

## SAWASYA II

### PROMOTING THE RULE OF LAW IN PALESTINE

#### MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2019



Photo 1: Provision of legal aid at the PBA legal aid clinic, Gaza. © UNDP

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Programme Title & Project Number	Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme Title: “Promoting the Rule of Law in Palestine” (Sawasya II)</li> <li>MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 102754</li> </ul>	<p><b>State of Palestine</b></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>2017-2022 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)	Programme Duration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNDP/UN Women/UNICEF</li> </ul>	<p>Overall Duration: 36 months</p> <p>Start Date: 1.07.2018</p> <p>Original End Date: 30.06.2021/23</p> <p>Current End Date: Possibility of two additional years until 30 June 2023.</p>
Programme Cost (US\$)	Report Submitted By
<p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF /JP Contribution: /</p> <p>Agency Contribution UNDP BPPS: USD 595,000</p> <p>Government Contributions Netherlands: USD 8,522,727 SIDA: USD 6,359,957 Spain (earmarked/non MPTF): USD 779,405</p> <p><b>TOTAL: USD</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name: D. Christopher Decker</li> <li>Title: Joint Programme Manager</li> <li>Participating Organizations: UNDP/UN Women/UNICEF</li> <li>Email address: <a href="mailto:chris.decker@undp.org">chris.decker@undp.org</a></li> </ul>
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	
<p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>  Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME

*Sawasya II* represents the primary programmatic vehicle of the United Nations for advancing the rule of law, gender justice, justice for children and human rights in the State of Palestine for the period 2018-2021 (with a provision of two addition years). *Sawasya II* is designed to contribute to key priorities of the five-year United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Palestine (2018-2021), to the realization of the 2030 Agenda and of its sustainable development goals (particularly SDG 16 and SDG 5) and to the implementation National Policy Agenda for the State of Palestine.

Bringing together the main UN entities mandated and invested in these areas - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and 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 fulfills 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, including 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 to 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*”<sup>1</sup> realized. This year marked the first full year of implementation for the *Sawasya* Programme. During this period, the operational context remained challenging. The overarching political situation in Israel and in the State of Palestine continued to affect efforts to promote the rule of law and advance human rights and gender equality for the Palestinian people. The release of the Middle East Peace Plan by the Trump Administration, the absence of reconciliation prospect between Fatah and Hamas, the fast-paced institutional degradation in the Gaza Strip and sweeping changes in the composition of the judicial landscape, represented the greatest challenges to improving the rule of law in the State of Palestine.

Despite considerable challenges, important strides were made in 2019 towards aligning policy frameworks with international standards, including through the adoption of **two milestone decrees-laws protecting women from early marriage and expanding women’s parental rights**. *Sawasya* was also able to contribute with important advances at policy level, including the launch and rollout of **standard operating procedures for the prosecution of violence against women** and the development of **guidelines, by the Attorney General’s Office and the Palestinian Civil Police, for the provision of services to women and girls victims of cyber violence**. The improved prosecutorial and litigation environment is likely to have contributed to the **31 per cent increase in the number of convicted perpetrators observed this year**. In line with this, the **‘Gender Checklist’, launched in 2019, enables the systematic review of laws against international standards** and thereby supports the operationalization of core human rights elements within applicable legislations, in the absence of tangible progress on the domestication front. To further strengthen the policy and accountability environment, **more than 10,600 criminal court hearings were monitored, for the first time**, in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in an effort by the Programme to highlight critical gaps in service delivery and strengthen the capacity of civil society to conduct evidence-based advocacy.

In parallel, work continued to increase efficiency across the justice chain. **Regular courts and the judicial police are now connected through the Mizan case management system**, making the enforcement of criminal rulings faster and less resource intensive. With children and women often bearing the brunt of the delayed execution of judicial decisions, the **expansion and customization of Mizan to all specialized prosecution units**, undertaken in 2019, was key to delivering on the child and gender justice front. This year, **Mizan was also rolled out in family courts’ enforcement departments in the governorates of Hebron, Bethlehem and Nablus**. In the meantime, **Adalah was comprehensively upgraded**, which will support family courts in further aligning case management processes. Improved institutional capacity and combined efforts by development partners is likely to have contributed to these substantial improvements, including the **19 per cent increase in the number of judgements enforced in the Hebron pilot area**. The Palestinian justice sector, with *Sawasya*’s support, built, again this year, on the opportunities provided by enhanced connectivity to **take forward the implementation of the e-Government strategy and to develop its own matrix for the provision of 19 e-Services** over the next five years, which will be accessible to citizens using a unique online platform. Further to this, the High Judicial Council has put its accumulated expertise on case management to use in other Middle East

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

and North Africa countries through establishing the **first regional e-Knowledge platform**. As a first step in this sense, the transfer of Mizan by the State of Palestine to Mauritania was initiated this year.

Significant progress was also made towards further professionalizing the judiciary in a manner that makes it more protective of women and children. Moving away from *ad hoc* modalities, the **first standardized training programme for family judges was launched by the Palestinian Judicial Institute**. This substantially reinforces the latter's position as the main educational institution for justice professionals, including for family court judges and staff. In step with this, the **Palestinian Judicial Institute launched two specialized training programmes on violence against women for regular and family judges and a gender training curriculum for police officers**. These initiatives, in addition to the **operationalized Palestinian Judicial Institute's e-Portal**, are likely to further harmonize practices and approaches across the justice chain and to greatly improve service delivery. A cadre of better educated Palestinian justice professionals is also key to supporting policy and planning development in the justice sector. In view of this, the National School of Administration developed its **first standardized training programme for M&E and planning staff** across justice institutions. Evidence-based policy development and planning was also taken forward this year with the **operationalization of the Strategic Results Framework at the level of the justice sector** that allows for the systematic and consistent reporting and monitoring against the targets of the National Policy Agenda for 2017-2022.

The Programme continued to provide significant support for legal aid to Palestinian citizens. It has taken a multi-faceted approach to improve the policy framework, while ensuring that the most marginalized have access to quality services. In 2019, it has translated into the **securing of early representation for vulnerable individuals in contact with the criminal justice system and the development of standards for legal aid in the Gaza Strip**. It was also concretized through efforts to improve legal education and make it more oriented towards social impact and gender justice. Four university-based legal aid clinics developed practice oriented curricula and the **first two female lecturers in Al-Azhar University were recruited**. In complementarity to this and in the absence of a state-administered legal aid mechanism, **20,528 (65 per cent of women, 6 per cent of boys, 2 per cent of girls) vulnerable Palestinians were supported through legal aid services**. A further **13,380 individuals (77 per cent of women, 1 per cent of boys, 1 per cent of girls) were made more aware of their rights, with a specific focus on gender justice and equality** and **22,504 social media and TV viewers were sensitized on women's financial prerogatives under the Personal Status Law**. In step with this, **more than 7,000 police officers took part in an awareness campaign on the criticality to achieve and push forward gender balance in the workplace, while more than 1,500 civil society actors continued to call for the adoption of the Family Protection Bill and of laws more protective of the rights and dignity of women**. In 2019, important strides were also made towards better protecting children, with the **finalization of the mediation guidelines for juveniles in conflict with the law** by the Ministry of Social Development and the Attorney General Office, the **launch of a national awareness raising campaign on the rights of children when in contact with the law** and the **accreditation of 18 additional organizations in the West Bank for the provision of alternatives to detention**.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>ADRM</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms
<b>A2D</b>	Alternatives to Detention
<b>AG</b>	Attorney General
<b>AGO</b>	Attorney General's Office
<b>BZU/LAW</b>	Birzeit University's Institute of Law
<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organization
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>COGAT</b>	Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories
<b>COM</b>	Council of Ministers
<b>CRC</b>	Convention on the Rights of the Child
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>EJ</b>	East Jerusalem
<b>EUPOL</b>	EU Police Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support
<b>COPPS</b>	
<b>FJPD</b>	Family and Juvenile Protection Department
<b>FJPU</b>	Family and Juvenile Protection Unit (PCP)
<b>SGBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GLC</b>	Gender Legislative Committee
<b>GPC</b>	General Personnel Council
<b>HJC</b>	High Judicial Council
<b>ICHR</b>	Independent Commission for Human Rights
<b>IG</b>	Inspector General (PCP)
<b>IS</b>	Internal Security (PCP)
<b>JAL</b>	Judicial Authority Law
<b>JSS</b>	Justice Sector Strategy
<b>LAB</b>	Legislative Advisory Bureau
<b>LoA</b>	Letter of Agreement
<b>LHC</b>	Legal Harmonization Committee
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MOI</b>	Ministry of Interior
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MOSD</b>	Ministry of Social Development
<b>MOWA</b>	Ministry of Women's Affairs
<b>OPT</b>	Occupied Palestinian Territory
<b>OSC</b>	One Stop Center
<b>PBA</b>	Palestinian Bar Association
<b>PCBS</b>	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
<b>PCP</b>	Palestinian Civil Police
<b>PG</b>	Palestinian Government
<b>PJI</b>	Palestinian Judicial Institute
<b>PMF</b>	Palestinian Maintenance Fund
<b>PMO</b>	Prime Minister Office
<b>PPMU</b>	Planning and Project Management Unit

<b>RAP</b>	Results Action Plan
<b>SJD</b>	Supreme Judge Department
<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedures
<b>SRF</b>	Strategic Results Framework
<b>TOR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>ToT</b>	Training of trainers
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>VAW</b>	Violence Against Women
<b>VAW SPPs</b>	Specialized Public Prosecutors on Violence against Women

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## I. Progress Against Key Targets

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

	<b>2 decree-laws</b> adopted protecting women from early marriage and expanding women's parental rights		<b>First standardized training programme</b> for M&E and planning staff developed
	<b>'Gender checklist'</b> adopted systematizing the review of laws against HR obligations.		<b>Strategic Results Framework</b> against the National Policy Agenda adopted
	<b>+3,000 justice decisions</b> referenced with linkages between Al-Muqtafi's databases		<b>SDG16[+] national team</b> fully functional
	<b>+1,500 civil society actors</b> advocating together for the adoption of the Family Protection Bill		<b>2019 Global Alliance Report on SDG16[+]</b> featuring the State of Palestine
	<b>+380 civil society actors</b> taking forward reconciliation		<b>+ 10,600 criminal court hearings monitored</b> , in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip for the first time

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

Key progress was made in 2019 towards further aligning legislation with international standards. Broad and coordinated efforts of stakeholders engaged on this front have led to the adoption of **two milestones Presidential decrees, in November, that operationalize elements of the Convention on the Rights of Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**. The first decree increases the age of marriage to 18 for both women and men<sup>2</sup>, harmonizing the Personal Status Law with the Palestinian Child Law of 2004. While this represents an important milestone, the *Sawasya* Programme has continued to closely engage to further align the legislation with international standards, materializing in a decision by the Supreme Judge to develop a circular that will set out criteria and conditions under which the marriage of a child is exceptionally authorized<sup>3</sup>. The second decree allows women to open and manage bank accounts for their children. The Programme has engaged in continuous and long-term advocacy with family judges, in close coordination with civil society, providing them with sound support to highlight, at policy level, critical gaps in legislation and jurisprudence, and is likely to have contributed to these milestone results.

Important progress was also observed on the Judicial Authority Law (JAL) front. Demands from civil society and justice actors to ensure that the current revision process translates into a more independent judiciary were conveyed to the newly appointed Chief Justice, following a request

<sup>2</sup> Prior to this, girls aged as young as 14 and seven months could enter in a marital relationship, while the minimum age was 16 for males.

<sup>3</sup> The decree refers to exceptional circumstances under which marriage can be allowed by the Supreme Judge if this is deemed in the "best interest of the child". Interventions by the Programme aims to strictly define conditions and to set age limitations.

made to the Programme to support the interim High Judicial Council (HJC)<sup>4</sup> in achieving its mandate. *Sawasya*'s unique positioning in the justice sector was critical to secure a space for civil society and justice providers to engage, in the broader context of the dialogue initiated, this year, by civil society organizations (CSOs) on the reform of the justice sector. With 27 civil society representatives (44 per cent of women), 30 prosecutors and judges (33 per cent of women) consulted in November and December, a wide range of views were expressed. If civil society considers that broader consultations are key to channeling the views of citizens, judges emphasized that efforts could be invested in better applying the current legislation, while stressing that any revision must be conducted in line with democratic processes<sup>5</sup>. For civil society particularly, creating a space for citizens to regularly engage with decision makers on the performance of the judiciary is key to truly advancing the rule of law. Moving forward, it was suggested to operationalize such a space through strengthened judicial inspection mechanisms, able to frequently inform the public and the executive on the state of the judiciary. The importance of establishing clear dismissal mechanisms and penalties was also stressed, as to protect the integrity of the judiciary, but also as to ensure that disciplinary mechanisms do not jeopardize the independence of judges<sup>6</sup>. One solution advanced was the enlargement of the HJC to civil society actors and the establishment of clear authority lines, preferably with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) assuming more responsibilities<sup>7</sup> and acting as a mediatory power between the judiciary and the executive.

Congruent with efforts to align policy frameworks with international standards, the **'Gender Checklist' was launched in December** (*Annex I*), enabling law makers to move towards a more systematic review of laws against human rights and to mainstream gender justice at the early stages of legislation development. The Gender Legislative Committee (GLC)<sup>8</sup> in close partnership with the Birzeit University's Institute of Law (BZU/LAW) developed the booklet, which provides a ready-to-use methodology for drafting and revising legislation from a gender perspective.

Operationalizing the State of Palestine's international commitments within applicable laws contributes to advancing the domestication process, particularly in a context marked by minimal progress made towards comprehensive legal harmonization. The ongoing restructuring process at the Legal Harmonization Committee (LHC), prompted the Programme to halt its technical support in 2018. However, aware that making applicable legislation more accessible to citizens is essential to develop civic ownership over human rights obligations, the operationalization of Al-Muqtafi as a national compendium of law and jurisprudence accelerated this year. With support from *Sawasya*, the referential work was taken forward by BZU/LAW allowing any citizen to browse through the legislative and jurisprudence databases using key words or legal principles. **Al-Muqtafi's jurisprudence database, created in 2017, was populated with more than 3,000 regular and family court decisions** and over 100 new laws, while its consolidation database was

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<sup>4</sup> In the report, interim High Judicial Council and High Judicial Council designates the same institution.

<sup>5</sup> Judges noted that the revision must be limited in scope, as the current JAL already provides for a comprehensive framework, and must be conducted through the Palestinian Legislative Council, which has ceased to function in 2007.

<sup>6</sup> Contrary to the 2002 JAL, the amended version envisages that judges sitting in three disciplinary boards are designated in a nominative manner. For judges, this entails the risk of increased interference of the executive in the work of judges.

<sup>7</sup> Particularly responsibilities pertaining to the administration of courts.

<sup>8</sup> Born out of the National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women launched in 2011, the GLC falls under the purview of the MOJ and conducts the revision of Palestinian laws from a gender perspective.

further aligned with international standards for representing executive, legislative and judiciary documents (*Akoma Ntoso*). It was populated with 36 consolidated laws, thereby allowing the viewer to access, in one location a piece of legislation and all amendments made overtime. With *Sawasya*'s support, efforts were also invested by BZU/LAW to strengthen institutional links with the HJC, the Council of Ministers (COM) and the Legislative Advisory Bureau

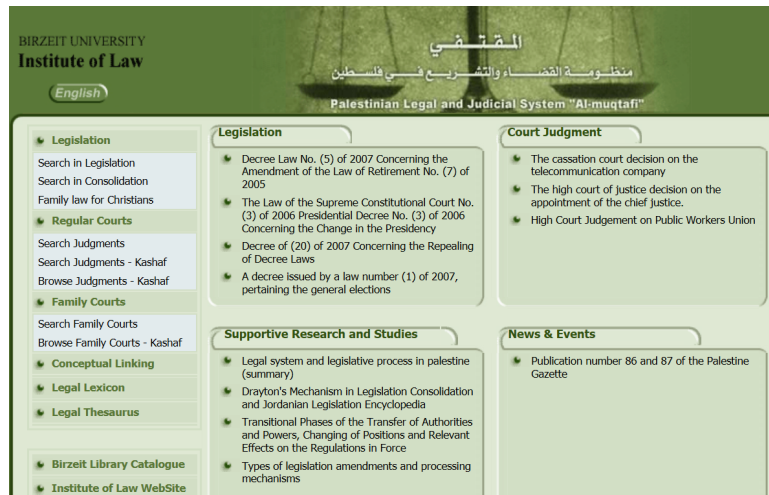


Photo 2: Al Muqtafi online database (English version). © UNDP

(LAB) with the specific aim of harmonizing the database, further strengthening links with Mizan II and making it financially sustainable, in view of the Programme's anticipated phasing out.

With regard to the Family Protection Bill (FPB), an amended version was submitted to the COM, in September 2019, by the LAB. However, the latest version moves further away from international standards, particularly as it utilizes gender neutral language, referring to both the perpetrator and the victim as "parties to the conflict", thereby suggesting equal power and agency in the relationship. In response, more than 1,500 citizens engaged in civic initiatives to call for the prompt adoption of legislation protective of women victims of violence that align with international standards (*see output 4.3*). In parallel, the Programme continued to contribute with gender responsive analyses of the FPB to help inform the international community (*see Annex II*).

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

#### **Support to the implementation of the justice and security plans**

The **operationalization, in 2019, of the Strategic Results Framework (SRF)** by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) represents a key milestone towards systematic reporting against the targets of the National Policy Agenda for 2017-2022 (NPA). Linked with the framework, five sectors – including justice and security - developed Results Action Plans (RAP) against which, they report to the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, thereby systematically informing planning and policy development efforts. *Sawasya* successfully concluded its support to the PMO in September, after extending it for six months to accompany the transitional period that ensued after the government reshuffle of last April. Through this additional support, the MOJ was able to successfully meet its obligations under the new SRF, while *Sawasya* worked to ensure that the government's 100-day plan does not jeopardize the regular NPA reporting cycle, introduced under the previous administration. With a fully operational SRF, the emphasis was also placed on automating current M&E processes, with the initiation of coaching sessions for Attorney General's Office (AGO) and HJC staff at the end of the year<sup>9</sup>. In addition, and based on a need assessment

<sup>9</sup> This will be continued in 2020.

conducted in 2018, the National School of Administration developed its **first standardized training programme**<sup>10</sup> for M&E and planning staff with the view of streamlining processes across the seven justice institutions. It is a critical step towards better governance and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as the work of the SDG16[+] national team was integrated in the curriculum that will serve as basis for the capacity building of other sectors using the SRF. Taking forward the 2030 Agenda also translated into the finalization of the MOJ gender unit’s strategic plan for the years 2019-2020. With support from *Sawasya*, a road map was established focusing on strengthening the capacity of the MOJ gender unit to mainstream gender, including in planning and budgeting.

“Putting citizens first” is the principle that underpins the implementation of the NPA. In line with this commitment, the seven justice institutions developed a comprehensive outreach plan that will be implemented through an outreach campaign committee composed of their media and communication specialists. The four-month outreach campaign aims to raise awareness among citizens on the policy frameworks through which they can demand accountability – namely the Justice Sector Strategy for 2017-2022 (JSS), but also on their rights and responsibilities as community members, particularly with respect to enforcement. With the campaign due to start in February 2020, the Programme worked to ensure the sustainability of the outreach campaign committee, through the creation of a unique Facebook page for the justice sector that will be linked with the e-Justice portal, once operational. It is an important step towards unifying the sector’s messaging to the general public and making information easily accessible to citizens. With the MOJ having initiated the JSS revision process that will be finalized in the first quarter of 2020, feedback from the PMO and the justice sector on the strategy’s implementation was collected and informed the design of the outreach campaign, particularly the need to raise awareness among justice providers on targets, results to date and the review cycle process.

### **Monitoring and implementation of SDG 16[+]**

With limited reunification prospect in sight and a protracted occupation context, building an inclusive rule of law system has proved increasingly challenging for the State of Palestine. Against this background, the **formation of a fully functioning SDG16[+] national team in 2019**, acting as a unified platform for members of institutions, civil society and the academia from across the oPt to take forward institutional building contributes in itself to achieving the 2030 Agenda. At the national level, the team – and particularly the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) - was instrumental in further localizing SDG16[+] targets within national planning instruments and to identify gaps in this regard<sup>11</sup>, while enhancing its focus through setting up three sub-groups dedicated to promoting access to justice, combatting corruption and advancing institutional building. Having shifted towards a realization-oriented approach, the national team successfully endorsed an implementation roadmap with relevant institutions, complemented by an outreach plan to foster ownership of the SDG16[+] work and a training plan to strengthen the team’s capacity to respond to future challenges. With the General Personnel Council (GPC) and the

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<sup>10</sup> Its implementation will start in January 2020.

<sup>11</sup> With regard to localization and monitoring of all SDG indicators, the PCBS – in close collaboration with *Sawasya* - developed baselines for indicators and adapted its data management structure to make a more strategic use of institutionally produced data with the view of supporting informed reporting. To make the initiative sustainable, a ‘Records and Statistical Monitoring’ database was established with the aim of collecting and formatting statistics extracted from administrative records of public institutions and to combine them with survey-related data. For more information, see the [PCBS's page](#) relating to SDG indicators.

Ministry of Local Governance having joined the team in 2019, following lobbying efforts by *Sawasya*, the potential of SDG16[+] as an accelerator is anticipated to be further leveraged through factoring in cross-institutional capacity building needs and area-based considerations in planning and implementation.

At the international level, the State of Palestine supported the dialogue at the High-Level Political Forum<sup>12</sup>, with the **national team's results and lessons learned being featured in the 2019 Global Alliance Report**<sup>13</sup> - with support from *Sawasya*. The national team's work also greatly contributed to knowledge dissemination through being showcased in international learning forums<sup>14</sup>. *Sawasya* also contributed to regional capacity building through bringing on board critical UNDP expertise<sup>15</sup> for the development of the first training in Arabic on SDG16[+] acceleration, delivered in September to the national team. In 2020, *Sawasya* will support the SDG16[+] team with a narrowed focus on outreach and regional networking activities, while UNDP country office will work to ensure greater synergies across SDGs for a consistent implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

### ***Output 1.3: West Bank and Gaza Rule of Law Institutions Are Reunified***

In view of the persistent *status quo* and the shrinking space for engagement in the reunification process, more than 380 representatives – of whom 33 per cent are women - of 45 grassroots organizations across the Gaza Strip joined forces with West Bank's civil society to take forward the stalling reconciliation process. Congruent with the findings of the 2018 “*Necessity v. Expediency: Transitional Justice in Palestine*” report<sup>16</sup> - which invites civil society to take up a leading role on key technical aspects relating to reconciliation, the two consultations organized in the Gaza Strip led CSOs to agree on prioritizing the development of technical solutions for policy makers, with a focus on accountability and transitional justice. Moving forward, similar consultations are anticipated to be organized in the West Bank and three position papers to be produced, focusing on prosecution and vetting, victims' reparation and on how mechanisms of accountability can be leveraged to accelerate the reconciliation process. With *Sawasya's* support, the papers will be enhanced by international expertise and by the results of the public opinion baseline survey currently conducted by the PCBS, and which will be finalized in 2020. In line with the Programme's ‘politically smart’ approach’ and given the current limited window of opportunity, the emphasis is placed on securing the necessary space for civil society to engage with key political and institutional players. In doing so, *Sawasya* also contributed this year with the updating of the Justice Sector Reintegration report that provides data on the state of the judiciary on a regular basis in the Gaza Strip, and is thereby key to supporting evidence-based advocacy efforts.

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<sup>12</sup> This year's theme was “empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.

<sup>13</sup> *Global Alliance Report: Enabling the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda through SDG16+: Anchoring Peace, Justice and Inclusion* available [here](#).

<sup>14</sup> The work of the SDG16+ national team was featured in Technical Consultation on justice for sustaining peace held on 16-17 May 2019 in Sarajevo and in Rome on 27-29 May 2019, particularly the successful institutional/CSO coordination and the State of Palestine's specific implementation modalities.

<sup>15</sup> Through UNDP/RBAS and UNDP in Brussels offices.

<sup>16</sup> Following the two technical workshops organized by *Sawasya* in 2018 with 51 CSO representatives.

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

In playing its oversight role, Palestinian civil society is key to initiating legal, regulatory and policy change. Important strides were made in 2019 in this regard, with **more than 10,600 criminal court hearings monitored, in both the West Bank<sup>17</sup> (72 per cent / 7,638) and Gaza Strip (28 per cent / 3,029)**, through a network of nine civil society organizations<sup>18</sup>, all partners of the national coalition for the reform and protection of the judiciary. It is the first initiative of this kind in the State of Palestine and represents an important milestone for civil society, as its ‘watch dog role’ is being acknowledged by authorities across the oPt. It also provides for a very valuable tool, not only to push for evidence-based reform, but to also enhance accountability of judicial authorities in the courtroom and compliance with international standards of fair trial. This was achieved in a context marked by the dissolution of the Grand Criminal Court in June, which obliged monitors to redeploy to West Bank courts competent to rule over serious crimes, scattered across eight different locations. Limitations were also placed on the monitoring of cases involving juveniles, as a general authorization could not be obtained, in light of the confidentiality requirements for cases involving children. Consequently, 260<sup>19</sup> such cases could only be monitored in the cities of Ramallah, Nablus and Gaza, where authorizations from sitting judges were obtained prior to each hearing. Based on the evaluation’s findings of the one-year pilot concluding in April 2020, *Sawasya* may seek to invest further in sustainably securing access to the courts by civil society and in refining monitoring instruments. Benefitting from UN women’s wealth of expertise, a special component will be rolled out in 2020 and will specifically focus on monitoring the cases of women in contact with the criminal justice system in the West Bank (*see output 4.3*).

Another key progress made towards bringing about policy change was the opening by civil society of a dialogue with citizens on the justice reform. On this occasion, **more than 280 citizens<sup>20</sup> across the West Bank were consulted on how, in their opinion, access to justice and the effectiveness of the judiciary can be improved**. With only 4.1 per cent of the general public being aware of the existence of the JSS<sup>21</sup> and with local justice actors and civil society being traditionally excluded from the development of planning instruments, this dialogue, led by civil society with support from *Sawasya*, was pivotal in channeling the views of providers and recipients of justice services. For citizens who took part in the dialogue, a comprehensive justice reform entails the unification of the Palestinian legislation and the acceleration of the reconciliation process between the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They also consider that any reform process should be citizens-led and conducted through a committee composed of members of the legal profession, the academia and civil society, whose role would extend to preventing interference by the executive. Congruent with this, citizens recommended that clear mechanisms are established for the appointment or removal of judges, underpinned by sound inspection processes, enlarged to external observers. On access to justice, the dialogue highlighted the criticality of establishing an independent body for the provision of legal aid, with set quality and accountability standards. Investing additional resources for accelerated proceedings and enforcement was also stressed, particularly through the optimization of the Palestinian Judicial Institute (PJI)/e-Justice and the revision of regulatory

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<sup>17</sup> To the exclusion of EJ.

<sup>18</sup> A total of nine court monitors were deployed (1/organization) over the course of the one-year pilot.

<sup>19</sup> Disaggregation is not available yet.

<sup>20</sup> Disaggregation not available yet.

<sup>21</sup> According to the ‘*Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey*’ conducted by the PCBS in 2018.

frameworks to overcome notification gaps. In addition to the four consultations organized in the West Bank in 2019, sessions will take place in the Gaza Strip in January 2020 followed by a public presentation of the advocacy report summarizing the findings of the dialogue.



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



**14 per cent decrease** in unsentenced detainees

*\* Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya*



**19 per cent increase** in judgements enforced in Hebron pilot

*\* Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya*



**e-Justice matrix endorsed** for the operationalization of 19 e-Services

**First regional e-Knowledge transfer platform** established by the HJC



**Connection of regular courts and judicial police** through Mizan

**All specialized prosecution departments** equipped with Mizan



**Unified template for prison monitoring** endorsed



**3 family courts' enforcement departments** equipped with Mizan

**Adalah upgraded** and rolled out in all Hebron governorate courts



**First standardized training programme** for family judges launched

**e-Learning portal** within the PJI operationalized



**+18 centers** for the provision of alternative to detention to juveniles accredited

**Mediation guidelines for juveniles** finalized by MOSD/AGO



**Unified local advisory committees** in Jericho pilot endorsed

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

#### **Support to inclusive and accountable policing**

Ensuring accountable and inclusive policing is key to solidifying the rule of law and the state building enterprise. However, enforcing the law consistently and continuously in the West Bank is particularly challenging, especially in the Jericho governorate where 88.5 per cent of the territory is classified in Area C<sup>22</sup>. In this context, interventions command to move towards a more participatory approach that calls upon community to play an active role. In 2019, this translated into further rolling out the Jericho governorate pilot through the development of **unified terms of reference (TORs) for the three local advisory committees** anticipated to be established in 2020<sup>23</sup>. It represents an important milestone towards citizen-oriented law enforcement, as the document was approved by the Chief of Police for the whole West Bank and will thereby serve as reference point, may the initiative be generalized at the national level through the Community Policing Coordination Group<sup>24</sup>. Community-based policing is key to developing an accountability

<sup>22</sup> Only 68 km in the governorate is classified as Area A, amounting to 11.4 per cent of the governorate's area. Only 0.8 km (0.01 per cent of the governorate's area) is classified as Area B. The remaining areas (88.5 per cent) are located in Area C, under Israeli security control. [Source](#): Negotiation Affairs Department (accessible [here](#)).

<sup>23</sup> Three critical locations were identified for the establishment of local advisory committees: Jericho city, Aqbat Jaber camp and Al-Auja.

<sup>24</sup> The group coordinates efforts on community policing and includes EUPOL COPPS, GIZ, DCAF, United States Security Coordinator as well as the British Support Team.



culture, particularly in areas that most bear the brunt of territorial discontinuity. However, with women being often excluded from the decision making/public sphere, *Sawasya* placed the emphasis on ensuring that they are represented in the local advisory committees, whose anticipated composition will include a minimum of 25 per cent of women. In this regard the comprehensive stakeholder and security diagnoses, undertaken by the Programme, will be referred to for the establishment of the committees and local security plans that will address identified threats and priorities<sup>25</sup>. As buy-in of the community as a whole is the cornerstone of the initiative, the emphasis will also be placed on increasing the awareness of the populations about the initiative in 2020.

Being able for a citizen to hold the police to account for harmful practices is also pivotal to developing a rule of law culture that uphold the highest of standards. The Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) is equipped with an accountability system mandated to process citizens' complaints and to enforce disciplinary measures. This system is managed through a network of three accountability units. However, as highlighted by the assessment conducted by *Sawasya* in 2019, the accountability unit system suffers from a lack of organizational development, coordination and integrated strategy. The assessment also finds that the system's structural weaknesses makes it less prone to cooperate with civil society and other complaint mechanisms, vital to advance accountability within the PCP. In close collaboration with EUPOL COPPS, *Sawasya* initiated, in March, a technical dialogue with the Chief of Police to take forward the PCP-CSO task force initiative. In line with recommendations, the Programme will focus on strengthening the current accountability system in 2020. The emphasis will be placed on the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and job descriptions for the accountability units, in close collaboration with the Chief of Police's office and based on the work undertaken under *Sawasya I*. Efforts will also focus on the development of an internal disciplinary guide as well as on the upgrading of the electronic complaint system, before envisaging the potential opening of new complaint offices. In view of the need to further reinforce the PCP's internal accountability framework, awareness raising activities will be conducted in 2020 through the CSO taskforce and may be expanded by *Sawasya* in view of the advances made on improving current processes.

### **Support to fair and equitable judicial procedures**

Approximately 11 per cent of Palestinians living in the Hebron governorate reside in Area C. With Israel retaining full control over security-related matters<sup>26</sup>, there are important enforcement gaps that command innovative and cross-cutting interventions. Taking forward the 2016 Joint UN Strategy for Hebron<sup>27</sup>, the pilot's action plan (2019-2021) was approved in November, with the view of addressing the main service delivery's bottlenecks in the governorate: high court backlog and poor enforcement of justice decisions. With notification being the nexus between these two challenges, the HJC took **important steps towards the automation of the current system**, in order to allow for its rapid rollout in the pilot governorate. A draft law was submitted to the President's Office to give legal force to electronic notification modalities, which will lay the groundwork for the generalization of the initiative at the national level. This change was initiated through a participatory approach whereby regular and family court staff as well as judicial police and notification officers were able to take stock of best practices in the Middle East and North

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<sup>25</sup> *Sawasya* supported the realization of a public perception survey on the police in the Jericho governorate, whose results were utilized to design the security diagnosis.

<sup>26</sup> *Joint UN Strategy for Hebron* (2016), UNSCO, available at [here](#).

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*



Photo 3: Workshop on Jordan's notification automation's experience at the Supreme Judge Department, Ramallah. © UNDP

Africa (MENA) region. Through two workshops organized by the Programme, they were able to learn from the experience of the judge who supervised, in Jordan, the notification system reform and to channel recommendations at the institutional level.

This bottom-up participatory approach also guided discussions and the identification of priority areas for the development of the pilot's action plan. Most of 2019 was dedicated to secure the buy-in of all enforcement actors at the local

and national levels. In view of this, the Programme facilitated a workshop in April with district-level regular and family court staff, judges and prosecutors as well as judicial police officers to discuss solutions and priorities, as highlighted in the assessment conducted in 2018 by *Sawasya*. Further to this, formulated solutions were presented to Heads of regular and family courts, with the participation of other development partners in an effort to further mobilize and centralize resources<sup>28</sup>. In 2020, justice staff from the eleven West Bank governorates – including Hebron, will be able to formulate recommendations on the upcoming budgeting exercises to be integrated at the central level. The emphasis will also be placed on ensuring that the pilot is on track with its deliverables, including the upgrading of the Mizan II and Adalah case management systems particularly critical to inter-institutional connectivity. Efforts will also focus on making legal aid more accessible to the public, with the anticipated provision of such services through the Hebron governor's office, as a potential first step towards the establishment of public information services (intendedly envisaged under *output 3.1.3*).

### Support to inspection mechanisms

Cognizant of the need to strengthen its accountability framework, the State of Palestine acceded to 14 international treaties & conventions, including the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) in 2017<sup>29</sup>, establishing mechanisms of international oversight for the prevention of inhuman or degrading treatment, particularly when in detention.

However, in order to produce tangible effects, the activation of such mechanisms must be accompanied by the continuous monitoring of places of detention, at the national level, to ensure their compliance with human rights. In 2019, important progress was made on this front, with the **endorsement of a unified template for prison monitoring**<sup>30</sup>, which is anticipated to be linked with Mizan II and the AGO's monitoring and evaluation system. The instrument is in adherence

<sup>28</sup> Notably, the assessment recommends to incrementally increase human resources and build the capacity of main service providers in targeted areas (e.g. valuation, marriage certification) to enhance the quality of service delivery. This has been prioritized for the upcoming year over cross-border offences.

<sup>29</sup> Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment was accessed by the State of Palestine in 2014, however access to the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture was accessed by the State of Palestine in 2017.

<sup>30</sup> The AGO/HRU is tasked with inspecting detention facilities that fall under the jurisdiction of public prosecution's oversight.

to the standards enacted in the OPCAT as well as in the Nelson Mandela<sup>31</sup>, Beijing<sup>32</sup> and Bangkok Rules<sup>33</sup> and was tested for use by the AGO, HJC and MOJ, all mandated to conduct inspection activities<sup>34</sup>. In close collaboration with OHCHR/EUPOL COPPS and following several months of engagement with the AGO, HJC, MOJ, Ministry of Interior (MOI), Ministry of Social Development (MOSD) and reform and rehabilitation centers, the unified template was validated in December by 30 institutional representatives<sup>35</sup>. On that occasion, *Sawasya* joined forces with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation to bring onboard critical expertise with a view to promote the role of civil society and to foster improved data management processes. To ensure that prison monitoring produces tangible improvements in the lives of the most vulnerable, work will focus, in 2020, on automating inspection and establishing joint complaint mechanisms as well as on furthering human rights mainstreaming in the HJC's planning and policy development processes.

On the judicial inspection front, the AGO/HJC unified bylaw, initiated at the beginning of the year, was put on hold by the newly appointed Chief Justice, delaying the anticipated development of unified mechanisms for inspection. However, in 2020, efforts will be invested in building the joint capacity of the HJC/AGO to consistently and coherently conduct inspection duties, including through the development of joint templates.

### **Support to enforcement mechanisms**

With 87.5 per cent of lawyers considering that backlog of enforcement of judgements is imputable to a shortage of staff and 71.3 per cent to the complexity of procedures<sup>36</sup>, considerable work and resources need to be invested to improve the immediate enforcement environment. To address these major shortcomings, enforcement stakeholders across the justice chain **joined forces under the framework of a unique action plan for 2019-2020**. The latter intends to take forward the recommendations of the judicial police assessment conducted under *Sawasya I* and updated this year, which suggests, *i.a.*, to bridge the current legislative gaps in relation to the enforcement of warrants<sup>37</sup> and to allocate more resources to strengthen cooperation. The action plan was formulated on the occasion of a workshop, facilitated by *Sawasya* and the PCP, that brought together representatives of enforcement departments of the HJC, AGO, Supreme Judge Department (SJD) as well as the President's Office, MOI, MOJ, EUPOL COPPS, DCAF and GIZ. The action plan was developed based on the revision of the judicial police assessment conducted in 2019 and on the main results of the PCBS 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice' survey relating to enforcement. Moving forward, work will focus on supporting the action plan's rollout and on

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<sup>31</sup> UN Economic and Social Council (1957), *United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners*.

<sup>32</sup> UN General Assembly (1985), *United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice*.

<sup>33</sup> UN General Assembly (2010), *United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders*.

<sup>34</sup> As per the Criminal Procedures Code (article 26) and the Reform & Rehabilitation Centers Law.

<sup>35</sup> From the HJC and AGO.

<sup>36</sup> PCBS (2018), 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey'. Only 46.3 per cent of them imputing the current situation to the constraints brought about by the occupation.

<sup>37</sup> The judicial police was established following the issuance by the Government of Palestine, in adherence to article 68 of the Palestinian Basic Law, of the *Decision No. 99 of 2005 establishing and regulating the work of the judicial police*. However, *Decision No. 99 of 2005* does not task the judicial police with performing judicial officers' duties as set out in article 22 of the *Criminal Procedure Law No. 3 of 2001*. Furthermore, *the Criminal Procedures Law No. 3 of 2001* does not grant judicial officers, or any specific authority, with the power of executing judicial warrants, thereby compromising the legality of currently applied procedures.

raising the public's awareness on penal consequences it is exposed to, when non-complying with enforcement decisions.

### **Strengthened capacity of the Palestinian Judicial Institute**

Since its establishment in 2008, the PJI aims to develop a cadre of better educated Palestinian judges and prosecutors who can contribute to addressing bottlenecks that are affecting the functioning of the courts. In 2019, important strides were made in this regard with the **launch of the first standardized training programme for family judges in the country**<sup>38</sup>. This is the result of the dialogue engaged between the PJI and the SJD, with *Sawasya*'s support, to develop judicial curricula, inclusive of family courts and of their needs. This is reinforcing the PJI's position as the sole legitimate judicial educational institution in the sector and greatly contributes to fostering the professionalization of family judges, in a manner that aligns better with the State of Palestine's human rights obligations. In step with this, the pilot 'code of conduct' course was fully developed this year, thereby further **operationalizing the e-Learning portal** established in November 2018. As a result, judges and prosecutors are now able to log-in, using their personal accounts, including family judges for which the e-Platform was enhanced to better respond to their needs. In addition, key five PJI staff (80 per cent of women) were trained on how to use the portal with a view to develop in-house management capacity of the instrument.

### **Support to the development of the e-Justice strategy**

One of the most salient areas of progress in 2019 is the **endorsement by twelve institutions**<sup>39</sup> **of the e-Justice matrix** that sets out a 5-year roadmap for the incremental operationalization of 19 e-Services. The platform builds upon the Mizan II transition<sup>40</sup>, and the progress made under *Sawasya I*, to expand the range of e-Services, through linking regular courts with prosecution offices as well as with key ministries<sup>41</sup>. With its activation, the potentiality of the justice case management systems – including Adalah – will be further explored and directly contributes with removing physical barriers that stand in the way of citizens fully accessing justice services. Palestinians<sup>42</sup> will not only be able to verify online their court case status but will also have the ability to remotely renew one's driving license or authenticate documents. Based on the 2018 needs assessment conducted by *Sawasya*, the matrix successfully captures estimated costs, by institution, for each e-Service. Therefore, it provides development partners with a comprehensive instrument to calibrate their engagement and to achieve economies of scale. In this regard and given *Sawasya*'s unique positioning and expertise in the sector, it has been invited by the Justice Sector Working Group to co-chair the sub-group on the '*Access to justice and provision of quality services*' along with the AGO and the Netherlands. This represents a critical dialogue platform to accelerate gains on this front and play a coordinating role in the mobilization of resources.

In view of this and to accompany the implementation of the e-Justice strategy, Mizan II continued to be customized and expanded, covering at the end of 2019, **all specialized prosecution offices**<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> It will be delivered over an 18-month period.

<sup>39</sup> The e-Justice committee comprised of the MOJ, HJC, AGO, SJD, PJI, Constitutional Court, LAB, PBA, Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission, Judicial Police, the military judiciary as well as the Palestinian Maintenance Fund endorsed the roadmap in December.

<sup>40</sup> The new version of Mizan – referred as Mizan II – was implemented from 2009 onwards.

<sup>41</sup> Including the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Finance and Planning

<sup>42</sup> Given the ongoing division, the system will only apply to the West Bank, and is expected to be expanded to the Gaza Strip may the reconciliation process move forward.

<sup>43</sup> Across the West Bank.

- juvenile, family protection and traffic prosecution departments - **and family courts' enforcement departments in the governorates of Hebron, Bethlehem and Nablus**<sup>44</sup>. Important strides were also made towards furthering inter-institutional linkages, with **regular courts and the Judicial Police (JP) being connected, for the first time, through Mizan II**. This is anticipated to improve the immediate enforcement environment, with the online generating of specialized warrants, indictments and statistical monthly reports. In this regard, important progress was made, in the pilot governorate of Hebron, with an **observed 19 per cent increase in the number of court judgements enforced in 2019** as compared to 2018<sup>45</sup>. This can be attributed to the PCP's thorough engagement to improving the current enforcement record in the State of Palestine and to accelerating change in the pilot area. It translated, in 2019, into the appointment of a new police commander to the Hebron governorate as well as of a new JP's Head of Section, who led joint security campaigns throughout the year. Further to this, **Adalah – the family court case management system, was fully upgraded in 2019**, and is ready to be rolled out in all family courts in 2020.



Photo 4: Capacity building of family court IT staff on programming language, Ramallah, © UNDP

To ensure that the witnessed progress is sustainable, *Sawasya* further invested efforts in building the capacity of 15 e-Justice committee members (53 per cent of women) through a training on how to apply creative thinking to e-Service development. Further to this, 16 IT staff (19 per cent of women) of family court departments were trained on programming language making them able to adjust the system to new needs and challenges. Moreover, 65 family and regular enforcement

court staff (29 per cent of women) were trained on how to best optimize Mizan II. A six-day training was also organized to further build the capacity of 70 judges and administrative staff (24 per cent of women), whose work is contingent upon Mizan II. In addition, core IT equipment was provided to the MOJ, HJC, SJD and AGO and critical expertise was brought onboard to support the MOJ in further aligning its IT capacity with this of other members of the e-Justice committee.

Cognizant of the central role it is invited to play among MENA countries<sup>46</sup> on the case management front, the State of Palestine established the **first regional e-Knowledge transfer platform for the justice sector**. With *Sawasya's* support, the State of Palestine's HJC brought

<sup>44</sup> Mizan II is the dedicated management systems for family courts' enforcement departments as it better connects to key institutions than Adalah. Seven additional enforcement departments in the West Bank will be equipped in January 2020.

<sup>45</sup> As compared to a 23 per cent increase in the whole West Bank, comprising all courts.

<sup>46</sup> The example of Mizan is often cited in international forums, including in the regional conference organized by the Lebanese University of Beirut in 2018, to which *Sawasya* took part.



together 122 representatives from 16 Arab delegations to open a dialogue on the transfer of responsive case management technology. During the two-day conference (*Annex III*), the various represented countries exchanged on the lessons learned from the 19-year long Mizan's development process, on data treatment adapted to family courts and on the safeguards set in place to ensure the protection of data involving children and women victims of violence. As a result of these discussions, the participants unanimously agreed on



Photo 5: Regional conference on case management systems in the justice sector led by the State of Palestine, Dead Sea, Jordan. © UNDP

institutionalizing knowledge exchanges. In step with their commitment, the State of Palestine and Mauritania are expected to shortly finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the transfer of Mizan II technology, with support from *Sawasya* and UNDP Mauritania. This represents an important milestone towards the development of online-based services across the MENA region, able to reach out to the farthest left behind, and an outstanding illustration of south-south cooperation & triangulation.

### **Support to the development of child-friendly justice procedures**

The endorsement of the Juvenile Protection Law (JPL) in 2016 reflects the State of Palestine's commitment to meeting its obligations under the CRC and other international instruments. In 2019, this commitment was taken forward with the **finalization of the mediation guidelines by the MOSD and the AGO**, that further aligns the policy framework with international standards for the administration of juvenile justice (Beijing rules<sup>47</sup>). The guidelines establish clear criteria and qualifications for the selection of mediators, clarifies roles and responsibilities in the process of mediation and provides step by step guidance on the mediation process. These guidelines will serve as basis for the development of the mediators training material<sup>48</sup>. It is critical to improve the quality of diversion measures that continue to be growingly applied, as evidenced by the 40 per cent increase of children that benefitted from mediation over the reporting period. Efforts to standardize mediation have elicited mixed results so far, as it is still conducted by the juvenile prosecution and as it consists, in the vast majority of cases, of returning children to their guardians, without offering them the possibility to access rehabilitative measures<sup>49</sup>. With the operationalization of the guidelines, mediation will be professionalized and better geared towards

<sup>47</sup> See footnote 33.

<sup>48</sup> The guidelines remain to be adopted by the MOSD and AGO. The development of the training material and the training of 50 mediators will be conducted in 2020.

<sup>49</sup> In 2019, 79 per cent of children were returned to their guardians, when 7 per cent were assigned to specific tasks by the prosecutor and 5 per cent accessed vocational training. 5 per cent accomplished remedial work and 3 per cent public service work. Data collected and analyzed using 87 cases of represented children.

the needs of children, focusing on ways to reintegrate them within society and to turn their experience into meaningful growth.

With regard to the provision of alternatives to detention (A2D) for juveniles in contact with the criminal justice system, the number of concerned children has increased by 7 per cent in 2019. With the further **customization of Mizan II this year – particularly in relation to the juvenile prosecution**, follow up and statistics of cases involving children can be automatically generated online, enabling juvenile judges, prosecutors and child protection counselors (CPCs) to retrieve critical information that can inform decisions on the opportunity to apply A2D. However, when compared to the 21 per cent decrease in children who received custodial sentences this year, A2D remain to be more systematically applied. Cognizant of the need to enhance their access, the Programme supported the signing of **MOUs between the MOSD and 18 organizations** that provide A2D services, including psychosocial support, life skills and/or vocational training. It represents a major accomplishment, given that, so far, only five West Bank-based centers are qualified to provide such services, oftentimes leaving judges with no option other than ordering the placement of the child with a guardian. This result is the culmination of efforts by *Sawasya* to comprehensively assess A2D capacities, through the identification, earlier this year, of 68 suitable organizations. This was complemented by three-day training sessions for 151 organizations' staff (54 per cent of women) that contributed to improving their child protection practice, with 93 per cent of participants reportedly feeling better skilled and equipped in this regard. Moving forward, *Sawasya* will support the MOSD in developing child protection safeguards that will become an integral part of the partnerships with the A2D organizations. Efforts will also be invested in developing monitoring processes and quality assurance mechanisms with the centers.

In parallel, an assessment on the opportunity to introduce rehabilitation programmes in Dar Al-Amal (Ramallah) and the Girls' Care Home (Beit Jala) – the two existing closed facilities for children in the West Bank – was conducted. With more than 300 children (23 per cent of girls) housed in 2019<sup>50</sup>, ensuring that these centers provide access to rehabilitating and reintegrative support is critical. In this regard, *Sawasya* conducted a needs assessment with a view to inform interventions moving forward. The assessment highlighted the importance to establish programmes that provide children with basic skills, tailored educational support and personalized psychosocial care. In addition, 99 children (all male) received visits from lawyers, supported by *Sawasya*, in authorized as well as non-authorized Palestinian detention centers (*i.e.*, affiliated with security forces) in 2019. During the visits, the lawyers found that 73 per cent of them had their rights routinely violated, in spite of ill-treatment and torture being prohibited under the CRC and the JPL (*see Annex IV*). In order to address this enduring situation and make children better equip to defend their rights, *Sawasya* launched this year an awareness campaign across schools in the country (*see output 3.1.*), while continuing to advocate with authorities to put an end to such practices, including through the collection and analysis of questionnaires from children. In addition, 33 CPCs (60 per cent of women) continued to benefit from on-the-job training, through 92 group and individual supervision sessions and 87 coaching visits realized during the period. As a result, CPCs are better skilled to design needs-based activities and to ensure thorough follow up and reporting. By strengthening the case management skills of CPCs, the Programme contributes to fostering juvenile justice best practices, thereby equipping prosecutors and judges to make better informed decisions in cases involving children. Better skilled Family and Juvenile Protection Units

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<sup>50</sup> 238 boys in Dar Al-Amal in Ramallah and 70 girls in the Girls' Care Home of Beit Jala.

(FJPU) is also key to improving child justice delivery. Congruent with this, 22 newly enrolled police officers (68 per cent of women) were further trained on child sensitive interviewing tools and on risk identification, particularly in instances of sexual abuses. In parallel, the 18-month supervision professional diploma continued to be rolled out, in the framework of the Birzeit University Continuous Education Institute partnership. Through the Programme, 12 juvenile police officers (10 per cent women) and five CPCs (all women) officers five CSO staff (80 per cent of women) will be able to provide on-the-job training in their respective organizations, thereby ensuring the further institutionalization of best supervision practices. In 2020, candidates are anticipated to complete a 100-hour practice supervision and a research paper before their deployment.

In the Gaza Strip, the long-drawn-out division prevents a comprehensive application of the JPL. The legal framework remains, *i.a.*, governed by the Law of Juvenile Offenders of 1937 and the Palestinian Child Law of 2004, which do not adhere to international standards. In light of this, **84 children (all male) benefitted from case management and psychosocial support, including at Al-Rabee' Rehabilitation Centre<sup>51</sup>** through *Sawasya*, in an effort to address urgent needs. In parallel, the Programme promoted the further operationalization of child justice principles through, *i.a.*, strategic and responsive litigation. In line with this, **57 lawyers (33 per cent of women) were trained on children's rights and on the juvenile justice legal framework.** An assessment will be conducted in partnership with civil society and other stakeholders to better understand gaps and bottlenecks in the juvenile justice system in the Gaza Strip and to develop an action plan for proper interventions.

Diversion measures and post-trial rehabilitation and reintegration services were also taken forward in the Gaza Strip, with six probation officers and social workers (17 per cent of women) trained on family group conferencing (FGC) interventions. In addition, efforts were invested – albeit with limitations (*see output 1.4*) – on monitoring juvenile cases in Gaza and Khan Yunis<sup>52</sup>, through applying a child-friendly methodology.

Laying the groundwork for evidence-based advocacy to improve the current regulatory framework that applies to children command that practices, particularly at the level of family courts, are comprehensively reviewed. The rapid appraisal assessment conducted this year on family courts in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank finds that there is a need to further align the Personal Status Law and the Palestinian Child Laws and to better take into account the best interests of the child, including in relation to custody and alimony. The assessment will provide a basis for engagement and inform future interventions with family court in 2020. Moving forward, work will also be invested in revising the national strategic plan in the West Bank and in developing an action plan for the Gaza Strip on juvenile justice.

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<sup>51</sup> 56 children were supported at Al-Rabee' Rehabilitation Centre; 28 were supported following their reintegration within their communities.

<sup>52</sup> 260 child cases monitored across the West Bank and Gaza Strip (*see output 1.4*); disaggregation is not available as of yet.



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

### **Support to enhanced access to justice and security service provision in Area C**

In areas unserved by the Government of Palestine, access to effective, accountable and inclusive justice and security services is not systematically guaranteed, resulting in important delivery gaps. This is particularly the case in the Jericho and Hebron governorates – the two identified pilot locations - where Area C accounts respectively for 89 per cent<sup>53</sup> and 47 per cent<sup>54</sup> of the territories. In 2019, a number of accomplishments were made towards addressing critical service delivery bottlenecks in the selected areas, through the provision of tailored and community-based solutions that have the potential to be replicated at the national level. Mizan II was rolled out in the Hebron governorate’s family courts’ enforcement department as a first step towards its generalization in the whole West Bank in early 2020 (*see output 2.1*). This represents an important milestone, as efficient case management and the rapid enforcement of family courts’ decisions are key to improving justice delivery, particularly for women and children living in unserved areas. Revisions of the notification legal framework were also initiated by the HJC, with *Sawasya*’s support, in order to outsource notification and shift towards an electronic system in the Hebron governorate and with a view to lay the groundwork for the generalization of the initiative, at the national level. With regard to community policing, the endorsement by the Chief of Police, this year, of unified TORs, developed by the Programme, for the establishment of local advisory committees in the Jericho pilot governorate also represents a crucial step towards ensuring the rapid replicability of the action in other parts of the West Bank.

### **Support efforts to enhance security and justice in the Gaza Strip**

In order to ensure the operationalization of key elements of the international human rights law consistently across the State of Palestine, efforts were geared towards improving the capacity of the judiciary to provide more responsive services. As a result, more than 650 (10 per cent of women) justice actors were sensitized on the application of human rights, women’s rights (280/5 per cent of women) and on transparency (139/4 per cent of women) in the judiciary, in collaboration with OHCHR and the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR). 108 public health and service providers (40 per cent of women) were trained on drafting medical reports on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) victims, on the protection of survivors and on national referral pathways. With arbitration representing an alternative pathway towards more accessible, cost and time-effective service delivery, the emphasis was also placed on training 131 key actors (5 per cent of women) in order for the Arbitration Law No 3 (2000) to be more generally applied.

### **Support to the development of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms**

Despite the potential benefits of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms (ADRM) in relation to access to justice, they tend to reflect shortcomings that are already found in the formal and informal justice systems. In this regard, the **assessment conducted by *Sawasya* this year, reveals**

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<sup>53</sup> **Source:** Negotiation Affairs Department (available [here](#))

<sup>54</sup> **Source:** Ministry of Local Government (2016), Spatial Plans for Palestinian Communities in Area C of the West Bank (available [here](#))



Photo 6: Dialogue initiated by the MOJ's Arbitration and Dispute Settlement Department, Ramallah. © UNDP

that the public and service providers<sup>55</sup> remain generally uninformed and unaware of the solutions that ADRM offer. In consequence, Palestinians residing in unserved areas (East Jerusalem, area C, Hebron H2) tend to resort to informal justice mechanisms, where the situation is already compounded by a long-standing tribal justice culture and blatant gaps in law enforcement. This frequently results in non-contentious resolutions that present important weaknesses in terms of equal protection of the

rights of women and children. In this regard, the key actors operating in the ADRM space across the civil, commercial and family fields of law agreed on taking forward a number of key recommendations formulated in the assessment, including, *i.a.*, reactivating the mediation draft law committee and further professionalizing the ADR practice while ensuring its adherence to human rights standards, with the support of civil society. The dialogue initiated by the MOJ's Arbitration and Dispute Settlement Department, with *Sawasya's* support brought together representatives from key ministries<sup>56</sup>, the juvenile police, the prosecution, family courts, the PBA, the General Union of Palestinian Women, the Chamber of Commerce, informal justice actors as well as civil society and international stakeholders. In 2020, *Sawasya's* interventions will focus on operationalizing the aforementioned key recommendations through support to invested institutions as well as through supporting civil society organizations in further promoting ADRM at the community level.

<sup>55</sup> Main formal ADR providers include family courts, the prosecution – including the juvenile prosecution, ICHR, CSOs, the Civil Peace Department (Hebron H2), the Al-Faisal Arbitration Center (East Jerusalem).

<sup>56</sup> Including the MOI's Department of Tribal Affairs and Reform, the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MOWA).

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



20,528 accessed legal aid services among the most vulnerable across the oPt



13,380 accessed legal awareness among the most vulnerable across the oPt



First two female lecturers recruited in Al-Azhar University



Early representation referral platform established in the Gaza Strip



Nation-wide school campaign on rights of the child launched



Standards for the provision of legal aid services developed in the Gaza Strip

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

#### Support to the development of a sustainable legal aid system

A year after its endorsement by the National Legal Aid Committee (NLAC), the National Legal Aid Strategy (NLAS) was officially adopted in December 2019 by the members of the newly formed Justice Sector Higher Committee<sup>57</sup>, after it had been set as a key priority by the recently appointed Minister of Justice. Following a much protracted process, the PBA approved of the adoption upon the condition that references relating to legal aid in front of family courts are removed. In spite of the NLAS being substantially reduced in scope, preeminent members of the PBA's General Assembly publicly stated their opposition to its adoption, leading the PBA Chair to withdraw its support to the NLAS, without, however, formally pulling out of the NLAC. Given the uncertainty surrounding the role the PBA is invited to play moving forward, interventions will focus, in 2020, on providing technical support to the NLAC to advance the operationalization of the strategy. The Programme will prioritize support to the NLAC in developing a legal aid law and legal aid standards for children in conflict with the law. It will also provide direct technical support to the establishment of a Mizan-connected legal aid database, based on the comprehensive assessment conducted, this year, by *Sawasya* on existing modalities.

#### Support legal education through university legal aid clinics and law firm incubators

Support to universities and law firm incubators focuses on enhancing the quality of the legal practice, while at the same time, seeking to foster a rule of law culture through which young and future professionals can achieve social impact. In 2019, key progress was made on this front through the conclusion of partnerships with four Palestinian universities<sup>58</sup> to **implement practice-based curricula through their legal clinics** in close collaboration with practicing law

<sup>57</sup> Composed of the MOJ, HJC, AGO, PBA, ICHR, the PCP as well as the Legal Advisor of the President.

<sup>58</sup> Gaza Strip: Al-Azhar University, the Islamic University; West Bank: Al-Quds University, An-Najah University.

professionals, including civil society providers<sup>59</sup>. This is the result of a series of consultations conducted by the Programme directly with more than 150 law school students (58 per cent of women), over the course of which, they were able to express their views on ways to improve law school education. In their opinion, access to specialized and practical legal training sessions and close monitoring of their impact on the students' professional trajectories is key to improving the current educational environment. Over the course of the consultations, female law students highlighted the persisting gender biases that subsist in the legal education and profession. Therefore, and as part of the partnerships, **two female lecturers were recruited in the Al-Azhar University**, and specific attention was given to gender justice in the curricula that will be further rolled out in 2020.<sup>60</sup> Through Al-Quds University, 31 students (44 per cent of women) were trained on the provision of legal aid and on the documentation of human rights violations, with the specific aim of addressing restrictions placed on Palestinians' right to education and to movement. Through the clinic, 107 East Jerusalemites (47 per cent of women) have accessed legal awareness and aid services in relations to social welfare, residency rights and child registration. In addition, one female law graduate<sup>61</sup> benefitted from an apprenticeship placement at the Community Action Center of Al-Quds University, that, once completed, will qualify her for the Israeli Bar examination.

With only one third of lawyers being female in Palestine<sup>62</sup>, women remain underrepresented in the legal profession. In the Gaza Strip, the situation is only compounded by the 78 per cent unemployment rate that severely impacts university-educated young adults<sup>63</sup>. In view of this, a workshop focusing on the challenges faced by female lawyers in the Gaza Strip was facilitated by *Sawasya* this year. The workshop provided a valuable platform to discuss solutions to further support young female lawyers, including through entrepreneurship. Given that young female lawyers are most likely to bear the brunt of the deteriorating economic and social situation, priority will be given, in 2020, to explore the potentialities of a firm incubator module for practicing women.

### **Support to the provision of legal aid services in conformity with the NLAS**

In the West Bank, **1,028 vulnerable Palestinians (34 per cent of women and 13 per cent of boys<sup>64</sup>) residing in areas served by the Government of Palestine<sup>65</sup> have accessed legal aid services**, during the reporting period (*for levels of satisfaction in areas served and unserved by the Government of Palestine see Annex V*). This support is critical to ensure that until a national legal aid scheme is approved and fully funded, citizens who cannot afford the services of a private lawyer, have access to quality legal aid in a manner that adheres to the main elements and guiding principles of the NLAS. In the West Bank and following a thorough gap analysis conducted by *Sawasya*, criminal justice was identified as one of the priority gaps, as a number of key areas were

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<sup>59</sup> Al-Quds University provides legal aid for EJ cases and An-Najah University for cases falling under the Palestinian jurisdiction. Al-Azhar and the Islamic University legal clinics do not provide legal aid services.

<sup>60</sup> Al-Azhar University and An-Najah University will start implementing activities in 2020. Between October and December 2019, the Islamic University in Gaza finalized preparations for a practical legal training package that focuses on three legal courses of the first academic semester: the Palestinian arbitration law, enforcement law and the Personal Status Law. It is expected that 450 law school students will participate in these trainings in January 2020.

<sup>61</sup> An additional law graduate student will benefit from an apprenticeship placement in 2020.

<sup>62</sup> EUPOL COPPS (October 2019), *Palestinian women aim for leadership role in Bar Association*, available [here](#).

<sup>63</sup> See Btselem (June 2019), *Forced unemployment*, available [here](#)

<sup>64</sup> Only two girls accessed legal aid during the period.

<sup>65</sup> Areas A and B.

already covered by legal aid providers engaged on this front – including services for cases pertaining to family jurisdictions. In anticipation of potential overlaps, the Programme limited its interventions in 2019, thereby explaining the discrepancy between the achieved results (1,028) and the intended target (3,075). Through the Programme’s engagement however, 587 individuals (37 per cent of women and 22 cent of juveniles<sup>66</sup>) were able to access legal aid for critical criminal-related matters, leading to the successful resolution of 17 cases<sup>67</sup>. The NLAS also envisages the provision of specialized legal aid services to vulnerable women and children. With a view to operationalize this commitment, 172 West Bank lawyers (42 per cent of women) were trained on responsive service provision, with a focus on gender-based violence (GBV), juvenile justice cases and fair trial principles, in partnership with the PBA. These efforts will be complemented in 2020, through the direct provision of legal aid services to vulnerable women in front of family courts. In parallel, efforts were invested to raise the awareness of 196 Palestinians (64 per cent of women)<sup>68</sup>, across the 11 West Bank governorates, on their right to, and the ways through which, they can access legal aid services.



Photo 7: Cover of the Adalah publication. © UNICEF

More targeted interventions were rolled out to make children more aware of their rights when in contact with the Palestinian criminal justice system<sup>69</sup>. Among these, **41 boys and 10 girls from West Bank rehabilitation centers<sup>70</sup> led a legal awareness initiative**, voicing through art their right to and freedom of expression. In order to do so, the children collected art and written pieces over the course of psychosocial support sessions that focused on the children’s self-esteem and sense of contribution. They later compiled them in a publication that they entitled Adalah<sup>71</sup>. Following the success of the initiative, discussions are underway to turn the publication into a periodic magazine that will continue to engage children and reflect their experience with the criminal system. Furthermore, and as important gaps remain in terms of fully applying the JPL (*see output 2.1*), *Sawasya* launched, in

partnership with the MOSD, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the AGO, the PCP and civil society, a **nation-wide school campaign to raise children’s awareness on their rights when in contact with the Palestinian law**. As a first step, 135 school counselors were trained, following a ToT modality, on children’s rights and on how to foster a rights-based and rule of law culture within schools. Reportedly, the majority of the counselors substantially increased their

<sup>66</sup> 59 boys and 1 girl.

<sup>67</sup> The beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with regard to decision reached by the court.

<sup>68</sup> 638 individuals in total have accessed legal awareness raising (71 per cent of women, 6 per cent of boys, 2 per cent of girls).

<sup>69</sup> Most children in contact/conflict with the Palestinian law only access legal after they have been transferred to the prosecution. In this regard, the PBA made a commitment to train around 100 lawyers on provision of legal aid to children in adherence to the NLAS.

<sup>70</sup> From rehabilitation centers in Nablus, Ramallah (Dar Al-Amal) and Beit Jala (Girls’ Care Home).

<sup>71</sup> The Arabic term for justice.



knowledge of children's rights<sup>72</sup>, thereby substantiating the need to raise awareness at the level of educators. The initiative will continue to be rolled out through 2020 along with awareness raising activities, with a particular focus on Hebron, where access to justice services is particularly hindered (*see output 2.1/2.2*), through support to legal information services.

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

#### **Support the Government of Palestine in providing and coordinating legal aid**

In 2019, key progress was made towards the establishment of a platform for the coordination of legal aid in areas unserved by the Government of Palestine, bringing together CSOs engaged on this front as well as the Commission on Detainees and ex-Detainees. The establishment of the platform was agreed at the workshop, facilitated by the PMO, with support from *Sawasya*, whereby invested actors had the opportunity to exchange on ways to improve delivery and the quality of the services provided. Strengthening mechanisms for coordination and collaboration is critical to addressing the growing legal aid needs and better operating in a context marked by increasing financial constraints. The platform seeks, *i.a.*, to unify legal aid standards and mechanisms for quality monitoring, to strengthen referral mechanisms and data collection, and to conduct regular joint advocacy and research. It therefore provides a critical space for continuous policy dialogue able to inform efforts by all involved stakeholders. In order to ensure the sustainability of the action, the Programme focused, in 2019, on creating such a space and therefore opted for close bilateral exchanges with main state actors rather than for directly facilitating policy dialogues. In 2020, the Programme will take this support forward with the anticipated development of TORs for the platform and the further operationalization of the mechanism, including through the development of quality assurance standards and of a dedicated database.

#### **Provision of legal and psychosocial services to unserved vulnerable population in East Jerusalem/Area C**

**9,413 Palestinians (60 per cent of women, 6 per cent of boys and 4 per cent of girls)** benefitted from legal aid services in East Jerusalem and Area C, including, *i.a.*, for cases pertaining to human rights violations, HLP, residency, registration and family unification as well as labor and social welfare. This support is critical given the current political situation that particularly affects children - especially in East Jerusalem, increasing their vulnerabilities and putting them at risk of being detained by Israeli Forces. With an average of about 450 children being arrested each year, ensuring early representation, greatly contributes to minimizing the risks of ill-treatment. In this regard, the selection of projects by the partner CSOs was done on the basis of a comprehensive analysis of funding gaps and priorities in complementarity of the technical support planned under this output to enhance legal aid coordination.

Furthermore, and in adherence to the broad UN definition of legal aid which includes education and awareness raising, **352 vulnerable Palestinians (61 per cent of women, 11 per cent of boys and 6 per cent of girls)** were sensitized on their rights, in communities likely to be affected by violations. This has proved particularly beneficial in the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem,

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<sup>72</sup> By 40 per cent for the majority of them.

where two sessions were organized by *Sawasya* for children and their parents, with reportedly increased knowledge of one's rights when in contact with Israeli Forces. In addition, **398 ex-detainee children (all male) accessed reintegration interventions**, including 84 children targeted with psychosocial services. This support is key to reducing the oft-traumatic impact of arrest and detention on children and on their families. Reintegration interventions consist of home visits, individual and group counselling as well as integrated psychosocial activities for both children and their parents.

### Legal aid provision to unserved vulnerable population in the Gaza Strip

Important strides were made in the Gaza Strip towards improving the current policy framework in adherence to international legal aid standards<sup>73</sup>. It translated into the **formalization of an early representation mechanism**, through the signing of a series of MOUs between the PBA, the police, the AGO, the HJC as well as reform & rehabilitation centers. This is an important step forward towards ensuring that anyone who is arrested, detained or charged with a criminal offence is entitled to legal aid, at all stages of the criminal justice process. In order to rapidly activate the mechanism, the Programme supported the **establishment of a referral platform** that brings together all engaged actors – including the legal aid providers operating under the umbrella of the Awn Network. Through the platform, 112 cases were already referred to the PBA this year, with 86 per cent by rehabilitation centers. In addition, progress was made towards promoting A2D initiatives for children in conflict with the law, through the undertaking of a service mapping assessment, which constitutes a first step forward towards their systematization. In line with this, 21 children (all boys) benefitted from diversion measures through the MOSD vocational training centers.



Photo 8: Beneficiary in one of the CSO legal aid clinics fir cases in front of family courts, Rafah. © UNDP

In parallel, **10,087 Palestinians (73 per cent of women, 5 per cent of boys and 1 per cent of girls) from the Gaza Strip accessed legal aid services** during the period, with a focus on family and criminal cases in front of Palestinian jurisdictions and on cases of Palestinians detained in Israel. Through a well-defined partnership with civil society, legal aid services continued to be provided by the PBA for

regular court cases<sup>74</sup> and by specialized CSOs for family court cases<sup>75</sup>. CSOs also provided critical support to Palestinians detained in Israel. It translated, *i.a.*, into the release of 12 detainees<sup>76</sup> and

<sup>73</sup> See UN General Assembly (2012), *United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems*.

<sup>74</sup> Through the PBA's legal aid clinics in the governorates of Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah.

<sup>75</sup> Through CSOs' legal aid clinics located in each governorate of the Gaza Strip.

<sup>76</sup> Through the action, one woman was also granted visitation rights. One man who had completed its sentencing was also released, following administrative support to secure proper residency documentation for the oPt.

the issuance of 24 indictment statements, which enabled prisoners' families to receive critical social welfare assistance. This progress was underpinned by the systematic documentation and monitoring of instances of detention of Palestinians in Israel<sup>77</sup>.

#### Free from fear: Legal aid key to reclaiming life and education

Alaa, a young mother from Rafah, was only 16 when she got married. "My mum fell ill and I ended up with more responsibilities. I felt I needed to drop out of high school." She began to provide support to her family and to consider marriage, despite her young age.

She soon found herself married to a man, she had met only a couple of weeks prior to the ceremony, and that rapidly turned into an abuser. Unsurprisingly, she began to fall ill herself. But when she solicited support from relatives, she was met with contempt. "They told me, we don't want to hear this anymore", she says. Expectedly, the situation continued to deteriorate and the violence to intensify, culminating in Alaa's husband forcing her and their three-year old daughter outside of the house. Back at her parents' house, Alaa was not able to find relief and support, as divorced women – and particularly in the most conservative parts of the Gaza Strip – continue to face stigma and discrimination within their communities.

Unable to obtain adequate support in her immediate environment, she heard of the *Sawasya*-supported legal aid clinic in Rafah "through somebody who benefitted from its support." With the clinic's assistance, she was able – within the course of a few months - to settle her divorce and child's alimony and to even retrieve her dowry, whose payment had been retained on grounds of her alleged mental instability.

Since the divorce, Alaa has been determined to claim her life back in a part of the Gaza Strip where 63 per cent of women remain unemployed\*. Against this backdrop, Alaa has charted a successful course for herself and her little girl. She passed *tawjihi* – the high school certificate examination – and successfully enrolled in a B.B.A in hopes of accessing better opportunities.

*\*At governorate level. Source: PCBS, 2015*

In order to further ensure that access to justice is provided in a manner that adheres to international standards, the PBA initiated this year, with *Sawasya*'s support, the **development of standards for the provision of legal aid services in front of family and regular courts** at the level of the Awn Network. The discussions between the various legal aid providers – held over the course of five workshops facilitated by the Programme – resulted in the unification of eligibility criteria and in the development of a complaint mechanism for clients that may have been denied access to legal aid or provided with unsatisfactory services. In line with this, the Programme developed 'law practice standards' that aim to strengthen the rule of law

culture within which lawyers operate. These efforts were underpinned by a five-day training of 50 lawyers (34 per cent of women) with the aim of supporting them to further mainstream gender justice principles in their law practice. *Sawasya* also initiated the development of a legal aid database, which will be operationalized in 2020.

<sup>77</sup> 84 in total over the period.



In step with this, **12,390 Palestinians (77 per cent of women, 1 per cent of boys, 1 per cent of girls) took part in awareness raising activities**, with a specific focus on women's rights. To ensure proper messaging, *Sawasya* supported the unification of legal information content, delivered over more than 420 sessions and in the media. It included the broadcasting of a joint radio spot with a view to inform the public, particularly women, on the existence of and







Photo 9: Legal awareness session on women's rights in the personal status law, Rafah. © UNDP

ways to access free legal aid services in front of family courts. In addition, **22,504 Palestinians were sensitized on the rights of women granted under the Personal Status Law on social media and TV**<sup>78</sup>. This campaign – entitled “*Your Signature, Your Responsibility*” – was led by 40 young law graduates, previously trained by *Sawasya*. Given its outreach, it provided a valuable platform for women through which they were able to learn more about their financial rights and how to exercise them. Twelve radio episodes were also broadcasted focusing on the rights of women (including women with disabilities) in marital relationships and at work as well as on their right to seek and access justice, particularly for those victims of violence. Furthermore, *Sawasya*-supported legal aid providers joined forces, during the “Together Against Violence” 16 days of activism campaign, to leverage SGBV awareness raising efforts and to demand the FPB adoption, together with West Bank CSOs. These advocacy efforts were conducted throughout the year. In line with *Sawasya*'s civil society strategy to strengthen coalitions and networks, 50 CSOs petitioned together the Head of the Family Supreme Court and of the Higher Family Court Council to improve women's custody rights in the Gaza Strip. According to the Palestinian law, only the custody of girls under the age of 11 years old and under the age of 9 years old for boys is granted to the mother. In the form of a roundtable discussion organized by the Programme, institutional actors, lawyers and representatives from various human rights organizations from across the five governorates were able to formulate a set of recommendations to better protect women, including through increasing the age of marriage to 18, improving the enforcement, establishing a hotline between women's organizations and the police and activating the alimony fund. Moving forward, the Programme will support the implementation of these recommendations through advocacy and engagement with key stakeholders.

<sup>78</sup> Disaggregation is not available.

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

 <p><b>31 per cent increase in convicted VAW perpetrators</b> was observed <i>* Not to be solely attributed to Sawasya</i></p>	 <p><b>13,838 women and girls</b> accessed legal aid services, including 58 female inmates</p>
<p><b>380 parents (70 per cent of women)</b> accessed a VAW civic education module</p>	<p><b>45 out of 70 female inmates</b> have accessed psychosocial support in the Gaza Strip</p>
 <p><b>SOPs for VAW prosecution</b> launched</p>	 <p><b>13,380 individuals (77 per cent of women)</b> have accessed legal awareness on the rights of women</p>
<p><b>Guidelines on services to cyber violence</b> female victims developed</p>	<p><b>+1,500 citizens</b> called for the adoption of a more responsive legislation</p>
<p><b>VAW coordination platform</b> between judges and prosecutors established</p>	 <p><b>+22,500 social media users</b> sensitized on women's financial prerogatives under the Palestinian Status Law</p>
 <p><b>34 gender champions</b> identified in justice and security sectors</p>	<p><b>First standardized training for family judges</b> in the State of Palestine developed by the PJI</p>
<p><b>+7,000 police officers</b> sensitized on gender equality in the workplace</p>	 <p><b>Two specialized PJI training programmes on VAW</b> for regular and family court staff</p>
 <p><b>PCP's gender training curriculum</b> developed</p>	

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

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

A 1% increase was observed in the number of VAW cases filed with the FJPU this year. In order to accelerate this change, it is important to continue to make progress on the policy front. An important achievement of 2019 was the development **by the AGO and the PCP of guidelines for the provision of services to women and girls victims of cyber violence**, in close coordination with responders from both institutions<sup>79</sup>. It sets out a protective framework that defines the roles and responsibilities of each service provider, including the PCP's Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD) (first responder)<sup>80</sup> and the specialized prosecution (*i.e.*, family protection prosecutor and electronic crime prosecutor). In 2020, these efforts will be taken forward through the training of front-line service providers on the guidelines.

<sup>79</sup> Consultations were held at the levels of the four specialized units within the AGO and PCP as well as with district-based officers.

<sup>80</sup> The FJPD's officers were previously trained to receive victims, assess the risk they are exposed to and protect them from retaliation.

In addition, **more than 7,000 police officers<sup>81</sup> were sensitized on the importance of advancing gender equality in the workplace** in line with the PCP gender strategy (2017-2022) and the PCP gender unit annual work plan for 2019<sup>82</sup>. The six-month campaign (online and onsite) focused on highlighting the critical role played by women in the security sector and on equipping participants with the tools to advocate and take forward a gender equality agenda at the institutional level. During the district-based workshops, female participants highlighted the need to put an end to discriminatory practices, as embedded in provisions of the health insurance and the retirement laws. In support of this, 392 police officers (18 per cent of women<sup>83</sup>) participated in a baseline perception survey conducted by *Sawasya*. It revealed that the campaign has had a positive impact on the perception of women in the police – particularly for social media users who were exposed to additional messaging; however, the perception of broader gender roles within society remains unchanged (*see Annex VI*). It demonstrates the criticality of conducting regular assessments and closely monitoring attitudes to allow for adapted interventions and to regularly measure gender progress.

In parallel, efforts continued to be invested to further mainstream gender in the work of the broader security sector. In this regard, the AP9<sup>84</sup> gender disaggregated progress reports prepared by the MOI gender unit and presented at the Security Sector Technical Working Group (SSTWG), this year, highlight a 33 per cent increase in female enrolment as compared with the previous year (increase from 4 per cent to 6 per cent). Key progress was also made towards advancing gender inclusiveness in the sector, including through ensuring representation of the AP9 steering committee in the GLC and the development, by the MOI, of job description templates for the MOI gender unit. Further to this, the Programme supported the preparation of the United States Security Coordinator's gender advisor for the third International Partner Update that took place in June, in the presence of representatives from 40 country delegations and 20 development organizations. Funding priorities and gaps were highlighted and the development partner community expressed its willingness to provide additional support on this front. Moving forward, *Sawasya* will support the implementation of the AP9 annual work plan (AWP) for 2020, adopted in 2019 with the Programme's support, with a specific focus on female security officers' enrolment across institutions, including in leadership positions.

In order to continuously improve the institutional capacity to respond to the needs of women, capacity building efforts need to be sustained and to target all actors across the security chain. In view of this, 76 security sector actors (64 per cent of women) – including the MOI's gender support team (GST)<sup>85</sup>, the Security Sector Gender Advisory Committee, the PCP's planning unit and the FJPU<sup>86</sup>, were trained on gender mainstreaming and responsiveness, with a specific focus on policy development, institutional transformation and service delivery to VAW survivors. Following the training, change was already introduced, as the Head of the MOI gender unit reported that

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<sup>81</sup> Disaggregation is not available.

<sup>82</sup> *Sawasya* also supported the development of the PCP gender unit's AWP for 2020.

<sup>83</sup> This is reflective of gender balance within the PCP.

<sup>84</sup> The Gender Mainstreaming Administrative Programme work plan of the Security Sector Strategic Plan (AP9) plan aims, *i.a.*, at enhancing gender responsive service delivery and infrastructure in the security sector, increasing the number of women within security institutions, increasing the number of women in leadership positions.

<sup>85</sup> The MOI gender support team is comprised of staff of various units and departments that support the gender unit in the mainstreaming work.

<sup>86</sup> Contrary to the abovementioned security actors whose 3-day trainings focused on gender mainstreaming, the FJPU were sensitized on service responsiveness and international standards pertaining to VAW cases.

information relating to the right of women to retain their name and to transmit it to their children in official documentation has been, following the training, systematically communicated to users. Particular attention was given to train newly recruited FJPD officers and to the provision of services that align with international standards, and in particular with CEDAW. The emphasis was placed on the need to ensure the dignity and the security of women victims of violence during service provision. Taking further this commitment, the FPJD established a platform to facilitate the exchange of information between the PCP HQs and district branches as well as with the AGO and MOSD. In this regard, the workshop organized in November by *Sawasya* highlighted the need to develop the capacity of the FJPD at the local level and to involve the specialized prosecution and social workers from the initial investigative stage onwards. Moving forward, quarterly coordination meetings will be held, with a focus on urgent SGBV cases.

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

One major achievement made in 2019, in this regard, is the **launch of SOPs for the prosecution of VAW cases** in June. On that occasion, the Attorney General along with the Minister of Social Development and the Minister of Women's Affairs reaffirmed the need to provide responsive and adapted prosecutorial solutions and to review the current legal framework to better protect women victims of violence, including through the adoption of the FPB.



Photo 10: Launch of the SOPs for the prosecution of VAW cases, Ramallah.  
© UN Women

During the period, steps were taken towards the operationalization of the SOPs, through support to organizational development at the level of the specialized prosecution. A mapping was conducted by *Sawasya*, in collaboration with 52 specialized and general prosecutors (23 per cent of women), on gaps and challenges facing the work of VAW specialized prosecutors, and revealed that the lack of coordination within the public prosecution, along with limitations in terms of resource management, negatively impacts the delivery of specialized services, particularly when it relates to VAW cases<sup>87</sup>. This exercise – and the gaps it highlighted – prompted the VAW Chief Prosecutor to take immediate measures for the improvement of the prosecutorial environment, through on-the-job mentoring and the establishment of a mechanism to systematically monitor and follow up the application of the SOPs. The mapping exercise also supported team capacity development, as it provided a platform for prosecutors to strengthen their VAW knowledge and to increase collaboration between jurisdictions. To take forward the ability of the specialized prosecution to efficiently lead the VAW response, *Sawasya* will focus its interventions, in 2020,

<sup>87</sup> 19 chief prosecutors among them were sensitized on biases and negative perceptions frequently held against survivors of violence as well as to international obligations under CEDAW. An 2% increase in the number of cases transferred by the public prosecution to the courts was observed this year.

on further strengthening the capacity of the specialized prosecution - including of administrative staff, on the VAW SOPs and on sensitizing the general prosecution on the specificities of these cases with the view of strengthening internal coordination and referrals.

In 2019, organizational development was further supported through the capacity building of key prosecutorial actors with a view to improve services delivered to women, in line with the AGO gender unit's strategy for 2019. 90 staff (54 per cent of women) were trained by the AGO gender unit on VAW regulatory frameworks and responsive prosecution services. In addition, they explored ways to enhance gender sensitivity in the workplace<sup>88</sup>, as an improved prosecutorial environment is essential to the provision of responsive services. As evidence of the increased ownership over gender mainstreaming processes, participants suggested the creation of a GST, with a specific focus on preventing discrimination and enhancing gender mainstreaming within the AGO. Capacity building is also key to transforming attitudes and behaviors. Following the training sessions, an increase of respectively 56 per cent and 41 per cent of senior AGO staff acknowledging gender-based discrimination and the role of female leaders in improving access to justice was observed. In parallel, the Programme continued to support the AGO gender unit with the development of its annual work plan, which will be rolled out in 2020.

### **Support effective, operational, multi-sectoral services in place for SGBV victims**

Coordination between the various service providers needs to be further strengthened and developed. In view of this, a **platform was established this year to coordinate the action of VAW judges and prosecutors**, as a first step towards the operationalization of the specialized judicial body. With *Sawasya*'s support, two meetings took place in 2019, focusing on the prevention of revictimization during prosecution and litigation phases. In addition, the existing dialogue platform between the FJPU and VAW prosecutors was further operationalized. Three meetings took place in 2019, with a specific focus on improving the work of the One-Stop Center (OSC) and on reinforcing coordination at the district level. Steps were taken in this regard, through the organization of three meetings with 20 specialized prosecutors (20 per cent of women) and three FJPU representatives (all women) from all West Bank governorates to discuss four priority areas<sup>89</sup>: women's admission to shelters, suicide attempt reporting, forensics in SGBV cases and the referral of cases to the specialized prosecution. The participants highlighted the need for clear policy guidance on cases where VAW victims refuse assistance as well as for improved referral coordination with the MOSD.

In addition, and to accompany coordination efforts, 18 members of the OSC team (72 per cent of women) have accessed an advanced two-day training on the provision of consolidated VAW services. Following the training, participants began to implement measures to improve current practices, including through the anonymization of files, the assigning of a unique focal point to each case and the activation of a case review mechanism. In this regard, the Programme facilitated two serious case review sessions in Ramallah (OSC) and in Jericho (emergency shelter) with FJPU, VAW specialized prosecutors and the MOSD to identify bottlenecks and solutions moving forward. Further to this, *Sawasya* conducted an assessment on the OSC service provision. The

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<sup>88</sup> Including staff from the Departments/Units of Planning, Human Resources, Administrative and Financial Affairs, Training and IT.

<sup>89</sup> As identified over the course of the six dialogue meetings facilitated by the Programme in 2019.

recommendations include, *i.a.*, assigning a full-time counselor to the center<sup>90</sup>, encouraging the formalization of linkages with civil society providers and promoting peer-to-peer support. In line with best practices, the emphasis will be placed on fostering women's trust in the system and encouraging them to pursue justice, by building their capacity, supporting their safe reintegration and providing them with an adequate space and platform to synergize with other survivors.

In parallel, the capacity of the FJPD to provide responsive services to VAW survivors continued to be strengthened. 14 newly recruited FJPU officers (50 per cent of women) were trained on the provision of responsive VAW services. Reportedly, by the end of the training, the officers were able to better understand and integrate standards of confidentiality and protection of the survivor's rights and dignity in their practice. In support of this, the Programme facilitated a workshop on FJPD organizational development. As a direct result, the FJPD decided to further systematize the referral of cases, including to guarantee the presence of social workers at the beginning of the investigation phase. Moving forward, interventions will focus on improving service delivery – including within the OSC - and on strengthening preventive measures, with, *i.a.*, the operationalization of risk assessment templates.

### **Improved capacity of the judiciary to meet the needs of women**

Over the last year, a **31 per cent increase in the number of convicted VAW perpetrators was observed**<sup>91</sup> as compared to 8 per cent in 2018. If confirmed, this acceleration could indicate the emergence and consolidation of new practices within the judiciary, and of transformed attitudes and behaviors towards women and girls. In line with these results, important strides were made in 2019 to maintain this trend and to further improve the capacity of the judiciary to meet and positively respond to the needs of women victims of violence. It included the development of **two training programmes by the PJI, in partnership with the Birzeit University Continuous Education Institute, for regular and family court staff on VAW**. The programmes aim to promote a progressive interpretation of applicable legislation and the operationalization of core elements of international human rights law – and in particular CEDAW, and to alter prevailing biases and perceptions that can affect a judge's decision when ruling over VAW cases. In view of this, 31 regular judges and two HJC gender unit staff (52 per cent of women) along with 20 family judges and court staff (40 per cent of women) have benefitted from the programmes, which will continue to be rolled out next year. Support was also provided by the Programme to the development of the HJC gender unit's AWP that will be rolled out in 2020.

In parallel, **29 VAW judges and family judges (38 per cent of women)**<sup>92</sup> were trained on the **National Referral System for women victims of domestic violence**<sup>93</sup>, which envisages pathways between the various health, socio, police and justice services and was established under the framework of the National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women (2011-2019). However, the mechanism, adopted in 2015, needs to be fully operationalized with substantial gaps remaining, particularly in relation to the coordination and collaboration between actors, as highlighted by regular judges. In 2020, *Sawasya* will further support efforts on this front, with a specific focus on operationalizing the system at the level of the family courts. In addition, work will be invested to

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<sup>90</sup> The MOSD's resources are limited. In this regard, the recruitment of an on-call mental health worker, this year, was put on hold.

<sup>91</sup> Not to be solely attributed to *Sawasya*.

<sup>92</sup> The HJC gender unit also participated in the training.

<sup>93</sup> Two separate workshops were conducted for regular court judges on the one hand (14 regular judges – 50 per cent of women), and family court judges (15 family judges – 27 per cent of women).



improve the services delivered by the family courts to women and children and to align them more closely with international standards, based on the appraisal assessment currently being conducted (*see output 2.1*). The assessment highlights the importance of addressing gender and human rights gaps embedded within the applicable Personal Status Laws. It nevertheless stressed the importance of developing short and medium-term interventions and procedures to address structural and institutional challenges that women and children face in accessing justice, including relating to legal recognition and redistribution measures. In the absence of overhaul harmonization process, it is essential to operationalize core elements of the human rights law that promote women's and children's agency. With regard to this, the Programme will focus on reinforcing its leading role with national and international actors, particularly through the Justice Sector Working Group's gender, human rights and legislation sub-group<sup>94</sup> it currently co-chairs since 2019 with OHCHR.

### Human-rights based organizational development at the levels of family courts



Photo 11: Launch of the standardized training for family judges by the PJI, Ramallah. © UNDP

A major achievement of 2019 was the **launch of the first standardized training for family judges in the State of Palestine** (*see output 2.1*). The rollout – over an 18-month period - of such a programme seeks to achieve the PJI's vision of developing a cadre of better educated Palestinian judges and prosecutors, while promoting and fostering the operationalization of core elements of the international human rights law, and in particular of CEDAW. In the

absence of a formalized domestication process and of a holistic review of discriminatory Palestinian laws and regulations, priority was given, this year, to the enhancing of family courts' accountability to provide for more gender responsive services. In view of this, *Sawasya* supported the development of a draft bylaw and SOPs for the SJD's inspection department that will enhance complaints processes and procedures and whose finalization is currently underway. Interventions in 2020 will also be geared towards addressing service provision bottlenecks in terms of equal access to justice of women and children, as highlighted in the family court appraisal (*see output 2.1*).

### Enhanced security and justice services for women in the Gaza Strip

**45 out of 70 female inmates detained in the Gaza rehabilitation center have accessed psychosocial support in 2019, and 58 among them have accessed legal aid services**, including 23 represented through the PBA. This support is critical as many female inmates suffer social stigma and isolation and have limited means to access psychosocial and legal assistance. Female inmates, as many among the marginalized, see their rights and needs routinely neglected and unheeded. To address this, 25 Gaza Strip-based female journalists were trained by *Sawasya*, over

<sup>94</sup> Chaired by the MOJ.

the course of a four-day programme, on the major challenges that stand in a woman's way to seek and access justice. It focused on how they can use journalism to raise critical issues and to make the voice of women heard and appreciated. After the training, six of the journalists delivered four awareness sessions on women's rights to 166 members of civil society (CBOs) (83 per cent of women) across the Gaza Strip, as a first step towards broader sensitization on the challenges women have to contend with, across the justice chain. Moving forward, the journalists will take part in an advocacy campaign on women's rights and access to justice that will take place in early 2020. In parallel, 26 trainee lawyers (54 per cent of women) were provided by the PBA with advanced training on gender justice and women's rights, over a 25-hour programme, which better equips them to provide gender responsive services.

***Output 4.2: New Practices of Justice and Security Service Providers Are Supported to Transform their Attitudes and Behaviors Towards Women and Girls***

Increasing the number of women in front-line service delivery positions and targeting them with empowerment and leadership interventions is key to bringing onboard their voices and perspectives and to enable new institutional practices to emerge. To accelerate the impact of the Programme on targeted institutions and on the sector at large, **34 gender champions were identified across the justice and security chain based on their leadership skills and their commitment to advance gender justice.** Among whom we count a police commander in Bethlehem who assigns policewomen to operate on the streets and the Head of the Traffic Department who trained a group of policewomen to become first time accredited traffic accident experts. In line with this, the **gender training curriculum – developed by the PCP's training department and PCP gender unit in collaboration with Sawasya and EUPOL COPPS - was finalized** and 17 gender district coordinators (59 per cent of women) were trained to roll out the programme in 2020.



Photo 12: Two-day workshop on women's career advancement in the judiciary, Ramallah, © UNDP

In addition, the PJI and the International Association of Women's Judges organized a two-day workshop with female judges and prosecutors, with Sawasya's support. The glass ceiling remains to be broken for many Palestinian female members of the judiciary, as they less frequently access training opportunities and merit-based leadership positions. To overcome this, participants recommended to establish institutional policies that actively encourage the recruitment –

through, *i.a.*, engaging the legal academia - and promotion of women at leadership positions, including by establishing a female judge association, which will be taken forward in 2020. Changing the negative biases and perceptions of justice providers is also key to transforming attitudes and behaviors towards women and girls. In this regard, the training organized in favor of



15 family judges and prosecutors (27 per cent of women) to sensitize them on the National Referral System (*output 4.1*) represented an important opportunity to challenge assumptions and gender stereotyping, particularly with regard to understanding the underlying causes that prevent women from seeking justice in instances of domestic abuse. However, post-assessment results indicate the need to further invest efforts on this front, as only 21 per cent of participants believe that women in the Palestinian society are exposed to violence (including family violence). Participants also recommended to engage Family Counselling Units (family courts) in the discussion and to facilitate joint exchanges between family and VAW judges, particularly in regards to instances of marital rape or gaps in execution of court sentences.

Engaging VAW survivors in action designing is key to ensuring service responsiveness. However, such innovative interventions command that institutions adopt new approaches and provide survivors with the necessary space to make their voices heard. In this regard, *Sawasya* explored the opportunity of partnering with civil society to develop related activities, but was faced with a lack of expertise on this front. In light of this, the Programme will aim to identify, in 2020, new entry points.

***Output 4.3: Women and Children Have Access to Justice, Security and Protection (reported under 3.2)***

**13,838 women and girls (4 per cent) have accessed legal aid services during the period**, including 13,489 (4 per cent of girls) in areas unserved by the Government of Palestine (East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip). Among them, we count 105 female inmates from the Gaza Strip and West Bank<sup>95</sup>, including 23 who benefitted from representation from the PBA. In addition, 90 female inmates have accessed critical psychosocial support, with the support of the Programme and its partners, including through arts, sports and evidence-based therapy techniques<sup>96</sup>. Moreover, 106 Palestinian women married with men from the Negev have accessed legal aid and 76 received psychosocial support, as most of them have experienced psychological or physical violence.

In parallel, **more than 1,500 citizens engaged in civic initiatives**<sup>97</sup>, organized by a network of 17 civil society actors supported by *Sawasya*, called for the prompt adoption of a legislation protective of women victims of violence. In the framework of the 16 days of activism, which was entitled this year “together against violence”, more than 800 citizens participated in a human chain to demonstrate their strong commitment to bringing an end to the violence that affects women. To accompany these efforts, the network issued a position paper on the FPB highlighting the rights and principles that the Bill should adhere to, notably rights embedded in CEDAW and on the Istanbul Convention<sup>98</sup>. It also places the emphasis on the socio-legal challenges the FPB should address. These advocacy efforts will be complemented by the rollout, next year, of a court monitoring component that specifically focuses on women in contact with the criminal justice

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<sup>95</sup> There are a total of 145 inmates across the State of Palestine. 75 female inmates are present in the West Bank and 70 in the Gaza Strip.

<sup>96</sup> Including narrative therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) as well as eye movement desensitization and reprocessing therapy (EMDR).

<sup>97</sup> Disaggregation is not available.

<sup>98</sup> Council of Europe (2011), *Convention on Preventing Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence*.

system<sup>99</sup>, including for cases of SGBV as well as serious criminal acts perpetrated by women. 15 monitors (73 per cent of women) will be deployed across West Bank courts and will report against *Sawasya*'s developed guidelines for the monitoring of cases from a gender perspective.

In parallel, **13,329 individuals (77 per cent of women, 1 per cent of boys, 1 per cent of girls)**<sup>100</sup> have accessed legal awareness on the rights of women and family related matters, in addition to **22,504 social media viewers**<sup>101</sup> **who were sensitized on women's financial prerogatives under the Personal Status Law** (*see output 3.2*). As part of these awareness efforts, a civic education module for both parents and students on VAW was implemented in a few pilot schools in the West Bank and reached out to 380 parents (74 per cent of women). In 2020, the initiative will be taken forward in other schools in an effort to make the educational system part of the VAW preventive response.

### Lessons Learned and Implementation Challenges

**Establishment of the interim HJC:** On 15 July, President Mahmoud Abbas endorsed law decrees No 16 and No 17/2019 that amends the JAL No. 1/2002. In addition to modifying the eligibility criteria for the president and the deputy president of the High Court of Justice, it lowered the age of retirement for all judges, bringing it to 60 (previously set at age 70). Resulting in the immediate discharge of 50 judges, the measures severely impacted work at court level, with 32 judges out of 50 dismissed in the Court of Cassation, and 23 out of 36 in appeal courts. The establishment of the interim HJC saw Issa Abu Sharar succeeding to Emad Saleem Sa'ad at the position of Chief Justice for a one-year mandate (with the possibility of a six-month extension) to lead, along with seven members (three serving judges, two retired judges, the Deputy Minister of Justice and the Attorney General), the interim Council. The Decree Law No 17/2019 mandates the interim HJC to review and improve the current judicial framework, including key legislation such as the JAL and the Court Formation Law. It also grants extraordinary powers to the interim HJC in taking forward this agenda, including the possibility to recommend the dismissal, early retirement or assignment to a new post of any judge deemed to diminish the “integrity and prestige of the judiciary and public trust”. Adopted in the absence of a functioning legislature, these provisions were perceived for many observers, including civil society and the international community, as an attempt of the executive to jeopardize, in the long run, the independence of the judiciary. However, the severe disruption brought by the decrees at court level and the lack of available expertise to ensure proper institutional knowledge transfer, led President Abbas to recall the retirement age provision on September, following a ruling by the Constitutional Court in this sense, and to reinstall most discharged judges. In light of these developments, *Sawasya* took up a twofold role, feeding the international community with critical information and analysis on changes and on risks and opportunities represented, while engaging with the interim HJC to ensure that the views of justice actors and civil society are taken onboard. Given internal dissensions and the opposition of preeminent members of civil society, the Programme had to intensify, in parallel, its engagement with non-institutional partners. Meanwhile, *Sawasya* continued to advocate with the interim HJC

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<sup>99</sup> It will be first introduced in the West Bank.

<sup>100</sup> This number refers to the number of individuals that were directly targeted by interventions relating to women's rights and family-related matters.

<sup>101</sup> Disaggregation unavailable.

for a merit-based, transparent and competitive promotion process as well as fair and impartial dismissal procedures that adhere to the JAL. In parallel, *Sawasya* successfully secured a space for civil society and justice providers to engage with 57 (39 per cent of women) civil society representatives, prosecutors and judges consulted (*see output 1.1.*).

*Key lessons:*

- ▶ During transitional phases, continuous advocacy is required to mitigate potential adverse effects on the functioning and independence of judicial institutions;
- ▶ Engagement with civil society actors and front-line providers is key to ensuring that their views are reflected and that they are integrated in the process;
- ▶ Engagement with the international community through knowledge and information sharing is essential to unify messaging.

**Institutional changes:** Fast-paced institutional changes took place during the period, impacting activities at various levels, albeit moderately and without affecting yearly delivery. In January, Attorney General Khatib succeeded to Attorney General Dr. Ahmad Barak<sup>102</sup>. In this regard, efforts were invested by the Programme to maintain institutional dialogue and bring him onboard, particularly with regard to the operationalization of the VAW SOPs, which suffered a few month delay over the course of the adjustment process. With regard to the HJC/AGO coordination body tasked with the management of VAW cases, its operationalization has not been set as a priority - as of yet - and will require further institutional dialogue. With regard to the PJI, it remained without leadership for most of 2019, which hindered the development of additional e-Courses. At the level of the gender units, technical support has been reduced as to enable the MOWA to revisit its strategy and engagement with the justice and security sectors on this front.

*Key lesson:*

- ▶ During transitional phases, continuous engagement is required to ensure institutional continuity and safeguard institutional memory.

**Lack of operationalization of the NLAS, representation of women in the legal profession and backlash against CEDAW:** As detailed under *output 3.1.*, the NLAS remains to be operationalized, over a year after its endorsement by the NLAC. The protracted adoption process, which lasted for a year and has proved particularly unsatisfactory, is due to the PBA's shifting positions and lack of impetus to take forward an agenda that promotes access to justice for all, whether through the establishment of a state-administered legal aid mechanism or through dedicated interventions. To illustrate, the PBA made a commitment to appoint between 100 and 300 lawyers to represent juveniles who cannot afford private services - even in the absence of a formal legal aid mechanism - in congruence with the JPL that secures access to a lawyer for children allegedly accused of misdemeanors or felonies. In view of this, *Sawasya* trained, to date, 223 PBA lawyers on standards for the representation of children in conflict with the law, in line with the above-mentioned commitment. However, the PBA has not, so far, made the list of appointed lawyers available to the courts, prompting the Programme to revisit its approach and to refer children to CSO partners. Similarly, *Sawasya* intended to facilitate coordination between the MOSD and PBA in order to ensure that legal aid needs for VAW cases are fully covered. However, discussions have been put on hold as the PBA has shown little willingness to provide

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<sup>102</sup> Dr. Ahmad Barak, reportedly, lacked sufficient quorum at the time of the latter's nomination in April 2016.

comprehensive legal aid support to VAW victims/survivors, in a context of shrinking space for other actors to invest this field without the ascent of the PBA. In the meantime, and in the context of a general backlash against the State of Palestine's accession to CEDAW witnessed at the end of the year<sup>103</sup>, the PBA Chair publicly stated that the international instrument conflicts with Islam and the domestic law. The PBA serves over 7,000 practicing lawyers, among which over 1,800 are female; however, only one member, out of the 15 that the PBA's board comprises, is a woman<sup>104</sup>. In spite of women's lack of representation within the PBA, the Chair has, as of yet, refused interventions that aim at improving the situation - such as the establishment of quotas - and evoked internal competition between women to justify the situation, during one meeting organized by *Sawasya*. Along the same line, intensive efforts were invested by the Programme to improve women's representation in the work of the PBA's legal aid clinics in the Gaza Strip, eventually leading to the recruitment of two female lawyers, after a much protracted and closely followed up process. In view of the current situation and the lack of PBA's impetus to take forward a human rights based agenda in the West Bank, the *Sawasya*-PBA partnership pertaining to the provision of legal aid in areas served by the Government of Palestine has not been renewed and additional resources were invested in the Gaza Strip to ensure that the partnership aligns with the Programme's principles of engagement.

#### *Key lessons:*

- ▶ Partnerships require to be reevaluated on a regular basis when they cease to align with the Programme's intended impact and objectives;
- ▶ Coordination between institutions, civil society and international stakeholders is required to counteract harmful and detrimental public discourses;
- ▶ *Sawasya*'s gender strategy is not fully adapted to advance and promote women in partners' organizations and thereby needs to be revised.

**Governmental austerity measures:** In May, austerity measures were introduced to offset the Palestinian Authority's decision to return tax and tariff revenues for the year 2018 in protest over the Israeli government's decision to deduct the budget allocated to Palestinian prisoners (USD 41 million). As a direct consequence, the PMO was not able to absorb the *Sawasya*-sponsored M&E officer on its payroll, leading the Programme to extend its support until the end of year. In this context, the PMO's senior leadership decision to implement two consecutive 100-day plans compounded the situation as key human resources in the M&E unit were diverted from the SRF pilot towards other set priorities. In order to overcome these constraints, the Programme redirected its support towards M&E units at the levels of the AGO and HJC in order to operationalize elements of the automated SRF with the view of fostering connectivity with the General Secretariat's M&E unit.

**Lack of prospect on the reconciliation/reunification front:** With political volatility on the international scene, prospects for national reconciliation continued to dwindle during the reporting period. Congruent with its 'politically smart' approach, the Programme continued to build on past investment and partnership with civil society to increase its capacity to monitor and advocate for a reconciliation process inclusive of transitional justice measures. However, the fast-deteriorating

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<sup>103</sup> For more information, see Hebron tribes oppose UN pact, 'suspicious' feminists (5 January 2020), *Al Monitor*, available [here](#).

<sup>104</sup> PCBS (2018), available [here](#).

humanitarian and economic situation prompted a surge in free legal aid demand, only compounded by the degradation of the overall security situation that obliged CSOs to halt their operations for several days at a time.

*Key lesson:*

- ▶ *Sawasya*'s 'politically smart' approach is relevant and provides for adapted programmatic responses.

**Legal harmonization:** In November 2017, UNDP, UN Women & UNICEF Heads of Agency, the EUPOL COPPS Head of Mission and the Head of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in the oPt submitted a letter to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to advocate for the resuming of LHC and to take forward the domestication process of international human rights obligations. Thereupon, the PMO instructed Ministries to initiate such process. However, at the end of 2019, the LHC remains in a process of restructuring. In view of this, *Sawasya* halted technical support on legal harmonization but continues to stand ready to support political dialogue on this front.

*Key lesson:*

- ▶ *Sawasya*'s 'politically smart' approach is relevant and provides for adapted programmatic responses.

**Civil society engagement:** In accordance with its civil society strategy, the Programme sought to engage with civil society in a structured and coordinated manner, favoring joint interventions under the umbrella of coalitions. Faced with a decreasing financial capacity and shrinking space for civic investment, competition over collaboration strained CSOs' engagement during the period. This is only compounded by the accrued financial constraints imposed by the Palestinian Authority on Gaza-based CSOs, as they need to obtain prior approval from the West Bank to receive any grant/financial payments from humanitarian/development partners, including UN agencies. As a result, internal dissensions have emerged and hampered the ability of civil society to effectively join forces under the umbrella of a common agenda. In response, the Programme continued to facilitate structured exchanges when necessary - while favoring partnerships between the West Bank and Gaza Strip – which ensured sustained dialogue.

*Key lesson:*

- ▶ Facilitating regular exchanges between the Gaza Strip and West Bank is required to sustain dialogue able to produce robust partnerships.

**Child Justice:** The JPL was passed by presidential decree in March 2016. The law provides greater protection for children in conflict with the law through defining specialized entities as well as diversion and alternatives to detention procedures. However, progress on implementation of the law is affected by the limited human and financial capacities in the different institutions. For example, the juvenile prosecution was able to appoint 30 specialized juvenile prosecutors covering all governorates in the West Bank, whereas the MOSD and the HJC have not, as of yet, assigned specialized and additional staff. As a result, CPCs shoulder a caseload of about 130 cases of children in conflict with the law each year. As per the JPL, the CPC must interview the child from the moment of arrest, write social inquiry reports, accompany him/her in every interview and hearing session, conduct follow up visits and submit progress reports to the juvenile prosecution

or judge. The high caseload and amount of responsibilities coupled with the limited number of CPCs frequently result in shallow social inquiry reporting, poor follow up and weak protection and reintegration care plans. In view of this, *Sawasya* continued, in 2019, to provide capacity building to CPCs, while advocating with the MOSD to allocate adequate resources.

*Key lessons:*

- ▶ Joint advocacy is required to ensure that the MOSD allocated adequate resources to the implementation of the JPL.

## **II. Monitoring & Evaluation**

The *Sawasya* joint secretariat M&E team is responsible for monitoring and reviewing progress against the results framework indicators to inform reporting to stakeholders. In this regard, the second Programme board meeting was held in March. After, reviewing achievements of the past year and 2019 planned activities, the steering committee approved of the 2019 work plan. In order to further streamline M&E processes, *Sawasya* has developed, since its launch in 2018, an in-house integrated software, accessible to all the Programme's team and partners and that can inform reporting, monitoring and managerial decisions. *Sawasya* also implements the 'Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer' (HACT) framework for newly contracted partners in adherence to the UNDP/UNICEF's corporate procedures.

## **III. Research and Communication Products**

*Sawasya* developed a number of knowledge and communication products during the reporting period, including flyers (Arabic/English) and posters on legal aid services and providers in the Gaza Strip (*Annex VII*). Both products aimed at informing the public on available legal aid services by type of jurisdictions with posters being displayed in the different courts in the Gaza Strip. Further to this and following the regional conference on case management systems held in Jordan in June, a report summarizing the various interventions and outlining potential areas of south-south cooperation with the participating 16 MENA delegations was produced and has been utilized for knowledge dissemination purposes, including within the UN and the broad development partner community (*Annex III*). In addition, the '*Gender Checklist*' was produced and disseminated, with the Programme's support, and is anticipated to serve, as both a legislative development instrument and an informational product (*Annex I*).



**Annex I: Gender Checklist**

Available [here](#) (Arabic)

**Annex II: Legal analysis of the Family Protection Bill**

Available [here](#)

**Annex III: Report on Regional Conference on Case Management Systems**

Available [here](#)

**Annex IV: Types of violence experienced by interviewed children**

Forms of ill-treatment	Number of children	Percent
Hand ties	45	62%
Arrested by the security forces (unauthorized)	38	52%
Confinement with adults	31	42%
Leg ties	30	41%
Physical violence	27	37%
Arrested by unspecialized police units	26	36%
Verbal abuse	20	27%
Solitary confinement	10	14%
Blindfolded	8	11%
Position abuse	8	11%
Denial of adequate food and water	6	8%

### **Annex V: Levels of Satisfaction of Legal Aid\***

\*Conducted on 312 beneficiaries (226 women and 86 men) of legal aid provided by CSOs (including the PBA) in areas served and unserved by the Government of Palestine.

\*\* Lawyer and legal aid provider are used interchangeably.

<b>Evaluation Questions</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Consultation and Mediation</b>
Was the legal aid provider physically accessible?	94.8%	95.2%	94.6%	92.3%	99.1%
Was the legal provider easily reachable?	89.3%	89.4%	89.2%	85.2%	96.4%
Was the legal aid provider following through with the case?	95.8%	95.3%	96.0%	93.4%	100.0%
Did the beneficiary benefit from the provided information?	96.4%	92.9%	97.8%	96.0%	97.3%
Was the beneficiary's right to confidentiality and privacy respected (through the allocation of adequate space)?	89.3%	86.9%	90.2%	89.3%	89.2%
Was the time allocated by the legal aid provider to the beneficiary's case sufficient?	94.2%	92.9%	94.6%	91.9%	98.2%
Was expertise made available to the benefit of the beneficiary's case?	94.2%	88.2%	96.4%	93.9%	94.6%
Did the legal aid provider respect the beneficiary's privacy (general)?	97.0%	86.4%	98.3%	97.0%	0.0%
Did the legal aid provider give due consideration to the beneficiary's case?	95.5%	81.8%	97.2%	95.5%	0.0%
Did the legal aid provider offer detailed/easy to understand information on the judicial system to the beneficiary?	95.5%	81.8%	97.2%	95.5%	0.0%
Was the waiting time before a lawyer is assigned to the beneficiary's case satisfactory?	92.5%	81.8%	93.8%	92.5%	0.0%
Was the lawyer competent in processing the beneficiary's case?	95.5%	77.3%	97.7%	95.5%	0.0%
Was the lawyer's follow-up satisfactory?	92.5%	77.3%	94.4%	92.5%	0.0%
Was the beneficiary satisfied with the preparation by the lawyer of required legal documents for the case?	88.9%	77.3%	90.4%	88.9%	0.0%
Was the beneficiary satisfied in the legal aid provider's ability to restore her/his rights?	92.5%	68.2%	95.5%	92.5%	0.0%
Did the legal aid provider ensure the beneficiary's access to information on the latest developments pertaining to her/his case?	89.4%	68.2%	92.1%	89.4%	0.0%

Did the legal aid provider inform the beneficiary on expected questions during the trial?	91.9%	76.2%	93.8%	91.9%	0.0%
Did the lawyer make a strong pleading in court on behalf of the beneficiary?	92.0%	72.7%	94.4%	92.0%	0.0%
Was the assigned lawyer accessible and available to respond to all beneficiaries' phone calls?	87.7%	75.0%	89.1%	87.7%	0.0%
Did the assigned lawyer enable the beneficiary to engage on her/his case to make independent decisions?	92.0%	77.3%	93.8%	92.0%	0.0%
Was the information provided to the beneficiary inclusive and accurate?	93.5%	77.3%	95.5%	93.5%	0.0%
Was the quality of legal aid offered to the beneficiary exceptional?	95.5%	81.8%	97.2%	95.5%	0.0%
<b>Overall satisfaction from the legal aid</b>	<b>92.8%</b>	<b>90.0%</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>92.5%</b>	<b>94.4%</b>

**Annex VI: Post-Assessment Survey: PCP Awareness Campaign on Gender Equality in the Workplace**

Available [here](#)

**Annex VII: Flyer and poster on legal aid services available in the Gaza Strip**

The flyer is available in [English](#) and in [Arabic](#)

The poster is available [here](#) (Arabic)

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<b>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</b>			
<u>Indicator:</u> 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	N/A (baseline data)	N/A	PCBS
<u>Indicator:</u> 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	N/A (baseline data)	N/A	PCBS
<u>Indicator:</u> % 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	N/A (baseline data)	N/A	PCBS
<u>Indicator:</u> % 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:	N/A (baseline data)	N/A	PCBS

<p>42.6%). Public perception survey (2018) (<i>Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey</i>/PCBS)</p> <p><u>Planned target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020</p>			
<p><b>OUTCOME 1: RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS ARE STRENGTHENED AND REUNIFIED BY LEGAL, REGULATORY AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS</b></p>			
<p><u>Indicator:</u> Number of existing/new laws amended/adopted in line with international standards</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> 1 (2017)</p> <p><u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Article 5 of the Personal Status Law of 1976 (only applicable in the West Bank) modified by Presidential Decree. The new provisions raise the age of legal consent to 18 for both women and men (previously 15 for girls and 16 for boys). However, the Supreme Judge can order derogatory measures, if deemed in the best interest of the child.</li> <li>- Articles 1/8/3 of the Monetary Authority Law. The new provisions allow women to open and manage bank accounts for their children.</li> </ul>		<p>Palestinian Official Gazette</p>
<p><u>Indicator:</u> Number of policies/regulatory framework/plans adopted in line with international standards</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017)</p> <p><u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adoption of guidelines, by the Attorney General and the Chief of Police, for the provision of services to women and girls victims of cyber violence;</li> <li>- Signing of MOUs between the PBA and police centers, the AGO, the HJC as well as rehabilitation centers for the provision of early representation to vulnerable individuals in contact with the criminal justice system in the Gaza Strip.</li> </ul>		<p>Institutional partners</p>

<p><u>Indicator:</u> Number of policies/harmonized laws/plans linked to the Gaza/West Bank reunification process adopted. <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p><b>0</b> No political progress was made with regard to reconciliation, and efforts were geared this year towards structuring CSO efforts on this front.</p>	<p><i>CSO position papers intended to be produced in 2020.</i></p>	<p>Institutional partners</p>
<p><b>Output 1.1: Key legislations are revised to strengthen the independence of the Rule of Law institutions and ensure their consistency with international standards</b></p>			
<p><u>Indicator:</u> Number of laws reviewed/revised to align with HR standards <u>Baseline:</u> 2 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Article 5 of the Personal Status Law of 1976 (only applicable in the West Bank) modified by Presidential Decree. The new provisions raise the age of legal consent to 18 for both women and men (previously 14 years and 7 months for girls and 16 for boys). However, it is not fully aligned with HR standards as the Supreme Judge can order derogatory measures, if deemed in the “best interest” of the child.</li> <li>- Articles 1/8/3 of the Monetary Authority Law. The new provisions allow women to open and manage bank accounts for their children.</li> </ul>		<p>Palestinian Official Gazette Institutional partners</p>
<p><b>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)</b></p>			
<p><u>Indicator:</u> 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>	<p><b>5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MOJ’s gender unit’s AWP;</li> <li>- AGO’s gender unit’s AWP;</li> <li>- AP9’s (MOI) AWP;</li> <li>- PCP’s gender unit’s AWP;</li> <li>- HJC’s AWP</li> </ul>	<p><i>Sawasya provided direct support to the development of the 2019-2020 RAP for the justice sector adopted in February 2019. It was developed in 2018 and accounted for in the 2018</i></p>	<p>Institutional partners</p>

		<i>RRF; therefore, it is not reported under this indicator in 2019.</i>	
<b>Output 1.3: West Bank and Gaza Rule of Law institutions are reunified</b>			
<u>Indicator:</u> Number of policies, harmonized laws, plans linked to the Gaza/West Bank reunification process developed <u>Baseline:</u> 0 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> 2 (yearly)	<b>0</b> No political progress was made with regard to reconciliation, and efforts were geared this year towards structuring CSO efforts on this front.	<i>CSO position papers intended to be produced in 2020.</i>	Institutional partners CSOs
<b>Output 1.4: Advocacy on strengthening rule of law institutions and promoting HR is reinforced</b>			
<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	<b>0</b>	<i>Justice Sector Reintegration report was updated in 2019.</i>	CSOs
<b>OUTCOME 2: SERVICE PROVISION BY RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS IS EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE</b>			
<u>Indicator:</u> Unsentenced 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)	48.2%		PCBS
<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	250 (250 boys)		FJPU
<u>Indicator:</u> Public perception of a free trial: "Level of confidence that you will receive a fair trial if you were charged with	N/A	<i>Next 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey' to be conducted in 2020.</i>	PCBS



<p>committing a criminal act/delinquency".  <i>Disaggregated by sex and age</i>  <u>Baseline:</u> 39.8% (Men: 41.2%; Women: 38.5%). Public perception survey (2018) ('<i>Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey</i>'/PCBS)  <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 10% by 2020</p>			
<p><b>Output 2.1: Quality and efficiency of security and justice services provided to the Palestinians are improved</b></p>			
<p><u>Indicator 2.1.1.:</u> 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</i>'/PCBS)  <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 10% in pilot areas by 2020</p>	N/A	<p><i>Next 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey' to be conducted in 2020</i></p>	PCBS
<p><u>Indicator 2.1.2.:</u> % 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 (2017)  For Conciliation Courts: 78.5% (2017)  For First Instance Courts: 60.7% (2017)    <u>Hebron pilot area:</u> Baseline for 2017 N/A    <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% in the pilot areas (yearly)</p>	<p><u>Non-pilot areas:</u>  For Family Courts: N/A  For Conciliation Courts: 76.3%  For First Instance Courts: 108.0%    <u>Hebron pilot area:</u>  For Family Courts: N/A  For Conciliation Courts: 68.4%  For First Instance Courts: 111.4%</p>	<p><i>The automation of enforcement processes at the levels of family courts (Mizan II was expanded to 11 enforcement departments in 2019) has been continuous in 2019 and needs to be completed in 2020, therefore data are yet not available.</i></p>	Mizan II
<p><u>Indicator 2.1.3.:</u> % of justice sector users who are satisfied with the performance of</p>	N/A	<p><i>Next 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey' to be conducted in 2020</i></p>	PCBS

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</i> '/PCBS) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020			
<u>Indicator 2.1.4.:</u> % of children sentenced receiving a custodial sentence <u>Baseline:</u> N/A (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Decrease of 1% (yearly)	16%	<i>An error was identified in the baseline data and is currently being revised. The planned target was corrected from "increase" to "decrease".</i>	Mizan II
<u>Indicator 2.1.5.:</u> % of children who benefit from alternatives to detention <u>Baseline:</u> 58.1% (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	48%		Mizan II
<u>Indicator 2.1.6.:</u> % of children who benefit from mediation in the investigation process as alternative to detention <u>Baseline:</u> 31% <sup>105</sup> (2017). <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	44.7%		Mizan II
<b>Output 2.2: Quality and efficiency of security and justice services provided to areas unserved by the Palestinian government are improved</b>			
<u>Indicator 2.2.1.:</u> % 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)]	<u>Non-pilot areas:</u> All Areas including Area C: 75.6% Area A&B: 76.6% Area C: 66.5% <u>Hebron pilot area:</u> All Areas including Area C: 86.5% Area A&B: 87.1% Area C: 76.4%		Mizan II

<sup>105</sup> An error in the baseline reflecting year 2017 was identified; previously 60.6%

<u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% in the pilot areas (yearly)			
<u>Indicator 2.2.2.:</u> 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	<i>Three local advisory committees to be established in 2020 in the pilot area (Jericho governorate).</i>	Institutional partners
<b>OUTCOME 3: ALL PALESTINIANS, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS, HAVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE, SECURITY AND PROTECTION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION</b>			
<u>Indicator:</u> Percentage of public aware of the existence of legal aid services supported by the 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 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'/PCBS</i> ) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 2% by 2020	N/A (baseline data)	<i>Next 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey' to be conducted in 2020</i>	PCBS
<u>Indicator:</u> 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).	N/A (baseline data)	<i>Next 'Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey' to be conducted in 2020</i>	PCBS

<p>(‘Rule of Law and Access to Justice Survey’/PCBS) Planned Target: Increase of 2% by 2020</p>																							
<b>Output 3.1: Vulnerable populations have access to justice, security and protection</b>																							
<p><u>Indicator 3.1.1.:</u> 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: 3622 (2018) Provision of legal aid by PG: 608 Provision of legal aid by CSOs: 3014 <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p><u>Total provision of legal aid by CSOs</u> (funded by the Programme): 1,028 (550 men; 347 women; 131 children)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="695 526 1245 915"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of services provided</th> <th>Gender</th> <th>No. of Beneficiaries</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Legal Representation</td> <td>Male</td> <td>430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children</td> <td>71</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Legal Consultation</td> <td>Male</td> <td>120</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>237</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>1,028</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>*57% of cases pertain to Palestinian Jurisdictions and to Palestinians living in area A &amp; B.</i></p> <p><u>Total provision of legal aid by the PG</u> (not funded by the Programme): 275 criminal cases (106 juveniles).</p>	Type of services provided	Gender	No. of Beneficiaries	Legal Representation	Male	430	Female	110	Children	71	Legal Consultation	Male	120	Female	237	Children	60	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,028</b>	<p><i>*All legal aid services funded by the Programme were provided by CSOs. The Programme’s engagement with regard to legal aid provision in the West Bank is made on the basis of thorough stakeholder and gap analyses as to avoid overlaps with other actors engaged on this front. This explains why the level of service provision is under the planned target for 2019, as a number of needs were already covered by other actors.</i></p> <p><i>**All beneficiaries live in area A &amp; B. Data by governorate is not available.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>
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<p><u>Indicator 3.1.2.:</u> 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>638 (133 men; 454 women; 51 children)</p>	<p><i>*All beneficiaries live in area A &amp; B. Data by governorate is not available.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>																				

<p>Baseline: 463 (2018) Planned Target: Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>																																																																											
<p><b>Output 3.2: Vulnerable populations in areas unserved by the Palestinian government have access to justice, security and protection</b></p>																																																																											
<p><u>Indicator 3.2.1:</u> 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> Baseline (2018): 6,583 Planned Target: Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p><u>Total:</u> 19,500 individuals (4952 men; 12995 women; 1553 children)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 375 1228 604"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rep.</td> <td>1874</td> <td>662</td> <td>5516</td> <td>240</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cons.</td> <td>3078</td> <td>397</td> <td>7479</td> <td>254</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>4952</td> <td>1059</td> <td>12995</td> <td>494</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>GS:</u> 10087 (2139 men; 7358 women; 590 children) <i>94.5% of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 787 1228 977"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rep.</td> <td>463</td> <td>329</td> <td>2436</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cons.</td> <td>1676</td> <td>155</td> <td>4922</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2139</td> <td>484</td> <td>7358</td> <td>106</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>EJ:</u> 9383 (2786 men; 5634 women; 963 children). <i>99.9% of cases were related to Israeli jurisdictions.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 1198 1228 1388"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rep.</td> <td>1381</td> <td>333</td> <td>3077</td> <td>227</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cons.</td> <td>1402</td> <td>242</td> <td>2557</td> <td>161</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2783</td> <td>575</td> <td>5634</td> <td>388</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	Male		Female		Adults	Boys	Adults	Girls	Rep.	1874	662	5516	240	Cons.	3078	397	7479	254	Total	4952	1059	12995	494	Type	Male		Female		Adults	Boys	Adults	Girls	Rep.	463	329	2436	13	Cons.	1676	155	4922	93	Total	2139	484	7358	106	Type	Male		Female		Adults	Boys	Adults	Girls	Rep.	1381	333	3077	227	Cons.	1402	242	2557	161	Total	2783	575	5634	388	<p><i>*H2 disaggregation (for area C cases) is not available yet.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>
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	<p><u>Area C</u>: 30 cases and all for men. All cases were legal representations.</p>																										
<p><u>Indicator 3.2.2.:</u> 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>  <u>Baseline (2018)</u>: 4,444  <u>Planned Target</u>: Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<p><u>Total</u>: 12,742 (2,647 men; 9,768 women; 327 children)</p> <p><u>GS</u>: 12,390 individuals (2,571 men; 9,553 women; 266 children)</p> <p><u>EJ</u>: 294 individuals (27 men; 206 women; 61 children)</p> <p><u>Area C</u>: 58 individuals (49 men; 9 women; 0 children)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 669 1243 896"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Type</th> <th colspan="2">Male</th> <th colspan="2">Female</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Adults</th> <th>Boys</th> <th>Adults</th> <th>Girls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>2571</td> <td>106</td> <td>9553</td> <td>160</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EJ</td> <td>27</td> <td>40</td> <td>206</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area C</td> <td>49</td> <td>0</td> <td>9</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	Male		Female		Adults	Boys	Adults	Girls	GS	2571	106	9553	160	EJ	27	40	206	21	Area C	49	0	9	0	<p><i>*H2 disaggregation (for area C cases) is not available yet.</i></p>	<p>CSOs</p>
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EJ	27	40	206	21																							
Area C	49	0	9	0																							
<p><u>Indicator 3.2.3.:</u> 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>  <u>Baseline</u>: 209 (2018) (Boys: 183; Girls: 26)  Gaza: 72 (26 female)  EJ: 137 (0 female)</p>	<p><u>Total</u>: 1,553 (1059 boys, 494 girls)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 1045 1228 1235"> <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>EJ</td> <td>575</td> <td>388</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>484</td> <td>106</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>1059</b></td> <td><b>494</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>68.8% of cases were related to Israeli jurisdictions</i></p>	Type	Gender		Boys	Girls	EJ	575	388	GS	484	106	<b>Total</b>	<b>1059</b>	<b>494</b>		<p>CSOs</p>										
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Planned Target: Increase of 1% (yearly)																													
<b>OUTCOME 4: WOMEN’S ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND SECURITY IMPROVED THROUGH GENDER-RESPONSIVE SERVICE DELIVERY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN</b>																													
<u>Indicator:</u> Number of cases on violence against women filed with FJPU annually <u>Baseline:</u> 3,346 (2017) <u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)	3,862	<i>In 2018, the Programme reported 1,773 cases filed with the FJPU. After correction, 3,820 cases were filed with the FJPU in 2018.</i>	PCP																										
<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	<table border="1" data-bbox="680 526 1239 954"> <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>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>108</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">19-29</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>933</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">30-44</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>1095</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">45 and above</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>907</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>3158</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Groups	Type of Crime	N. of Cases	18 and less	Felonies	16	Misdemeanors	108	19-29	Felonies	40	Misdemeanors	933	30-44	Felonies	33	Misdemeanors	1095	45 and above	Felonies	26	Misdemeanors	907	<b>Total</b>		<b>3158</b>	<i>In 2018, the Programme reported 4,323 VAW cases transferred by public prosecution to the courts. After correction, 3,093 cases were transferred to the public prosecution.</i>	Mizan II
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<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	<table border="1" data-bbox="680 997 1239 1382"> <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>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">19-29</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>299</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">30-44</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>431</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">45 and above</td> <td>Felonies</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misdemeanors</td> <td>273</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Groups	Type of Crime	N. of Cases	18 and less	Felonies	2	Misdemeanors	38	19-29	Felonies	11	Misdemeanors	299	30-44	Felonies	3	Misdemeanors	431	45 and above	Felonies	10	Misdemeanors	273		Mizan II			
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	<b>Total</b>		<b>1067</b>		
<b>Output 4.1: Capacity of Rule of Law institutions to respond to needs of women are improved</b>					
<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	<b>1</b>	Guidelines for the provision of services to women and girls victims of cyber violence adopted by the PCP and AGO		<i>In addition, the SOPs for the prosecution of violence against women adopted in 2018 were launched and operationalized in 2019.</i>	Institutional partners
<b>Output 4.2: New practices of justice and security service providers are supported to transform their attitudes and behaviors towards women and girls</b>					
<u>Indicator:</u> 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)	34 from the PCP, AGO, HJC and SJD.				Institutional partners
<b>Output 4.3: Women have access to justice, security and protection</b>					
<u>Indicator 4.3.1:</u> 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)	<u>Total:</u> 13,838 (13,342 women; 496 girls) (reported under 3.1/3.2)				CSOs
		<b>Region</b>	<b>Type of Jurisdiction</b>		
			<b>Total</b>		
	<b>Women</b>	A&B	347		
		EJ	5637		
		GS	7358		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13342</b>			
<b>Girls</b>	A&B	2			
	EJ	388			

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>GS</td> <td>106</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>496</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>55% of cases were related to Palestinian jurisdictions.</i></p>	GS	106	<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>		
GS	106						
<b>Total</b>	<b>496</b>						
<p><u>Indicator 4.3.2.:</u> Number of women who benefited from legal aid services supported by the PG. <i>Disaggregated by age geographical area and Palestinian/Israeli jurisdictions</i></p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> N/A</p> <p><u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	N/A		Institutional partners				
<p><u>Indicator:</u> Number of people (disaggregated by sex) targeted with awareness and sensitization interventions on women's rights</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> 35,334 (women: 9,574, men: 5,432, children: 20,484) (2017)</p> <p><u>Planned Target:</u> Increase of 1% (yearly)</p>	<u>Total:</u> 13,329 individuals (2780 men; 10,222 women; 327 children) (reported under 3.2)		CSOs				

