



AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES
France

Là où la défense n'a plus la parole

ACTION PLAN 2021



Justice, Liberty, Solidarity... We're off to 2021!

The 2020 health crisis has proven that our approach, based on our joint response with our partners to global issues, is more relevant than ever.

Our 2021 action strategy has been built from the DNA and the strengths of our organisation, our members, our partners and our results achieved so far.

We have many ambitions but the main one is to remain a key player in the international solidarity field, especially in our target areas. The second is to continue to be a preferred partner, recognised for our skills and technical expertise.

By working to improve the organisation's cohesion, operations and capacity, as well as adapting our work to distinct circumstances, Avocats Sans Frontières France (ASF France) wishes - for 2021 and the years to come - to deploy a strategy based upon our expertise and to enhance the quality and impact of our actions.

As an active and proven actor in regards to access to justice and the realisation of human rights, ASF France is upholding relationships revolving around collaboration and sharing with our partners in Cambodia, Cameroon, Greece, Mali and Nigeria.

2021 will also be dedicated to new cooperative projects in Guinea and Haiti, to a training program redesigned in order to meet various needs, and to new partnerships with the private sector. Faced with evolving challenges in development, ASF France continues to fight where the defence has no longer a voice.

Anne LUTUN

Executive Director of ASF France



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Executive Director of
ASF France

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anne LUTUN', with a horizontal line drawn through it.

SUMMARY

EDITORIAL

PAGE 2

SUMMARY

PAGE 4

OVERVIEW OF OUR ACTION

PAGE 6

ASF FRANCE PROJECTS



CAMBODIA

REACT

Rallying stakeholders for an effective access to justice for Cambodian women and teenagers

PAGE 07



NIGERIA

SAFE

Strengthening the national actors' capacities and advocating for ending severe violations of human rights violations

PAGE 11



MALI

JUGE

Justice for survivors of gender-based violence

PAGE 15



GREECE

SAMOS LEGAL CENTRE

PAGE 09

PROCAT

Fight against torture

PAGE 13

ProFOTO

Promotion of detainees' fundamental rights and application of legal instruments for the prevention of torture

PAGE 17



GUINEA

PARAJ

Support project to strengthen access to justice for the most vulnerable people

PAGE 19



CAMEROON

RECAJUD

Capacity building of the Cameroonian civil society for detainees' access to justice

PAGE 22



HAÏTI

IMPLIC

Implication and participation of actors for the protection of detainees' rights

PAGE 23

RESPECT

Reinforcing civil society capacities for an effective enforcement of human rights treaties and conventions

PAGE 21

PERSPECTIVES

PAGE 24

TRAINING - EXPERTISE - CONSULTING

PAGE 25

ASF FRANCE PARTNERS

PAGE 26

EVENTS CALENDAR

PAGE 27

THEY SUPPORT US

PAGE 28

TAKE ACTION

PAGE 29

OVERVIEW OF OUR ACTION

1998 - 2020 : 22 YEARS OF STRUGGLING FOR THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

A few key moments...

1998

Creation of ASF France by François Cantier, attorney. Its original members participated in the first project by ASF Belgium : Justice for all in Rwanda.

2006

ASF France implemented a project for access to justice by setting up a network of lawyers all over Cambodia, with training sessions for lawyers, judges and prosecutors on new international legal instruments, access to justice, and the defence of Khmer Rouge victims in the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia (ECCC).

2014

ASF France carried out a project against homophobia in Cameroon to raise awareness amongst the media, religious authorities, criminal actors and civil society organisations regarding LGBTI rights.



1999

A new project was carried out in Kosovo to defend Kosovars, Albanians and Serbs prosecuted for crimes against humanity or war crimes. The project trained lawyers, judges and prosecutors on new international legal instruments.



2015

Defending migrant rights in Calais. In 2019, ASF France set up the Samos Legal Centre in Greece to contribute to protect the fundamental rights of asylum seekers.

2016

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

2004

ASF France implemented two projects in Nigeria, against the death penalty and torture in custody.

2008

ASF France and ASF Mali started a collaborative project to build access to justice for detainees, reinforced by training courses on international legal instruments for criminal law professionals. A similar project was created with ASF Cameroon between 2010 and 2014.



2018

ASF France decided to strengthen its support to vulnerable people, children, women and LGBTI people. We also developed our actions towards the struggle against extra-judicial killings and arbitrary detentions in Nigeria.

ASF France is an international solidarity organisation that contributes to the respect of fundamental rights throughout the world, anywhere it is useful and necessary. Our 3 missions :

- Promote access to the law and fair justice for vulnerable people who have been deprived of it, arbitrarily detained or tortured.
- Defend anyone deprived of a free and independent defence and human rights defenders threatened or abused because of their professional duties.
- Strengthen the capacity and autonomy of local actors in the defence and promotion of human rights (judicial and civil society actors).

[Find our full story on our website, in the "History" section](#)



CAMBODIA REACT

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

PROJECT DURATION

30 months (2018-2021)

FINANCING SOURCES

Occitanie region • Raja-Marcovici Foundation • Council of State and Court of Cassation Bar Council • International Organisation of the Francophonie • Paris Bar Association Donation Fund • Un Monde par Tous Foundation • French Embassy in Cambodia

KEY PARTNERS

Banteay Srei • Provincial Department of Women's Affairs

“Providing legal aid to women is fundamental, as many do not have the means to afford a lawyer. Most victims do not have access to education and encounter difficulties to be represented.” Me Nith, project lawyer.

CONTEXT

There are several legal instruments protecting women and young girls' rights in Cambodia. However, practical enforcement of these instruments and policies are limited, particularly in the Battambang Province. In that region, many women and young girls suffer from gender-based violence (GBV) and have too little access to justice.

Individually, women and young girls have very little knowledge about their fundamental rights and the judicial system. At a societal level, people are generally not aware about women's rights. Patriarchal stereotypes and impunity regarding GBV are major problems. Most GBV victims remain silent because of shame and lack of support from their family and members of their community.

Finally, at an institutional level, victims face negative and inappropriate reactions from public agents and justice professionals, which prevent them from having their rights protected.

The REACT project has been designed to address these issues. The project has been conducted in the Battambang Province in partnership with two Cambodian actors: Banteay Srei, a local association and the Provincial Department of Women's Affairs (PDoWA).

OBJECTIVES

Reinforce the rule of law in Cambodia to build a society which protects the rights of women and young girls.

Contribute to the promotion and the protection of women and young girls' rights, especially regarding their access to justice, and the reduction of GBV in the Battambang Province.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Women and young girls who are victims of GBV and suffered violations of their rights receive appropriate support and have proper access to justice.

Awareness is raised amongst community members about women's rights and more particularly access to justice and the need to put an end to GBV.



OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Legal aid for women and young girls who are victims of GBV and who have suffered violations of their rights.

Round table discussions on access to justice for women and young girls.

Campaigns to raise awareness on women and young girls' rights through the distribution of flyers and brochures.

Broadcasting of radio programs to raise awareness on GBV and violations of women and young girls' rights.

Project closing ceremony.

"The organisation Banteay Srei filled my complaint before the provincial court and payed all the fees for the trial. ASF France helped me from the beginning until the end of the judicial proceedings. I was so happy when the court ruled I could divorce and obtain custody of my children. Now it is all over, I am seeking a job to get an income and raise my daughters." Mrs T, project beneficiary





GREECE 

SAMOS LEGAL CENTRE

PROJECT DURATION

Ongoing since January 2019

FINANCING SOURCES

Help Refugees/Choose Love • Yo and Anne-Marie Hamoud Foundation • Solidaritee • Private donations

KEY PARTNERS

Samos Volunteers • DLA Piper

"In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the living conditions of asylum seekers have declined as NGOs could not keep taking action as easily as they could before. It is in this truly critical situation that ASF France is taking action here in Samos." Romane, Volunteering Legal Expert at the Samos Legal Centre.

CONTEXT

Europe is experiencing the biggest mass movement of its population since World War II. Millions of individuals have undertaken the long, arduous and often dangerous journey to Europe from Asia and Africa in order to flee the insecurity and precariousness that can prevail in those regions.

On account of its geographical location and the rules stemming from the Dublin Regulation (which requires the first country of entry to examine asylum applications), Greece is on the forefront of the examination of asylum requests. The 2016 EU-Turkey Agreement, which aims to control migratory flux, has led to the appearance of "hotspots" — screening centers for migrants known as Reception and Identification Centers (RICs). Conditions in these camps are — in both qualitative and quantitative terms — inadequate at best, inhumane and degrading at worst (with problems such as overpopulation, violence, lack of hygiene and/or access to water, etc.).

Moreover, asylum seekers are subjected to geographical restrictions which prohibit them from leaving the island until their application has been examined. Only in extremely rare conditions will a few individuals have the right to reach mainland and the European continent.

Samos, a Greek island located in front of the Turkish coast, is the second largest migrant camp in Greece. Some 5,000 refugees and migrants live on the island, yet the Samos camp can only receive 650 people.

OBJECTIVE

Contribute to guaranteeing the right to asylum and the protection of fundamental rights of asylum seekers.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Asylum seekers benefit from legal assistance.

Vulnerable individuals benefit from adequate support adapted to their needs.

OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Legal assistance in regards to asylum procedures and various means of action.

Asylum interview preparation.

Handling of applications before the Appeal Committees.

Identification and orientation of vulnerable groups.

Information and awareness workshops in regards to asylum procedures.

Support for family reunification requests.

Introduction of requests for interim measures for extremely vulnerable asylum seekers before the European Court of Human Rights.

"I came to Samos when I was two-months pregnant. I left Syria because of the war and for the sake of my children. ASFF helped us get out of the island. Today, we are living in Berlin. Here, my children have access to an education and can see a doctor." Young Syrian woman and project beneficiary.





SAFE

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ACTORS' CAPACITIES AND ADVOCATING FOR ENDING SEVERE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PROJECT DURATION

3 years (2019-2022)

FINANCING SOURCES

European Union • French Development Agency

KEY PARTNERS

Nigerian Bar Association • Carmelite Prisoners' Interest Organization

“Thanks to the partnership with the NBA, the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria and the NHRC, the project can continue to uphold human rights in Nigeria and play a role in the accountability and emancipation of the CSOs.” Angela Uwandu, Head of Office in Nigeria.

CONTEXT

Police personnel regularly carry out extra-judicial killings of people accused or suspected of crimes, use torture and ill-treatment as the main means of investigation and practice extortion almost systematically.

Furthermore, State security agencies also resort to arbitrary detentions, often justified by the fight against the Boko Haram group and also used against human rights defenders, leaders of civil society organisations (CSOs) and journalists, in violation of the Freedom of Information Act.

Impunity for these actions leads to a lack of confidence within the Nigerian people in the ability of the police to protect them, because they are perceived as the enemy of the people.

OBJECTIVES

Strengthen the promotion and respect of human rights in Nigeria in situations where people are most at risk, by protecting their human dignity.

Contribute to ending serious human rights violations perpetrated with total impunity by the State security agencies of the States of Kaduna, Enugu and Lagos.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The capacities of national actors are strengthened in terms of prevention, investigations, prosecutions and sanctions in the event of serious human rights violations committed by State security agencies.

State security agencies are held accountable for serious human rights violations and victims obtain reparations thanks to the strengthening of the Nigerian Bar Association's pro bono legal aid program.

Advocacy actions influence public policies, social attitudes, and political processes regarding serious human rights violations committed by State security agencies.

OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Training for police and other State security agencies on best practices for human rights compliance.

Capacity building on the use of non-judicial mechanisms, communication and legal follow-up of torture cases for journalists and CSOs working on human rights.

Legal assistance by qualified support lawyers to litigate, before national and regional courts, cases of serious human rights violations committed by State security agencies.

Petitions shared with international bodies of human rights on symbolic cases of serious human rights violations.

Advocacy activities with State security agencies, CSOs, relevant government ministries and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on serious human rights violations.

Raising awareness about serious human rights violations committed by State security agencies.



Carmelite
Prisoners'
Interest
Organization
(CAPIO)





ProCAT

FIGHT AGAINST TORTURE

PROJECT DURATION

1 year (2021)

FINANCING SOURCES

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture • German Federal Foreign Office

KEY PARTNERS

National Human Rights Commission • Nigerian Bar Association

"For 11 years, 848 victims of torture have been able to access justice for the enforcement of their rights, violated by State security agencies." Angela Uwandu, Head of Office in Nigeria.

CONTEXT

ProCAT 2021 aims to improve access to justice and human rights compliance in Nigeria. More specifically, the action is intent on reporting and reducing acts of torture, strengthening national remedies, and improving access to justice for victims in the States of Edo, Enugu, Kaduna, Lagos and Imo.



OBJECTIVES

Contribute to the reduction of acts of torture throughout the judicial chain.

Improve access to justice and legal services for victims of torture.

Strengthen the knowledge and skills of the judicial authorities and the population.

Promote a better knowledge and enforcement of the principles of the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

EXPECTED RESULTS

Cases of torture and ill-treatment are identified and presented before national courts.

Lawyers and journalists see their skills strengthened.

A video report denouncing acts of torture is broadcasted on a national television channel.

National authorities are made aware of acts of torture.

OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Legal, technical and financial support for lawyers participating in the project in order to provide legal aid to people in detention, pre-trial detention or sentenced to cruel penalties.

Identification of cases of torture and ill-treatment committed against people in custody and legal assistance provided by lawyers.

Trainings for lawyers and journalists on acts of torture.

Communication actions to increase the visibility of acts of torture, including the production of a video report broadcasted on a national television channel, in order to reduce them.

Meetings with State authorities and a round table discussion with national authorities to raise awareness about the respect of laws against torture.



Federal Foreign Office



NATIONS UNIES
DROITS DE L'HOMME
HAUT-COMMISSARIAT



JUGE

JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

PROJECT DURATION

2 years (2020-2022)

FINANCING SOURCE

European Union

KEY PARTNERS

Women in Law & Development in Africa (WiLDAF) • ASF Mali

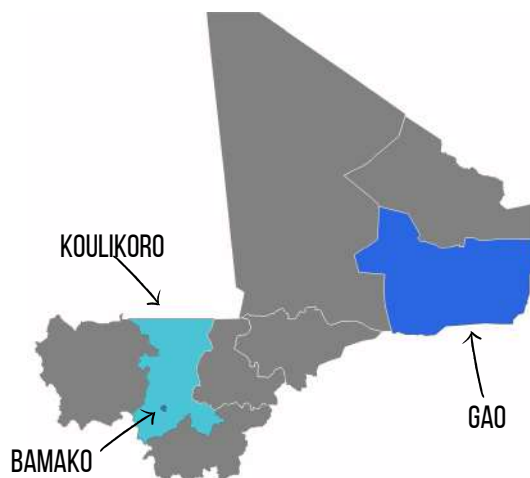
"The issue with gender-based violence is not a taboo, it is experienced everywhere, all the time. This training was interesting in many ways. I learned, and knowledge is priceless", Ibrahim H. Touré, President of the Human Rights Observatory in Mali and participant in a training session for community leaders

CONTEXT

JUGE is the result of the close collaboration and analysis carried out by ASF France, ASF Mali and Women in Law & Development In Africa (WiLDAF), resulting in the definition of an intervention strategy to fight against impunity in Mali for cases of gender-based violence (GBV). According to UN Women, more than 35% of Malian women are victims of sexual violence at least once in their life.

In this context, JUGE aims to achieve specific behavioral changes, to fight against impunity, and to help eradicate GBV. The changes will relate to the attitude of the authorities, actors in the criminal justice system and civil society.

The project will be implemented in Bamako, Gao and Koulikoro.



OBJECTIVES

Strengthen respect for human rights and participate in the consolidation of democracy in Mali.

Fight against GBV and impunity of its perpetrators. Prosecuting the perpetrators of GBV will bring justice to the survivors, give credibility to the action of state justice and enhance the confidence of citizens in their institutions.

Support ASF Mali and WiLDAF and strengthen their role and strategy to combat impunity for GBV.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Women survivors of GBV benefit from holistic support and management of their cases, leading to the conviction of the perpetrators and compensation for their harm.

Advocacy, monitoring and awareness actions influence public policies and social attitudes concerning respect for women's rights and GBV.



OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Strengthening of partners on co-training techniques in GBV.

Training for actors of the penal chain and doctors to improve fluidity and efficiency in the processing of cases of GBV and conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV).

Training for lawyers about caring for and listening to GBV survivors.

Referencing and holistic support (legal, medical and psychosocial) for survivors of GBV.

Advocacy activities at the regional level to strengthen the legal framework through the adoption of a text criminalising GBV in Mali.

Raising general awareness, especially among women, about GBV.

“We have been fighting for years to put an end to this curse and we can only welcome the JUGE project with open arms. This training has been very useful and the trainer was exceptional”.
Saima Maiga – 3rd assistant to Mayor in Gounzoureye (Gao) and participant in a training for community leaders





ProFOTO

PROMOTION OF DETAINEES' FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND APPLICATION OF LEGAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE

PROJECT DURATION

8 months (2020-2021)

FINANCING SOURCES

Special Fund of the OPCAT (Optional Protocol to the National in relation to the Convention against Torture) • French Embassy in Mali

KEY PARTNERS

National Commission of the Human Rights • ASF Mali

"The issue of ill-treatment in prisons is an essential fight towards the implementation of human rights. If we pretend to be human rights organisations but cannot do anything to stop this curse, we will lose our reason to exist. The fundamental question is more complex in the prison environment because it is a world of silence, where few people go. Democracy has forgotten them." Me Doumbia, President of ASF Mali

CONTEXT

The Malian prison system faces many challenges: prison overcrowding, lack of categorical separation of detainees, improper security arrangements, inadequate staff training, lack of control over the length and conditions of detainees and ineffective rehabilitation policy.

In response to these challenges, ASF France considers that the systematic monitoring of places of detention and the training of judicial actors are an effective means to ensure that Mali complies with its international commitments, particularly the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

OBJECTIVES

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.

Promote better knowledge and application of torture prevention mechanisms by building the capacity of actors in the penal chain and advocating for the prevention of torture in places of deprivation of liberty.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Actors of the penal chain, law enforcement officials and prison staff develop their legal knowledge and capacity to prevent acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Advocacy activities encourage the Malian State to fulfil its obligations regarding the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

The technical capacity of the national preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture is strengthened.



OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS EN 2021

Training of actors in the penal chain, security agencies and prison staff to prevent acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Advocacy activities to encourage the Malian State to fulfil its obligations in terms of torture prevention.

Capacity building for members of the National Human Rights Commission on carrying out visits to places of detention, torture and investigation and reporting techniques.





GUINEA PARAJ

**SUPPORT PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN
ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR THE MOST
VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

PROJECT DURATION

30 months (2020-2022)

FINANCING SOURCE

Delegation of the European
Union to Guinea

KEY PARTNERS

COGINTA • Guinean Organization for
the Defense of Human Rights and the
Citizen • Les Mêmes Droits pour Tous

ASF France takes part as a technical expert to support the Guinean Organization for the Defense of Human Rights and the Citizen (OGDH) and Les Mêmes Droits pour Tous (MDT), which are in charge of coordinating the actions of Legal Clinics. These actions are carried out in coordination with the main applicant COGINTA, an international organisation specialised in areas of security and judicial governance, social cohesion and the rule of law.

"It is a pleasure and an honour for us to work on the PARAJ project. We have a good knowledge of the field, in particular the judicial system and legal proceedings. Working with large international institutions such as ASF France and COGINTA can help further grow our organisation in terms of project management in several ways." Foromo Frédéric Loua, lawyer at the Guinean Bar Association and Executive Director of MDT in Conakry

CONTEXT

In Guinea, the legal assistance provided by the Legal Clinics and the Justice Houses is geographically limited and does not cover other areas of the territory where the needs are also important. Furthermore, in spite of all their efforts, the limited material and human capacities of the local partners -the Guinean Organization for the Defense of Human Rights and the Citizen (OGDH) and Les Mêmes Droits pour Tous (MDT), do not make it possible to meet the growing demand for legal assistance from ever more overcrowded courts and prisons.

Meanwhile, the recent political and health crisis creates additional pressure on detainees in vulnerable situations.

Until now, no link exists between the judicial assistance activities of the Legal Clinics carried by civil society organisations (CSOs) OGDH and MDT, and the local justice actions of the Justice Houses under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice.

The current activities therefore aim: to perpetuate and strengthen the actions of Legal Clinics and Justice Houses, to make the link between legal and judicial assistance, to create access to the law provided by these two structures, in order to guarantee a concept of local justice which is more efficient, holistic and inclusive, and allows greater geographical coverage.

OBJECTIVES

Support the CSOs in consolidating the rule of law, by strengthening access to justice for vulnerable people and fight against impunity in the Republic of Guinea.

Strengthen the capacities of Legal Clinics and the action of CSOs engaged in legal and judicial assistance.

Strengthen the coordination of Legal Clinics and justice stakeholders.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The operation and human capacities of the Legal Clinics are strengthened

A training plan for the benefit of all local justice stakeholders is provided

Information and legal assistance actions of the Justice Houses, and the actions of free legal assistance of the Legal Clinics are strengthened in favour of vulnerable people

OUR PROJECTS

ACTIONS IN 2021

Develop a manual for the management of free legal assistance, for the most vulnerable people, to define skills and methods of support for Legal Clinics and outline the vulnerability criteria enabling a request to be deemed admissible or inadmissible.

Assess the training needs of local justice actors.

Draft and validation of a training plan and educational tools based on the specific needs of each target group.

Training of trainers and of the target public.

“I am aware of the immensity of the task that awaits us with this PARAJ project and it is with self-sacrifice and dedication that I intend to get involved as a volunteer member of the expertise centre »
Moussa Bayo, project expert for ASF France





GUINEA RESPECT



**REINFORCING CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITIES
FOR AN EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF
HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES AND
CONVENTIONS**

PROJECT DURATION

18 months (2021-2022)

FINANCING SOURCE

Delegation of the European Union to Guinea

CONTEXT

The RESPECT project is the result of a consultation ASF France made with the Guinean civil society and other actors supporting their actions. It allowed ASF France to draw a cartography of past and ongoing actions, analyse the expertise of civil society and identify specific needs.

Hence, ASF France designed a plan of action to analyse and monitor the evolution of human rights protection, support civil society and improve human rights enforcement by the State. This project will echo a particular national human rights agenda as political tensions are intensifying and Guinea has been reviewed under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) since 2020.



OBJECTIVES

Ensure a close monitoring of human rights violations in Guinea as the country is struggling with the Covid-19 pandemic and a political crisis.

Strengthen the capacities of civil society to research and carry out advocacy activities with national, international and United Nations institutions.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The impact of the Covid-19 crisis on human rights in Guinea is analysed, monitored and published.

Civil society is actively committed to promote, protect and defend human rights. Civil society can also monitor and help in the implementation of UPR recommendations according to a complementarity principle.

ACTIONS IN 2021

Production of reports by an independent expert specialised in human rights analysis and research in Guinea. These reports will either help to document specific situation analysis or be punctually requested by the Delegation of the European Union according to social, political and sanitary evolutions.

Training of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on different matters to better tackle the issues related to the most serious forms of human rights violations including reporting, advocacy techniques, complaint mechanisms, whistle-blowing and alerts to Treaty organs.

Support to human rights defenders and CSOs to effectively defend human rights before local courts and competent authorities with the identification of appropriate national, regional and international mechanism and forums.





CAMEROON



RECAJUD

**CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE
CAMEROONIAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR
DETAINEES' ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

PROJECT DURATION

19 months (2020-2021)

FINANCING SOURCE

Crisis and Support Centre of the French
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

KEY PARTNERS

Cameroonian Network of Human Rights
Organizations • ASF Cameroun

"We are here to plead, to sing a symphony with our partners, the Senate, the administrations, the National Human Rights Commission, so that the executive can speed up the procedure to prepare this implementing legislation which will enable the effective application of alternative penalties."

Joseph D. Zebaze, Coordinator of the Cameroonian Network of Human Rights Organisations

CONTEXT

Generally speaking, the Cameroonian legislative system offers a rather protective framework regarding human rights. In order to reduce prison overcrowding and poor prison conditions, Law 2016-7 of July 12 2016 introduced alternative sentences into the Cameroonian Penal Code, but the law is not applicable in practice as it has not been promulgated to date.

In this context the situation of the most vulnerable, including LGBTI persons, women and minors is concerning. The RECAJUD project therefore aims at building the capacity of public authorities and promote the effective implementation of alternative sanctions.

The project is implemented in Bafoussam, Bamenda, Buéa and Yaoundé.

OBJECTIVES

Strengthen the capacities of members of the judicial chain in the protection and care of people deprived of their liberty, particularly those in vulnerable situations.

Promote the rights of detainees, with care for the most emblematic cases (no committal order, expired of length of pre-trial detention, discriminated people, etc.).

Promote the effective exercise of alternative sentences for cases that arise.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The capacities of actors of the penal chain are strengthened.

The most vulnerable detainees are identified and supported in their legal procedures.

The authorities and the population are made aware of the rights of detainees and the implementation of alternative sentences is effective.

ACTIONS IN 2021

Free legal consultations in prisons and aid for cases identified as the most vulnerable.

Advocacy activities with the authorities for the signature of the implementing decree and/or the effective application of alternative sentences.

Awareness-raising campaign on the rights of people deprived of their liberty.





IMPLIC

IMPLICATION AND PARTICIPATION OF ACTORS FOR THE PROTECTION OF DETAINEES' RIGHTS

PROJECT DURATION

28 months (2021-2023)

FINANCING SOURCE

Delegation of the European
Union to Haiti

KEY PARTNERS

Collectif d'Avocat-e-s Spécialisé-e-s en Litige
Stratégique des Droits Humains (CALSDH)

"The circumstances surrounding places of detention keep deteriorating as the prison population continues to grow while prisons stay cramped and unhealthy. Prolonged preventive incarceration is the main reason for such conditions." Report from the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti

CONTEXT

With a 358% occupancy rate in 2017, being 1.43 meter square per detainee, the issue surrounding prison overpopulation is blatant in Haiti. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, overpopulation is mainly due to the high number of arbitrary arrests, coupled with a frequent resort to preventive incarceration. As stated by the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH), 75% of detainees were still awaiting trial in 2018 while prolonged preventive incarceration accounts for 70 to 80% of detentions nationwide. These past 20 years — despite numerous actions undertaken by the government, local actors and international organisations — the shortcomings of the justice system persist, notably as a result of the non-application and lack of awareness in regard to the rule of law.

Legal assistance programs, which were temporarily financed by the Bureaux d'Assistance Légale (BAL) improved the respect of human rights. However, they did not make up for the shortcomings of the judicial system in the sense that they couldn't provide a sustainable access to justice. The main identified issue has to do with the lack of protection and failure to respect people's civil and political rights, who have a very limited access to justice and lack the necessary funds to assert their rights. Civil society thus struggles to contribute to democratic and public life. Furthermore, state actors do not always have the means to enforce the respect of detainees' rights, leading to a defective judicial system. Young lawyers and other legal professionals do not have access to proper education.

OBJECTIVES

Contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law and the enforcement of human rights in Haiti.

Contribute to the protection of detainees' rights through the involvement of national actors in Haiti.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Technical skills of civil society organisations and human rights defenders are reinforced. They are able to guarantee an effective access to justice for detainees.

All national actors act together for the protection of detainees' rights and are able to follow and inspire change.

ACTIONS IN 2021

Training for CSOs and human rights defenders regarding the protection of detainees' civil and political rights.

Legal assistance for detainees in order to promote detainees' access to justice.

Training for criminal actors.

Awareness raising and advocacy in order to reinforce the protection of detainees' rights.





PERSPECTIVES

2021

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

West African countries have seen a huge growth in mining over recent years, as many companies have been established around the industry. This growth has caused severe negative impacts on local populations' rights and the environment. Even though the mining industry used to function from the perspective of economic development for local populations, instead it has ended up being involved in community rights' abuses committed by private companies. It has led to uprisings and tensions between different communities about the local projects and job attributions.

These social tensions have had dramatic consequences on peace, stability and the socio-economic development. Some local populations have lost access to water, tensions have rose about local territories' borders and damages have been caused to the environment. The lack of reaction from States facilitates abuses and the harassment of human rights defenders. Fragile institutions limit the proper enforcement of legal instruments, more specifically, the Mining Code, the environmental Code, the Civil Code, the Constitution and the private and State owed land Code.

In this context, ASF France aims to develop a project to support civil societies in two ways. First, by preventing and limiting the negative impact of local and international private companies on human rights. Secondly, by ensuring that private companies enforce local communities' human rights.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT

Exposure to environmental risk and environmental damage compromise the exercise of rights protected under international, regional and national legal instruments. The European Court of Human Rights issued several decisions in which it resorted to the infringement of several rights protected in the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) to rule that the right to a healthy environment has been infringed. Namely, the rights protected under the ECHR were the right to freedom and safety, the right to life, the right to property, and the right to be protected from inhuman and degrading treatments.

Amongst environmental human rights, access to environmental justice is a very particular right.

As we fight against climate change, can regional and international courts compel States to accelerate the fight against climate change? What is the perspective for environmental litigation?

The relationship between human rights and litigation against corporations can be analysed through different perspectives. Civil procedures aim at obtaining damages from corporations to repair their actions and wrongdoings. Litigation based on international human rights law aims at preventing human rights infringement and sanctioning it. What is the role of civil society? What about State responsibility? What about corporations' responsibility? Civil society organisations are in a unique position to obtain significant change in the promotion and enforcement of human rights by private companies and States.

In that context, ASF France wants to support civil society and human and environmental rights defenders involved in the protection of the environment and the defence of minorities.



TRAINING COURSES 2021

OUR TRAINING SERVICE

In the current context, and **faced with challenges experienced by the defence of human rights**, all the volunteer experts of ASF France are working with you in order to amplify the capacity of action within the civil society and by actors in the judicial system, and to promote human rights. Through our training courses, we transfer our experience, our knowledge and our long practice of more than 20 years in the defence of human rights.

All the benefits are allocated to ASF France's actions.

A WELL-KNOWN QUALITY

Our training centre works with Bars, training centres, Bar schools as well as with international criminal jurisdictions as the ICC. Our training courses are supported by the States international cooperation and their organisations such as the UN and the EU.

Our trainers constitute a unique network of experts, field actors, law practitioners, who bring together a high level of technical and methodological skills. They allow, thanks to the training courses they provide, the financing of ASF France's actions.

All our training courses are data-docked by the National Bar Council and can be supported as part of continuing training.



Assessment of ASF's trainings in France in 2018

Training available for everyone : lawyers, law practitioners, students, speakers, members of associations, corporate executives...

7 UNITS TO DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS

TRAINING FOR TRAINERS
(Fundamentals & Reinforcement)

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT

DEPRIVATION OF FREEDOM / DETAINEES' RIGHTS

FOREIGNERS' RIGHTS / RIGHT TO ASYLUM

WOMEN'S RIGHTS / GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

RIGHT & FREEDOM OF SPEECH

[Find out the training dates \(in-person learning and e-learning\) on our social networks*](#)

Contact to sign in :
formations@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org
05 34 31 17 83

*These dates may change

DOCTRINE & L'ARTISAN COSTUMIER, OUR PARTNERS IN 2021

DOCTRINE SUPPORTS ASF FRANCE

Doctrine is the **first platform that provides legal information** thanks to which thousands of professionals can access customised legal information on a daily basis, and also the most contextual information, allowing them to follow great legal trends and best defend their clients. **Doctrine supports ASF France in our mission of defending fundamental rights and access to justice everywhere in the world.** 1% of their new revenue will be donated to ASF France, in order to help finance our projects and take action where the establishment and reinforcement of the rule of law is required.



Doctrine

L'ARTISAN COSTUMIER - THE COSTUME DESIGNER, PARTNER OF ASF FRANCE

L'Artisan Costumier is a clothes workshop that has become **a reference for court hearing costumes** thanks to six generations of expertise. Their love for quality work and beautiful fabric guarantees a perfect finish for a dress made to your measurements, combining pleasure, tradition and innovation. L'Artisan Costumier supports ASF France's actions through periodic donations of dresses, bands and masks, and through visibility actions.



L'ARTISAN COSTUMIER



EVENTS CALENDAR *

23 FEBRUARY 2021

WEBINAR : HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT

Six students will organise a webinar about "Human Rights and Environment", during which several speakers will discuss these notions that are at the heart of ASFF's actions and objectives for the year to come.



22 FEB-19 MARCH 2021

46TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL



15 MARCH 2021

WEBINAR : FEMININE LEADERSHIP : FOR AN EGALITARIAN FUTURE IN A COVID-19 FREE WORLD

In collaboration with the platform ABAQUES Audiovisuel, a group of students from the OME Toulouse will organise a webinar about this year's Women's Day theme. This webinar will be the occasion for the experts to present the actions undertaken by ASFF through several projects around this topic.



8 MARCH 2021

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



JUNE 2021

LE TRIBUNAL DU RIRE LA BRIQUE ROUGE (TOULOUSE) or ONLINE

Already a success last year, the students behind the "Tribunal du Rire" decided to renew their event in 2021! The concept ? A stand-up evening with 5 comedians who will each offer 10/15 minutes of show, for a moment of exchange, conviviality but above all laughter.

All the funds collected during this evening will be donated to the association.



20 JUNE 2021

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEES DAY



JULY 2021

71ST EDITION OF THE COMMISSION AGAINST TORTURE GENÈVE



11-13 NOVEMBER 2021

PARIS PEACE FORUM GRANDE HALLE DE LA VILLETTE - PARIS

For 3 years, this event has gathered worldwide leaders and actors of the civil society to move forward on concrete global governance solutions.



10 DECEMBER 2021

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



IN 2021

WORLD JUSTICE CHALLENGE



END OF 2021

18TH FRANCOPHONIE SUMMIT DJERBA



POSTPONED TO 2021

35TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



[These dates can be changed, please look at our website and social medias.](#)

THEY SUPPORT ASF FRANCE

FUNDERS & INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



Federal Foreign Office



NATIONS UNIES
DROITS DE L'HOMME
HAUT-COMMISSARIAT



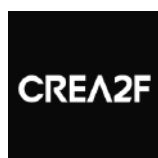
CIB

Conférence Internationale des Barreaux



AFD
AGENCE FRANÇAISE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

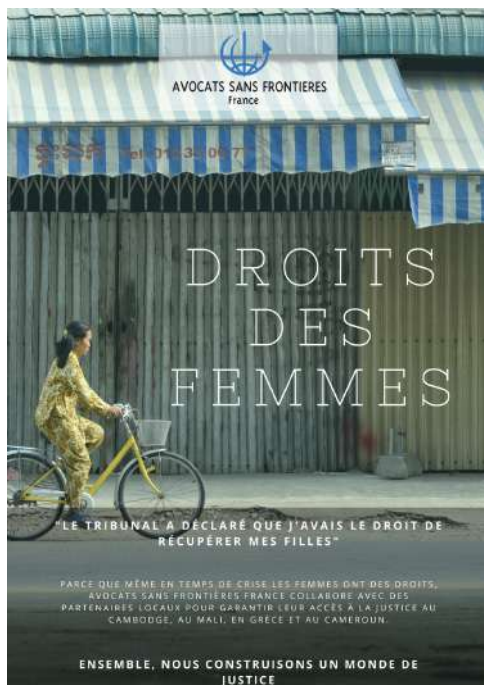
PRIVATE PARTNERS & SPONSORSHIP



LATHAM & WATKIN



TAKE ACTION



YOUR DONATION IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR ACTION!

Since its creation, ASF France and its partners have strengthened the effective application of human rights in 17 countries, and allowed the access to justice to more than 40,000 people. As the health crisis has become a social crisis, the inequalities have deepened more and more. Help us to keep on the front line to support the most vulnerable!

You can support our work with a one-time or monthly donation. Donations allow us to develop our projects, to ensure emergency actions, to strengthen our teams, to make sustainable actions, to increase our visibility and to extend our strategy. With your contribution, we can act and protect human rights around the world.

Thank you for supporting our work!

WHAT ARE YOUR DONATIONS USED FOR?

Your donations act and contribute to setting up:

- Free legal aid and protective actions
- Awareness campaigns and advocacy actions
- Training for local actors in the judicial chain
- Reception centres for victims



With the support of its donors, ASF France has strengthened the effective application of human rights in 17 countries :

Cambodia
Cameroon
Chad
Colombia
DRC
Greece

Ivory Coast
Kosovo
Laos
Libya
Mali
Nigeria

Netherlands
Russia
Rwanda
Tanzania
Tunisia

ARE YOU A COMPANY OR A FOUNDATION?

You can get involved with us in many ways ! We are waiting to hear from you to discuss the best way you can support us and take action!

Contact: developpement@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org

“To support ASF France is to support the fight for fair causes, where freedom is at stake, and sometimes even life”, ROBERT BADINTER



AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES
France

Là où la défense n'a plus la parole

LET'S BUILD A WORLD OF JUSTICE

I DONATE TO ASF FRANCE



Did you know ? By donating to ASF France, you can benefit from a tax deduction. In that sense, 66% of the amount of your donation can be deducted from your income tax, within the limit of 20% of the taxable income.

I provide a punctual support

☐ 30 € ☐ 50 € ☐ 100 € ☐ Other amount :€

Please enclose a bank or postal check payable to ASF France.

I provide a regular support through direct debit

From the (JJ/MM/AAAA) I allow ASF France to debit my account

Each year : ☐ 30 € ☐ 50 € ☐ 100 € ☐ Other amount :€

Each month : ☐ 30 € ☐ 50 € ☐ 100 € ☐ Other amount :€

Please fill in the authorisation of direct debit and send it back to ASF France along with your bank details

Name of the holder :

Bank's name and adress :

BANK CODE	COUNTER CODE	NUMBER OF ACCOUNT	KEY
— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — — — — — — —	— —

First and last name, or name of the organisation :

Address :

Postcode : City:

Email :

Date :

Signature :

Send this form to ASF France : 8 rue du Prieuré - 31000 TOULOUSE





AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES

France

Là où la défense n'a plus la parole

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