

REPORT

Core Report Fiscal Year 2023

April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023

June 2023



Cover Image: A woman holds a picture of the prominent Libyan human rights activist Salwa Bugaighis, who was killed by gunmen, at a demonstration against her murder in Benghazi on June 27, 2014. Bugaighis helped organize the first protests against Muammar Gaddafi when the uprising started in Benghazi. (Esam Omran Al-Fetori/Reuters)

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About ICTJ

The International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) works across society and borders to challenge the causes and address the consequences of massive human rights violations. We affirm victims' dignity, fight impunity, and promote responsive institutions in societies emerging from repressive rule or armed conflict as well as in established democracies where historical injustices or systemic abuse remain unresolved. ICTJ envisions a world where societies break the cycle of massive human rights violations and lay the foundations for peace, justice, and inclusion. For more information, visit www.ictj.org

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Introduction

ICTJ's Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23, running from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023) marked the first full year of implementing our Strategic Plan 2022-2027. Our new strategic priorities, developed in consultation with our colleagues and partners have been informed by the multiple, interrelated crises that shape the global context today: aftershocks of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic effects that disproportionately affected already marginalized communities are still being felt; a resurgence of authoritarian governance continues to challenge our democratic institutions; and the ongoing digital transformation has fostered opportunity but also the rapid spread of disinformation, calling the notion of "truth" into question and complicating the quest for acknowledgement, accountability, and redress.

To this end, ICTJ is focusing on ensuring responses to the issues that matter and reacts to the growing demands for justice and equity. ICTJ will be **leveraging policy for action** to ensure that transitional justice is used as a strategic problem-solving tool, enhancing its impact through focusing on systemic change that **prevents** the recurrence of violations and violence, contributing to **equity and inclusion** where current structural marginalization is rooted in massive violations, building on a trend towards the proliferation of means that are **alternative or complementary to criminal accountability** towards achieving redress and reform, and facing the global **digital transformation** to address the challenges and leverage the opportunities that new technologies afford. Our strategic plan represents some new steps as well as the consolidation of long-term work that our organization has developed in the past few years. This report details our key results achieved in these areas.

Over the past year, ICTJ has had to quickly respond to numerous crises, including the renewal of conflict in Sudan, the continued horrors and atrocities against civilians in Yemen, and the massive earthquake that exacerbated the already dire humanitarian situation of Syrian refugees in Turkey, including our local civil society partners, and internally displaced Syrians.

In addition to these multiple crises, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has continued to shape geopolitics across the globe. ICTJ has identified some opportunities to leverage the rapid response by the Ukrainian government and the international community to set new, higher standards for responding to active conflict. However, we are keenly aware of the risks associated with the international community's focus on this war. Other conflicts have been overshadowed, the demands of victims of historical injustices unheard, and international funding funneled away from situations that are less central or mediatized. Similarly focused, interventions from the development aid and peacebuilding community evidence an overemphasis on criminal justice and accountability efforts that alone cannot meet the needs and demands of victims on the ground. As

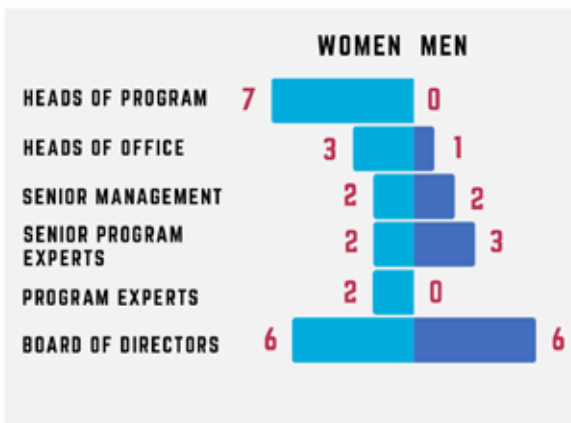
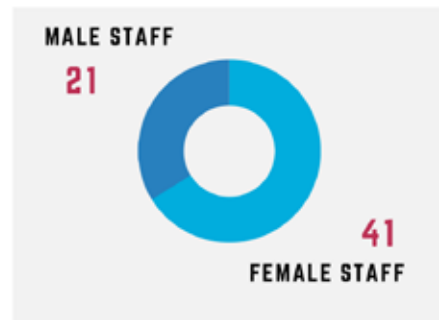
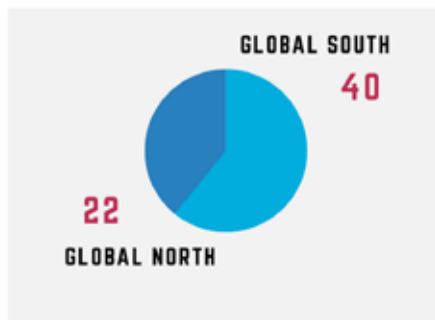
a thought leader and expert organization with over 20 years’ experience dealing with the legacies of violent conflict and massive human rights atrocities, ICTJ has been working to inform the conversation and ensure that discussions on accountability are victim-centered, innovative, and take into account lessons learned from previous efforts.

ICTJ responded by advocating for victim-centered solutions, leveraging our position as a global player that also works on the ground. We continued to build bridges—standing with grassroots organizations and advocates to forge connections, share experiences, elevate victims’ voices, and create national, regional and global platforms for marginalized communities to be heard. ICTJ connected Yemeni and Syrian activists with Colombian officials, enabled mothers in Armenia to share ideas with South African organizations, and facilitated other instances towards a global movement of solidarity. ICTJ also helped elevate the voices of our civil society partners, providing them with access to key international policy discussions at fora such as the International Criminal Court’s Assembly of States Parties, the UN General Assembly, and other high-level convenings.

The following report provides more details about our work at the local, global, and institutional levels during FY23. ICTJ welcomes your inquiries about any aspect of our work, and we are happy to share additional information about any of the rich and complex contexts where we work beyond what this report provides.

Staff Demographics

During 2022-2023, ICTJ employed a multinational team of 62 permanent staff members and consultants from diverse professional backgrounds, including law, public policy, political science, and anthropology.



**DIVERSE SET OF STAFF
ACROSS MULTIPLE LOCATIONS**

25 NATIONALITIES

RESIDING IN 18 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Global Level

Leveraging Policy for Action

During the first year of implementing our new Strategic Plan, ICTJ aimed our research and policy work towards ensuring that the global policy agenda incorporates transitional justice as a problem-solving and strategic tool. We have worked to shape relevant international policy frameworks, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Common Agenda, that share transitional justice-related goals like equity, inclusion, and prevention of violence and conflict. ICTJ has urged policymakers, donors, and other relevant actors to increase support for transitional justice processes, with the aim of effecting policy changes that contribute to fulfilling victims' rights, combating impunity, and reforming institutions in countries that have experienced massive human rights violations.

To advance the global justice agenda, we leverage not only our own comparative experience and expertise but also our partnerships with key organizations and our membership in various networks and alliances, including the [Justice Action Coalition](#) (JAC),¹ the [Human Rights and Democracy Network](#) (HRDN),² the [European Peacebuilding Liaison Office](#) (EPLO),³ the [Coalition for the International Criminal Court](#) (CICC), and the [International Gender Champions](#) (IGC),⁴ among others. In keeping with our conviction that solutions to global problems must be advanced at all



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¹JAC is a policy initiative that brings together 15 member states and 12 organizations to mobilize action towards closing the global justice gap. Member states include Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sweden, and Switzerland. In addition to ICTJ, partner organizations include Conferencia de Ministros de Justicia de los Paises Iberoamericanos (COMJIB), The Hague Institute for Innovation of Law (HiIL), International Law Development Organization (IDLO), Justice Leaders, Open Government Partnership (OGP), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UN Women, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, and World Justice Project.

²HRDN is an informal alliance of 57 nongovernmental organizations operating at the EU level in the broad areas of human rights, democracy, and peace. ICTJ is a coordinator of the HRDN's Working Group on Funding for Democracy and Human Rights.

³EPLO is a civil society platform that brings together 41 European nongovernmental organizations and think tanks committed to peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict. ICTJ is a member of EPLO's Steering Committee.

⁴ECG is a leadership network that brings together female and male decision-makers determined to break down gender barriers and make gender equality a working reality in their spheres of influence.

levels, ICTJ complements our collaborations and alliances at the global level with partnerships at the national and local levels, including with civil society organizations, victims' associations, and grassroots organizations. These partners play critical roles in translating and implementing global policy at the national and local levels.

Our contributions of the past year, explained below in more detail, include research and policy work on preventing violence and human rights violations; promoting equity and inclusion; advancing gender justice and the rights of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), ensuring that children and young people are able to participate in transitional justice processes, combatting corruption, using customary and informal justice to address intercommunal violence, and employing economic sanctions to contribute to accountability and redress, among other relevant subjects.

Addressing Issues That Matter

Prevention and Sustainable Development

ICTJ is a founding member of the Justice Action Coalition, whose goal is to achieve measurable progress in justice outcomes for people and communities towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). ICTJ's role in the Coalition has been to advocate for the role of transitional justice in achieving sustainable peace and development. ICTJ has carried out this work through our leadership of the Working Group on Transitional Justice and SDG16+, a workstream under the JAC that we convened to promote transitional justice as an integral element of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past year, we reconfigured the Working Group to increase the representation of civil society and victims' networks, countries engaged in transitional justice processes, regional actors, and private philanthropy. Additionally, we restructured meetings to emphasize a national and regional approach. The Working Group began preparing a policy report, to be published in advance of the SDG Summit, which focuses on strategies for further integrating transitional justice and development policy and practice. As the lead organization for this workstream, ICTJ ensured that the 2023 Justice Appeal emphasized contexts of violent conflict and the needs and participation of victims of human rights violations.



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ICTJ also provided key contributions and inputs to inform the UN Human Rights Council's September 2022 Resolution on transitional justice and sustainable peace and development, which frames transitional justice as a strategic policy tool and emphasizes impact, advocacy, and a long-term perspective.⁵ Our influence on the resolution reflects the cumulative effect of many years of policy advocacy we have conducted with UN agencies and entities (e.g., the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [OHCHR] and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence), the European Union, the African Union, and members states of those organizations. It represents a milestone in our efforts to shape international policy and to support regional and national actors in integrating transitional justice into sustainable development. The resolution provides OHCHR with a multiyear mandate to consult with governments, other UN agencies, and civil society in the preparation of a report on lessons learned and good practices of transitional justice in the context

⁵ Human Rights Council resolution 51, Human Rights and Transitional Justice, A/HRC/51/L.33 (30 September 2022), available from <http://undocs.org/A/HRC/51/L.33>.

of sustainable peace and development, which it will present to the Human Rights Council during an interactive dialogue at its fifth-eighth session in September 2024.

Over the past year, ICTJ continued to participate as a member of the Guidance Group for New York University’s Center for Human Rights and Global Justice’s project on “A Framework Approach: Making Prevention a Reality,” a multiyear initiative in which we are collaborating institutionally. The project is developing a comprehensive framework for prevention work that integrates substantive knowledge and expertise as well as evidence-based approaches, including in the areas of human rights and transitional justice.

Multiple ICTJ research initiatives over the last year explored the role of innovative approaches to accountability in prevention and sustainable development. While these reports from these initiatives will be published and disseminated in FY24, we completed the research phase during FY23. The first of these studies focused on restorative justice, utilizing case studies on Colombia, Sierra Leone, the Philippines, and Tunisia to address how a restorative justice lens can facilitate participation of key stakeholders (e.g., victims and perpetrators) as well as greater acknowledgment and accountability. ICTJ also conducted research on customary and informal justice in South Sudan, which illustrates how a transitional justice framework can provide clarity and guidance to the role of customary and informal justice in addressing complex intercommunal violence. Finally, we conducted a study that has shown how international economic sanctions can contribute to accountability, redress, and victims’ participation.

Equity and Inclusion

Over the past year, ICTJ has collaborated with partners in different sectors to ensure that transitional justice practice contributes to equity and inclusion in countries where structural marginalization is rooted in massive violations, such as in the United States. While many countries in the global north have been hesitant to apply the principles and practice of transitional justice to address their own histories, the belief in “American Exceptionalism” has made many US policymakers even more resistant to applying lessons learned from other countries’ transitional justice processes to their own context – even though the United States has never collectively confronted its history of colonialism, slavery, and racism. The events of the past few years, including the widespread protests in response to the murders of members of Black communities, have amplified calls for action to reckon with the United States’ past and to create a more justice and equitable future for the country. Yet the belief in “American Exceptionalism” has resulted in a lack of knowledge among US advocates regarding transitional justice initiatives in other countries, including regarding unofficial truth commissions.

To fill this gap in knowledge among transitional justice advocates in the United States, ICTJ collaborated with the International Arbitration Group-Racial Justice Initiative, a coalition of practitioners across multiple law firms, to produce a report: “[Truth, Reconciliation, and Redress for Racial Injustice in the United States: Insights from Experiences of Commissions Around the World](#).” The report, which examines historical and structural injustice and the need for systemic reforms in the United States, targets both a general audience of those interested in the potential for truth seeking in the United States and a more specific audience of advocates and policymakers. We launched the report in December 2022 at an event in New York City, sponsored by the law firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, which generated a discussion highlighting the applicability of transitional justice in the United States, the advantages and challenges of applying these approaches in consolidated democracies, insights from international experiences that are relevant in the United States, and reflections from a representative of the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In FY24, ICTJ will continue to disseminate the

report with advocates, donors, and policymakers who are leading efforts to pursue truth seeking in the United States.

ICTJ also contributed to filling the gap in knowledge amount US transitional justice advocates by offering our first 5-week intensive short course in March and April 2022 on reckoning with legacies of racial injustice in the United States. The 22 participants in the course, all advocates seeking to address the legacies of racial violence and dehumanization in the United States, improved their understanding of transitional justice across a range of subjects, including truth and acknowledgement, reparations, criminal justice and policing, and outreach and public engagement.

New Forms of Accountability

Over the past year, ICTJ made efforts to implement the concept of complementarity in the fight against impunity and in support of respect for the rule of law. To do that, we worked to strengthen national judicial systems and institutions with a view to investigating and prosecuting serious crimes of international concern, while also actively contributing to critical processes at the International Criminal Court, including as members of the Hague and New York Working Groups of the Bureau and at the regional level.

ICTJ also continued supporting Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) by helping to design and operationalize a methodology for the participation of victims and perpetrators in an [acknowledgment of responsibility hearing](#) for Macro Case 01, which marked the first time that former FARC-EP leaders ever publicly acknowledged their role in systemic crimes. Specifically, the participating former FARC-EP leaders acknowledged their command responsibility in the kidnapping crimes that were the group's policy from 1993 to 2012. ICTJ increased the technical capacity of judicial officials to incorporate elements of restorative justice into the proceedings, which was acknowledged by the JEP in the concluding resolution of the case.⁶ ICTJ facilitated three individual sessions with each of the 29 victims who offered their testimony at the hearing, four preparation workshops with former FARC-EP leaders, and three restorative justice meetings between victims and those responsible before the hearing. During those sessions, victims shared their experiences of hardship to feel understood and safe while narrating their stories in front of judges, other victims, perpetrators – a key aspect of the restorative process. One victim, Héctor Mahecha, told the former FARC-EP leaders that the hearing was the opportunity to make history. In his words: “You can go from being perpetrators to being the ones who make the victims feel truly compensated and repaired.” The earnest



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⁶ According to [Magistrate Julia Lemaitre](#), the leading magistrate of Macro Case 01, “following the international and national recommendations of restorative justice experts, the recognition room has arranged for victims who are going to intervene in the recognition hearing to receive prior preparation. This preparation consists of a series of briefings with members of the Peace Jurisdiction and a workshop facilitated by the ICTJ, the International Center for Transitional Justice.” Additionally, reports from nearly all victims and their companions who attended the preparatory encounters indicated that they found them beneficial and were better prepared for the public hearing.

interactions between the victims and perpetrators helped to repair Colombia's torn social fabric. This groundbreaking process has become an example to transitional justice tribunals around the world of how to strike a balance between judicial accountability procedures and the affirmation of victims' dignity.

In the Central African Republic, ICTJ provided help to reduce the justice gap in the country by providing technical support to its accountability institutions for war crimes. The simultaneous operation of the Special Criminal Court (*Cour Pénale Spéciale* or CPS) and the *Commission Vérité, Justice, Réparation et Réconciliation* (CVJRR) created an opportunity to advance an integrated approach to justice and social cohesion in CAR. The CVJRR and the CPS perform complementary roles, but they had not been able to work together despite a legal requirement for them to do so, creating a significant justice gap. To contribute to filling this gap, ICTJ assisted the two institutions to finalize a cooperation agreement that will enable them to coordinate their work while allowing them to pursue their respective mandates.

ICTJ also promoted the implementation of the Gambian Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission's (TRRC) recommendations for prosecutions and reparations. Together with the Gambia Bar Association and other actors, ICTJ supported the Ministry of Justice to design a prosecutorial strategy, a sample investigative workplan, and a victims' reparations bill. While the victims' reparations bill has not yet been passed by the National Assembly, we led the consultation process to enable victims and civil society organizations to influence the overall process and provide comments that were taken up in the draft bill (see The Gambia section below for more on this effort). As part of this process, ICTJ worked to ensure that efforts were undertaken to assess the vulnerability of victims and witnesses, especially survivors of sexual- and gender-based violence (SGBV).

In late 2022, after years of providing technical support as a partner of the International Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda (ICD), ICTJ finalized the Judicial Bench Book (JBB) on the practice and procedure for the adjudication of international crimes in domestic court before the ICD. Although the formal launch of the JBB was postponed due to the resumption of the trial of Thomas Kwoyelo, the book will support the effective investigation of international crimes in Uganda. We continued to monitor the trial, offering technical assistance to the ICD regarding effective outreach measures and meaningful victims' participation.

With respect to the Dominic Ongwen case at the International Criminal Court, we shared information about the Appeals and Reparations proceedings with the Ugandan public through radio and community outreach initiatives. In these initiatives, we translated the highly technical legal terminology used by the ICC into plain language that would be understandable by the general public. One radio talk show in which we provided updates about the case had an estimated listenership of around one million people.

ICTJ also provided consultative inputs to the ICC as it continues its ongoing review process set in motion by a resolution of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP). We drew attention to the importance of the meaningful participation of victims in criminal proceedings by convening a [high-level conference](#) in partnership with the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs. With over 100 participants in attendance, representing 10 governments and numerous civil society, international, and regional organizations, the conference offered an important opportunity to reflect on victims' resilience in the face of mass atrocities and to expand thinking around what can be done to improve victim participation, which is an important determinant regarding whether the prosecution of those most responsible contributes to acknowledgment and redress for victims. ICTJ also enabled survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) in

Uganda and The Gambia to share their perspectives on reparative justice with global policymakers by convening a side event during the December 2022 ASP, entitled “We Cannot Survive on Hope and Promises Alone: Reparations for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.”

ICTJ also helped inform the transitional justice policy being developed by the Ethiopian Ministry of Justice through our participation in two consultative workshops. Among the comments we provided on the draft policy were the importance of ensuring the independence and capacity of prosecutors and courts for investigating and trying crimes against humanity and other crimes that constitute serious violations of human rights. To help operationalize those concepts, ICTJ presented alternatives for guaranteeing independence and capacity in domestic prosecutions that are outside the international or hybrid court model, like the approach taken by the International Commission against Impunity of Guatemala (CICIG).

Going Digital

This year, as part of our internal process of becoming a more digital organization, ICTJ grew the knowledge base and skills of our staff in using digital tools. All ICTJ staff and consultants across our global platform received seven trainings on relevant Microsoft applications for sharing and managing information digitally, conducted online by experts from the Microsoft Training Center. Through these trainings, ICTJ staff and consultants learned how to become more software-efficient and increase their ability to capitalize on the technology available through Microsoft. These trainings included a session on data protection and cyber security best practices as part of our internal awareness raising and capacity building strategy over the past year.

ICTJ also took important steps towards becoming a full cloud-based organization, another component of our institutional digital transformation. Our staff now have quick, easy, and safe access to key institutional resources through the cloud, facilitating seamless and collaborative remote work.

Additionally, ICTJ produced a mapping of key actors in the field of digital transformation and technology and human rights, an important first step towards understanding and developing applications of technology and transitional justice practice in a digital world.

Advancing Gender Justice and Gender Equality

ICTJ continued to advocate for the rights of victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), particularly their rights to acknowledgment and repair. In partnership with the [Global Survivors Fund](#), ICTJ aimed at creating advocacy tools to inform governments about the actions they can take to meet their obligation to award reparations to victims of SGBV. We conducted research and published reports on the reparative justice needs of SGBV victims in [Nepal](#), [The Gambia](#), and [Uganda](#) and the opportunities and obstacles to respond to those needs. One of the sentiments shared by survivors across all three countries was the importance of treating them as agents of change. By recognizing the different roles women play in conflict, reparations can help contribute to the broader issue of transforming gender norms and inequalities. In Uganda, ICTJ supported three women-led survivor organizations to design, develop and implement projects that serve reparative purposes to survivors, including children born of war. The work included artistic initiatives, advocacy, and technical engagements with local and national authorities to devise reparation mechanisms.



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Members of ASFADDES and Colombia Diversa pause for a group photo during a workshop in Bogotá. (ICTJ)

ICTJ continued to be one of the few organizations advancing an LGBTQ+-sensitive approach to the transitional justice process in Colombia. As part of this work, we helped to build bridges between advocates of families of the missing and disappeared and activists for the rights of LGBTQ+ persons. We brought together Asfaddes, an association of families of persons deemed missing, and Colombia Diversa, a prominent LGBTQ+ organization, in dialogue to share experiences related to the search process of disappeared persons in the context of armed conflict to build each other's capacity and discuss shared

advocacy efforts. Colombia Diversa shared methodologies that are mindful of an LGBTQ+-sensitive approach in the search process, which Asfaddes had not consciously worked on before. Throughout the exchange, the [two organizations](#) realized that they had both been victims of a similar pattern: political discrimination on the one hand (in the case of Asfaddes) and sexual and social discrimination on the other.

Building on our previous work to support women in marginalized communities, this year ICTJ worked with women-led organizations in The Gambia to encourage and facilitate women's empowerment, respect, and engagement in the post-TRRC process. The Gambia is a strongly patriarchal society where women's needs and participation in public life are sidelined, and through our consultations with women in the regions we learned that there is a need to engage with communities on women's priorities, create a more empathetic environment to their needs, and provide women with opportunities to express their concerns and their importance in society. In response to these challenges, we partnered with 8 civil society organizations to organize a cultural festival in the town of Basse, which drew 500 participants and spectators, including 150 women victims who shared their experiences of the dictatorship through dramas, songs, and poetry. Among these women were those who had been part of a Muslim community that had faced persecution and forced to relocate to Senegal where they lacked access to basic services and had been marginalized from the TRRC process. The cultural festival provided an opportunity to bring these women into victim discussions on the post-TRRC process, explain the services that our partners provide to women victims, and to sensitize local communities to the importance of protecting women against human rights violations.

Increasing Engagement of Youth in Transitional Justice Processes

ICTJ continued to engage with young people as political actors, empowering them to shape the futures of their communities by opening spaces for them to actively participate in transitional justice processes and voice their perspectives, which often challenge the status quo and shine a light on pressing issues that must be addressed to build sustainable peace.

In Armenia, for example, ICTJ helped to strengthen young people's understanding of the role that they can play in the transitional justice and democratization processes. Young



people in Armenia have traditionally been politically active mainly around issues of education policy because they have more experience in that field than in others. Yet young people's lives are impacted by many aspects of the country's transition, including the resumption of conflict, government corruption, and institutional reforms. Thus, ICTJ helped to build young people's knowledge and capacity in these areas, and we brought young people together from different regions of the country to learn from each other's experiences and share their perspectives with each other and with national level policymakers. Our assistance helped young Armenians to understand both the relevance of transitional justice and their role in it. In the words of one young activist, "transitional justice is sometimes presented as a complicated legalistic system that only lawyers and selected professionals can engage, while in reality it is about questions, tools, and possibilities that we look for when thinking about our present and future in Armenia."

Our program in Colombia contributed to youth-led initiatives that helped to bring about social change through art and music. For example, building on our experience in convening the International Hip Hop Encounter in Bogotá, we helped to disseminate "Resistencia Hip-Hop," a documentary that amplifies the voices of Colombia victims through lyrics and rhymes. We also supported *Asociación Cultural Rostros Urbanos*, another youth-led initiative, to share the Colombian truth commission's final report with young people in Buenaventura through a community-based communication strategy. Among other projects, *Rostros Urbanos* composed a song on the ways in which young Afro-Colombians experience violence in the Buenaventura region.

Another example is our work in The Gambia, where we helped to create safe environments and effective platforms for youth to participate in political decision-making processes, especially in the implementation of the TRRC's recommendations. Through a youth town hall and other engagements with young Gambians, ICTJ and our local partner Our Nation Our Voice continued to increase young people's capacity and understanding on current transitional justice issues. We also helped young Gambians to identify and discuss strategies and approach to addressing past violations and amplifying their demands and expectations.

Addressing Corruption and Other Economic Crimes

Accountability for corruption has been part of transitional justice processes in many countries emerging from dictatorship, conflict, or political violence. However, in most countries, more comprehensive transitional justice policies have been proposed or implemented and corruption is only one "economic crime" for which justice and accountability has been sought through truth commissions, reparations measures, civil and criminal litigation, and the reform of economic and social policies prescribed by international financial institutions.



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This year, ICTJ's anti-corruption work focused on building the capacity of government officials and civil society groups on incorporating anti-corruption efforts in transitional justice processes; analyzing and supporting the design of solutions to address corruption; and creating awareness about the importance of accountability for corruption, other economic crimes, and economic and social rights violations. For example, ICTJ offered guidance to government and civil society stakeholders in The Gambia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Syria, and Tunisia on the challenges of incorporating these violations in transitional justice processes. We also advised policymakers in Armenia and The Gambia, activists in Tunisia, and lawyers in Ukraine on how reparations can be funded with ill-gotten assets recovered from individuals linked to corruption or other conflict-

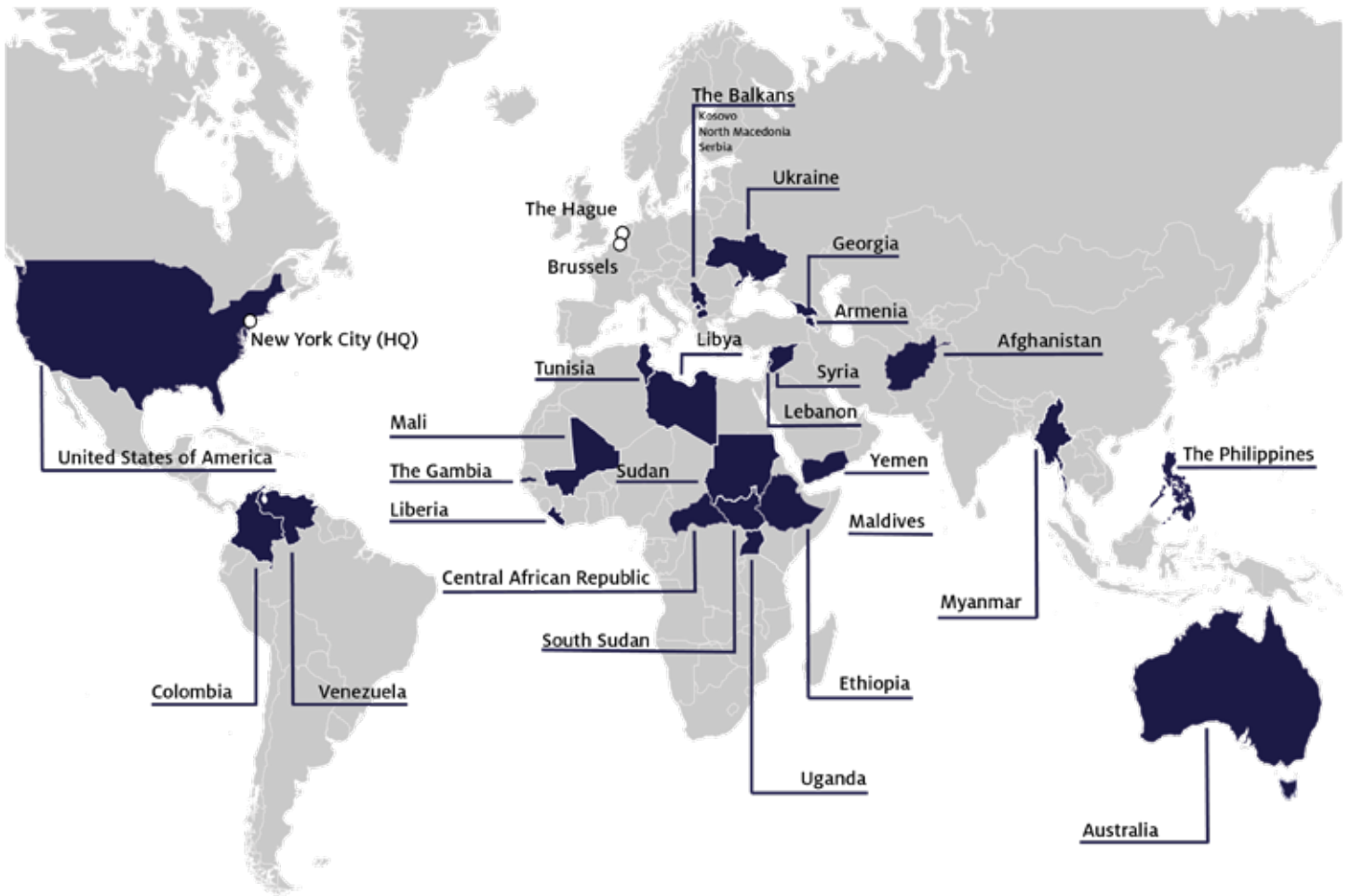
related violations. ICTJ also shared lessons learned with policymakers on institutionalizing accountability for corruption and economic and social rights violations through constitution drafting (e.g., in Myanmar), transitional justice legislation (e.g., in Libya and Yemen), and litigation at constitutional courts (e.g., Armenia).

In Libya, for example, ICTJ advised key government officials regarding the importance of addressing past corruption and economic crimes, including those affecting natural resources, in the country's draft law on transitional justice. We provided advice to these stakeholders by participating in high-level discussions organized jointly by the governments of Libya and the Netherlands as well as by drafting a joint memorandum with the UN Mission in Libya.

ICTJ also advised the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) of South Sudan, its Task Force established to coordinate the country's transitional justice process, and advocates within civil society on how the peace agreement's transitional justice can be operationalized. We shared relevant comparative examples, including the challenges of pursuing accountability for resource extraction-related economic crimes and human rights violations, citing the pending *Lundin* case in Sweden and the recently settled *Exxon* case in Indonesia.

Country Level

Where We Work



NOTE: The map represents ICTJ's countries of operation at the end of fiscal year 2023 (March 2023).

Country Programs

In **Afghanistan**, the humanitarian crisis only worsened over the past year, with 28 million Afghans needing aid in 2023 compared with 24 million in 2022. The Taliban continued to commit serious human rights violations as described by a recent report from the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and through the ongoing monitoring of ICTJ's longtime partner, the Afghanistan Human Rights and Democracy Organization (AHRDO). The Taliban regime also enacted many repressive measures to restrict the rights and freedoms of Afghan citizens, especially women and girls. Additionally, over the past year, the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) has increased its attacks on both the Taliban and on ethnic and religious minority groups like the Shia Hazaras and Sunni Sufi, which has further destabilized the country and exacerbated its ongoing humanitarian crisis. After aiding in AHRDO's resettlement in Canada in early 2022, ICTJ has helped the organization to continue monitoring the human rights situation in Afghanistan remotely and to highlight the many impacts of ongoing human rights violations on the Afghan people. For example, ICTJ and AHRDO brought international attention to the Taliban's restrictions on media rights and press freedoms and its punitive enforcement measures against journalists. Together, we produced a research [report](#) that describes the perilous conditions under which journalists operate and calls for urgent international efforts to protect their rights and freedoms. The report brings to light multiple firsthand accounts from Afghan journalists, which were obtained by a researcher working on the ground at great personal risk. Leveraging the power of film to tell victims' stories in a way that resonates with an international audience, ICTJ also supported AHRDO's creation of a documentary that describes the resilience of its members who journeyed from Afghanistan to Pakistan to Canada after the fall of Kabul. The film was screened on Human Rights Day 2022 in Edmonton before several relevant Canadian policymakers, and it will be screened again at UNCHR's Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement. Additionally, with the closure of AHRDO's museum in Kabul, the organization developed a database of violations committed in Afghanistan since 2011 for a new Virtual War Memorial Museum (VWMM), preserving its comprehensive documentation for future accountability efforts. The VWMM is scheduled to be inaugurated in August 2023.

Over the past year, the political environment in **Armenia** has been driven by the socioeconomic and political implications of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the fallout of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan. In this environment, the domestic transitional justice process has had little room to advance. Armenia has made small steps towards the operation of institutions created after the 2018 Revolution, such as the anti-corruption commission, the constitutional court, and the interior ministry, but these steps have been taken without the inclusion or meaningful participation of victims' groups, civil society actors, and young people. Despite winding down ICTJ's program in Armenia in December 2022, this year our program achieved several impacts focused on empowering these actors to participate in the country's transition. For example, ICTJ helped empower the Armenian Mothers in Black, a group of families of victims who were killed in non-combat situations during their military service, to learn from the experiences of South African victims of Apartheid-era violations and develop new strategies based on those experiences.



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This unique South-South exchange gave both sets of families an opportunity to learn about challenges and best practices for participating in truth commissions and commissions of inquiry, seeking reparative justice, and engaging with authorities mandated to investigate and prosecute human rights violations. In the words of one participant, the exchange was “emotional, inspiring, and informative.” As a result of our work, they formed a group of 10 families to unite their efforts to reveal the truth about their sons. In addition, ICTJ filled gaps in the expertise of both civil society (i.e., OSF-Armenia’s partners in the Justice Group) and government stakeholders (i.e., the Constitutional Court, the Constitutional Reforms Council, and the Constitutional Reforms Commission) regarding the design of constitutional and institutional reforms in transitional societies and the inclusion of transitional justice provisions in constitutions.

“Transitional justice is presented as a complicated legalistic system, that only lawyers and selected professionals can engage, while in reality it is about questions, tools and possibilities that we look for when thinking about our present and future in Armenia.”

— Young Activist

In Victoria, **Australia**, the Yoorook Justice Commission held two public hearings with Aboriginal leaders, experts, and service providers about injustices within Victoria’s criminal justice and child protection systems; convened Yarning Circles with Elders to listen to their truths and priorities; and submitted its interim report.

The Commission, the first formal truth-telling process into the injustice experienced by first peoples in the state, remains an important institution to support given its potential to influence current and future truth-seeking efforts dealing with legacies of colonialism elsewhere around the world. Reflecting the trust ICTJ has earned through our work with the Commission over the past few years, ICTJ was invited to participate again in the Commission’s Selection Panel, which re-convened to choose a replacement commissioner when another commissioner decided to leave. We also helped to share relevant experiences from other contexts with the Commission. For example, we brought together members of the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2012-2015) with the Yoorook Justice Commission to share lessons learned regarding follow up, legacy, and educational programs. Additionally, ICTJ provided technical assistance to the Commission in the production of its final report, offering comparative examples and best practices from relevant truth commissions in other countries.

In April 2022, the *Cour Pénale Spéciale* (CPS) opened its first trial for international crimes committed in the **Central African Republic** (CAR). Then, in September 2022, the International Criminal Court (ICC) began its trial against former Séléka commander Mahamat Said Abdel Kani for war crimes and crimes against humanity. With the *Commission Vérité, Justice, Réparation et Réconciliation* (CVJRR) operating since 2020, CAR has opened an opportunity to advance an integrated approach to justice and social cohesion in the country. However, the CVJRR has been struggling with many challenges, including a lack of adequate funding, capacity gaps, and difficulties in adopting the *règlement intérieur* (procedural

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rules). These difficulties have been exacerbated by ongoing internal rivalries among the commissioners. To address some of these challenges, and in partnership with UNDP and UN Women, ICTJ deployed several ICTJ experts to CAR to work on the ground with CVJRR. Our experts facilitated the operationalization of the CVJRR by developing several key documents for the Commission, including a strategic plan, a work plan, a communications strategy, and a statement taking form. We also provided the Commission with ongoing capacity building across a range of issues based on lessons learned from similar institutions in other contexts.

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Colombia elected its first leftist government under President Gustavo Petro and Afro-Colombian VP Francia Marquez. Sixteen representatives from “special transitory electoral districts,” seats reserved for regions most affected by the conflict, were also elected to congress for the first time. Colombia passed two significant legislative initiatives early in Petro’s presidency, including the tax reform law and [Total Peace Law](#), which establishes peace as a state policy and grants the government powers to negotiate with armed groups and criminal organizations. ICTJ informed the drafting of the Total Peace Law by providing inputs on the concept of organized armed structures that were later partially incorporated in the Law. The government subsequently resumed peace talks with the *Ejército de Liberación Nacional* (ELN) in Venezuela and Mexico, which led to a cease fire signed in Cuba in June 2023. ICTJ contributed to the cease fire process through our Head of Office in Colombia’s participation in a Working Group on the design of a general and simultaneous cease-fire protocol. While ceasefires have been brokered with some criminal organizations in the country, they remain unstable. Violence in Colombia sadly increased in 2022, with the highest rate of homicides since the Peace Agreement was signed in 2016. Meanwhile, the transitional justice mechanisms established by the Peace Agreement continued their important work. The Truth Commission’s mandate came to an end in 2022, and the JEP and Search Unit for Missing Persons (UBPD) began their sixth year of operations.



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ICTJ continued to build the capacity of these mechanisms and increase public awareness of their work, contributing to their achievement of several important milestones. By March 2023, for example, the JEP had accredited 338,615 individual victims,⁷ opened 10 macro cases, and issued three resolutions of conclusions declaring the most individuals indicted were eligible for restorative sanctions. ICTJ’s deep knowledge of the structure and operation of the JEP has enabled us to provide its staff with targeted technical assistance, focusing this year on acknowledgement processes and restorative sanctions. In addition to creating and implementing a participation methodology for the acknowledgment hearing in Macro Case 1 (as mentioned above), ICTJ developed a study on best practices in restorative justice implemented by the Chamber for Acknowledgment and Responsibility at the request of the Chamber’s magistrates. The final version of the study will be presented this year. In addition, ICTJ helped to ensure that the FARC defense team and former combatants have access to MHPSS in the JEP’s proceedings, helping to raise their awareness of MHPSS’ importance as part of the JEP’s restorative justice approach. Between April and November 2022, a team of psychologists accompanied 322 former FARC combatants in 79 judicial and non-judicial proceedings. An interim evaluation of the project demonstrated that it has already improved former combatants’ capacities in terms of empathy, active listening, and acknowledgment of the harm caused to victims and their families. We also assisted FARC-

⁷ Special Jurisdiction for Peace, Progress report updated on March 31, 2023. Information retrieved from: www.jep.gov.co/jepcifras/JEP-en-Cifras-marzo-31-2023.pdf.

Uniting Colombian Civil Society in the Search for LGBTQ+ Missing and Disappeared Persons

Things must be named so they can come into existence. For the members of ASFADDES, an association of relatives of persons deemed missing in Colombia, everything to do with the LGBTQ+ world was probably just that: non-existent. To them, concepts related to diverse gender identities and sexual orientations sounded like strange, distant words, surrounded by taboos. It was not unheard of for members of ASFADDES to insinuate that a gay, lesbian, or trans person was someone “with a condition”, someone “who is kind of weird”, or just someone who elicits an awkward shoulder shrug as a sign of incomprehension. As a result, they had barely explored these concepts during their 25+ years of leadership and resistance.

When the members of ASFADDES learned about the experiences of Colombians with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations, they were able to incorporate this dimension into the search for missing persons for the first time.

ASFADDES received these insights from Colombia Diversa, an organization that has been fighting for the rights of LGBTQ+ people in Colombia since 2004. In June 2022, ICTJ brought together 24 members of both organizations for an opportunity to exchange experiences and lessons learned and to develop a better understanding of the search processes of LGBTQ+ people. During a series of theoretical and practical workshops convened by ICTJ, members of ASFADDES learned about the particularities of violence towards sexual minorities and the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of LGBTQ+ Colombians.

The result was a fruitful and powerful exchange. For Marcela Sanchez, Director of Colombia Diversa, the opportunity was also bittersweet, as she came to understand that members of both organizations, despite their many differences, share a common characteristic. They have both been victims of discrimination: political discrimination on the one hand and sexual discrimination on the other.

Together, these organizations have built new support networks that complement their work. Today, ASFADDES considers Colombia Diversa an ally in its efforts to search for the missing, and Colombia Diversa sees ASFADDES as an organization that fights for the memory of all the disappeared, including those with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations.

Colombia Diversa recently published a booklet called “Someone is searching for you: tools for the search of LGBTQ+ persons deemed missing”. The booklet recognizes ASFADDES as an entity through which you can report a disappearance and access avenues for assistance in the search for missing LGBTQ+ persons.

“It has been a deeply enriching process,” said Marcela Sanchez. “We had never familiarized ourselves with the search for missing persons as we have now, and ASFADDES is consciously learning how to handle cases of LGBTQ+ disappearances.”

EP’s defense team to design a tool for assessing their work before the JEP, which identifies and analyzes the lawyers’ strengths and weaknesses and optimizes their future legal representation.

Marking another important milestone, last year the Truth Commission formally presented its final report and created a committee to monitor the implementation of its recommendations over the next seven years. Over the past year, ICTJ assisted the Truth Commission to shape public opinion regarding its legacy; enhanced civil society’s ownership of its final report and disseminated its findings; and supported the operationalization of its monitoring committee.

ICTJ brought together representatives of donor governments and UN agencies along with the President of the Truth Commission and two other commissioners to discuss the impact of the final report and challenges related to the implementation of its recommendations. The Truth Commission [publicly acknowledged](#) ICTJ's contributions to its final report in August 2022.

Also in 2022, the Search Unit launched a regional prioritization strategy for its National Search Plan. The UBPD has developed 29 regional search plans and signed 12 regional pacts to promote coordination between local authorities and civil society to stimulate community participation in the search for the missing. By February 2023, the UBPD had recovered 750 bodies and carried out 181 dignified deliveries of remains. ICTJ contributed to the UBPD mandate throughout the year, including by organizing a [UNGA side event](#) in New York that brought together the Director of the Unit with the head of the Syrian Legal Development Program to discuss their common cause: the search for the truth about the missing and disappeared.

Throughout the year, ICTJ estimates that our programs in Colombia have directly benefitted over 1,500 individuals, over half of whom were women. Moreover, according to survey reports, over 73% of our beneficiaries reported an improved ability to pursue their demands thanks to our interventions.

Over the last year, **Ethiopia** continued to grapple with the legacy of past abuses committed by successive authoritarian regimes and during the Tigray War, which has exacerbated existing political polarization. In December 2022, the Ethiopian Parliament approved a proclamation establishing a National Dialogue Commission. Eleven Commissions were appointed in February 2023 in a process that lacked transparency, compromising its diversity and legitimacy. The Commission is charged with facilitating broad-based consultations and identifying the root causes of fundamental national issues; improving relations among stakeholders in the country; and creating a conducive environment for a nation-building process. In January 2023, ICTJ began implementing a 2-year program aimed at strengthening civil society's capacity to contribute to the debate on transitional justice in Ethiopia. Our team on the ground has been working with local partners to map civil society organizations in the program's target regions (Oromia and Somali), develop a stakeholder analysis, and introduce our work to key actors ahead of a field mission planned for June 2023. ICTJ developed this comprehensive stakeholder mapping, which identifies 47 relevant organizations, to ensure that our intervention helps to expand the scope of the groups working on transitional justice issues, rather than simply targeting only the most established organizations based in Addis Ababa. We will leverage our stakeholder analysis to help ensure that the Commission's consultation process is as inclusive as possible, involving Ethiopians from many different backgrounds. Our early assessment and engagement in Ethiopia has established our intervention as a technical reference to inform new policies in collaboration with key policymakers, including the national transitional justice policy being developed by the Federal Ministry of Justice.

The fiscal year in **The Gambia** began with parliamentary elections that resulted in a modest victory for President Adama Barrow's National People's Party (NPP). The elections also resulted



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in the controversial selection of two fervent supporters of former dictator Yahya Jammeh as Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, in accordance with an agreement reached by the NPP and Jammeh's party the Alliance for Patriotic Reorientation and Construction (APRC). Victims of the dictatorship were strongly opposed to this agreement, questioning the government's will to implement the TRRC's recommendations. Additionally, while the Ministry of Justice has taken a leading role in pushing forward the transitional justice process, the role of other government bodies (e.g., the Ministries of gender, health, and education) remains unclear.

Despite this challenging and unclear government will, key stakeholders in the country remain committed to the transitional justice process. The Ministry of Justice presented the government's White Paper accepting all but two of the TRRC final report's recommendations. The Ministry also announced that it would release an implementation plan in 2023.

Additionally, the government initiated a discussion on a prosecution strategy, eventually deciding on the establishment of a hybrid court in The Gambia with the power to have sittings in other West African countries as well as a domestic Special Criminal Court and Special Prosecutor's Office. The donor community also remains invested in the country's transition, especially with respect to prosecutions efforts. Other technical partners, including non-governmental organizations like ICTJ and inter-governmental organizations, support the reparations and reform process. Victims and local civil society organizations remain highly engaged, and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is leading the monitoring of the post-TRRC process with technical support from ICTJ. To facilitate civil society's coordination and collaboration, ICTJ helped establish a coalition of 12 civil society and victim-led organizations that will conduct joint advocacy activities on reparations and gender issues. Our program in The Gambia continues to have a strong gender component, which is born out in the gender breakdown of our direct beneficiaries: 300 of our 500 beneficiaries in FY23 were women (62%).

The Ministry of Justice announced the drafting of a victims' reparation law, which ICTJ has played a key role in shaping over the past year. At ICTJ's suggestion, the Ministry of Justice agreed to launch consultations with victims living in rural regions. ICTJ led these consultations, produced a report on their findings, and convened subsequent workshops to validate these findings. ICTJ provided comments on the draft bill, some of which were taken up by the Ministry. ICTJ also developed a mapping of legal and psychosocial responses to SGBV in The Gambia, which highlights crucial gaps in the assistance provided to victims (e.g.,

protection of witnesses and provision of MHPSS during legal proceedings). The mapping is intended to be used to build the capacity of both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders on how to overcome some of those gaps. It is also intended to support the government's strategy

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"I would like to express the Ministry of Justice gratitude to the ICTJ for supporting the transitional justice process in the Gambia since the onset. ICTJ profusely supported the TRRC and later decided to open an office in the Gambia to continue this support during and after the TRRC mandate. We are grateful."

— Gambian solicitor general, Mr. Thomasi Husein

for prosecuting sexual crimes as recommended by the TRRC. The mapping has already helped several organizations to reconsider the support they provide to victims. For instance, the Network Against Sexual and Gender Violations initiated a review of the tools it uses to respond to SGBV crimes committed in the communities, such as the referral pathway and the medical report.

In May 2022, **Lebanon** held first parliamentary elections since the country's economic, financial, and political crisis began and since the Beirut port explosion in 2020. While election results indicated some breakthroughs for civil society and independents, much greater change and progress is still needed to put the country on a steady path to recovery. Moreover, due to the divisions and multiple agendas of parliamentary groups, Prime Minister Najib Mikati has not yet succeeded in forming a new government. While the IMF announced a preliminary agreement to get the country out of its financial crisis, the list of conditions is long and none of the reforms have yet been implemented by the government. With support from ICTJ, the National Commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared made progress toward operationalization, including through the development of bylaws and a code of ethics. ICTJ assisted the Commission in developing an operational budget, which it submitted to the Ministry of Finance for approval. We also helped the Commission to design a visual identity, which will help it to use consistent and strategic visuals in its outreach and communications activities. In addition, ICTJ collaborated with our longtime partner the Committee of the Families of the Disappeared (CFKDL) to help establish a factual base and inform the public about the truth of what happened during the conflict in Lebanon, including by supporting the production of a digital archive of the Committee's work. Finally, ICTJ and the CFKDL empowered 15 women relatives of the missing and forcibly disappeared to make their experiences widely known, providing them with trainings on creative writing that enabled them to produce a book of stories about their struggles. The book was published and printed in Arabic, English, and French to ensure that it can reach as wide an audience as possible, and we are planning multiple book signings for 2023.

In **Libya**, the formation of the eastern Libyan Government of National Stability (GNS) as a rival administration to the Tripoli-based Government of National Unity (GNU) triggered fighting between forces aligned with the two sides in May and August 2022. Although a UN-backed plan to assist the country in organizing elections has support from key military actors, it has not yet secured enough momentum to ensure that elections will take place in 2023. The past year also saw a crackdown on civil society organizations, including the release of a circular instructing Libya's Civil Society Commission to revoke the licenses given to organizations established since 2011. Within this difficult situation, the Presidential Council launched a strategic vision for national reconciliation and established a technical committee to



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“The significance of these stories is to prevent the cover up of what happened in the war. It’s important to open the war records and it’s necessary to revisit the past.”

— Wadad Halwani, Head of the Committee of the Families of the Kidnapped and Disappeared and whose husband went missing in 1982

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draft a National Reconciliation Law. Building on our relationship with the committee, ICTJ shared our analysis of the draft law. We provided suggestions for areas of improvement including, as mentioned above, institutionalizing accountability for corruption and economic and social rights violations. The Presidential Council also organized consultations with civil society based on the draft law, but the consultations were not inclusive and lacked criteria for selection. In response to this lack of inclusion in the formal process, ICTJ worked with a group of local civil society organizations and victims' groups to strengthen their capacities and increase their knowledge to initiate an unofficial truth-seeking process that uncovers the truth, documents victims' testimonies, and preserves memory in the country. We began this process over the past year by creating an online platform for these local activists to share their experiences with each other and by providing them with trainings on oral history and its application to conflict transformation in the country. Among the beneficiaries of the trainings, 85% reported that it had improved their ability to pursue their demands, and 91% of the women participants reported an increase in their agency.

Gender justice is an important component of our work in Libya, with women representing around 75% of our total beneficiaries. We also established a strong partnership with the Women's Coalition for Peace and Justice in Libya, a collaboration of 17 women's organizations from across Libya. ICTJ provided the Coalition with capacity building support to enable them to participate in the national reconciliation process and push for a more gender-sensitive process. We helped the Coalition to develop their own strategy for engaging in the reconciliation process and elevated their voices in the public sphere. The Coalition prepared a statement criticizing the House of Representatives' constitutional amendment that minimized women's participation, and we enabled them to film the statement and share it widely with the media. The Coalition's statement received significant coverage in the media, including a prime time segment on a well-known Libyan television channel during which the Coalition presented their work to the public. We also built the capacity of the Coalition by bringing them together with members of the Tunisian "Transitional Justice is Also for Women" network to share relevant experiences and common challenges they face.

Conflict in several areas of **South Sudan**, coupled with flash floods in other regions, have displaced thousands over the past year, with the greatest impact on women, children, and the elderly. While this has not prevented the country's continued democratic transition process, it shifted the focus of some South Sudanese away from transitional justice and towards addressing the immediate humanitarian crisis. Meanwhile, the end of the Transitional Period was postponed for two years, from December 2022 to December 2024, when democratic elections are scheduled to take place. The Revitalized Government of National

United (R-TGoNU) embarked on judicial reforms and security sector reforms, including the creation of a unified armed forces command, as well as consultations for the formulation of

"ICTJ had a major role, as it provided the Coalition with a space to meet and consult on the development of a vision for the paths of transitional justice as well as the constitutional basis."

— Dr. Turkia Al Waer



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a permanent constitution for South Sudan. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) initiated the process to establish the Commission of Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH). Based on the trust in our expertise that ICTJ has built with the Ministry, we were invited to provide inputs on the CTRH draft bill, including by preparing a technical memorandum in which we outlined lessons learned from other truth commissions on the process for selecting commissioners. ICTJ also persuaded the MoJCA to complement its own findings on the views and demands of displaced South Sudanese populations with the findings from consultations we conducted with these populations in Kenya, Uganda, and IDP camps to gauge their perspectives on return, coexistence, dignity, and transitional justice. In addition, ICTJ helped inform the accountability and transitional justice section of the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan's (UNCHRSS) [report](#) to the UN Security Council through our presentations at the Third Conference on Sustaining Momentum for Transitional Justice in South Sudan, which we convened jointly with UNCHRSS and UNDP. Nearly 530 individuals participated in our work to advance transitional justice in South Sudan over the past year, and around 90% of these individuals perceived an increase in their capacity as a result of their participation.



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In December 2022, civilian and military leaders in **Sudan** signed a framework agreement that laid out a plan for the formation of a civilian government over a two-year period. Transitional justice and security sector reform, including the integration of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) into the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), were among the most contentious issues during the negotiations. Regional conferences and a national conference on transitional justice were held in March 2023 to build a Sudanese model for transitional justice, but important stakeholders (e.g., Resistance Committees) did not take part in these consultations, making their outcomes less credible. Unfortunately, the outbreak of conflict between the SAF and the RSF in April 2023 has since derailed these efforts to resume the democratic transition in Sudan. Despite these very challenging circumstances, ICTJ strengthened local civil society actors' and victims' understanding of transitional justice principles across 5 regions of Sudan (i.e., Eastern, Western, Northern, South, and Central Sudan). In addition to sharing lessons learned from other contexts, we helped them to decide on their strategic priorities and common agendas. In the process, we established ourselves as a trusted, competent, and impartial resource organization. Over the past year, we trained 64 beneficiaries in the 5 regions, who in turn took the initiative to train over a thousand other Sudanese individuals, including internally displaced persons. 90% of these beneficiaries reported an increase in their ability to understand transitional justice principles and to better articulate their demands. The trainings were effective in overcoming a great deal of initial skepticism about transitional justice among our beneficiaries. According to the father of a victim who participated in our trainings, "Transition justice, as they told us in a previous training workshop, is amnesty for criminals. Now we know what transitional justice is, [and] I am very happy to participate."

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Over the past year, **Syrian** civilians endured another year of severe difficulties, including grave violations committed by Syrian security forces that have continued to detain, disappear, and torture people throughout the country. Aid workers, especially those working for non-UN agencies, have continued to struggle to provide humanitarian support, especially with respect to healthcare. Russia vetoed a July 2022 UN Security Council resolution that would have renewed authorization

Supporting Sudanese Victims to Come Together, Begin the Healing Process, and Set Aside Differences in the Pursuit of Justice

During Omar Al-Bashir's reign in Sudan, divide-and-rule tactics weakened opposition groups and created discord among civilian groups fighting for the goals of peace, justice, and inclusion. Despite the temporary alliances between these opposition groups and civilian resistance committees, which allowed them to overturn Bashir's regime in 2018, their unity of purpose was short-lived and they were unable to steer Sudan's transition to democracy. The revolutionary protest movement Forces for Freedom and Change (FFC) failed to govern the country effectively and lost legitimacy as a political force. The FFC split into different factions, with the FFC-Central Council (FFC-CC) adhering the closest to the vision of the Revolution. Exploiting this power vacuum, the military staged a coup in October 2021. Under strong international pressure, a political process was launched to resume Sudan's path to democracy, with transitional justice at the center of the conversation.

Against this backdrop, the FFC-CC, the resistance committees, civil society groups, and families of martyrs sought ICTJ's expertise to build their capacity to engage in the negotiations with the military. ICTJ responded by providing a 5-day training on transitional justice concepts for 15 influential Sudanese civilian leaders representing the gender, geographic, ethnic, and political diversity of the country. We dispelled misconceptions about transitional justice and shared best practices and lessons learned from other countries to encourage an issue-based conversation aimed at identifying shared solutions for preventing the recurrence of violations and ensuring the centrality of victims.

Initially, participants struggled to move past their differences and work collaboratively. Many feared delegitimizing their own experiences and justice demands by empathizing with the experience of others. The reality of decades of layered trauma severely impacted the ability of participants to consider other justice priorities and options. As one participant put it, "Sudanese are against transitional justice because of the trauma."

To address this obstacle, ICTJ partnered with the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT), which joined the training to share trauma-sensitive approaches and provide a safe space for participants to acknowledge their suffering and begin their journey toward healing. CVT's work was transformative not only in contributing to the well-being of the participants, but also in helping lower their emotional response to their endured trauma that was preventing them from engaging with an open mind in the transitional justice discussion. Victims of torture, for example, were able to engage in discussions on conditional amnesties after experiencing trauma-sensitive techniques. By providing a safe space to come together and acknowledge each other's trauma, the training enabled the participants to overcome their long-standing ideological differences to chart an inclusive way forward for Sudan.

Although fighting broke out in April 2023, presenting serious challenges to ICTJ's work in Sudan, it has not erased the value of the training and the impact it had on the participants. The resilience and commitment to transitional justice they showed have not been lost. Instead, the knowledge they gained, the healing process they began, and the spirit of cooperation they embraced will inspire their continued pursuit of justice.

for cross-border humanitarian aid to resume from Turkey to northwest Syria. The Turkish government has only worsened the situation by expelling Syrian refugees (men and some boys) back into northern Syria. Within this challenging context, the UN Secretary General produced a report proposing the creation of an international mechanism to clarify the fate of missing Syrians and provide support to their families. ICTJ contributed to the genesis of this proposal by bringing representatives of Syrian families of the missing to Washington, DC, and New York to conduct advocacy with key policymakers, including US government officials and diplomats. After the Secretary General released his report, ICTJ began engaging with the governments and UN agencies leading the push to establish the mechanism, focusing on highlighting lessons learned in other mechanisms implemented in other contexts. For example, we provided comments to the OHCHR to inform its report on the proposed mechanism. We also brought together leaders of Syrian and Colombian victims' groups and family associations with international experts and policymakers to discuss their experiences and their views on the proposed mechanism at a [side event](#) during the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly.



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We also continued to build the capacity of the members of the Bridges of Truth coalition, our Syrian civil society partners with whom we have worked to address the ongoing impacts on illegal detentions and enforced disappearances on the families of victims. In addition to enhancing their understanding of transitional justice and human rights concepts generally, we helped them to understand and discuss strategies for engaging with the proposed international mechanism on the missing in Syria. ICTJ and our partners also produced an animated film, “Tomorrow We Continue,” based on true stories about the impact of enforced disappearances on Syrian families, which has allowed a wide range of people from across the globe to better understand the plight of these families. The film was accepted as an official selection by over a dozen film festivals around the world (e.g., Amsterdam, Beirut, Istanbul, Montreal, New York, Sao Paulo) and has won multiple awards, raising awareness of the continued impact of these terrible violations on the families of the victims. In our annual partners survey, all the members of the Bridges of Truth coalition reported that their collaboration with ICTJ helped to contribute to their goals and improve their ability to pursue their missions.

In February 2023, the earthquake near Gaziantep, Turkey, caused nearly 60,000 deaths in Syria and in parts of Turkey where many Syrian refugees and activists were living. This disaster understandably led to the prioritization of the immediate humanitarian needs of these refugees and activists over their justice needs, and it has forced ICTJ to revisit and refocus our strategy for the current year.

In **Tunisia**, over the past year President Kais Saied implemented the electoral steps he announced shortly after his seizure of power in July 2021, including the referendum on the new constitution and legislative elections for the new Parliament. Decree no. 117, which grants the President broad powers, remains in effect and is referenced in the new constitution. The Saied regime has continued its crackdown on the judiciary, closure of civic space, interference with the right to privacy, and it has conducted criminal trials of lawyers and politicians



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in military courts. Meanwhile, Tunisia's economy has continued to deteriorate, leaving the country in its worst crisis in a generation. The transitional justice process in the country, or what remains of the process, is no longer participatory but rather unilaterally driven by the executive. When President Saied established the Fida Foundation as the new compensation agency for families of the victims of terrorist attacks and the wounded of the Revolution, it effectively abolished the Dignity Fund and set aside the reparations decisions of the Truth and Dignity Commission. Although President Saied's consolidation of power made it a difficult environment in which to support transitional justice efforts, ICTJ was able to provide local civil society actors and victims in Tunis, Sidi Bouzid, Gafsa, and Tataouine with opportunities to conduct advocacy for reparations as a form of justice, including for women victims of political violence. We enabled these activists to have their voices heard before government officials, such as representatives from the State Litigation Agency. ICTJ also contributed to valuable South-South exchanges by bringing together Tunisian civil society actors and victims with their counterparts in Libya to share experiences, lessons learned, and strategies for pursuing justice and redress for human rights violations.

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Nearly four years after **Uganda** adopted its National Transitional Justice Policy, there has still been no progress toward its implementation and conflict-related human rights violations remain largely unaddressed, setting the country on a path to recurrent conflict. However, the recent appointment of Hon. Norbert Mao as the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs renewed hope for delivering redress to victims. Minister Mao has been a vocal advocate for accountability and addressing the legacies of past atrocities, though he faces an uphill battle in reviving citizens' belief in the country's fragile rule of law amidst persistent human rights violations (torture, enforced disappearances, etc.) and narrowing civic space. The Rwenzori remains a conflict hotspot, and victims in the region have received little to no support in pursuing redress for the violations they suffered. Over the past year, ICTJ mentored women-led survivor groups and activists to support their development of priorities and advocacy strategies as well as strengthened their organizational development and financial management. Supplementing our capacity building support, we provided short-term grants to three women-led grassroots organizations working to advance redress for victims of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and children born of war through a range of activities including community awareness raising. ICTJ also completed a study on opportunity for reparations for survivors of CRSV in Uganda, which we completed in collaboration with our longtime local civil society partner the Women's Advocacy Network and with support from the Global Survivors Fund (GSF). Our methodology for the study involved increasing survivors' agency by gathering their views and perceptions about reparations and involving them in verifying the study's findings and sharing them with policy makers. This approach ran counter to the typical approach of international organizations collecting data in Uganda, which instead of empowering participants focuses solely on extracting data. Participants in the study attended launch events in Kampala and before the Assembly of States Parties of the ICC in The Hague, the Netherlands, where two survivors engaged directly with global policy makers and shared their perspectives on appropriate forms of reparations. In addition, through our continued engagement with the National Registration and Identification Agency, the Agency created an implementation matrix with a clear roadmap to support the registration of children born of war that is responsive to children's needs, sensitive to gender dynamics, and avoids re-traumatization. Following ICTJ's participation in the first annual SDG Conference in Uganda, we showed the country's Bureau of Statistics how a human rights-based approach could be applied in its data collection work. Finally, ICTJ has become a key source of information related

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to transitional justice in Uganda, with our Op-Ed in the Daily Monitor reaching 1.6 million online readers and our social media campaign to disseminate our CSRV study (conducted jointly with our partners) having a reach of 53.1 million.

Supporting Ugandan Survivors to Lead Change

Transitional justice must be participatory to become transformative. Thus, in every country where ICTJ has worked, we have always partnered with victims of human rights violations to ensure that solutions are reflective their needs, experiences, and aspirations.

With support from the Wellspring Philanthropic Foundation, ICTJ recently tested a new approach to co-creation by providing small grants and mentorship to three women-led survivor groups to design and implement projects they believed contributed to a reparative process for survivors. The three organizations—Watyeki Gen (WKG), the Women’s Advocacy Network (WAN), and Golden Women Vision in Uganda (GWVU)—designed a range of activities, including music and artistic initiatives aimed at sensitizing Ugandans about the stigma victims endure; strategic advocacy for interim reparations with local and national authorities; and skills training for the most vulnerable children born of war.

Watyeki Gen, which provided the training for children born of war, is an organization that primarily supports the reintegration of children born of war through a holistic process that involves helping them to trace their families, providing them with counseling, undertaking community sensitization campaigns to address the stigma they face, and building their skills to become financially independent. Under the project, Watyeki Gen trained over 25 young people on crafts and sandal making, business operations, and financial management. Speaking about the impact of the grant, Watyeki Gen’s Executive Director Angela Atim said, “it has allowed us to support youth that we could not have supported otherwise. [...] Because of the training, the youth have gained skills to support themselves and their families.” For these young people, many of whom have not finished their education, providing them with training and materials to start small businesses has given them a lifeline to lead independent lives and reintegrate into society.

Providing direct support to local organizations like Watyeki Gen can help to restore the agency of victims and survivors and signal that their views and experiences are important in finding lasting solutions. In Angela’s words, “the grant has given us confidence in ourselves, and this motivates us to work harder because it is a sign that there are people who trust us and appreciate our work. Such grants also build the trust that the community has in our work.” Concerns about the ability of local organizations to absorb, properly utilize, and account for resources can be addressed by channeling resources through organizations like ICTJ, which have both the requisite management systems and existing relationships with survivor groups.

By providing local organizations with mentorship alongside financial support, these organizations can increase their capacity and become more confident in proposing solutions and pursuing avenues of financial support that they might have otherwise shied away from. Angela confirmed this, noting that “the grant has been a good learning point for us. Whenever we get feedback, we are learning, and we know we can perform well if other donors are open to supporting us.” Replicating such an approach in other contexts would support effective, practical, and context-specific solutions to global challenges.

After Russia's initial attempts to capture Kyiv failed, Russian forces retreated and reinforced their operations in the eastern part of **Ukraine**. Russia captured the strategic city of Mariupol, where civilians were targeted and indiscriminately attacked and essential buildings, including a maternity hospital, were hit. In summer 2022, Russia took control of various ports, disrupting food supply chains. In September, Ukrainian forces reclaimed some territory in the Kharkiv region, while Russia announced the annexation of four regions in eastern Ukraine after holding disputed independence referendums. In October, Russia began a new military operation across various regions of the country. According to OHCHR, over 6,000 civilians have died and over 9,000 have been wounded since the invasion began, though the numbers are thought to be much higher. Essential infrastructure has been damaged, and millions have been forced to flee Ukraine or relocate to other parts of the country. In response, officials in Ukraine and members of the international community have launched multiple—and unprecedentedly expansive—efforts to investigate these atrocities. Most, however, narrowly focus on criminal prosecution and often overlook the immediate needs and perspectives of victims. Over the past year, ICTJ has continued to closely monitor the situation on the ground, and we have conducted extensive outreach to the international community and local civil society organizations to discuss possible ways forward for addressing accountability in Ukraine. We also produced a briefing paper, "[Reflections on Victim-Centered Accountability in Ukraine](#)," which examines the various criminal justice-related investigations taken by Ukraine and the international community to respond to the many human rights violations committed in the country and highlights how little emphasis these efforts have placed on addressing the consequences of the violations that victims have endured. The paper explores other potential avenues for centering the needs of victims, such as providing victims with urgent assistance and future reparations as well as using truth seeking to create an impartial record of the conflict.

Over the past year, there has been growing momentum for reparations initiatives at city and state levels across the **United States**, including in California; Maryland; Palm Springs, California; Providence, Rhode Island; and other localities. Despite this progress, ICTJ also noted an increasing backlash to racial justice initiatives more generally, with laws being passed in several states that ban the discussion of racism and divisively frame the discussion around questions of eligibility. The threat of constitutional challenges also remains for reparations policies that are race-based and thus could be found in violation of the 14th Amendment. Given this backlash, last year ICTJ solidified our partnerships with civil society organizations working on reparations in the United States. We enabled these organizations to learn from and support each other and learn about reparations initiatives in other countries, including by convening a Reparations Conference in Washington, DC that brought these organizations together. In Africatown, Alabama, ICTJ partnered with the African American Redress Network to revive the town's Lantern Walk tradition, which brought community members and local government officials together in the struggle for survival, recognition, and reparative justice. In Vermont, in May 2022 the legislature passed a law to create a truth and reconciliation commission, which incorporated several of the suggestions that ICTJ provided

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“Transitional justice, as they told us in a previous training workshop, is amnesty for criminals. Now, we know what transitional justice is. I am very happy to participate.”

— A Sudanese participant in an ICTJ workshop and the father of a child killed in the violence

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(e.g., paying commissioners and staff and selecting commissioners through an independent panel). The head of our US Program later served as part of the selection committee panel. Finally, as mentioned above, ICTJ published a new report examining historical injustices in the United States, emphasizing the need for systemic reforms, and highlighting insights from the experiences of truth commissions in other countries. Our work in the United States last year reached over 220 direct beneficiaries, 67% of whom were women and over 70% of whom reported an increase in their capacity to pursue and implement their demands.

While countries in the **Western Balkans** affected by the 1990-2001 conflicts have been able to economically develop and build stronger institutions, the legacy of conflicts continue to shape social relations and regional politics. Over the past two decades, numerous initiatives to deal with the region's past have heavily focused on criminal prosecution and institutional reform. While these are vital to transitions from conflict, they are not enough alone to build trust among citizens and transform societal relations. Despite efforts to locate missing persons, around 10,000 people remain missing, contributing to additional trauma for families and communities. Civil society-led initiatives range widely, focusing on documentation, truth seeking, and memory preservation, but their transformational impact has been limited due to their narrow scope and small scale as well as ethno-nationalist politics and widespread denial about war crimes. Many victims, especially women, face an increasingly difficult environment to document and share their experiences, find truth, and obtain redress. Over the past year, ICTJ partnered with PAX and Integra to empower victims' groups in Kosovo (New Social Initiative) North Macedonia (Peace Action), and Serbia (Civic Initiatives) to implement victim-led transitional justice initiatives in the region. Together, we strengthened their institutional capacities as well as their legitimacy and advocacy at the national and regional levels. Nearly 90% of our beneficiaries reported an increase in their ability to pursue their demands, and their initiatives were referenced 170 times in the media. Our beneficiaries also reported 15 instances in which they advocated for transitional justice processes directly with government representatives. ICTJ also strengthened Kosovo's forthcoming national strategy on transitional justice by providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Justice on incorporating inputs from public consultations and existing legal frameworks on human rights and victims' rights. The strategy is expected to be finalized this year. However, it is worth noting that justice-related work will now carry an increased political risk given the recent flaring tensions between Kosovo and Serbia.

A UN-brokered ceasefire between **Yemen's** internationally recognized government and the Houthi rebels took effect in April 2022, but the warring parties failed to reach an agreement to extend the truce before it expired last October. Overall, the truce reduced the intensity of fighting, but all parties continued to commit human rights abuses. Also in April, Yemen's Interim President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi transferred his powers to an eight-member Presidential Leadership Council, which was sworn in that month and has authority over the army and the appointment of governors and other key positions. While the Council represents many parties, it is not cohesive enough for effective decision-making given its members' varied agendas and risks not too weak to reach an agreement with the Houthis. Despite these ongoing challenges, local and international human rights groups' documentation of violations, an essential component for future accountability and reconciliation

“The work you all have done in support of the Lantern Walk has done more to bring us together and bring attention to our community than any of the other recent events, including the launch of the Netflix film.”

— A participant in the Lantern Walk

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measures, remains robust. Yet these organizations have not collaborated with each other across issues and geographies, excluding in particular those groups working outside the capital with minimal resources. In response, ICTJ created a space for victims' groups focusing on different types of violations (e.g., torture, bombings, detentions) and different regions to come together in Beirut to learn from each other, share their needs and demands, and network with each other. We provided these groups with capacity building support focusing on relevant experiences in other countries. The participants came together despite their differences, overcoming various barriers and political polarization to form a diverse and inclusive network of Yemeni victims' groups. Thanks to our convening, the members of this new, informal network decided to make a joint submission to the Human Rights Council as part of this year's Universal Periodic Review. In addition to the critical work of Yemen's civil society sector, the country's National Commission for Investigation into Allegations of Human Rights Violations has continued its investigation of violation of human rights and humanitarian law. The Commission has documented over 23,000 violations and referred over 5,000 cases to the team of judges assigned by the Public Prosecutor to complete the investigations and prosecutions, but thus far no verdicts have been issued largely due to the weakness of Yemen's judicial system. This year, our technical assistance and capacity building support to the members of the Commission resulted in the European Union considering supporting a mental health and psychosocial support referral system for the Commission.

ICTJ also responded to ad hoc requests for analysis and technical assistance to domestic and international stakeholders as well as monitored developments in **Liberia, the Maldives, Mali, Myanmar, Georgia, the Philippines, and Venezuela.**

Table 1. Transitional Justice Solutions, Informed by ICTJ, Implemented in FY23

COUNTRY	TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE SOLUTION
Australia	1. Victoria State Yoo-rook Justice Commission, Yoorrook with Purpose: Interim Report (June 2022)
Colombia	2. Law 2272 of 2022 (Total Peace Law), Article 2 3. Implementation of a dialogue with former members of demobilized armed groups based on: experiences of recognition of responsibilities within the Truth Commission mandate and on the recommendations for non-repetition. 4. Implementation of a committee to monitor the implementation of the Truth Commission's recommendations (August 2022)
Ethiopia	5. Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the Somali Region State
The Gambia	6. National Human Rights Commission, Annual Activity Report (December 2022)
United States	7. Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission Bill H.96
Yemen	8. Yemeni National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations to Human Rights, Tenth Periodic Report of the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (2022)

Strategic Communications

ICTJ's communications team is critical to amplifying the impact of our country, policy, and research work. They widen our reach through maintaining relationships with media outlets and communications partners, targeting our information dissemination so the right material gets to the right stakeholders, and sharing the stories that matter to raise the voices of victims. They also support our country teams with technical advice and assistance on communications with institutions, the media, and civil society. Major campaigns this year included supporting the Syria program in promoting the animated film, "[Tomorrow We Continue](#)," which was included in numerous film festivals, and coordination and coverage of the International Hip Hop Encounter in Bogota.

Throughout FY23, the communications team continued to focus on the implementation of improved tools and processes to make our knowledge dissemination more efficient, in alignment with the *Going Digital* strategic priority. They finalized the new website and resource library, and designed and launched a new newsletter tool for our website. The new website and resource library, which brings together all ICTJ's content from the last 20 years and allows users to easily search the collection by type, country, topic, and keyword, was formally launched to the public in January 2023 through ICTJ's In Focus and World Report [newsletters](#). The communications team supported ongoing global advocacy efforts, for example, as part of the social campaign around the International Day for the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, managed on Twitter, Facebook, and our newly relaunched Instagram account. The team produced two coordinating pieces on Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace's acknowledgement hearing on the judicial case on taking hostages, serious deprivation of liberty, and other concurrent crimes (known as Case 01), "[The Road to Acknowledgment in Colombia](#)," and an accompanying slideshow "[In Colombia, Victims and Ex-Combatants See Each Other's Humanity](#)."

In an innovative and impactful event, the team also designed and implemented audiovisual aspects of a special event, The Road to Repair, which included ICTJ's photographic project [Blood on the](#)



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In Baltimore, Maryland, survivors, descendants, and activists gather at the site where King Johnson was murdered on Christmas Day in 1911 for a soil collection ceremony in his honor. A soil collection ceremony is an emotional event: Participants gather to remember the victim and fill jars with earth taken from the site of the murder. (André Chung/ICTJ)

[Root](#) with photographer André Chung. The event brought together experts on racial injustice globally with members of the legal community to discuss lessons learned from truth commissions around the world. In FY23, ICTJ's website averaged about 250,000 unique users. This figure represents about 8.7% less than the previous year, which we attribute to organic variance and a decrease in social media and original editorial activity from our communications team due to competing priorities. We continued to produce and disseminate content for other forms of media that are context-specific and best placed to reach the right audiences. In The Gambia, for example, radio programs figure heavily in our program activities as this is a key source of information for Gambians, while in the MENA region we focus our outreach on

Facebook as this is the most prominently used social media platform. As the rapid digitalization of our world continues unencumbered, ICTJ's strategic communications activities must stay abreast of trends and maintain our presence as a trusted provider of information and expertise about peace and justice.

Key Results

Transitional justice processes and their results vary greatly from context to context. Factors such as the institutional capacity of the State, political will among governments, coalitions' strength for pushing for reform, societal endorsement, pressing financial or humanitarian needs, security constraints, and the role of domestic and international civil society actors all influence progress and results.



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Landmark Victories

- *Societies implement responsive and gender-sensitive solutions to address legacies of massive human rights violations and lay the foundations for peace, justice, and inclusion.*

The implementation of the Peace Accords institutions in Colombia is one of the greatest efforts to provide access to justice and accountability currently done by any country in the world. It also constitutes the culmination of years of work by the ICTJ program in Colombia supporting successive Colombian governments and institutions and playing a key role as an enabler and supporter of the process.

Official figures provided by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) indicate that by March 2023 the JEP has received 979 reports from victims' organizations and state institutions, 13,665 pledges commitment and concluded 9 public acknowledgment hearings. These processes led by the JEP contributed to 338,615 of Colombians gaining increasing access to justice as accredited victims at the jurisdiction.⁸ In comparison to the same period in 2022, this meant an increase in terms of access to justice for 9,280 Colombians recognized as victims at the JEP.⁹ ICTJ's support has been paramount and has been acknowledged by magistrates and victims as well as in its official documentation (see further evidence of contribution in the "New Forms of Accountability" and country sections above). ICTJ's program in Colombia is also supporting the Search Unit and civil society organizations involved in the search for the missing, already achieving dramatic results (see next section below).

⁸ Special Jurisdiction for Peace, Progress report updated on March 31, 2023. Information retrieved from: www.jep.gov.co/jepcifras/JEP-en-Cifras-marzo-31-2023.pdf

⁹ Special Jurisdiction for Peace, Progress report of March 25, 2022. Information retrieved from: www.jep.gov.co/jepcifras/JEP%20en%20cifras%20-%20marzo%2025%20de%202022.pdf

The Gambia is another jurisdiction where the transitional justice process is in the implementation phase, as the government moves on to engage in consultations to produce a reparations policy based on a bill drafted in 2022—with ICTJ’s inputs—to create special courts, develop a prosecutorial strategy and conduct overall reforms. ICTJ’s program in The Gambia has played a crucial role, both in supporting government efforts since early in the transition, as well as becoming a bridge-builder and information hub for donors and international organizations coming in to work in the country, contributing to an environment of harmonization and collaboration. As mentioned in the country section, one key milestone in ICTJ’s work last year was consultations that ICTJ led with the Ministry of Justice, taking up recommendations from over 200 victims (141 of those were women).

Transitional justice processes have the potential to trigger profound transformations at the societal level and address massive human rights violations in ways that regular policies and institutions cannot achieve. These processes provide effective access to justice to thousands of people, especially people who have suffered the worst human rights violations, and who belong to vulnerable groups including women, minority ethnic groups and religions, people living in rural areas, and so on. In the past year ICTJ’s efforts contributed to increasing direct access to justice for an estimated figure of over 16,000 people.¹⁰

Supporting Those Who Fight for Justice

- *Victims and civil society have the necessary knowledge, capacity, and support to advance their demands for justice.*

During fiscal year 2023, ICTJ conducted over 150 capacity building activities, strategy discussions, and similar actions to support the work of our civil society partners. This output represents an increase of about 10% compared to the previous year. ICTJ’s capacity building activities reached over 4,000 beneficiaries directly, in at least 18 countries. In many cases, our partners replicated and multiplied the support we provided; in Sudan and Syria for example, our trainees reached out and provided training to other civil society organizations.

“ICTJ is always behind us and supporting us all through the work we are doing and have played a big role in building our capacity.”

— An Ugandan partner

Quantitative data collected by ICTJ’s design, monitoring, and evaluation team indicates that about 80% of our civil society partners report that they have improved their ability to pursue justice and their demands after ICTJ’s support.

In Colombia, ICTJ’s partners assisted the families of persons deemed missing in several regions of the country. Plataforma Sur established a regional network of 250 searching families in 20 municipalities of the Huila department, documenting over 100 cases for the Search Unit. Both Fundación Progresar and the Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights have provided reports to the Search Unit by documenting over 120 cases of victims of forced disappearance in key regions in Colombia.

¹⁰ This includes over 9700 from the search unit and SJP cases in Colombia, 214 from consultations in The Gambia, over 5,000 from documentation in Yemen, plus over 1,000 people in Uganda (victims of the Ongwen case).

Sudanese civil society supported by ICTJ were able to reach out and train nearly a thousand other activists and groups, covering 15 of 18 regions in Sudan (a workshop covering the other three was done outside this reporting period). Libyan women groups supported by ICTJ formed a coalition and significantly impacted the discussion about transitional justice in their country. Ugandan women groups supported by ICTJ developed their research skills, conducted a study on opportunities for reparations for survivors of CRSV among their peers and presented their findings to policymakers. In the Balkans and Syria, organizations supported by ICTJ synthesized the experience of victims in a theatre play and a short, animated film respectively and went on to win dozens of awards, reaching thousands of people in several countries beyond their borders.

ICTJ's access, position and prestige as an international organization and thought leader in the field also allowed our partners and beneficiaries, representatives of marginalized groups, grass roots organizations, families of victims and civil society, to reach out and speak up directly with policymakers at high level fora and government instances nationally and internationally.¹¹

This reporting period, ICTJ also played a role connecting donors with grassroots organizations whose size, capacity or lack of networks does not normally allow them to access international funds. In countries like The Gambia, Colombia, Syria, and the Balkans, ICTJ enabled local organizations by providing strategic guidance and capacity building in terms of reporting, financial and program tasks, communications and monitoring and evaluation.

ICTJ has also helped build bridges among organizations that oftentimes work in isolation and competition. Thanks to ICTJ's support, civil society partners organized networks of victims, women's coalitions and other forms of association. Notable examples from this reporting period are in Libya, Armenia and the Gambia (all of these regarding women groups), plus in Yemen and in Colombia.

Likewise, during this reporting period ICTJ increased its efforts to add value, leveraging its position and international reach to foster instances of South-South collaboration and learning, and the development of international movements. Notable instances of such work include collaboration between Mothers in Black in Armenia with South African counterparts;¹² women groups from Tunis and Libya working together; and sharing of lessons between Yemeni, Syrian, and Colombian activists, among others.

Enhanced Processes, Increasing Participation

- *State and other institutions successfully put forward and implement proposals (laws, reforms, programs, or institutions) to advance transitional justice solutions that are gender*

¹¹ For example, Syrian families engaging with the US Department of State and United Nations officials, Ugandan victims with the ICC and national policymakers, Afghan activists informing donor policies, etc.

¹² Mothers in Black (and some fathers) are parents Armenian sons conscripted into the army and who were killed in non-combat situations. Their killings were dismissed by the former authoritarian government (overthrown in 2018) as "suicides." The families have been seeking truth and justice, some for more than 20 years.

“Through this partnership, a very important Syrian civil society organization coalition model was presented. It is considered an important experience in civil work through its ability to plan jointly, balanced implementation, exchange experiences and skills, and a high sense of social responsibility.”

— A Syrian partner

sensitive, take account of the context, and respond to the needs of rights-holders and the demands of victims and civil society.

In 2022-2023, ICTJ provided comparative experience, accompaniment, and technical advice to duty-bearers. These efforts resulted in tangible, concrete progress in transitional justice processes in the form of more than 27 draft policies, norms, practice guides, and other tools created by those stakeholders. ICTJ staff also produced at least a dozen technical documents, including advisory memos, background papers, and amicus briefs, that informed the decisions of government officials in 11 different countries.

Examples this year included innovative draft bills in Colombia regarding mechanisms for negotiating with criminal organizations and participation of civil society in the search for the missing, and key contributions for a differential approach to the search of LGBTQ+ persons. Another key contribution of our program has been the inclusion of the concept of organized armed structures in the [Total Peace Law](#). ICTJ also supported and provided drafts to the governments of the Gambia regarding reparations and consultations, as well as providing key technical inputs to the governments of Libya, South Sudan and Ethiopia, contributing to the development of a strategy for transitional justice, plus several draft laws that establish mechanisms such as the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) in South Sudan, a roadmap for documenting children born of war for National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) in Uganda, or the California reparations task force in the USA.

Other significant achievements in supporting duty bearers include ICTJ's contribution to the discussion on government efforts towards transparency and [asset recovery](#) in Armenia; [joint comments](#) with UNSMIL to enhance the draft law on reconciliation in Libya which were presented at the Security council and to the Presidential Council; as well as significant contributions to resolutions, reports, laws and policies at the international level that will be presented in a following section.

When feedback is collected, policymakers and stakeholders point to the relevant expertise and practical approach of ICTJ's advice. We have been acknowledged as trusted experts and have received increased requests for support from key stakeholders such as OHCHR, the governments of Ethiopia and South Sudan, ad hoc institutions such as the Colombian Truth Commission, the legislature of the US state of Vermont, and the Yoo-Rook Truth Commission of the Australian state of Victoria.

In 2022-2023 ICTJ facilitated over 35 convenings where grassroots activists, families, victims and women groups directly engaged with duty-bearers, presenting their demands and perspectives, and discussing transitional justice solutions.

Changing the Narrative

- *Public discourse provides a more conducive environment for addressing the causes and consequences of massive human rights violations.*

ICTJ's mission relies on our ability to defend the right to truth. Narratives must be rights-based and inclusive and acknowledge violations to prevent re-victimization and denial of violence. Our political analyses have taught us that successfully addressing root causes of violence or authoritarianism in the long term relies on a public narrative that supports justice and a society that endorses and demands transformative processes. As digital communication becomes the primary form of information sharing and knowledge dissemination, transitional justice practice needs to adapt to the digital sphere.

Following recommendations from external evaluations,¹³ ICTJ has developed effective partnerships with media in the countries where we work, cultivating relationships and complementing our technical expertise with the platforms that allow for more effective knowledge dissemination and reaching massive audiences outside of the “usual suspects” of civil society organizations, academia and the international development community. In 2022-2023 ICTJ organized workshops with journalists in South Sudan, the Gambia, Uganda, and Colombia, developing ties with key individuals and organizations in the constituencies where we work, such as the journalist Maria Jimena Duzán in Colombia or the newspaper the Daily Monitor in Uganda.

Redoubled efforts in communications and effective partnerships have enabled ICTJ to reach millions of people. For example, this past year newspaper articles in Uganda reached 1.6 million online readers, whereas social media engagement campaign about the report on Conflict Related Sexual Violence in collaboration with the Global Survivors Fund had a reach of over 53.12 million people and over 2 million “mentions.” Radio programs and TV interventions in Uganda, the Gambia, and Colombia had massive impact (1 million, 59,000, and 5 million people respectively). Following a line of work that ICTJ has been developing for years, in 2022-2023 ICTJ supported partners developing artistic interventions geared towards increasing awareness and communicating the experiences, demands and priorities of victims in a manner that is more easily accessible for mainstream audiences. As mentioned above, ICTJ’s Syria partners produced the short film “Tomorrow We Continue,” which won several awards in international film festivals. Afghan organization AHRDO developed the documentary film about their exodus after the fall of the country to the Taliban “Memories in a Box,” and ICTJ’s partner INTEGRA produced the theater play “Father and Father,” regarding the experience of the families of the missing, which went on to win over a record 12 awards in Kosovo. These works are not stand-alone products. They are part of a strategy that was built from the ground up in partnership with grassroots organizations in a participatory process coordinated by ICTJ and our partners.¹⁴ Initial analysis has indicated impact beyond the recognition from awards and viewers, such as changes in attitude regarding topics of human rights among key celebrities in the artistic community, as well as prominently centering victim experiences in the public arena via media coverage that these initiatives receive. In 2022, we developed methodology for measuring the impact of innovative artistic initiatives such as these, and we intend to ramp up our data collection and analysis in the following year.

“We target mainstream audiences, as well as the communities we are already working with. We want to develop audiences that come to the theatre but don’t have our values.”

— Kushtrim Koliqi, director of INTEGRA and playwright (from a December 2022 interview with *The Theater Times*)

Better-Informed Policy Decisions

- *Practitioners and policymakers at the international level have better information and expanded capacity to advance responsive, gender-sensitive, and context-specific solutions.*

This past year, ICTJ’s policy efforts informed policymakers and duty bearers at the international level, and directly contributed to at least 14 policies, resolutions and proposals. Key among them

¹³ Agency for Peacebuilding (2021), External evaluation of the Policy-Influencing Interventions of the ICTJ.

¹⁴ The play “Father and Father” was developed in partnership with a consortium led by Pax for Peace that includes ICTJ, INTEGRA and NSI (Kosovo), Peace Action (North Macedonia), and Civic Initiatives (Serbia).

is the UN Human Rights Council’s September 2022 Resolution on transitional justice and sustainable peace and development (ICTJ’s contribution is described in the “leveraging policy for action” section above). ICTJ’s expert analysis also contributed greatly to reports by international stakeholders regarding Ethiopia, Sudan, and Syria, including discussions leading to a mechanism for the missing. ICTJ is a member of the consortium, the Facility on Justice in Conflict and Transition, which provided analysis and expert advice to EU delegations.¹⁵ ICTJ directly provided analysis and supported the role of EU delegations in Liberia and Ukraine.

ICTJ staff also had a leading role in broader discussions regarding transitional justice and peacebuilding. During the year, ICTJ staff presented and led discussions in over 30 conferences, discussion panels and other fora convened by international partners including academia, UN institutions and governments in Africa, Europe, and the Americas. These discussions dealt with issues of transitional justice but also topics such as rule of law, peacebuilding, racial justice, mediation and gender equality. Qualitative evidence collected includes reports of perceived high quality, utility, and relevance of ICTJ’s inputs. ICTJ experts also routinely responded to requests for information and advice from a diverse and active network of practitioners who effectively shape the landscape for transitional justice practice.

Table 2 presents a list of policies, procedures, resolutions, and proposals in 2022-2023 that include, reflect, or acknowledge ICTJ inputs.

Table 2. ICTJ’s Contributions to International Policies, Procedures, Resolutions, and Proposals, FY23

1. UNCHRSS, Report to the UNSC, South Sudan
2. UN General Assembly, Report of the Secretary-General, Missing People in the Syrian Arab Republic (August 2022)
3. UNITAMS, Final Communique of the Conference, Final Phase of the Political Process National Conference: Towards Building a Sudanese Model for Transitional Justice (March 16-20, 2023)
4. Security Council Report, Transitional Justice: What Role for the UN Security Council (October 2022)
5. ICC, Judgment of the Appeals Chamber in The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen (December 2022)
6. Reparations, Responsibility, and Victimhood in Transitional Societies, Belfast Guidelines on Reparations in Post-Conflict Societies (August 2022) ^a
7. UN, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-recurrence, Fabián Salvioli, Sustainable Development Goals and Transitional Justice: Leaving No Victim Behind , (July 2022) ^b
8. UN General Assembly, Human Rights Council, Access to Justice, Accountability and Remedies for Victims of Mercenaries, Mercenary-Related Actors and Private Military and Security Companies (July 2022)
<i>(continued)</i>

¹⁵ Members of the facility include ICTJ, CitPax, International Idea, Conciliation Resources, and Swisspeace.

9. UN General Assembly, Human Rights Council, Human Rights and Transitional Justice Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
10. UNHR, EHRC/OHCHR's Joint Advisory Note and Key Findings Stemming from Community Consultations on Transitional Justice to Inform the Development of a Transitional Justice Policy Framework for Ethiopia (December 2022)
11. UNDP-UN Women, Women's Meaningful Participation in Transitional Justice (March 2022)
12. Justice Action Coalition, Justice 2023: Pivoting to People-Centered Justice (May 2022)
13. UN General Assembly, Human Rights Council, Human Rights and Transitional Justice (A/HRC/51/L.33, September 2022)
NOTES: ^a To be noted that ICTJ contributed during several stages of the preparation of the Guidelines, including during the country consultations, meetings held in Bogota, New York, and Belfast, several virtual discussion sessions on specific topics, and others. ^b ICTJ contributed on behalf of the Working Group on TJ-SDG16+. Our assessment tracked evidence of ICTJ's contributions to the final version of the document as well as contributions by Interpeace and Impunity Watch.

Lessons Learned

Challenging times for justice require agility, flexibility, partnerships, innovative ideas and reflection. ICTJ is committed to remaining responsive to ever changing needs of our beneficiaries and sharing our insights with our partners to ensure that the practice of transitional justice responds to the needs and priorities of victims.

One of the main purposes of our efforts to collect and use data is learning and improving the effectiveness of our interventions, and disseminating insights that can benefit all practitioners, partners and donors in the field. Below we share some of the key insights of the past year:

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- Thanks to core funding from strategic partners, ICTJ has been able to implement an adaptive management approach and respond quickly and flexibly to emerging situations. This includes responding quickly to demands for analysis and information, as well as addressing and mitigating risk in the face of volatile situations (such as the earthquake in Turkey/Syria,

the reignition of conflict in Sudan or developments in Ukraine, Yemen or Afghanistan). In the past year, this approach proved beneficial as we were able to develop new work to respond to emerging needs for example, conducting regional workshops that we identified as necessary in Sudan, enabling families of Syrian victims to travel to the US to engage with the State Department to discuss their policy and potential accountability measures, and engaging in peace process discussions in Colombia and helping relocate our partners out of Afghanistan the year prior. One key lesson for our organization is that such an approach is only possible if our work is grounded in strategic, multiannual partnerships that include flexible funding allowing us to focus on results rather than outputs or activities.

“Most funds and support goes to the big organizations and the well-known ones while no one looks at small organizations working inside Yemen.”

— A Yemeni civil society representative

- Inclusion and diversity have been long time commitments of ICTJ’s approach; victims and survivors are often members of marginalized populations including e.g. ethnic minorities, displaced persons and refugees, rural women with dependents, those with disabilities, etc. In the past year ICTJ’s programs in Libya, Tunisia, Uganda, Syria and Yemen shared strategies used to enable participation and foster inclusive settings for all the populations we work with. Such measures include accommodations for those with vision impairments, ensuring activities considered cultural norms and sensitivities, securing interpreters with knowledge of transitional justice and peacebuilding for events and activities, and providing childcare

services and travel stipends to allow for women from remote regions to attend and be able to participate. We found that oftentimes accommodations were not accurately costed into project plans and budgets and as a result ICTJ and our partners had to shoulder the cost of these efforts. It can be difficult to accurately assess accommodation needs as beneficiaries may not be aware of what accommodations are available to them or how best their needs can be met, and getting a true count of individuals with e.g. disabilities or other needs can be difficult as these issues are not always voluntarily discussed. ICTJ is making a concerted effort to disaggregate data along dimensions such as disability and ethnicity to get a better sense of all the needs of our beneficiaries and will aim to include access and accommodation as a key part of all of our early work planning processes so that there is no chance that anyone can be left out.



Aminah Kholani, founding member of Families for Freedom in Syria (center left), and Gloria Gómez, leader of the Relatives of Victims of Forced Disappearance Movement and director of the Association of Families of the Detained and Disappeared in Colombia (center right), embrace during an emotional moment of the panel discussion. (Diana Alsip/ICTJ)

- In the past year ICTJ has seen the benefit of fostering multiple inter-program exchanges, including experiences of collaboration and cross-learning among ICTJ's teams (Syria, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, Lebanon, and Colombia). A few examples include the discovery and application of a methodology for oral stories in Lebanon (via a partnership with German organization ForumZFD) and its extension to work in Libya and Tunisia. Other such example are exchanges among women organizations, or the sharing of lessons learned from the successes of the Colombia case with activists from Syria and government officials in Yemen.
- Another example of cross learning and a key development in advancing the field alongside our strategic priorities is the increasing importance of mental health and psychosocial support in transitional justice practice. Current development of good practices in this area emerged from a combination of targeted research collaboration and support from experts from partner organizations and learning from pilot experiences that were conducted and then shared across programs. In the past year we have witnessed the development of practical applications and sharing of experiences from Sudan to Syria, but also for our program in Yemen, The Gambia, and Colombia.¹⁶
- Learning from our experience with our previous strategic plan 2018-2022, in which ICTJ took on a more prominent role as a sub grantee and go-between for donors and grassroots organizations resulted in a documented analysis of our experience in Colombia and recommendations that have been applied in the past fiscal year. Lessons learned that are

¹⁶ In Macro case 01, its official concluding resolution -which is like a pre-sentence- on 24th November 2022 mentions ICTJ's work in the preparatory sessions (p. 16, para. 44) as follows: "the Chamber advanced in the preparation for the public acknowledgment hearing with the support of the International Center for Transitional Justice. This support allowed the magistrate to apply the restorative approach in the preparation of victims and defendants with a psychosocial perspective."

applied currently include a more involved and well-defined approach to subgranting, with ICTJ increasing the scope of its role in developing the capacity of our partners. ICTJ adds value to partnerships by providing strategic views and technical support but also by providing skills that improve compliance, including financial reporting and best practices, monitoring and evaluation and other organizational capacities. Such an approach is already in place in our programs in Colombia, Uganda and moving forward in Libya.

Institutional Progress

ICTJ's continued adaptation to ongoing economic shifts helped us remain financially stable, balancing our budget, receiving clean audits, undergoing external evaluations, and maintaining our GuideStar Platinum Transparency Seal, the highest available third-party accountability and transparency rating for nonprofits. The recent Internal Management and Control Review with KPMG has not identified critical risks or issues and produced several valuable recommendations aligned with our strategic priority to further bolster our internal processes as an agile and modern organization.



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We continued our work to widen our network of partners and supporters, including by developing relationships with international law firms and undertaking a dedicated assessment to better target our foundation prospect research and expand our portfolio. ICTJ produced a mapping of board contacts serving on other non-profit boards in related fields to support our board development and individual philanthropy objectives. In addition, we launched new work on representation of ICTJ and transitional justice to funding sectors outside of our immediate sphere of policymakers and practitioners.

Our 2022 Annual Roundtable, one of ICTJ's most important global annual convenings, was presented as a hybrid event and delivered a record participation of more than 70 guests. Representatives of donor states, foundations and multilateral institutions joined us from Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. For the first time, representatives from civil society joined the event as panelists, sharing their perspectives directly with representatives of the funding spheres.

ICTJ's Strategic Partners provide political and major multi-year financial support to our organization. They are:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
- Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

The following table provides a list of other major donors to our organization.

Table 3. ICTJ’s Major Donors, FY23

Governments	Foundations and Individuals (\$10,000+)
Republic of Austria, Austrian Development Agency Global Affairs Canada Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland Republic of France, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Foreign Office Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United Nations Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency Swiss Confederation, represented by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs United States Department of State, Office of Global Criminal Justice	Anonymous Alice and F. William Barnett Charina Endowment Fund Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Cordaid Emily and Rahim Moloo Humanity United Joan & Michael Spero Family Charitable Fund J.M. Kaplan Fund Kimball Foundation Legal Horizons Foundation Mai Family Foundation New York Community Trust/ B. and U. Tenny Fund O’Hagan Family Fund Open Society Foundations Skoll Foundation Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
Multilateral Organizations	Other Organizations
Democratic Governance Facility The European Commission United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) United Nations Development Programme United Nations Peacebuilding Fund	Gibson Dunn Global Survivor’s Fund International and Ibero-American Foundation National Endowment for Democracy University of Michigan, United States Yoorrook Justice Commission, Australia

Annex A: Publications and Selected Editorial Content

Reports



[Truth, Reconciliation, and Redress for Racial Injustice in the United States: Insights from Experiences of Commissions Around the World](#)
(December 2022)



[Stubborn for Our Gender: The Gambia Study on Opportunities for Reparations for Victims and Survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence](#) (December 2022)



[We Cannot Survive on Promises Alone: Uganda Study on Opportunities for Reparations for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence](#)
(October 2022)



[Civil Society-Led Truth-Seeking Initiatives: Expanding Opportunities for Acknowledgment and Redress](#) (April 2022)

Briefing Papers

- [Reflections on Victim-Centered Accountability in Ukraine](#) (February 2023)

Expert's Choice

- March 2023** Veronika Hoelker and Naryi Vargas, [Colombia's Total Peace Conundrum](#)
- February 2023** Kelli Muddell, [Women's Rights at the Heart of Justice and Democracy](#)
- January 2023** Cristián Correa, [New Hope for Political and Humanitarian Agreements in Venezuela](#)
- December 2022** Comms Dept., [The Expert's Choice 2022 Year in Review](#)
- November 2022** Iliara Martorelli, [With a Breakthrough Peace in Ethiopia, Now Is Time for Comprehensive Transitional Justice](#)
- October 2022** Maria Abrahamyan, [A Lasting Peace Deal Between Armenia and Azerbaijan Must Address Victims' Rights](#)
- September 2022** Nour El Bejjani, [A Blow to Hopes for Peace in Yemen](#)
- August 2022** Agatha Ndonga, [A Transition Postponed in South Sudan](#)
- July 2022** Virginie Ladisch, [Victims, Survivors, and Agents of Change: Reparations for Sexual and Gender-Based Violations](#)
- June 2022** Anna Myriam Roccatello, [In Ukraine, Justice for Victims Is More Than Criminal Accountability](#)
- May 2022** Ruben Carranza, [Under Marcos Again, What Lies Ahead for Filipinos](#)
- April 2022** Mohamed Suma, [Victims' Hope for Justice Postponed in the Central African Republic](#)

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