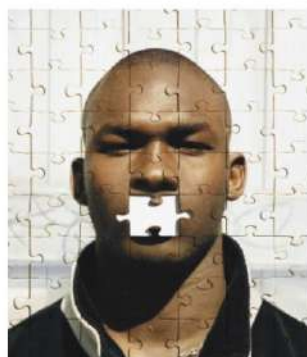
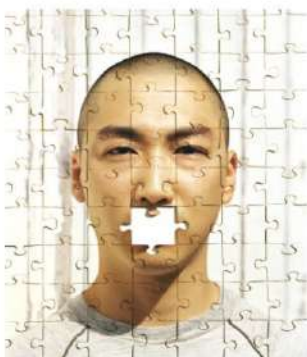




AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES  
France

*« Where defence doesn't have voice »*



# ACTIVITY REPORT

## 2016



# TRIBUTE

## Me Jacques Maisonneuve

Founding Member of Avocats Sans Frontières France



In Memory of Jacques Maisonneuve who was taken from us at the end of December 2016.

We pay tribute to the friend, the Lawyer and the founding member of Avocats Sans Frontières France.

He was able to embody his human qualities into his career which he carried into our organisation in such a way that it allowed us to grow together and to build an effective and harmonious model of work. Under his influence, we have

become ambitious « actors » of Justice, in our actions as well as in our organisation. His initiative, concept of Fête des Droits de l'Homme — Beaulieu Sur Dordogne 2010 and 2011, a Human Rights Celebration Day which took place at Beaulieu Sur Dordogne 2010 and 2011 — has enthusiastically brought together citizens, artists and constituents and allowed us to gather support from them.

His taste for shared progress, his respect for everyone and his sense of humour raised him as an essential part of ASF France, where he remained the administrator until the end.

We will keep a precious memory of him together with his surviving wife Laurence and his children, Phillipe, Olivier and Chloé, who have contributed to our work and still continue to do so by working alongside with us.

François CANTIER, Président d'ASF France

## Tribute

### Me Nathalie MULLER

Member of Avocats Sans Frontières France

Nathalie Muller passed away on the 18th of February 2016.

Invested in our organisation for years, vibrant, intelligent, endearing and always available, she has become the symbol of the committed Lawyer both in words and actions.

She has gone too quickly while we were still wishing to work together and dream on our ethical adventure.

We will preciously keep her in our memories as a free-spirited woman, amiable and enthusiastic.

François CANTIER, Président d'ASF France



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*The association Avocats Sans Frontières France expanded its activities during the year of 2016.*

*For the first time, Avocats Sans Frontières France initiated a project in France aimed at giving a better access to Justice for migrants, in partnership with the Bar and local associations mobilised in Calais.*

*This essential fight for the respect of migrants' rights has been extended by a joint action of Médecins du Monde — Doctors of the World — in Greece's camps for refugees.*

*Our organisation has also carried on with its actions abroad, in Cambodia, Laos, Cameroon, Nigeria, Mali and implemented new projects in Ivory Coast and Chad.*

*These activities always have the purpose of defending the rights of the most vulnerable people, especially children, women, migrants and homosexuals.*

*Avocats Sans Frontières France is a voice for all the citizens who refuse violence and dream of a world of Justice and Freedom.*

*François CANTIER*



## AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES France

**Is an international solidarity association**

**Regimented by the French Law of Associations of 1901**

### OUR HISTORY

<b>1992</b>	Creation of the Movement Avocats Sans Frontières in Belgium
<b>1998</b>	Creation of Avocats Sans Frontières France (ASF France)
<b>2004</b>	ASF France receives the UN's Consultative Status from the United Nations Economic and Social Council
<b>2005</b>	In April, the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF) grants ASF France the Consultative Status in recognition of its activities and partnership with local association in French speaking countries. In September, ASF France was elected President of the Nonprofit International Organisations of the Mission « Peace, Democracy and Human Rights » accredited by the OIF
<b>2008</b>	ASF France celebrates its 10 years and launches the Lawyer's international observatory in partnership with the National Council of Bar, the Bar Association of Paris, as well as their spanish and italian peers, the Consejo General de la Abogacía Española and Il Consiglio Nazionale Forense
<b>2009</b>	Implementation of the Avocats Sans Frontières' network
<b>2012</b>	Consultative Status at the African Union
<b>2014</b>	ASF France is re-elected as President of the Non Profit International Organisation of the Mission « Peace, Democracy and Human Rights »
<b>2016</b>	Me François Cantier, ASF France's President, represents the Francophone civil society in the Heads of State and Government Summit of the Francophonie

---

## OUR AIM

### ♦ TO TAKE ACTION IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE AND FREEDOM

As such, we will ensure as volunteers the defence of any individual whose fundamental rights are being threatened and who do not have access to a free and independent defence. Our mission consists in bringing support and assistance to the lawyers and Human Rights activists who are jeopardised because of their stands and professional activities.

### ♦ TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE REINFORCEMENT OF THE RULE OF LAW

We intervene anywhere around the world as long as it is necessary to support the Rule of Law, the Judicial system or the right to a fair trial. We dedicate ourselves to strengthen local activists and legal bodies by responding to their needs and working alongside with them.

---

## OUR STRATEGY

### ♦ TO DEFEND CITIZENS AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

ASF France ensures under pressure the defence of any individual whose fundamental rights are threatened and who cannot afford to hire an independent lawyer. ASF France also intervenes when a lawyer is subject to intimidations in the line of his duties: threats, imprisonment and assassination. Hence, beyond being a lawyer, it is the citizen himself that is deprived from defence and therefore, justice.

### ♦ TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Promoting access to justice is one of our priorities, that is why we have a hand in the implementation of legal aid system and legal structures. From this perspective, we contribute to protect the most vulnerable people when their rights are nonexistent or being denied, notably by making available legal counsel and services — settled of mobile legal consultations, reinforcing the judicial systems, sensitising citizens and legal activists and so on.

### ♦ TO DEVELOP THE AUTONOMY OF THE LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

In order to reinforce effectively the capacities of the local stakeholders, ASF France will provide an initial and continuing training adapted to the needs and difficulties encountered.

# OUR TEAM

## EXECUTIVE BOARD



**Founding President**

François CANTIER  
Bar of Toulouse



**Secretary General**

Julien POURQUIE KESSAS  
Bar of Toulouse



**Treasurer — started in 2016**

Thérèse LEPRETRE  
Bar of Paris



**Treasurer**

Joëlle GRANDCLEMENT  
Bar of Lyon

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**BASTIEN RABNER Françoise**, Magistrate in Bastia

**BREJON Aude**, PhD University of Paris 2  
Vincennes

**CALONNE Marie-Hélène**, Lawyer at the Bar of  
Boulogne-sur-Mer

**CANTIER François**, President of ASF France

**DUNAC Pierre**, Lawyer at the Bar of Toulouse

**FILLOLA Vincent**, Lawyer at the Bar of Paris

**GOZZI Marie-Hélène**, Professor at the University of  
Toulouse 1 Capitole

**GRANDCLEMENT Joëlle**, Lawyer at the Bar of Lyon

**HOME MOUSSAVOU Bertrand**, Lawyer at the Bar of  
Libreville

**JOMBWE Hugo**, Legal Expert

**LEPRETRE Thérèse**, Lawyer at the Bar of Paris

**MAISONNEUVE Jacques**, Lawyer at the Bar of  
Corrèze

**MARTINEAU Christine**, Lawyer at the Bar of Paris

**NICOD Jean-Claude**, Magistrate in Talence

**PANEFF Ivan**, Lawyer at the Bar of Paris

**POULAIN Marie-Pierre**, Lawyer at the Bar of Paris

**POURQUIE KESSAS Julien**, Secretary General,  
Lawyer at the Bar of  
Toulouse

**RABESANDRATANA Elisabeth**, Lawyer at the Bar  
of La Rochelle

**ROGER François**, Magistrate in Toulouse

**ROUCHY Noélie**, Magistrate in Paris

**SCHOENACKER ROSSI Isabelle**, Lawyer at the Bar  
of Tarn et Garonne

**THIEBAULT Elise**, Journalist in Paris

**TRUSSES NAPROUS Fabienne**, Lawyer at the Bar  
of Tarbes

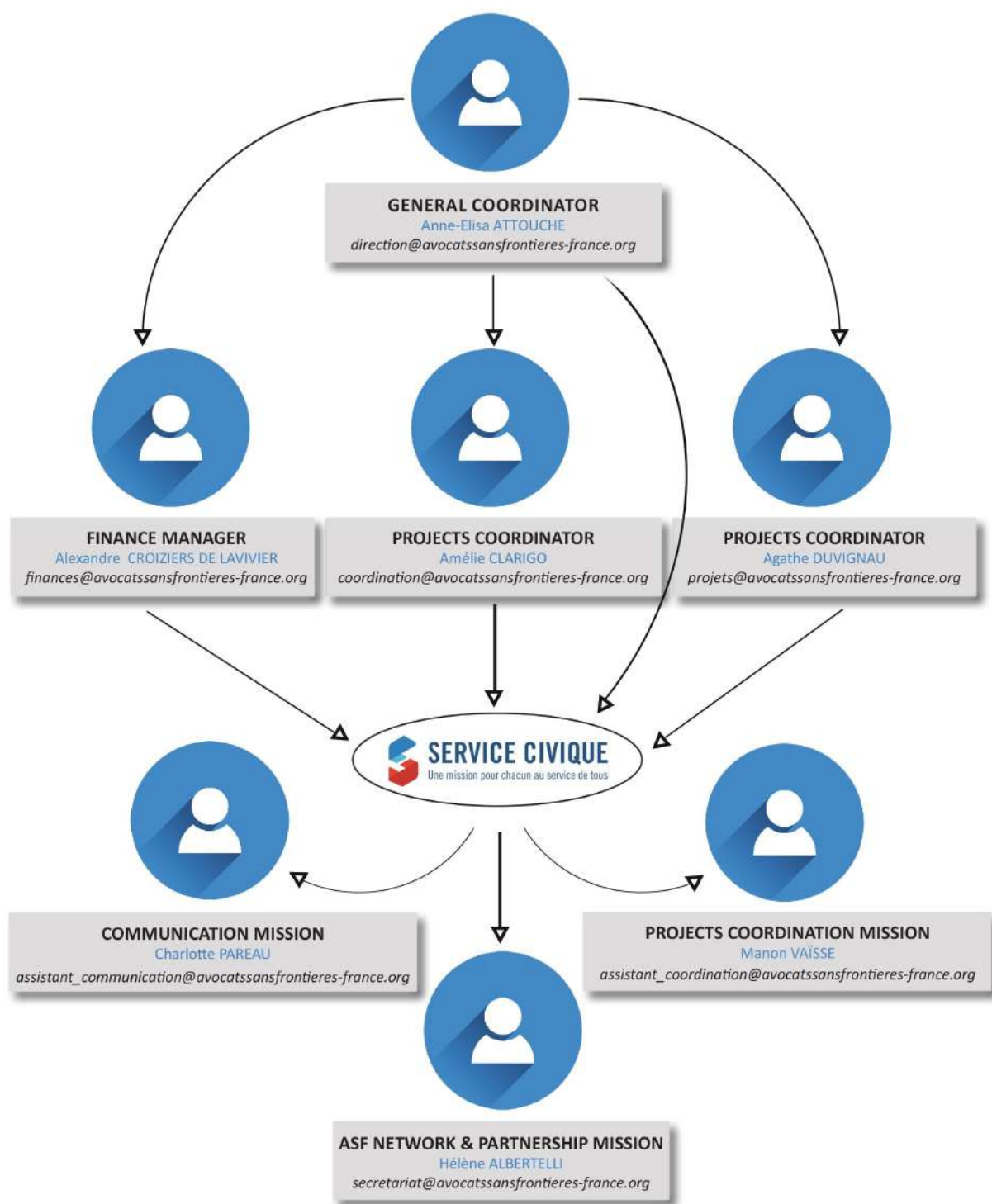
**VOISIN DAMBRY Marie-Paule**, Lawyer at the Bar  
of Dieppe

## REDACTION OF THE ACTIVITY REPORT

Charlotte PAREAU - Assistant Communication Manager— currently doing a community work



## THE 2016 TEAM



## CAMEROON

**LUDOSIG : « Fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identities »**

### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** January 2015

**End Date:** April 2016

**Area of Intervention:** N'Gaoundéré

**Project coordinator:** CLARIGO Amélie

**With the support of:** Un monde par tous, Word Justice Project

**Group Leader:** MARTINEAU Christine

**Project team members:** Isabelle DURAND, Isabelle ROSSI SCHOENACKER and Amélie VILLAGEON

**Partners:** Alternatives Cameroun, REDHAC and Avocats Sans Frontières Suisse



### OBJECTIVES

This project aimed at:

- ♦ Fighting all kinds of discriminations — harassment, marginalisation, assault — based on sexual orientation and gender
- ♦ Reinforcing the role and legitimacy of the defenders belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (LGTBI)



Graduation ceremony for the defence speech techniques' training

### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

A training workshop on defence speech techniques' used by Human Rights activists has taken place in N'Gaoundéré

- ♦ 21 participants including 18 Human Rights activists, 2 lawyers et 1 representative of the local authority, were alerted on the use and role of the CADHP
- ♦ Workshop broadcasted and aired by 3 Press organisations (TV, Newspapers and radio)



Workshop HR & LGBTI



Interview on the TV Channel Canal 2 International



Participants at the defence speech techniques' training

## RESULTS

- ◆ Secure living conditions are preserved for the LGBT community and their defenders, allowing them to enjoy their rights and improve their quality of life
- ◆ The visibility and the cooperation between LGBTI's stakeholders in Cameroon are reinforced
- ◆ The dialogue between the Cameroonian authorities, the LGBTI's activists and the international and local organisations defending LGBTI's rights has improved
- ◆ State and non-state actors have been sensitised on the existence of regional procedures put in place by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) for the promotion and protection of Human Rights. They are able to carry on the work by popularising and establishing these procedures in the region.



## TESTIMONIES

I was a victim. My human rights have been violated from 1992 to 1998 while I was still a child. My uncle has been murdered by the « daugaris of lamido » in 1992 in my father's house. Following this incident, my father disappeared from the family home, leaving his three children on their own. I was among the 3. When I finally met up with my father in 2001, he explained that he had been forced to leave, otherwise he would have also been killed. From this experience, I have become an activist.

*An activist*

Although we have to admit that it is particularly difficult to defend human rights in the North, there are opportunities for progress and we must take advantage of them. We believe that nowadays, violations of human happen because of ignorance. Thus, we need to multiple the human rights associations' number in the North of the Country.

*The traditional chief's representative*



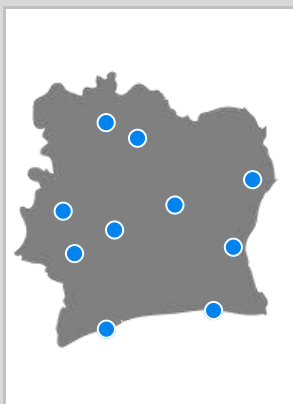
## OUTLOOK

- ◆ Development of a new project on the custody conditions and the right to Justice

## IVORY COAST

**PRODEF : « Promotion and protection of Human Rights defenders »**

### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** November 2016

**End Date:** April 2018

**Area of Intervention:** Boundiali, Korhogo, Bondoukou, Bouaké, Man, Daloa, Guiglo, Abengourou, San-Pedro, Abidjan

**Project Coordinator:** CLARIGO Amélie

**Field Coordinator:** GBRATO Anne Marie, DEGROU Rogatienne, GADOU Elysée

**Group Leader:** DURAND Isabelle, DJAMMEN NZENA Ferdinand

**Project team members:** ASCIONE LE DREAU Constance, BAGARD Matthieu, BARANGER Nicolas, BOHNER Julie, BOUM Hermine, DEUGOUE Raphaël, EHORA Arnaud, GOLDBERG Nathalie, GRANDCLEMENT Joëlle, KOUA Jeanne, LABORDE Michèle, LATAPIE Laurent, LOAS Colette, MARVILLE Thierry, NAYRAL DE PUYBUSQUE Henri, SHOENACKER ROSSI Isabelle, SECCI Maryline, TCHATAT Pélerine, VIGNON Alban, VILLAGEON Amélie, ZOGO Désirée

**With the support of:** USAID, Un monde par tous

**Local Support:** Cabinet Allen & Overy

**Partners:** AFJCI

**Associates:** Ivory Coast Bar, ASF Côte d'Ivoire



ALLEN & OVERY



### OBJECTIVES

- ♦ To offer legal support to the victims of human rights violations and protect their rights
- ♦ To make local NGOs aware of their sphere of intervention, their limits and their rights
- ♦ To sensitise the general public as well as the local government entities on the defence of human rights
- ♦ To ensure a collaboration between local human rights defenders NGOs for a better intervention strategy
- ♦ To train NGOs and local associations on the protection of vulnerable groups

### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ♦ Installation and launch of the project: meetings and working sessions with the local team and the partners
- ♦ 2 workshops providing information and diffusing the Law No. 2014-388 of the 20th of June, 2014 on the protection and promotion of the Human Rights Defenders took place in Guiglo and Bouaké, involving 64 organisations, NGOs, journalists and LGBTI defenders
- ♦ A launch conference was organised, gathering 70 people
- ♦ An interview was diffused by a local radio station, introducing the project and informing the public



## RESULTS

- ♦ Civil organisations have a better knowledge of the mechanisms of protection provided by the 2014 Law. Therefore, they are able to build an efficient protection of the Human Rights Defenders.
- ♦ Local authorities are sensitised on the fundamental role of Human Rights Defenders and have reinforced their capacities to ensure their protection and those of the vulnerable groups



Information and diffusion workshop about the 2014 Law on the protection of Human Rights Defenders in Giglo



## TESTIMONY

The PRODEF project started in Ivory Coast on the 10th of November 2016. During the launching ceremony and the workshops organised, participants have expressed how relevant and innovative the project was for the country. It is indeed a great opportunity to expose crimes and promote the 2014 Law among all those who intervene in the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

*Kouao Affoué ANO TOURE, Field coordinator 2017*



Workshops in Bouaké aimed at informing and diffusing the Law No. 2014-388



Installation and launch of the project

## OUTLOOK

- ♦ Free legal assistance to the human rights defenders that suffer from violations
- ♦ Raising awareness among activists about the protection of human rights defenders
- ♦ Training aimed at human rights defenders in order to reinforce their skills on the protection of their rights and the defence of vulnerable groups
- ♦ Setting up of a network of human rights defenders and development of an emergency plan
- ♦ Implementation of a warning and denunciation system in case of violations against human rights
- ♦ Provide financial support to local organisations

## NIGERIA

### PROCAT : « Fight against torture »

#### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** January 2016 **End Date:** December 2016

**Area of Intervention:** Enugu, Kaduna

**Project coordinator:** CLARIGO Amélie

**Field coordinator:** UWANDU Angela

**With the support of:** UNVFVT, Australian High Commission, French Embassy, Paris Bar Foundation

**Partners:** Access to Justice, NHRC and Nigerian Bar Association



#### OBJECTIVES

The project aimed to:

- ♦ Contribute to the reduction of acts of torture throughout the judicial process thanks to the mobilisation of judicial actors and to awareness-raising in the Nigerian population

In particular:

- ♦ Reinforce knowledge of and respect for the principles prescribed by the United Nations Convention against Torture (CAT)
- ♦ Facilitate access to justice for the victims of acts of torture

#### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ♦ Free legal aid was provided to 50 people who were victims of acts of torture or ill-treatment in the states of Kaduna et Enugu
- ♦ 2 training sessions on the principles of the CAT for judicial agents : 23 participants in Kaduna and 23 participants in Enugu
- ♦ 2 training sessions for legal and medical professionals: 17 participants in Kaduna, 17 participants in Enugu
- ♦ Setting up of a network of professionals: 27 participants in Kaduna and 17 participants in Enugu
- ♦ Awareness raising: 2 radio broadcasts organised in the two states



Workshop in Kaduna

## RESULTS

- ◆ Persons who were victims of torture had access to a lawyer
- ◆ Stakeholders were trained and sensitised to the principles of the CAT and the collection of evidence
- ◆ The population was sensitised and informed of their rights
- ◆ The authorities were sensitised to the respect for the CAT principles



Workshop in Enugu

## TESTIMONIES

"I was imprisoned more than 6 years ago, in October 2011. I arrived with 5 bullet wounds inflicted by the police. I desperately needed help to get out of prison to obtain medical assistance. One day in 2015, one of the lawyers of ASF France visited me in prison and presented this international organisation to me. It helps prisoners who are unable to pay for a lawyer to represent them in court. Today, I am still waiting for my trial, but thanks to the actions of ASF France the judge has awarded me 1 million Nairas in damages for the acts of torture committed by the police."

*A Student at Army Command Secondary School*

"I arrived in prison in 2012 with a bullet wound in my lower back. A doctor at the « University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital » (UNTH) put in place a splint, but I didn't have the means to pay for any further treatment outside of prison. The judge awarded me 1.5 million Nairas in damages for the acts of torture that I suffered at the hands of the police but not my release on bail because of another case before the court. ASF France helped me and supplied me with a lawyer to defend me. ASF France gave me hope - I am grateful and I thank them for it."

*A student at IMT Business Admin Department*

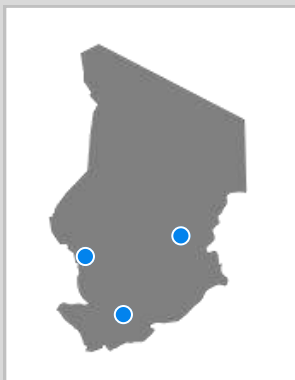
## OUTLOOKS

- ◆ Setting up of a network of lawyers in the states of Kaduna and Enugu
- ◆ Free defence of persons who are victims of acts of torture or ill-treatment at various stages of their legal proceedings (in the states of Kaduna and Enugu)
- ◆ Training directed at legal and medical professionals involved in the struggle against torture, about their role in obtaining evidence to put together a case
- ◆ Training directed at security agencies government authorities, OSC and the media on their role in the struggle against torture
- ◆ Communication on the visibility of acts of torture in order to reduce them

## CHAD

### PADEF : « Support programme and Access to Justice for women and children »

#### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** December 2015

**End Date:** December 2018

**Area of Intervention:** Njamena, Abéché, Koumra

**Project Coordinator:** ATTOUCHE Anne-Elisa

**Field Coordinators:** NDJANDJO Patricia, MOGGAHOU Ngarodjilo

**Group Leaders:** LEPRETRE Thérèse, LATAPIE Laurent, Jérôme BENSUSSAN

**Project team members:** Nathalie GOLDBERG, Fabienne TRUSSES, Marilyne SECCI, Hélène DIRIBARNE, Jean Pierre GETTI, Aurélie PUJO, Aude BREJON

**With the support of:** European Union delegation, French Development Agency

**Partners:** Chad Association of Women Jurists, Chad Association for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights



Mission in Abéché

#### OBJECTIVES

The project aimed to:

- ◆ Contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law and the judicial system in Chad
- ◆ Contribute to a better treatment of women and detained minors
- ◆ Contribute to reducing violence against women and minors and to defend their rights

#### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ◆ 72 detention consultations enabling 135 women and minors to have access to a lawyer
- ◆ 53 legal advice and psychological support services provided assistance to 112 women and minors victims of violence
- ◆ 44 cases were taken on by lawyers working on the project as part of the legal aid programme
- ◆ 3 training sessions for 68 legal professionals, prison officers and law enforcement officers
- ◆ 4 educational talks, 5 radio broadcasts and 2 films helped to raise awareness about the rights of women and minors among many Chadians
- ◆ 3 panel discussions took place with 32 judicial, administrative and civilian authorities in order to develop strategies to rectify failings in the women and children's human rights protection system



## RESULTS

- ◆ The capacities of all actors of the “penal chain” are reinforced. They are more aware of the role they play in the protection of women and minors’ rights at each step of legal proceedings
- ◆ A synergy of action is created between actors in the penal chain and the relevant authorities in order to improve practices and the protection of women and minors
- ◆ Legal procedures aimed at ensuring compliance with the minimum rules in relation to the detention of vulnerable people are effectively initiated and followed



Mission in Koumra



## TESTIMONY

The Assistance and Legal Aid Programme for Women and Children that we are currently implementing in Chad is an opportunity for ASFF to achieve its goals: we have already aroused the interest of 68 justice and human rights professionals, 31 administrative authorities working to protect rights, over 3 million radio listeners and 200 influential community members from across Ndjaména, Abéché and Koumra. We have also provided information to 132 detainees in these three towns pertaining to their human rights. 30 of the detainees are already receiving legal aid from PADEF lawyers to ensure that their right to a fair trial is upheld. My desire to take part in the strengthening of peace and justice, whatever the milieu, is the principal driving force behind my participation in programmes promoting and protecting human rights in Africa. I see myself as a citizen of the world and I am therefore alert to questions surrounding fair justice and human dignity without discrimination, in particular for those without a voice.



*Patricia NDJANDJO, Field Coordinator*



## OUTLOOKS

- ◆ In the three towns targeted by the project, legal consultations will take place each month and medical, psychological and legal consultations will be offered to women and minors victims of violence
- ◆ Roughly 130 cases of women and children deprived of liberty/or victims of violence have been taken on without charge by lawyers working on the project as part of the legal aid programme
- ◆ Radio broadcasts, film screenings, plays and educational talks to raise awareness about women and minor’s rights amongst the population and Chadian authorities
- ◆ 5 training sessions for instructors, followed by training sessions for legal professionals, prison officers and law enforcement officers will be organised, 5 panel discussions bringing together 60 authorities will be organised in order to develop a Charter of Good Practices
- ◆ 3 Chadian non-governmental organisations will be supported and subsidised in order to create local initiatives for eradicating violence against women and children in the targeted towns



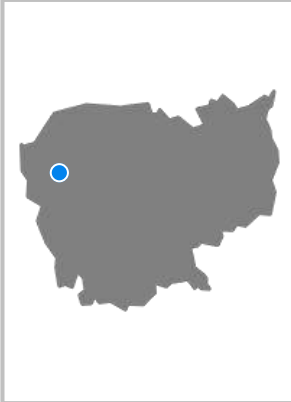
# PROJECTS IN ASIA

## CAMBODIA

### Province of Battambang :

« Access to Justice for All and Defence of the most disadvantaged »

#### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** October 2015 **End Date:** September 2017

**Area of Intervention:** Province of Battambang

**Project Coordinator:** ATTOUCHE Anne-Elisa

**Field Coordinator:** DOISY Magali

**Group Leader:** ROGER François

**Project team members:** DIRIBARNE Hélène

**With the support of:** Occitanie region, the Cabinet of the Prime Minister, DFDL international law firm, Bar Association of the Council of State and the Court of Cassation

**Partners:** Cambodia Bar Foundation



#### OBJECTIVES

This project aimed to:

- ♦ Strengthen the rule of law and promote access to law and justice for the population of the province of Battambang, particularly those who are most disadvantaged
- ♦ Improve the defence of defendants who have been denied the right to legal counsel in criminal cases, mostly due to a lack of resources



March and April 2016 Mission



March and April 2016 Mission

#### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ♦ Free legal support services within the Tribunal and legal advice has been offered to people in need. The legal support services are available 4 mornings a week.
- ♦ Taking on cases relating to criminal matters, each lawyer defended between 10 and 12 criminal cases a month
- ♦ Over 100 cases were taken on by lawyers working on the project
- ♦ Over 180 people have benefited from the project

## RESULTS

- ◆ Defendants have benefited from free legal counsel
- ◆ The defence of defendants is guaranteed
- ◆ The government and the Ministry of Justice have been made aware of the need to address the current shortcomings in terms of access to law and legal aid



March and April 2016 Mission



## TESTIMONY

This project has enabled us to hire two Khmer Cambodian lawyers in charge of the defence of criminal cases; they each take on between 10 and 12 cases a month. They also perform legal support services through which they give legal advice to the local population. As part of this activity, we also organise workshops directly into the communities, raising awareness about legal matters and responding to the questions of those who are unable to attend the legal support services. We are in direct contact with the local population and local NGOs, with whom we are trying to develop partnerships in order to conduct awareness-raising workshops directly with their beneficiaries. That was the case with the organisation "Phare Ponleu Selpak".



*Magali DOISY, Field Coordinator*



## OUTLOOKS

- ◆ In the province of Battambang, defence of criminal cases has improved
- ◆ The population benefits from legal advice at the tribunal and in the local community
- ◆ Expand the project activities to include lawyers' training of NGOs



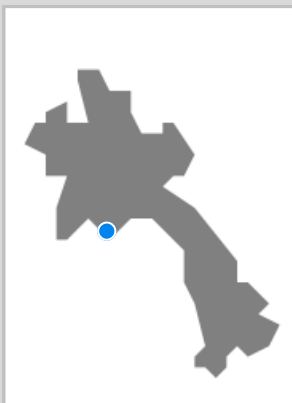
March and April 2016 Mission



## LAOS

« Strengthen the skills and the role of lawyers in the Laotian Judicial system »

### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** 2013

**End Date:** 2016

**Area of Intervention:** Vientiane

**Project Coordinator:** CLARIGO Amélie

**Field Coordinator:** PROSPER Vincent

**Group Leader:** NAYRAL DE PUYBUSQUE Henri

**Project team members:** DIRIBARNE SOMERS Hélène, DJAMMEN NZEPA Ferdinand, D'OVIDIO Laura, FAUVEAU IVANOVIC Natacha, FLOUZAT-AUBA Marie Dominique, RICOULEAU Vincent, TRUSSES Fabienne, VIDAL Anne, Jennifer BROCHOT

**With the support of:** the French Embassy in Laos

**Partners:** Laos Bar Association, Toulouse Bar Association, the Laotian Ministry of Justice



### OBJECTIVES

- ♦ Redefine lawyers' initial training courses within the National Legal Training Institute
- ♦ Train legal professionals (judges, prosecutors, lawyers)
- ♦ Establish exchanges between bars



Joint-training mission

### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ♦ 1 mission to define lawyers' initial training courses on strengthening the role of the lawyer
- ♦ 2 missions of joint-training realised in order to assist Lao Bar Association's trainers
- ♦ 1 mission of training of trainers about deontology
- ♦ 1 study visit in France and 1 study visit in Laos as part of the institutional support to the Laotian Bar
- ♦ One 2-days national conference was organised about the role of the lawyer and access to justice. It gathered 80 people
- ♦ 1 closing mission was realised by the headquarters coordination

## RESULTS

- ♦ The Bar was strengthened institutionally via the creation of initial training courses and by sharing experience with the Bar of Toulouse
- ♦ In order for training to be carried out autonomously, 6 Laotian lawyers were trained in teaching methods on the following subjects: the rights of the defence, the principles of a fair trial and the international legal instruments for the protection of human rights principles
- ♦ 10 lawyers were trained regarding the code of ethics
- ♦ A new training programme was defined
- ♦ The legal profession was made to look more attractive



Closing mission



Exchanges between bars activity



## TESTIMONY

The intervention of ASF France experts has had a very positive impact on the training organised within the National Justice Institute. Indeed, it led to knowledge-sharing and the dissemination of techniques related to the practice of the legal profession. It is a great privilege to be able to benefit from the experience of foreign lawyers during our training at the INJ. I received useful advice from them concerning the correct conduct of a lawyer. Before the involvement of the French lawyers, I did not really know how to express myself, act and react in front of a large audience, but thanks to them I have been able to make considerable progress. I am convinced that the teaching that we have had from the French lawyers will be extremely useful for a future professional career, for those of my future colleagues and for the future students at the INJ. Thank you to the experts of ASF France!



*Dah BOUTSADA, student at the National Justice Institute*



## OUTLOOKS

- ♦ Developing a project that aims to favor access to the law, to justice and to medical and social assistance for the population of the province of Oudomxay in the North of Laos



## FRANCE

### « Legal aid for migrants »

#### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** September 2015    **End Date:** October 2016

**Area of Intervention:** Calais

**Project Coordinator:** CANTIER François

**Project team members:** THIEBAUT Elise, CALONNE Marie Hélène, VOISIN DANBRY Marie Paule, FILLOLA Vincent

**With the support of:** The Regional Conference of the Presidents of the Bar of Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Bar of Boulogne-Sur-Mer, Bar of Grande Synthe

#### OBJECTIVES

This project aimed to:

- ♦ Provide legal advice to organisations based in Calais on both asylum rights and the rights that migrants possess due to their presence on national territory
- ♦ Contribute to providing better care for migrants and as such contribute to ensuring that their fundamental human rights are respected

#### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

- ♦ Volunteers working for organisations based in Calais and in the surrounding area were provided with legal information
- ♦ Legal consultations to aid migrants took place within organisations in Calais

#### RESULTS

- ♦ Migrants in Calais received useful legal information and advice in order to ensure that their rights were respected
- ♦ Competencies of organisations dealing with migrants' rights in Calais are reinforced
- ♦ Freedoms and fundamental rights of migrants are better respected



#### TESTIMONY

ASF France has been filled with emotions regarding the situation of these distressed people. The first thing that we owe them is to inform them of their legal rights. The people in Calais who want to go to Great Britain do not know what rights they are entitled to in Britain, nor the rights that they have in France if they wish to stay. Thus, initially, we give legal advice.



*Mr François Cantier (Project Coordinator),  
interviewed on Chérie FM*



## G R E E C E

### « Legal aid for migrants »

#### KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT



**Commencement Date:** July 2016

**End Date:** October 2016

**Area of Intervention:** Athens, Lesbos, Kyos

**Project Coordinator:** CANTIER François

**Project team members:** METTON Ingrid, FILLOLA Vincent, JOB Calvin, FLEURIS Béatrice

**With the support of:** Doctors of the World



#### OBJECTIVES

- ♦ Contribute to respecting the fundamental rights of refugees by ensuring that, throughout the migratory process, there is a specific protection in place for women and children

#### ACTIVITIES IN 2016

Joint intervention in Greece in partnership with Doctors of the World (MDM)

- Creation of a steering committee made up of representatives from ASF France and MDM
- Three lawyers (members of ASF France) joined MDM teams and its international network to work in refugee camps in Greece
- Collecting testimonies from migrants on these issues

#### TESTIMONY

In July 2016, we were able to observe operating refugee camps in Greece; we have also been able to meet with several association leaders and institutional bodies. Our visit took place several weeks after the signature of an agreement on the 18th March 2016 between the European Union and Turkey, introducing nothing less than an intolerable system of migrant “bartering”, in complete contravention of the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

We have seen the immediate consequences of this agreement and we felt ashamed. As a result, we decided to take action, and to make use of our abilities and knowledge of the law for the benefit of our brothers in the camps. Doubtless we also wanted to pay service to the European ideal, that of a welcoming land, a place of fraternity and solidarity. Our determination to defend, time and again, peoples’ human rights wherever they are jeopardized has only been increased.

*Vincent Fillola, Lawyer*



#### RESULTS

- ♦ A team of lawyers provided expert legal help to migrants
- ♦ Migrants’ freedoms and fundamental rights are better respected



## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

21 national associations currently belong to the ASF Network :

*Brazil, Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Guinea, Italy, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, the Netherlands, Peru, Senegal, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo and Tunisia.*

In June 2016, ASF France and ASF Mali organised and led an exploratory mission in the North of Mali in order to design and implement **a project** improving the skills of the judges of the Court of Appeal in Mopti. The **programme**, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI), **began** in April 2017.

## « Strengthening and development of Lawyers Without Borders' (ASF) organisations »

Established in 2009, the Lawyers Without Borders (ASF) Network aims to develop and strengthen ASF organisations by sharing tools and experiences across the network, coordinating actions and improving transparency for the benefit of the most vulnerable members of society.



## OUTLOOKS IN 2017

- ◆ Continue to support lawyers and human rights advocates
- ◆ Develop projects that are in partnership
- ◆ Increase the capabilities of national organisations

## 31st ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the CIB in Yaoundé

A meeting of the ASF Network was held at the end of the Annual Meeting of the International Conference of Francophone Bars that occurred in Yaoundé (Cameroon) from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2016.

This large annual meeting is a major event for both the profession and lawyers from the civil law tradition. Several presidents of the Bar from the francophone world participate in this event as well as numerous delegations of international and national lawyers.

The theme of this 31<sup>st</sup> Conference was "The rule of law faced with new security challenges, myth or reality", reflecting the role played by lawyers in defending the rule of law and preserving democratic gains.



The president of ASF, Mr Cantier, took part in the conference and spoke on the theme of society and whistleblowers under the protection of the rule of law.

ASF Benin, ASF Cameroun, ASF Congo, ASF France and ASF Togo were present at the meeting in order to provide updates on the activities of each organisation and to allude to the Network's future projects.





The French-speaking world is first and foremost a group of men and women who share a common language: French. Since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, French-speakers have been aware of the existence of such a shared linguistic space, enabling exchanges and opportunities for mutual enrichment. A multitude of organisations and groups have been created, in order to bring the French-speaking world alive every day.

## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- Involvement in the work on relations between the French-speaking civil society and the International Organisation of the French-speaking world (OIF)
- Participation in the 10<sup>th</sup> conference of French-speaking international NGOs, that occurred from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 in Antananarivo, Madagascar. ASF France organised and hosted a round table discussion on "French-speaking civil society facing the challenges of the migrant crisis"
- Participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> French-speaking world summit, where Mr Cantier headed the Conference of international NGOs during the Summit of the Heads of State of the French-speaking world, the Permanent Council of the French-Speaking world and at the Ministerial Conference of the French-speaking world

**The International Organisation of the French-Speaking World (OIF)** hopes that the civil society and its organisations will become partners of the French-speaking world.

In this light, it has recognised a number of international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including ASF France. They hold a Consultative Status within the OIF.

These organisations are split into 4 groups:

- A. French language, linguistic and cultural diversity
- B. Peace, democracy and human rights
- C. Education, training, higher education and research
- D. Economic cooperation, sustainable development and solidarity. Twenty-four international NGOs, including ASF France, took part in the project "Peace, Democracy and Human Rights". ASF France was elected as chair of the NGOs for this project.

## OUTLOOKS IN 2017

- ♦ Intensify the relations between the civil societies of the different francophone countries
- ♦ Strive for the development of projects in partnership, leading to the effective improvement of the rule of law



# TRAINING PROGRAMMES

In addition to its status as an international solidarity organisation, ASF France has been recognised as a training organisation by the Regional Management of business, competition, consumerism, work and employment.

**ASF France is firmly convinced that training is an indispensable tool in order to improve the capabilities of practitioners.**

The organisation leads two types of training activities:

- Aimed at local legal practitioners: these activities play a key role in the programmes that occur in each individual country. They lead to the empowerment of local participants
- Aimed at practitioners participating in ASF France projects: all ASF France participants follow a preparatory course for their participation which includes a section on methodology and a technical section on diverse legal topics

ASF France training sessions are recognised under the Individual Training Right (DIF), are certified by the National Council of Bars and can be funded by the Fund for the Interprofessional Training of Independent Professionals (FIFPL) for lawyers practicing in France.

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## TRAINING SESSIONS CARRIED IN OUT IN 2016

### **Train-the-trainers course – Fundamentals »**

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Toulouse, managed by BASTIEN RABNER Françoise and CANTIER Marie-José

### **« International legal instruments »**

17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Paris, managed by FAUVEAU IVANOVIC Natacha

### **« International criminal defence »**

8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in Paris, managed by FAUVEAU IVANOVIC Natacha and LESCS Jessica

### **« Regional systems for the protection of human rights »**

6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in Paris, managed by GOLDBERG Nathalie and PAULUS Jean-Michel

### **« International criminal defence - Reinforcement »**

14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in Paris, managed by FAUVEAU IVANOVIC Natacha and LESCS Jessica

### **« Train-the-trainers course - Reinforcement »**

17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in Toulouse, led by CANTIER Marie-José and BASTIEN RABNER Françoise

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## TRAINERS VOLUNTARY GROUP

ARNAUD Charlotte, BARANGER Nicolas, BAREGUWERA Julien, BASTIEN RABNER Françoise, BELUSA Matisse, BENSUSSAN Jérôme, BREJON Aude, CANTIER Marie-José, DELFIN ROSARIO Alejandra, DESFORGES Laure, DIRIBARNE Hélène, DJAMMEN NZEPA Ferdinand, DURAND Isabelle, FAUVEAU IVANOVIC Natasha, GOLDBERG Nathalie, LATAPIE Laurent, LE GROUMELLE Elsa, LESCS Jessica, LOAS Colette, MABILLE Catherine, MARTINEAU Christine, NAYRAL DE PUYBUSQUE Henri, PAULUS Jean-Michel, RABESEND RATANA Elisabeth, ROGER François, SECCI Marilyne, TRUSSES Fabienne, VILLAGEON Amélie, WACHEUX Elodie.

**6**  
**Modules**

**6**  
**Trainers**

**53**  
**Participants**



Train-the-trainers course – Fundamentals



Train-the-trainers course - Reinforcement



Formation on the regional systems for the protection of human rights

6-8 April 2016



Formation on international legal instruments

17-19 March 2016



## TESTIMONY

**"New module: The role of victims appearing before the International Criminal Court"**

After having wanted to get involved in projects led by ASF France by becoming a member, I wanted to increase my commitment in order to make a more meaningful contribution and to feel that I was useful. Thanks to the train-the-trainers course held by ASF France, I found a way to do this while ensuring that I would have the necessary skills and techniques to train professionals and to devise training courses.

After completing the training in 2016, ASF France quickly gave me the opportunity to participate in the design and running of a training course on the theme of providing assistance and legal representation to victims appearing before the ICC.

Nowadays, as a result of the guidance provided by all of the ASF France teams, I feel supported and able to teach students techniques and specific skills, which are likely to help, provide answers or even support participants on ASF France training courses.

*Nicolas BARANGER, Trainer at ASF France*



## EVENTS IN 2016



### Monday the 10th of March - Paris: Drama



**Les Micycles**, an association of student lawyers that organises drama productions to raise money for charity. They put on a play, with all the proceeds going to ASF France.



### Sunday the 12th of June - Paris: Juris'Run Race

Every year **The Association of Corporate Lawyers** organises a 10k run, only open to legal professionals. Five hundred running enthusiasts gathered for a morning of sport, including an ASF France team wearing the colours of the organisation for this "legal" sporting event!



### June - Paris: Young Arbitrators Match

**The international competition for drafting arbitral awards** organised a YAM for the second time. This competition is open to young legal practitioners who have maximum 5 years of experience in arbitration law. This event supports ASF France.





**The Departmental Councils promoting Access to Law (CDAD)** offered citizens the opportunity to meet with lawyers in order to learn about their rights and responsibilities and to receive guidance for any initiatives they may undertake. The lawyers who participated gave their time in order to donate a proportion or all of the payments received for CDAD consultations to ASF France.

## Joint action that enables access to the law

The aim is to facilitate access to Law.

The idea is to pool resources so that every free consultation given in France allows ASF France to extend the scope of their actions in aid of the most vulnerable members of society elsewhere in the world. This is made possible by joint action of the Bar, the CDAD and ASF France enabling our organisation to promote international solidarity.

## Action with ASF France

The idea is that, over a given period of time — ideally a week — lawyers giving out free legal consultation sessions are encouraged to contribute the remuneration usually paid to them by the CDAD to ASF France. This one-off action is open to all volunteer lawyers, whether or not they are registered on the list of lawyers who work regularly with the CDAD.

Establishing such an event is the result of an agreement between the Bar, the CDAD and ASF France.

The event generally finishes with a ceremony during which the money raised is handed over, which enables us to gather together and to thank all of the parties taking part in the initiative.

From the 19th to the 24th of September 2016, lawyers at the Bar of Toulouse organised a week of free legal consultations with the assistance of the CDAD in Haute-Garonne in order to help vulnerable members of French society and elsewhere in the world.

At the closing ceremony for this initiative, ASF France, surrounded by its partners and benefactors, **was presented with a cheque for 9932 euros.**



Mr François Cantier, the founder of ASF France, was presented with the funds raised by the Toulouse lawyers by Mr Marc Pouyssegur, President of the Toulouse High Court and the Haute-Garonne CDAD, and by Ms Anne Fauré, President of the Toulouse Bar Association.

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## DONATIONS & PARTNERSHIP

ACE - JURIS RUN — AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT — AGFAC BESANÇON — AMBASSADE DE France AU LAOS — AMBASSADE DE France AU MALI — AMBASSADE DE France AU NIGERIA — ASS ELEVES AVOCATS DE LYON — AusAID — CABINET DU PREMIER MINISTRE — CONFERENCE REGIONALE DES BATONNIERS DU NORD PAS DE CALAIS — CONSEIL NATIONAL DES BARREAUX — COORDINATION SUD — CROSI —EUROPAID — FONDATION ALLEN & OVERY — FONDATION DU BARREAU DE PARIS — FONDATION DU CABINET BETTO SERAGLINI — FONDATION UN MONDE PAR TOUS — HERAGE — LEGITEAM — LEO LAGRANGE — LES MICYCLES — LES MUTUELLES DU MANS ASSURANCE — MMA — MEDECIN DU MONDE — MINISTÈRE DE AFFAIRES ETRANGÈRES ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT INTERNATIONAL — ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL DE LA FRANCOPHONIE — SCP CANTIER & ASSOCIES — SHARP — UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE — USAID — WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT—YOUNG ARBITRATORS MATCH ASSOCIAT

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## TERRITORIAL COLLECTIVITY

Mairie de Toulouse — CG Haute Garonne — CR Midi Pyrénées

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## BAR ASSOCIATION - SUBVENTION

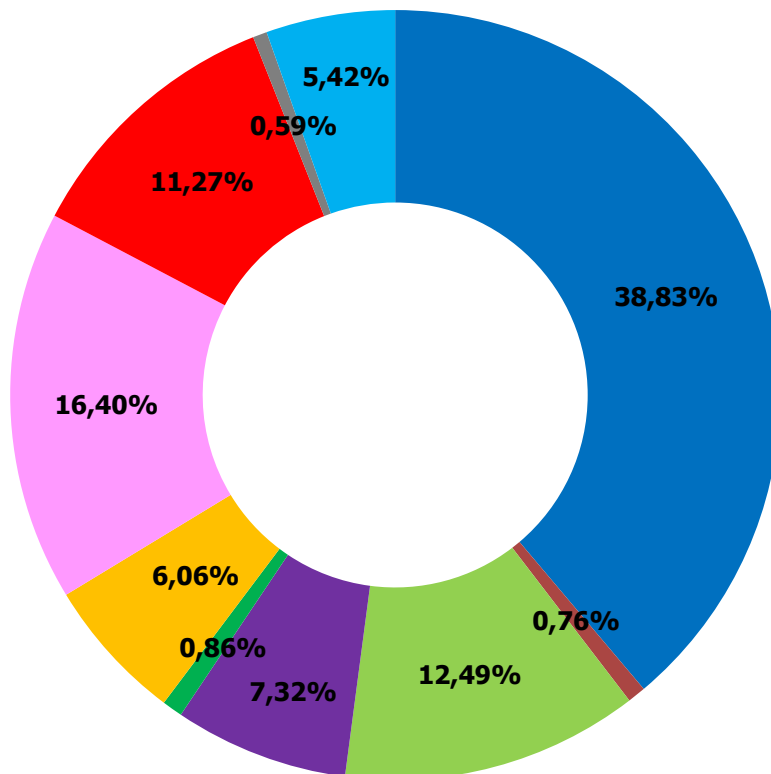
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## BAR ASSOCIATION - MEMBERS

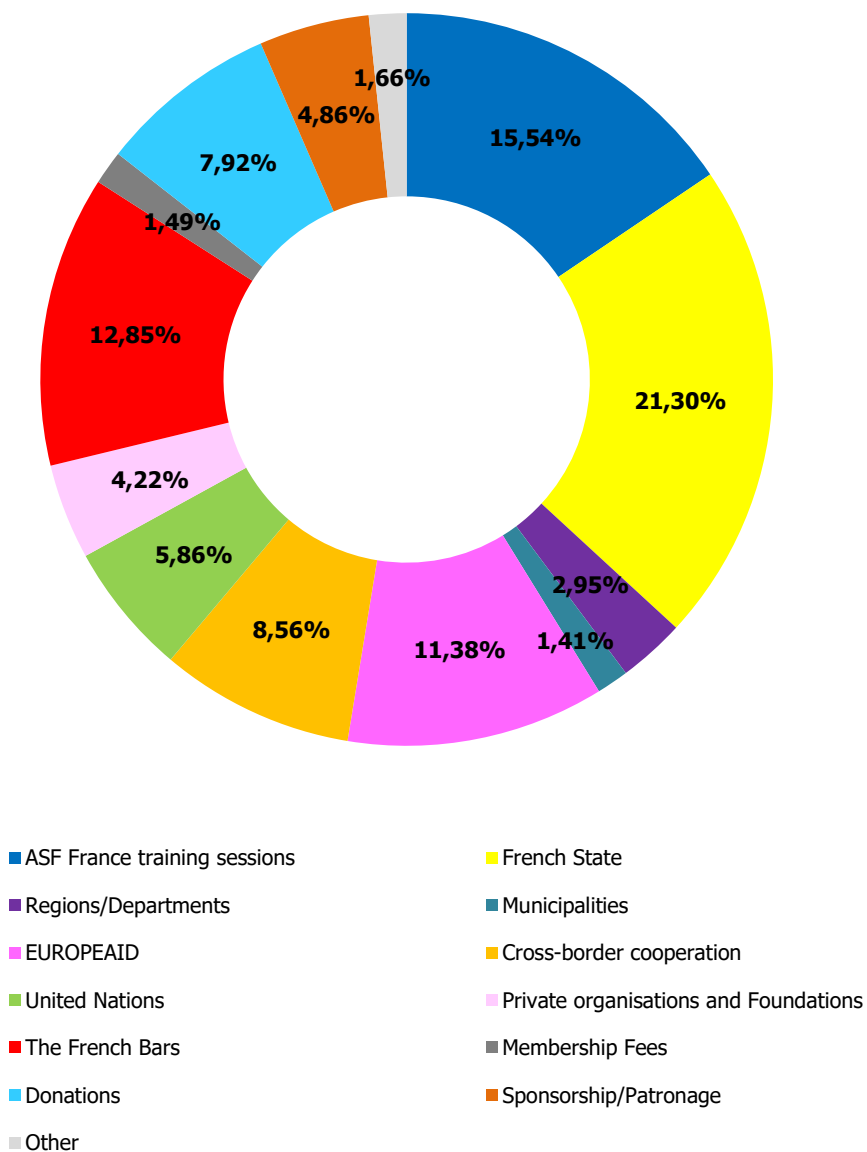
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## BURDEN SHARING



- Overheads
- Communication
- ASF France training sessions
- Skills-building for lawyers in Laos
- LUDOSIG Project, Cameroon
- Access to Law in Battambang province, Cambodia
- PADEF Project, Chad
- Fight against torture, Nigeria
- Exploratory missions
- PRODEF Project, Ivory Coast

## DONATIONS & FUNDINGS





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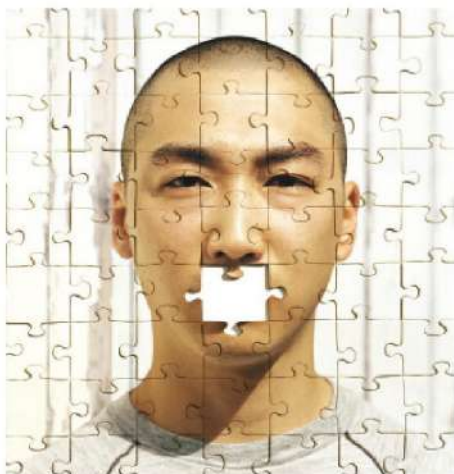
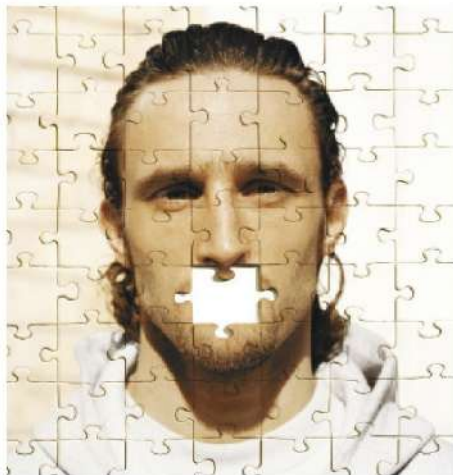
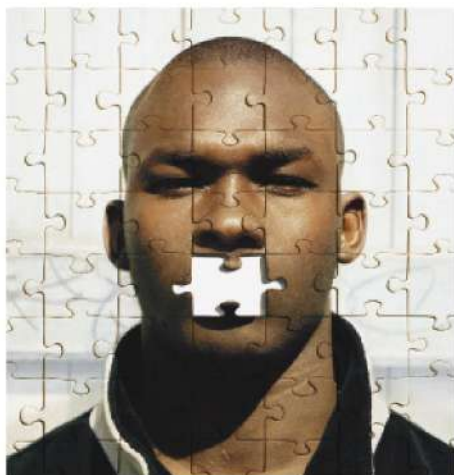
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« When defence is being denied, it is the entire human rights system that is being trampled on »



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