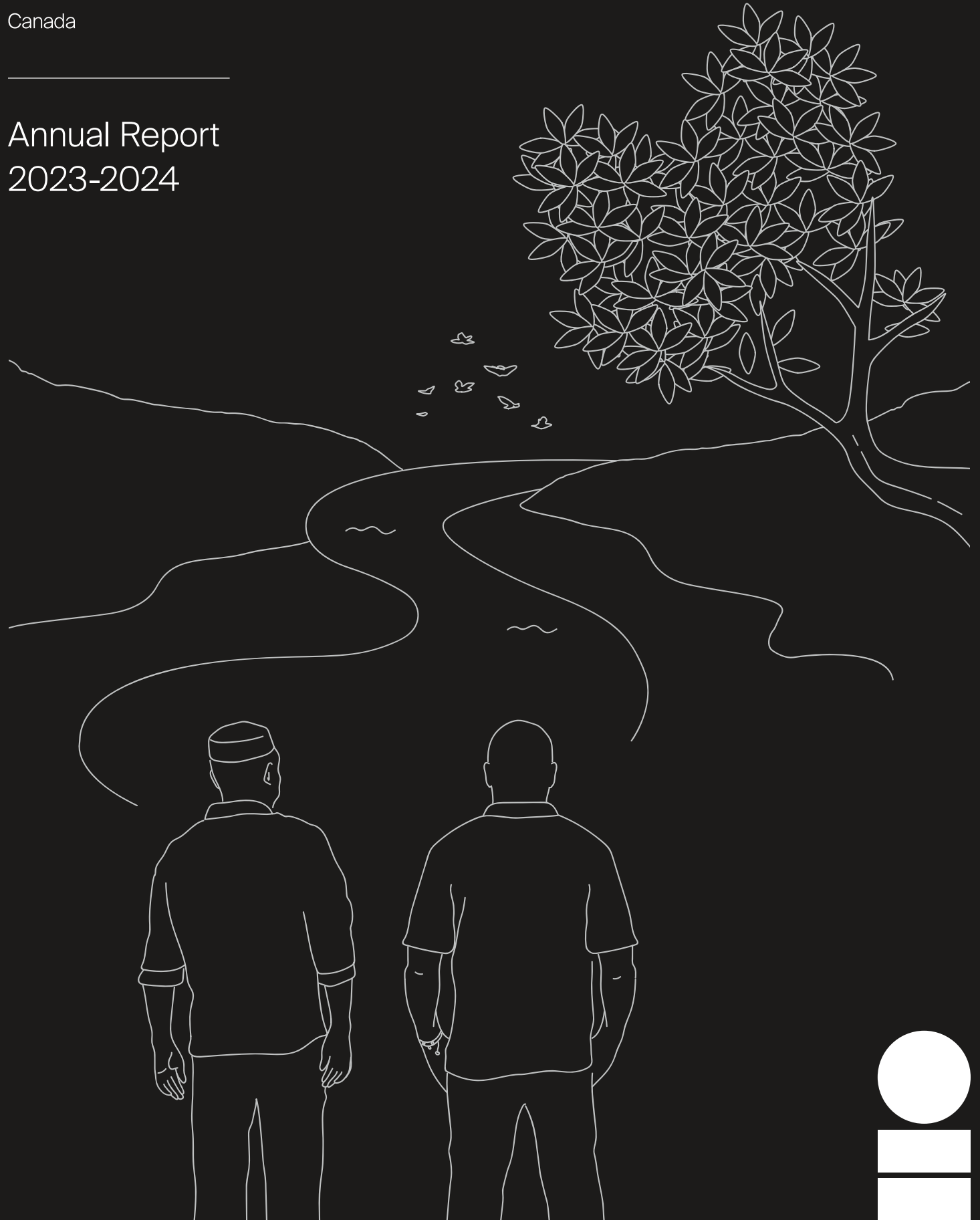


**Lawyers**  
without Borders  
Canada

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Annual Report  
2023-2024



Justice  
Solidarity  
Cooperation  
Commitment  
Integrity  
Independence

# Let's raise our voices

## **Our Vision**

We aspire to a world where human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected, enforced and promoted. A world where justice is done in an independent and fair manner.

## **Our Mandate**

Lawyers Without Borders Canada is a non-governmental international cooperation organization that, for the past 20 years, has contributed to the implementation of the human rights of vulnerable people by strengthening access to justice and legal representation.

## **Our Approach**

- Actively defend and promote the rule of law;
- Fight all forms of impunity;
- Strengthen the capacities of justice system actors and members of civil society;
- Take action to improve the security and independence of human rights lawyers;
- Provide continuous training to legal professionals;
- Ensure fair and equitable trials.

## **Who Benefits from our Actions?**

Our assistance is destined for populations in vulnerable situations, including women, youth, indigenous communities, people discriminated against on the basis of their gender identity, and any person whose human rights have been violated.

# Human rights continue to play a key role in solving contemporary challenges



**Delia Cristea**  
Board of Directors Chairperson



**Véronique Lamontagne**  
Executive Director

**“Ms. Lamontagne’s expertise has been a driving force for opportunities for LWB Canada in such a challenging context. We are truly grateful for her commitment, which only strengthens our faith in the future of our organization.”**

– Delia Cristea, Board of Directors Chairperson

**“I’m glad to join the organization in this specific moment of its journey. Human rights issues abound, and the fight against impunity and corruption has never been as crucial as it is today if we are serious in bringing to justice perpetrators of human rights violations. Through a humane and unifying approach, I intend to lead with rigour in order to allow our organization to continue to grow its mandate and amplify its impact for the communities we support.”**

– Véronique Lamontagne, Executive Director

As Lawyers Without Borders Canada (LWB Canada) enters its 23<sup>rd</sup> year of existence, it draws on heightened experience and readiness to increase its impact on the 24,801 people in situations of vulnerability who received support this past year in their quest for justice, thanks to our legal empowerment approach. This also marks a revival for the organization, as it undertakes to invest in new challenges, under a brand new leadership.

As armed conflicts, climate change and migration exacerbate levels of vulnerability, a human rights-based approach carries the potential of bringing concrete solutions to complex challenges.

From 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, our 157 team members (including staff, volunteers, and interns), who work in 12 countries in close collaboration with nearly 200 partners, achieved concrete results that have changed many lives for the better. Rulings were pronounced in favour of victims of gender-based violence in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras; arbitrarily detained individuals in Haiti were released; youth in Mali and Columbia took ownership of their rights to start playing an active role in their country’s transitional justice process; communities made major legal progress in the fight to protect their territory and rights to water and health; civil society organizations in Mali, Burkina Faso and Benin are now in a position to demand better sexual and reproductive rights from decision makers and within their communities for women and teenage girls. At last, a new generation of human rights defenders, trained through our programmes in our partner countries are now operational in the field as actors of change.

Strengthening the rule of law and protecting human rights are needed more than ever if we are to overcome the challenges populations are facing today. Our world is evermore polarized, with the proliferation of interconnected crises, geopolitical tensions and armed conflicts. Anti-rights movements are gaining momentum and assaults against the rule of law, pluralism, minorities, women, and human rights defenders, are more and more frequent. Importantly, sexual and reproductive rights are under threat. As such, increased access to justice is even more meaningful for breaking with marginalization and cycles of human rights violations, solving litigation cases and securing reparations for people in vulnerable situations.

Experience shows that results can be achieved insofar as civil society manages to organize. Human rights movements are also picking up speed, as feminist organizations lead advocacy campaigns and protests to protect women's rights. Also, whistleblowers are calling out corruption. Youth and their elders are bringing emblematic cases before the courts to demand answers and commitment from their respective States to tackle climate crises and secure rulings that protect human rights. Today, the law has the power to protect what has already been achieved and to bring about new breakthroughs.

This, we can certainly account for. Since its beginnings, our organization has capitalized on demanding justice as a means for long-term change. Bringing emblematic cases before the courts has enabled us, once again, to secure some landmark victories. In El Salvador, we fought and managed to convict the perpetrator of an attempted femicide. In Colombia, our internship

programme gives young legal experts the chance to work on investigations conducted by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace on the crimes that were committed during the armed conflict. In Honduras, we won a case in which the Supreme Court ordered the immediate suspension of a hydroelectric project along the Mezapa River. In Mali, victims of descent-based slavery can now own land following a ruling by the criminal court of Kayes – the result of years of hard work and advocacy.

The thirst and the need for justice is tremendous. Following a period of heightened growth, LWB Canada now seeks to strike a balance between strengthening its long-standing presence in a number of countries in Latin America, Africa and the Caribbean, the recent development of new cooperation opportunities (in Ukraine, Senegal, Benin, and Burkina Faso), and other ongoing development programs. Our work is performed with and for people, and we seek durable solutions. This is why the quality of our work must always outweigh quantity.

The organization's annual budget stood at over 20 million dollars – an increase of around 3 million compared to the previous year. LWB Canada is proud to be supported by public and private funding that provides civil society organizations we work with the necessary means to offer free services all around the world. In the current context where violations of fundamental freedoms are on the rise, it is essential that we continue to support governance and human rights initiatives.

You will find out more about the above in the annual report, which, we hope, will prove to you that we can turn things around when we raise our voices.

# Lawyers Without Borders Canada Key Figures

(data from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024)

**22**

**international  
cooperation projects**

More than  
**24,800**

**vulnerable people**  
directly or indirectly benefited from our work  
or our partners' work

**8**

**offices around the world**  
(Bamako, Bogotá, Guatemala City,  
Montréal, Québec, Port-au-Prince,  
San Salvador, and Tegucigalpa)

**368**

**emblematic cases of human  
rights violations**  
were brought before international  
courts and tribunals



# Volunteer Cooperation

“As a volunteer adviser on legal issues in El Salvador, I was able to put my expertise on anti-harassment policies in the workplace at the service of UNID@S project partners. [...] The most precious thing I'll take back with me is the human relations I forged over the course of this memorable experience.”

– Frédérique Forget (cooperation volunteer in El Salvador)



**Countries where volunteer cooperation participants were deployed:** Honduras, Colombia, Mali, Guatemala, Benin, El Salvador

## Purpose

Volunteer cooperation at LWB Canada is built on a network of volunteers, either starting out in their professional life or already experienced, who are willing to mobilize their energy beyond borders to defend human rights by exchanging knowledge, expertise and experiences. One of the purposes of our volunteer cooperation program is to establish a new generation of human rights defenders, from our doorstep to the other side of the world.

Among our volunteer cooperation participants whose mandate with LWB Canada came to an end this year, over 90% now work in the field of human rights, international law or gender-based equality.

## Outcomes

- Burkina Faso: The conformity of domestic law in Burkina Faso, Benin, and Mali was analysed with regard to international standards on sexual and reproductive rights and gender-based violence.
- Guatemala: Research was conducted on international standards and jurisprudence surrounding freedom of expression, and the criminal proceedings initiated by journalist Norma Sancir, of the Maya Kaqchikel People, against the police forces who arbitrarily arrested her, were observed.
- Mali: An international seminar was held on supporting and protecting victims and survivors of sex-based violence.



# Our Voices Across the World



An activity from the Plurielles project, Burkina Faso.  
©Plurielles



## Colombia

“Our network contributes to the empowerment of women, helping them recognize their value and understand that we, as women, are agents of transformation, who first undergo personal transformation in order to bring about transformation in others.”

– Marisol Congolino, leading human rights defender from Buenaventura.

Marisol Congolino, leading human rights defender from Buenaventura and member of *Red de Mujeres Retejendo Saberes Valle del Cauca*.  
©LWB Canada

## Projects

- “Justice, gender and peace in Colombia” – 2023-2025, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Nouveau Québec sans frontières” (NQSF) – 2021-2024, Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie.
  - “Capacity building to fight human trafficking in northern Central America and Colombia” (Fintrata) – 2022-2026 (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Colombia), Global Affairs Canada.
- 

## Outcomes

- We are strengthening the capacities of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (*Jurisdicción Especial para la Paz*), the judicial body mandated to judge and punish senior leaders responsible for crimes committed during the armed conflict. Work carried out by young interns in analyzing and systematizing information has enabled the **identification of over 350 suspects and helped establish the modus operandi of 10 criminal structures**.
  - Protection measures were granted to a **woman who was forcibly recruited into an armed group**, to ensure her safety and participation before the tribunal of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace as part of a collective case on forced recruitment and the involvement of children in armed conflict.
  - **63 teenagers and children are now in a position to help build peace in Colombia**, after taking part in awareness-raising workshops on the impact of armed conflict on human rights, organized by our partner Generación V+.
  - **Seven awareness-raising, training and advocacy initiatives are ongoing** and implemented by civil society organizations for over 800 beneficiaries, including 12 victims of sexual and sex-based violence, who have been able to obtain legal and psychosocial assistance.
- 

## Partners

- Caribe Afirmativo
- Colectiva Justicia Mujer
- Corporación Guassimi
- Corporación Justicia y Dignidad
- Corporación 8 de Marzo
- Corporación Humanas
- Jurisdicción Especial para la Paz
- Equipo Jurídico Pueblos
- Generación V+
- Red de Mujeres Comunes de Cali
- Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá (UNIPA)



## El Salvador

“LWB Canada’s project has allowed us to continue providing, and even amplify the scope of services ASPIDH offers. It has also enabled us to partner up with other organizations in order to offer a holistic (psychosocial and legal) support system to those in need and to refer emblematic cases to law firms so that victims of human rights violations can demand justice.”

– Monica Linares, Director of ASPIDH

Monica Linares, Director of ASPIDH, an association that fights for gender-diverse people to change their name. ©Monica Campos and Kellys Portillo

## Projects

- “Improved access to justice for victims of sexual and sex-based violence” Unid@s – 2021-2024, Global Affairs Canada
  - “Capacity building to fight human trafficking in northern Central America and Colombia” (Fintrata) – 2022-2026 (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Colombia), Global Affairs Canada.
- 

## Outcomes

- The author of an **attempted femicide was sentenced to 10 years in prison** and a nominal sum was granted to the victim following an emblematic court case led by our partner Me Karla Ayala. This conviction is critical in the context of El Salvador, where gender-based murders are widespread and generally go unpunished.
  - **A lesbian woman who was assaulted in public has obtained justice and reparation:** the man who was found guilty must present both a public and a private apology and complete training on positive masculinity. The case, led by Me Karla Ayala, is another step forward in the fight against violence and discrimination faced by sexual and gender nonconforming people in El Salvador.
  - **A university professor who sexually assaulted a student was found guilty** by a court in El Salvador. This case was led by Me Feusier and paved the way for significant advances in terms of case law in that the abuser and the victim were in a relationship. Marital rape is often tinged with stereotypes, and only few rulings in El Salvador turn out to be in the victim’s favour.
  - **Three transgender individuals were able to change their name** with the support of our partner, ASPIDH. These are considerable victories because the Supreme Court ruling required the State to adopt a law on gender identity, to enable transgender people to change their name. To date, however, the bill has yet to be passed.
- 

## Partners

- Asociación ASPIDH arcoíris trans
- Asociación de Mujeres Ciegas de El Salvador (AMUCES)
- Agrupación Ciudadana por la Despenalización del Aborto en El Salvador (Agrupación)
- Karla Ayala (lawyer)
- Oswaldo Feusier (lawyer)
- La Colectiva feminista para el desarrollo local
- Organización de Mujeres Salvadoreñas por la Paz (ORMUSA)



## Guatemala

“After 680 exhausting days of detention and legal proceedings, I was finally released. Lawyers Without Borders Canada intervened at each hearing and never gave up on trying to seek justice for me. Even though there are still charges against me, LWB Canada is still by my side supporting my case.”

- Virginia Lappara

Virginia Lappara, former chief of the anti-corruption investigation unit, Guatemala. ©Emmanuel Andrés *Prensa Comunitaria*

## Projects

- “Capacity building to fight human trafficking in northern Central America and Colombia” (Fintrata) – 2022-2026, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Human Rights Protection in Guatemala” – 2022-2024, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDI).
  - “Human Rights Protection Fund Guatemala” (FPDDH) – 2021-2026, Global Affairs Canada.
  - LWB Canada’s operations in Guatemala are also supported by the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the *Fondo Centroamericano para las Mujeres* (FCAM) and the American Bar Association (ABA).
- 

## Outcomes

LWB Canada and its partners have secured a number of victories for individuals criminalized for calling out acts of impunity and corruption in Guatemala:

- **Virginia Laparra**, former chief of the anti-corruption investigation unit, was released from prison nearly two years after being charged on grounds of abuse of authority for having called out counts of corruption.
  - **Samari Carolina Gómez Díaz**, former assistant to the Public Prosecutor specialized in anti-corruption was acquitted of the charge of disclosing confidential information and was subsequently released.
  - Former Public Prosecutors **Aliss Morán and Paola Escobar**, charged and detained on counts of abuse of power, have now been released.
  - **Norma Sancir**, an indigenous journalist, was arrested, beaten, and arbitrarily detained for five days after participating in a protest for the rights of communities of Mayan descent. Justice was delivered when a court convicted those responsible for her arbitrary detention.
- 

## Partners

- Asociación de Abogados y Notarios Mayas de Guatemala (ANMAG – “Nim Ajpu”)
- Asociación Justicia y Reconciliación (AJR)
- Bufete Jurídico de Derechos Humanos (BDH)
- Centro para la Acción Legal en Derechos Humanos (CALDH)
- Equipo de Estudios Comunitarios y Atención Psicosocial (ECAP)
- Refugio de la Niñez (RDN)
- Unidad de Protección a defensoras y defensores de Derechos Humanos de Guatemala (UDEFEQUA)



## Honduras

“I think what matters is that we strengthen aspects we have already made some headway on, and especially that we break with the stigma in public administration and spaces where our sisters and brothers are present.”

– Anonymous participant in training on project management, “Together for Equality” project.

Nelly Moreno Parada (LWB Canada), Kenia Paz, and Claudia Herrmannsdörfer (EJDH) at a forum dedicated to analyzing which direction the country will take upon electing the Public Prosecutor and Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Office of the Public Prosecutor, Honduras, July 11, 2023. ©LWB Canada



## Projects

- “Justice, Governance and the Fight Against Impunity in Honduras” (JUSTICIA) – 2018-2025, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Civil Society for the Consolidation of Human Rights in Honduras” (*Honduras con Derechos*) – 2021-2024, in partnership with Oxfam and CEHPRODEC, European Union, European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).
  - “Together for Equality”: Promoting social change for the recognition of LGBTQ2I rights in Honduras – 2023-2026, Equitas and Dignity Network Canada through the ACTIF Fund, with financial support from Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Capacity building to fight human trafficking in northern Central America and Colombia” (Fintrata) – 2022-2026, Global Affairs Canada.
- 

## Outcomes

- **The rights to water and health of more than 2,000 people are protected** following a Supreme Court ruling in a case led by our partner *Bufete de Estudios para la Dignidad* (BED). The immediate suspension of a substantial hydroelectric project along the Mezapa River was ordered, and measures will need to be taken to prevent environmental and human impact on the Pajuiles community.
  - The rights to health and life of **110 people with multiple sclerosis are now better protected** thanks to an intervention by our partner *Equipo Jurídico por los Derechos Humanos* (EJDH). EJDH presented the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) with a petition to obtain preventive measures for these people as a result of insufficient access to medical care through the public health system. Even before the IACHR issued a response, the State of Honduras activated an emergency mechanism giving the communities access to medicine and healthcare.
  - Following an advocacy campaign led by *Centro de Estudios para la Democracia* and LWB Canada pushing for legislative reform, the **Honduran Congress amended decrees that up until now hindered the prosecution of cases of corruption**, thereby increasing State capacity and paving the way for the establishment of a United Nations International Commission on fighting impunity and corruption in Honduras.
  - **14 organizations that promote sexual orientation and gender identity diversity now have more power to act** after strengthening their leadership and project management capacities. One of the most tangible consequences was that the *Asociación Lésbica Feminista Trans* was able to become a legal entity, allowing it to undertake its mission in a more efficient and durable manner.
- 

## Partners

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Asociación Calidad de Vida  | - Centro para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación LGTBI – Somos CDC          |
| - Asociación Campesina Pro Mejoramiento y Defensa de Jutiapa El Hatillo | - Coalición Anticorrupción Honduras                                     |
| - Bufete Estudios por la Dignidad                                       | - Colectiva de Mujeres Hondureñas                                       |
| - Bufete Justicia para los Pueblos                                      | - Comité de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos en Honduras (COFADEH) |
| - Casa Alianza Honduras   | - Equipo Jurídico por los Derechos Humanos (EJDH)                       |
| - Centro de Derechos de Mujeres   | - Oxfam Intermón  |
| - Centro Hondureño de Promoción para el Desarrollo Comunitario          | - Red de Abogadas Defensoras de Derechos Humanos                        |
| - Centro de Estudios para la Democracia                                 | - Red de Trabajadoras Domésticas  |
| - Centro de Promoción en Salud y Asistencia Familiar                    | - Unidad de Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer y la Familia (UDIMUF)       |
| - Central Nacional de Trabajadores del Campo – La Paz                   |   |



# Haiti

“This project provides us with a platform to express ourselves in a different way and allows us to continue our fight under another form: through art. We, as direct or indirect victims of the epidemic, feel freer and more confident speaking about cholera.”

– Cast of the *Lavi pa menm* theatre performance, directed by Association 4 Chemins.

## Projects

- “Access to Justice and the Fight Against Impunity in Haiti” (AJULIH) – 2017-2024, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Women and Girls Standing up with Dignity for our Sexual and Reproductive Rights” (FANMKAD) – 2021-2025, in partnership with CARE Canada and Santé Monde, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of Adolescents and Young People” (RESPECT) – 2021-2025, in partnership with Doctors of the World, Global Affairs Canada.
- 

## Outcomes

- **229 people in arbitrary detention, including 14 women, have been released.** Of this number, 51 people have been released thanks to habeas corpus proceedings.
  - Advocacy activities before the United Nations, Haitian State authorities, and the international community, are ongoing, and a report (in French) on the rights of the victims of the cholera epidemic **has been published**, 14 years after UN peacekeepers introduced the disease into the country. LWB Canada urges the UN to recognize its legal responsibility in this tragedy that led to the death of at least 10,000 people.
  - **100 women were able to access methods of contraception that are adapted for their needs**, as well as gynecological consultations and screening services for cervical cancer, thanks to mobile clinics provided by the Toya Foundation.
  - Approximately 60 civil society organizations are now in a position to identify gaps in the Haitian legal framework in relation to international standards and lead advocacy actions in that regard, thanks in part to training on a legal analysis (in French) of Haitian legislation relating to sexual and reproductive autonomy.
- 

## Partners

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| - Asosyasyon fanm solèy Dayiti (AFASDA)                              | - Héritage pour la Protection des Droits Humains  |
| - Association Quatre Chemins (A4C)                                   | - Institut interuniversitaire de recherche et développement (INURED)  |
| - Association des victimes du choléra de Carrefour (ASSOVIC-C)       | - Kay Fanm  |
| - Barreau de Port-au-Prince  | - Kri Fanm Ayiti (KRIFA)  |
| - Barreau du Québec  | - Laboratoire des droits humains et d'expertise sociojuridique (LDHESJ)                                     |
| - United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)                  | - Médecins du Monde Suisse  |
| - Collectif d'avocat.es spécialisé.es en litige stratégique (CALSDH) | - Ministère de la justice et de la sécurité publique (MJSP)   |
| - Collectif contre l'impunité  | - Mouvman moun viktim kolera (MOMVIK)   |
| - Combite pour la Paix et le Développement (CPD)                     | - Mouvement des femmes haïtiennes pour l'éducation et le développement (MOUFHED)                            |
| - Éducaloi   | - Office de la Protection du Citoyen et de la Citoyenne (OPC, equivalent to the Office of the Ombudsperson) |
| - Ensemble Contre la Corruption (ECC)                                | - Òganizasyon viktim kolera Ayiti (OVICH)   |
| - Fanm Deside  | - Réseau national de défense des droits humains (RNDDH)   |
| - Fondation Devoir de Mémoire  | - Solidarite fanm ayisyèn (SOFA)  |
| - Fondation konesans ak libète (FOKAL)                               |   |
| - Fondation Toya   |   |
| - Groupe d'appui aux rapatriés et réfugiés (GARR)                    |   |



# Mali

“People aren’t aware that they have rights. As a magistrate, I intend to promote and protect human rights and fight all forms of sex-based violence.”

– Fatoumata Sidibe, a legal expert joining the next generation of human rights defenders.

Fatoumata Sidibe, one of the eight women legal experts who trained in the field of human rights and was successfully admitted to Mali’s magistrature exam.  
©LWB Canada

## Projects

- “Justice and Peace in Mali (JUPAX) – 2021-2025, Global Affairs Canada.
  - “Global study on the status of and opportunities for reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Mali” – 2021-2023, Global Survivors Fund.
- 

## Outcomes

- With more than 3,000 candidates and only 100 positions to fill, **15 young legal experts trained by LWB Canada, including eight women, were admitted to Mali’s magistrature exam.** Our human rights preparation training also enabled 35 people to learn the basics of international law.
  - **Mobile clinics raising awareness about human rights and providing legal aid services have allowed 17,619 people,** of which 76% women, to take ownership of and exercise their rights.
  - **With LWB Canada support, women are being empowered to take control of their lives** and are contributing to transforming power dynamics within their family environment and their community thanks to legal information services.
  - **Victims of descent-based slavery are now able to fulfill their right to land and property,** following a Supreme Court ruling. This victory is the fruit of relentless fighting and advocacy led by the TEMEDT association.
- 

## Partners

- Association des Juristes Maliennes (AJM)
- Association Noyau Dur pour la Promotion de la Justice Transitionnelle au Mali (AND-Mali)
- Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes Maliennes (APDF)
- Association Temedt Mali (TEMEDT)
- Collectif Cri de Cœur (CCC)
- Conseil National des Victimes (CNV)
- Coordination Nationale des Associations de Victimes (CNAV)
- Groupe de Recherches et d’Applications Techniques (GRAT)
- Groupe de Recherche, d’Etude, de Formation Femme-Action (GREFFA)
- Réseau des Jeunes pour une Justice Transitionnelle Inclusive au Mali (R2JTIM)
- Tribune Jeunes pour le Droit au Mali (TRIJEUD)
- Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF Mali)

# Democratic Republic of Congo and Senegal



## Projects

### Democratic Republic of Congo

- “Health and Rights of Women, Adolescents and Children” (TUMAINI) – 2022-2028, in partnership with the Université de Montréal International Health Unit, Global Affairs Canada.

### Senegal

- “Project to Support the Economic and Social Empowerment of Women and Youth in Senegal” (PAFEJ) – 2022-2028, in partnership with Desjardins International Development, Global Affairs Canada.

## Outcomes

### Democratic Republic of Congo

- Lawyers and members of the civil society are now better equipped to **defend the sexual and reproductive health and rights of the members of their community** following training on international standards. A group of people are now able to train their peers, thereby amplifying the impact on Congolese society in combating sexual violence, often used as a weapon in the context of armed conflicts in the country.

## Partners

### Democratic Republic of Congo

- Amis de la justice (ADJ)
- Association des mamans pour lutter contre la délinquance féminine et l'encadrement des enfants abandonnés (AMALDEFEA)
- Association des Femmes des Médias (AFEM)
- Dimension sociale
- Panzi Foundation
- Initiative Alpha
- Initiative congolaise pour la justice et la paix (ICJP)
- Union of emancipation of families (UFEDI)
- Promotion de la paix et protection des défenseurs des droits humains (PPI)
- SOS Information Juridique Multisectorielle (SOS IJM)
- SOS JUSTICE

### Senegal

- Association des Juristes Sénégalaises

# Mali, Benin, Burkina Faso



## Project

- “Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Benin, Burkina Faso and Mali” (Plurielles) – 2021-2027, in partnership with *Santé Monde* and SOCODEVI, Global Affairs Canada.

## Outcomes

- **Women and children who were victims of forced marriage have been able to access legal aid and judicial assistance services** in Benin and in Mali thanks to four LWB Canada-supported legal clinics.
- More than 100 members of civil society from Benin, Burkina Faso, and Mali received training and are now in a position to demand **better protection for women and adolescent girls’ sexual and reproductive rights** from decision makers and within their community.
- 2,064 people, including 844 women, who participated in awareness-raising workshops on sex-based equality in Mali, are taking ownership of fundamental concepts in order to **fight against sex-based violence more efficiently**.
- Training sessions on human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, have allowed for a **new generation of legal professionals to emerge in Benin, Burkina Faso, and Mali** (71 young legal experts, including 45 women).

## Partners

- Association des Personnes Rénovatrices des Technologies Traditionnelles (APRETECTRA)
- Centre d’Etude et de Recherche-Action pour un Développement Intégré Durable (CERADID)
- Association des femmes juristes du Burkina Faso (AFJ-BF)
- Association Munyu
- Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF Mali)
- Association pour la Promotion Juridico-Économique de la Femme et de l’Enfant (PROMODEF)

# Ukraine



## Project

- “The impact of the war in Ukraine on women” – 2022-2024, Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie and the Barreau du Québec.

## Outcomes

Despite the daily challenges the war has brought with it, the Ukrainian Women Lawyers Association (JurFem), with support from LWB Canada, has achieved the following results:

- **More than 140 victims of psychological, physical, and sexual violence have received judicial assistance** thanks to a helpline.
- The fight against impunity surrounding conflict-related sexual violence is making headway: **JurFem has taken on a leading role in a working group of the international crime unit** of Ukraine’s Prosecutor General’s Office.
- **Thirty young female lawyers and law students are acquiring knowledge and skills in relation to the fundamental rights of women** as part of the Summer University on human rights.
- **Representatives of the Ukrainian civil society strengthened their knowledge of transitional justice** and ways to document mass human rights violations by attending a workshop on best practices in Colombia as part of the GENPAZ project.

## Partner

- Ukrainian Women Lawyers Association, JurFem



# Fintrata

(Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador)



## Project

- “Capacity building to fight human trafficking in northern Central America and Colombia” (Fintrata) – 2022-2026, Global Affairs Canada.

## Outcomes

The purpose of the Fintrata project, implemented by LWB Canada in Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia and El Salvador, is to combat the impunity of human trafficking crimes, which consist of the act of recruiting, transporting or harbouring of people through force, with the aim of exploiting them. LWB Canada and its partners have achieved the following results:

- **47 victims of human trafficking and related crimes received high-quality legal aid and judicial assistance services** in Honduras, Guatemala, and Colombia.
- **More than 600 civil servants, members of civil society and academia received training on human trafficking** and are now in a better position to identify victims and conduct investigations in order to prosecute and punish human trafficking crimes and other related offences.
- Following a police operation that resulted in **the arrest of three traffickers**, one victim benefited from legal and psychosocial support, and their security was ensured thanks to joint efforts by partner organization *Casa Alianza* in Honduras, the Office of the Public Prosecutor and the police force investigation directorate.

## Partners

- Asociación Calidad de Vida
- Asociación Casa Alianza
- Corporación Caribe Afirmativo
- Corporación Espacios de Mujer
- Fundación Renacer
- Refugio de la Niñez

Signature of a collaboration agreement with LWB Canada Director in Honduras, Lucas Valderas, and Candida Saucedo Torres, Director of *Casa Alianza*, with a view to offer legal psychosocial services to victims of human trafficking, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. ©LWB Canada.

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