

# Achieving Justice for Gross Human Rights Violations



*In all regions of the world, perpetrators of gross human rights violations enjoy impunity while victims, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, remain without effective remedies and reparation. To combat impunity, enhance access to redress and promote the role of HRDs to those ends, the project will build the capacity of judges, lawyers and HRDs to deliver justice by addressing legal, systemic and other obstacles and will develop practical tools for them and other justice actors. National, regional and global activities are built around the transformative role of those actors, and the law.*

## Intended Outcomes

- ❖ Judges, lawyers and prosecutors in the focus countries are more independent and accountable, and more competent to deal with challenges of impunity and access to redress faced by countries in transition and/or experiencing a rule of law crisis.
- ❖ Effective steps are taken prompting policy- and decision-makers in the focus countries to align, and where necessary reform, legal and institutional frameworks with international law and standards on independence, competence and accountability of judges and lawyers; and providing for truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence.
- ❖ Judges, prosecutors, lawyers and other HRDs in the focus countries are better equipped with the necessary knowledge and confidence to hold perpetrators of human rights violations to account and to deliver prompt and effective justice and redress to victims of human rights violations.
- ❖ Victims of human rights violations and abuses in the focus countries are better equipped with the necessary knowledge, confidence and support to demand truth, justice and reparation.

## Focus Countries

Cambodia      Myanmar      Tunisia      Venezuela  
Mozambique      Nepal      Tajikistan

## Partners

The ICJ will partner in this project with the International Commission of Jurists – European Institutions, which is a sister organization of the ICJ and, depending on each focus country, local CSOs, professional organizations or affiliations, judicial academies and international organizations.

## Beneficiaries

The *direct beneficiaries* of the project are judges and prosecutors, lawyers and other HRDs, executive and legislative branches of government, regional and global intergovernmental organizations, government representatives and independent experts and non-state actors. Where appropriate, activities will include victims, their families and their representatives so as to build awareness of their rights and the role of the justice system in protecting and empowering them to demand truth, justice and reparation. The *indirect beneficiaries* will be the rights-holders themselves, and society as a whole, which will benefit from justice mechanisms that respect international standards.

## Plan of Action

*Phase 1 (inception, months 1-7):* Tailored plans of action for each of the focus countries will be developed during the inception phase of the project and will be in place by month 6.

*Phase 2 (implementation, months 2-25):* Tailored plan of actions for each focus country will be implemented and monitored. Interventions may include:

- ❖ Advocacy to bring about legal and institutional reform processes that comply with international law;
- ❖ Training of and sharing of experiences by judges on international and regional law and standards;
- ❖ Training of lawyers and other human rights defenders;
- ❖ Strategic interventions and public interest litigation;
- ❖ Trial observations;
- ❖ Support of HRDs, especially those working to combat impunity and achieve access to justice/redress;
- ❖ Technical submissions to UN and regional human rights mechanisms, to raise awareness and trigger recommendations and action by the mechanisms;
- ❖ Develop and support the use of practical tools on achieving justice in times of crisis and/or transition.

*Phase 3 (wind down, months 25-26):* The project exit strategy will be finalized, alongside any corresponding action.

This project includes a flexible fund allowing responsive action and temporary protection measures (relocation, trial observation, advocacy) in support of threatened judges, lawyers, and other HRDs.

## Timeframe

26 months

## Budget

1,370,000 EUR