

United Nations HUMAN RIGHTS



Strengthening Human Rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Global funding proposal

Period covered 2024-2026

Total budget needs for 3 years (estimate): 43.8 million USD

Table of Contents

<i>List of Acronyms</i>	0
<i>List of Figures</i>	2
1.0 <i>UNJHRO Structure and field offices</i>	2
2.0 <i>Thematic Priorities</i>	3
3.0 <i>Human rights and the DRC security situation</i>	4
4.0 <i>Mandate implementation and way forward</i>	5
5.0 <i>JHRO in the UNCT</i>	17
6.0 <i>Achievements and UNJHRO added value</i>	18
7.0 <i>Funding Appeal</i>	19
8.0 <i>Management arrangements</i>	20
ANNEX I – UNJHRO logical framework	25
Annex II- Risks and Mitigation	35

List of Acronyms

ADF	-	<i>Allied Democratic Forces</i>
ANR	-	<i>Agence Nationale de Renseignement</i>
AWP	-	<i>Annual work plan</i>
C2A	-	<i>Call to Action for Human Rights</i>
CACH	-	<i>Cap pour le Changement</i>
CENI	-	<i>Commission électorale nationale indépendante</i>
CIDH	-	<i>Comité interministériel des droits de l'homme</i>
CNDH	-	Commission nationale des droits de l'homme
CODECO	-	<i>Cooperative pour le développement du Congo</i>
CPDH/AN	-	<i>Commission Permanente Nationale des Droits de l'Homme à l'Assemblée Nationale</i>
CPVJR	-	<i>Commission provinciale vérité, justice et réconciliation</i>
CRSV	-	<i>Conflict-related sexual violence</i>
CSAC	-	<i>Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel et de la communication</i>
CSOs	-	<i>Civil Society Organizations</i>
DDR	-	<i>Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration</i>
DEXREL	-	<i>Donor and External Relations Section</i>
DRC	-	<i>Democratic Republic of the Congo</i>
EAC-RF	-	<i>East African Community-Regional Force</i>
ESRP	-	External relations and Strategic Planning Unit
ESCR	-	<i>Economic Social and Cultural Rights</i>
FARDC	-	<i>Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo</i>
FCC	-	<i>Front Commun pour le Congo</i>
GBV	-	<i>Gender-Based Violence</i>
GoDRC	-	<i>Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo</i>
HAG	-	<i>Humanitarian Advisory Group</i>
HCT	-	<i>Humanitarian Country Team</i>
HNO	-	<i>Humanitarian Needs Overview</i>
HR	-	<i>Human rights</i>
HRBA	-	<i>Human Rights Based Approach</i>
HRD	-	<i>Human Rights Division</i>
HRDDP	-	<i>Human Rights Due Diligence Policy</i>
HRM	-	<i>Human Rights Mechanisms</i>
HRP	-	<i>Humanitarian Response Plan</i>
HPC	-	<i>Humanitarian Planning Cycle</i>
HRV	-	<i>Human rights violations</i>
IHL	-	<i>International humanitarian law</i>
INGO	-	<i>International Non-Governmental Organization</i>
IOM	-	<i>International Organization for Migration</i>

JIT	-	<i>Joint Investigation Team</i>
M23	-	<i>Mouvement du 23 Mars</i>
MARA	-	<i>Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangement</i>
MONUC	-	<i>Mission des Nations Unies au Congo / United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</i>
MONUSCO	-	<i>Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation du Congo/ United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo</i>
NAP	-	<i>National Action Plan</i>
NGO	-	<i>Non-Governmental Organization</i>
NHRC	-	<i>National Human Rights Commission</i>
NHRIs	-	<i>National Human Rights Institutions</i>
OHCHR	-	<i>Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</i>
OSEGL	-	<i>UN Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region</i>
PAF	-	<i>Protection Analysis Framework</i>
PBF	-	<i>United Nations Peacebuilding Fund</i>
PBRB	-	<i>Project and Budget Review Board</i>
PDDRCS	-	<i>Programme de démobilisation, désarmement, relèvement communautaire et stabilisation</i>
PNC	-	<i>Police Nationale Congolaise</i>
POC	-	<i>Protection of Civilians</i>
PWDs	-	<i>People with Disabilities</i>
PWG	-	<i>Protection Working Group</i>
QIPs	-	<i>Quick Impact Projects</i>
SDG	-	<i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>
SMGP	-	<i>Senior Management Group for Protection</i>
SSR	-	<i>Security Sector Reform</i>
SWPA	-	<i>Senior Women Protection Advisor</i>
TAT	-	<i>Technical Assistance Team</i>
TOE	-	<i>United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict</i>
UN	-	<i>United Nations</i>
UNCT	-	<i>United Nations Country Team</i>
UNAFP	-	<i>United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programs</i>
UNDP	-	<i>United Nations Development Program</i>
UNFPA	-	<i>United Nations Population Fund</i>
UNHCR	-	<i>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</i>
UNICEF	-	<i>United Nations Children's Fund</i>
UNJHRO	-	<i>United Nations Joint Human Rights Office</i>
UNJPPD	-	<i>United Nations Joint Project for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>
UNSDCF	-	<i>United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework</i>

List of Figures

Figure 1 : Map of UNJHRO field offices in the DRC.....	3
Figure 2: Capacity Building session for women in South Kivu	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 3: Key Strategies to achieve the set targets.....	24

List of Tables

Table 1: Voluntary Contributions 2012-2023.....	21
Table 2: Budget Requirements for the period of 2024-2026.....	23

1.0 UNJHRO Structure and field offices

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) established a country office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in 1996. The country office was merged with the United Nations Organization’s peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) human rights component in 2008, thereby forming the UN Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO). Since its inception, the UNJHRO operates in pursuance of the human rights mandate of the UN peace mission in the DRC (MONUC and its successor MONUSCO- *Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation du Congo/ United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*), and the strategic priorities of the OHCHR. With a broad objective of fostering stability and sustainable peace, its work contributes to achieving human rights-related outcomes as well as contributing to key government and United Nations (UN) country-level strategies and mechanisms and informing UN policy decisions at the country level, in line with international human rights standards. The UNJHRO plays a strategic role within MONUSCO and as part of the United Nations Country team (UNCT) and the Humanitarian Country Team HCT on all aspects pertaining to human rights, key among them is the protection of civilians and combatting inequalities and discrimination; and works closely with the government of the DRC, development partners, NGOs, and civil society actors to advance the promotion and the protection of human rights in the country. Within the UN system, the UNJHRO leads specific coordination processes, including the fight against impunity, prevention of conflict-related human rights violations and support for implementation of a national transitional justice initiatives, strengthening institutions and reform initiatives for the protection of human rights, supporting the National Strategy against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), as well as promoting the right to development and mainstreaming human rights across humanitarian and development planning, implementation and assessment.

The UNJHRO has its headquarters in Kinshasa with field offices in 11 locations countrywide. Six offices are embedded within MONUSCO offices in the east, three offices collocating with the United Nations Agencies field offices in Kananga, Tshikapa and Kalemie, from where MONUSCO has withdrawn but maintains a residual presence, two standalone OHCHR field offices in Kisangani and Lubumbashi, and a mobile monitoring team covering the western provinces from Kinshasa.

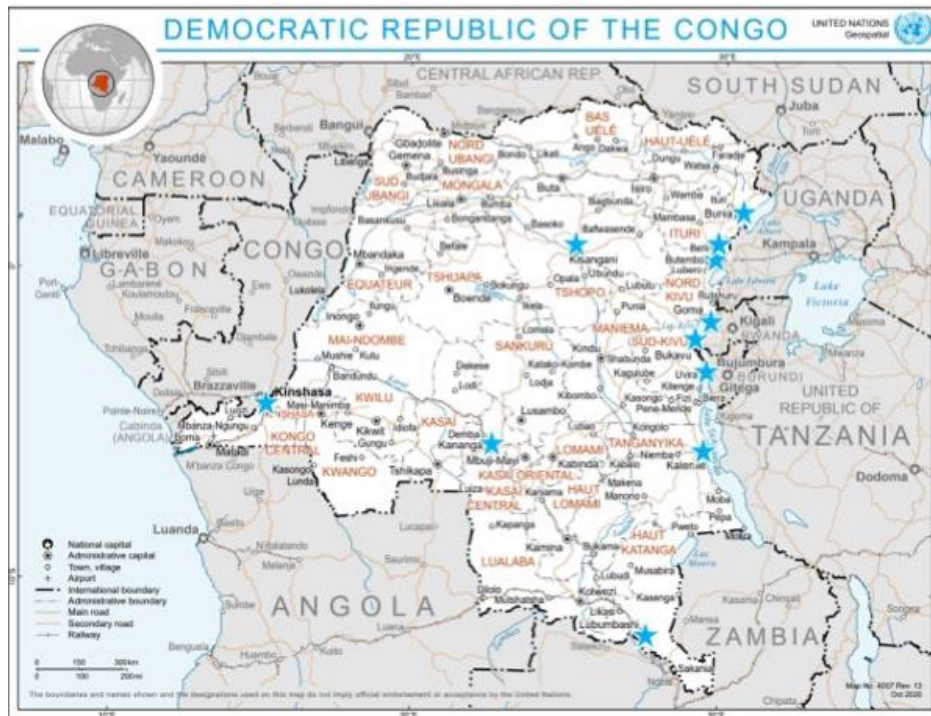


Figure 1 : Map of UNJHRO field offices in the DRC

2.0 Thematic Priorities

- ◆ ***Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations and abuses, including sexual violence in conflict and grave violations of the rights of children,*** with a focus on promoting transitional justice, providing technical expertise and support to the fight against impunity, and ensuring that administration of justice comply with international human rights law, including through monitoring, reporting, advocacy, capacity building, technical support, strengthening institutional policy frameworks and accountability mechanisms to improve human rights protection.
- ◆ ***Enhancing and protecting civic space and people's participation*** by monitoring and advising on the widening of civic space and support to the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, pro-democracy activists and victims and witnesses of human rights violations and abuses, preventing and responding to hate speech and promoting reforms aimed at improving the enjoyment of public liberties including freedom of speech, opinion, and peaceful demonstrations.
- ◆ ***Enhancing equality and countering discrimination*** through upholding the *principle of leave no one behind*, equal access to and enjoyment of the benefits of the exploitation of natural resources; promoting the rights of minorities, indigenous peoples, persons living with disabilities and other vulnerable groups including women.
- ◆ ***Integrating human rights in sustainable development*** with a focus on promoting the right to development and integrating human rights standards and analysis in national financial and budgetary processes as well as ensuring due consideration to gender equality,

inclusivity and meaningful and informed participation for all in development decision making, intervention and in the enjoyment of the dividends of development

- ◆ ***Early warning, prevention, and protection of human rights in situations of conflict and insecurity***, tackling the structural social, economic, historical, political and contextual causes through regular monitoring, analysis, reporting and advocacy to inform early warning, prevention and response, and capacity building for protection mechanisms.
- ◆ ***Enhancing cooperation with international human rights mechanisms*** by supporting the DRC government to improve efficiency, compliance and timely submission of reports to relevant human rights mechanisms and subsequent implementation of their recommendations and observations.

3.0 Human rights and the DRC security situation

The human rights and security situation in the DRC has continued to deteriorate, particularly in the eastern provinces. Between January 2022 and May 2023, UNJHRO documented 8,135 human rights violations and abuses throughout the country, translating in an average of 478 human rights violations and abuses per month. During the same period, the Office recorded 518 individual protection cases involving 783 beneficiaries, that is an average of 26 cases and 40 beneficiaries per month. Most of these occurred in conflict-affected provinces and were mainly attributed to members of non-state armed groups. Inequalities and discriminations have deepened condemning a growing number of Congolese to abject poverty and deprivation.

In North Kivu, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the Mai-Mai armed activities, the resurgence of the *Mouvement du 23 Mars* (M23), and the emergence of splinter self-defense groups have increased violations of the international humanitarian law and worsened the humanitarian situation, with massive displacements of civilians that pointed to and aggravated a protection deficit, against a backdrop of an inadequate humanitarian response and the delay of durable solutions. A joint investigation mission conducted by UNJHRO in Kishishe between 18 and 31 May 2023, following the partial withdrawal of M23 from the area, documented the existence of 55 mass graves in relation to the attacks that occurred on 29-30 November 2022 during which, more than 175 people were summarily executed and 25 women raped. The deteriorating security situation and related access restrictions in North Kivu province have exacerbated the human rights, protection and humanitarian challenges in conflict affected territories. It has also constrained the UNJHRO monitoring and investigation mandate in the affected locations. The redeployment of Congolese defense and security forces to the “Petit Nord” of the North Kivu province to combat the M23 has created a security vacuum in other parts of North Kivu and Ituri, that armed groups availed to commit various human rights abuses on civilians and violations of international humanitarian laws. The situation has been particularly striking in Masisi, Rutshuru, Beni and Lubero territories in North Kivu where attacks of armed groups increased and the city of Butembo (Lubero) has been placed under quasi control of Mai-Mai armed groups. The growing insecurity in the conflict affected areas has led to increased violations and abuses of international human rights and humanitarian law, CRSV/SGBV, and civilian casualties and raises concerns about the security and the participation of voters in the December 2023 elections.

In Ituri province, the situation has also worsened, with growing attacks by the ADF, the *CODECO* and *Zaire* armed groups against civilians.

In the South Kivu province, the prevalence of intercommunal violence results in various human rights abuses and the shrinking of civic space. In the western provinces, including Kinshasa,

Kwango, Kwilu and Mai-Ndombe, intercommunal conflicts that erupted between the Teke, Yaka, Suku, Mbala and Sange since June 2022 have had a negative impact on civilians. Since the beginning of 2023, at least 67 people, including four women were reportedly killed, and more than 100 people were reported missing.

At the regional level, since the resurgence of M23, relationships between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda swiftly deteriorated due to Rwanda's alleged support to the M23 and presence of soldiers of the Rwandan Defense Forces (RDF) on Congolese soil. The ongoing Nairobi and Luanda processes have not yet succeeded in resolving the conflict. Amid regional tensions, the East African Community Regional Force (EAC-RF) has been deployed in the DRC to oversee the withdrawal of M23 from controlled areas¹.

The overall security situation and the pre-electoral context constitute a fertile ground for violence and further restrictions on civic space. Hate speech and incitement to hostility and violence have also increased since the resurgence of M23, and several members of the Tutsi/Banyamulenge community have been arrested by authorities or attacked due to their perceived support to the M23 or Rwanda. There have also been restrictions on freedom of speech and access to information, with an increase in the number of journalists threatened and detained, mostly by the National Intelligence Agency (ANR). The debate on citizenship rights and the conditions to run for public office have heightened tensions, especially in the Katanga region. During the voter registration process, UNJHRO documented 21 election-related incidents, none of them attributed to state agents. Increased restrictions on civic space, and instances of hate speech, are expected to hike in the run-up to the 2023 elections, currently planned for December 2023.

In April 2023, the National Assembly adopted a law instituting an army reserve which could potentially lead to a *de facto* integration of members of armed groups into the national army with little scrutiny of their human rights records. If implemented, this could undermine the protection of civilians, jeopardize efforts at security sector reform and the gains achieved under the Nairobi process, threaten the viability of the Demobilization, Disarmament, Community Recovery and Stabilization Program (P-DDRCS) and hamper efforts to fight against impunity, including through transitional justice mechanisms.

4.0 Mandate implementation and way forward

The UNJHRO works in close collaboration with the UN Country Team (UNCT, the Humanitarian Country Team) and development partners to support the promotion and the protection of human rights in the DRC. Its vision and strategic direction are derived from a defined results framework (See Annex I), aligned with OHCHR strategic priorities, development priorities of the country and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all based on the country's obligations under international law and cascading commitments. Considerable progress has been made through collaboration with the government, the UN, diplomatic community; NGOs, civil society actors, human rights defenders, women and youth groups. UNJHRO focus areas are articulated along six main pillars.

¹ In the night of 12 to 13 June 2022, after roughly nine months of clashes against the FARDC, the M23 gained control of the City of Bunagana, Rutshuru territory, North Kivu province (at the border with Uganda). M23 subsequently gained control of other major cities of the Rutshuru, Masisi and Nyiragongo territories, up to 30 km of Goma, in the city of Sange. More than two hundred thousand people have been displaced due to the conflict. UNJHRO also documented cases of human rights abuses and violations of IHL by M23.

Pillar I: Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations

- **Pillar Result:** *All Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent, and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems, and show progress in the fight against impunity.*
- **Country Result:** *The judiciary increasingly convicts, and oversight mechanisms take further disciplinary measures in response to human rights violations including SGBV, CRSV*

Fight against impunity: Significant progress has been made over the years in supporting the Congolese authorities in the fight against impunity. The UNJHRO has strengthened the technical and operational capacities of judicial actors through technical support to investigations and court proceedings to bring to justice perpetrators of serious crimes including war crimes, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of human rights, including CRSV/SGBV and grave violations of the rights of children. The Office also monitored the respect for human rights pertaining to the administration of justice, notably in detention centers and prisons and advocated for the release of persons in prolonged and arbitrary detentions. The UNJHRO has played a key role in the protection of victims and witnesses in emblematic court cases before, during and after trials in support to the respect of guarantees of fair trial and a victim-centered approach towards justice.

Over the past five years, UNJHRO supported the organization of more than **57** judicial investigations and **64** mobile courts, mostly in the east. The support achieved the conviction of 853 members of the *Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo* (FARDC), 320 of the *Police Nationale Congolaise* (PNC) and 125 various armed groups. One of the emblematic cases is the case of Captain Mihonya Kolokolo, alias Chance, who was sentenced to life imprisonment by the *Haute cour militaire* following an on-site hearing in Bukavu from 16 through 23 September 2022. He was convicted of using, conscripting, or enlisting children as a war crime, to 20 years' imprisonment for enlisting and using children in armed forces or groups, to 3 years' imprisonment for violating and destroying protected reserves, including national parks and biosphere reserves and to 12 months' imprisonment for construction in protected areas. The conviction of Chance marked the first conviction for illegal exploitation of natural resources in the DRC.

Another emblematic case was the first prosecution in the DRC, Brigadier General Emmanuel Lombe Bangwangu and Deputy Divisional Commander Gilbert Vumilia Tendilonge. The investigative missions by the Military Prosecutor's Office of ex-Kasai Occidental (Kananga) from 4 to 12 November 2019 and by the FARDC General Prosecutor's Office, with the technical, logistical and financial support of the UNJHRO, established that the military had, in September 2016 arbitrarily arrested and illegally detained more than 120 men for two weeks at the Officer Training School in Kananga. The investigations also established that more than 300 women, including 80 young girls, had been raped and more than 200 houses burned by militaries. These judicial investigation missions allowed the prosecutor to interview at least 246 people, including 166 adult women and 80 minors (at the time of the events). The "Mulombodi" case opened in Kinshasa on March 2023 in front of the High Military Court, more than six years after the events, and was based on four counts of crimes against humanity by rape, murder, inhumane acts, and imprisonment, brought under a theory of command responsibility. General Tendilonge passed away in Kinshasa in May 2023.

The third notable case is the conviction for crimes against humanity by forced pregnancy, a world first before a national court. On 15 May 2023, the Tribunal militaire de garnison of Uvira sentenced Munyololo Mbao, alias Ndarumanga, former leader of a faction of the Raia Mutomboki armed group, to life imprisonment and payment of compensation to 127 victims of murder, rape, pillaging, torture and forced pregnancy. UNJHRO supported the mobile court through special protection measures.

UNJHRO is also advocating for and supporting the strengthening of the provincial prosecutorial strategies on international crimes since 2015. This is done notably by supporting the evaluation and update workshops on the prioritization strategies in the six provinces where they are in place, through capacity building provided to bar associations, civil and military judicial authorities, as well as through the provision of material and technical support to the deployment of Joint Investigation Teams and mobile courts, in coordination with other UN partners and civil society through the collaboration networks called “*Cadre de concertation*”. The UNJHRO is also a key player, together with UNDP and other MONUSCO components, in the Joint Programme of Justice Reform.

The deployment of the OHCHR Technical Assistance Team (TAT), first in Kasai in 2017 and countrywide since September 2021, has played a critical role in expediting a backlog of cases on grave human rights violations. Through their forensic expertise, evidence was collected and preserved in North Kivu and Kasai provinces in collaboration with judicial authorities, which has enabled progress in nine priority cases. The construction of a forensic laboratory was completed in Kananga in 2022 with the technical and financial support of UNJHRO, and has enabled 189 forensic examinations of sexual assault victims in the Tshimpindinga (Kasai Central). The UNJHRO is currently supporting the construction of a forensic laboratory in Bukavu (South Kivu province) to strengthen national forensic capacities. Together with UNAFP, the UNJHRO also plans to assist the government in setting up and implementing a national capacity-building strategy for forensic medicine.

Addressing impunity for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV): The UNJHRO and the Office of the Coordinator to the Head of State in charge of youth, fight against violence against women and human trafficking are working to establish a political and technical task force to coordinate and monitor the effective implementation of the Addendum to the Joint Communiqué (between the United Nations and the DRC) on the fight against sexual violence. In addition, UNJHRO worked closely with the Commission tasked to draft the law on reparations that will regulate the work of a future reparations fund (*Commission ad hoc multisectorielle chargée d'étudier les questions d'implémentation du Fonds national de réparation des victimes de violences sexuelles liées aux conflits et autres crimes contre la paix et la sécurité de l'humanité*, better known as “Commission FONAREV”). The law (n°22/065) on the reparation for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and victims of crimes against peace and the security of humanity was promulgated by the President of the DRC on 26 December 2022. The UNJHRO continues to support the government in the drafting of enabling legislations while improving alignment with applicable international law and best practices. UNJHRO also supported the implementation of the decree on the "Integrated Multisectoral Center", on the creation, organization and functioning of the Integrated Multisectoral Services Centers that provide the care (medical, legal, psychosocial and socio-economic assistance) provided through the implementation of JAD project for survivors of gender-based violence.

Support the alignment of the national legal framework with international human rights standards: in 2022, UNJHRO continued to advocate with State institutions for the adoption of various legislations provided in the DRC Constitution and their compliance with relevant international human rights instruments. These include, the draft law on the protection of human rights defenders that was, adopted by the National Assembly on 12 December 2022, the draft law on access to information, the draft law against tribalism, racism and xenophobia and the draft law on the abolition of the death penalty.

Support to Transitional Justice: Since 2020, the President committed to the implementation of transitional justice in the DRC to help the country address the root causes of conflicts and to promote peace and reconciliation, and officially requested OHCHR support. Through its Resolution A/HRC/45/L.53 on technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the DRC of 7 October 2020, the Human Rights Council welcomed the commitments made by the Congolese government in the areas of transitional justice, the fight against impunity, and reconciliation, and asked the UNJHRO to support it in this regard. Since then, UNJHRO has

been providing technical and financial assistance to national authorities to create favorable conditions for the implementation of transitional justice mechanisms in the country while emphasizing the importance of a victim-centered approach across the pillars of transitional justice namely: truth-telling, criminal justice, reparation measures, and institutional reforms to avoid recurrence. This support resulted in the creation of the joint committee on transitional justice in August 2021, that was tasked of drafting a national roadmap on transitional justice and preparing the launch of national consultations on transitional justice that started in March 2022. Consultations have been completed in Tanganyika, Kasai, Kongo-Central, Lualaba, Haut-Katanga, Haut-Lomami, Tshopo, Haut-Uele and Bas-Uele provinces. The consultations garnered great interest with the continued support of the UNJHRO and allowed the polling of more than 22,500 persons on their needs and expectations from transitional justice.

This process followed the successful implementation of the transitional justice process in Kasai Central with the support of United Nations Peacebuilding Funds (PBF) and in cooperation with the UNDP². The establishment of provincial Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation Commission (CPVJR) in Kasai Central on 28 June 2021 was a good practice and an important milestone that testifies to the potential success of the transitional justice process at a national level. It also encouraged all stakeholders to increase their support to sustainable peace in the DRC. In this regard, the key support provided by UNJHRO bolstered the government led efforts to develop the implementation of transitional justice in the DRC and can be referred to as a best practice that must be carried forward.

Disarmament, Demobilization Reintegration (DDR) and Stabilization: A coordinated approach to stabilization and peacebuilding requires mutually reinforcing disarmament, demobilization, community reintegration and stabilization program (*Programme de Désarmement, Démobilisation, Relèvement Communautaire et Stabilisation-P-DDRCS*) and transitional justice process. The UNJHRO played a critical role in ensuring that human rights principles be central to the P-DDRCS strategies at the national and provincial levels. As a result, the new P-DDRCS fully recognizes the centrality of this principle. Indeed, the national PDDRC-S strategy affirmed the link that should exist between the program and transitional justice initiatives in furtherance of durable solutions to conflict and violence. UNJHRO is also actively engaged in strengthening human rights and justice capacity to deliver justice and meet international human rights obligations. In this regard, UNJHRO will continue supporting the government in bolstering positive synergies between the P-DDRCS and transitional justice processes to ensure that the ultimate goals of both processes are achieved and that human rights principles are respected throughout the P-DDRCS's implementation. This will be done inter alia through support to screening processes to identify perpetrators of serious human rights violations and to further the integration of the rights to justice and reparations in the P-DDRCS.

Security Sector Reform (SSR): UNJHRO's focus on SSR is to contribute to coordinated efforts to build accountable and transparent defense and security forces. This is done through direct engagement with units and oversight bodies to ensure that human rights violations and abuses, including sexual violence in conflict, are prevented and accounted for when they have occurred. . UNJHRO has over the years monitored human rights violations committed by security and defense forces and is uniquely placed to provide strategic advice and support to the government's reforms, including through support to the work of the follow-up committees on human rights violations committed by members of the national security and defense forces; providing human rights training and other forms of capacity building to members of those committees and security and defense forces in general; developing and supporting the implementation of mitigating

² Following the events of the Kamuina Nsapu phenomenon in central Kasai between 2016 and 2017, the project on Peace, Justice, Reconciliation and Reintegration (PAJURR) was launched with the aim of strengthening the capacity of the Congolese judicial system to deal with root causes of conflict leading to serious human rights violations and crimes. Consultations with the population qualified the need for a transitional justice mechanism.

measures aimed at reducing the risk of human rights violations by national security and defense forces recipients of UN support, in accordance with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP), carrying out monitoring, investigating and reporting on human rights violations, including SGBV, CRSV, and grave violations of the rights of children, committed by these forces, as well as monitoring respect of human rights pertaining to arrest and detention; monitoring protests to deter and advise against arbitrary arrest excessive use of force or other human rights violations by state security forces in the electoral context ; and advocating with relevant authorities against human rights violations and the risks thereof.

Way Forward: The UNJHRO will adapt and enhance the monitoring of the human rights situation, including investigations into grave human rights violations, and scale up the fight against impunity, including through the establishment of a victim-centered transitional justice policy. It will strengthen collaboration with the UNAFP on reinforcing frameworks on access to justice and multisector assistance to victims of SGBV and CRSV, supporting the government and other human rights stakeholders namely, the civil society, and the National Human Rights Commission in efforts to move forward with key reforms aimed at strengthening the rule of law and security related functions of the state. This includes efforts undertaken through joint UN initiatives on the police and justice reforms, and efforts to provide support, together with the UN Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region (OSEGL), on judicial cooperation on transborder crimes. UNJHRO's role will continue to be critical to ensure that human rights principles are respected throughout the implementation of the P-DDRCS strategy at the national and provincial levels, and in reinforcing the institutional links between the P-DDRCS and transitional justice initiatives for durable solutions to conflict and violence. The implementation of the HRDDP will be essential in the implementation of mitigating measures and provision of technical expertise and human rights training to members of the national security and defense forces under the SSR program, including in the areas of human rights, international humanitarian law and prevention and response to CRSV and grave violations of children rights. The UNJHRO will also strengthen its protection mandate through support to the consolidation of protection of civilian (POC) mechanisms, the sustainable and state-owned protection of human rights defenders, and the acceleration of the integration of human rights in humanitarian processes.

Pillar II: Enhancing and Protecting Civic Space and People's Participation

- **Pillar Result:** P1 Stronger laws, policies and practices to protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling. **Country Result:** The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is more effective in fulfilling its mandate in accordance with the Paris Principles, including in handling complaints.
- **Pillar Result:** P4 Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened. **Country Result:** Increased number of victims of human rights violations benefiting from assistance by the civil society networks supported by the UNJHRO.
- **Pillar Result:** P5 More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place.
- **Country Result:** Better respect of human rights norms, standards and principles by the State in the context of the exercise by the citizens of the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association.

NHRI Support: UNJHRO has since its inception supported institution building and reform for national institutions involved in the protection and promotion of human rights in the DRC.

Through close collaboration with the ministries of human rights and Justice, the UNJHRO continues to support the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) including the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the Inter-ministerial Committee on Human Rights (CIDH), the “*Conseil Supérieur de l’Audiovisuel et de la Communication*” (CSAC) and the Standing Human Rights Commission of the National Assembly. UNJHRO organized several activities with the NHRC to evaluate cooperation, plan activities and collect information and data to enable it to effectively fulfill its mandate. The UNJHRO organized capacity building sessions for the NHRC and the staff of the ministry of human rights in the provinces on topics related to international and regional instruments and mechanisms for human rights protection, hate speech and incitement to hostility, Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), rights of spotlight groups and monitoring and reporting. Through a quick impact project, the Office supported the construction of an office building for the National Human Rights Commission in Tanganyika Province. UNJHRO mobilization of NHRIs and CSOs through advocacy and capacity building workshops culminated in the enactment of the Maniema Edict for the protection of Human Rights Defenders early November 2022.

The NHRIs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo face structural challenges and major resource gaps that continue to undermine the successful implementation of their mandates. The CNDH for instance has suffered a reputational dent due to its inability to adequately respond to human rights issues at provincial and national levels. The recent reduction of personnel both in the provinces and in Kinshasa constitutes a serious hurdle in its functioning particularly in the lead-up to presidential and legislative elections. The CNDH inability to adequately play its watchdog and advisory role to Congolese institutions may downgrade it from the “A” status in conformity with the Paris Principles. NHRIs also lack dialogue frameworks wherein national human rights priorities and emerging issues can be discussed.

CSOs support to monitor human rights violations and provide assistance to victims:

UNJHRO's priorities include contributing to the establishment of a national human rights protection system through training, equipment, financial support, documentation, and sharing of good practices with public institutions and civil society organizations. Several activities aimed at harmonizing national legislation with international human rights law and implementing the recommendations of treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) have been implemented with Parliament and the government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), improve the human rights of indigenous peoples, people with albinism, and people with disabilities, to expand civic space, prevent, and combat hate speech, and to improve economic, social, and cultural rights. UNJHRO efforts to expedite the process of legislative reforms in the area of hate speech and civic space continue and will enable greater enjoyment of fundamental rights and accountability of governance structures.

Strengthening human rights norms, standards, and principles: Despite sustained advocacy with the Parliament’s standing commission on human rights, the adoption of laws for the promotion of human rights has been slow. Following the adoption of the draft law on the protection and accountability of human rights defenders by the National Assembly and the Senate albeit on different terms, a joint Senate-National Assembly commission was instituted to finalize the legislative process. The delayed legislation bears a negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights by the protection networks and human rights defenders that the UNJHRO has been supporting since 2006. The adoption of the draft law on access to information that is very important for the enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms particularly in the current - electoral context is still pending. The same applies to the proposed law on xenophobia that would have bolstered the increasing hate speech and incitement to violence.

Way forward: UNJHRO will continue to support the NHRIs to promote and protect human rights in line with their mandates. The effectiveness of the CNDH to advance its watchdog role and promote the respect of human rights in the DRC will be supported through capacity building, technical advice, and logistical support in Kinshasa and at provincial level. UNJHRO will continue to support national authorities in the prevention and repression of hate speech and incitement to

violence. In this regard, advocacy will be carried out to encourage the CSAC as well as the human rights commission in the National Assembly to push for the adoption of draft laws that have an impact on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights. The Office will also strengthen its support to human rights defenders (HRD) and protection networks through capacity building, financial and logistic support as well as advocacy for their sustainable protection in keeping with the UPR recommendations of 2019. Joint protection and assistance mechanisms will be put in place through coordination with protection networks, UN agencies, international NGOs and other stakeholders to improve the networks' technical capacities and independent action. UNJHRO will thereby contribute to efforts to expand and protect civic space, including digital space. Advocacy with state authorities will focus on their obligations to protect the human rights of their citizens, while CSOs, especially women and youth groups and the general public will be sensitized and enabled on their rights and roles in the promotion of a conducive environment for participatory democracy for stability and development.

Pillar III: Enhancing Equality and Countering Discrimination

- ***Pillar Result:*** ND1 Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to "leave no one behind", including by addressing the root causes of inequality.
Country Result: Duty bearers better uphold the rights of indigenous people.

Legal Frameworks: In 2022/23, the UNJHRO maintained sustained advocacy with State institutions for the adoption of various legal and institutional frameworks in accordance with the constitution of the DRC and in compliance with international human rights instruments. Several advocacy, awareness-raising and capacity-building activities were organized with parliamentarians, government authorities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that resulted in the adoption of ***(i)*** the law on the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples by the Congolese Parliament (on 14 June 2022, enacted on 15 July 2022 and published in the official gazette on 14 November 2022) and ***(ii)*** the law on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (enacted on 2 May 2022 and published on 1st June 2022 in the official gazette). The UNJHRO has supported the various stakeholders to push for the inclusion of more laws affecting human rights on the agenda of parliament. The Office will reinforce its advocacy for the prioritization and adoption of pending laws, including the draft laws on the protection of human rights defenders, on access to information, against tribalism, racism and xenophobia and on the abolition of the death penalty in the DRC.

Enhancing equality, countering discrimination, leaving no one behind and addressing root causes of inequality. Promoting an effective pursuit of the right to development, reducing inequalities and ensuring that no one is left behind are integral to achieving the SDGs. Citizens of countries affected by and emerging from multi-faceted conflicts like the DRC are most likely to face threats of or actual marginalization, inequalities, and discrimination including with regards to climate justice and sovereignty over their natural resources and the related enjoyment of the benefit of their exploitation. Besides armed conflict entertained by foreign and local armed groups in eastern provinces, interethnic conflict in the western part of DRC, Tanganyika and Kasai have experienced inter-ethnic conflicts with roots stemming from land ownership defined along ethnic lines. In areas affected by armed conflict, women and girls have often borne the brunt of the violence. They have lost their livelihood, suffered various types of human rights violation and abuses, and violence, interrupted their education and participation in socio-economic activities, which plunged most of them in extreme poverty. Equality, equity, participation and non-discrimination permeate all areas of focus of the UNJHRO, hence the need to deepen the integration of these principles in UN country programs and to support national initiatives to obtain legislations that promote equality and inclusion.

UNJHRO has made significant progress in supporting key actors such as civil society organizations, minority group structures, (such as indigenous people) and victims of discrimination (people with disabilities, blind people and albinos, indigenous populations) in sensitizing the public and advocating for government and parliament action to improve inclusion. The Office has engaged national institutions on inclusion of vulnerable groups. In 2021, UNJHRO in collaboration with the government, UNESCO, IOM and civil society launched the United Nations Joint Project for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) aimed at identifying priorities and gaps related to advancing the rights of People with Disabilities (PWDs) in the DRC. An action plan specifying priorities has been developed and technical assistance is being provided to the government to foster the inclusion of the abovementioned category.

Way Forward: The UNJHRO will continue to support advocacy for inclusivity, informed and meaningful participation of minority groups' rights and ensure that the rights of indigenous people are factored in land reform. In keeping with the Secretary General's February 2020 Call to Action (C2A) for human rights, the UNJHRO will continue to actively engage the UNCT and other partners on the requirement to place the right to development and human rights in general at the core of solutions to emerging issues and the achievement of the SDGs. Through the UNSDCF platforms and other conducive avenues, the Office will emphasize the requirement to ground country initiatives on human rights principles, to empower people and create avenues for meaningful participation of civil society and ensure that data collection, monitoring, analysis and reporting remain sensitive to human rights and non-discriminatory. UNJHRO will strengthen the capacity of the National human rights Commission and its provincial coordination's and enhance advocacy with the government to implement policies that empower vulnerable and excluded groups, and push for the adoption of legislations that further a social contract established on the basis of human rights principles and aimed at addressing discrimination, protecting human rights and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Pillar IV: Integrating human rights in sustainable development.

- ***Pillar Result: D6 Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects.***

Strengthen the legal foundation of the SDGs: If human rights are systematically integrated in the sustainable development processes, framework and activities, the normative foundation of the SDGs will be strengthened and chances for nearing achievement optimized. A stronger legal and normative basis will strengthen the sustainability of development initiatives and allow for a more effective advocacy with the institutions. The indivisibility and interdependence of the human rights propelled by the right to development will also contribute to the foundation of the triple nexus. UNJHRO works towards the alignment and the integration of human rights norms and principles, recommendations from human rights mechanisms, SDGs in the UNSDCF and other UNCT coordinated actions, including through the Humanitarian Advisory Group and the Triple Nexus. In addition, UNJHRO works with various stakeholders on the drafting of the National Action Plan on business and human rights.

In recognition of the role of women in development, the UNJHRO has equally supported initiatives by the government to effectively reduce gender based violence (GBV) and is jointly collaborating with UNAFPs including UNESCO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNHCR to implement PBF-funded projects aimed at improving the quality and access to holistic care for survivors, particularly among vulnerable groups, access to justice and reparations, gender protection, and access to education, and at empowering them to participate in socio-economic development.

Major projects include the **(i)** the project on combating gender-Based Sexual Violence: Justice, Empowerment and Dignity of Women and Girls in the DRC (2018-2023); **(ii)** the project on Women’s Right to Protection and Participation for Equality and Peace around the artisanal mines of South Kivu (Kigulube) (2019 – 2021); **(iii)** the project on strengthening the role of women and young people in local governance and peacebuilding in the province of Kasai (2020-2022). Through advocacy with local government and national authorities, the above-mentioned project has created linkages for women and youth in the Kasai region with the local government, the Bar association, and the association of women jurists. The establishment of a provincial youth council in Kasai and the appointment of two women ministers from Kasai are major achievements in this context; **(iv)** the project on strengthening justice and socio-economic reintegration for and by young women and men to promote social cohesion between displaced persons and members of the host community in the provinces of Kasai and Kasai Central (2021-2023); and **(v)** the project to mitigate gender-based violence including conflict-related sexual violence on women and girls while reinforcing women’s response in DRC (March 2022 – June 2023), to improve the fight against impunity for CRSV and improve access to multisectoral assistance by victims of CRSV / SGBV (medical, psycho-social, legal, and socio-economic reintegration).



Figure 2: Capacity Building session for women in South Kivu

Way forward: Since 2020, the UNJHRO has been working to support the efforts of national stakeholders to improve the governance of natural resources, increase state control over these resources, and support corporations and business enterprises in implementing the 10 principles of the UN Global Compact on human rights. The new mining code, for example, requires operators to contribute to the financing of development projects and to submit specifications defining their social responsibility towards local communities affected by their activities. The Forestry Code, while establishing an obligation for forest operators to build socio-economic infrastructures for the benefit of local communities, also recognizes forest use rights for the benefit of local communities.

Despite these legal precautions and the creation of a ministry in charge of mining, the exploitation of natural resources continues to be a source of tension, human rights violations and impoverishment. As part of the Business and Human Rights project (BHR 2023-2025) funded by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), for which a consultant has been recruited, JHRO will continue to monitor the negative effects of the activities of multinational and local companies on human rights, including the illegal exploitation of natural resources by armed groups. In addition, UNJHRO will continue to support the government's efforts to adopt a national action plan on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights under an inclusive process and based on human rights approach. UNJHRO will continue to support the government’s commitment to upholding the right to development materialized by its adherence to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, in May 2023.

UNJHRO will closely follow **up on:** **(a)** Implementation of recommendations of the Business and Human Rights Africa DRC Strategy Paper and the recommendations from the Regional and National Dialogue on the UNPG (22 and 23 June 2023); **(b)** Multi-stakeholder awareness-raising workshop for government authorities, CNDH, business and the civil society on human rights and

management of natural resources, including assessment of regulatory and policy reforms in the sector (including in respect of tin, tantalum, tungsten (the “3 T's”) as well as gold; (c) recommendations from pertinent regional and international processes as the SDG Summit (18-19 September 2023); Addis Ababa High Level seminar on the right to development (8 September 2023); Addis Ababa seminar on Business and Human Rights in Africa (6-7 September 2023) and the Yaoundé seminar on the right to development (17 April 2023)

Support to the national multi-stakeholder Working Group on Business and Human Rights, chaired by the Ministry of Human Rights, and policy dialogue to address emerging issues such as the linkages between business, human rights and corruption; business and human rights in contract negotiation; business human rights and revenue management; business, human rights and local content; and business and human rights and infrastructure. This will include support to the Working Group to make recommendations to government.

Awareness-raising activities, including media mobilization on the linkages between business, human rights, and corruption in the natural resources sector, targeting business and government audiences. **National Action Plan (NAP)** on business and human rights advocacy and stakeholder-engagement activities to follow-up on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations to DRC at its 3rd cycle review in 2019 to develop and adopt a NAP.

Way forward: The UNJHRO will increase capacity building programs for various stake holders, including the NHRC and its provincial coordination’s and civil society organizations to reinforce understanding, protection and respect for human rights principles and standards, including Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) and business and human rights principles, with a focus on marginalized groups and women. It will strengthen initiatives towards alignment and integration of human rights norms, recommendations and SDGs by various stakeholders, in the UNSDCF and other UNCT coordinated initiatives, including through the Humanitarian Advisory Group and the Triple Nexus.

Pillar V: Early warning, prevention, and protection of human rights in situations of conflict

- **Pillar Result:** *PS5 Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policy making, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict.*
- **Country Result:** *An enhanced information data system established and information feeding to National and UN strategy.*
- **Pillar Result:** *PS6 United Nations' support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies, and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy*
- **Country Result:** *Decision making process within MONUSCO in support to the political process and to POC is fully guided by the relevant human rights norms, standards and principles especially through the good offices of the mission leadership or in the context of the provision of support to the security forces in compliance with the HRDDP.*

Human rights monitoring and analysis: In areas affected by armed conflict in the DRC, civilians have experienced widespread human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law (including SGBV, CRSV, and grave violations of the rights of children) resulting from systematic violence and mass atrocities. The UNJHRO human rights monitoring and analysis has over the years formed the basis for the development and implementation of threat assessments and protection strategies that have been pivotal in the shaping of early warning, prevention and response. Qualitative analysis of reliable data obtained from human rights monitoring, information

shared by partners including human rights defenders and protection networks and humanitarian monitors, reporting and investigation conducted by field offices, as well information gathered on hate speech has informed early warning and assessment of PoC threats as well as responses. Regular information sharing with the diplomatic community and public reporting has also contributed to decisions on actions by relevant stakeholders in the DRC. The monitoring resources will need to be strengthened to face emerging and foreseeable challenges.

Protection mechanisms reinforced including women protection against CRSV, children protection: Protection mechanisms including Protection Working Group (PWG), Senior Management Group for Protection (SMGP), the SMGP-P, the Local Protection Committees and the Community Liaison Officers are operational at national, provincial and local levels. These PoC mechanisms discuss protection risks, share information on threats and frame strategies and responses to improve the protection of civilians. The UNJHRO plays key roles in secretarial services, advice, capacity building and advocacy for the consideration for human-rights principles in the decisions and actions of all the stakeholders. Additionally, UNJHRO implements a program for the protection of journalists and human rights defenders, pro-democracy activists, victims of reprisals, as well as victims and witnesses in judicial proceedings.

Preventing CRSV form part of the core mandate of the UNJHRO. Women Protection Advisors (WPAs) deployed within the UNJHRO work at strategic and operational levels with the UN agencies, the government, the army and police, and the host population to prevent and respond to CRSV. Trends and patterns of CRSV are documented through a coordinated and comprehensive monitoring analysis and reporting arrangement (MARA), which not only contributes to reports to the Security Council but also informs response and preventive actions at mission and national levels. A lesson learned during the Covid-19 pandemic that has continued to be valuable in the face of insecurity in eastern DRC, was the criticality of the role of human rights defenders and protection networks in information sharing on human rights and protection threats for early warning and prevention.

“The Security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo is deteriorating rapidly and threatening a human rights disaster.... I urge all sides to protect civilians in line with international human rights law and international humanitarian law..”

*Volker Türk, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
1st November 2022*

The UNJHRO also contributes to the implementation of the UN SC Res. 1612 mandate on Children and armed conflict. Through its participation to the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM), UNJHR information collection and analysis contributes to the report of the SRSG on Children and Armed Conflicts on the DRC and to inform adequate preventive and response measures.

Support HRDDP policy risks related assessment, reporting, follow up committees and national institutions: The HRDDP Secretariat within the UNJHRO contributes to the protection of civilians through risk analysis and mitigation in the provision of support by MONUSCO and the UNCT to DRC defense and security forces. The HRDDP Secretariat manages a robust database of profiles of personnel from the national defense and security services, undertakes screening and clearance of requests for support, and provides training and sensitization for defense and security forces, UNCT members and others on the HRDDP, human rights and international humanitarian law. UNJHRO has also supported the establishment and operationalization of FARDC and PNC follow-up committees to monitor human rights violations committed in areas of military and police operations, assess compliance in the promotion and protection of human rights and recommend disciplinary and judicial actions against perpetrators. In 2022, at least 233 remedial actions were taken by these committees

Way forward: UNJHRO strategic presence and access to conflict-affected areas will continue to be crucial. Adequate resources for quality and reliable monitoring, investigation and reporting on human rights violations and abuses as well as violations of international humanitarian law will be critical for accurate analysis for early warning, advocacy for accountability and other response actions, and timely reporting. With the drawdown of MONUSCO presence and related logistical challenges that will further restrict access to the field, UNJHRO will continue to enhance its remote and open-source monitoring to ensure efficient information gathering, analysis and timely reporting in a cost-effective manner. In addition, the Office will leverage advanced technologies such as satellite imagery, or geospatial analysis and explore innovative approaches for remote monitoring in inaccessible areas. The UNJHRO will enhance collaboration with the UNCT and the HCT to strengthen protection mechanisms at national level and enhance its support for the establishment of government-led tools for the prevention of violations the protection of civilians, and the fight against hate speech and disinformation and misinformation. It will also strengthen partnership with civil society and local actors that are best placed to provide first-hand information, conduct grassroots monitoring, and contribute to the collection of open-source data. Public reporting on various thematic issues as well as regular briefings to the diplomatic corps will continue, to support the promotion and the protection of human rights. Moreover, UNJHRO will continue to support the country's cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, notably engagements with the Human Rights Council and its special procedures, treaty bodies and regional mechanisms.

UNJHRO will also continue to support the Office of the Special Advisor to the Head of State on Youth and the Fight against Sexual Violence and the effective implementation of the Addendum to the Joint Communiqué (between the United Nations and the DRC) on the fight against sexual violence and to push for the law on reparation for victims.

Pillar VI: Enhancing Cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms

- ***Pillar Result:*** M1 National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations.
- ***Country Result:*** The existing inter-ministerial committee on reporting to the Treaty Bodies becomes permanent and functional.
- ***Country Result:*** The DRC actively contribute to and ratifies the legally binding instrument on the right to development.
- ***Pillar Result:*** M2 Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes.
- ***Country Result:*** NHRC and other active HRD NGOs increase their contributions and submissions to the international human rights mechanisms regarding serious human rights issues in DRC.

Support National institutions: While the DRC has ratified the major international human rights treaties, several of these treaties have not been implemented. The DRC has every reason to champion the adoption and ratification of the UN convention on the right to development. In recent years, the DRC has improved its performance regarding its reporting obligations with the support of the UNJHRO that also enabled the participation of human rights NGOs and CSOs. However, it has no effective national reporting body. As a result, several reports to treaty bodies are overdue and the implementation of recommendations and observations is not properly followed up.

Way forward: The UNJHRO will work closely with the national and provincial authorities with the aim of promoting nationwide understanding, acceptance and ratification of the newly

developed UN Convention on the Right to Development. UNJHRO will also continue to strengthen the capacities of NRIs support the improvement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms and support civil society to play a more active role. Through the UNCT the UNJHRO will advocate for the merging of the committee and the national reporting mechanism on the SDGs. Closer collaboration and continuous mentoring , capacity building for NHRI and active human rights NGOs on reporting to human rights mechanisms (HRM) and development and implementation of joint workplans; and facilitation of their access to information to enhance their contribution and submissions to international human rights mechanisms and strengthen their ownership. An emphasis will put on the NRIs and CSO involvement in the monitoring, reporting, and follow-up on the implementation of recommendations from international human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies and the UPR.

5.0 JHRO in the UNCT

The protection of human rights and prevention of human rights violations and abuses run through the continuum of all pillars of UN engagement in the DRC. The UNJHRO has actively participated in country level and provincial mechanisms of the UNCT within the “delivering as one” approach and mainstreamed human rights in UN country programs to respond more effectively to development priorities and humanitarian needs. The Office has used different UNCT working groups and the HCT architecture as platforms to articulate human rights issues and enhance compliance of actions with international human rights standards. Strong partnerships with various agencies (such as UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, OCHA) have enabled joint action on sensitization and capacity building on cross cutting issues affecting UN mandates.

The UNJHRO has been actively involved in the implementation of joint projects with UN agencies including with UNDP in Kasai and Kasai central on transitional justice, with UNDP, MONUSCO and the United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (TOE) in Kinshasa, Kasai Central, Tanganyika, Nord Kivu, Sud Kivu and Ituri on support to the justice reform, including the fight against impunity, with IOM in Tshikapa on youth and women empowerment, and with UNICEF and IOM on development and stabilization projects under the Shabunda Action plan of 2019.

The UNJHRO is implementing a joint program to support justice reform in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for the period 2020-2024, with the participation of UNDP, MONUSCO, the "Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Issues of Sexual Violence in Conflict" (ToE), and in cooperation with various actors supporting the justice sector and the rule of law. This program aims to support progress in strengthening the rule of law, governance reforms and the fight against impunity, with a view to stabilizing and developing the country, considering MONUSCO's transition.

The Office played a key role in the drafting of the UNDSCF 2020-2024. Its support to national human rights institutions, the justice system, the government, Parliament, and civil society organizations through technical and operational assistance and UNCT collaboration has enhanced their capacity to promote and protect of human rights in the country, especially in the areas of legal reforms, fight against impunity and transitional justice. The Office is also fully engaged in consultations of the HCT and relevant stakeholders to find durable solutions to the conflicts in eastern provinces and the Mai-Ndombe, Kwango and Kwilu provinces, ensuring that the envisioned and implemented solutions comply with international human rights standards.

The successful implementation of the SDGs is underpinned by economic, civil, cultural, political, and social rights, all encapsulated in the UNJHRO's focus areas on the DRC and in the UNCT country results frameworks. Given its expertise in identifying, defining, and responding to human rights issues, the UNJHRO will continue to play the lead role of promoting a human rights-based

approach in the UNCT plans and programs to ensure that the outcomes are more sustainable, powerful, and effective.

The UNJHRO is also a fully-fledged member of the Humanitarian Country Team wherein the Director serves as advisor the Humanitarian Coordinator on human rights matters. The Joint Office also leads the human rights-based approach to humanitarian action, including the humanitarian planning, the humanitarian needs overview (HNO), the humanitarian response plan (HRP), implementation of related programs and activities and protection analytical framework (PAF) in the protection monitoring.

6.0 Achievements and UNJHRO added value

Achievements	UNJHRO added value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Advocacy at the highest level for ownership and launch of a national transitional justice process in the DRC in March 2021. ◆ Creation of the joint committee on transitional justice in August 2021 to establish a national roadmap on transitional justice. ◆ Following advocacy, creation of the standing human rights committee in the National Assembly (<i>Commission Permanente des Droits de l'Homme</i> CPDH/AN), which is a major enabler at parliament level to push for requisite legislation and reforms on human rights in the DRC. ◆ Launch of national consultations on transitional justice in nine provinces of the country allowing over 22,500 people to be polled on their expectations and needs in terms of the right to truth, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-repetition. ◆ UNJHRO support for the creation of an ad hoc multisectoral Commission FONAREV responsible for working on the establishment of a reparations fund for survivors of human rights violations leading to the promulgation of a framework law on reparation by the President on 26 December 2022, following its adoption by the Parliament. ◆ A strong human rights perspective to the HNO and HRP for 2021, 2022 and 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Broad human rights mandate with unique expertise and experience in human rights monitoring, investigation reporting and analysis for early warning and policy formulation. ◆ Strong partnerships within MONUSCO, UNCT, DRC government, NGOs and civil society for a coordinated and harmonized approach to promoting and protecting human rights concerns in the DRC. ◆ MARA Secretariat – oversees the systematic gathering and registering of timely, accurate, reliable, and objective information on conflict-related sexual violence. ◆ HRDDP Secretariat's risk assessment and mitigation is a key tool for the protection of civilians, for prevention of human rights violations, and for continued support to SSR and P-DDRCS. ◆ Technical Assistance Team with international forensic expertise to accelerate support for the fight against impunity. ◆ Unique expertise in human rights-based humanitarian and development data generation and analysis, planning, interventions and assessment ◆ Advocacy, technical support for legal protection including a draft national law and

- ◆ Establishment of a Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) in Central Kasai on 15 July 2021.
 - ◆ Consolidated gains of the Shabunda Action Plan of 2019 on CRSV on improving livelihoods, infrastructure, and empowering women to participate meaningfully in local mining activities in South Kivu.
 - ◆ Civil society Organizations, human rights defenders and protection networks on monitoring and reporting of human rights violations strengthened.
 - ◆ 420 HRD victims of imminent threats and human rights violations assisted by civil society networks supported by UNJHRO.
- provincial edicts, and partnership for sustainable protection for human rights defenders.
- ◆ Strong partnership with CSO and a pioneer individual protection program implemented by the UNJHRO since 2006

7.0 Funding Appeal

The withdrawal and/or reconfiguration of a peacekeeping mission might create an impression that relative peace and stability have been achieved, and that the country is ready for recovery and development. The assumption is that sufficient capacity has also been developed at national level to continue with initiatives jointly established by the government, the Mission, the donor community and other national and international stakeholders. This often produces decreased international attention amongst donors and partners. On the contrary, such a state is at a precarious stage of beginning its recovery and requires targeted financial and technical support to rebuild institutions, harnessing the dividends achieved over the years of Mission presence and preventing a relapse into conflict.

In the case of the DRC, the security situation remains precarious, especially in areas affected by conflicts with serious threats to human rights. Along with protection activities, the implementation of the transitional justice process, Security Sector Reform (SSR) and P-DDRCS are critical for promoting lasting peace and stability as they contribute to addressing root causes of conflict and promote reconciliation, thereby furthering a smooth transition from the humanitarian phase to the recovery and development. The size of the DRC with context-specific challenges in each province will require a robust UNJHRO presence with strategic deployment and sufficient resources to

adequately address human rights concerns while supporting government capacity and ownership at national level and gradually phase out.

Currently, 73% of UNJHRO's budget is from assessed contributions, supporting a staffing component of 98 (international and national staff). Since 2019, MONUSCO has embarked on a phased withdrawal from areas considered relatively stable. Its closure of seven (7) field offices in 2019 saw UNJHRO lose 22 posts. Through enhanced resource mobilization, UNJHRO established two standalone OHCHR field offices in Kisangani and Lubumbashi. – It also maintains small presences in Tshikapa, Kananga and Kalemie, areas where the Mission has left a residual capacity to continue implementing its core human rights mandate in support to security, transitional justice, and peace and recovery initiatives. In Kasai and Tanganyika, UNJHRO has continued its critical support in transitional justice, fight against impunity and P-DDRCS through PBF funded projects.

Lessons learned from the MONUSCO withdrawal in these provinces show that the vacuum created by MONUSCO's withdrawal has caused several challenges in terms of security and logistical capacity to successfully implement UNJHRO's core mandated activities of human rights monitoring, reporting, investigation and protection. If MONUSCO's future reconfiguration entails withdrawal from high-risk areas, decreased military and police ceilings, or restrictions on the use or availability of mobility assets, UNJHRO's mandated tasks under both its hats would be negatively impacted. The risk is high that UNJHRO be unable to access some areas to undertake mandated activities due to insufficient logistical support and security challenges.

8.0 Management arrangements

The Director of the UNJHRO is responsible for the overall management of programs and funding.

The Director of the UNJHRO is supported in his tasks by thematic unit coordinators who accompany the technical implementation of various projects and programs. The unit coordinators supervise the human rights officers in charge of the technical monitoring of the implementation of various project and mandated program activities in the field.

Field officers work under the supervision of a field office coordinator to implement project and program activities in partnership with the various stakeholders.

Administrative, financial, logistical and technical management of the various projects and/or programs is handled by the External Relations and Strategic Planning Unit (ERSP). This unit has a technical team comprising a unit coordinator, a program officer, a monitoring and evaluation analyst, and administrative and financial staff. The unit is also supported by the UNJHRO management team.

For projects approved and signed by donors and approved by the OHCHR PBRB (Project and Budget Review Board); the ERSP unit, with technical contributions from the thematic units, initiate the various Cost Plans for each project, which are reviewed and validated by Finance section at HQ Geneva and shared with the field office and thematic units.

The field offices initiate the technical specifications of activities included in the annual work plan (AWP) for funding. Thematic unit coordinators ensure technical validation of activity datasheets. ERSP ensures that data sheets are aligned with the results framework of projects and/or programs, in line with UNJHRO annual work plan.

To ensure results-based management, a performance monitoring and evaluation plan is put in place in line with specific results frameworks and the OHCHR organizational management plan (OMP). The UNJHRO receives part of its funding from MONUSCO's assessed budget to cover logistics, travel and human resources. For the past two years, UNJHRO has received programmatic funds from the Mission to support activities related to transitional justice (the Kingdom of Belgium, Belgium also provided support for this thematic).

The mandate of the UNJHRO supports national efforts to strengthen human rights under different thematic areas in cooperation with certain government ministries such as the Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Human Rights, and with the National Human Rights Commission as well as CSOs. Additional support obtained from resource mobilization includes the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), bilateral and multilateral cooperation funds, in particular the Kingdom of Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden. Canada and Japan have also supported the UNJHRO through joint initiatives. Canada supported UNJHRO through the *Joint program to tackle gender-based sexual violence: Justice, Empowerment and Dignity for Women and Girls in the DRC*, implemented by UNDP (lead), UNFPA and UNJHRO. Japan provided an indirect support to the UNJHRO in the framework of the project "*UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT*" *CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE – MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND*. Other potential donors have expressed interest in supporting the human rights program, notably the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The mobilization of resources is done both locally by UNJHRO and through the OHCHR in Geneva within the Department of External Relations - DEXREL in collaboration with the offices in Brussels and New York.

Table 1: Voluntary contributions 2012-2023

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO														
Voluntary contributions 2012-2023														
Donor	Earmarking	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL
Belgium	protection of civilians, electoral process, TJ	0	0	0	1,311,475	336,700	685,119	2,042,034	370,370	0	907,990	907,990	0	6,561,680
Belgique/Wallonie-Bruxelles	NHRC visits of detention centres, DRC	0	0	0	0	31,847	0	0	0	0	0	100,301	100,301	232,449
Korea, Rep. of	joint protection teams	1,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000,000
MPTF / JP	DRC fight against GBV	0	0	0	0	0	0	106,579	62,159	298,487	50,856	128,340	0	646,420
MPTF / PBF	Kasai, women's rights, Tanganika	0	0	0	0	0	0	514,819	763,644	1,487,337	968,415	120,167	411,950	4,266,333
MPTF / UNPRPD	disability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000	0	415,160	515,160
MPTF / CRSV	sexual violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	512,782	0	512,782
Netherlands	joint protection teams, electoral process, D	1,425,000	0	0	0	271,739	271,739	470,704	910,000	0	460,136	400,000	300,000	4,509,318
Norway	electoral process, DRC	0	0	0	0	0	367,017	1,180,862	0	599,377	599,377	371,299	371,299	3,489,230
Sweden	electoral process, P5 women protection ad	0	0	0	0	1,172,333	1,568,056	0	216,092	1,205,498	1,317,427	1,016,363	1,524,545	8,020,315
Switzerland	profiling	0	500,000	300,000	0	60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	860,000
UNFPA	sexual violence in East DRC	452,712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	452,712
United Kingdom	SGBV, profiling	0	402,645	1,475,954	1,446,871	976,085	488,044	1,697,531	1,080,247	2,450,262	0	0	0	10,017,638
United States of America	profiling	0	200,000	200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400,000
UNTFHS	GBV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	130,032	130,032
	total	2,877,712	1,102,645	1,975,954	2,758,347	2,848,704	3,379,976	6,012,528	3,402,512	6,040,961	4,404,202	3,557,243	3,253,286	41,614,069

Budget requirements for the program period

To implement the planned JHRO activities, the UNJHRO will require an estimated budget of **US\$ 43,830,398, 85** to cover the period 2024-2026.

The annual budget 2024 is estimated at US\$ 13,241,812.34, considering the requirements for the electoral cycle. The estimated budget for 2025 is USD\$ 14,565,993.57 and US\$ 16,022,592.93 for 2026.

The estimated budget is detailed as below:

Table 2: Budget Requirements for the period 2024-2026

	2024 (USD)	2025 (USD)	2026 (USD)	Total 2024-2026
Staff and other personnel costs	10,166,518.00	11,183,169.80	12,301,486.78	33,651,174.58
Contractual Services	18,000.00	19,800.00	21,780.00	59,580.00
General operating and other direct costs	966,600.00	1,063,260.00	1,169,586.00	3,199,446.00
Supplies, commodities, materials	24,000.00	26,400.00	29,040.00	79,440.00
Equipment, vehicles and furniture	168,000.00	184,800.00	203,280.00	556,080.00
Travel	175,300.00	192,830.00	212,113.00	580,243.00
Transfers and grants to counterparts	200,000.00	220,000.00	242,000.00	662,000.00
Sub-total	11,718,418.00	12,890,259.80	14,179,285.78	38,787,963.58
Programme support costs (13%)	1,523,394.34	1,675,733.77	1,843,307.15	5,042,435.27
TOTAL	13,241,812.34	14,565,993.57	16,022,592.93	43,830,398.85

UNJHRO will engage the following key strategies to achieve the resource targets:

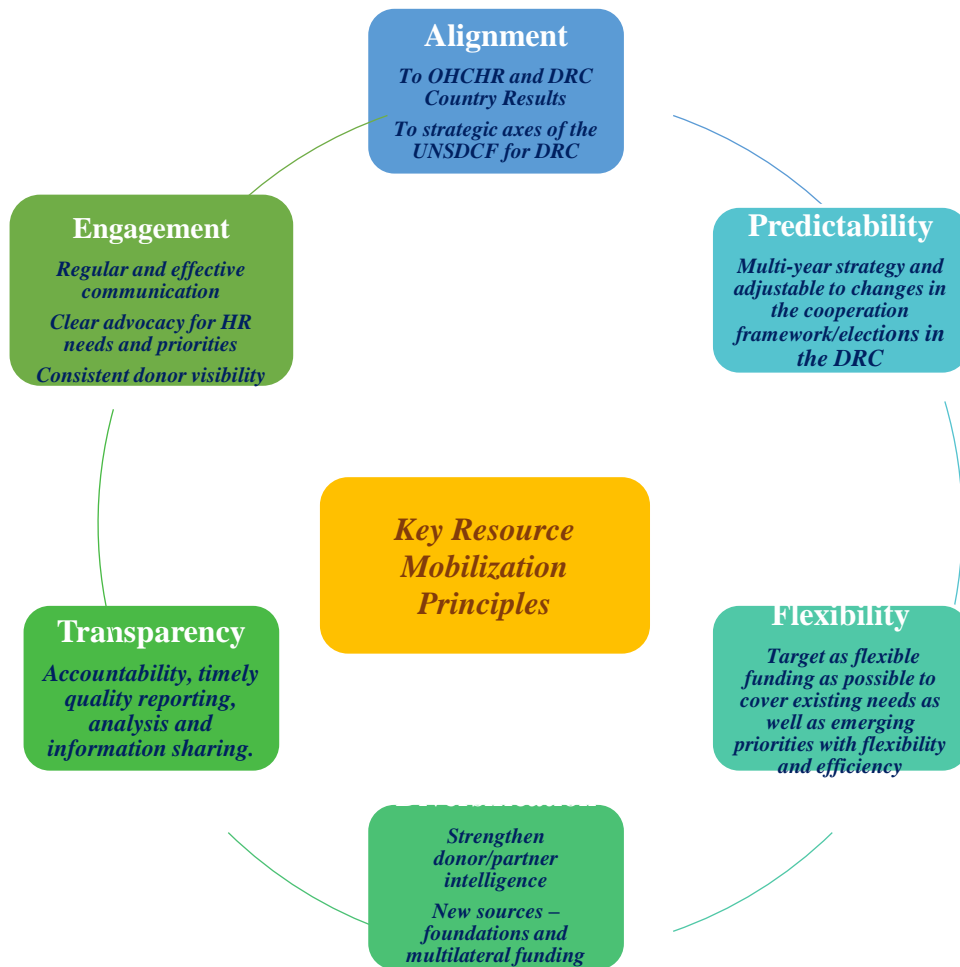


Figure 3: Key Strategies to achieve set targets.

9.0. Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

The core funding document spells out the main objectives, results and activities of UNJHRO mandate for the period of 2024-2026. The document will be submitted to various donors to raise funds for the implementation of the planned programs and activities.

The core document is assorted with results framework indicators, targets per year which will facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of activities and assess the achievements of the project as well as the impact. In keeping with the OHCHR planning process, based on the core fundings program and targets, annual work plans will be elaborated based on funds availability on OHCHR and donors' side.

Monthly, mid-year, and annual reviews will be conducted on Core project implementation by UNJHRO to monitor progress against qualitative and quantitative indicators and inform necessary adjustments.

The UNJHRO will also order a final evaluation by an external body and to assess final project performance

ANNEX I – UNJHRO logical framework

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
Pillar I: Strengthening the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: A1 Laws, policies and practices increasingly address, prevent and reduce human rights violations in the context of law enforcement and justice systems and show progress in the fight against impunity. ○ Country Result: The judiciary increasingly convicts, and oversight mechanisms take further disciplinary measures in response to human rights violations including SGBV, CRSV. 					
Output I.1: Increased availability of information and analysis on the human rights situation, including on incidents of grave human rights violations	Number of investigations on grave human rights violations	10	20	25	30
Activity I.1.1 Organize monitoring of the human rights situation including CRSV and SGBV, and grave violations of the rights of children.					
Activity I.1.2 Organize investigation on grave human rights violations.					
Output I.2: The fight against impunity is scaled up, including through the restoration of the rule of law and improvement of oversight mechanisms.	Number of Joint Investigations Teams missions and mobile courts related to the fight against impunity.	15	20	25	30
	Number of prosecutions	230	250	270	290
	Number of meetings of FARDC and PNC follow-up committees on human rights violations	60	65	70	75
Activity I.2.1: Support mobile courts and ensure the judicial protection of victims and witnesses.					
Activity I.2.2: Organize and support Joint Investigation Teams missions on grave human rights violations.					
Activity I.2.3: Strengthen technical and operational capacities of Judiciary authorities and the police.					
Activity I.2.4: Provide technical assistance and support DRC Government on forensic activities.					
Activity I.2.5: Support the implementation of the national policy on the justice reform.					
Activity I.2.6: Provide support to oversight and accountability mechanisms.					
Activity I.2.7: Support the fight against illegally prolonged pre-trial detention.					
Activity I.2.8: Advocacy with high level officials of the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights on the fight against impunity and the rule of law					
Activity I.2.9: Provide support to meetings of the FARDC and PNC follow-up committees on human rights violations, including in the context of implementation of HRDDP mitigating measures.					
Activity I.2.10. Implement mitigating measures and provide UNJHRO technical expertise and human rights training to members of the national security and defense forces in the areas of human rights, international humanitarian law and prevention and response to CRSV and grave violations of children rights.					

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
Output I.3 Survivors of CRSV and GBV have increased access to information and multisector assistance	Percentage of survivors of CRSV and GBV who received multisectoral assistance (medical, legal, psychosocial, and socio-economic reintegration).	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Number of survivors of CRSV and GBV who obtained access to justice and received quality legal aid.	172	250	350	450
<p>Activity I.3.1: Reinforce working frameworks on access to justice and multisector assistance to victims of GBV and CRSV</p> <p>Activity I.3.2: Support awareness-raising activities, education, training, and advocacy on CRSV, women rights, parity, gender, and human rights, for CSOs/population (rights holders) and the authorities (duty bearers including on prosecution of crimes by judicial authorities).</p> <p>Activity I.3.3: Provide technical assistance /advice by the SWPA to the FARDC and PNC National Commissions to fight against sexual violence including to the implementation of the action plans on the fight against sexual violence, including through the signing of the "<i>Acte d'engagement pour la lutte contre les violences sexuelles</i>".</p> <p>Activity I.3.4: Provide technical support to the UNCT and MONUSCO to prevent CRSV and coordinate mechanisms for adequate responses.</p>					
Output I.4. Human rights perspectives in humanitarian action are strengthened	Number of sessions and consultations held with the HCT, the HAG and protection clusters	12	24	36	48
<p>Activity I.4.1. Contribute to the humanitarian needs overview and the humanitarian response plan</p> <p>Activity I.4.2. Train protection clusters on human rights-based approaches to humanitarian action and protection analytical framework</p> <p>Activity I.4.3. Facilitate engagements between protection actors and relevant human rights mechanisms</p>					
Output I.5: The government and other human rights stakeholders (civil society, and National Human Rights Commission) have increased skills to move forward with key reforms aimed at strengthening the rule of law and security related functions of the state.	Number of key reforms facilitated by other human rights stakeholders (civil society and National Human Rights Commission) aimed at strengthening the rule of law and security related functions of the state.	1	3	4	4
<p>Activity I.5.1: Strengthen the rule of law and security related functions of the state.</p> <p>Activity I.5.2: Support and facilitate key reforms aimed at strengthening the rule of law and security related functions of the state</p>					
Output I.6. National and provincial authorities have increased knowledge to establish and apply a holistic and victim-centered approach in the national transitional justice processes	Number of individuals sensitized and consulted on their needs and expectations for transitional justice.	3,023	6,000	6,000	6,000
	Number of key reforms launched by the national and provincial authorities to develop and implement a national transitional justice policy	1	1	2	2

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
<p>Activity I.6.1 Support the organization of national consultations in all remaining provinces.</p> <p>Activity I.6.2 Support the development of a national transitional justice policy informed by the conclusions of the consultations and aligned with international human rights standards and best practices.</p> <p>Activity I.6.3. Support the development and implementation of transitional justice mechanisms aligned with the national transitional justice policy to ensure the realization of the rights to truth, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-repetition.</p> <p>Activity I.6.4 Support CPVJR and other transitional justice mechanisms in Kasai Central</p> <p>Activity I.6.5 Ensure that human rights principles are respected throughout the implementation of the P-DDRCS strategy at the national and provincial levels, including through support for human rights-related screenings of demobilized and associated actors.</p>					
<p>PILLAR II: Enhancing and Protecting Civic Space and People’s Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: P1 Stronger laws, policies and practices protect the right to participate and civic space, including online, and the environment for civil society is increasingly safe and enabling. ○ Country Result: The National Human Right Institution is more effective in fulfilling its mandate in accordance with the Paris Principles, including in handling complaints. 					
<p>Output II. P1.1: The NHRC has increased its capacities to promote and protect human rights in line with its mandate</p>	<p>Number of provincial coordination’s of the NHRI supported to promote and protect human rights in line with the NHRC mandate.</p>		4	4	4
	<p>Number of laws the NHRC has engaged in drafting/revising</p>	3	4	4	6
<p>Activity II. P1.1.1: Advocacy and capacity building of the human rights committee of the National Assembly to support the promotion and protection of human rights, including women rights through advocacy, adoption of laws impacting the enjoyment of human rights and follow up on recommendations.</p> <p>Activity II. P1.1.2: Provide technical assistance to the National Human Rights Commission including for provincial antennas on complaints handling (including a database), reporting and follow up in effectively addressing HRV.</p> <p>Activity II. P1.1.3: Support the strategic capacities of the Ministry of Human Rights to mainstream human rights in the national and provincial programs and policies.</p> <p>Activity II. P1.1.4: Support ministries and various stakeholders on international days celebration</p> <p>Activity II. P1.1.5: Support the strategic plan of the <i>Conseil Supérieur de l’Audiovisuel et de la Communication</i> (CSAC) on the promotion and protection of human rights (hate speech, etc....)</p>					
<p>Output II P1.2: The CNDH has increased technical and logistical capacities in Kinshasa and at provincial level to advance its watchdog role and promote the respect of human rights in the DRC.</p>	<p>Number of provincial coordination of the CNDH with increased capacities to promote the respect of human rights</p>	50	50	50	50

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
<p>Activity II P1.2.1: Conduct capacity building of CNDH in Kinshasa and at provincial level</p> <p>Activity II P1.2.3: Support advocacy to address the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution .1612 establishing a monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict</p> <p>Activity II P1.2.3: Provide technical advice, and logistical support in Kinshasa and at provincial level.</p>					
<p>Output II P1.3: National authorities have increased knowledge of how to address, prevent and repress hate speech and incitement to hostility</p>	<p>Regulatory bodies and other competent authorities for the elaboration, popularization, and implementation of a charter of good conduct against misinformation and hate speech in the media are supported (Yes/No)</p>	No	Yes		Yes
	<p>Existence of a mechanism to protect media professionals, whistleblowers, and human rights defenders from threats in the course of their work (Yes/No)</p>	No	Yes		Yes
<p>Activity II P1.3.1: Conduct advocacy to encourage the CSAC as well as the human rights commission in the National Assembly to push for the adoption of laws that have an impact on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights.</p> <p>Activity II P1.3.2: Support regulatory bodies and other competent authorities for the elaboration, popularization and implementation of a charter of good conduct against misinformation and hate speech in the media.</p> <p>Activity II P1.3.3: Support the establishment of a monitoring and advocacy mechanism bringing together civil society actors and state institutions at the local level, particularly in provinces with little or no MONUSCO presence.</p> <p>Activity II P1.3.4: Establish a mechanism to protect media professionals, whistleblowers, and human rights defenders from threats in the course of their work.</p> <p>Activity II P1.3.5: Support mechanisms to fight impunity for human rights violations and abuses as well as hate speech, denigration and incitement to hostility</p>					
<p>PILLAR II: Enhancing and Protecting Civic Space and People’s Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: P4 Civil society assistance to victims of human rights violations is strengthened. ○ Country Result: Increased number of victims of human rights violations increasingly benefit from assistance by the civil society networks supported by the UNJHRO 					
<p>Output II P4.1: Human rights defenders (HRD) and protection networks have strengthened capacities and access to protection</p>	<p>Number of human rights defenders (HRD) with increased skills through trainings</p>	70	150	200	200
	<p>Number of constructive dialogues and trust building sessions between HR organizations and public authorities</p>	3	6	6	6

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
<p>Activity II P4.1.1: Conduct capacity building and training to the benefit of human rights defenders (HRD) and protection networks on human rights and protection monitoring</p> <p>Activity II P4.1.2: Support joint protection activities and provide assistance to human rights defenders networks in collaboration with human rights ‘mechanisms</p> <p>Activity II P4.1.3: Conduct advocacy and sensitization of state authorities on their roles and responsibilities to protect the human rights of their citizens, including CSOs, HRDs and especially women’s and youth’s groups</p> <p>Activity II P4.1.4: Conduct sensitization campaign’s on people’s participation in the promotion of a conducive environment for participatory democracy for stability and development.</p> <p>Activity II P4.1.5: Support constructive dialogues and trust building events between the HR organizations and public authorities</p> <p>Activity II P4 1.6. Support effective advocacy and lobbying of civil society towards decision makers for the adoption of the law on HRD and other relevant legislations.</p>					
<p>Output II P4.2: Parliamentarians and governmental authorities have improved knowledge of legal mechanisms in preventing and protecting victims of human rights violations, including through adoption of laws on protection of HRD, access to information and right to peaceful demonstrations which are aligned with international human rights standards</p>	Number of Parliamentarians and government authorities with increased awareness of human rights prevention and protection mechanisms	100	150	150	200
	Number of advocacy sessions with parliamentarians and government authorities for the adoption of the laws on the protection of human rights defenders, access to information and peaceful demonstrations.	4	5	5	5
<p>Activity II P4.2.1: Conduct capacities building for Parliamentarians and governmental authorities on legal mechanisms in preventing and protecting victims of human rights violations.</p> <p>Activity II P4.2.2: Support constructive dialogue between Parliamentarians, government, and various stakeholders</p> <p>Activity II P4.2.3: Support advocacy and outreach communications on legal mechanisms in preventing and protecting victims of human rights violations.</p>					
<p>PILLAR II: Enhancing and Protecting Civic Space and People’s Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: P5 More systematic monitoring of the environment for civic space, including threats to it, takes place. ○ Country Result: Better respect of human rights norms, standards and principles by the State in the context of the exercise by the citizens of the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. 					
<p>Output II P5.1: CSOs, especially women and youth groups and the general public improve their participation in the promotion of a conducive environment for participatory democracy for stability and development.</p>	Number of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms related to the democratic space (disaggregated by type, including exercise of freedom of expression, assembly, and association).	250	300	200	250
<p>Activity II P5.1.1: Raise the awareness and strengthen the capacities to detect, prevent and respond to hate speeches and protect and promote political rights and civil liberties and ESCR, of duty bearers (such as CSAC) jointly with the NHRC and of rights holders, such as civil society organizations, including grass root movements and media (such as community radios, and support the dialogue between them.</p>					

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
Activity II P5.1.2: Support capacity building for the” <i>Conseil Supérieur de l’Audiovisuel et de la Communication</i> “(CSAC) to better protect freedom of expression and press, media pluralisms and equitable access of political parties and promote fairer access to information for the citizens, while fostering the development of a code of ethics in line with international standards.					
PILLAR III: Enhancing equality and countering discrimination.					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: ND1 Laws, policies and practices more effectively combat discrimination in all forms, and responsible authorities actively work to "leave no one behind", including by addressing the root causes of inequality. ○ Country Result: Duty bearers better uphold the rights of indigenous people. 					
Output III.1: Advocacy for the inclusion of minority groups is supported and the rights of indigenous people are factored in land reform	Number of supported ongoing reforms that reflect the rights of indigenous people. (law protecting indigenous and implementation legislation).	1	2	2	2
	Number of implemented legislation enforcing the protection of the right of minority groups and indigenous people.	0	2	2	2
Activity III.1.1: Support national political dialogue with ministries on land affairs to ensure that rights of indigenous people are adequately supported and reflected in the ongoing reform.					
Activity III.1.2: Support NHRC and active Human Rights NGOs to implement human rights mechanisms related to minority groups and indigenous people.					
Activity III.1.3: Carry out investigation and monitoring missions on human rights violations related to minority groups and indigenous people.					
Activity III.1.4: Support capacity building for the Ministry on land affairs on the indigenous people rights and the new law					
Output III.2: The UNCT receives the required information and support to put human rights at the core of the UN’s work and leave no one behind elements and is engaged actively on the need to place human rights at the core of the SDGs in compliance with the Secretary General’s February 2020 Call to Action for human rights (C2A)	Human Rights are at the core of the SDGs implementation in DRC in compliance with the Secretary General’s February 2020 Call to Action for Human Rights (C2A)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Human rights are mainstreamed in UNCT work on SDGs and UNSDCF in Democratic of Congo(Yes/No)				
Activity III.2.1: Participate in the UNSDCF platform at country level, support joint programming and emphasize the need for human rights principles to anchor country initiatives.					
Activity III.2.2: Support UNCT seminars and workshop on human rights related topics					
Activity III.2.3: Empower people and create avenues for meaningful participation of civil society and ensure that data collection, monitoring and reporting remain human rights-sensitive and non-discriminatory.					
Output III.3: National human rights institutions have strengthened knowledge to address the needs of vulnerable and excluded	Number of Provincial coordination’s of NHRC whose capacity to address the needs of vulnerable and excluded groups is strengthened.	2	6	6	6

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
group	Number of advocacy sessions held with State actors for the advancement of women and implementation of legal framework on parity and gender equality.	4	4	4	4
<p>Activity III.3.1: Strengthen the capacity of the provincial coordination's of the National human rights Commission.</p> <p>Activity III.3.2: Organize advocacy sessions for State actors for advancement of women and implementation of legal framework on parity and gender equality, including family code, NAP on women, peace and security, parity, gender policy, national strategies on gender-based violence, early marriage)</p> <p>Activity III.3.3: Organize awareness raising and sensitization sessions of jointly concerned actors, such as ONG representing/promoting and defending vulnerable groups, governmental concerned entities (including celebrations of international days).</p>					
<p>PILLAR IV: Integrating human rights in sustainable development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: D6 Human rights assessments and impact analyses mitigate, prevent, or redress the negative effects of economic, trade and development policies and projects. ○ Country Result: - The DRC integrates human rights, including the right to development and human rights mechanisms' outcomes, as they implement the SDGs and other development and poverty eradication efforts 					
<p>Output IV D6.1: National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), civil society organizations and other key stakeholders have increased capacities to reinforce understanding, protection and respect of human rights principles and standards, including the right to development (RtD), Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) and business and HR principles, with a focus on marginalized groups and women.</p>	Number of stakeholders with increased capacities to engage in the protection and respect of human rights principles and standards, including the right to development (RtD), Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) and business and HR principles, with a focus on marginalized groups and women.	100	150	160	200
	Number of local assessments conducted by CSO and CBO on the right to development (RtD), ESCR (social audit on RtD/ESCR) including dissemination of business and human rights principles.	2	4	6	8
<p>Activity IV D6.1.1: Organize capacity building activities /workshop and awareness raising to support civil society groups participation to community development and redress negative.</p> <p>Activity IV D6.1.2: Support to civil society, state actors and community-based organizations as well as the business sector to improve knowledge and conduct local assessment on the right to development (RtD), ESCR (social audit on RtD/ESCR) including dissemination of business and human rights principles.</p> <p>Activity IV D6.1.3: Support various stakeholders for the drafting, implementation, and follow-up of the National Action Plan on the PDNU on business and human rights</p>					
<p>PILLAR V: Early warning, prevention and protection of human rights in situations of conflict and insecurity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: PS5 Human rights information and analyses are integrated in early warning and analysis systems and influence international and national policymaking, strategies and operations to prevent, mitigate or respond to emerging crises, including humanitarian crises and conflict. 					

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
<p>○ Country Result: An enhanced information data system established and information feeding to National and mission strategy</p>					
<p>Output V PS5.1: Quality and reliable monitoring, investigation and reporting on human rights violations and abuses as well as violations of international humanitarian law are available for accurate analysis for early warning and timely reporting</p>	Number of conflict-related analysis produced	12 monthlies	12 monthlies	12 monthlies	12 monthlies
	Number of information sharing, and advocacy sessions held with stakeholders including the Diplomatic Corps	One bi-annual One annual Two thematic reports	One bi-annual One annual One thematic report	One bi-annual One annual One thematic report	One bi-annual One annual One thematic report
	Number of dialogues facilitated on the implementation of the SG Call to Action for Human Rights	Three analytical notes	Five analytical notes	Four analytical notes	Five analytical notes
	<p>Activity V PS5.1.1: Human rights Monitoring, Qualitative analyses of reliable data obtain and sharing information with diplomatic communities. Activity V PS5.1.2: Reinforce Protection mechanisms including the women Protection against CRSV, children protection. Activity V PS5.1.3: Deploy Women Protection Advisors (WPAs) within the UNJHRO work at strategic and operational levels with the UN agencies, the Government, the local army and police, and the host population to effectively prevent and respond to CRSV. Activity V PS5.1.4: Contributes to the implementation of the UN SC Res. 1612 mandate on Children and armed conflict. Activity V PS5.1.5: Ensure the timely and robust gathering, synthesis, and analysis of human rights information for purposes of enabling compliance with the HRDDP and promoting the protection of civilians, including in conflict settings.</p>				
<p>Output V PS5.2: Remote and open-source monitoring are enhanced to ensure that information collection, analysis, and timely reporting an efficient and cost-effective manner.</p>	Information collection, analysis, and timely reporting an efficient and cost-effective manner. (Yes/No)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<p>Activity V PS5.2.1: Document trends and patterns of CRSV through a coordinated and comprehensive monitoring analysis and reporting arrangement (MARA), Activity V PS5.2.2: Organize response and preventive actions at mission and national levels. Activity V PS5.2.3: Organize information collection and analysis to inform the report of the SRSR Children and Armed Conflicts Activity V PS5.2.4: Strengthen political dialogue or engagements / advocacy with all parties to conflict to address CRSV to build accountability, responsiveness, and end impunity. Activity V PS5.2.5: Establishment of gender-sensitive victim and survivor networks to support their access to justice, accountability and recovery and remedies.</p>					
<p>Output V PS5.4 Enhanced UNJHRO collaboration with the UNCT and the HCT to strengthen protection mechanisms at national and provincial levels</p>	Number of capacity building workshops for provincial and local protection mechanisms	3	12	12	12
	Number of UNCT and HCT protection mechanisms trained on human rights engagement.	2	3	4	5
	Number of annual advocacy meetings jointly conducted with UNAFP and local protection mechanisms on key protection issues.	1	2	2	2

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
Activity V PS5.4.1: Ensure regular participation of the JHRO to the Humanitarian Advisory group (HAG) meetings and provide strategic advice to DSRSG/HC/RC, UNCT/HCT Activity V PS5.4.2: Advocate for the adoption of adequate protection measures by National and international actors Activity V PS5.4.3: Organize capacity building activities for local protection mechanisms to identify and mitigate protection threats with the view to establishing a protective environment. Activity V PS5.4.4: Dedicated PoC activities to assess and design local protection mechanisms (for State and non-State actors), identify and mitigate protection threats. Activity V PS5.4.5: Organize outreach activities/Media campaign with Radio Okapi and other local media to raise awareness/knowledge about HR, IHL, PoC.					
PILLAR V: Early warning, prevention and protection of human rights in situations of conflict and insecurity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: PS6 United Nations' support to national and regional security forces, law enforcement agencies, and non-State actors integrates human rights and complies with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy ○ Country Result: Decision making process within MONUSCO in support to the political process and to POC is f guided by the relevant human rights norms, standards and principles especially through the good offices of the mission leadership or in the context of the provision of support to the security forces in compliance with the HRDDP 					
Result	Indicators	Baseline 2023	Target 2024	Target 2025	Target 2026
Output V PS6.1: Country's participation to international human rights engagements, notably at the Human Rights Council, special procedures and regional and African mechanisms are supported	Country's participation to international human rights engagements (Yes/No)	1	1	1	1
	Number of Country's participation supported to international human rights engagements	1	1	1	1
Activity V PS6.1.1: Provide guidance and trainings on HRDDP and related SOPs and procedures, risk assessment and management periodically to mission components, field office, UNCT and partners, including when relevant, to DRC security and defense forces and DDR-CS and SSR stakeholders. Activity V PS6.1.2: Reintegration of demobilized and associated actors and Reconciliation initiatives are monitored for compliance with HRDDP through screening. Activity V PS6.1.3: Demobilization and Disarmament processes are monitored for respect of HR standards and compliance of UN support with HRDDP.					
Output V PS6.2: The Addendum to the Joint Communiqué (between the United Nations and the DRC) on the fight against sexual violence and the law on reparation for victims are effectively implemented.	The Addendum to the Joint Communiqué (between the United Nations and the DRC) on the fight against sexual violence and the law on reparation for victims are effectively implemented. (Yes/No)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Number of stakeholders with increased capacities to fight against sexual violence and knowledge/support implementation of the law on reparation for victims.	50	70	80	90
Activity V PS6.2.1: Conduct capacity building on the fight against sexual violence and on the law on reparation for victims Activity V PS6.2.2: Conduct advocacy meetings for the protection of victim's rights and reparations with the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, the Parliament, NHR and CSOs Activity V PS6.2.3: Organize meetings with Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Human Rights, the CSM, the prosecutor offices (civil and military) to follow up on emblematic					

Results	Indicators	Baseline (2023)	Targets 2024	Targets 2025	Targets 2026
cases.					
Activity V.PS6.4 Conduct engagements with CSO’s working with victims, and victim’s Network , to raise awareness and provide information on human rights accountability, including sexual and gender-based violence, which may be raised publicly with national and local authorities and parties to conflict to demand an end to impunity.					
Activity V.PS6.5 Support access for victims and those most affected by the conflict, including displaced persons , refugees and returnees, to engage and participate in justice and accountability processes.					
PILLAR VI: Enhancing the cooperation with human rights mechanisms`					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pillar Result: M1 National institutionalized structures facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the human rights mechanisms and implementation of their recommendations. ○ Country Result: The existing inter-ministerial committee on reporting to the Treaty Bodies becomes permanent and functional. ○ Country Result: The DRC actively contribute to and ratifies the legally binding instrument on the right to development. ○ Pillar Result: M2 Civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-traditional actors, particularly those working on emerging human rights issues (frontier issues), increasingly engage with the international human rights mechanisms and use their outcomes. ○ Country Result: NHRC and other active HRD NGOs increase their contributions and submissions to the international human rights mechanisms regarding serious human rights issues in DRC 					
Output VI M2.1: NHRIs and active Human Rights NGOs have strengthened capacities to report to the Human Rights Mechanisms (HRM) and develop and implement joint workplans	Number of provincial coordination of the NHRC with strengthened capacities to report to the Human Rights Mechanisms (HRM) and develop and implement joint workplans.	1	3	3	3
	Number of active Human Rights NGOs with strengthened capacities to report to the Human Rights Mechanisms (HRM) and develop and implement joint workplans	20	25	30	35
Activity VI M2.1.1: Organize media campaigns to raise the awareness of the public on various national and international mechanism.					
Activity VI M2.1.1: Support the organization of large consultations with all stakeholders for the drafting of a comprehensive action plan for the implementation of the HR mechanisms recommendations.					

Annex II- Risks and Mitigation

Type of Risk Factor	Specify the risk	Likelihood	Impact	Existing Internal Controls	Effectiveness	Risk response
Strategic	Major risks of political instability and exacerbation of armed conflicts, notably in areas where UNJHRO/MONUSCO are no longer present. Major risks of political instability and the rise of hate speech	Likely	Significant	OHCHR risk matrix for work with civil society in country	Effective	UNJHRO Continue : demonstrating the relevance of human rights in preventing and addressing the root causes of violence and conflict. - to document and record Human rights violations, using the voice of the High Commissioner to mobilize the international community to address these violations. - to engage with national authorities and other stakeholders to provide technical cooperation, through human rights awareness-raising and capacity-building activities -to assess, monitor and document the situation in the DRC and use the voice of the High Commissioner and MONUSCO leadership to mobilize DRC authorities to address these violations.
Operations	In some areas where violence escalated, the UN become a target for the population as a result of anti-MONUSCO sentiment	Likely	Significant	UN Country Team and MONUSCO transition working group OHCHR representation in relevant clusters/sector s/ working groups.	Effective	In this case, HRDs and local NGOs will play key role in monitoring and reporting in liaison and communication with UNJHRO. -UNJHRO to maintain contacts and support to referral partners to continuously provide assistance to victims and witnesses OHCHR risk register and risk response plan. OHCHR Business Continuity Plan
Financial	The total dependence on extra-budgetary resources could lead to a significant reduction of operations due to the reduction of funding available from donors (especially within the transition context).	Likely	Significant	DEXREL support	Effective	DEXREL fund raising strategy, internal policy and PBRB scrutiny and intervention to obtain more flexibility in the earmarking and replace; unearmarked minimum requirements with earmarked funds. -SOP and Policy guidance on resource mobilization