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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development

Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the status of the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including on its financial situation.



I. Introduction

1. The present report was prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 74/143, in which the Assembly encouraged contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Human Rights Council on the operations of the Special Fund. The report covers the activities of the Special Fund between 1 January and 30 November 2023.

A. Mandate of the Special Fund

2. The Special Fund was established pursuant to article 26 of the Optional Protocol to help to finance the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment following a visit to a State party to the Optional Protocol, and to finance educational programmes of national preventive mechanisms.

3. The Special Fund receives voluntary earmarked contributions from Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities.

B. Management of the Special Fund

4. The Special Fund is administered by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

C. Eligibility criteria

5. Applications may be submitted by State institutions of States parties to the Optional Protocol visited by the Subcommittee and their national preventive mechanisms that have agreed to the publication of the Subcommittee report. Applications may also be submitted by national human rights institutions that are compliant with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and by non-governmental organizations if the proposed projects are to be implemented in cooperation with eligible States parties and/or national preventive mechanisms. Only applications relating to recommendations on the establishment or effective functioning of national preventive mechanisms contained in visit reports of the Subcommittee that have been published in accordance with article 16 (2) of the Optional Protocol, and are therefore no longer confidential, may be considered.

6. As of 2020, applications may also be submitted for support for educational programmes of national preventive mechanisms in accordance with article 26 (1) of the Optional Protocol. This strategic decision of the Subcommittee's working group on the Special Fund has extended the opportunity of applying for a grant to all national preventive mechanisms. The programmes covered may focus on education, training or awareness-raising. They may be internal (aimed, for example, at increasing the knowledge, skills and capacity of the members or staff of the national preventive mechanism) or external (aimed, for instance, at improving the knowledge of external actors, relevant professional groups – including law enforcement personnel, medical personnel, public officials, members of the judiciary, Members of Parliament, lawyers, prosecutors and teachers – and persons in detention). The programmes may include (a) training courses, workshops, seminars and conferences; (b) research and teaching; (c) awareness-raising activities, such as public campaigns, production of promotional materials, development of websites or media broadcasts; or (d) other educational activities related to the prevention of torture and ill-treatment.

II. Activities of the Special Fund

A. 2024 project cycle

7. The twelfth call for applications to the Special Fund, for grants for projects to be implemented in 2024, closed on 1 March 2023. According to the above-mentioned eligibility criteria, projects concerning 43 eligible States and their national preventive mechanisms¹ and seven eligible national preventive mechanisms² could have been submitted. In addition, national preventive mechanisms of all States parties to the Optional Protocol were eligible to seek financial support for their educational programmes, regardless of whether the Subcommittee had undertaken a visit to them or whether the visit report had been published. Applicants could request grants of up to \$30,000 for project activities to be implemented between 1 January and 31 December 2024.

8. A total of 19 applications were received concerning 14 eligible States or their national preventive mechanisms (Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Gabon, Honduras, Mauritania, Mexico, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine and Uruguay). In accordance with the guidelines for applications, the secretariat of the Special Fund conducted an extensive evaluation of the project proposals received by the deadline, in consultation with OHCHR field presences and the country rapporteurs of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture. The Subcommittee's working group on the Special Fund and capacity-building reviewed the substantive part of the project proposals and recommended 14 projects for grants at its twelfth session. Following a review by the OHCHR Grants Committee, 14 grants were awarded to projects aimed at implementing recommendations made by the Subcommittee focusing on the establishment or strengthening of national preventive mechanisms in 12 eligible States (Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Gabon, Honduras, Mauritania, Mexico, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine and Uruguay) for a total of \$384,063 (see annex).

9. Since its first call for applications in 2011, the Special Fund has supported 134 technical cooperation projects in 32 countries worldwide. Those projects have resulted in legislative changes, such as bringing laws into line with international human rights standards on torture prevention, including revised codes of criminal procedure, prison acts and laws prohibiting abusive body searches for persons deprived of their liberty, the enactment of laws seeking to establish national preventive mechanisms or to align them with the Optional Protocol, and institutional changes, such as establishing or strengthening the effective functioning of, and collaboration between, national preventive mechanisms or other relevant institutions.

10. With regard to the establishment or strengthening of the functioning of national preventive mechanisms, the projects have provided key support to some newly established mechanisms. In addition, they have contributed to the improved knowledge and capacity of members and staff of the mechanisms in monitoring places of detention, through training, study visits to other facilities, the drafting of internal rules and methodologies, the production of manuals and the development of interview protocols and guidelines; the enhanced visibility of the mechanisms, through improved annual reports, their translation into national languages, radio broadcasts, brochures and posters; the improved monitoring capacity of the mechanisms, through the purchase of technical equipment, such as cameras and equipment to measure the size and humidity of cells; enhanced collaboration with stakeholders, including professional groups, prosecutors, lawyers and members of the judiciary, the police and civil society; the improved monitoring of specific institutions or issues, including psychiatric hospitals and health systems in places of detention through training and capacity-

¹ Argentina, Armenia, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Gabon, Germany, Honduras, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, North Macedonia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

² Ecuador, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, North Macedonia, Senegal and Tunisia.

building; collaboration with national monitoring bodies established under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and consequently the improved protection of specific populations, including women, persons with disabilities, children and persons living with HIV and AIDS).³

11. The projects addressed gaps and needs in torture prevention, identified by the Subcommittee on the ground, and were instrumental in implementing the Subcommittee's recommendations. The Special Fund is unique in linking the recommendations of an independent treaty-based expert committee to work undertaken on the ground, which can serve as an incentive for the publication of the Subcommittee's visit reports.

B. Other activities of the Special Fund

12. Given the focus of the Special Fund on the establishment and strengthening of national preventive mechanisms, and in response to increasing demand from the field, in 2018 OHCHR developed and issued a practical guide entitled "Preventing torture: the role of national preventive mechanisms".⁴ The practical guide is available in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

13. The Special Fund was also promoted at regional conferences on torture prevention organized by OHCHR in the framework of the Human Rights 75 initiative and of the twentieth anniversary of the Optional Protocol in Beirut (January 2023), Dakar (January 2023) and Yaoundé (October 2023). Former and current beneficiaries of the Special Fund, including States, national preventive mechanisms and civil society organizations, showcased their projects and highlighted the importance of the support they had received from the Fund.

III. Financial situation of the Special Fund

14. The Special Fund is the only functional fund established by an international human rights treaty within the United Nations. Since its creation in 2012, the Special Fund has supported a total of 134 projects with a total amount of \$3,064,867 in 32 States across four regions.

15. The activities of the Special Fund should be commensurate with the growth of the activities of the Subcommittee, which has resulted in an expanding number of States and national preventive mechanisms being eligible to submit requests to the Special Fund: in 2015, there were 13; in 2023 there were 43. That trend is expected to continue as countries are encouraged to ratify the Optional Protocol and to agree to the publication of the Subcommittee's visit reports. In addition, the opening of the Special Fund to all national preventive mechanisms seeking support for their educational programmes may also result in an increased number of grant requests.

16. The minimum required on an annual basis to guarantee the functioning of the Special Fund is \$500,000, which would enable it to support 10 to 20 projects per year, with a reasonable level of funding per project (for example, \$25,000–\$30,000). While the generous support from existing donors is greatly appreciated (see table below), there is a pressing need to increase contributions if the high demand for support from the Special Fund is to be met adequately. Sustainable financial support and contributions continue to be necessary so that the Special Fund is able to respond to the applications it receives.

³ Information from the final reports on the implementation of projects submitted to the secretariat of the Special Fund by the grantees.

⁴ The guide is available on the OHCHR website at www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/NPM_Guide_EN.pdf.

Contributions to the Special Fund (31 December 2022–30 November 2023)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount (United States dollars)</i>	<i>Date of receipt</i>
Denmark	143 287	31 December 2022
Czechia	9 276	26 May 2023
Total contributions received	152 563	

IV. Making a contribution

17. Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector organizations and the public at large may make contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Only funds earmarked for the Special Fund will be allocated to it. Contributions to the Special Fund should therefore always be marked “Payee: Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, account CH”. Payments may be made by:

- Bank transfer in United States dollars, to the UNOG General Fund, account No. 485001802, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, 270 Park Avenue, 43rd floor, New York, NY 10017, United States of America (Swift code: CHAS US 33; bank number: (ABA) 021000021)
- Bank transfer in euros, to the United Nations Office at Geneva, account No. 6161600934, J.P. Morgan Chase AG, Grueneburgweg 2 – 60322 Frankfurt am Main, Germany (Swift code: CHAS DE FX, bank number: (BLZ) 50110800, IBAN: DE78 5011 0800 6161 6009 34)
- Bank transfer in pound sterling, to the United Nations Office at Geneva, account No. 23961903, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, 25 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AJ, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Swift code: CHAS GB 2L, bank number: (SC) 609242, IBAN: GB68 CHAS 6092 4223 9619 03)
- Bank transfer in Swiss francs, to the United Nations Geneva General Fund, account No. 240-C0590160.0, UBS AG, rue du Rhône 8, case postale 2600, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland (Swift code: UBSW CH ZH 80A; bank number: 240; IBAN: CH92 0024 0240 C059 0160 0)
- Bank transfer in other currencies, to the United Nations Geneva General Fund, account No. 240-C0590160.1, UBS AG, rue du Rhône 8, case postale 2600, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland (Swift code: UBSW CH ZH 80A; bank number: 240; IBAN: CH65 0024 0240 C059 0160 1)
- Cheque, payable to the United Nations, addressed to the Treasury, United Nations, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

18. Donors are requested to inform the Donor and External Relations Section of OHCHR when a payment has been made, including by sending a copy of the bank transfer order or of the cheque, to facilitate effective follow-up to the official recording procedure and the preparation of reports of the Secretary-General.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

19. The Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is a unique mechanism of torture prevention and the only operational fund established by an international human rights treaty within the United Nations. Its support for national preventive mechanisms, the establishment of which is a core obligation under the

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, has been and can be crucial in preventing torture at the national level.

20. The minimum sum required on an annual basis to guarantee the functioning of the Special Fund is \$500,000, which enables it to support up to 20 projects per year, with a reasonable amount of funding of each one (\$25,000–\$30,000).

21. While appreciating the contributions made to the Special Fund and the growing interest of States in its activities, the Secretary-General encourages further contributions to ensure that the Fund is able to provide adequate support in accordance with its mandate. Contributions should be commensurate with the growing number of eligible countries, the potential for supporting the establishment or strengthening of national preventive mechanisms in those countries and the opening up of the Special Fund to all national preventive mechanisms established by the States parties to the Optional Protocol. The Secretary-General therefore urges Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities to continue their sustained financial support for this important mechanism of torture prevention.

Annex

Projects approved by the Grants Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights since the establishment of the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

	<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
1.	Armenia	Strengthening of the national preventive mechanism	Penal Reform International	2016	25 000
2.	Armenia	Enhancing the capacity of national preventive mechanism members through training sessions and equipment; increasing awareness of the mandate	Human Rights Defender of Armenia	2018	24 985
3.	Armenia	Raising awareness of the national preventive mechanism; strengthening the skills of the staff on visit methodology	Human Rights Defender of Armenia	2019	23 160
4.	Armenia	Strengthening professional capacities of the national preventive mechanism; raising awareness of its role and activities; training officials on international standards	Human Rights Defender of Armenia	2020	16 765
5.	Argentina	Legal reform to assist in the establishment of the national preventive mechanism in Tucumán Province; training of judges, penitentiary officers and social workers on the rights of detainees	Abogados y Abogadas del Noroeste Argentino en Derechos Humanos y Estudios Sociales	2015	35 000
6.	Argentina	Data collection regarding violence in contexts of confinement; elaboration of a manual for prison staff; offering training to the penitentiary authorities; carrying out of public events to strengthen the local preventive mechanism	Xumek	2018	25 000
7.	Argentina	Improving the capacity of the national preventive mechanism in monitoring medical care and the health of persons deprived of their liberty	Procuración Penitenciaria de la Nación	2018	25 000
8.	Argentina	Collection and systematization of information and the design of policies for the competent authorities	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	2020	25 000

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
	<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	
9.	Argentina	Production of a diagnostic survey of the federal prisons, through use of a collaborative methodology, to evaluate the conditions of detention	Procuración Penitenciaria de la Nación	2020	30 000
10.	Argentina	Development of a digital publication with public policy recommendations and a guide for the judiciary on the investigation and punishment in cases of torture	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	2022	19 900
11.	Benin	Implementation of recommendations of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment concerning the protection of children deprived of their liberty	World Organization against Torture in partnership with Enfants solidaires d'Afrique et du monde	2012	19 539
12.	Benin	Implementation of recommendations of the Subcommittee concerning the protection of children deprived of their liberty in Benin	World Organization against Torture in partnership with Enfants solidaires d'Afrique et du monde	2013	44 428
13.	Benin	Informing detainees of their fundamental rights; reducing overpopulation in places of detention through improved identification of cases of arbitrary detention by State actors and civil society	International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture	2014	35 000
14.	Benin	Improving detention conditions of children deprived of their liberty in penitentiary institutions and in police and gendarmerie facilities; training of juvenile justice judges to be recruited for the newly established child-friendly courts, as provided for by the revised Children's Code	World Organization against Torture	2016	15 820
15.	Benin	Advocacy and road map for the establishment of a national preventive mechanism	Changement social Bénin	2019	19 884
16.	Benin	Advocacy for capacity building of national preventive mechanisms; renewing monitoring visits of civil society organizations	Changement social Bénin	2022	29 986
17.	Benin Gabon Niger	Implementation toolkit and support for the establishment and strengthening of national preventive mechanisms	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2021	30 000
18.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		Fundación Canónica Pastoral Social	2021	30 000

	<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
19.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Improving conditions of detention of vulnerable persons deprived of their liberty A nation-wide audit of prisons on the detention conditions, in particular in disciplinary cells, with recommendations	Instituto de Terapia e Investigaci Violencia Estatal	2021	30 000
20.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Development of a uniform record-keeping system for persons deprived of liberty	Defensoría del Pueblo del Estado Plurinacional del Bolivia	2022	30 000
21.	Brazil	Implementation of recommendations of the Subcommittee concerning the protection of children deprived of their liberty in Brazil	World Organization against Torture in partnership with Justiça Global	2014	34 802
22.	Brazil	Supporting the preventive mechanism of Rio de Janeiro; promoting the establishment of preventive mechanisms in other States of Brazil	Justiça Global in partnership with the preventive mechanism of Rio de Janeiro	2015	35 000
23.	Brazil	Supporting the work of the federal preventive mechanism; advocating for the establishment of State preventive mechanisms in São Paulo and Maranhão	Conectas Direitos Humanos	2016	25 000
24.	Brazil	Generating recommendations to the National Justice Council; the São Paulo Public Security Department; organizing a workshop for legal practitioners about torture committed against women and the particular vulnerabilities of women; preparing an advocacy strategy for the establishment of a local preventive mechanism	Conectas Direitos Humanos	2018	25 000
25.	Brazil	Building the capacity of the key actors in Brazil, in particular in the States of Rio de Janeiro and Santa Catarina; delivering train-the-trainer seminars on the investigation of torture in accordance with international standards. Working with the national preventive mechanism and local preventive mechanisms in developing advocacy and knowledge dissemination programmes	International Bar Association	2018	24 927
26.	Brazil	Increasing understanding of and cooperation among preventive mechanisms, law enforcement agencies and civil society organizations working on juvenile justice; increasing visibility of the	World Organization against Torture	2018	25 000

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>		
	torture prevention environment in Brazil				
27.	Brazil	Improving communication between the national preventive mechanism and the authorities, civil society organizations and human rights institutions	Instituto Veredas	2019	25 000
28.	Brazil	Prevention of torture through regular monitoring visits to juvenile detention centres; nationwide anti-torture social network campaign	World Organization Against Torture	2020	30 000
29.	Brazil	Creation of a group of influencers on torture prevention; systematization of the collection of information and establishment of a plan to fight torture	Sociedade Maranhense de Direitos Humanos	2020	30 000
30.	Brazil	Identifying, mobilizing and building capacity among civil society organizations for the implementation of a SPM and the torture prevention in the Federal District	Instituto Veredas	2020	25 990
31.	Brazil	Strengthening the network for monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by the national preventive mechanism	Instituto Ciclica	2021	29 900
32.	Brazil	Strengthening the capacity of the staff of the national preventive mechanism to incorporate international tools and standards on the use of force into their monitoring and advocacy work	Omega Research Foundation	2021	30 000
33.	Brazil	Strengthening the Rio de Janeiro State System to Prevent and Combat of Torture and promoting its visibility	Mecanismo Estadual de Prevenção e Combate a Tortura do Rio de Janeiro e Justiça Global	2021	27 556
34.	Brazil	Development and maintenance of the “torture-free platform”, communication strategy and capacity-building	Instituto Prios	2023	24 640
35.	Burkina Faso	Revision of the decree on the national preventive mechanism and capacity-building of members of the mechanism	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights	2023	29 926
36.	Chile	Development of interview protocols and guidelines for monitoring torture with a gender perspective; conduct of seminars and training	Fundación 1367, Casa Memoria José Domingo Cañas	2019	24 571

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
	<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	
37.	Chile	Strengthening the process of integration and operationalization of the Chilean national preventive mechanism within the national human rights institution	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2020	25 000
38.	Chile	Developing activities on the prevention of torture and ill-treatment, with a focus on women, children and vulnerable groups	Corporación Opción	2020	25 000
39.	Chile	Training officials on implementing the recommendations of the Subcommittee; improving cooperation between the national preventive mechanism and the competent authorities	Fundación Henry Dunant América Latina	2020	24 835
40.	Chile	Building the capacity of the NPM in monitoring the use of less lethal weapons	Centro de Estudios en Seguridad Ciudadana (CESC) de Instituto de Asuntos Públicos de la Universidad de Chile	2022	29 155
41.	Chile	Training law enforcement officials, manual and infographic on treatment of LGBTI persons deprived of liberty	Centro de Estudios de Justicia de las Américas	2023	26 750
42.	Costa Rica	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism to supervise the conditions of detention and treatment of persons deprived of liberty, in particular with regard to the implementation of the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol)	Instituto Latinoamericano de las Naciones Unidas para la prevención del Delito y el Tratamiento del Delincuente (ILANUD)	2021	30 000
43.	Ecuador	Strengthening the multidisciplinary team for visits by the national preventive mechanism; raising awareness of the mandate of the mechanism; increasing the accessibility of places of deprivation of liberty for visits by the mechanism; ameliorating the visibility of the mechanism and the dialogue with civil society organizations	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención de la Tortura, Tratos Crueles, Inhumanos y Degradantes	2019	25 000
44.	Gabon	Capacity-building on members of the newly established national preventive mechanism, including	Association for prevention of torture (APT)	2023	27 753

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>		
	workshop on visiting mandate and online training				
45.	Honduras	Training for prison staff on human rights standards and the prevention of torture	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights	2012	20 000
46.	Honduras	Technical support to the national preventive mechanism of Honduras; training for judges, prosecutors and public defenders	Association for the Prevention of Torture – Panama	2012	14 847
47.	Honduras	Legal reform and support to the national preventive mechanism of Honduras	Association for the Prevention of Torture – Panama	2013	30 325
48.	Honduras	Training on the rights and duties of persons deprived of liberty	National Committee for the Prevention of Torture	2014	35 000
49.	Honduras	Supporting the national preventive mechanism of Honduras in effectively implementing Subcommittee recommendations	Association for the Prevention of Torture - Panama	2015	34 967
50.	Honduras	Training of justice operators and students on the Istanbul Protocol	Centro de Prevención, Tratamiento y Rehabilitación de la Víctimas de la Tortura y sus Familiares	2015	34 995
51.	Honduras	Drafting legislation to amend the existing law on the national preventive mechanism and lobbying for its adoption; increasing the technical capacity of staff of the national preventive mechanism; creating manuals on monitoring places of detention	Centro de Prevención, Tratamiento y Rehabilitación de la Víctimas de la Tortura y sus Familiares	2018	25 000
52.	Honduras	Increasing capacity of and coordination among local boards on the prevention of torture; development of a practical guide; conducting conferences to increase the visibility of local boards	National Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment	2019	25 000
53.	Honduras	Strengthening the protection against torture of the groups vulnerable in detention, including children, women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and persons of African descent and indigenous persons	National Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment	2020	29 950
54.	Honduras	Training of law enforcement officials on torture prevention, including Istanbul protocol	National Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment	2023	19 500
55.	Hungary	Improving the interview techniques of the national preventive mechanism, raising visibility of its	Commissioner for Fundamental Rights	2020	10 249

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>		
	activities and exchanging experience with international experts				
56. Hungary	Increasing awareness of the mandate and activities of the national preventive mechanism among the persons deprived of their liberty and staff of places of detention	Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights of Hungary	2022		29 773
57. Kazakhstan	Improving prisoners' rights by strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism	Penal Reform International	2022		30 000
58. Kyrgyzstan	Increasing the capacity of the national preventive mechanism in regard to safeguards in the first hours of detention (identifying legislative gaps, lobbying for legal reform) and to monitoring mental health institutions	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2018		25 000
59. Kyrgyzstan	Improving the capacity of the national preventive mechanism, forensic medical professionals and lawyers with regard to torture prevention, especially the Istanbul Protocol	International Bar Association Human Rights Institute	2020		29 924
60. Kyrgyzstan	Enhancing the capacity of the national preventive mechanism and civil society to conduct monitoring visits on the basis of revised methodology in line with international standards	Penal Reform International	2020		29 645
61. Maldives	Notification of fundamental rights to foreign detainees in their local language	Human Rights Commission of Maldives	2012		13 200
62. Maldives	Supporting the national preventive mechanism of Maldives in effectively implementing Subcommittee recommendations	Association for the Prevention of Torture in partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Maldives	2012		20 000
63. Maldives	Supporting the national preventive mechanism of Maldives in effectively implementing the recommendations of the Subcommittee	Human Rights Commission of Maldives	2013		15 329
64. Maldives	Analysing the risk of violence to Maldivian children deprived of their liberty	Juvenile Justice Unit of the Ministry of Home Affairs	2014		23 786
65. Maldives	Development and delivery of Istanbul Protocol training on investigation and documentation of torture and other ill-treatment	Redress Trust	2014		34 876
66. Maldives	Development of an internal database to monitor implementation of national	Human Rights Commission of Maldives	2020		8 928

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>		
	preventive mechanism recommendations				
67.	Maldives	Improving conditions of detention and treatment of women deprived of liberty in the criminal justice system in Maldives by strengthening the national preventive mechanism	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2022	30 000
68.	Mali	Training of law enforcement personnel; raising awareness about torture prevention at government level	Avocats sans frontières	2020	25 000
69.	Mauritania	Improving the capacities of the national preventive mechanism regarding vulnerable groups, its visibility and the dialogue with stakeholders	Mécanisme national de prévention de la torture	2020	25 000
70.	Mauritania	Training police officers, judges and prosecutors on the mandate of the national preventive mechanism and standards for the prevention of torture, and staff of the national preventive mechanism in drafting reports and follow-up strategies	Mécanisme national de prévention de la torture	2020	30 000
71.	Mauritania	Conducting a regional workshop on torture prevention and creating participatory platform	Mécanisme national de prévention de la torture	2023	30 000
72.	Mexico	Providing training on the use of the Istanbul Protocol	Colectivo contra la Tortura y la Impunidad	2012	19 807
73.	Mexico	Training on combating torture for the Mexican judiciary in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, members of the Subcommittee and key national justice institutions	International Bar Association Human Rights Institute	2013	46 855
74.	Mexico	Training on human rights and the integration of a gender perspective into the prevention of torture	Government of Oaxaca	2014	35 000
75.	Mexico	Supporting the work of the Federal Prosecutor regarding the monitoring and evaluation of medico-legal assessments	Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos	2015	35 000
76.	Mexico	Strengthening the capacity of criminal enforcement judges to exercise effective judicial control in places of detention, including for torture prevention purposes.	Documenta, Análisis y Acción para la Justicia Social	2016	24 813
77.	Mexico	Revising the methodology of preventive monitoring of the national preventive mechanism, with a special focus on the first hours of detention.	Association for the Prevention of Torture – Panama	2018	24 914

					<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
	<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	
78.	Mexico	Strengthening the capacity of the local national preventive mechanism to monitor places of detention; drafting of reports and recommendations	Documenta, Análisis y Acción para la Justicia Social, A.C	2020	29 643
79.	Mexico	Strengthening and institutionalizing the role of public commissions in Bajo California and Jalisco, as local mechanisms to prevent torture	Documenta, Análisis y Acción para la Justicia Social, A.C	2021	28 196
80.	Mexico	Increasing the capacity of public officials and collaboration of the national preventive mechanism with State entities	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención de la Tortura	2022	29 900
81.	Mexico	Establishing and training a network of civil society organizations collaborating with the national preventive mechanism on monitoring migrant detention centres	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención de la Tortura	2023	30 000
82.	Mexico	Preparing a legal basis for creation of two local preventive the establishment of mechanisms; drafting a manual on the situation of adolescents in conflict with the law	Documenta, Análisis y Acción para la Justicia Social, A.C	2023	29 992
83.	Mozambique	Ensuring completion of the institutionalization process of national preventive mechanism in the organic structure of the National Human Rights Commission	Mozambique National Human Rights Commission	2021	30 000
84.	Niger	Strengthening the capacity of the new national preventive mechanism in monitoring places of detention	Commission nationale des droits humains	2020	30 000
85.	Niger	Supporting the effective functioning of the national preventive mechanism by collaborating with civil society in the implementation of a training and capacity-building programme	Commission nationale des droits humains	2021	30 000
86.	Niger	Capacity-building of members of the national preventive mechanism, law enforcement officials, judges, civil society actors and the media	Alternative Espace Citoyens	2022	28 445

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<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>		
	on mechanisms to prevent torture in prisons				
87. Niger	Supporting the establishment of a new national preventive mechanism; training State officials on the action plan of the mechanism steering committee; improving cooperation between the mechanism and key stakeholders	Coalition nigérienne contre la peine de mort	2022		29 939
88. New Zealand	Establishing an evidence base to inform the ongoing discussion on institutional, legislative and behavioural changes regarding the use of seclusion and restraint across places of deprivation of liberty; contributing to the development of a standardized and consistent approach to seclusion and restraint	Human Rights Commission	2016		24 775
89. New Zealand	Strengthening the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman to monitor and report detention conditions of persons with psychosocial disabilities and mental health issues in places of deprivation of liberty	Office of the Ombudsman	2016		18 699
90. Panama	Development of a practical guide to training methodologies for officials on international instruments and the mandate of the national preventive mechanism	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención contra la Tortura de Panamá	2020		24 945
91. Paraguay	Systematization of police records	Ministry of the Interior	2012		19 984
92. Paraguay	Design of fair-trial indicators allowing for the monitoring of constitutional guarantees of lawful detention and the presumption of innocence	Supreme Court of Justice	2012		20 000
93. Paraguay	Support for the work of the national body in charge of the selection of commissioners for the future national preventive mechanism	Ministry of Justice and Labour	2012		19 500
94. Paraguay	Contribution to the development of public policies aimed at the prevention of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment within the purview of the judiciary	Supreme Court of Justice	2013		35 730
95. Paraguay	Promoting the fundamental human rights of persons deprived of liberty and citizen engagement against torture in Paraguay	Fundación “Celestina Pérez de Almada”	2014		34 520
96. Paraguay	Strengthening institutional capacity in monitoring and investigation of torture and ill-treatment by	Coordinadora de Derechos Humanos del Paraguay	2016		25 000

<i>State</i>	<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Implementing entity</i>	<i>Year of project</i>	<i>Grant amount (United States dollars)</i>
	assisting the work of the national preventive mechanism; conducting research on the root causes of torture and ill-treatment; liaising with relevant stakeholders; facilitating the development of groups of victims' families.			
97. Paraguay	Development of a web platform for torture allegations accessible to the national preventive mechanism and public defenders	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención contra la Tortura de la República del Paraguay	2019	24 882
98. Paraguay	Making the <i>Defensores</i> platform more accessible to lawyers to improve registration and follow-up on cases of torture	Asociación de Tecnología, Educación, Desarrollo, Investigación y Comunicación	2020	26 670
99. Peru	Drafting a law for amendments to the existing national preventive mechanism law and lobbying for its adoption; increasing the technical capacities of national preventive mechanism staff; drafting manuals on monitoring places of detention	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención contra la Tortura – Defensoría del Pueblo	2019	16 250
100. Peru	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism and key actors responsible for the administration of justice in Peru with regard to the content of international instruments	International Bar Association Human Rights Institute	2020	24 943
101. Peru	Increasing the capacity of the national preventive mechanism to address violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in detention	International Bar Association	2022	29 689
102. Philippines	Advocacy for the establishment of a national preventive mechanism; capacity-building of Commission on Human Rights in monitoring places of detention	Commission on Human Rights	2022	30 000
103. Republic of Moldova	Facilitating the resumption of the work of the national preventive mechanism; strengthening its visibility and its influence on the relevant State authorities; supporting the national preventive mechanism in discharging its monitoring and reporting mandate	Institute for Democracy	2016	25 000
104. Republic of Moldova	Developing a visibility strategy for the national preventive mechanism and raising awareness of its activities; improving the dialogue between members of the national preventive mechanism, the Ombudsperson's Office and national entities to implement the	Institute for Penal Reform	2018	23 270

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	recommendations of the national preventive mechanism				
105. Republic of Moldova	Developing a training module for staff of the national preventive mechanism on monitoring, interviewing and reporting techniques	Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture Victims “Memoria”	2019	25 000	
106. Republic of Moldova	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism to collaborate with civil society	Institute for Penal Reform and the national preventive mechanism	2022	29 250	
107. Romania	Enhancing the capacity of the national preventive mechanism to monitor psychiatric institutions, including through workshops, leaflets and collaboration with civil society organizations	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2019	22 545	
108. Senegal	Supporting the national preventive mechanism of Senegal in effectively implementing the recommendations of the Subcommittee	Observateur national des lieux de privation de liberté	2015	34 771	
109. Senegal	Supporting the national preventive mechanism of Senegal in effectively implementing the recommendations of the Subcommittee	Association for the Prevention of Torture in partnership with the national preventive mechanism of Senegal	2015	18 938	
110. Senegal	Increasing visits by the national preventive mechanism with a focus on persons with mental illness, disabilities or HIV or AIDS and juveniles; training law enforcement officers on the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty; conducting awareness-raising activities for the public through radio broadcasts in rural areas	Observateur national des lieux de privation de liberté	2018	25 000	
111. Senegal	Increasing the visibility of the national preventive mechanism; identifying with stakeholders the main causes of poor conditions of detention	Observateur national des lieux de privation de liberté	2020	24 757	
112. Senegal	Increasing protection of persons deprived of liberty, in particular vulnerable groups	Observateur national des lieux de privation de liberté	2021	29 738	
113. Senegal	Strengthening the capacity of law enforcement personnel and other stakeholders in preventing the torture of migrants	Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l’homme	2022	29 866	
114. Spain	Supporting the national preventive mechanism in implementing recommendations on the use of restraints in the prison system	Observatory of the Penal System and Human Rights of the University of Barcelona	2022	30 000	

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115.	South Africa	Institutionalizing the prevention aspect of the national preventive mechanism; raising awareness and the visibility of the new mechanism	South African Human Rights Commission	2022	29 900
116.	Togo	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism through training, study visits and the purchase of equipment	Commission nationale des droits de l'homme du Togo	2019	22 750
117.	Togo	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism; enhancing collaboration with civil society organizations and the visibility of the national preventive mechanism	World Organization against Torture in collaboration with Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo	2019	20 600
118.	Togo	Training of the national preventive mechanism and judicial authorities on pilot "camp courts" and excessive use of pretrial detention	Association for the Prevention of Torture	2020	25 255
119.	Togo	Establishment of an observatory for torture prevention; training for police, magistrates, journalists and civil society on torture prevention	Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo	2020	25 000
120.	Togo	Strengthening the capacities of high-ranking officials of the police and armed forces and penitentiary staff in the prevention of torture	Commission nationale des droits de l'homme du Togo	2021	19 522
121.	Togo	Strengthening the capacity of personnel of penitentiary facilities on torture prevention	Solidarité mondiale pour les personnes démunies et les détenus	2021	17 548
122.	Togo	Strengthening the capacity of actors in the penal chain; sensitization of communities	Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo	2021	27 209
123.	Togo	Strengthening the capacity of defence and security forces on non-coercive interrogation techniques; strengthening collaboration with the national preventive mechanism	Solidarité mondiale pour les personnes démunies et les détenus	2022	29 987
124.	Togo	Capacity-building for law enforcement on torture prevention	Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo	2022	30 000
125.	Togo	Capacity-building for stakeholders in the penal chain; community awareness-raising; visits to prisons	Collectif des associations contre l'impunité au Togo	2023	30 000
126.	Togo	Conducting a workshop for law enforcement officials on	Commission nationale des droits de l'homme du Togo	2023	19 500

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State	Project summary	Implementing entity	Year of project		
	amendments to the Criminal Code; monitoring visits to female prisons		2023		30 000
127. Tunisia	Conducting needs assessment of national preventive mechanism; capacity-building; preparation of a didactic guide	Asociación Sira			
128. Türkiye	Awareness-raising; developing a road map for the implementation of recommendations made by the national preventive mechanism	Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye	2023		30 000
129. Ukraine	Supporting the new national preventive mechanism, the Special Bureau of Investigation and legal aid lawyers	Human Rights Institute of the International Bar Association	2019		24 994
130. Ukraine	Strengthening the capacity of the national preventive mechanism to visit places of detention, to report and to make recommendations and provide guidance on conditions of detention	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights	2020		25 000
131. Ukraine	Capacity-building of members of the national preventive mechanism; monitoring places of detention	Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights	2023		30 000
132. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Improving compliance of the national preventive mechanism with international human rights standards by assessing the current approach of working methods	United Kingdom National Preventive Mechanism	2021		25 000
133. Uruguay	Strengthening the national preventive mechanism in monitoring self-inflicted violence and suicide risk in adolescents deprived of liberty	Mecanismo Nacional de Prevención de la Tortura	2021		16 200
134. Uruguay	Conducting monitoring surveys on living conditions, institutional violence and death in custody, and audits of conditions of detention	Parliamentary Commissioner	2023		28 143
Total grants approved					3 576 695