



Photo: Diego Montoya / USAID

# PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN PERU WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND MIGRANTS

Peru's human rights situation has deteriorated amidst the country's deepening socio-political crisis. USAID financial support enables the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN Human Rights) to address urgent human rights challenges and advance Peru's long-term strategies to promote security, justice, and fairness.

## HOW DOES THE ACTIVITY WORK?

USAID's contribution enables UN Human Rights to deploy teams throughout the country to improve human rights monitoring, provide technical assistance to government institutions, and respond to crises. In line with its mandate (UN General Assembly resolution 48/141), UN Human Rights will:

1. Improve monitoring and accountability for human rights violations;
2. Advocate for government policies that are consistent with international human rights standards;
3. Strengthen state mechanisms that safeguard human rights defenders, journalists, and civil society;
4. Counter discrimination—with a focus on women, indigenous peoples and migrants.

## RESULTS ACHIEVED

- The UN Human Rights has an ongoing registry documenting attacks against Human Rights Defenders (HRDs). As of January 2024, the registry has recorded 187 incidents involving 344 victims, which include 5 killings and 54 attacks against journalists. This is part of their monitoring and verification protocol.
- Training: More than 150 human rights defenders in Lima, Madre de Dios, Cusco, and Selva Central were trained on international human rights standards, with special focus on protection measures for indigenous women HRDs in Selva Central.
- Protection Mechanisms: Support led to the establishment and follow-up on five decentralized protection roundtables between indigenous communities and government authorities in Amazon regions, addressing risks for environmental defenders.
- Risk Analysis and Protection: Over 70 preventive risk-analysis actions and follow-ups were conducted, benefiting at-risk HRDs and communities.
- Budget Analysis: A study and strategy were developed for the Ministry of the Interior to analyze and project costs for protecting at-risk HRDs, with advocacy for implementation by UN Human Rights.
- Dialogue and Due Diligence: UN Human Rights initiated dialogues with various groups to address criminalization risks and began developing a due diligence guide for HRDs, part of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.
- Prosecutorial Training: Conducted 31 training sessions for a 36-member team of the Public Prosecutor's Office on investigating violations related to the 2022/2023 protests.
- Legislative Monitoring: Monitored 48 pending bills affecting migrants and refugees, contributing to advocacy efforts before Congress.
- Migration Regulations: Monitored cases of arbitrary detentions and deportations, and provided technical support to train 102 border agents on protecting human rights.
- Gender-Based Violence Study: Secured an agreement with the Women's Ministry for a study on sexual and gender-based violence, starting February 2024, to improve access to protection and justice for victims.
- LGBTI Workforce Access: Conducted a diagnostic study with the National Human Rights Institution on barriers faced by the LGBTI population in the workforce, setting the stage for future work with the Ministry of Justice and the private sector.
- Legislative Proposals: Analyzed 161 legislative proposals related to gender and rights, and developed a dashboard to share with strategic partners.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

**IMPLEMENTER:** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**COMPONENT DURATION:** 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2025

**USAID FUNDING:** \$300,000

**LEVERAGE:** \$2,000,000

**LOCATION:** Nationwide

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