’s Office. In complementarity of this, the Ministry of Social Development created **case management guidelines for child protection** to harmonize responses and intervention strategies for children who have experienced violence. The professionalization of child justice actors was further strengthened with the development of a **one-year child protection diploma**, which will target school counselors, among others. Recognizing the importance of educational institutions, **756 students (79 per cent girls) in five UNRWA schools** were also made more aware of their rights and sensitized to gender equality as a way to combat all forms of violence children are exposed to.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
A2D	Alternatives to Detention
AG	Attorney General
AGO	Attorney General's Office
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
COGAT	Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories
COM	Council of Ministers
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EJ	East Jerusalem
EUPOL COPPS	EU Police Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support
FJPD	Family and Juvenile Protection Department
FJPU	Family and Juvenile Protection Unit (PCP)
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GLC	Gender Legislative Committee
GPC	General Personnel Council
GoI	Government of Israel
GoP	Government of Palestine
GRM	Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism
HJC	High Judicial Council
ICHR	Independent Commission for Human Rights
IG	Inspector General (PCP)
IS	Internal Security (PCP)
JAL	Judicial Authority Law
JSS	Justice Sector Strategy
LAB	Legislative Advisory Bureau
LoA	Letter of Agreement
LHC	Legal Harmonization Committee
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOI	Ministry of Interior
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOSD	Ministry of Social Development
MOWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
OPT	Occupied Palestinian Territory
OSC	One Stop Centre
PA	Palestinian Authority
PBA	Palestinian Bar Association
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PCP	Palestinian Civil Police

PG	Palestinian Government
PJI	Palestinian Judicial Institute
PMF	Palestinian Maintenance Fund
PMO	Prime Minister Office
PPMU	Planning and Project Management Unit
PSL	Personal Status Law
PwDs	People with disabilities
RAP	Results Action Plan
RRC	Rehabilitation and Reform Center
SJD	Supreme Judge Department
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SRF	Strategic Results Framework
TOR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of trainers
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VAW	Violence Against Women
VAW SPPs	Specialized Public Prosecutors on Violence against Women
WPC	Women’s Protection Counsellors
WwDs	Women with disabilities

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I. Progress Against Key Targets

	Progress Against Outcome 1 Targets		
	<i>Ind.</i>	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	O.1.1	2 <i>(unmet)</i>	1: The executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law of 2004 (Decree-Law No. 16 of 2022) was adopted during the period <i>The law clarifies the different roles played by the police, judges, prosecution, and the child protection counselors in cases relating to the protection of children. This is occurring in a broader context of limited legislative leverage due to an inoperative legislature.</i> <i>*Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya</i>
	O.1.2	2 <i>(met)</i>	6: This includes the revision of the national referral system for women victims of violence and the national referral guidelines for child protection as well as the adoption of the national strategy on combatting violence against women (2023-2029). <i>In addition, guidelines on child-friendly and gender responsive procedures as well as the standard operating procedures for the investigation of torture cases were adopted by the Attorney General's Office. Finally, the legal aid standards were endorsed by the Palestinian Bar Association.</i> <i>*Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya</i>
	O.1.3	2 <i>(unmet)</i>	0: There were no adopted policies/harmonized laws/plans linked to the Gaza Strip/West Bank reunification process <i>This is occurring in a broader context of lack of progress on the reunification/reconciliation front.</i> <i>*Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya</i>

	Progress Against Output Targets				
	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>		<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	2 <i>(unmet)</i>	o.1.1.1 : 1 existing law was reviewed/revised (Palestinian Child Law of 2004) to align with human rights standards (see Indicator Outcome 1.1). This is occurring in a broader context of limited legislative leverage due to an inoperative legislature.		1 <i>(met)</i>	o.1.2.1 : 2 the 2022 annual work plan for gender mainstreaming within the security sector was adopted this year as well as a joint 2022 annual work plan between justice and security institutions on cross-cutting matters.
	2 <i>(unmet)</i>	o.1.3.1 : 0 Work during the period focused on the development of a national transitional justice strategy, which is yet to be finalized. This is occurring in a broader context of lack of progress on the reunification/reconciliation front.		2 <i>(met)</i>	o.1.4.1 : 3 , including the National Violence Survey Analytical report based on the 2019 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics survey, the violence against women costing study and the 6 th edition of the legal monitor.

Outcome 1: Rule of Law Institutions are Strengthened and Reunified by Legal, Regulatory and Policy Frameworks in line with International Standards

Output 1.1: Key Legislations are Revised to Strengthen the Independence of the Rule of Law Institutions and Ensure their Consistency with International Standards



Evidence-based knowledge produced on gender justice



Executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law published in the Palestinian Official Gazette



Gender Support Team formed in Ministry of Justice



6,000 family court judgements added to the Al-Muqtafi platform

Progress was made during the period on the legislative reform front. **The executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law (Decree-Law No. 16 of 2022) introducing additional protection measures for children** was published this year in the Official Palestinian Gazette, thereby further operationalizing commitments enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Child (CRC) (*Indicator Outcome 1.1; Indicator Output 1.1.1*). More specifically, the executive by-law clarifies the different roles played by the police, judges, prosecution, and the child protection counselors in cases involving children, which has also informed the holistic review of the national referral guidelines for child protection³ (see *Output 2.1*) (*Indicator Outcome 1.2*). The national referral system for women victims of violence was also comprehensively revised (see *Output 4.1*) and the national strategy on combatting violence against women (VAW) for the period 2023-2029 was adopted (*Indicator Outcome 1.2*). Despite these advances, the legal framework continues not to align with international standards, and particularly with the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to which the State of Palestine is a party since 2014.

As the **National Violence Survey Analytical report finalized this year shows, over 59 per cent of ever-married Palestinian women were exposed at least once to violence by their husband**. It demonstrates the urgency of increasing protection for women (to be published in 2023), particularly as little progress was made on the Family Protection Bill (FPB) and the reform of the Personal Status Laws (PSL) fronts during the period (*see Implementation Challenges & Lessons Learned*). The report underscores the pervasive prevalence of psychological and physical violence against Palestinian women⁴ – particularly divorced women – as part of power and decision-making structures that frequently deny them access to essential household resources. Within this context, gender-based violence (GBV) is often rationalized, even by women, based on patriarchal stereotypes regarding gender roles and prescribed attitudes. Women face numerous consequences as a result, including significant health and legal counseling needs, especially in the Gaza Strip. Although awareness of available services is widespread among these women, it is more common in the West Bank and higher among college graduates. In this context, various coping mechanisms

³ They are known as the "national and referral and networking guidelines for child protection from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation".

⁴ This is based on data collected by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in 2019. 59.3 per cent of currently married or ever married women (15-64 years) in Palestine were exposed to violence "at least once" by their husbands in any form; 52.3 per cent in the West Bank compared to 70.4 per cent in Gaza Strip. Publication will be ensured in 2023.

and responses are utilized by women, such as interventions by relatives and family members, in the absence of a holistically protective framework. The lack of adapted laws and measures was underscored by the **violence against women (VAW) costing study completed this year** in line with CEDAW's 2017 General Recommendation No. 35,⁵ highlighting the need for ring-fenced budget allocations and responsive monitoring systems across institutions. While support to the development of a communication strategy on the FPB could not be conducted this year, work was invested to train and raise the awareness of key actors. One hundred and twenty-five (125) (75 per cent women) participated in five training sessions focused on comprehensively reviewing the gender justice framework with support from *Sawasya's* partner. They offered a robust introduction on the legislation pertaining to women's rights/human rights, the laws enacted since 2007 in the West Bank and Gaza, and their applications in light of the Basic Law and the State of Palestine's human rights commitments. Specific emphasis was placed on the technical and leveraging role played by peripheral justice actors, such as human rights defenders, women's human rights advocates, and the media in advancing gender justice. Therefore, participants recommended to work to enhance the quality of information disseminated on CEDAW to make it more accessible to duty-bearers and the general public with a view to create a conducive environment for community-based engagement on these questions. This is in addition to 150 (70 per cent women) academics and members of civil society who accessed awareness on gender justice, gender responsive legislations, and women's access to justice over the course of five round table discussions.⁶

More broadly, knowledge generated last year emphasize the need to challenge and transform patriarchal systems that detrimentally impact women, girls, but also men and boys, and the broader community. Aware that this prevailing environment affects institutional responses, the **Ministry of Justice (MOJ) formed a Gender Support Team** during the reporting period. With representation across units/departments, the team supports the Gender Unit in identifying priority areas to strengthen its policy-leading role within the Ministry. To accompany its deployment, 25 administrative staff (68 per cent women) accessed a two-day training focused on the mandate of the Gender Unit, gender mainstreaming and women's rights. According to one participant, "*We used to think that gender is limited to the Gender Unit. Now, I am more aware of the importance of working together on gender, regardless of the unit we belong to*", thereby highlighting the criticality of such approach to accelerate institutional transformation. In line with this, the Gender Expert commissioned by the Programme during the period prepared a capacity assessment, which informed the development of the Gender Unit's annual workplan for 2023.

In a context where women victims/survivors of violence bear the disproportionate brunt of the non-functioning Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), the expansion of the *Al-Muqtafi* database remains key to ensuring transparent and equal access to critical jurisprudence, particularly in relation to their PSL rights. In line with this, **6,000 family court judgements were added to the automated database** by the Birzeit University Institute of Law, with 750 legal principles derived and commentary provided on judicial divorce, marriage contracts, custodianship, and inheritance. Such work is critical to support [feminist litigation](#) (see *Output 3.2*). This is in addition to the

⁵ UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2017), General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19 (1992), CEDAW/C/GC/35.

⁶ As part of "Support CSO efforts to enhance capacities of judicial actors from a protection of human rights standpoint (gender justice, GBV)" (*Output 4.1.6* under the annual workplan).

finalization of five policy papers on the harmonization of Palestinian laws against international standards that were developed in the priority areas of rights to equality, right to personal integrity and the prohibition of torture, right to fair trial as well as right to health. It will inform the development of a checklist for ensuring the alignment of legal production with human rights standards going forward.

Output 1.2: Evidence-Based Planning and Policy Development in the Justice and Security Sectors are Strengthened



Community of practice strengthened across justice planning teams



Automated reports piloted against accountability frameworks

Support to the implementation of justice and security plans

Since 2018, Palestinians reported considerable improvements on nearly every indicator of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) (*see Results and Resources Framework/II. Monitoring & Evaluation*). This includes a **9.7 per cent increase in the share of public who has trust in the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP)** (8.6 per cent against the biannual target) (*Indicator G-1*) and **10.9 per cent increase in those satisfied of their performance as compared to 2018** (8.7 per cent against the biannual target) (*Indicator G-3*) as highlighted by the PCBS '[Rule of Law and Access to Justice](#)' Survey conducted in 2021. Improved perception of judicial actors was also reported with a **12.7 increase in the public's share who has trust in the Judiciary** (11.5 per cent increase against the biannual target) (*Indicator G-2*) and even a **20 per cent increase in the expressed satisfaction with the performance of judges as compared to 2018** (17.7 per cent as compared to the biannual target) (*Indicator G-4*).

This builds upon enhanced monitoring and evaluation (M&E) processes already in place and includes the **piloting of an automated reporting system at both the MOJ and High Judicial Council (HJC) this year**. This system is designed to track progress against policy targets of the Justice Sector Strategy (JSS) and the National Policy Agenda (NPA) for the period 2017-2023. The implementation of this system, including at the level of the Attorney General's Office (AGO), represents a crucial tool for policy development. In line with this, support was provided for the review by the MOJ of the new national strategy guidelines for the development of the forthcoming sectoral strategic framework (2024-2029). Learning from past lessons, the framework will adopt a project-based approach to expedite sectoral growth. Moving forward, the Programme plans to facilitate a three-day workshop aimed at reviewing the strategy and M&E framework and producing preliminary inputs. This will be supported by the further rollout of the electronic M&E system across other justice institutions and is underpinned by the further integration of justice and security institutions, with the development of a first joint work plan in 2022 (*Indicator Output 1.2.1*).

In 2022, the planning and project management community of practice continued to be strengthened across justice institutions. A total of 24 participants (66 per cent women) from Planning and Project Management Units (PPMUs) that completed the Palestinian National School of Administration (PNSA)'s standardized programme **accessed a five-day training on project cycle management**, alongside 18 staff members (33 per cent women) from other relevant departments. This was based

on their own formulated request for capacity building, which yielded tangible institutional output with the head of the PPMU at the Constitutional Court successfully developing her first project proposal. This project aims to increase public awareness of constitutional rights and provide guidance on how to approach the court. It received approval and funding and is currently being implemented. However, the production of additional e-Courses by the Palestinian Judicial Institute (PJI) for use by the PNSA was delayed due to the lack of clear policy guidelines for inter-institutional collaboration. Going forward, the Programme will support fostering learning synergies and exchange through facilitating dialogue and the development of an adapted policy framework.

To make policy development and judicial work more accountable to the citizenry – particularly in view of the lack of a functioning legislature and the subsequent legal inflation (see *Implementation Challenges and Lessons Learned*), communication efforts need to be ramped up. In view of this, a strategy and work plan for enhancing the HJC’s visibility was developed with support from the Programme. As a result, 1,144 Palestinians subscribed to the HJC’s newly launched Telegram account, where updates on court operations and daily information are shared. Bringing together communication teams from all seven justice institutions and the Judicial Police,⁷ work was pursued for the launch of the second phase of the unified media campaign by the Outreach Campaign Committee. However, turnover in some of the media departments further hindered the development process and focus continued to be put on knowledge transfer for rollout in 2023. Similarly, the research on the impact of war on women’s access to justice and VAW impact will be conducted next year.

Monitoring and implementation of SDG16[+]⁸

Work to operationalize SDG16[+] within current policy frameworks and institutional practices focused on the successful integration of the administrative court system within the SDG 16 national team and working groups. Support was also provided to the development of input for the forthcoming strategic planning exercise. Such efforts are critical for further streamlining SDG domestication efforts and contribute to global progress on access to justice.

Output 1.3: West Bank and Gaza Rule of Law Institutions are Reunified



Development of a National Transitional Justice Strategy initiated on reintegration

While reconciliation talks were held in Algiers in October,⁹ no policies, harmonized laws, or plans were produced in relation to the Gaza/West Bank reunification process during the period (*Indicator Outcome 1.3/Output 1.3.1*). This situation continued to inform *Sawasya*-civil society organization (CSO) partnership this year. Steps were taken towards the development of a national transitional justice strategy with the formation of a communication committee in 2022 through expert support from the Programme. Building on sustained dialogue between the CSO partner and reintegration

⁷ The outreach campaign committee is comprised of the seven justice institutions as well as the Judicial Police.

⁸ Limited opportunities were identified during the period for SDG 16 engagement at the regional/international level.

⁹ See “Palestinian rivals Hamas and Fatah sign reconciliation deal in Algiers” (13 October 2022), *France 24*

stakeholders in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 2022, this work is paving the way for the formation of a community coalition for transitional justice in Palestine. This will translate into the convening of a national conference tabled for March 2023 and ramped-up communication going forward.

Output 1.4: Advocacy on Strengthening Rule of Law Institutions and Promoting Human Rights is Reinforced



3,383 criminal trial sessions monitored



6th edition of the legal monitor produced

During the period, **3,383 criminal trial sessions in the West Bank¹⁰ and Gaza were monitored.** Although there were improvements noted since the first large-scale court monitoring pilot in 2020, including a six percentage point decrease in no-show by lawyers, access to justice for Palestinian citizens remained challenging. Consistent investigation of torture allegations is lacking despite increased trust in the work of the public prosecution as highlighted by the **6th edition of the legal monitor produced this year** (see *Indicator Output 1.4.1*).¹¹ Additionally, while considerable digitalization strides have been witnessed, important progress could be made through enhancing the current policy framework and allowing for e-Notification and the scheduling of court hearings on an hourly basis.

Such findings are critical to inform people-centred policy work. Therefore 25 monitors (48 per cent women) accessed capacity building on court monitoring standards. This included training on new digital templates designed for monitoring gender-based violence (GBV) and VAW cases and cases involving children in conflict with the law. This took place within the framework of the development this year of an online-based court monitoring system and as preliminary court monitoring findings reveal high risks of revictimization for women who bring GBV/VAW claims into the criminal justice system and identified significant knowledge gaps among judicial actors in this area. These findings highlight the need to sustain and increase capacity-building efforts in parallel to the specialization of VAW services (see *Output 4.1*).

Court monitoring is a valuable tool for identifying patterns and obstacles to access to justice against the background of improved confidence in the judiciary (6th edition of the legal monitor). Preliminary court monitoring findings were presented at four workshops attended by 109 individuals (37 per cent women) prior to the finalization of the monitoring reports, which will be published in early 2023. This work, combined with the country-wide consultations held in 2019 and 2020 as well as the production of the 6th legal monitor this year (see *Indicator Output 1.4.1*) will support the launch of a coalition-based advocacy campaign for justice reform next year with support from *Sawasya II*.

¹⁰ Excluding East Jerusalem.

¹¹ Appears under 2.1.7 in the annual work plan “Support the publication of the evidence-based monitor of the justice sector using the data produced by the PCBS”.

Outcome 1: Lessons learned

The Gender Support Team approach is key to strengthening institutional buy-in: Institutional staff have expressed the belief that gender mainstreaming is the primary responsibility of Gender Units. Therefore, structuring engagement across the institution is key to strengthening institutional buy-in and producing more comprehensive results.

PPMU-initiated capacity building produces more tangible institutional results: By closely linking the training offer to the expressed needs of PPMUs, more tangible institutional results can be yielded through compelling project development and design.

Standardization of court monitoring: Increased standardization of court monitoring processes allows for more consistent comparisons overtime, which are key to evidence-based policy formulation.

Outcome 1: Way forward

Development of the 2023-2028 justice sector strategy

Evidence-based advocacy in the area of justice reform

More equal access to jurisprudence in support of human rights and legal harmonization

Outcome 2: Service Provision by Rule of Law Institutions is Effective, Accountable, and Inclusive

	Progress Against Outcome 2 Targets		
	<i>Ind.</i>	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	O.2.1	Decrease of 1 per cent yearly (N/A)	N/A data on unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population against the annual target. Not available for the period due to delays in producing and verifying data.
	O.2.2	Decrease of 3 per cent yearly (N/A)	29 per cent decrease in the number of children in conflict with the Palestinian law detained at the Family and Juvenile Protection Units against the annual target. 237 children (including one girl) were detained in 2022.
	O.2.3	Increase of 10 per cent by 2020 (met)	1.9 per cent increase against the target in the share of Palestinians who have confidence that they will receive a fair trial if charged with committing a criminal act/delinquency.

	Progress Against Output Targets				
	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>		<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	Increase of 10 per cent in pilot areas by 2020 (met)	o.2.1.1: 50 per cent increase in the number of Palestinians aware of the Palestinian Civil Police community policing strategy in the pilot area of Jericho governorate against the target.		Increase of 1 per cent in the pilot areas yearly (met)	o.2.1.2: 19 per cent increase in the number of judgements enforced at the level of conciliation courts and 14 per cent decrease at the level of first instance courts in Hebron pilot area against the target.
	Increase of 2 per cent by 2020 (unmet)	o.2.1.3: 0.6 per cent decrease in the number of justice sector users satisfied with Mizan against the target (rates of satisfaction are superior to 90 per cent on average)		Decrease of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.2.1.4: 54 per cent decrease in the number of children who received a custodial sentence against the annual target.
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.2.1.5: 40 per cent increase in the number of children who benefitted from alternatives to detention against the annual target.		Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.2.1.6: 93 per cent increase in the number of children who benefitted from mediation in the investigation process as alternative to detention against the annual target.
	Increase of 1 per cent in the pilot areas yearly (unmet)	o.2.2.1: 12 per cent increase in the number of judgements enforced in unserved areas against the annual target.		5 yearly (unmet)	o. 2.2.2: 0 . Services have not been rolled out. The Programme is engaging in a reexamining of its community policing engagement in close coordination with stakeholders engaged on this front.

Output 2.1: Quality and Efficiency of Security and Justice Services Provided to the Palestinian Citizens Are Improved

-  **600,000 marriage and divorce certificated** digitized
-  **National referral guidelines for child protection** revised, and case management guidelines developed
-  **Electronic exchange of warrants** between police and family courts
-  **Guidelines on child-friendly procedures adopted** by AGO
-  **Judicial police offices rehabilitated** across the West Bank
-  **One-year diploma programme developed** in 2022
-  **100+ complaints lodged electronically** at level of HJC
-  **Legal aid standards endorsed** by PBA
-  **Expansion of single-judge pilot court model** across the West Bank
-  **79 mediators identified** in the West Bank
-  **New volume of Legal Precedence issued** issued
-  **10 e-Learning courses endorsed** after being developed in 2021.
-  **Signalization in sign language placed** various West Bank courts
-  **9 motorcycles delivered** along with the deployment of a backlog taskforce
-  **Draft manual for use of e-Prison monitoring system** at MOJ

Support to inclusive and accountable policing

Work continued to be invested to enhance citizen-centered and accountable policing. The online complaint mechanism by the Bureau of Grievances and Human Rights within the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) was operationalized this year and was expanded to include the Police Security and Inspector General Department. This will allow citizens to report any alleged wrongdoing or misconduct by the police on their laptop or using their mobile phone,¹² through an easy-to-access online portal. While initially rolled out in 2021, further measures of accountability needed to be incorporated to guarantee that every complaint is promptly addressed. Therefore, the system is anticipated to be fully operational next year and underpinned by a robust strategic accountability plan, the revision of job descriptions and standard operating procedures (SOPs) as well as the review of the legal framework. This progress continued to build on the work of the joint PCP-CSO accountability taskforce. Thirty-six (36) members of the taskforce (30 per cent women) participated in two workshops during the period and contributed to the review of law enforcement measures taken during the COVID-19 crisis and proposed measures to improve police performance and transparency. As focus was put on the full operationalization of the online system, the media campaign on police accountability was postponed to 2023. Continuous accountability progress is expected to further reinforce public trust in the PCP. Important strides were made on this front with an increase of 9.7 per cent in public trust in the PCP as compared to 2018 (8.6 per cent increase as compared to the target) (*Indicator G-1*).

Therefore, the 22 per cent increase in the enforcement of court decisions in Area C (pilot area) in 2022 (12 per cent decrease against the target) (*Indicator Output 2.2.1*)¹³ demonstrates the validity of an approach based on improving access to services in most marginalized areas. Recognizing this, a two-day workshop attended by 32 PCP personnel (25 per cent women) was organized to strategize on ways to incentive demand for community-policing on the ground. However, the continuous lack of buy-in of PCP's senior management resulted in stalled progress, with no community policing services being rolled out in 2022 (*Indicator Output 2.2.2*) despite a **65 per cent increase in the number of citizens aware of the community policing strategy in the pilot governorate of Jericho** as compared to 2018 (26 per cent in total/50 per cent increase against the target) (*Indicator Output 2.1.1*). Going forward, the Programme will reexamine its community policing engagement in close coordination with stakeholders engaged on this front.

Support to fair and equitable judicial procedures¹⁴

Setting judicial precedence is a vital tool for advancing fairness and equity within the legal system. Notably, this year saw significant progress in this area with the **issuance of a new volume of Legal Precedence**.¹⁵ This volume compiles legal cases and their corresponding rulings, serving as a valuable reference for legal professionals and future legal decision-making. The Programme supported the development and dissemination of this volume, as well as the HJC's annual report (2021), which provides extensive access to the latest jurisprudence and an overview of recent legal developments. Furthermore, strides were made towards **expanding the single-judge pilot court**

¹² However, not through a dedicated app. Data on the number are not available as the system remain to be fully operational, although this result was reported in 2021.

¹³ This can be attributed to the mass lawyers' mobilization (see *Implementation Challenges and Lessons Learned*).

¹⁴ The activity relating to e-Learning is reported under *Output 2.1 Support to the development and implementation of the e-Justice strategy*. Activities related to the AGO Human Rights Unit are reported under *Output 2.1 Support to inspection and prison monitoring mechanisms*

¹⁵ Support to the technical offices on the prosecution offices was postponed to 2023.

model to other areas in the West Bank, following a positive preliminary evaluation by the Programme. To this end, four judges (100 per cent men) accessed training in Jordan and were subsequently assigned by the Chief Justice to four additional pilot courts that will be established to settle low-value claims. This approach is particularly well-suited to resolving cases that involve less complex legal issues, as it streamlines the decision-making process and reduces the burden on both litigants and the court system. By assigning a single judge to these cases, litigants can benefit from a more personalized and efficient legal process, while judges can devote more attention to individual cases and make more informed decisions.

In addition to expanding access to single-judge courts, efforts have been focused on developing solid evidentiary processes, which include proper disposal of seized assets, as key to fair and equitable judicial procedures. This included the **refurbishment of seized item rooms in both the Ramallah and Nablus public prosecution offices**. These renovations aim to further align public prosecution work with international standards, by providing a safe space for the storage and handling of seized assets in a more efficient and reliable legal process that minimizes the risk of tampering or contamination. Efforts towards operationalizing the body fluids and toxicology laboratory at MOJ are ongoing. After an unsuccessful first round of recruitment, experts from the Jordan toxicology laboratory were identified and began their assessment in the second half of 2022. This assignment, set to conclude in 2023, will provide for recommendations to support the operationalization of the MOJ's toxicology lab.

Work to enhance public access to judicial services, particularly for people with disabilities (PwDs) was also undertaken. **Signalization in sign languages were placed in various courts across the West Bank** and a dictionary was designed to enable court staff to use basic sign language skills when interacting with people with hearing impairment. This is the product of an HJC-CSO collaboration, which culminated in the holding of a workshop to unify sign language legal terminology across the West Bank. In addition, the renovation of public prosecution offices in Nablus and Bethlehem was also initiated to improve access for PwDs and an assessment on the accessibility of legal service centres in the governorates of Hebron and Bethlehem was conducted, whose recommendations will be taken forward in 2023. Furthermore, the HJC and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing partnered on an assessment to improve access to public spaces of justice, including archives and holding cells, with a priority of focus on the Halhul court. A similar exercise was conducted at the level of the prosecution offices across the West Bank (Bethlehem, Jenin, Halhul and Yatta offices) with a focus on access to services by women and children. The recommendations of these assessments will be implemented in 2023.

Finally, a continuous focus was put on improving staff capacity to apply judicial procedures fairly and equitably. A cohort of 30 administrative judges (7 per cent women) accessed training on inspection and administrative justice in Jordan.¹⁶ This training initiative is part of the four training courses developed through a partnership between the Jordanian Judicial Institute and the PJI. Furthermore, 58 clerks and chief clerks (55 per cent women) from the AGO accessed training on strategic planning, conflict resolution, project management, budgeting, time management, and human resources. In addition to training for administrative staff, temporary support was also provided to courts' registry for data entry and archiving. By ensuring that court records are

¹⁶ This activity replaced the following: “provide support to eight high court judges and prosecutors and enhancing the capacity of judges by facilitating the dissemination of best practices.”

accurately and efficiently entered and archived, litigants can benefit from a more streamlined legal process and improved access to justice. This is in addition to international and regional knowledge exchange with the participation of the Attorney General and two chief prosecutors (100 per cent men)¹⁷ to the General Meeting of the International Association of Prosecutors with a focus on the evolution of cyber-crime typologies, digital evidence collection and money laundering through virtual assets. The Attorney General and three Chief Prosecutors (100 per cent men) also attended the Second Meeting of the Association of Arab Attorney Generals with a focus put on cybersecurity and financial fraud cases. However, work on the development of SOPs for clerks and administrative staff as well as local, appeal and cassation, cybercrime and constitutional prosecution was delayed due to reprioritization at the level of the AGO and in a context marked by social movements that led to a reconfiguration of enforcement activities during several months. Similarly, support to the MOJ in strengthening connectivity for retrial and judicial extradition and the refurbishment of holding cells will be further continued in 2023.

Support to inspection and prison monitoring mechanisms

In 2022, a **draft manual was developed to institutionalize the use of the e-Prison monitoring system** at the level of the MOJ. This is key to further operationalizing the Nelson Mandela¹⁸ and Bangkok rules¹⁹ and informing the work of the National Preventive Mechanism once fully instituted, through providing an effective mechanism for consistently monitoring the treatment of prisoners, preventing abuse, ensuring due process, and promoting reintegration and rehabilitation. The manual places particular emphasis on the identification of potential degrading treatment or punishment,²⁰ the detection and prevention of incidents of abuse or violence²¹ as well as access to adequate health care services by prisoners.²² Going forward, this will be complemented by training for members of the MOJ Human Rights Unit on the implementation of the prison monitoring manual and use of its templates. This is essential as the proportion of unsentenced detainees was estimated at around 50 per cent between 2018 and 2020 (*Indicator Outcome 2.1*) with such data having been unavailable since 2021.

At the level of the AGO, the manual developed last year continued to be operationalized. A first yearly review was conducted by the Human Rights Unit members (22 members – 41 per cent women) in close coordination with the IT specialist (man) at the AGO Office over the course of a two-day workshop. To this end, the first analytical reports produced this year were analyzed and identified monitoring gaps, particularly in relation to torture case and the protection of the rights of women and children in detention. Based on this, the monitoring templates will be updated in 2023. This work was based on the adoption of the AGO Human Rights Unit SOPs and their broad dissemination among prosecutors and the public with support from the Programme. While a training protocol on the investigation of torture cases remains to be established, work on the

¹⁷ In addition to two support staff.

¹⁸ UN General Assembly (2015), “The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”, A/RES/70/175, New York.

¹⁹ UN General Assembly (2010), “The United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders”, A/RES/65/229, New York

²⁰ See *inter alia* Rule 2 of the Nelson Mandela Rules, UN General Assembly (2015), “The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”, A/RES/70/175, New York.

²¹ See *inter alia* Rule 4 of the Bangkok Rules, UN General Assembly (2010), “The United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders”, A/RES/65/229, New York

²² See *inter alia* Rule 27 of the Bangkok Rules, *Id.* Furthermore, a strategy and action plan were developed in 2021 to support the work of the National Committee on International Humanitarian Law.

development of e-Learning modules was delayed last year as more groundwork need to be jointly undertaken with OHCHR.

The realization of human rights is contingent upon the availability of accountability pathways for both institutions and citizens. With regard to the latter, substantial strides were made with **102 complaints being lodged using the e-Complaint system rolled out this year by the HJC**,²³ however, it requires upgrade to further accommodate the needs of children. Such advances are key to building citizens' trust in the criminal justice system, which **registered a 12 per cent increase in the proportion of individuals having confidence in receiving fair trial**²⁴ (1.9 per cent increase compared to the bi-annual target) (*Indicator Outcome 2.3*).

In continuation of this, focus was put on the institutionalization and digitalization of inspection mechanisms. Eight judges and prosecutors (25 per cent women) participated in a study tour to Jordan on e-Inspection. This constitutes a first step towards the customization of the *Mizan II* features in implementation of the joint inspection manual and its operationalization within dedicated SOPs that build on the provision of equipment last year in 2021. This was complemented by the participation of four prosecutors and judges (100 per cent men) to an inspection conference organized by the Council of Europe in Morocco in May 2022, which focused on the status and competences of justice inspectorates, the implementation of the missions of control of persons and organization of the courts, as well as the establishment of a South Mediterranean network for justice inspection services. Efforts on this will be pursued in 2023 with the organization of a joint inspection study visit to Albania. However, work on the development of a protocol between the military judiciary and the AGO stalled during the period. Similarly, work to support a Human Rights Unit at the level of the HJC was delayed due to the limited supply of in-country expertise.²⁵ Support to the MOJ legal department was also provided, particularly in its role at the Justice Sector Higher Committee to allay concerns about the establishment of a national legal aid system (see *Outcome 3.1*). An MoU was developed but remains to be endorsed once full consensus is reached on the allocation of notary-bond certification generated resources. Going forward, work will focus on the review of selected laws to ensure that they meet international human rights standards, such as the Foreign Company and Prisons Law whose revision was initiated this year.

Support to enforcement and notification mechanisms

The **enforcement of judgements by conciliation courts in the Hebron governorate (pilot area) increased by 11 per cent** as compared to 2021 (19 per cent increase against the annual target) (*Indicator Output 2.1.2*). However, at the level of first instance courts, a decrease of 51 per cent was witnessed as compared to 2021 (14 per cent decrease against annual target) (*Indicator Output 2.1.2*). While enforcement bore the brunt of considerable court work interruption during the year - with a total of 80 days of strike by lawyers in 2022, progress was witnessed particularly in the area of criminal case enforcement, which requires less lawyering involvement. To illustrate, criminal case enforcement increased by 27 percent during the period, although backlog continued to be a main bottleneck across the West Bank. To respond to this, a **task team**²⁶ **was deployed by the HJC to the outskirts of East Jerusalem to support notification backlog reduction**. Based

²³ Progress on this front at the AGO has been more limited as further adjustments were required to make the system adapted to children's use

²⁴ 44.6 per cent in total (44.4 per cent women; 44.6 per cent men).

²⁵ Support to the celebration of the International Human Rights Day was not implemented this year.

²⁶ The task team is comprised of two notifiers.

on a request by the HJC, this approach was first implemented in Ramallah in 2014 under *Sawasya I* and was instrumental in providing temporary notification/enforcement relief. In line with this, **nine motorcycles were delivered to the HJC and Judicial Police with a view to improve the mobility of notifiers and enforcement authorities** building on results of the Hebron pilot assessment conducted by the HJC in 2020 that showed a 40 per cent increase in delivery by notifiers who accessed a motorcycle and a 25 per cent increase by these who were equipped with electric bikes. However, going forward a priority of focus will be put on advocating for the activation of the e-Notification system, and has considerable potential for backlog reduction.



Photo 2: Judicial police officers during a routine ID control using the EPSILON system, West Bank © Judicial Police

Overall, investments were sustained to strengthen the electronic linkages between the courts, prosecutorial services, and the judicial police through the provision of programming support, with improvements in terms of accessibility of files and case management reported by police officers. In addition, **judicial police offices in Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Jenin were rehabilitated to improve the enforcement experience of users and staff**, including through the provision of computers, spike system, and tablets, with the latter being used in enforcement operations conducted in Area A during routine ID controls. Such work is premised on the improvements operated during the year on the EPSILON platform through expertise supported by *Sawasya* on

programming. It also builds on the work initiated to further improve the capacity of the public prosecution enforcement teams, with the development of a dedicated manual and the training of 27 clerks (67 per cent women). Work on this front and the further building of synergies among enforcement actors is anticipated to be completed in 2023 as well as the enforcement communication campaign under the auspices of the Outreach Campaign Committee, which was postponed to 2023, while opportunities for knowledge exchange at the level of the police were limited (*see Output 1.2*).

Support to the development and implementation of the e-Justice strategy²⁷

In 2022, efforts focused on paving the way for a digital transition that will strengthen enforcement systems and help resolve family disputes more quickly and effectively. A first step was the digitization of more than **600,000 marriage and divorce certificates and their linking with the civil records registry**. This digital transition is also resulting in considerable administrative efficiency gains as citizens can now easily retrieve critical documents and see wait-time periods of up to two weeks reduced to a couple of minutes. It was allowed by the recruitment of 25 data entry staff support (72 per cent women) for a period of eleven months and the provision of required IT equipment. This is in addition to the wide expansion of the *Mizan* database with the archiving of 120,000 documents relating to cases and seized items by the HJC.²⁸ Building on this, new

²⁷ Focus groups with beneficiaries are reported under *II. Monitoring & Evaluation*.

²⁸ This activity appears twice in the annual work plan, including under “support IT development in regular courts.”

security features were added to the e-Service allowing for the digitalized transfer of alimony orders from the courts to the banks using the cutting-edge *Mizan II* court management technology.²⁹ Prior to this, it rested on an alimony creditor to collect proof of their right and ensure necessary liaison with the relevant financial institutions, thereby requiring from claimants a significant degree of involvement in enforcement proceedings. This burden particularly affected women as they are the ones highly likely to receive alimony after divorce, being lower-range earners, and constituting Palestine’s primary care force. However, the *Mizan II*-based digitalized transfer of alimony orders from the courts to the banks is contributing to reducing such disproportionate impact: not only does it shift the responsibility of alimony execution away from women, but it also frees up critical court resources, particularly at the level of enforcement departments. In addition, digitalization helps curtail instances of payment failures or delays by allowing for the automatic recording of incidents that can inform timely corrective measures for the benefit of women.

In acceleration of such efforts, digitalization continued to be leveraged to reduce transactional and execution costs, building on high levels of *Mizan* satisfaction (although a decrease of 0.6 per cent against the target was registered – *Indicator Output 2.1.3*). A milestone of 2022 is the **possibility for family enforcement departments and the judicial police to exchange warrants electronically**, thereby realizing important efficiency, accuracy, and record-keeping gains. Electronic warrants are key to streamlining the issuance and execution of warrants, through reducing delays that benefit both the court system and citizens involved in the legal process. Electronic warrants also contribute to error minimization as information is better captured. Furthermore, they can be encrypted and stored in secured servers, thereby substantially reducing unauthorized access vulnerabilities and enhancing the protection of sensitive information. Such progress builds on the gradual implementation of *Mizan II* in enforcement departments at the level of the SJD under *Sawasya II* as separate mechanisms of execution were introduced under *Sawasya I*. Specialized enforcement departments are crucial to enhance access to family justice, providing for a more informed execution of time-sensitive decisions of justice, especially as they relate to child support, custody, and visitation rights.

Ninety (90) HJC enforcement department staff and land settlement courts (property cases)³⁰ (28 per cent women) also accessed capacity building on IT security, programming, and networking to optimize the use of *Mizan II* and develop in-house capacity to manage and improve court management. This is in addition to the HJC accessing storage equipment through the delivery of additional data center servers and the deployment of two developers at the AGO to further identify connectivity opportunities with the HJC and judicial police (warrant exchange, disposed and ongoing cases, evidence). Another developer was recruited to develop a database of practitioners operating in the field of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) (see *Output 2.2*). In line with this, 30 IT staff of justice institutions (20 per cent women) were trained on project and product management, networking, and security. In light of Palestine’s court management advances, work continued to be invested to transfer the *Mizan II* technology to Djibouti. To this end, an MoU between the HJC and Djibouti’s MOJ was drafted this year with support from UNDP respective country offices and is tabled for signature in 2023.

²⁹ *Adalah* is the case management for family courts; however, enforcement departments use the *Mizan II* technology.

³⁰ At the level of conciliation courts.

Furthermore, steps were taken to initiate the transition of the PJI's e-Learning platform into a comprehensive Learning Management System (LMS), through the organization of a study visit to the Swedish Judicial Training Academy and the **endorsement of ten e-Learning courses developed in 2021**. By providing a centralized platform to organize and manage all e-Learning activities for the judiciary, the transition into LMS will improve access to material for judicial staff and the tracking of skill development for administrators and increase career progression transparency. Moving forward and building upon the study visit's recommendations, SOPs for the PJI's LMS will be prioritized as well as the development of additional e-Courses. Support to institutionalized M&E translated into the capacity building of 61 MOJ and AGO staff (33 per cent women) on how to operate the automated systems (see *Output 1.2*). However, priority of focus was given to equalizing levels of connectivity between justice institutions to allow for transition into *Mizan III* and the full rollout of the e-Justice portal. *Mizan* is at the core of highly efficient court operations, with particularly high levels of satisfaction among users (*Indicator Output 2.1.3*).

Support to the development of child-friendly justice procedures³¹

During the period, notable advancements were made towards the institutionalization of measures for juvenile offenders that divert them from the criminal justice system and minimize carceral outcomes. The **number of children who accessed mediation increased by 10 percent compared to the previous year, registering a 93 per cent increase against the target** (*Indicator Output 2.1.6*). **Additionally, there was a 46 per cent reduction in custodial sentencing of children, which is a 54 per cent decrease against the target** (*Indicator Output 2.1.4*) (a 29 per cent reduction against the annual target was registered in the number of children detained by the Family and Juvenile Protection Units – *Indicator Outcome 2.2*). This progress was made possible by the successful operationalization of the mediation guidelines by the AGO, the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD), and the Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD), which were adopted in 2020 by the National Juvenile Justice Committee in line with the Juvenile Protection Law (JPL) of 2016.

These achievements resulted from significant efforts made in the past year, including the identification of **79 new mediators (40 per cent women) – a 464 per cent increase as compared to the 2021**. In addition, **34 mediators (50 per cent women) who had previously accessed training were certified to practice by the public prosecution in 2022** as part of the operationalization of the mediation guidelines. Overall, 128 newly identified and previously trained mediators, community mediators as well as child protection officers, juvenile police, and prosecution staff (32 per cent women) accessed capacity building on mediation for children. Mediators play a crucial role in the restorative justice system, serving as teachers, counselors, activists, and members of the legal community. To achieve effective mediation interventions, it is important to involve children in the design of rehabilitation solutions as per international standards.³² Institutionalizing mediation and other diversionary pathways is essential to protect the human rights of children, aligning with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its Committee's latest recommendations.³³ This is also an integral part of the legislative framework in the West Bank, as outlined in the JPL of 2016. To support these efforts, three capacity-building

³¹ The following activity “*support children in conflict the law with rehabilitation services including PSS*” is reported under outcome 3.

³² Committee on the Rights of the Child (2021), “General comment No. 24, replacing General Comment No. 10 (2007)”

³³ Committee on the Rights of the Child (2020), “Concluding Observations on the Initial Report of the State of Palestine” CRC/C/PSE/CO/1, Para 59 (d), Retrieved from <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3862650?ln=en#record-files-collapse-header>

initiatives focused on JPL obligations, child-friendly and child-safeguarding practices and policies during mediation, and the roles and responsibilities of all involved stakeholders were launched in 2022, using case studies. These initiatives highlight the importance of expanding mediation to the governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron where child justice needs have been identified in the context of a compounded social environment. It is crucial to note that early exposure to violence is a primary cause of criminal behaviours among children, with potentially severe and long-term repercussions. This exposure is prevalent not only due to the protracted conflict but also within Palestinian families and communities. These two factors are closely linked, with violence, daily hardships, and trauma often contributing to family stress and dysfunction.

Last year saw significant progress in child justice, with positive political will and governmental commitment resulting in important steps being taken. One such step was the **publication of the executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law of 2004 (Decree-Law No. 16 of 2022)** in the Official Palestinian Gazette no. 194 in 2022 after three years of extensive elaboration. This regulation has considerably strengthened the child protection system by catalyzing protection responses and better defining the roles and responsibilities of service providers (see *Output 1.1*). Furthermore, the **legal aid standards endorsed by the Palestinian Bar Association (PBA) this year**, which were piloted in 2021, have also contributed to ensuring child-friendly legal aid services. These standards provide specific guidance on representing children and aim to empower them throughout legal proceedings. To put these standards into practice, a two-day workshop was held with 49 practicing lawyers (55 per cent women) focusing on child-friendly treatment and child empowerment during legal proceedings.

Important strides continued to be made on the alternative to detention (A2D) front. **An increase of 32 per cent was registered in the number of children accessing A2D when compared to 2021 (39 per cent against the target)** (*Indicator Output 2.1.5*). These efforts are crucial in providing children with sustainable rehabilitative and restorative solutions. Notably, a particular focus was placed on prioritizing psychosocial interventions within A2D family-based initiatives. This emphasis is reflected in the West Bank, where 89 children (9 percent girls) received psychosocial support, evaluation, and follow-up via home visits and 34 families accessed psychosocial support. Building upon this initiative, and in close collaboration with both the child and their family, an intervention plan was developed, alongside a social inquiry report, which is an essential step towards the efficient referral of children, including to protection services (3 children, 33 per cent girls), vocational training (6 children, 33 per cent girls) and additional psychological support (3 children, 0 per cent girls). Furthermore, 30 children (17 per cent girls) accessed specialized training in videography and photography, while four children (25 per cent girls) attended a summer camp.

In Gaza, steps were taken to systematize A2D, through the development of child dedicated safeguarding policies for hosting children in conflict with the law. As a result, 55 children (all boys) benefited from A2D by enrolling in five MOSD vocational training centers covering the five Gaza governorates. This was complemented by comprehensive assessments and intervention plans by child protection officers, as well as regular visits to ensure children's protection, satisfaction, and reintegration within their family and community.

Restorative justice: A snapshot of reintegration and rehabilitation initiatives

One theater show initiative: 11 children (33 per cent girls) from Hebron designed and performed a theater show on children's rights.

Social responsibility through gardening: 20 children (100 per cent boys) from Bethlehem rehabilitated the garden of an A2D institution using recycled material.

"I play, I exist" Initiative: 30 children (100 per cent boys) from across the West Bank engaged in play therapy and football.

"They are our blessing" Initiative: 8 children (75 per cent boys) from Ramallah took part in musical activities and voluntary work in an elderly home.

"Energy Garden" Initiative: 11 children (all boys) created a safe space in their rehabilitation center of Nablus.

"Our neighborhood gets more beautiful with our gathering" Initiative: 23 children (91 per cent boys) in Nablus took part in a volunteering initiative through turning car tires into benches and ornamental ponds for plants for the public park of Nablus.

Photo 3: A snapshot of reintegration and rehabilitation initiatives.
©Sawasya

behaviour in children, it is essential to strengthen child protection systems to prevent contact with the criminal justice system. Responsive child protection systems rely on effective referral mechanisms and case management systems. To address this issue, the **national referral guidelines for child protection created in 2013 were revised this year** to better meet the needs of children, including those with disabilities. The guidelines also aim to identify children at-risk at an earlier stage, particularly in family courts. The revision was based on a comprehensive review undertaken by the Programme, which included over 40 interviews with governmental entities (including family courts), civil society organizations, and international organizations offering child-related services in Palestine. The updated guidelines seek to help practitioners identify and respond to child protection concerns and support the development of a coordinated and a multi-disciplinary framework for child protection. Addressing existing gaps in national referral guidelines for child protection contributes to the development of a more effective and responsive child protection system in Palestine. The updated guidelines are anticipated to be submitted by the MOSD for endorsement to the Council of Ministers in early 2023 before its publication and the rollout of training activities.

In order to establish effective channels for child victims and those at-risk, a robust case management system is essential. To this end, considerable effort was dedicated in 2022 to **creating case management guidelines for child protection**. The aim of these guidelines is to harmonize responses and intervention strategies for children who have experienced violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, and mistreatment. The guidelines outline the specific duties and obligations of case

In a context of nascent A2D capacity, the Family Group Conferencing (FGC) approach as a non-custodial measure was prioritized last year to the benefit of 20 children (all boys) in conflict with the law. Moving forward, the MOSD will provide specialized training on FGC to police officers to sensitize them on the benefits of diversionary measures and on the need to adopt restorative justice approaches to enhance referral mechanisms between the civil police and MOSD. Workshops on mediation will be rolled out early next year in Gaza, building on lessons learned from implementation in the West Bank. This is in furtherance of the consultations conducted last year with the MOSD to identify entry points for the application of mediation in the costal enclave.

Given the interrelatedness of early exposure to violence and criminal

officers, child protection officers, and supervisors. This comprehensive framework was developed in close collaboration with the MOSD, including field officers, to ensure its practical application.

Aligned with this, concerted efforts were made to enhance reporting mechanisms for children. A total of 706 individuals³⁴ (63 per cent women, 0.04 per cent girls, 0.03 per cent boys) reached out to the helpline operated by the Family and Juvenile Protection Unit (FJPU), of which 5 were children. The need for direct reporting channels for women and children was underscored during the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated escalation of domestic violence. As the designated entity for managing cases pertaining to domestic violence, GBV, and situations concerning children in conflict with the law or at-risk, the FJPU, operating under the purview of the PCP took measures to improve its operational capacity. As part of this, 38 police officers (39 per cent women) were trained on child needs and the provision of support services for survivors of violence. The training operationalized recommendations from an assessment conducted last year by *Sawasya*. Moving forward, our efforts will be concentrated on increasing awareness about the helpline.

The identification of at-risk children is the primary safeguarding measure and occurs throughout the justice chain, with a particular emphasis on family courts. Domestic abuse situations are often addressed indirectly within this domain. Consequently, work has continued establishing a helpline at the family court level. This helpline is intended to facilitate access to information on rights, available services, and procedures, as recommended by the *Rapid Appraisal of the Sharia Court Effectiveness* previously conducted by the Programme. The result of this undertaking has been the formulation and endorsement of an operational plan for the helpline by the Supreme Judge. This achievement was attained through extensive consultations with the Supreme Judge Department (SJD), which addressed the scope, types of services, geographical coverage, and internal referral mechanisms, as well as confidentiality safeguards of the helpline. Moving ahead, support will be provided to facilitate equipment procurement, capacity building, and the development of SOPs in accordance with the operational plan.

Efforts have also been dedicated to ensuring that children can report any violations occurring within the justice chain and committed by justice actors. As a result, a first prototype of an e-Complaint system was finalized last year and is planned to be piloted at the HJC in 2023. Children in contact with the law, whether as offenders, victims, or witnesses, are frequently re-victimized by justice systems that are not adapted to their rights and needs. Professionals, such as police officers, prosecutors, and judges often lack the skills and expertise to safeguard the rights of these children, particularly in the absence of specific procedures. Recognizing this issue, **guidelines were developed on child-friendly and gender responsive treatment during legal procedures and adopted by the AGO in 2022**. This signifies a strong commitment to ensure that special considerations are applied to all cases involving children and that child-friendly justice is integrated into the practices of all judicial actors. This involved conducting year-long consultations (14) with the juvenile and family prosecution as well as cybercrime prosecution, to fully reflect the need of all children and the commitments enshrined in the JPL, the Palestinian Child Law of 2004, and international standards and best practices. In anticipation of the implementation of these guidelines, three trainers (67 per cent women) attended four training-of-trainers (ToT) sessions. In addition, a code of conduct for judges and prosecutors who interact with children was created last

³⁴ 523 of them were referred for psychosocial support.

year and is awaiting endorsement from the AGO. This code establishes a standard for professional and child-friendly behaviour and includes best practices that uphold children’s dignity, safety, privacy, and best interests.

However, to ensure the sustained institutionalization of child-friendly procedures, it is essential to establish and maintain in-house capacity. To this end, a **one-year child protection diploma was developed in 2022**, which is planned to be implemented in 2023. The Programme includes 256 hours of instruction that focus on human rights and child justice conceptual approaches, including those enshrined in international law and standards. The course places a strong emphasis on practical training, and upon completion, certified candidates will be equipped to apply child protection strategies in their work and advocate for more child-centred practices across the justice chain. In 2022, the accreditation process was initiated with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, with priority given to child protection counselors, school counselors, family counselors, FJPU officers and juvenile prosecutors. This accomplishment is the outcome of a long-standing collaboration between the Bethlehem University and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology to develop a child protection curriculum, which includes the development of 14 specialized modules on contemporary social work theory and child protection.

In line with this, steps were taken last year to develop a counseling diploma for family court counselors at the family counselling and reconciliation units. The conciliation process is an essential part of the separation and divorce proceedings. However, given the rigidity of the PSL framework and the lack of due consideration for the best interest of the child, empowering children and acknowledging their agency within proceedings that are likely to substantially alter their lives is crucial. To address this, a practical assessment was conducted by the Programme based on the recommendations of the *Rapid Appraisal of the Sharia Court Effectiveness* and found that family counselors require training on the conduct of social enquiry reports, especially in view of the recent integration of family courts into the national referral guidelines for child protection. As a result, the professional diploma was accredited in 2022 by the Ministry of Labour³⁵ in close consultation with the family counselling and reconciliation units at the SJD and is expected to be rolled out in the first quarter of 2023.

Additionally, 20 child justice actors (30 per cent women) across family courts, prosecution offices and social services accessed training on the legal framework for children entering into contact with the judicial system, while 14 child protection officers (50 per cent women) at the MOSD accessed practice supervision sessions. Seventy-seven (77) judges and juvenile prosecutors (30 per cent women) were trained on the notion of children at-risk, referrals and the implementation of restorative justice measures as well as on how to apply the guiding principle of the ‘well-being of the child’ throughout the sentencing process as per rule 17 of the Beijing Rules through standardized training by the PJI.³⁶ This responsibility has been assigned to judges, prosecutors, and child protection officers according to the JPL.³⁷

³⁵ The responsible governmental institution for the accreditation of professional diplomas.

³⁶ See UN General Assembly (1985), “United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of the Juvenile Justice,” A/RES/40/33.

³⁷ According to article 47, judges are responsible of settling all disputes and issues related to the implementation of judgments, in addition to supervising the implementation of judgments. According to article 48, the child protection officer is responsible for supervising the implementation of the measures enshrined in the law, observe the child, and provide directions to him and those in charge of his upbringing. The child protection officer is required to produce trimestral reports on the behaviour and condition of the juvenile, under the supervision of the juvenile prosecution (article 49).

Moreover, 23 juvenile court registry staff accessed training on case management for cases involving juveniles, including recording and archiving files and the use of *Mizan II* components, following recommendations formulated by the Judicial Inspection Department at the HJC as confidentiality breaches were identified. A specialized juvenile judge conducted the training in coordination with the PJI and a CSO invested in this area. Based on this training, a circular was issued by the HJC to the heads of courts for the appointment of one focal point in each court registry responsible for ensuring the privacy of cases involving juveniles.

Finally, to instil child-friendly practices into the work of soon-to-be law practitioners, 250 students accessed sessions on children's rights at the An-Najah National University, and 170 law students and academics were selected for a study day on the conditions of detention at the rehabilitation and reform centres in Palestine. The students, with the support of lawyers, conducted interviews with staff and children with a view to supporting research and inform policy formulation on more restorative justice approaches. Work on the development of a national strategy for children in Palestine was not initiated during the period due to divergent priorities by the MOSD. Similarly, work relating to strengthening the capacity of the juvenile police in interacting with children with disabilities was postponed to 2023, as well as the child-friendly rehabilitation of interrogation rooms at the juvenile prosecution. In addition, work to develop an information management system, the development of an action plan and roadmap for children in contact with the law in Gaza as well as the study on juvenile recidivism will be implemented in 2023.

Output 2.2: Quality and Efficiency of Security and Justice Services Provided to Areas Unserviced by the Palestinian Government (Gaza, Area C, Hebron 2 And EJ) are Improved³⁸



Code of conduct for arbitrators
developed



Database for ADR practitioners
developed

Support efforts to enhance security and justice in the Gaza Strip

During the period, 873 judicial actors (17 per cent women) accessed training on ways to enhance their technical capacity with support from CSO partners, particularly in the fields of child and gender justice – including child rights, the criminal justice framework for children in conflict with the law, child protection principles, litigation of violence against women cases, GBV as well as evidentiary and enforcement mechanisms. Specific emphasis was placed on enhancing knowledge of and attitudes towards domestic and international standards. Emphasis was also placed on procedural integrity, transparency, and accountability.

Support to the development of Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms

Work continued to be invested to further activate ADR mechanisms using a multi-track approach.



Photo 4: Arbitrators during a training session. West Bank, © IP

This multi-track approach is the result of a one-week study tour conducted in Morocco with six representatives (33 per cent women) of the MOJ, HJC, AGO and Qalqilya Governorate Office that focused on identifying the main elements of a Mediation Law, reforming the arbitration framework in Palestine, further fostering synergies with civil society and institutionalizing ADR mechanisms at the local level, including through **the**

development of a database of practitioners operating in the field of ADR last year with support from a CSO partner invested on this front. This was done in close collaboration with 14 members of the MOJ, accredited arbitrators, lawyers, and IT/graphic designer experts (79 per cent women). In addition, 48 practitioners (46 per cent women) accessed capacity building on enhancing ADR-based access to justice and on ways to foster gender justice through ADR, including through a webinar session (61 participants, including 33 per cent women) in coordination with the MOJ and HJC. Furthermore, 136 arbitrators (38 per cent women) accessed training on conflict transformation mechanisms as well as women's and children's rights.

³⁸ Activities relating to child justice under the annual work plan are reported against under Output 2.1 (*Support to the development of child-friendly justice procedures*).

Efforts focused also on developing a **code of conduct for arbitrators** to further mainstream within arbitration practice, principles of human rights, gender justice, and the rule of law. This is the product of focus group discussions led by the MOJ (General Department of Alternative Official Dispute Resolution and Professional Affairs) and organized in six localities of the West Bank (Ramallah, Hebron, Jenin, Tubas, Bethlehem and Tulkarem) to discuss amendments to the Arbitration Law of 2000, which aim among others, to clarify the role of the courts and the process of appointment of arbitrators.³⁹ This constitutes an intermediary step towards the adoption of a revised legal framework for arbitrators that enhances guarantees of accountability and integrity in the arbitration practice but also streamlines *exequatur* procedures that ensure the enforceability of arbitration awards. The study visit conducted in March (see above) highlighted the key role played by lawyers in ADR proceedings, particularly in providing technical expertise or during *exequatur* procedures. Therefore, with lawyers constituting key arbitration relay within the justice community, 28 of them (79 per cent women) accessed training on arbitral award drafting, procedures and management of arbitration cases, and practical mock simulations.

Furthermore, taking forward ADR awareness efforts among Palestinians, thousands of Palestinians had access to online and radio content (82,500 views),⁴⁰ including through the production of [radio](#) episodes and spots, and videos on arbitration and land/real estate disputes. This is in addition to one [conference](#) organized in early 2022 with a whole range of actors specialized in mediation involving children and arbitration in front of family courts and commercial law to discuss the current legal framework and identify gaps that need to be addressed going forward.

Outcome 2: Lessons learned

A multi-track approach is needed to reduce backlog: Backlog reduction requires both temporary (e.g., deployment of task force) and more structural interventions (e.g., digital integration, single-judge court, motorization) to produce enforcement improvements in the long term.

e-Learning is key to increasing career progression transparency: The knowledge acquisition transformation impelled by the COVID-19 crisis is key to increasing career progression transparency as it allows for an efficient tracking of skill development by human resources and a more equal distribution of learning opportunities.

Effective referral mechanisms are at the core of preventative child justice strategies: Early exposure to violence is linked to criminal behaviour in children. Therefore, a focus on helping child justice practitioners better apply the national referral guidelines for child protection is needed to address early on child protection concerns and develop multi-disciplinary responses.

Outcome 2: Way forward

Empowered justice institutions and actors for rights-based, child-sensitive and citizen oriented service provision.

Increased e-Justice access for the public and people with disabilities.

More predicatable justice outcomes through strengthened enforcement, evidence management and archiving.

³⁹ Sawasya II (2020), “An assessment of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in Palestine.”

⁴⁰ It encompasses the number of reach (the total number of people who see your content), impressions (the number of times your content is displayed, no matter if it was clicked or not) and engagement (defined as the number of clicks, likes, shares and comments on a post).

Outcome 3: All Palestinians, Especially Children and Vulnerable Groups, Have Access to Justice, Security and Protection Without Discrimination

	Progress Against Outcome 3 Targets		
	<i>Ind.</i>	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	0.3.1	Increase of 2 per cent by 2020 (met)	20.8 per cent increase in “public aware of the existence of legal aid services supported by the Government of Palestine” against the target (through the HJC-AGO court fund). Indicators relating to state-sponsored legal aid were designed in anticipation of the rollout of a state-sponsored mechanism by the Palestinian Authority.
	0.3.2	Increase of 2 per cent by 2020 (met)	91.6 per cent increase in “public satisfied of the legal aid services provided by the Government of Palestine” against the target (through the HJC-AGO court fund). Indicators relating to state-sponsored legal aid were designed in anticipation of the rollout of a state-sponsored mechanism by the Palestinian Authority.

	Progress Against Output Targets				
	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>		<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (unmet)	o.3.1.1 : 20 per cent decrease against the annual target. 2,500 vulnerable Palestinians (43 per cent of women, 26 per cent of boys, 1 per cent of girls) residing in areas served by the Government of Palestine have accessed legal aid services by CSOs. The provision of legal aid services in the West Bank remain to coincide with the launch of a legal aid system. Therefore, despite a 234 per cent increase this year, results do not meet the annual target.		Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.3.1.2 : 1,267 per cent increase against the annual target. 6,588 individuals (44 per cent of women, 22 per cent of boys, 14 per cent of girls) living in areas served by the Government of Palestine have accessed legal awareness services.
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.3.2.1 : 178 per cent increase against the annual target. 19,068 individuals (71 per cent women; 7 per cent boys and 0.1 per cent girls) living in areas unserved by the Government of Palestine have accessed legal aid services.		Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.3.2.2 : 229 per cent increase against the annual target. 15,201 (62 per cent women; 3 per cent boys and 5 per cent girls) living in areas unserved by the Government of Palestine have accessed legal awareness services.
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	o.3.2.3 : 571 per cent increase against the annual target. 1,459 children (98 per cent boys) living in areas unserved by the Government of Palestine have accessed legal aid services.			

Output 3.1. Vulnerable Populations Have Access to Justice, Security and Protection



MoU between the PBA and MOJ for legal aid law developed



Legal status document for unified Ecclesiastical court legal aid fund developed



MENA's first legal incubator established in Gaza



9,088 Palestinians accessed legal aid/awareness services



28 law students accessed financial support to pursue their studies



822 students enrolled in clinical education programmes

Support to the development of a sustainable legal aid system

At the policy level encouraging steps were taken last year with the development of an **MoU between the MOJ and the PBA for the establishment of a law-based aid system**. The new bilateral framework for discussions was supported by *Sawasya* and helped allay concerns, particularly on perceived financial losses for lawyers (see *Output 2.1*). Discussions entailed the possibility of utilizing part of the resources derived from the certification of the notary bonds to finance the legal aid system. However, the MoU remains to be endorsed as consensus has not yet been reached on the amount of allocated resources. Therefore, efforts will focus on the endorsement of the MoU going forward and the development of a legal aid database, while seeking the operationalization of elements of the work taken forward by the National Legal Aid Committee (NLAC) in 2019.

On this front, work materialized last year with the **development of the legal status document for the establishment of a unified legal aid mechanism among Ecclesiastical courts**, with expert support from the Programme. Building on a “*Zero Draft*” developed by the team, the six Churches outlined the modalities for the establishment of the mechanism, technical support to the courts and the unification of case fees with participation. Based on this, the representatives of the various Churches convened in Jordan and agreed on the main elements of the legal status document, which was finalized in 2022 and will serve as basis for the registration of the entity.⁴¹

Ensuring the operationalization of key legal elements even in the absence of a legal aid law is essential, particularly as family cases tend to have a disproportionate impact on the lives of women and children. Among Palestinians, there is an **increase (23 per cent) in the number of citizens aware of the existence of the legal aid court-fund for appointed lawyers** (*Indicator Outcome 3.1*)⁴² (increase of 20.8 per cent against the biannual target) as highlighted by the PCBS ‘Rule of Law and Access to Justice’ in 2021. Furthermore, an **increase of 95 per cent in the number of citizens satisfied with legal aid services provided by the Palestinian Authority was noted in 2021 as compared to 2018** (*Indicator Outcome 3.2*) (increase of 91.6 per cent against the biannual target), which also demonstrates the potential for larger scale institutionalized legal aid.⁴³

⁴¹ Representation from the Greek Orthodox Patriarch, the Armenian Patriarch, and the Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate were not present. However, the latter expressed its support to the mechanism prior to the workshop.

⁴² As compared to 2018.

⁴³ It should be noted that this number also includes the provision of legal aid services by the PA in front of other jurisdictions.

Support legal education through university legal aid clinics and law firm incubator

Despite efforts to improve access to justice, the lack of institutionalized legal aid remains a significant barrier. However, in 2022, there has been a strong focus on bridging sustainability gaps in legal aid delivery. A **significant milestone in this regard was the establishment of the first legal incubator in the MENA region**, located in Gaza, last year. The incubator, established in partnership with the University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS) in Gaza, provided practical training and business support to 15 lawyers (67 per cent women) to launch their own practice in a context marked by a highly constrained job market. Over the years, there has been a concerted effort to promote a culture of legal aid among law students under *Sawasya II*, with expanded clinical programmes that focus on practical lawyering skills. As a result, students have expressed a need for such training and support to integrate into the job market after graduation. Legal incubators constitute formidable employment launchpads for young law graduates and while they do not replace traditional legal aid systems, they are community-based alternatives that prioritize sustainability and have a strong potential for replication across the legal aid community and within state-sponsored mechanisms. Recognizing this, work will focus on replicating the initiative in the West Bank going forward.

The implementation and expansion of legal aid programmes in both the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip are at the core of a legal aid culture that is further diffused through legal incubators. In 2022, **977 vulnerable Palestinians (43 per cent women) accessed legal aid services and 2,092 (81 per cent women) became more aware of their rights.**⁴⁴ This was made possible by the work of **822 students (59 per cent women) enrolled in clinical programmes with the An-Najah National University (Nablus), Al-Quds University (East Jerusalem), the Islamic University of Gaza and Al-Azhar University (Gaza)**, who also provided access to online



Photo 5: Radio session on child labour with legal advisor to the General Department of Inspection at the Ministry of Labour organized by the An-Najah Legal Aid Clinic. Nablus, © An-Najah National University

content on legal rights to social media users (54,238 views). In 2022, the clinical programme was expanded to the Birzeit University, which opened its first legal clinic within the Faculty of Law and Public Administration. While students will apply their skills through clinical activities in 2023, work focused on establishing partnerships with justice actors and CSOs invested in the fields of criminal and child justice with the

active participation of students. Furthermore, 29 students (60 per cent women) of the Hebron University accessed clinical training that focused on the role of the defense lawyer, defense theory,

⁴⁴ Delivered through the clinical programmes of the An-Najah National University and Al-Quds University.

and field investigation. Twenty-five (25) among them took part in a mock trial session where they were able to put to use their newly acquired skills.

Awareness work conducted during the period by legal clinics at the An-Najah National University and at the Al-Quds University paid specific attention to [child labour and children's rights](#), [women's rights under the PSLs](#), economic violence against women, and regulations related to the press and media. Furthermore, 16 students (66 per cent women) of the An-Najah legal clinic accessed [gender transformative training sessions](#) piloted by *Sawasya II*. Such approach is instrumental in tackling biases that are rooted in societal stereotyping and that manufacture and perpetuate the marginalization of women and girls through attitudes that deny their agency and prescribe them to socially assigned roles. Highlighting these attitudes among soon-to-be lawyers contributes to more positive behaviours that have the potential to produce norms that combat gender-based discrimination.



Photo 6: Moot court session. Hebron, © IP



Photo 7: Gender transformative session. Nablus, © An-Najah National University

undergoing the programme until 2024 with support from *Sawasya II*. In 2019 and 2020, two trainee lawyers accessed placements at the Center, successfully completing their apprenticeships last year, with one having passed the Israeli Bar Examination in 2022. To better understand the needs of their communities, a strong emphasis was also placed on developing students' legal research skills. In a context marked by legal pluralism and systemic discrimination, it is crucial to comprehend the complex and interwoven needs of marginalized communities. As a result, 51 students (55 per cent women) conducted field research on the impact of demolitions on marginalized communities and violations of the right to education.

Additionally, the Al-Quds Community Action Center has introduced apprenticeship placements, recognizing that many Arabic-speaking law graduates are unable to access placements that would qualify them for the Israeli Bar Examination required to practice law in East Jerusalem. Since 2019, the Center has supported [apprenticeship](#) placements, and one graduate is currently

Moreover, the Center provided financial assistance to 28 students (61 per cent women) to help them complete their law degree. Financial constraints are a common problem for students who may also bear the burden of supporting their families while studying, leading to a higher risk of dropouts and the inability to pay school fees, which then jeopardizes their chances of improving their financial situation in the long run.

Support CSOs in providing legal aid and awareness services in conformity with the NLAS

During the reporting period, **2,500 Palestinians (43 per cent women, 26 per cent boys and 1 per cent girls) accessed legal consultation and representation** (*Indicator Output 3.1.1*). Although this represents a decrease against the annual target of 20 percent, it still signifies a notable increase compared to the previous year, with a rise of 234 percent. This increase can be attributed to the expansion and strengthening of the CSO portfolio as well as clinical programmes, which have enabled the outreach to more marginalized communities. For example, the legal clinic at the An-Najah University provided services to 44 women, including four inmates, from the Nablus governorate, focusing on their rights under the PSL. There has also been a consistent high demand for legal aid among children, particularly boys, over the past two years, and the role of lawyers in such contexts is crucial. Therefore, interventions focused on the best interests of the child, with enhanced guarantees for meaningful and effective participation in the legal process, strengthened privacy and confidentiality safeguards, and a better understanding of the need to involve family members in the procedures. Access to justice is critical for establishing robust child protection mechanisms that can effectively prevent and respond to issues such as neglect, abuse, exploitation, violence, and family separation. However, removing obstacles in accessing these systems is essential, including societal stigmatization, limited knowledge among families and communities regarding children's rights to protection, and a limited capacity of the system to recognize the unique needs of children. Efforts have therefore been focused on reducing the number of children being sentenced to detention, with a growing preference among child justice actors for alternative measures such as mediation and community-based interventions (as evidenced under *Output 2.1*). This shift reflects a notable improvement in the juvenile justice system's ability to apply the fundamental principles of detention as a last resort and for the shortest possible duration. This approach builds on the Programme's longstanding efforts to adopt a holistic approach to justice that prioritizes restorative rather than retributive outcomes (see Outcome 2).

In line with this, **6,588 Palestinians accessed legal awareness (44 per cent women, 22 per cent boys, 14 per cent girls)** (*Indicator Output 3.1.2*). There was a 1,267 per cent increase compared to the 2022 target and a 328 per cent increase compared to 2021. The high demand for legal aid witnessed among children in the West Bank, particularly boys, coincided with ramped up efforts to enhance children's awareness on their rights. A total of 1,190 at-risk children (27 percent girls), accessed awareness sessions in their schools (58 sessions) that focused on the CRC and the JPL, led by the MOSD and the National Juvenile Justice Committee, as well as a specialized CSO partner. In addition, 89 children (40 per cent girls) from the Al-Dhiesheh Refugee camp accessed awareness on their rights along with 192 of their family members (42 per cent women) focusing on ways to obtain legal aid and family-based reintegration support. Moreover, 260 children (80 per cent girls) were sensitized on their digital rights and ways to improve their online safety. This was complemented by specific sessions conducted for 370 parents (84 per cent women) of at-risk children to inform them on the applicable legal and protection framework. In addition, 188 counselors (18 per cent women) accessed training sessions (6) aimed at building their capacity on protection measures for and the basic rights of children while interacting with the Palestinian

judicial system. This skillset focus aims to enhance the capacity of school counselors to disseminate knowledge and equip all actors in the educational system to combat violence against children. As a result, more than 127,000 views were registered on video content pertaining to access to justice and digital rights (mostly children and youth) that were produced as part of the sessions and posted online.

Output 3.2. Vulnerable Populations in Areas Unserved by the Palestinian Government Have Access to Justice, Security and Protection



19,068 Palestinians accessed legal aid services



15,201 Palestinians accessed legal awareness services

Support the Government of Palestine in providing and coordinating legal aid⁴⁵

Progress at the policy level continued to stall as resources were not allocated to the operationalization of the platform for the coordination of legal aid in unserved areas against the backdrop of a degraded operational environment (*see Implementation Challenges and Lessons Learned*). Therefore, during the period, work focused on supporting CSOs in East Jerusalem to address growing legal needs (*see below Provision of legal and psychosocial services to unserved vulnerable populations in East Jerusalem/Area C*).⁴⁶

Provision of legal and psychosocial services to unserved vulnerable populations in East Jerusalem/Area C⁴⁷

Three thousand one hundred and twenty-one (3,121) (55 per cent women, 19 per cent boys, 0.1 per cent girls) accessed legal aid services in East Jerusalem, Area C and Hebron H2 (*Indicators Output 3.2.1/3.2.3*).⁴⁸ This represents a 30 per cent increase when compared to last year. While levels of legal aid remained similar in East Jerusalem, the number of Palestinians accessing services increased by 392 per cent in Area C and Hebron H2. This coincides with an alarming rise in violence perpetrated against Palestinians and increasing legal aid needs and awareness in relation to settlers' attacks, particularly in the West Bank. With 2022 being coined the deadliest year since the end of the second intifada (*see Implementation Challenges and Lessons Learned*),⁴⁹ focus was put on the provision of services, awareness, including online and documentation of incidents. In this context, children also continue to be at high risk of being detained due to frequent contact with Israeli forces and the harsh political, economic, and social circumstances they grow up under. While no major conflict occurred during the period, soaring legal aid demand witnessed in 2021 were transposed into 2022 with 577 children having accessed

⁴⁵ Support to specialized CSOs in providing legal aid for Palestinians in East Jerusalem is reported under "*Provision of legal and psychosocial services to unserved vulnerable population in East Jerusalem/Area C*".

⁴⁶ Temporary support provided in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour was not renewed this year, as it was not identified as a priority need in 2022.

⁴⁷ This includes Hebron H2.

⁴⁸ This includes legal aid activities foreseen under 3.2.1 in the annual workplan.

⁴⁹ See OCHA (2022), *Protection of civilians Report | 25 October | 7 November 2022*.

legal aid (99 per cent boys). In such context, early counseling and representation are key to protecting children against self-incrimination and result in their prompt release in most instances.⁵⁰



Photo 8: Training of family lawyers, East Jerusalem. ©IC

Freedom of movement remained a core concern during the period. In this regard, legal aid proved crucial for 283 Palestinians (10 per cent women). Palestinians also accessed support to realize their social, economic, and residency rights. Considering the urgency of such demands, a strong emphasis was put on developing app-based

legal aid services. Not only the availability of digital services has proved critical in easing access to information, but it is also contributing to streamlining data management and collection among *Sawasya*'s partners.

Support to women who bring PSL claims into the family court system was also strengthened in 2022. As a result, 51 women obtained alimony and custody of their children through partners' interventions. Such support is often a lifeline for women in East Jerusalem, particularly as a vast majority of them hold different legal statuses than their spouses, frequently leaving them fearful of approaching the formal justice system for fear of retaliation or deportation. As women continue to face structural discrimination in PSL-related matters (see *Output 4.1*), a strong focus was put, this year, on improving lawyering practice through taking forward [feminist litigation](#). Fifty-two (52) family lawyers (79 per cent women) accessed capacity building in East Jerusalem with emphasis placed on advancing gender justice in the court room, following the establishment of a 'Feminist Legal Hub' in 2021. In this context, 46 women activists who were trained on community-based women's rights sensitization were mobilized this year (see below). Broader strategic litigation efforts were also invested in, with a successful focus on improving access to municipality services for marginalized communities in East Jerusalem that bore fruit last year.

Two thousand and fifty-four (2,054) Palestinians (60 per cent women, 1 per cent girls and 15 per cent boys) also accessed in-person information on their rights in East Jerusalem, Area C and Hebron H2 (*Indicator Output 3.2.2*). While this represents a 15 per cent decrease as compared to 2021, it constitutes a 588 per cent increase in Area C and Hebron H2. Political, economic, and social factors induced by the current situation constitute considerable stressors for communities. Therefore, legal awareness support is central to reduce instances of self-incrimination, especially among children. Moreover, focus of action continued to be put on sensitizing women on their rights through community-based interventions by trained women

⁵⁰ Most child arrests occurred in the Al-Issawieh, the Old City of Jerusalem, and Silwan hotspot neighborhoods of East Jerusalem.

activists (see *above*). This is crucial as many women, particularly those who are not holders of an East Jerusalem ID are reluctant to approach the formal justice system (see *above*). Emphasis was also placed on raising awareness through information sessions to communities exposed to settler violence, including online.

Legal aid provision to unserved vulnerable population in the Gaza Strip, including access to protection for children in conflict with the law

Fifteen thousand nine hundred forty-seven (15,947) Palestinians (74 per cent women, 0.2 per cent girls, 5 per cent boys) accessed legal aid in the Gaza Strip (Indicators Output 3.2.1/3.2.3).

This represents a 29 per cent increase as compared to 2021. A strong focus continued to be put on criminal representation in front of Palestinian jurisdictions, including on lessening the impact of contact with the criminal justice system for children and fostering reintegration through tailored and individualized psychosocial support. Adopting an integrated approach aimed at producing restorative outcomes of justice, 165 children (all boys) in contact with the law accessed psychosocial services, including life skills education as well as individual and group counselling and art therapy. Emphasis was also placed on improving children's capacity to reach out to justice professionals with the rollout of a toll-free helpline through which 57 parents (26 per cent women) were directly able to engage with a lawyer during the period. In addition, legal aid support was provided to Palestinians facing movement restrictions exiting Gaza or being arrested for crossing into Israel. However, the majority of cases pertained to PSL-related matters (separation, divorce, custody, alimony), which is crucial for women who continue to face structural discrimination in front of family courts (see *Output 4.1*). In view of this, legal aid providers in Gaza organized a conference on "*Enhancing the Protection of Women's and Children's Rights Defenders*" with the aim of launching a protection network for activists, who are increasingly targeted for advocating for gender justice, including for the passing of the FPB and the domestication of CEDAW.

In order to counter detrimental narrative and raise awareness on legal rights, particularly women's rights, **13,147 community members accessed in-person legal awareness in the costal enclave (62 per cent women, 1 per cent boys, 5 per cent girls) (Indicator Output 3.2.2)**. This represents a 21 per cent increase as compared to 2021. Continued focus was put on women's rights and children's rights, including on social media, with hundreds of thousands of social media users having had access to content online (1,594,072 views) and on the radio. However, legal awareness sessions⁵¹ for school students on children's rights were postponed to 2023 due to new regulations. Nevertheless, 1,590 parents (84 per cent women) accessed 91 community-based awareness sessions on juveniles' access to justice, legal aid services and children's rights. This was complemented by 257 parents (59 per cent women) of children in conflict with the law having had access to in-person awareness sessions on parental care and positive discipline across the Gaza Strip (see *Output 2.1*).

⁵¹ Material for the sessions was developed in 2022.

Outcome 3: Lessons learned

Legal aid can be institutionalized gradually: In the absence of a legal aid law, steps can still be taken to institutionalize legal aid within more sustainable mechanisms (e.g., universities, legal incubators, Ecclesiastical courts).

A holistic approach to legal aid is more likely to produce longer term outcomes: People who are in contact with justice providers often require support to follow through with their case or as a result of their exposure to the justice system. This is particularly the case for children, who frequently need psychosocial support. Furthermore, by leveraging litigation to address structural discrimination faced by the most vulnerable, particularly women in relation to PSL, interventions are likely to produce longer term outcomes.

Outcome 3: Way forward

Support to sustainable legal aid initiatives, including through institutionalization and the expansion of the legal incubator model.

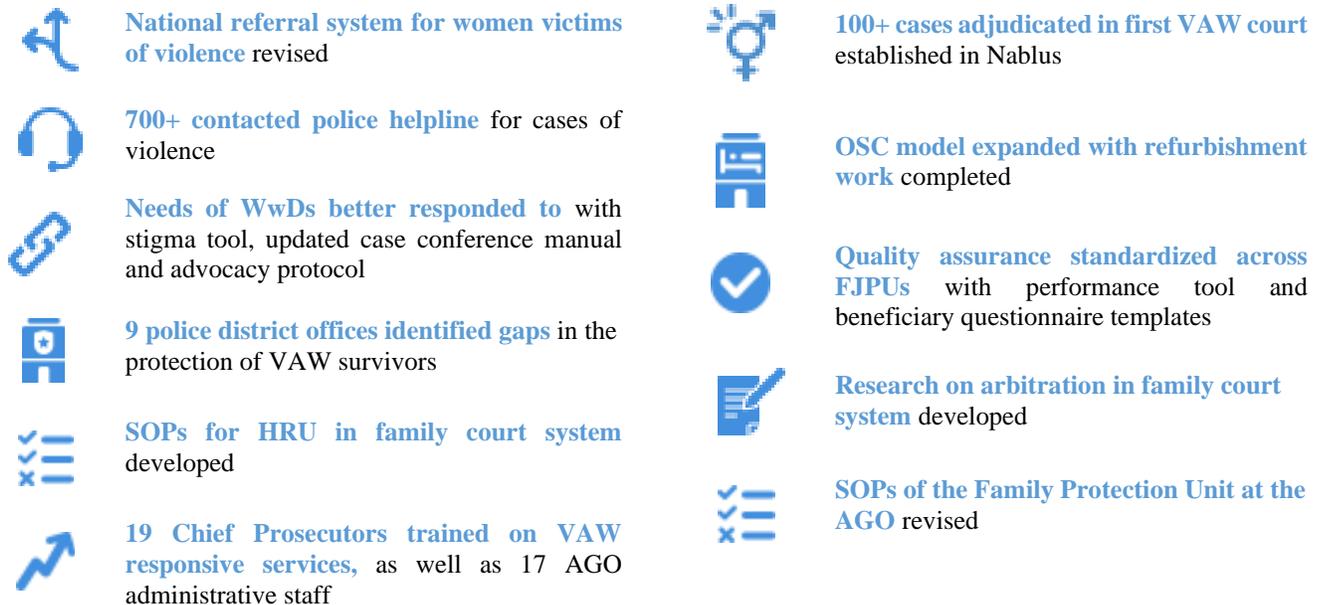
Access to quality services, for the most vulnerable among Palestinians.

Outcome 4: Women's Access to Justice and Security Improved through Gender-Responsive Service Delivery and Empowerment of Women

	Progress Against Outcome 4 Targets		
	<i>Ind.</i>	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	0.4.1	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (N/A)	N/A number of cases on violence against women filed with Family & Juvenile Protection against the annual target. The number of VAW cases filed with the police is not available during the period.
	0.4.2	Increase of 1 per cent yearly Ongoing (met)	49 per cent increase in the number of violence against women cases transferred by the public prosecution to the courts against the annual target. This constitutes a 3 per cent increase as compared to 2021.
	0.4.3	Increase of 1 per cent yearly Ongoing (met)	81 per cent increase in the number of perpetrators of violence against women convicted against the annual target. This constitutes a 16 per cent increase as compared to 2021.

	Progress Against Output Targets				
	<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>		<i>Annual target</i>	<i>Results</i>
	1 yearly (met)	0.4.1.1 : 3 : The case conference manual was amended to better identify and respond to the needs of women with disabilities survivors of violence; A stigma tool to detect and collect data on discrimination and violence against women with disabilities; A protocol on behavioural change and advocacy on the rights of women with disabilities.		Increase of 5 per cent yearly (met)	0.4.2.1 : 123 per cent increase against the annual target. Sixty-one (61) new gender champions (84 per cent women) were identified during the period across institutions. This represents a 65 per cent increase as compared to 2021.
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (met)	0.4.3.1 : 134 per cent increase against the annual target. A total of 14,613 women and girls (59) accessed legal aid services supported by the Programme.		Increase of 1 per cent yearly (N/A)	0.4.3.2 : 3 girls (0 women) benefited from legal aid services supported by the Government of Palestine.
	Increase of 1 per cent yearly (unmet)	0.4.3.3 : 42 per cent decrease against the annual target. A total of 21,577 individuals accessed legal awareness (57 per cent women, 9 per cent boys, 7 per cent girls). While this represented a 38 per cent increase as compared to last year, it remains significantly inferior to the target; the baseline might be revised going forward.			

Output 4.1: Technical and Institutional Capacities of Rule of Law Institutions to Respond to the Needs of Women Improved



Support effective, operational, multi-sectoral services for women and girls

In 2022, significant progress was made towards tailoring justice responses to the needs of women and girls through the strengthening of effective, operational, and multi-sectoral services. The capacity of survivors of violence to bring claims into the formal justice system is a crucial measure of progress towards improved access to justice and gender-responsive service delivery for women and girls. This progress is evidenced by the **increasing levels of prosecution and adjudication of VAW cases witnessed since the beginning of *Sawasya II*,⁵²** with a respective **percentage increase of 3 per cent in the cases transferred to the courts** (*Indicator Outcome 4.2*) and 16 per cent in the number of **convicted perpetrators** as compared to 2021 (*Indicator Outcome 4.3*). This constitutes respectively a 49 per cent and 81 per cent increase as compared to the targets. **While the number of VAW cases filed with the police is not available during the period** (*Indicator Outcome 4.1*),⁵³ the consistent progress witnessed demonstrates the validity of an approach centred around integrated service provision that addresses diverse, interconnected, and complex needs.

In light of this, efforts continued to **expand the One-Stop Centre (OSC) model to the cities of Nablus and Hebron, as refurbishment work was concluded this year**. Women and girls who experience violence require early-on medical care, counseling, legal assistance, and housing. Failing to deliver on this front significantly increases the likelihood of them returning to abusive situations. Therefore, it is crucial to make services available across the West Bank to improve

⁵² To the exception of 2020 as service provision was considerably interrupted due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

⁵³ Data collection methodologies have been inconsistently changed by the PCP during programmatic implementation. Therefore, they do not meet programmatic standards for accuracy and are not utilized to draw comparisons for the reporting period.

substantive access to justice in responsive spaces that offer all at once psychosocial, forensic, and judicial services as well as strengthened guarantees of confidentiality and privacy.

A woman's or girl's first point of contact with VAW service providers disproportionately determines their trajectory within the formal justice system and their safety going forward. Therefore, in addition to an expanded OSC model, focus continued to be put on the operationalization of the Risk Assessment Templates. This included an integrated review process conducted by 20 social service providers (50 per cent women), public prosecutors and police officers to support standardizing and individualizing their use, building on the past two first years of implementation. The standardization of risk assessments is important as it provides a structured approach for consistently evaluating the level of risk faced by victims/survivors. This enables police officers to identify and prioritize cases efficiently and limits the influence of potential biases, stereotypes, and prejudices that often leads service providers to overlook critical risk factors. However, individualizing the use of Risk Assessment Templates is equally important to account for the unique circumstances of each victim/survivor. Therefore, by prioritizing joint and flexible collaborative design, individual factors are better incorporated into the risk assessment process, which leads to more robust safety plans and protection measures and improves the responses afforded to survivors. Women in conflict with the law are also frequently survivors of violence. In order to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the social and legal realities they face, a research product was commissioned this year by *Sawasya II* and is anticipated to be completed by the beginning of 2023. Preliminary research outcomes indicate the need to review the applicable legislation, particularly in relation to so-called "moral crimes" that put women at high-risk of violence within and outside the justice system, and to enhance women's awareness on their rights, including economic rights. These findings will inform programming designed to strengthen coordination and collaboration between the justice, social, and security sectors in the delivery of comprehensive and responsive services. This was originally planned for rollout this year but was postponed to 2023 due to delays in finalizing the research product.

Furthermore, the contributions of **61 newly identified gender champions (84 per cent women) were instrumental in advancing multisectoral services for women and girls across the justice, security, and protection chain.** This is **128 per cent higher than the annual target for 2022 (Indicator Output 4.2.1) and represents a 65 per cent increase compared to the previous year.** The champions played a critical role in promoting women's institutional leadership, particularly at the level of the PCP, where 35 police officers, all women, were identified. Among them, **15 established the founding committee of Palestine's first Policewomen Network**, including the production of bylaws, a one-year work plan, and the election of nine board members (100 per cent women). This achievement was underpinned by 20 police officers who participated in a leadership training programme aimed at honing their skills in gender-sensitive management. Notably, one of

Box 1: From gender champion to agent of change: a journey towards addressing the root causes of gender inequality

Huthaifa was 26 years old when he joined the internship programme at the PBA Women's Unit in Gaza.

"In the beginning, I had no prior experience, or even discussions with the opposite sex at all, based on the mistaken belief that this matter is not permissible. I initially only joined the PBA in Gaza for the traineeship opportunity it offered."

However, through leading awareness raising activities in marginalized communities, he met with women particularly vulnerable to abuse and unaware of their rights. Using his lawyering skills, he guided the work of two community-based organizations to help raise their awareness on ways to access justice.

"Through my involvement in the volunteering activities I became the leader of the volunteers' team within PBA Women's Unit. I cannot forget how transformative this experience has been: from a young man who did not dare talk to female colleagues to a young lawyer who wholeheartedly believes in gender justice and the participation of women in all sectors of life."

And this is a belief he took home with him. So when he found out about his sister's opportunity to study abroad, he offered his unwavering support as access to justice cannot be dissociated in his opinion from access to education.

"I used to not accept the idea of my sisters studying or working abroad and made my opposition clear at home. However, my new experience has altered that perspective and I became very supportive of them pursuing their education and travelling abroad, which is their right. I am absolutely not ashamed of changing my opinion as long as change is for the better, because I was simply wrong, and I now believe that I am right."

And his unwavering support paid off with his parents finally accepting that Huthaifa's sisters go abroad. But this experience has also proved to be an inner journey for Huthaifa, changing deeply-ingrained perceptions along the way. "I did not imagine that engagement in such activities could affect my behaviour and attitudes to such an extent. I can tell that I am completely changed."

highlighted for advancing protection for women victims and survivors of violence with disabilities. The champions emphasized fostering intersectional inclusiveness across the institution and took a critical part in the revision process of the case conference manual and the design of the disability stigma tool (see *below*).

Furthermore, 15 fresh lawyers from the PBA (47 per cent women) were identified for their commitment to volunteering within the internship programme of the PBA Women's Unit in Gaza and for displaying leadership in advancing gender justice and women's rights. One of the participants, Zainab, led three legal awareness sessions in close coordination with a Palestinian think tank and was recently awarded a scholarship to pursue a Master's Degree in human rights abroad. The internship programme was critical for Huthaifa, another young lawyer, who successfully coordinated awareness sessions on gender justice in marginalized areas with two community-based organizations. His commitment also helped advance gender justice at home where he used his position to convince his parents to let his sister travel abroad to study, despite the stigma associated with it in society (see above *Box 1*).

In addition to the Head of the Social Care Unit at the MOSD, the five women's prison counselors (100 per cent women) have demonstrated leadership in implementing innovative reintegrative interventions in reform and rehabilitation centres, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, and recognized the interconnectedness between women who have been in contact with the carceral

them became Director of the Policewomen Network's District, another was selected as a keynote speaker at the Policewomen Network Conference held in May 2022, and yet another was promoted as Head of Public Relations in a district office (see below *Improved capacity of security institutions to respond to the needs of women*). Additionally, three VAW judges (66 per cent women) were identified for their contribution towards the operationalization of the VAW court in Nablus and the revision of the VAW SOPs (see below *Improved capacity of the judiciary to meet the needs of women*). The Head of the Gender Unit (woman) at the MOJ was also recognized for her successful advocacy towards the formation of the Gender Support Team (see *Output 1.1*). The work of the Head of the Disability Department and her Deputy (100 per cent women) at the MOSD was also

system and their long-term exposure to violence. As part of their ongoing efforts to enhance their professional capabilities, the five women's prison counselors and their supervisor (100 percent women) have completed a one-year certification programme⁵⁴ focused on gender-responsive services, protection, and reintegrative care. The programme provides a comprehensive perspective on criminal law, psychosocial factors, and economic aspects of prison counseling work. Over the course of 84 individual sessions and 18 group sessions, the counselors have worked on their personal well-being, anger management, and self-care techniques, as well as practical professional skills such as counseling sessions. This rigorous programme has equipped the counselors with the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver high-quality services to women who have experienced incarceration and violence

Effective and comprehensive services for women and girls must take into account the specific needs of PwDs in order to leave no one behind. To improve access to remedies, reparation, and protection within the justice system for all women and girls, including those with disabilities, robust evidence must be generated against internationally agreed targets to prioritize intersectionality and measure progress efficiently. To this end, nine members (100 per cent women) of the SDG 5 and SDG 16 Working Groups⁵⁵ led the review of the MOJ and MOSD strategic plans. This took place over the course of a three-day training conducted by a CSO partner invested in the rights of women with disabilities (WwDs) with a focus on fostering gender and disability-inclusive data collection and analysis.

Furthermore, the Global UNDP/UN Women Joint Programme on Addressing Stigma, Discrimination, and Violence for Empowering Women with Disabilities through the provision of *Sawasya*'s support collaborated to amend the case conference manual on cases of women victims and survivors of violence from a disability perspective (*Indicator Output 4.1.1*).⁵⁶ This manual is a crucial instrument used across the VAW chain by justice, security, and social protection actors. Its review is therefore critical to mainstream disability across all aspects relating to case management, including accessibility, confidentiality, safety, security, and agency. The amendments include the requirement to ensure the presence of an expert (such as a sign language interpreter or a mental disability specialist) during survivor interviews, as well as increasing awareness among family members of the specific needs of VAW survivors with disabilities, which is key to successful interventions. Proposed amendments made to the SOPs of the Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD) as well as the Family Protection Unit within the AGO were also reviewed from a disability perspective in close collaboration with leading civil society expertise on WwDs. Furthermore, **a stigma tool was piloted and adopted during the period by the MOSD (*Indicator Output 4.1.1*)** with a view to better detect and responsively collect data on discrimination and violence against women with disabilities. Women with disabilities have informed the design of the stigma tool at all stages, with the latter being anticipated to be expanded to all key stakeholders. More than 300 questionnaires have been filled in 2022 by social workers, with 35 of them (91 per cent women) having accessed a three-day training on the implementation of the stigma tool to allow for a rapid and consistent rollout.

⁵⁴ From April 2021 to September 2022. This activity appears twice in the workplan, including under the following activity: “*Strengthen the capacity of Social Protection counselors at MOSD on the efficient management of VAW cases during the legal process.*”

⁵⁵ Ministry of Women's Affairs, MOJ, MOSD and PCBS

⁵⁶ The Global UNDP/UN Women Joint Programme on Addressing Stigma, Discrimination, and Violence for Empowering Women with Disabilities is a separate project. However, *Sawasya* provided operational and expert support during the period.

In addition, a **protocol on behavioural change and advocacy for the rights of women with disabilities was developed** (*Indicator Output 4.1.1*) based on the findings of a research study on the root causes of violence and discrimination against women with disabilities conducted by *Sawasya*'s CSO partner in the framework of the Global UNDP/UN Women Joint Programme on Addressing Stigma, Discrimination, and Violence for Empowering Women with Disabilities. The research highlights a number of societal obstacles that hinder the full integration and inclusion of PwDs/ WwDs into Palestinian society. This includes negative cultural attitudes towards them and a lack of awareness about their rights. This coincides with detrimental beliefs in their ability to learn, work, produce, and integrate into society, even with the provision of appropriate preparation and reasonable accommodation. Furthermore, the low self-confidence of PwDs/WwDs due to a lack of empowerment exacerbates the issue in a context marked by the absence of integrated and inclusive laws. Based on such findings, 19 media students from the Arab American University (79 per cent women) accessed protocol-based theoretical and practical training to better address the rights of women with disabilities, violence, and discrimination they face, and their role in challenging discriminatory social norms and stereotypes against PwDs. In close collaboration with *Ajyaal* radio and *Nisaa FM*, the students produced various media products, including posters, radio spots, videos, and podcasts on the rights of women with disabilities. As a result of the intervention, the two above-mentioned radio channels have expressed interest in strengthening disability inclusiveness in their programmes. Furthermore, steps were taken in 2022 to reactivate the Serious Case Review mechanism through expert support. However, the potential consultants identified did not meet the requirements, which required the postponement of the activity to 2023.

Improved capacity of security institutions to respond to the needs of women

In 2022, significant progress was made towards improving the capacity of security institutions to effectively address the needs of women. Specific attention was given to enhancing reporting channels, which resulted in **706 individuals contacting the FJPD helpline (63 per cent women, 0.4 per cent girls, 0.03 per cent boys), with 25 per cent of them being subsequently referred to the police**. The COVID-19 pandemic brought to the fore the existing gaps in reporting. While a dedicated helpline for victims/survivors of violence was established in implementation of the PCP emergency response plan, the development of remote services has been prioritized as key to addressing movement restriction challenges that are only compounded in situations involving GBV. To further strengthen the effectiveness of these reporting mechanisms, 38 FJPD officers (39 per cent women) from all district offices accessed training on helpline service provision (also reported under *Output 2.1*).

Although, there has been significant progress in providing avenues for victims and survivors to come forward and seek justice, they continue to face numerous obstacles. One such challenge is the physical journey that they must undertake to reach a FJPU and the subsequent lack of privacy and safety measures they encounter. The current system requires them to navigate through various police units, which compromises their privacy and safety even before they have lodged a complaint. Furthermore, overcrowding, inadequate equipment and accessibility, the lack of women's representation in service provision and accountability gaps, all undermine the quality of the services provided. These findings were identified during a **facility assessment conducted with support from *Sawasya* in nine police district offices last year**. To address these issues, it is recommended that the FJPU premises be redesigned to prioritize the best interests of women and

children and their safety and confidentiality. This would require allocating adequate resources, ensuring the presence of women police officers during night shifts, improving direct access to FJPUs through proper signalization inside premises, and incentivizing rehabilitation. Additionally, there should be mechanisms in place to measure the satisfaction of women and children seeking services and protection from the FJPUs, and the OSC model should be expanded.

Based on this, a **performance assessment tool and a beneficiary questionnaire template were created** to standardize quality assurance across FJPUs and address delivery gaps while enhancing service provision monitoring. These tools were produced as part of a monitoring and capacity building plan with *Sawasya's* support. The development involved 22 FJPU police officers (50 per cent women) who participated in their design. Bilateral consultations were also held with other stakeholders, including the AGO, MOSD, and CSOs to gather their perspectives on capacity building gaps and needs. Additionally, 15 police officers (7 per cent women) took part in a three-day annual team workshop where they reviewed, among others, police roles in the newly amended national referral system for women victims of violence. Moreover, efforts to promote gender mainstreaming in security institutions have continued through support to the Security Sector Gender Programme (AP9). The 2022 annual work plan for gender mainstreaming within the security sector was developed, and four members (100 per cent women) of the Gender Unit at the Ministry of Interior (MOI) received capacity building to ensure proper implementation of the plan. The AP9 steering committee meeting was also held with the support of *Sawasya*, providing a valuable platform for reviewing and analyzing yearly progress. Support to the FPJD in rolling out the implementation of the cybercrime guidelines to new governorates and capacity building for FJPD officers on the use of the UN Women Global Policing Gender Responsive Handbook was postponed to 2023.

Improved capacity of prosecution services to respond to the needs of women

In 2022, efforts were made to enhance the role of the Gender Unit at the AGO as a key channel for policy and capacity transformation. As part of an integrated approach to training across the justice chain, **17 administrative staff (53 per cent women) participated in a two-day training programme on gender equality, women's rights, and VAW** delivered by the Gender Unit.⁵⁷ Leveraging *Sawasya's* expertise in this area, the training aimed to sensitize administrative staff on the challenges faced by women in the justice system, particularly of women victims/survivors of violence, and on the need to improve case management responses. Furthermore, efforts focused on enhancing the role of the public prosecution within the framework of the national referral system for women victims of violence and the VAW responsive chain. As a result, **19 Chief Prosecutors (5 per cent women) contributed to the revision of the SOPs of the Family Protection Unit at the AGO and accessed capacity building on VAW responsive services**, including guiding tools for the identification of VAW cases. Sensitizing public prosecutors to the complex aspects of GBV is key to strengthening referrals and encourage rulings that centre around the best interests of survivors, including children victims of domestic violence.

Multisectoral services play a critical role in addressing the complex and interconnected needs of women, particularly in creating safe spaces for victims and survivors to seek support. However, the process of seeking justice does not end with reporting a case to the police. Women, especially

⁵⁷ Support to the Gender Unit and VAW specialized prosecution to produce gender responsive data and statistics was reprioritized during the year.

those who have experienced violence, often must recount their story multiple times throughout the justice system, which, if safeguards are not in place, can compromise their privacy and safety. Therefore, building the capacity of all staff along the prosecution chain on gender sensitive case management practices is crucial to secure substantive access to justice for women. In line with this, a consultative report was produced by the Programme to identify the priorities of partner institutions in the justice, security, and social sectors regarding the management of VAW cases during emergencies. The report contains a list of institution-specific priorities for the MOSD, AGO, and SJD, as well as multi-sectoral priorities for all institutions (HJC, PCP, MOSD, AGO and SJD). The institution-specific priorities of the MOSD emphasized the need to enhance the capacities of social workers in managing cases of women survivors of violence during emergencies. Meanwhile, the AGO identified the need to develop a software program for receiving complaints during emergencies, while the SJD aim to improve the automation of alimony payments and establish a media unit to disseminate information on the availability of services. At the inter-institutional level, the partners agreed on the necessity of developing referral pathways for cases of women survivors of violence during emergencies. Additionally, they identified the need to establish SOPs on multi-sectoral virtual services and provide adequate capacity building to service providers. The formulation of such priorities represents a significant step towards strengthening responses afforded to VAW survivors in emergency situations. Going forward work will focus on postponed activities, including awareness raising on VAW and gender-sensitive judicial inspection, the implementation of the legal instructive guidelines for the specialized prosecution, as well as digitalization within the framework of *Mizan III*, ToT to further build the VAW capacity of public prosecutors and support to VAW specialized prosecutors to develop accountability and monitoring tools.

Improved capacity of the judiciary to meet the needs of women⁵⁸

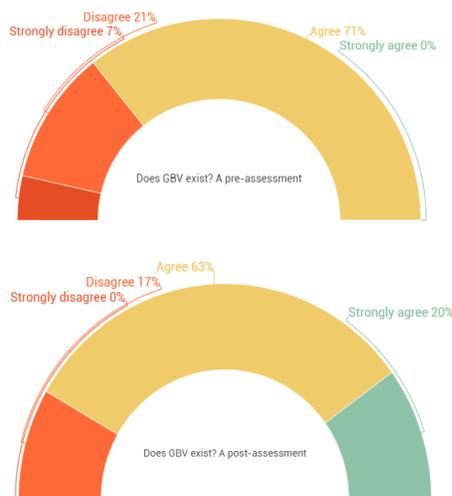
Specialized VAW judicial services are crucial in ensuring that women have access to effective remedies, reparation, and protection within the justice system. A significant milestone was achieved last year with **107 cases adjudicated in front of Palestine's first specialized VAW court in Nablus that opened in 2022.**⁵⁹ This achievement is the result of long-term advocacy aimed at establishing multidisciplinary teams capable of effectively addressing the needs of women victims/survivors of violence, while strengthening guarantees of protection and safeguarding women's right to safety, privacy, and dignity. The survivor-centred design of the VAW court is essential in ensuring that women victims/survivors of violence can access justice. The court features a separate entrance, elevator, and a private waiting area, accessible to all women, including women with disabilities, elderly women, and pregnant women. The court room also accommodates a private office that hosts a social counselor and the specialized public prosecutor, thereby ensuring that women are aware of their procedural and socioeconomic rights.

Initiatives such as the specialized VAW court are critical in enhancing women's trust in the formal justice system's capacity to deliver effective gender-justice pathways. This is particularly important in an environment where seeking protection often comes at the expense of holding perpetrators accountable within the criminal justice system. To continuously improve the delivery of specialized services, monitoring efforts were invested with a view to strengthen evidence-based

⁵⁸ The following activity “*Support the HJC in implementing the emergency plan (developing related tools, or guidelines, or others)*” is reported under “*improved capacity of prosecution services to respond to the needs of women.*”

⁵⁹ 82 misdemeanour and 25 felony cases.

planning and policy reform going forward. Monitoring findings, with support from *Sawasya*, indicate the need to raise women’s awareness on the services provided by the VAW specialized court to survivors of violence, strengthen coordination with the public prosecution and disseminate the risk assessments with judges. The VAW court opening builds on years of work to unify standards and procedures for case management and adjudication, as VAW SOPs have been reviewed by a committee of four selected judges (75 per cent women), which extended consultations this year to other members of the judiciary.⁶⁰ Furthermore, the 37 specialized VAW judges (46 per cent women) accessed additional training on women’s rights, responsive adjudication, and international human rights law.



Box 2: Does GBV exist? A pre/post assessment

Last year's revision of the national referral system for women victims of violence was also a significant step towards standardizing case management and adjudication procedures. The inclusion of family courts, which play a crucial role in strengthening women's protection, contributed to this unification effort. To ensure effective implementation of the national referral system for women victims of violence, 27 judges and three members of the Gender Unit at the HJC (50 per cent women) accessed capacity building on the judiciary's role in enhancing women's protection in VAW cases. This training covered the use of the Risks Assessment Templates, a tool for generating information (see *Support effective, operational, multi-sectoral services for women and girls*), as well as combatting gender-negating stereotypes, attitudes, and biases within the judiciary (see *box 2*). The training methodology employed a range of interactive,

practical, and self-learning approaches.

Moreover, 43 judges and three members of the Gender Unit at the HJC (54 percent women) accessed capacity building on cyberviolence. The training focused on patterns and methods used by perpetrators, societal stigma, fear of retaliation, and the need for judicial discretion in dealing with this form of violence. Similarly, 30 administrative staff (5 per cent of whom were women) participated in a three-day training programme on gender equality, women's rights, and violence against women delivered by the Gender Unit at the HJC with support from *Sawasya II*. The training revealed a lack of knowledge among frontliner staff on critical concepts such as gender equality. Consequently, it highlighted the need to build the capacity of the Gender Unit and the Gender Support Team (see *Output 1.1*) in disseminating knowledge across institutions and building synergies throughout the justice sector to further integrate service provision. Going forward, focus will be put on postponed activities, including capacity building for newly assigned VAW judges and strengthen the leadership skills of female judges and prosecutors.⁶¹

⁶⁰ Support to the implementation of the VAW SOPs was postponed to 2023.

⁶¹ Capacity building for VAW judges on SOPs was canceled as the activity was reprioritized by the Chief Justice.

Human rights based organizational development at the level of family courts⁶²

Women who bring a claim into the family court system face numerous obstacles to the realization of their human rights as discriminatory provisions are still in place, particularly in the Jordanian PSL of 1976 applicable in the West Bank. Divorce is the inalienable right of the husband, while separation initiated by a woman must be judicially sanctioned. In this context, article 132 of the PSL foresees the possibility for a woman to seek the appointment of two male arbitrators conjointly with her husband to initiate the dissolution of the marriage on grounds of discord. Given the unequal power dynamics at play, arbitration proceedings frequently result in women forfeiting their rights to secure separation **as highlighted by the study on arbitration conducted last year**. Among other things, the study recommends abolishing discriminatory clauses that forbid women from practicing arbitration in front of family courts, establishing proper safeguards for their selection to ensure transparency, professionalism, and responsiveness of services, and increase their awareness and sensitivity towards women's rights and gender equality. Such insights will inform programming work in supporting the SJD to develop more responsive arbitration policies.

Efforts were pursued on the inspection front, with eight judges (100 percent men) taking part in a study tour in March 2022 visiting Egypt's High Judiciary Council and the Ministry of Justice in Cairo. Building on the draft bylaw, they updated the SOPs of the SJD Inspection Department in line with Decree Law No. 8 of 2021 modifying Decree Law No. 3 of 2021, incorporating best practices in relation to complaints handling, evaluation performance and indicators development. Work was also pursued to establish a Human Rights Unit at the level of the SJD to catalyze policy and capacity development efforts on this front. This included the **development of SOPs and a capacity development plan that was submitted for approval to the Supreme Judge** with expert support from the Programme. While initial steps were taken for the rehabilitation of the Ramallah family court, including reception areas, judges' and juvenile visitation rooms, work could not commence during the period. Since the premises are rented the scope of the rehabilitation work could not be agreed upon during the reporting period and was postponed to 2023. Similarly, awareness opportunities on women's rights, gender equality, and other related topics for family court clerks, lawyers, and prosecutors was pushed to next year. The rollout of the e-Inspection system was also postponed as it has been fully integrated within *Mizan III*, which is currently being developed.⁶³ Therefore, SOPs will not be developed for the *Adalah* system and their preparation is awaiting the rollout of *Mizan III*. The development of SOPs for the counselling units as well as activities relating to combatting child marriage were also postponed to 2023.⁶⁴

Enhanced security and justice services for women in the Gaza Strip⁶⁵

During the period, focus was put on enhancing the capacity of justice actors in Gaza in the area of gender justice, gender-responsive legislation, and women's access to justice with (*see also Output*

⁶² The following activity "support the SJD to implement the emergency plan (develop related policies, guidelines, etc, to support the implementation of the emergency plans)" is reported under "*Improved capacity of prosecution services to respond to the needs of women*". Furthermore, "*Provide support to specialized CSOs to build the capacity of female counselors at the Counselling Departments of family courts in Gaza*" was not implemented.

⁶³ Although capacity building work for the benefit of the judicial inspection unit was not implemented due to shifting priorities by the Chief Justice, support was provided to the field visit on e-Inspection that took place in 2022 in Jordan (*see Output 2.1*).

⁶⁴ As part of the recommendations of the 2020 Rapid Appraisal of the Sharia Court effectiveness in Realizing Women's and Children's Rights.

⁶⁵ The activity of "*Support CSO efforts to enhance capacities of judicial actors from a protection of human rights standpoint (gender justice, GBV)*" refers to "*Supporting the development and the implementation an advocacy, awareness, and communication strategy on the FPB in line with the socio-political analysis*" and is thereby reported under Output 1.1.

2.2). With important gaps remaining, efforts focus on providing service support to the furthest left behind, particularly female inmates detained in Reform and Rehabilitation Centres (RRC). All 70 female inmates detained last year in RRCs accessed 223 counseling sessions, in addition to 119 family counseling sessions conducted with their close relatives and 13 group sessions as part of reintegrative interventions. According to RRC staff and partners involved on this front, a significant decline in the number of female inmates attempting suicide was observed, with no cases registered in 2022. More targeted interventions were accessed by 40 female inmates, including health (dental care, checkups, medical treatment and prescription, etc) and economic empowerment services as well as essential care support (clothing, childcare support, dignity kits). Partner interventions also included recreational trips for 37 female inmates and the delivery of six addiction treatment sessions for ten identified women, led by Arab women from other countries with similar experiences. Furthermore, and for the first time, female inmates were able to visit their children in the Al-Amal Institution for Orphans with support from the Programme.

Output 4.2: New Practices of Justice and Security Service Providers are Supported to Transform their Attitudes and Behaviours Towards Women and Girls



First policewomen network initiated,
with developed bylaws and elected board



61 additional gender champions
identified

While the contributions of 61 newly identified gender champions (84 per cent women) were instrumental in advancing multisectoral services for women and girls across the justice, security, and protection chain (*Indicator Output 4.2.1*), inadequate representation of women in security institutions continues to lead to significant gaps in service provision. On the other hand, incorporating women in security institutions as frontline workers and decision-makers is essential for trust-based women's access to justice. Recognizing the need to address this issue, several **key steps have been taken in Palestine this year to establish the country's first policewomen network**. This network will serve as a valuable forum for women in law enforcement to advocate for gender equality and equal opportunity, provide capacity development opportunities, and promote community-based engagement. Following the launch of Palestine's first policewomen conference in May 2022, which was implemented in line with the PCP Gender Strategy, a working group consisting of 25 police officers (100 percent women) was established to develop the policewomen network. With support from *Sawasya* and EUPOL COPPS, the bylaws of the network were produced, followed by board elections and the development of an annual work plan. The network is expected to be launched in early 2023. Furthermore, and cognizant of the criticality of advancing female career development to change judicial attitudes towards women and girls, steps were taken towards the establishment of a Palestinian network of women's judges. A three-day conference to initiate the production of foundational documents will be organized in the first quarter of 2023.

Output 4.3: Women and Children Have Access to Justice, Security and Protection (partly reported under Outcome 3)



14,613 women and girls accessed legal aid services across the oPt



21,577 Palestinians accessed legal awareness across the oPt



750+ students more aware of women's rights and gender justice



Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians had access to online content on women's rights

Support to legal representation services for women

Fourteen thousand six hundred and thirteen (14,613) women and girls accessed legal aid services by CSOs during the period (Indicator Output 4.3.1). In addition, three girls (no woman) accessed these services through the state-sponsored court fund in the West Bank for criminal cases (Indicator Output 4.3.2) (also reported under Outcome 3). This represents a 28 per cent increase as compared to 2021 and even exceeds by 134 per cent the target value for 2021 (see Outcome 3). Among these, 760 women, including women with disabilities, women who use drugs, and women in conflict with the law, accessed legal aid and psycho-social support through *Sawasya's* partnerships with civil society. Notably, this included over 320 women who had survived violence. Women were represented before courts in Hebron, Tulkarem, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, with a focus on family law related cases such as judicial separation and divorce, child alimony, maintenance and dowry payments, and child visitation cases. Given the structural discrimination that women face in Palestinian courts, especially in family courts, legal and psychosocial support is often a lifeline, particularly for those who have experienced violence (see Outcome 3).

Recognizing this, support was also extended to the most marginalized women, including those who were in detention. As a result, 70 women (100 per cent of the women detained in the five RRCs in the West Bank)⁶⁶ were able to access regular weekly individual, group, and family therapy sessions. Partners have emphasized that this support is critical in reducing tensions and anxiety among inmates, enhancing their sense of self-worth, and improving their communication skills, especially in a context where female inmates bear a disproportionate burden of social stigma that often results in strained family relationships. Taking this into consideration, these women accessed hygiene kits and support to meet their personal needs. To support their reintegration journey, vocational training and coaching in the fields of mosaic and embroidery were also provided. Furthermore, building on successful interventions during the COVID-19 crisis, female inmates in the Ramallah, Jenin, and Jericho accessed 18 sports sessions, which officials noted, had a positive impact on their confidence and wellbeing.

⁶⁶ They are located in Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Jericho.

Support family court lawyers in Gaza on human rights standards of litigation

Strategic litigation is a potent instrument for promoting and protecting human rights, especially in areas such as family law, where the impact on women is considerable. Effective deployment of the legal system to challenge unjust laws and practices, and to hold governments accountable for their obligations under international human rights law, via strategic litigation can facilitate amelioration in the lives of women and their families. Leveraging well-established legal aid networks in Gaza, 10 female lawyers accessed placement in one legal aid clinic for initial training, before being dispatched onto other partner legal aid clinic across the Gaza Strip representing litigants in front of family courts. Through their work, they conducted 577 consultations, representing 462 cases with a 42 per cent success rate, and contributed to raise awareness on women's rights among Gaza communities. This is in addition to five trainees (40 per cent women) who accessed placement within the PBA Women's Rights Unit. The success of strategic litigation is not solely reliant on the skill and expertise of individual lawyers. Rather, its success also depends on the availability of feminist standards of litigation that are grounded in a thorough understanding of the lived experiences of women. In this context, linking female family lawyers with women's rights advocates to improve legal practice is crucial. By bringing together female family lawyers with feminist organizations and legal aid groups, it is possible to develop a shared comprehension of the challenges facing women in family law cases, as well as to identify strategies for utilizing the law to advance their rights. This collaborative approach can help build a more cohesive and effective movement for legal reform and ensure that women's perspectives are at the forefront of legal advocacy (see *Output 3.2*).

Address legal needs of Palestinian women in unserved areas⁶⁷

Ninety-four (94) per cent of women and girls who accessed legal aid services were in unserved areas (*reported under Output 3.2*).⁶⁸ These interventions are critical to improve access to justice for women who often experience multiple layers of vulnerability. To illustrate, 258 Palestinian women who hold Palestinian identification and are married to men with differing legal statuses accessed legal aid. These interventions included the provision of helpline services. The consultations held within the framework of these interventions revealed that 49 per cent of the cases required legal action. The issues primarily related to residency rights, GBV, and PSL. These findings underscore the severity and urgency of the legal challenges that marginalized women are confronted with, including women in detention (see *4.1 Enhanced security and justice services for women in the Gaza Strip*).

Support to legal awareness on women's rights across the State of Palestine

In parallel, **21,577 Palestinians (57 per cent women, 9 per cent boys, 7 per cent girls)**⁶⁹ have accessed legal awareness on the rights of women, family related matters and cyberviolence (*Indicator Output 4.3.3*). This represented a 38 per cent increase as compared to last year (*Indicator Output 4.3.3*).⁷⁰ This includes 16 awareness sessions and workshops aimed at increasing awareness

⁶⁷ The following activity "Provide legal consultations to female inmates" is already reported under *Output 4.1*. The following activity: "Support PBA Women's Unit in Gaza to mainstream gender" is reported above under "*Output 4.3.3. Support family court lawyers in Gaza on human rights standards of litigation*."

⁶⁸ The following activity "Empower women survivors of violence by providing them with opportunities to engage in discussions with service providers" was reprioritized towards legal aid.

⁶⁹ This number refers to the number of individuals that were directly targeted by interventions relating to women's rights and family-related matters.

⁷⁰ This represents a 51 per cent decrease as compared to the baseline. However, the baseline was based on year 2017, where a substantially higher number of Palestinians accessed legal awareness when compared to 2018 and subsequent years.

of cyber-crimes and digital security in Gaza and North Gaza. Five hundred and eighty-three (583) Palestinians took part in these sessions (including 78 per cent women and 12 per cent of PwDs). Taking forward a comprehensive approach to legal awareness, participants were sensitized to new technological methods for securing social media accounts, particularly among women, and increasing awareness of available services and applicable laws concerning cyber-crimes and digital security. They gained a better understanding of cyber-crime concepts, ways to report them and secure their presence online. The participants made several recommendations, including the need for more awareness sessions on digital security and cyber-crimes for the elderly and the parenting community. Furthermore, throughout the reporting period, a coalition of organizations invested in advancing gender justice in the West Bank conducted a range of activities aimed at increasing awareness and support for the passing of the FPB. As a result, a total of 461 participants (6 per cent men), mobilized across two protests/demonstrations organized by the coalition, including through a sit-in in front of the Council of Ministers. Moreover, the coalition organized nine awareness-raising sessions on the FPB in various localities in the region. Two hundred and fourteen (214) participants took part in these sessions, including members of the Ministry of Local Governance with support from the Nablus municipality. The sessions highlighted the importance of passing the law, discussed its objectives and main articles, and provided opportunities for participants to comment on and discuss the last version of the FPB and exchange on experiences in other countries in the region (Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia).

Furthermore,⁷¹ **2,316,817⁷² views on online sensitization on women's rights** and the availability of services and on the need to adopt more responsive legislation were reported (*reported under Output 3.2*). This included efforts by the coalition to disseminate messages, infographs and videographs on their Facebook page on the FPB. Nearly, 55,300 people were registered on the page set up by the coalition to disseminate knowledge on the FPB, including through two TV episodes on [the impact of legislations issued since the national division and amendments made to the Personal Status Law and the Family Procedure Law amendments in Gaza](#), as well as an episode on [the impact of the legislations issued since 2007 on women with disabilities](#). Such efforts were paired with the development of civic modules to make children and the youth effective relay of gender equality and human rights within their communities. Therefore, five puppet shows were organized for **756 children students (79 per cent girls) in five UNRWA schools, which raised their awareness about their rights and gender equality**. Based on positive feedback, 14 youths (57 per cent women) accessed a seven-day training, including on screenplay development pertaining to promoting women's rights and combatting gender discrimination and GBV in Gaza. Work was also invested to develop the capacity of groups of youth across the oPt (92, 79 per cent women/girls) who conducted legal awareness sessions to the benefit of 84 women, covering topics such as the impact of climate change on women's rights and the FPB. Capacity development of the youth groups included training on targeted advocacy and on understanding the dynamics that surround the adoption of the FPB to adapt strategies to different publics (proponents, opponents, and neutrals).

⁷¹ The baseline was based on year 2017 where a substantially higher number of Palestinians accessed legal awareness when compared to 2018 and subsequent years.

⁷² Disaggregation unavailable. This refers to the total number of individuals who watched the content, at least partially.

Outcome 4: Lessons learned

Continuous training on GBV is needed to holistically improve perceptions of justice practitioners: In spite of the important strides made in relation to the institutionalization of services for women survivors of violence, detrimental perceptions continue to be held, such as denying the pervasive prevalence of GBV. However, training and sensitization are proving critical to change these perceptions, which in turn are key to yielding service delivery improvements (see Box 2).

Legal traineeship focused on gender justice can have a transformative impact at the community level: While students may opt for gender justice focused traineeship with the unique view of qualifying as lawyers, they still offer a unique opportunity to being exposed to legal issues faced by women and hence hold great potential for a transformation of attitudes that challenge discrimination (see Huthaifa's story - Box 1).

Outcome 4: Way forward

Continuous institutionalization of specialized services, for improved access to comprehensive services for vulnerable women.

Strengthened gender-responsiveness of justice and security institutions, including through empowered women's leadership within justice and security institutions.

Implementation Challenges and Operational Lessons Learned

A fast-degrading operational environment: The year 2022 has been coined the deadliest for Palestinians in sixteen years since the end of the second intifada.⁷³ One hundred and fifty-four (154) Palestinians (73 per cent men, 3 per cent women, 23 per cent boys, 0.06 per cent girls) were killed by Israeli forces,⁷⁴ and over 10,000 were injured⁷⁵ in near daily raids conducted in the West Bank. The year was particularly marked by the killing of Shireen Abu Akleh in May 2021, and the international outcry her death and the treatment of mourners elicited. More generally, attacks by settlers have multiplied against the backdrop of a far-right rise in Israeli politics. These events have coincided with a rise in small armed resistance groups with epicenters in the cities of Jenin and Nablus and are marked by the rejection of traditional partisan politics. This is in addition to a three-day conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, which claimed the lives of at least 32 civilians in Gaza, including three women, six boys and two girls.⁷⁶ This has compounded a particularly dire situation in the coastal enclave with important delays experienced in reconstruction work following the 11-day May 2021 conflict. Despite Israeli authorities having eased some of the restrictions imposed on Gaza, including as the issuance of worker permits to exit Gaza stands at its highest since 2007,⁷⁷ the humanitarian situation remains critical as the closure regime remains in place.

- *Impact on the rule of law in the Gaza Strip:* A fast-degrading security environment seems to be coinciding closely with a rise in legal aid demand in certain geographical areas. To illustrate, in Area C and Hebron H2, the Programme registered a 588 per cent increase as compared to 2021.

Key lesson learned: Close monitoring of developments needs to be ensured to ramp up support where identified. With legal aid demands being highly susceptible to the overall environment, it is key to strengthen monitoring of trends on the ground to better identify legal aid gaps and rapidly ramp up support where needed or offer efficient institutionalize solutions.

Compounded economic circumstances: The Palestinian economy continued to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it remains to achieve pre-pandemic levels,⁷⁸ with a 3.6 per cent growth registered for 2022, down from 7 per cent in 2021.⁷⁹ While improved economic performance has been driven by increased private consumption in the West Bank and Gaza, as well as an increase in Palestinians working in Israel and the settlements, unemployment remained high (25.7 per cent),⁸⁰ particularly in Gaza where it reached 45 per cent.⁸¹ Furthermore, inflation has been on the rise throughout the year, including due to rising global food and fuel prices impacted by the conflict in Ukraine.⁸² Although public revenue mobilization improved in 2022, underpinned by steadier public spending as the COVID-19 crisis receded, the Government of

⁷³ OCHA (2022), “Protection of civilians | 8-21 November 2022.”

⁷⁴ OCHA (2022), “Data on casualties”, retrieved from <https://www.ochaopt.org/data/casualties>, consulted on [13 April 2023].

⁷⁵ Disaggregation unavailable. *Id.*

⁷⁶ OCHA (2022), Op. Cit. Footnote No. 73.

⁷⁷ See Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (22 September 2022), “Report to the Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee.”

⁷⁸ World Bank (22 September 2022), “Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee.”

⁷⁹ Palestinian Monetary Authority (28 December 2022), “The performance of the Palestinian economy in 2022 and economic forecasts for 2023.”

⁸⁰ *Id.*

⁸¹ PCBS (2023), “The main findings of the labour force survey in 2022.”

⁸² World Food Programme (8 April 2023), “State of Palestine Annual Country Report 2022 – Country Strategic Plan 2018-2023.”

Palestine still faced a financing gap of USD 164 million, with a deficit projected at USD 770 million (4 per cent of GDP) only partially covered by donor contributions.⁸³ During the period, pre-conditions to full rebound to pre-pandemic levels continued to be unmet, with growth being largely constrained by movement and access restrictions. This leads to a significant asymmetry between the economies of Gaza and the West Bank, affecting the contiguity and viability of a future Palestinian state, and constituting a driver of conflict and humanitarian crisis.⁸⁴

Crystallization of public discontent around judicial reform: The year 2022 was marked by important social movements that crystalized around judicial reform, following the adoption on 6 March 2022 of seven decree-laws: Decree law amending the Criminal Procedures Code No. 3 of 2002; Decree law amending the Civil Procedures Code No. 2 of 2001; Decree law called “State’s Litigations”; Decree law amending the Evidence Law; Decree law amending the Law on the Formation of Ordinary Courts; Decree law amending the Enforcement Law and Decree law amending the Law on Administrative Courts with limited consultations with the legal community and civil society in the continuous absence of a functioning PLC. The significance of the decree-laws also stemmed from concerns they raised in relation to fair trial guarantees, criminal procedure safeguards, equality of arms between the prosecution and the defense, right to appeal, and the presumption of innocence. While initially suspended, the implementation of some of the decree-laws as early as July prompted a large-scale strike by lawyers that continued into August, thereby substantially affecting the work of the courts, particularly in terms of civil enforcement. Signs of spillover to other sectors began to show, with preeminent business groups joining the contestation, including the Palestinian Businessman and Businesswomen Associations, the Palestinian Federation of Industries, as well as the Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture as well as preeminent local figures. This was taking place in a context of growing opposition already expressed by syndicates of engineers, doctors, teachers, and more generally by Palestinian citizens. Growing discontent culminated in the rescinding of Decree Law No. (7) of 2022 that amends the Code of Criminal Procedures No. 3 of 2001, Decree Law No. (8) of 2022 amending the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law No. 2 of 2001 and Decree Law No. (12) of 2022 amending the Execution Law No. 23 of 2005, which constituted the substantive bulk of the amendments. It also coincided with the HJC’s decision to suspend lawyers’ compulsory stamping of notary bonds that constitutes important resources for the PBA. The year 2022 ended without an agreement being reached between the various stakeholders and resulted in a total of 80 days of disruption in court work.

Key lesson learned: The Programme’s unique positioning with the legal community, civil society actors and institutional counterparts is key to convening meaningful dialogue. The MOJ-PBA dialogue was resumed with technical assistance from the Programme, which led to concrete proposal on legal aid going forward and to easing the strained relationship between the PBA and the judiciary.

⁸³ World Bank (22 September 2022), Op. Cit. Footnote No. 78

⁸⁴ Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (22 September 2022), Op. Cit. Footnote No. 78.

II. Monitoring⁸⁵ & Evaluation

Following a robust participatory methodology, the fourth Programme Board Meeting was organized in January. On this occasion, the 2021 main achievements were reviewed. As a result, the 2022 annual work plan was approved. Key actions against the **Management Response** adopted in February 2021, continued to be implemented and [progress](#) was registered during the period. In addition, *Sawasya* made use of its quantitative database as well as the qualitative data (focus group discussions with beneficiaries)⁸⁶ and produced five focused monitoring reports that provide information against the OECD criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability entitled:

- “Measuring the performance of Palestinian courts – quantitative analysis.”
- “Measuring the performance of the court management system (*Mizan II*).”
- “Measuring the performance of legal aid providers.”
- “Analytical report of the perspective of beneficiaries from legal aid services.”
- “Evaluation report of the legal incubator in Gaza.”

⁸⁵ The monitoring of risks is assessed separately and regularly.

⁸⁶ Qualitative data are also collected using the Survey Monkey software.

III. Research and Communication Products

Outcome I

Action	Timeline				Status
	Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Knowledge products					
Reports and regulations, annual report on the work of the High Judicial Council in sign language	X	X	X		The sign language dictionary designed in 2021 to enable court staff to use basic sign language skills when interacting with people with hearing impairment. Its dissemination is tabled for 2023. In addition, 50 hard copies of the 2021 HJC’s annual report were disseminated to chief judges and prosecutors, with the soft copy being made available among HJC staff. (see <i>Output 2.1</i>).
Dissemination of "Rule of Law and Access to Justice" survey by the PCBS."	X	X	X	X	The 6 th edition of the legal monitor was produced based on the PCBS data (see <i>Output 1.4</i>). Its dissemination was ensured online .
Research on the impact of war on women's access to justice	X	X	X	X	Postponed to 2023 (see <i>Output 1.2</i>)
Research on the impact of violence against women in the public	X	X	X	X	Postponed to 2023 (see <i>Output 1.2</i>)
Campaigns					
Alternative Dispute Resolution awareness activities with partner CSOs	X	X	X	X	82,500 views on ADR content disseminated online (see <i>Output 2.2</i>)
Advocacy campaign on justice sector reform advocacy strategy by partner CSOs.	X	X	X	X	The advocacy campaign will be launched in 2023 (see <i>Output 1.4</i>).
Awareness raising campaign on justice sector work and enforcement challenges	X	X	X	X	Campaign initiated but to be implemented in 2023 (see <i>Output 1.2</i>)

Outcome II

	Timeline				Progress
Action	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	
Knowledge products					
Dissemination of HJC's publications and relevant legislation in Braille language	X	X	X	X	Discussions are underway, but production has not taken place as of yet.
Campaigns					
Media Campaign for the promotion of the police accountability mechanism		X	X	X	Campaign initiated but to be implemented in 2023 (see <i>Output 2.1</i>).

Outcome III

	Timeline				Progress
Action	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Campaigns					
At least one awareness raising campaign in partnership with CSO clinics on the availability of legal aid services (consultations, awareness, and representation), before family courts, with a specific focus on women and vulnerable communities	X	X	X	X	5,426 persons accessed legal information sessions (in person) organized by four family law specialized CSOs. 133,027 views were recorded for content disseminated online, with a strong focus on women's rights under the Egyptian Law of Family Rights of 1954(<i>see Output 3.2</i>).
At least one awareness raising campaign in partnership with the PBA clinic on the availability of legal aid services (consultations and representation), before regular courts, and rehabilitation centers to women, children and men in need	X	X	X	X	927 persons accessed legal information sessions in the Gaza Strip. 1,127,610 views were recorded for content disseminated online, with a strong focus on issues related to human rights in the Palestinian civil and criminal laws, including women's rights (<i>see Output 3.2</i>).

Outcome IV

Action	Timeline				Progress
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Knowledge products					
Raise awareness on women with disability access to services	X	X	X		This activity is tabled for implementation in 2023. ⁸⁷
Raising awareness on the prevention of cybercrimes particularly against women and girls and the available services	X	X	X	X	This activity is tabled for implementation in 2023. ⁸⁸

⁸⁷ The communication plan is a two-year document (2022-2023). Hence the activity has been tabled for implementation for 2023.

⁸⁸ The communication plan is a two-year document (2022-2023). Hence the activity has been tabled for implementation for 2023.

Completion of communication objectives

Tool Proposed	Indicators of Achievement	Targets	Progress
Local media	Number of articles/press releases published on <i>Sawasya</i> .	1 article every three months	At least 9 press releases/articles were issued pertaining to the establishment of Palestine's first policewomen network (<i>Output 4.2</i>), agreement signing, including with Birzeit University's legal clinic (FLPA) (<i>Output 3.1</i>), as well as in relation to the Palestinian Maintenance Fund (<i>Output 4.1</i>) and the opening of VAW court in Nablus (<i>Output 4.1</i>), Press releases were also issued in the relation to disability work conducted in partnership with the MOSD/CSO (<i>Output 4.1</i>) and the study visit to Morocco on ADR (<i>Output 2.2</i>)
Web-based online tools - social media	Number of social media posts Number of additional likes on Sawasya's Facebook page Number of views on social media content	1 social media post every two days 20 additional likes per month 200 views per month	167 instances of social media content were posted during the period (target is about 182). ⁸⁹ An additional 878 likes were registered during the period (around 73 likes/month) as well as 42,861 views (around 3,572/ month on average) and 7,012 page visits (around 584/month on average).
Meetings / workshops / Conferences / public events	Number of persons involved in meetings (disaggregated by gender) Numbers of meetings / conferences / visits / public events etc.	10-15 persons per training 3 per month	During the period, an average of 3/month training sessions were organized by the Programme or partners, with an average of 20 participants.
Radio	Number of radio spots / episodes produced Number of radio channels that host discussions related to the Joint Programme	One episode every two months/1 radio channel per quarter	11 radio episodes were produced during the period that related to the Programme (on average 1/month)

Publications and promotional materials	Number of copies disseminated (from different publications and promotional materials) Banners Rollups Notebooks Leaflets	Most of the project products will be published online for environmentally friendly dissemination and value-for-money 2 banners (the number identified refers to the banners that will be produced by the Joint Programme only) 5 roll ups (the number identified refers to the rollups that will be produced by the Joint Programme only) 1000 Notebooks	13 banners 6 rollups 50 notebooks 750 leaflets 0 envelopes (planned for 2023) 50 pens
Videos	Number of videos produced related to the Joint Programme	One video every quarter	<i>Sawasya</i> produced a range of videos through partners, including on the work of legal clinics , the legal incubator and on legislation for PwDs . In addition, videos were produced with a focus on alimony and divorce , legal aid in East Jerusalem

⁸⁹ A dedicated communications coordinator will be recruited in 2022.

IV. Result & Resource Framework

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
SAWASYA II OVERALL GOAL: A FUNCTIONING AND INCLUSIVE RULE OF LAW SYSTEM THAT RESPECTS, PROTECTS AND FULFILLS HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY, AND PROMOTES PEACE AND SECURITY			
<p>Indicator G-1: Percentage of public who have trust in the Palestinian Civil Police. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 64.1% (Men: 65.3%, Women: 62.9%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'</i>/PCBS) <u>Planned target:</u> Increase of 1% by 2020</p>	<p>Total: 70.3% Men: 70.6% Women:69.9%</p> <p>8.6% increase against the bi-annual target.</p>		PCBS
<p>Indicator G-2: Percentage of public who have trust in the judiciary. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 57.7% (Men: 60.2%, Women: 55.1%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'</i>/PCBS) <u>Planned target:</u> Increase of 1% by 2020</p>	<p>Total: 65.0% Men:65.3% Women:64.8%</p> <p>11.5% increase against the bi-annual target</p>		PCBS
<p>Indicator G-3: % of Palestinian public who are satisfied with the performance of the police. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age.</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 56.9% (Men: 57.1%; Women:56.7%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'</i>/PCBS) <u>Planned target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>	<p>Total: 63.1% Men: 63.1% Women: 63.2%</p> <p>8.7% increase against the bi-annual target</p>		PCBS
<p>Indicator G-4: % of Palestinian public who are satisfied with the performance of judges. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 44.9% (Men: 47.1%, Women: 42.6%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'</i>/PCBS) <u>Planned target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>	<p>Total: 53.9% Men: 54.6% Women: 53.2%</p> <p>17.7% increase against the bi-annual target</p>		PCBS
OUTCOME 1: RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS ARE STRENGTHENED AND REUNIFIED BY LEGAL, REGULATORY AD POLICY FRAMEWORKS IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS			

<p>Indicator 1.1: Number of existing/new laws amended/adopted in line with international standards <u>Baseline:</u> 1 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Executive by-law of the Palestinian Child Law (Decree-law no. 16 of 2022)</i> 		<p>Palestinian Official Gazette</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2: Number of policies/regulatory framework/plans adopted in line with international standards <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>National referral system for women victims of violence revised</i> - <i>National referral guidelines for child protection revised</i> - <i>National strategy on combatting VAW (2023-2029) adopted</i> - <i>Guidelines on child-friendly and gender responsive procedures adopted by the AGO</i> - <i>Legal aid standards endorsed by the PBA</i> - <i>Standard operating procedures for the investigation of torture cases by the AGO</i> <p>200% increase against the annual target</p>		<p>Institutional partners</p>
<p>Indicator 1.3: Number of policies/harmonized laws/plans linked to the Gaza/WB reunification process adopted. <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>0</p> <p><i>Unmet annual target.</i></p>	<p><i>Given the lack of political impetus on this front, efforts were geared towards the development of a national transitional justice strategy.</i></p>	<p>Institutional partners</p>
<p>Output 1.1: Key legislations are revised to strengthen the independence of the Rule of Law institutions and ensure their consistency with international standards</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.1.1: Number of laws reviewed/revise to align with HR standards <u>Baseline:</u> 2 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Palestinian Child Law of 2016 was reviewed/revise, with the adoption of its executive by-law (Decree-law no. 16 of 2022)</i> 		<p>Palestinian Official Gazette Institutional partners</p>
<p>Output 1.2: Evidence-based planning and policy development in the justice and security sector is strengthened through enhanced data collection, monitoring and evaluation (in alignment with SDG/HR indicators)</p>			

<p>Indicator 1.2.1: Number of annual integrated work plan adopted in the framework of the justice and security sector strategies <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 1 (yearly)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2022 annual work plan for gender mainstreaming within the security sector - Joint work plan between justice and security institutions for cross cutting issues. 		Institutional partners
Output 1.3: West Bank and Gaza Rule of Law institutions are reunified			
<p>Indicator 1.3.1: Number of policies, harmonized laws, plans linked to the Gaza/WB reunification process developed <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>0 <i>Annual target unmet.</i></p>		Institutional partners
Output 1.4: Advocacy on strengthening rule of law institutions and promoting HR is reinforced			
<p>Indicator 1.4.1: Number of monitoring reports on the justice and security sectors published and supported by the project <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p>3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Violence Survey Analytical report based on 2019 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics survey, - Violence against women costing study, - 6th edition of the legal monitor </p>		PCBS/CSOs
OUTCOME 2: SERVICE PROVISION BY RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS IS EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE, AND INCLUSIVE			
<p>Indicator 2.1: Unsented detainees as a proportion of overall prison population. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 52.3% (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Decrease of 1% (yearly)</p>	Data unavailable	<i>Delays in producing the PCP annual report resulted in an unavailability of data.</i>	PCBS
<p>Indicator 2.2: Number of children in conflict with the Palestinian law detained at the Family and Juvenile Protection units. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 386 (385 boys and 1 girl) (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Decrease of 3% (yearly)</p>	<p>237 (236 boys and 1 girl) 28.5% decrease against the annual target.</p>		FJPU
<p>Indicator 2.3: Public perception of a free trial: "Level of confidence that you will receive a fair trial if you were charged with committing a criminal act/delinquency". <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i></p>	<p>Total: 44.6% Men: 44.6% Women: 44.4%</p>		PCBS

<p><u>Baseline:</u> 39.8% (Men: 41.2%; Women: 38.5%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'/PCBS</i>) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 10% by 2020</p>	<p>1.9% increase against the annual target.</p>		
<p>Output 2.1: Quality and efficiency of security and justice services provided to the Palestinians are improved</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.1.1.: Percentage of public aware of the PCP community policing strategy <u>Baseline:</u> Jericho pilot district:15.9% (Men: 21.4%; Women: 9.0%). [General: 10.9% (Men: 13.6%; Women:8.2%)]. Public perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'/PCBS</i>) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 10% in pilot areas by 2020</p>	<p>Total: 26.2% Men: 27.3% Women: 25.1%</p> <p>49.8% increase against the annual target.</p>		<p>PCBS</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.2.: % of judgements enforced. <i>Disaggregated by criminal and civil, including family courts and pilot/non pilot areas</i> <u>Baseline:</u> For Family Courts: N.A (2018) For Conciliation Courts: 62.7% (2018) For First Instance Courts: 69.2% (2018) <u>Hebron pilot area baseline:</u> For Family Courts: N.A (2018) For Conciliation Courts: 60.6% (2018) For First Instance Courts: 66.1% (2018) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% in the pilot areas (yearly)</p>	<p>Non-Pilot Areas: For Family Courts: N/A% For Conciliation Courts: 88.8% (36.1% increase against annual target) For First Instance Courts: 69.5% (3.5% decrease against annual target) Hebron pilot area: For Family Courts: N/A% For Conciliation Courts: 74.8% (18.6% increase against annual target) For First Instance Courts: 59.3% (13.8% decrease against annual target)</p>		<p>Mizan II</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.3.: % of justice sector users who are satisfied with the performance of HJC Mizan IT system. <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 88.9% (Practicing lawyers: 84.4%; Prosecutors: 91.6%; Regular Judges: 90.7%). Direct users' perception survey (2018) (<i>'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'/PCBS</i>) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>	<p>90.1% (0.7% decrease against the annual target)</p> <p>Practicing Lawyers: 85.2% (1% less than the annual target) Prosecutors: 90.3% (3.4 less than the annual target) Regular Judges: 94.7% (2.4% increase against the annual target)</p>		<p>PCBS</p>

Indicator 2.1.4.: % of children sentenced receiving a custodial sentence <u>Baseline:</u> 26.6 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Decrease of 1% (yearly)	11.6% 54.1% decrease against the annual target		Mizan II
Indicator 2.1.5.: % of children who benefit from alternatives to detention <u>Baseline:</u> 58.1% (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	85.1% 39.4% increase against the annual target		Mizan II
Indicator 2.1.6.: % of children who benefit from mediation in the investigation process as alternative to detention <u>Baseline:</u> 31% ⁹⁰ (2017). <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	63.0% 93.4% increase against the annual target		Mizan II
Output 2.2: Quality and efficiency of security and justice services provided to areas unserved by the Palestinian government are improved			
Indicator 2.2.1.: % of judgements enforced in area unserved by the PA. <i>Disaggregated by pilot/non pilot areas</i> <u>Baseline:</u> (2018) Palestine: 61.3% Hebron pilot district: 72.5% (69.2% Area C) (data from criminal/family cases N/A) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% in the pilot areas (yearly)	Non-Pilot Areas: Area C: 77.7% (20.7% increase against the annual target) Hebron pilot area: Area C: 80.9% (12.3% increase against the annual target)		Mizan II
Indicator 2.2.2.: Number of security and justice related community services provided with the support of the project in the pilot areas <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2018) <u>Planned Target:</u> 5 (yearly)	0		Institutional partners
OUTCOME 3: ALL PALESTINIANS, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS, HAVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE, SECURITY AND PROTECTION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION			
Indicator 3.1: Percentage of public aware of the existence of legal aid services supported by the	• Court-fund: 19.1% 20.8% increase against the annual target		PCBS

⁹⁰ An error in the baseline reflecting year 2017 was identified; previously 60.6%

<p>PG. <i>Disaggregated by sex, age, and Palestinian/Israeli jurisdictions</i> <u>Baseline:</u> Percentage of public aware of legal aid services provided by the following PG's institutions: <i>The Prosecutors and Courts: 15.5</i> <i>The Prisoners Affairs Committee: 39.8%</i> <i>Colonization and Wall Resistance Committee: 21.5%</i> <i>The Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs: 17.9%</i> <i>Prisoner Club: 39.4%.</i> Public perception survey (2018). ('<i>Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey</i>'/PCBS) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Prisoners Affairs Committee: 44.8% 10.4% increase against the annual target • Colonization and Wall Resistance Committee: 22.7% 3.5% increase against the annual target • The Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs: 19.4% 6.3% increase against the annual target • Prisoner Club: 46.0% 14.5% increase against the annual target 														
<p>3.2 Indicator: Percentage of public satisfied of the legal aid services provided by the PG. <i>Disaggregated by sex, age and Palestinian/Israeli jurisdictions</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 41.3%. Public perception survey (2018). ('Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'/PCBS) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>	<p>80.7% 91.6% increase against the annual target.</p>		PCBS												
Output 3.1: Vulnerable populations have access to justice, security and protection															
<p>Indicator 3.1.1: Number of individuals living in area served by the PG who benefited from legal aid services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by age, gender, geographical area, type of jurisdiction (Palestinian/Israeli) and type of legal aid providers (CSO or PG)</i> <u>Baseline:</u> Provision of legal aid services by CSOs (area A/B) Total (2018): 3622 (1931 male, 1691 female) Provision of legal aid by PG: 608 Provision of legal aid by CSOs: 3014 <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>Total: 2500 (746 men, 1082 women, 646 boys, and 26 girls) 20.3 % decrease against the annual target.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="663 1190 1142 1406"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of services provided</th> <th>Gender</th> <th>No. of Beneficiaries</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Legal Consultation</td> <td>Men</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Women</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boys</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Girls</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of services provided	Gender	No. of Beneficiaries	Legal Consultation	Men		Women		Boys		Girls		<p><i>The provision of legal aid services in the West Bank remain to coincide with the launch of a legal aid system. Therefore, despite a 234 per cent increase this year, results do not meet the annual target.</i></p>	CSOs
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	<table border="1" data-bbox="667 191 1142 391"> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Legal Representation</td> <td>Men</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Women</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boys</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Girls</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td>2,500</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="667 427 1104 483"><i>Cases in the Israeli judiciary = 539 (66 consultations, 473 representations)</i></p> <p data-bbox="667 516 1104 573"><i>Cases in the Palestinian judiciary= 1,568 (823 consultations, 745 representations)</i></p>	Legal Representation	Men		Women		Boys		Girls		Total		2,500														
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<p data-bbox="100 646 625 760">Indicator 3.1.2.: Number of individuals living in area served by the PG who benefited from legal awareness services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by gender, geographical area</i></p> <p data-bbox="100 797 579 854"><u>Baseline (2018):</u> 463 (328 male, 135 female) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p data-bbox="653 646 1152 703">Total: 6,588 (1,246 men, 2,911 women, 1,482 boys, and 949 girls)</p> <p data-bbox="653 735 1119 760">1267.4% increase against the annual target</p>	<p data-bbox="1182 646 1545 816"><i>Due to difficulties in accurately determining the exact location of people that had access to online awareness raising content, data on this front are not reflected here.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1566 646 1633 670">CSOs</p>																								
<p data-bbox="100 860 1583 885">Output 3.2: Vulnerable populations in areas unserved by the Palestinian government have access to justice, security and protection</p>																											
<p data-bbox="100 893 625 1101">Indicator 3.2.1: Number of individuals living in areas unserved by the PG who benefited from legal aid services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by age, gender, geographical area (area C, H2, EJ, Gaza), type of jurisdiction (Palestinian/Israeli/Gaza de facto) and type legal aid providers (CSO or PG)</i></p> <p data-bbox="100 1138 621 1195"><u>Baseline (2018):</u> 6583 (3272 male, 3311 female) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p data-bbox="653 893 1152 950">Total: 19068 individuals (4137 men; 13472 women; 1426 boys and 33 girls)</p> <p data-bbox="653 954 1152 1011">83.9% of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions.</p> <p data-bbox="653 1044 1094 1068">178.4% increase against the annual target</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="653 1101 1157 1263"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cons.</td> <td>8870</td> <td>2</td> <td>3429</td> <td>426</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rep.</td> <td>4602</td> <td>31</td> <td>708</td> <td>1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>13,472</td> <td>33</td> <td>4137</td> <td>1426</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="653 1295 684 1320">GS:</p> <p data-bbox="653 1352 1062 1409">Total: 15,947 individuals (3,325 men, 11,761 women, 832 boys, and 29 girls)</p>	Type	Female		Male		Adults	Girls	Adults	Boys	Cons.	8870	2	3429	426	Rep.	4602	31	708	1000	Total	13,472	33	4137	1426	<p data-bbox="1182 893 1545 950"><i>All legal aid services were provided by CSOs.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1566 893 1633 917">CSOs</p>
Type	Female		Male																								
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Cons.	8870	2	3429	426																							
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Total	13,472	33	4137	1426																							

97% of cases were related to Palestinian Jurisdiction.

Type	Female		Male	
	Adults	Girls	Adults	Boys
Cons.	7,586	0	2,812	145
Rep.	4,175	29	513	687
Total	11,761	29	3,325	832

EJ:

Total: 2,151 individuals (454 men, 1,120 women, 574 boys, and 3 girls)

3 % of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions.

Type	Female		Male	
	Adults	Girls	Adults	Boys
Cons.	901	2	417	281
Rep.	219	1	37	293
Total	1,120	3	454	574

Area C:

Total: 758 individuals (298 men, 439 women, 20 boys, and 1 girls)

56.6% of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions.

Type	Female		Male	
	Adults	Girls	Adults	Boys
Cons.	287	0	168	0
Rep.	152	1	130	20
Total	439	1	298	20

	<p>Hebron H2:</p> <p>Total: 212 individuals (60 men, 152 women, 0 boys, and 0 girls)</p> <p>14.2% of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions.</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.2.2.: Number of individuals living in areas unserved by the PG who benefited from legal awareness services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by gender, geographical area (area C, H2, EJ, Gaza)</i></p> <p><u>Baseline (2018):</u> 4444 (1401 male, 3043 female)</p> <p><u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>Total: 15,201 (4,612 men, 9,415 women, 459 boys, and 715 girls)</p> <p><i>228.7% increase against the annual target.</i></p> <p>Social media users who were sensitized online: 1,594,072 (Disaggregation N/A).</p> <p>GS: Total: 13,147 (4,113 men, 8,189 women, 157 boys, and 688 girls).</p> <p>Social media users who were sensitized online: 1,594,072 (Disaggregation N/A).</p> <p>EJ: Total: 699 (60 men, 399 women, 240 boys, and 0 girls)</p> <p>Social media users who were sensitized online: N/A</p> <p>Area C:</p> <p>Total: 1,056 (392 men, 575 women, 62 boys, and 27 girls)</p> <p>Social media users who were sensitized online: N/A</p>	<p><i>Due to difficulties in accurately determining the exact location of people that had access to online awareness raising content, data are not reflected in EJ, Area C and H2.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>

	<p>H2:</p> <p>Total: 299 (47 men, 252 women, 0 boys, and 0 girls)</p> <p>Social media users who were sensitized online: N/A</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="659 500 1148 724"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>8189</td> <td>688</td> <td>4113</td> <td>157</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EJ</td> <td>399</td> <td>0</td> <td>60</td> <td>240</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area C</td> <td>575</td> <td>27</td> <td>392</td> <td>62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H2</td> <td>85</td> <td>0</td> <td>47</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>7,892</td> <td>715</td> <td>4,364</td> <td>459</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	Female		Male		Adults	Girls	Adults	Boys	GS	8189	688	4113	157	EJ	399	0	60	240	Area C	575	27	392	62	H2	85	0	47	0	Total	7,892	715	4,364	459		
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<p>Indicator 3.2.3.: Number of children living in areas unserved by the PG who benefited from legal aid services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by age, gender, geographical area and Palestinian/Israeli/Gaza de facto jurisdictions</i></p> <p>Baseline: 209 (2018) (Boys: 183; Girls: 26) Gaza: 72 (26 female) EJ: 137 (0 female)</p> <p>Planned Target: Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>Total: 1,459 (1426 boys, 33 girls).</p> <p>570.8% increase against the annual target.</p> <p>56.1% of cases were related to Palestinian Jurisdiction.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="651 1000 1100 1192"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Gender</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Boys</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Area C</td> <td>20</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EJ</td> <td>574</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>832</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>1,426</td> <td>33</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	Gender		Boys	Girls	Area C	20	1	EJ	574	3	GS	832	29	Total	1,426	33		CSOs																	
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<p>OUTCOME 4: WOMEN’S ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND SECURITY IMPROVED THROUGH GENDER-RESPONSIVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN</p>																																					
<p>Indicator 4.1: Number of cases on violence against women filed with FJPU annually</p> <p>Baseline: 3,346 (2017)</p> <p>Planned Target: Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	Data unavailable.	<p><i>A new classification has been applied by the PCP in reporting against the number of VAW cases annually. Such classification can only be applied retroactively to</i></p>	PCP																																		

		<i>the year 2019, thereby making the baseline of 2017 inaccurate. In view of this, data are not reported against this indicator.</i>																																
<p>Indicator 4.2: Number of cases on VAW that were transferred by public prosecution to courts. <i>Disaggregated by type of case and age.</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 2,263 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>3,539 cases</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Groups</th> <th>Type of Crime</th> <th>N. of Cases</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">18 and less</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">19-29</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>935</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">30-44</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>1364</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">45 and above</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>1043</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Sub Total</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>104</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>3435</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3,539</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>48.8% increase against the annual target.</i></p>	Age Groups	Type of Crime	N. of Cases	18 and less	Felonies	21	Misdemeanours	93	19-29	Felonies	22	Misdemeanours	935	30-44	Felonies	41	Misdemeanours	1364	45 and above	Felonies	20	Misdemeanours	1043	Sub Total	Felonies	104	Misdemeanours	3435			3,539		Mizan II
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<p>Indicator 4.3: Number of VAW cases that are convicted (including types of cases, types of sentences) <u>Baseline:</u> 638 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>1,215 cases</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Groups</th> <th>Type of Crime</th> <th>N. of Cases</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">18 and less</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">19-29</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>336</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">30-44</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>453</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">45 and above</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanours</td> <td>392</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Groups	Type of Crime	N. of Cases	18 and less	Felonies	0	Misdemeanours	28	19-29	Felonies	2	Misdemeanours	336	30-44	Felonies	4	Misdemeanours	453	45 and above	Felonies	0	Misdemeanours	392	Sub Total	Felonies	6		Mizan II					
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Output 4.1: Capacity of Rule of Law institutions to respond to needs of women are improved																												
Indicator 4.1.1: Number of tools (policies, strategies, SOPs, etc) developed to deal with VAW cases in line with international standards <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Case Conference Manual was amended to better identify and respond to the needs of women with disabilities survivors of violence. - A stigma tool to detect and collect data on discrimination and violence against women with disabilities. - A protocol on behavioral change and advocacy on the rights of women with disabilities. 			Institutional partners																							
<i>50% increase against the annual target.</i>																												
Output 4.2: New practices of justice and security service providers are supported to transform their attitudes and behaviours towards women and girls																												
Indicator 4.2.1: Number of gender champions (e.g., focal points, agents of change, leaders, etc) and role models identified and promoted within justice and security institutions <u>Baseline:</u> 22 (2018) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 5% (yearly)	61 gender champions (51 females and 10 males)	<i>122.5% increase against the annual target.</i>			N/A																							
Output 4.3: Women have access to justice, security, and protection																												
Indicator 4.3.1: Number of women who benefited from legal aid services supported by the project. <i>Disaggregated by age, geographical area and Palestinian/Israeli/Gaza de facto jurisdictions</i> <u>Baseline:</u> 5,938 (adults: 5401, juveniles:537) (2017). Consultations: 3,408 (adults: 3,197, juveniles: 211) (2017). Representations: 2,530 (adults: 2,204, juveniles: 326) (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	Total: 14,613 (14,554 Women, 59 girls). <i>134.1% increase against the annual target</i>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Gender</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Women</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A&B</td> <td>1082</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area C</td> <td>439</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EJ</td> <td>1120</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>11761</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H2</td> <td>152</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>14554</td> <td>59</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Type	Gender		Women	Girls	A&B	1082	26	Area C	439	1	EJ	1120	3	GS	11761	29	H2	152	0	Total	14554	59	CSOs
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Indicator 4.3.2.: Number of women who benefited from legal aid services supported by	Total: 3 (all girls)				N/A																							

<p>the PG. <i>Disaggregated by age geographical area and Palestinian/Israeli jurisdictions</i> <u>Baseline:</u> N/A <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>			
<p><u>Indicator 4.3.3:</u> Number of people (disaggregated by sex) targeted with awareness and sensitization interventions on women’s rights <u>Baseline (2017):</u> 35,334 (men: 5,432 women: 9,574, children: 20,484) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p>Total: 21,577 individuals (5,662 men; 12,310 women; 1,941 boys and 1,664 girls). (Reported under 3.2) <i>41.6% decrease against the annual target</i> Social media: 2,316,817 (Disaggregation N/A)</p>	<p><i>While this represented a 38 per cent increase as compared to last year, it remains significantly inferior to the target; the baseline might be revised going forward.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>