



AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES

France

Là où la défense n'a plus la parole

ACTION PLAN 2020



EDITORIAL

Dear friends,

It is our tradition to draw up each year the action plan for the next twelve months. Twelve months, just like the twelve labors once carried out by Hercules, in the quest for reparation for men's crimes and freedom.

Avocats Sans Frontières France teams will begin or continue seven projects in 2020. Four out of those will be new actions:

- **JUGE** (*Justice for survivors of gender-based violence*) in Mali, funded by the European Union.
- **ProFOTO** (*Promotion of prisoners fundamental rights and implementation of legal instruments for prevention against torture*), funded by Special Fund of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT).
- **IMPLIC** (*Implication and participation of actors for the protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty*) in Haiti, financed by the European Union Delegation in Haiti.
- **RECAJUD** (*Strengthening the capacity of the Civil Society in Cameroon for Access to the Justice for people in Detention*) in Cameroon, funded by the Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS).

In addition to the implementation of these new projects, many ongoing projects will continue. Whether in **Nigeria**, with actors from the criminal justice system and from prosecution for ill treatment and torture, in **Cambodia**, with women survivors of gender-based violence, or in **Greece**, with asylum seekers, **Avocats Sans Frontières France will once again this year raise the voice of human rights thanks to the longstanding and unfailing commitment of its active members.**

You will read in the following pages that next new year will be another year of strengthening long-standing projects for those who are in need of legal support to assert their rights in case of discrimination based on ethnic, religious or political reasons.

Finally, we continue to strengthen our work in new areas of intervention that are fundamental. It is essential to mention CSR, which is probably one of the major challenges of the upcoming decade particularly through the combination of economic activity and human rights guarantees.

As it is necessary to keep up interventions "where the defense no longer has a voice", we count on the support of each and every one of us. More particularly, we rely on the authorities and representatives of the legal profession as guarantors of the Enlightenment spirit, the original crucible of human rights values.

We would like to share our deepest gratitude to all those who show support to our actions and our commitments.



Co-Présidents Avocats Sans Frontières France

Me Vincent Fillola
Me Julien Pourquoié Kessas

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Avocats Sans Frontières France is an association of international solidarity, established under what is called “1901 French Law”. It aims at :

- Promoting access to law and fair justice for vulnerable people deprived of justice, arbitrarily detained or tortured
- Protecting any person deprived of a free and independent defense as well as human rights defenders threatened or assaulted in the exercise of their function
- Strengthening local actors’ capacity to act and autonomy in the defense and promotion of human rights (civil society and actors in the judicial system).

ASSOCIATION HISTORY

> 1998

Creation of ASF France by Me François Cantier, attorney at law.

1 Its original members founded Avocats Sans Frontières France in partnership with ASF Belgium : « Justice for All », acting in Rwanda. They were defending accused and victims of Rwandan genocide in front of domestic national courts. In 1999 ASF France has launched a similar project in Burundi.

> 1999 - 2002

2 A new project was carried out in Kosovo to defend Kosovars, Albanians and Serbs prosecuted for crimes against humanity or war crimes. The project helped training lawyers, judges and prosecutors to use new international legal instruments and also helped to promote access to justice through a system of legal advice.

> 1999 - 2009

3 ASF France intervened in Colombia work on cases of lawyers threatened or murdered due to their professional practice

> 2004

4 ASF France was born in Nigeria and implemented two projects : “Fight against death penalty” and “Fight against torture in custodies”. More than 700 torture cases have been handled in 10 years.

> 2006 - 2009

5 ASF France implemented a project on access to justice by setting up a lawyer network all over Cambodia. The project was renewed between 2010 and 2012.

> 2008

6 ASF France celebrates its 10th anniversary and launches the International Observatory of Endangered Lawyers.

> SINCE 2008

7 ASF France and ASF Mali set up a project on access to justice and the defense of arbitrary detained persons, reinforced by training courses on international legal instruments for criminal law professionals.

> 2009 - 2012

8 In French-speaking Africa, ASF France has set up technical and pedagogical training for lawyers and human rights defenders from 15 different countries.

> 2009 - 2016

9 In Laos, ASF France provides training for law student on international legal instruments and professional practices.

> SINCE 2010

10 ASF France takes out various actions in Cambodia : training of judicial personnel on international legal tools, access to law and justice for citizens, and defense of Red Khmer victims before the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). Since 2015, ASF France has been working in the Province of Battambang and in 2018, a project to fight gender-based violence has been launched.

> 2010 - 2014

ASF France and ASF Cameroon implemented a project to defend vulnerable people, including prisoners, providing a training to lawyers and judicial personnel. A similar project was implemented in Mali between 2013 and 2015, in partnership with ASF Mali.

> 2014 - 2016

ASF France carried out a project against Homophobia in Cameroon, to both raise awareness and/or train the media, religious authorities, criminal actors, civil society organizations on LGBTI's rights protection, as well as protect these rights in front of national courts.

> 2015

Defending the rights of migrants in Calais, France and in Greece.

> 2016

ASF France launched a project to protect women and minors victims of ill-treatment in Chad. At the end of 2016, ASF France is committed to support Ivorian human rights defenders who are threatened based on their professional duties.

> 2017

Me Vincent Fillola and Me Julien Pourquié Kessas were elected as co-Presidents ; Me François Cantier became honorary President of ASF France.

> 2019

ASF France has been working on new issues, especially the fight against extrajudicial executions and arbitrary detention in Nigeria. A new project aimed at providing legal support to asylum seekers on the island of Samos has also been set up.

> 2018

ASF France celebrates its 20th anniversary and decides to strengthen its support to the local partners in Ivory Coast, Mali, Nigeria, Chad and Cambodia. It also developed its action towards vulnerable groups, children, women and LGBTI people.

> 2020

ASF France will start four new projects : two in Mali, one in Cameroon and one in Haiti.

Along these projects, ASF France also took actions in specific cases, defending protectors or victims :

- **2002** : ASF France participates in the defense of Amina Lawal, a young Nigerian woman sentenced to death by stoning for adultery ; she was acquitted in September 2003.
- **2005-2007** : Defense of Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor in Libya.
- **2010** : Participation in the trial of Floribert Chebeya killers. He was a human rights defender in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **2012** : ASF France supports and works with Pakistani lawyers in the case of Asia Bibi, a young woman sentenced to death for blasphemy. At the end of 2018, following up on the acquittal and release of Asia Bibi, ASF France committed to the defense of her lawyer who has been threatened with death and forced to flee the country.
- **2018** : ASF France took part in the observation mission of the "Moria 35 trial": 35 asylum seekers arbitrarily arrested in 2017 in the Moria camp in Greece.

Several consultative status recognize and reinforce the importance of our actions: within the UN Economic and Social Council (2004), the African Union (2012), and the International Organization of La Francophonie (2005). In 2018, ASF France was elected to the Chair of the "Human Rights" section and Vice-Chair at the International NGOs Conference within the OIF.



PROCAT : FIGHT AGAINST TORTURE

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION



In Nigeria, despite efforts by the federal government to reform the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) and the enactment of a law prohibiting acts of torture in December 2017, torture continues to be frequently used by security officials. In Enugu State, police units have been accused of using torture as a means of interrogation.

In this context, ProCAT aims to reinforce and consolidate the important intervention undertaken by ASF France in the fight against torture in Nigeria since 2009. In 2019, ASF France was able to extend the project to 2 new states: Imo and Edo, thus broadening the scope of the project and reaching more victims who have had access to legal aid services.

As the harm suffered by victims of torture sometimes leads to their unjust conviction, the main challenge of the year 2020 is to integrate the defense of victims of torture into legal aid services in cases where they are prosecuted for offences based on confessions obtained under torture.

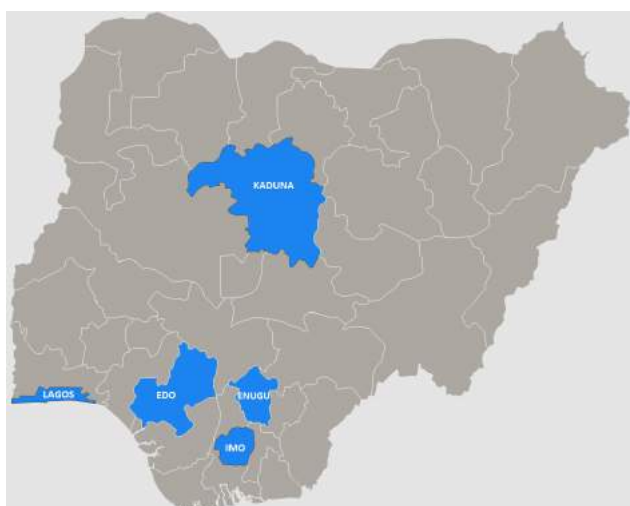
ACTIONS IN 2020 ◀

- Legal, technical and financial support to lawyers involved in the project to provide legal aid to persons in (pre-trial) detention or sentenced to cruelty.
- Identification of cases of torture and ill-treatment committed against persons in detention and cases of persons prosecuted for offences based on confessions obtained under torture.
- Legal aid service provided by a liaison lawyer in each State of intervention
- Initiation of hierarchical or judicial remedies against the perpetrators of acts of torture
- Recording of all cases processed to provide statistical data on the nature of cases, legal actions taken and decisions rendered by the Court
- Communication actions on the visibility of acts of torture in order to reduce them
- Meeting with state authorities to raise awareness of respect for laws against torture



► EXPECTED RESULTS

- 60 cases of torture and ill-treatment will be identified and followed up with national and regional courts (ECOWAS)
- 15 cases of persons prosecuted on the basis of confessions obtained under torture will be dealt with
- Victims of torture and ill-treatment will be provided with legal and judicial assistance. Special attention will be paid to women and minors in detention.
- Penalties will be imposed on the perpetrators of acts of torture and ill-treatment.
- The population is informed of its rights and knows where to report cases of torture.



► OBJECTIVES

- Contributing to the reduction of acts of torture throughout the judicial chain
- Improving access to justice and legal services for victims of torture
- Strengthen the knowledge and skills of judicial authorities
- Promote better knowledge and application of the principles of the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT)

► PARTNERS AND DONORS

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and the Nigerian Bar Association (National Bar Association - NBA) with financial support from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT), which has been supporting the project since 2014.





SAFE :
STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ACTOR'S CAPACITIES
ADVOCATING FOR ENDING SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial killings are widespread practices used by police all across Nigeria.

Police staff systematically enforce arbitrary executions, uses torture as a mean to obtain confessions from suspects and almost always resort to bribery and extortion. Moreover, public security agents also practice arbitrary detention, justified by the necessity to combat Boko Haram. They use this practice as an opportunity to arbitrarily arrest human rights defenders, leading members of civil society organizations and journalists in blatant breach of national legislation on the freedom of information.

Torturing practices by police staff and other state security agents make use of « torture cells », i.e. chambers used for interrogational torture. It has been reported in various states police stations. The absence of punishment for such acts translates into a lack of confidence from Nigerians towards the police. It has a rising reputation of being the enemy of the people.



ACTIONS IN 2020 ◀

- **Training** of police staff and other state security **services** on good practices for the respect of Human rights.
- **Strengthening the capacities** of the Civil society organizations operating in the area of Human rights and of journalists on the use of non-judicial mechanisms, documentation of cases, advocacy, communication and legal follow-up.
- **Legal assistance** provided by experienced criminal lawyers, before national and regional tribunals for cases of severe Human rights violations perpetrated by the State security services.
- **Lobbying in international Human rights organizations** to highlight the emblematic cases of severe human rights abuses.
- **Round tables** with the State security agents, civil society organizations, Ministers involved and the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) to exchange about best practices, formulate recommendations and suggest solutions to combat severe Human rights violations.
- **Creation of spaces for consultation between the police and the OSC** to define strategies and improve the respect of Human rights by National police.
- **Advocacy** with the heads of state security agencies and key actors in the justice system at national and state levels.
- **Raising public awareness** on serious human rights violations committed by State security agencies, fight against impunity and protect the rights of the victims of these violations.

► EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strengthen the promotion and respect for human rights in Nigeria in situations where people are most at risk, protecting their human dignity.
- Contribute to putting an end to serious human rights violations (torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial executions) perpetrated with impunity by the security services in the states of Kaduna, Enugu and Lagos.



► OBJECTIVES

- Strengthening the capacity of national actors to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish serious human rights violations committed by State security services
- Holding accountable state security agencies for serious human rights violations and obtaining redress for victims through the strengthening of the Nigerian Bar Association's (NBA) *pro bono* legal aid program.
- Carrying out advocacy actions aiming at influencing public policies, social attitudes and political processes regarding serious human rights violations by state security agencies



► PARTNERS AND DONORS

The Nigerian Bar Association (National Bar Association - NBA) and the Carmelite Prisoners' Interest Organization (CAPIO) with the financial support of the European Union.



Carmelite
Prisoners'
Interest
Organization
(CAPIO)





JUGE : JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

JUGE is the result of close collaboration and analysis carried out by ASF France, ASF Mali and Women in Law & Development in Africa (WiLDAF), leading to the definition of an intervention strategy for the fight against impunity in Mali for cases of gender-based violence (GBV). The findings show that GBV is a national phenomenon recognized by the State and its partners. According to UN WOMEN, more than 35% of Malian women are victims of sexual violence at least once in their lives. These figures fall short of the reality, as some survivors are unable to seek help. According to the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), we also note that sexual violence related to the conflict has been massive.

No official figures exist on this subject. The repression of these crimes and the reparation due to the survivors is a major challenge for the Malian State, whose stability and credibility depend on the capacity of the judicial institution to rise to these challenges. It is necessary to do justice to these survivors by providing them with holistic care (PEC), with an emphasis on the penal response.

In this context, JUGE aims to achieve specific changes in terms of behavior to fight against impunity for GBV and contribute to the eradication of such violence. The changes will focus on the attitude of the authorities, actors in the penal chain and civil society. The project will be implemented in Bamako, Gao and Koulikoro and will last 24 months.

ACTIONS IN 2020 ◀

- **Strengthening partners on GBV co-training techniques** in order to ensure the quality, sustainability and duplication of trainings.
- **Training of actors in the penal chain**, organized for greater fluidity and efficiency in the processing of cases.
- **Targeted training for lawyers on how to manage and listen to GBV survivors**, how to compile a file, the investigative steps to be taken and procedural strategies
- **Strengthening the legal knowledge of paralegals**, in particular on conflict-related sexual violence and the draft law against GBV.
- **Referral and holistic care** (legal, medical and psychosocial) for GBV survivors.
- **Promotion and enhancement of pro bono assistance** in order to ensure the sustainability of the legal aid activity (AJ).
- **Advocacy actions to strengthen the legal framework by adopting a text criminalizing GBV and expanding the anti-terrorist legal framework** to include war crimes and torture, crimes against humanity and genocide, including sexual violence.
- **Reinforcement of the knowledge of WiLDAF and ASF Mali project managers in relation to the use of the media**
- **Strengthening the knowledge of community and religious leaders about GBV**. The commitment of these authority figures is one of the keys to the success of actions at Community level.
- **Raising awareness of the population, especially women, about GBV**. Actions will be carried out to raise awareness among women and their communities about their rights and will disseminate the draft law against GBV.

▶ EXPECTED RESULTS

- Women survivors of GBV have benefited from a holistic and adequate management of their case, leading to the conviction of the presumed perpetrators and the reparation of their losses.
- Advocacy, monitoring and awareness-raising activities have influenced public policies and social attitudes regarding the respect of women's rights and GBV.

▶ OBJECTIVES

JUGE was designed with the general objective of **strengthening respect for human rights and participating in the consolidation of democracy in Mali**.

The specific objective is **to combat GBV and the impunity of its perpetrators**. Prosecuting perpetrators of GBV will help bring justice to survivors, give credibility to the work of the state justice system and promote citizens' trust in the institutions. These objectives will also make it possible to support ASF Mali and WiLDAF and strengthen their role and strategy in the fight against impunity for GBV.



Crédits photographiques © Harandane Dicko/MINUSMA

▶ PARTNERS AND DONORS

WiLDAF and ASF Mali are closely involved in the implementation of the project and were chosen because of their key role in the prevention, investigation and condemnation of GBV. The European Union provides the main funding for this project.



**ProFOTO :**

**PROMOTION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF DETAINEES AND APPLICATION
OF LEGAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE IN MALI**

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Malian prison system faces many challenges: prison overcrowding, lack of categorical separation of detainees, imperfect security arrangements, inadequate staff training, lack of control over the length and conditions of detention of persons deprived of their liberty and ineffective rehabilitation policy. This situation is conducive to the development of inappropriate behaviour to the detriment of detainees, at a time when the 59 penitentiary centres in Mali are experiencing an almost constant deterioration, accentuated by the multidimensional crisis that has persisted since 2012.

Upstream, the police and national police forces are also faced with a drastic lack of resources and a lack of training, which in some cases can lead to acts of torture and ill-treatment of suspects. They are often deprived of their liberty well beyond the legal time limits, in undignified conditions, even though the "religion of confession" can lead to reprehensible practices.

In this context, ASF France considers that the systematic monitoring of places of deprivation of liberty and the training of those involved in the justice system are effective means of ensuring that Mali complies with its international commitments, in particular the United Nations Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol, which were ratified on 26 February 1999 and 12 May 2005 respectively.

► ACTIONS IN 2020

- **Training of law enforcement officers and prison staff** to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- **Training of actors in the penal chain** to eliminate acts of torture and ill-treatment and to combat prison overcrowding, in accordance with international, regional and national mechanisms.



- **Advocacy actions** aimed at political authorities, technical advisers and managers of key departments in order to encourage the Malian State to fulfil its obligations with regard to the prevention of torture.
- **Capacity-building for members of the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH)** on carrying out visits to places of detention, torture and investigation and reporting techniques.

▶ EXPECTED RESULTS

- Actors in the penal chain, law enforcement officers and prison staff have strengthened their legal knowledge and capacity in the prevention of acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- Advocacy activities encouraging the Malian State to fulfil its obligations regarding the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have been carried out.
- The technical capacity of the national preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture has been strengthened.

▶ OBJECTIVES

- **General objective** : To contribute to the prevention of acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in order to improve the rule of law in Mali.
- **Specific objective** : To promote better knowledge and application of mechanisms for the prevention of torture by strengthening the capacities of actors in the penal chain and advocating for the prevention of torture in places of deprivation of liberty.



▶ PARTNERS AND DONORS

The CNDH, a national human rights institution and National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture, will be associated with ASF France and ASF Mali to implement this project. The Special Fund of the OPCAT (Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture) supports the project.





REACT : RALLYING STAKEHOLDERS FOR AN EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR CAMBODIAN WOMEN AND TEENAGERS

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The REACT project, which began in November 2018, is being implemented in Battambang Province, Cambodia. This project is part of a partnership with two Cambodian actors: a civil society association, Banteay Srei, and an institutional actor, the Provincial Department of Women's Affairs (DPAF). The REACT intends to strengthen the rule of law in Cambodia for a society that protects the rights of women and girls. More specifically, the REACT seeks to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, including their right of access to justice, and to the reduction of gender-based violence (GBV) in Battambang province.

The aim of the project is to promote access to justice for women victims of GBV by providing them with adequate care and to raise community awareness about women's rights and the violence they suffer. To do so, the project operates at different levels - at the provincial, district and village levels - and addresses a variety of actors, whether they are actors of the penal chain, associative actors or community members.



► ACTIONS IN 2020

- **Legal** assistance for women and young girls who are victims of violations of their rights and/or gender-based violence.
- A legal capacity building training session for our partners
- Community workshops and radio broadcasts to raise awareness of the rights of women and girls.
- Roundtables on Access to Justice for Women and Girls
- Training for key actors at the district level on the right of access to justice for women and girls who are victims of violations of their rights and GBV.



▶ EXPECTED RESULTS

- Women and girls who are victims of violations of their rights and/or GBV receive adequate care and have access to justice.
- The community is sensitized and mobilized on women's rights, including access to justice, and the need to eradicate gender-based violence..

▶ OBJECTIVES

Main objective : To strengthen the rule of law in Cambodia for a society that protects the rights of women and girls.

Specific objective : To contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, including their right of access to justice, and to the reduction of gender-based violence in the province of Battambang



▶ PARTNERS AND DONORS

A Cambodian organization, Banteay Srei, and the Provincial Department of Women's Affairs of Battambang Province are associated with the implementation of the REACT. This project is supported by the Occitania Region, the Raja-Marcovici Foundation, the Bar Association at the Council of State and the Court of Cassation, the International Organization of the Francophonie, through the Francophone Fund for Human Rights.

« Martine ANSTETT » (FFDH), the Fonds de dotation Barreau de Paris Solidarité and the Fondation Un Monde par Tous.



**IMPLIC :**

Involvement and participation of actors for the protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

With an occupancy rate of 358% in 2017, or 1.43 square meters per prisoner, the problem of prison overcrowding is glaring in Haiti. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, overcrowding is mainly due to the high number of arbitrary arrests and the frequent use of pre-trial detention. Prolonged pre-trial detention accounts for between 70 and 80% of detentions at the national level. Over the last 20 years, various actions have been undertaken by the government, local actors and international organisations. The legal framework has been enriched with the ratification of international conventions and treaties, the adoption of progressive laws and the launching of a vast penal reform project. However, dysfunctions persist in the judicial system, in particular due to a lack of knowledge and non-application of the rule of law. The majority of the population, especially the most vulnerable, do not have access to the law and are the primary victims. The legal assistance programs temporarily funded under the Legal Assistance Offices (LAOs) have helped to improve respect for rights; however, they do not succeed in filling the gaps in the system in order to provide genuine access to justice in a sustainable manner.

Thus, IMPLIC was conceived in partnership with the Bureau of Human Rights in Haiti (BDHH), to respond to these issues with the objective of contributing to the strengthening of the rule of law and the respect of human rights in Haiti. More specifically, the project aims to contribute to the defense and protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty through the involvement and participation of national actors in Haiti. It is civil society and national actors who will allow a change in behaviour and a sustainable strengthening of the protection and defense of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty



Contributing to the respect of rights aims to reduce impunity for violations of these rights and to bring the State back in line with its obligations; it is in this sense that the action contributes to the strengthening of the rule of law and human rights.

The project has been designed for a period of 28 months and will be implemented in the Metropolitan area (Port-au-Prince, Croix-des-Bouquets) and the Southern Department (Les Cayes, Aquin, Coteaux)

► ACTIONS IN 2020

- Training sessions for CSOs and human rights defenders on the defense and protection of the civil and political rights of persons deprived of their liberty.
- Capacity building of the BDHH and other actors involved in legal assistance on the functioning of the inter-American human rights system.
- Development of legal assistance activities for persons deprived of their liberty in order to promote access to law and justice for persons deprived of their liberty.
- Training sessions for actors in the Haitian penal chain.
- Production of awareness-raising tools for the general public through the creation of video vignettes, plays and artistic exhibitions on the rights of persons deprived of their liberty.
- Creation of two sustainable tools: a good practice guide for legal aid actors in Haiti and a report on the challenges of penal reform.

▶ EXPECTED RESULTS

- The technical capacities of civil society organisations and human rights defenders are strengthened and they are able to ensure effective access to justice for persons deprived of their liberty.
- All national actors act in synergy for the protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty and are in a position to monitor and influence change.



▶ OBJECTIVES

- **Main objective** : to contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law and respect for human rights in Haiti.
- **Specific objective** : to contribute to the defense and protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty through the involvement and participation of national actors in Haiti.



▶ PARTNERS AND DONORS

The Human Rights Office in Haiti (BDHH) is associated with the implementation of the IMPLIC project. The Delegation of the European Union in Haiti supports the project.



GRÈCE : SAMOS LEGAL CENTRE

► DESCRIPTION DU PROJET

Samos, an island in the Aegean Sea, is located opposite the Turkish coast. It has the second largest number of migrants: more than 8,000 refugees and migrants reside on the island, while the camp has a capacity of only 650 people. Since January 2019, the Samos Legal Centre provides legal assistance to asylum seekers and works with national and international lawyers and legal experts (including Greek lawyers).

On a daily basis, the Legal Centre receives asylum seekers present on the island of Samos. The team on the spot provides legal advice, but also legal accompaniment on different procedures.



► ACTIONS IN 2020

- Information and legal advice on asylum procedure and different means of action
- Preparation for asylum interviews
- Drafting of memorandum for national authorities of first instance or appeal.
- Identification and referral of cases of people in vulnerable situations
- Information and awareness-raising workshops for LGBTI people and women

► EXPECTED RESULTS

- Providing legal assistance to asylum-seekers on the Greek island of Samos.
- Ensuring that people in vulnerable situations receive adequate support adapted to their needs.

► OBJECTIVES

- Contributing to guaranteeing the right to asylum and protecting the fundamental rights of asylum seekers.



► PARTNERS AND DONORS

Samos Volunteers as well as Open Society Foundations, Aid Hoc, Help Refugees, the law firm DLA Piper, the foundations For Another World (WFP Foundation) and Yo and Anne-Marie Hamoud supported the Legal Centre project in Samos.





CAMEROON

RECAJUD :

Strengthening the capacity of Cameroonian civil society for access to justice for persons in detention

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

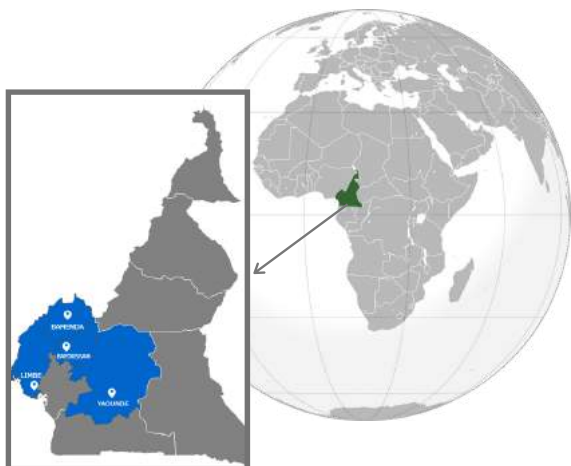
In general, the Cameroonian legislative system offers a rather protective framework with regard to human rights. This framework was reinforced in 2007 with the entry into force of the Code of Criminal Procedure and provisions relating to conditions of detention, which offer increased protection: habeas corpus, restriction of cases of police custody and pre-trial detention; and the adoption of a law on the organization of legal aid in 2009. Regarding access to justice and conditions of detention, the National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Cameroon (2015-2019) intends to work towards strengthening respect for the rights of detained persons. In order to fight overcrowding in prisons and poor conditions of detention, Law 2016-7 of July 12, 2016 introduced alternative sentences in the Cameroonian Penal Code, but the law is therefore inapplicable in fact.

In this context, the situation of the most vulnerable - in particular LGBTI people, women and minors - is cause for concern.

RECAJUD aims to strengthen the capacities of members of the judicial chain in the protection and care of persons deprived of their liberty, in particular persons in vulnerable situations, and to promote the application of alternative sentences.

The RECAJUD project is therefore divided into two main lines of action:

1. Promotion of the rights of detainees and handling of the most emblematic cases (no committal order, length of pre-trial detention expired, discriminated persons, etc.).
2. Promotion of the effective exercise of alternative penalties for the cases under review.



► ACTIONS IN 2020

- **Training of actors in the criminal chain** on the rules guaranteeing the rights of persons deprived of their liberty, in particular those in vulnerable situations
- **Free legal consultations** in prisons and case management
- **Round tables** on access to justice and alternative sentences for persons deprived of their liberty
- **Advocacy with the authorities** for the signing of the application decree and / or the effective application of alternative sentences
- **Awareness campaign** on the rights of persons deprived of their liberty

The project will be implemented in Bafoussam, Bamenda, Limbe and Yaoundé and will last 18 months.

► PARTNERS AND DONORS

The Cameroonian Network of Human Rights Organisations (RECODH) will be associated with the implementation of the RECAJUD project. The Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS) is supporting the project.



TRAINING AGENDA ASF FRANCE 2020

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- ✓ ASF France is a [registered training organisation](#)
- 🕒 Our training courses are part of the [continuous education program for lawyers](#).
- 📄 For French lawyers requesting that their expenses be covered by an OPCA (FIFPL), [the requested documents will be provided to you by ASF France](#)

As a training organisation, ASF France is referenced in [Data-Dock](#).



Contact et registration :
formations@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org - 0534 31 17 83

MEMBERS-ONLY COURSES

TRAINING OF TRAINERS - FUNDAMENTALS

TRAINING OF TRAINERS - REINFORCEMENT

OPEN TRAINING

PLACE OF VICTIMS BEFORE THE ICC- FUNDAMENTALS & REINFORCEMENT

ASYLUM RIGHTS / RIGHTS OF ALIENS

CRIMINAL DEFENSE IN COMMON LAW SYSTEMS

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

AFRICAN EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION SYSTEMS

[The training dates will be posted on ASF France's social media](#)

La Francophonie is first and foremost made of women and men who share a common language, French. From the first decades of the twentieth century, French speakers became aware of the existence of a shared linguistic space, conducive to exchanges and mutual enrichment. Eversince, they have gathered into a multitude of associations and groups supporting the Francophonie day by day.

- **The International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF)** hopes that civil society and its multiple associations become partners of La Francophonie.
- To that aim, it **has labelled a number of International non-governmental organisations**, including ASF France, which have consultative status.
- These organizations are divided into **4 groups** :
 1. French language, cultural and linguistic diversity
 2. Peace, democracy and human rights
 3. Education, training, higher education and research
 4. Economic cooperation, sustainable development and solidarity.

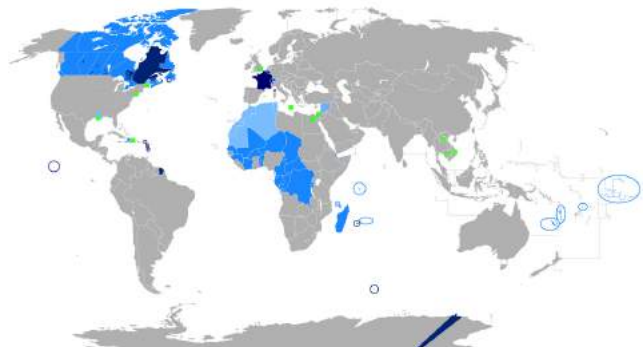


REALIZATIONS IN 2019

- Participation in the 30th anniversary of the International Convention on the Rights of Children, organized by actors of French-speaking civil society in Paris
- Participation in a meeting with the Monitoring Committee of the Conference of INGOs of the Francophonie for 2 days to prepare the 2020 action plan.
- Organisation of a conference-debate day on the issue of children without identity for the 30th anniversary of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

PERSPECTIVES IN 2020

- Deepen relations between civil societies in different French-speaking countries
- Work on joint projects allowing effective progress of the rule of law
- Organization of the 12th International INGO's Conference of La Francophonie



ASF FRANCE EVENT CALENDAR

11 JANUARY 2020

LE TRIBUNAL DU RIRE LA BRIQUE ROUGE - EMPALOT

As part of their study project, students from the OME (events school) are organizing an event in favour of Avocats Sans Frontières France. Le Tribunal du Rire is a stand-up evening during which 5 comedians from Toulouse follow each other on stage for a moment of exchange, conviviality and above all laughter. All the funds collected during this evening will be donated to the association.



28 JANUARY 2020

CONFERENCE "GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: WHAT KIND OF CARE FOR SURVIVORS?"

UT1 CAPITOLE TOULOUSE - AMPHITHÉÂTRE OURLIAC

Organized by Master's students from Capito Université 1 of Toulouse, this conference is in line with the association's 2019 donation campaign. During this evening, 4 legal specialists (law professor, lawyer, forensic Doctor) will discuss the issue of care for survivors of gender-based Violence.



20 JUNE 2020

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE DAY



28-30 OCTOBER 2020

NATIONAL LAWYERS CONVENTION PORTES DE VERSAILLES - PARIS

The NLC is the most important event organized by the legal profession. For the 8th edition, plenary meetings, colloquia, training workshops and a major trade fair will be scheduled. Numerous actors from the political and economic world will participate in this event.



FALL 2020

12TH CONFERENCE OF INGO'S OF LA FRANCOPHONIE



11-13 NOVEMBRE 2020

PARIS PEACE FORUM GRANDE HALLE DE LA VILLETTE - PARIS

In only 3 years, the event has managed to bring together leaders and actors from civil society from around the world to pursue concrete solutions for global governance.



NOVEMBER 2020

UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS GENEVE



11-12 DECEMBER 2020

18TH FRANCOPHONIE SUMMIT TUNIS



THE END OF 2020

35TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL BAR CONFERENCE



WORLD JUSTICE FORUM

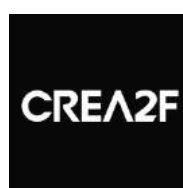


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PRIVATE SUPPORT & PATRONAGE



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CONNAÎTRE

DE FRONTIERES

*Avocats Sans Frontières France agit pour
rendre justice aux femmes victimes de violences.*

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