



Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP)

A JOINT ARRANGEMENT FOR RULE OF LAW DELIVERY IN CRISIS SITUATIONS



A COORDINATED UNITED NATIONS APPROACH TO THE RULE OF LAW

The Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law (GFP) is a United Nations platform co-chaired by DPO and UNDP that is designed to strengthen the provision of rule of law assistance **to address and prevent violent conflict, to protect human rights and to restore justice and security for conflict-affected people.** The GFP is a field-focused arrangement that enables United Nations entities, including UNODC, UNHCR, OHCHR, EOSG, UNOPS, UN Women and others, to jointly pursue shared objectives, in accordance with their mandates and capacities. GFP partners promote United Nations norms and standards, including **gender mainstreaming and human rights-based approaches.**

GFP coordinating platforms and working group arrangements are established both at **Headquarters and in the field** to increase United Nations coherence, align strategies and programs with national development plans, serve as a single

entry point for host governments, and to achieve better results drawing on the expertise of the contributing agencies.

Through joint assessments, planning, and programming, the GFP arrangement has been supporting a coordinated United Nations approach to rule of law assistance, relying primarily on voluntary funding and striving to **increase impact and results** by:



REDUCING COMPETITION



LEVERAGING EXPERTISE



ENCOURAGING INNOVATION

GFP PARTNERS

- DPO (co-chair)
- UNDP (co-chair)
- EOSG
- OHCHR
- UNHCR
- UNODC
- UNOPS
- UN Women

COVERAGE

The GFP operates in the following settings: Prevention and/or Sustaining Peace, Conflict and Post-Conflict, and Transitions.

JOINT
Rapid Deployments of Experts and Missions

JOINT
Trainings & Knowledge Sharing

JOINT
Resource Mobilization FOR COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

JOINT ASSESSMENTS
Planning & Design of Assistance

GFP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

63 EXPERT DEPLOYMENTS

including experts from Standing Police Capacity and Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity, as well as gender, human rights and programming

55 JOINT ASSESSMENT MISSIONS

for supporting programming and planning at the national level

10 JOINT PROGRAMMES

in support of national rule of law priorities

07 GLOBAL WORKSHOPS

organized by the GFP on joint programming and transitions for staff at Headquarters and in the field

24 CRISIS SITUATIONS

supported by the GFP since 2012

PEACE OPERATION SETTINGS

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:

GFP provides assistance to the restoration of criminal justice and rule of law institutions, including **the Courts of Appeal and the Special Criminal Court of CAR**. Courts of Appeal of Bangui and Bouar resumed regular sessions, **451 persons have been arrested and 169 people have been sentenced** for various crimes. The GFP also supported the establishment of **the Special Criminal Court (SCC)**. As of 2019, **60 complaints** were received by **the SCC** and investigations are progressing according to its investigation and prosecution strategy. At Headquarters, GFP partners provide support to **the Reference Group on the rule of law and the fight against impunity in CAR**, chaired by Morocco, to exchange information on the operationalization of the Court and on resource mobilization.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:

GFP partners provide assistance to the Congolese authorities in sustaining peace by supporting efforts that promote accountability, and increase access to justice. Through the GFP arrangement, partners provided judicial and legal assistance to over **820 conflict-related cases** as part of **Prosecution Support Cells (PSC)**. Also, over the past three years, a total of **4,987 survivors of sexual violence** have benefited from legal assistance, leading to **2,661 judicial decisions**. GFP partners also launched **mobile courts** and **legal assistance** to territories particularly impacted by the conflict.

TRANSITIONS

HAITI:

Since 2016, joint GFP partners in Haiti have supported the Haitian Government in carrying out its **legal reform process** by strengthening judicial institutions; **improving security and access to justice** for marginalized communities; and **increasing capacity** of the police and security sector. Critical support was also provided to the **judicial institution** for enabling institutions to evaluate, plan, and consolidate their respective inspection schemes and to establish their **priorities for future accountability**. **Conditions in 8 prisons** were improved, and a new legal aid project implemented with **the Bar Association of Port-au-Prince** resulted in **2,249 new cases** being opened and **1,961 consultations** being held and the release of **250 pre-trial detainees**.

DARFUR (SUDAN):

In Darfur, since 2018, GFP partners support **an integrated approach to UNAMID's transition** with a view to consolidate peacekeeping gains and advance peacebuilding priorities. UNAMID has partnered with ten United Nations entities including **UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Habitat** and **UNFPA** to support critical rule of law and human rights priorities and immediate service delivery through the innovative **State Liaison Functions**. In the rule of law area, this includes working closely with local institutions and communities to strengthen rural courts in areas of high prevalence of inter-communal conflict and accountability for serious crimes which is expected to result in progressively improved delivery of justice services.

PREVENTION/SUSTAINING PEACE SETTINGS

MALAWI: OROLSI's Standing Police Capacity deployed to Lilongwe, Malawi, in support of UNDP Malawi to assess preparedness of **Malawi Police Service (MPS)** to provide effective security during the 2019 Tripartite elections. The assessment identified several technical, strategic and logistical gaps and brought in OHCHR for the first **Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP)** Risk Assessment. This was followed by a six-month deployment of **three SPC experts** for capacity building of 2,700 police officers. One critical area of focus was establishment of **five communication** centers to improve collection, analysis and dissemination of criminal and other information for conducting better-informed police responses to public security events. This was later extended to a total of **twelve centers** with planned expansion throughout the country.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

GFP promotes and facilitates knowledge exchanges on the rule of law by organizing **an annual workshop** with GFP partners to **support joint rule of law programmes** in the field. Specialized trainings are also provided, including on transitions and corrections, as well as country-specific and thematic discussions, such as in the framework of the **Central African Republic Reference Group** and the **Groups of Friends of Corrections** and **United Nations Police**.