



THE LEBANESE CENTER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



## GENERAL OVERVIEW:

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) is a local non-profit, non-partisan Lebanese human rights organization based in Beirut. CLDH was created in 2006 by the Franco-Lebanese Movement SOLIDA (Support for Lebanese Detained Arbitrarily), which had been active since 1996 in the struggle against arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture, and the impunity of those perpetrating gross human rights violations.

CLDH is a founding member of the Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearance (FEMED), a member of the EuroMed Rights (REMDH), the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), and the SOS Torture Network of the World Organization against Torture (OMCT).

CLDH's complementary components include advocacy, public mobilization, rehabilitation for victims of torture and families of enforced disappearances, and the provision of pro-bono legal services for vulnerable groups.

As part of its advocacy campaign, CLDH monitors the human rights' situation in Lebanon, fights enforced disappearances, impunity, arbitrary detention, and racism through media campaigns, lobbying with the civil society and decision makers, and conducting reports on a regular basis. In addition, CLDH compiles a daily press review on human rights violations and on-going judiciary cases in Lebanon.

Within the scope of public mobilization, CLDH regularly organizes press conferences, workshops and capacity building training to community members in order to raise awareness on human rights' issues and create agents of change in Lebanon.

Besides lobbying for policy change and public mobilization, CLDH's provided services consist a base for monitoring on ground-violations and playing an enormous role in reaching out to vulnerable groups through legal assistance and rehabilitation of victims of torture.

In 2007, CLDH opened "Nassim Center", a rehabilitation center for the victims of torture and families of the forcibly disappeared, which provides multi-disciplinary professional support and case management for victims of torture or families as per Istanbul Protocol, including psychotherapy, physiotherapy, legal, social, and financial assistance to over 100 victims of torture on a yearly basis.

In 2009, CLDH launched its legal aid program by which, currently, a team of more than 10 lawyers provides legal assistance and consultations to vulnerable groups as the team handles walk-in and in-prison cases all over 23 detention centers in Lebanon on a daily basis.

In February 2019, CLDH established a second office in Baalbak in which vulnerable groups are provided with legal assistance, psycho - social assistance, and several awareness sessions on legal procedures, in addition to referral procedures to CLDH's main office or Nassim rehabilitation center.

## A WORD BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANESE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Universal and Indivisible, this is our vision of human rights. Our fight to defend human rights in Lebanon and beyond Lebanon to the region and the world finds its origin in this universality and indivisibility. We never saw this fight as an act of revenge or as a matter of people but rather as a question of principle.

Our leitmotif is to defend victims and denounce violations regardless of who the victims are and the nature of the violation.

In a country like Lebanon torn apart by vertical and horizontal divisions, both at the level of social class and at the level of religious beliefs, it was essential for us, members and founders of the Lebanese Center for Human Rights, to give an example of impartiality which we could only find in the founding principles of the Charter of Human Rights and a systematic and systemic approach to the defense of its rights.

Since 1997, with the SOLIDA movement, which gave birth to CLDH in 2007, following our action shows that we always kept as semaphore universality and indivisibility.

This fight took us to lose friends and allies who did not understand that defending a victim of human rights violations is in no way adopting his/her cause. It starts from a deep conviction that every human being, regardless of race, religion, social situation, and legal status, has the right to be defended, to have access to a fair trial, not be discriminated against, not tortured, not to be unlawfully detained. These are the principles that have guided and will always guide the Lebanese Center for Human Rights, and it is these principles that we hope to have succeeded in preserving.

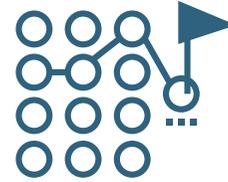
***Wadih AL-ASMAR***

***President of the Lebanese Center for Human Rights***



## GOAL

Fight against all Human Rights violations; Monitor, Protect, and Rehabilitate Victims of torture and families of enforced disappearances.



## MISSION

CLDH advocates for the enforcement of Human Rights for all, denounces Human Rights violations, and fights impunity by providing legal and rehabilitation services.



## VISION

We envision a country free from human rights violations and discrimination.

# STORY

1993

## BIRTH OF SOLIDA

Amid several questions about Enforced Disappearances in 1993, human rights activists, Wadih Al-Asmar and Marie Daunay, who were located in France, reached out to several organizations in Lebanon in order to examine the depth of advocacy towards combating Enforced Disappearances and to follow up on research and documentation for the purpose of lobbying in order to find forcibly disappeared individuals and reunite families after the civil war in Lebanon.

The team figured that several committees were already thriving for this cause, such as: Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, Committee of the Families of Kidnapped and the Disappeared in Lebanon, SOLIDE (support of Lebanese in detention and exile) and the committee of parents of Lebanese detained in Syria. The group by then decided to further develop research on prosecution, enforced disappearances, and torture in order to further expand the advocacy network towards abolishing gross human rights violations.

1996

Several arrests occurred in Lebanon and the group was simultaneously documenting cases of enforced disappearances and torture, for the purpose of launching a report later on. The group by then was mainly advocating and creating networks with the international community and lobbying for the pursuit of forcibly disappeared persons.

1997

## FOUNDATION OF SOLIDA

The group founded "SOLIDA", an organization that works on documenting and conducting reports around enforced disappearances and torture. In the same year, "SOLIDA" published its very first report on torture which proved torture allegations at the ministry of defense right; it included illustrations on torture methods in Lebanese detention places and allowed further visibility the role of SOLIDA in denouncing such demeaning practices.

1998

SOLIDA took families of the forcibly disappeared to Europe, where the presence of forcibly disappeared persons in Syria was confirmed for the very first time. In March 1998, 121 people were released out of Syrian prisons due to International pressure and consistent advocacy.

2005

Between 1997 and 2005, SOLIDA was working on several files and reports around detentions, enforced disappearances, death penalties, humanitarian, and legal concerns in Lebanon. The reports highlighted human rights' violations regardless of any political affiliations or contexts. After the withdrawal of the Syrian army from Lebanon, SOLIDA team decided to move to Lebanon and to establish the Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH).

2007

## BIRTH OF “NASSIM” REHABILITATION PROGRAM & CLDH

Between 1997 and 2007, and after releasing a large number of forcibly disappeared persons from Syria, many of them were victims of torture and reached out to SOLIDA for social support, taking into consideration the organization’s history in supporting and advocating for victims of enforced disappearances and torture.

In 2000 and after the release of almost 50 new persons who were victims of enforced disappearances in Syria, SOLIDA’s team visited Lebanon in order to have direct calls with victims. This called for an inspiration to initiate a rehabilitation center for victims of torture. The organization started a rehabilitation center’s concept note in 2002, in order to provide social and psychological support for victims of torture. In 2007, the center was launched under the name “Nassim” and SOLIDA’s name was changed to “The Lebanese Center for Human Rights”.

2009

## LEGAL AID PROGRAM

CLDH launched its legal program in order to provide legal representation to vulnerable inmates. Progressively, the number of persons in prisons assisted by the organization every year has increased from a few dozen per year at the beginning of the project to 669 in 2019 (some of which are ongoing and proceeding).

Overall, the legal team today includes 11 lawyers and provides legal assistance in 23 prisons and detention centers all over the country including GSO and the military court.



Ever since then, CLDH has been launching advocacy campaigns, conducting reports around torture and other human rights violations, and providing rehabilitation services for victims of torture and legal aid for vulnerable groups.



## VALUES

CLDH has had its role in exposing torture prosecutions since the civil war in Lebanon in which it conducted several reports around torture in Lebanese detention centers and is still tracking the updates on torture after legislating law (65/2017) which criminalizes torture.



## CONTRIBUTIONS

CLDH has historically contributed in lobbying for the uplift or change in certain policies and laws in Lebanon. For instance, CLDH's advocacy team was able to actively participate in the drafting, for the three concerned laws including the legislation of law (65) criminalizing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in 2017. In 2016, CLDH also lobbied for the passing of law (62) of creating an independent National Commission for Human Rights, Lebanon's National Human Rights Institution (NHRI), which includes a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). The law was passed by the Lebanese government in October 2016. In 2018, CLDH participated in drafting for law (105) on the missing and disappeared which was ratified by the Lebanese government in November 2018 and lobbied afterwards for the formation of a committee of enforced disappearances in Lebanon.

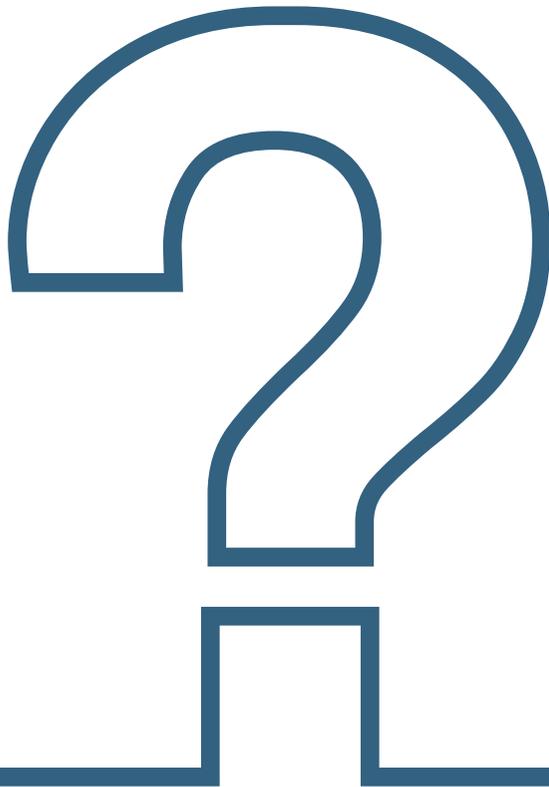


## MANDATE

CLDH's mandate stands out as it has always been consistent in providing the same services and referring cases to other organizations, which allowed more credibility in the sight of other organizations, donors, and partners. CLDH has been a relevant source of accurate data and legal information, as the role of the rehabilitation center "Nassim" has helped many inmates to re-engage in the society and contribute after suffering from traumatic torture incidents on the social, psychological, and physiological level.

## LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?

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### YEARS IN OPERATION

24 YEARS  
(since SOLIDA was founded).

### FOUNDERS

Marie Daunay  
& Wadih Al-Asmar

### BOARD MEMBERS

Berengere Pineau,  
Delphine Compain,  
& Wadih Al Asmar

### NUMBER OF TEAM MEMBERS

28 Members in both Beirut  
and Baalback's office

### OFFICES

- 7th Floor, Bakhos Bldg, St Joseph  
Hospital Street, Dora, Lebanon.  
- 2nd Floor, Ayn Bourday Street,  
Doures, Baalback, Lebanon.



## DONORS

**Embassy of Switzerland in Lebanon**

**Embassy of Netherlands**

**Open Society Foundation**

**OXFAM:** Oxford Committee for Famine Relief

**AFD:** Agence Française de Développement

**SRT:** Sigrid Rausing Trust

**UNVFT:** United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

**RDPP:** European Regional Development and Protection Programme

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

**AEDH:** Agir Ensemble Pour Les Droits De L'Homme

**Forum Refugee**

**Norwegian Embassy**



Norwegian Embassy

*Beirut*



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Embassy of Switzerland in Lebanon**  
**Ambassade de Suisse au Liban**



**OPEN SOCIETY**  
FOUNDATIONS



Global Affairs Canada  
Affaires mondiales Canada



Embassy of the  
Kingdom of the Netherlands



## LEGAL AID PROGRAM DONORS

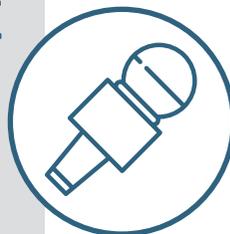
- Open Society Foundation - Renewed its support to the project “Legal assistance to vulnerable inmates in Lebanese prisons
- Sigrid Rausing Trust - Provided CLDH with funding for various activities.
- AEDH (Working Together for Human Rights) – Supported the legal assistance activities to migrant workers.
- DANIDA/Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark – Through its Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) supported a project titled “Legal assistance to vulnerable persons in the context of the war in Syria”.

## NASSIM PROGRAM DONORS

- The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Lebanon – Provided CLDH with funding for various activities including rehabilitation.
- The Norwegian Embassy in Lebanon - Provided funding to Nassim Center
- Forum Refugee - Provided funding for Nassim Center

## MEDIA COVERAGE

LBCI  
Al-Horra  
NNA  
The Daily Star  
L’Orient-Le Jour



## ASSOCIATES:

- LHDF
- ALEF
- Lebanon Support
- House of Peace
- AJEM
- Legal Agenda
- Refugees = Partners
- Proud Lebanon
- Restart Center
- KAFA
- ABAAD
- Basmeh & Zeitooneh
- MCC
- ARM
- MOSAIC
- Access Center for Human Rights
- Amel Association



# MAIN PROGRAMS OVER THE YEARS:



4 Main components for the scope of work:

## 1 ADVOCACY

- **Media campaign:** Online awareness, press releases, and legal information on social media platforms and websites.

- **Human rights monitoring:** Weekly human rights developments and conducting reports around various human rights' topics in Lebanon.

- **Lobbying:** Round tables, conferences, position papers, networking with policy makers and civil society actors, training police officers.

- **Policy change:** Law (62) of creating an independent National Commission for Human Rights in 2016, law (65) criminalizing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in 2017, and law (105) on the missing and disappeared in 2018.



# 2

## PUBLIC MOBILIZATION:

- Capacity building trainings for the public
- Public support network
- Public awareness sessions

# 3

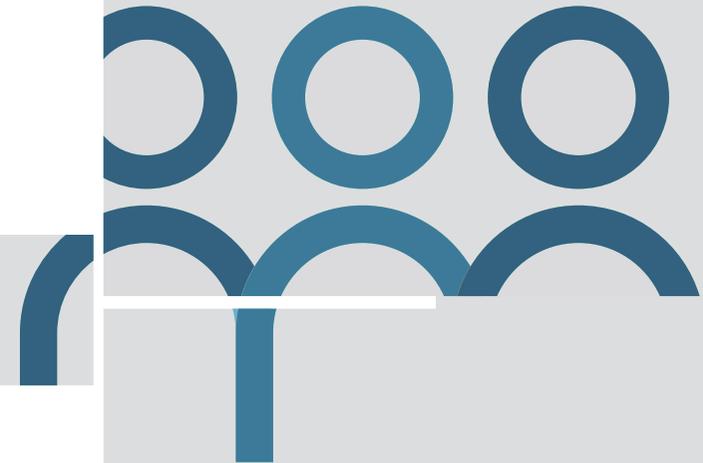
## NASSIM REHABILITATION CENTER:

Rehabilitation and resettlement for victims of torture and families of forcibly disappeared persons.

# 4

## LEGAL SERVICES:

Pro-bono walk in and in prison consultations, and legal aid for vulnerable groups.





# 1 ADVOCACY

## A- Lobbying/ conferences - over the past few years:

This includes activities involving policy makers, community members, and the civil society for the purpose of lobbying towards local and international law enforcement and implementation in order to grant equality and human rights.

2016

- ... **February 26:** "Lawyers National Conference for the Prevention of Torture".
- June 24:** Online petition asking the government for implantation of policies and processes leading to a torture-free Lebanon.
- ... **October 31:** Launching report event: "Legal challenges faced by refugees from Syria in Lebanon".
- November 11:** Press conference on the legal challenges faced by refugees from Syria in Lebanon.
- December 15:** Launching report event: "Shadow Report".

2017

- ... **May 17:** Press release on the occasion of International day against Homophobia.
- May 24:** Conference to follow up with the U.N. Committee Against Torture on Torture prevention in Lebanon.
- May 25:** Press release on the concern over prosecuting Mr. Salman Smaha who was called for interrogation over a Facebook post.

2018

- ... **June 1st:** NHRI/NPM - Round table to discuss the NHRI appointments and the process of its formation and the subsequent steps. Press conference after the nomination and assignment of NHRI and NPM's members.
- ... **March 22:** Legal aid round table and torture prevention.
- March 28:** Conference on torture prevention and law (65).
- June 26:** Launching event for the policy paper on Torture - Enforcing Lebanon's commitment to preventing torture.

2019

**June 24:** Conference titled “Torture in Lebanon between law and implementation” in collaboration with Tripoli Bar Association.



**June 25:** Position Paper by 8 organizations about forced deportations to Syria.

**June 28:** Press conference on the incident of an ISF member assaulting Rida Azar, a member of National Preventive Mechanism.

**October 11:** Conference titled “Launching of Inception Report - Lebanon’s Torture Situation after Legislating law (65/2017).”



**February 15:** “Guidelines on the research of Enforced Disappearances” with FEMED.



2020

**March 8:** International women’s day press release: Highlighting women rights’ violations in Lebanon.

# 1 B- Media campaigns:

This includes various posts on several social media platforms for the following purposes:

Hate speech awareness, violence awareness, action call, civil society support, event coverage, advocacy, highlighting Human Rights, denouncing Human Rights' violations, event invitations, and providing legal information.

The posts include sharing press releases by other NGOs, sharing legal information, press releases on CLDH's events and coverages, and statements to denounce human rights' violations.

*Below are some examples of social media posts.*

## 1- Social media statements on International days: (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)



- June 26:** International day for the support of victims of torture
- June 20:** World refugee day
- August 20:** World humanitarian day
- August 30:** International day of the victims of enforced disappearances
- September 10:** World suicide prevention day
- September 15:** World democracy day
- September 21:** World peace day
- December 10:** International human rights day



- February 20:** World day of social justice
- March 8:** International women's day

**CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights**  
26 June 2019 -

#اليوم\_العالمي\_لمساندة\_ضحايا\_التعذيب في ٢٦ حزيران يجسد تاريخ صدور اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمناهضة التعذيب وغيره من ضروب المعاملة أو العقوبة القاسية أو اللاإنسانية أو المهينة، كما أن استخدام التعذيب في ظل أي ظروف محظور تماماً بموجب القانون الدولي. على الرغم من ذلك، أفاضت تقارير لجنة مناهضة التعذيب أن أكثر من ٦٠ بالمئة من المحتجزين قد عانوا من التعذيب أثناء الاعتقال.

أما في لبنان، فقد أقر البرلمان اللبناني عام ٢٠١٧، القانون رقم (٦٥) الذي يجرم التعذيب وغيره من العقوبات اللاإنسانية، إلا أن هذا القانون يخترق في العديد من أماكن الحرمان من الحرية في لبنان تحت ظروف عدة.

نقوم في المركز اللبناني لحقوق الإنسان وغيرنا من منظمات حقوق الإنسان العاملة في لبنان بتوثيق تقارير بشكل روتيني عن وجود تعذيب في لبنان. ومع ذلك، لم تحقق السلطات على النحو الواجب في مزاعم سوء المعاملة على يد أجهزة الأمن، ولا تزال المساعدة عن التعذيب في الاحتجاز بعيدة المنال.

إن المركز اللبناني لحقوق الإنسان يرفض أي نوع من التعذيب ويعمل على مساعدة ضحاياه وإعادة تأهيلهم من خلال مركز نسيم، فالتعذيب هو خرق واضح لحقوق الإنسان، برزناً كان أو مجزماً، واستخدامه كوسيلة ضغط بات أمراً شبيه عادي ويتطلب الكثير من المبادرات من الدولة اللبنانية والمنظمات بهدف تطبيق القانون وضمان حق المشتبه به.

إذ كنت قد تعرضت لأي نوع من التعذيب أو تعرف من تعرض له، الرجاء التواصل معنا عبر الأرقام التالية لنحاول المساعدة:  
Tel: 01- 24 00 61  
Mob: 79- 171 272

on the 26th of June #International\_day\_in\_support\_of\_victims\_of\_torture refers to the date of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and the use of torture under any circumstances is strictly prohibited under international law. However, according to reports by the Committee against Torture, more than 60 percent of detainees suffered torture during detention.

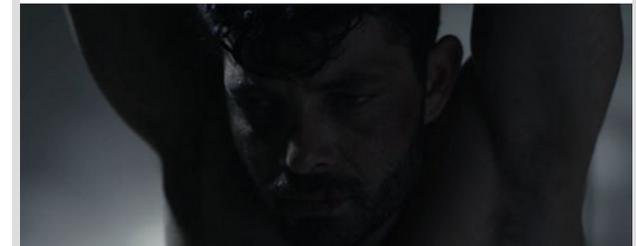
In Lebanon, the Lebanese parliament passed Law No. (65) criminalizing torture and other inhumane punishments in 2017, but in many places of deprivation of liberty in Lebanon, the law is violated under several circumstances.

At the Lebanese Center for Human Rights and other human rights organizations operating in Lebanon, we routinely document reports of torture in Lebanon. However, the authorities have not properly investigated allegations of ill-treatment by the security services.

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights rejects any form of torture and works to assist and rehabilitate its victims through Nassim center.

Torture is a clear violation of human rights, whether suspects are innocent or not, and stopping its use as a means of pressure requires many initiatives from the Lebanese government and organizations in order to reinforce the law and ensure the right of suspects.

If you have been subjected to any kind of torture or know who has been subjected to it, please contact us through the following numbers so we can try to assist you:  
Tel: 01- 24 00 61  
Mob: 79- 171 272



## 2- Some examples of other posts:

2019

**July 10:** NGOs press release against discrimination towards Syrian refugees.

**July 30:** Press release supporting freedom of expression with Lebanese band "Mashrou Leila".

**July 29:** Call for further investigations on torture after two Parliament members publicly shared intel on torture in Lebanese detention centers.

**October 18:** Statement supporting protesters with legal aid and providing legal aid hotline in case of any arrest

**October 19:** Press release: "CLDH Urgently Calls Lebanese Authorities to Respect Domestic and International Commitments" during the Lebanese uprising.

**October 23:** Denouncing ISF and LAF's forced trial and attacks on protesters in order to stop them from closing roads and demonstrating.

**October 30:** Statement denouncing attacks by political parties against peaceful protesters

**November 8:** Press release on Students' freedom of expression during Lebanon's uprising:

 **CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights**  
3 July 2019 · 🌐

مرّة جديدة، تستخدم القوى الأمنية دعاوى التعامل بشدّة مع عناصرها لثني المواطنين عن التقدّم بدعاوى ضدّ قوى الأمن، وجرّجرتهم إلى محكمة يستسلم أصحاب الحقّ بمجرّد سماعهم اسمها: المحكمة العسكرية. فكيف إذا كانت صاحبة الحقّ امرأة ضربت، وأهينت، وخرمت من حقّها في الحصانة، وقُدّفت بتهم "العهر" المعتادة على لسان عنصر أمني وصفحات المنبر الرسمي لقوى الأمن الداخلي؟

<https://daraj.com/%D8%B9%D9%86-%D8%B1%D8%B6%D8%A7-...%D8%B9%D>



DARAJ.COM

عن رضا عازار والاعتداء "الأمني" المزدوج

...مرّة جديدة، تستخدم القوى الأمنية دعاوى التعامل بشدّة مع عناصرها لثني المواطنين عن التقدّم بدعاوى

 **CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights**  
23 July 2019 · 🌐

هددت فنة شعبية فرقة "مشروع ليلي" الموسيقية بإعتبار أنها أهانت الدين من خلال أغنية، وطالب بعض رجال الدين إلغاء الحفل في الشهر القادم بينما اعتبر آخرون، من رجال دين وغيرهم، ان من حقّ الفرقة التعبير عن الرأي من خلال الفن.  
إن التهديد بأذية فرقة موسيقية وشمها وطلب إلغاء حفلها يعتر عن تراجع في مبدأ حرية التعبير في لبنان كما انه انتهاك للحقوق الانسانية. فإن للفرد أو المجموعة الحق في التعبير عن الرأي طالما لا يشكل هذا التعبير تهديداً لحياة الآخرين. ومن هنا فإن على قوى الأمن أن تتحمل المسؤولية وتأمين الحماية الجسدية والمعنوية اللازمة للفرقة وللأشخاص الذين سيحضر الحفل .

 **CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights**  
30 July 2019 · 🌐

أعلنت لجنة مهرجانات بيبولوس الغاء حفل فرقة مشروع ليلي المقرر في بيبولوس في ٩ آب "منعاً لاراقة الدماء"، بحسب بيان اللجنة.

بالمقابل، أصدرت الفرقة بياناً توضح فيه موقفها من الكم الهائل من خطابات الكراهية بحقها، التهديدات المباشرة لأعضائها، وقبركة الأخبار والمعاني بما يزيد من تحريض الرأي العام نحو التهجم على الفرقة.

يستتكر المركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان الغاء الحفل باعتباره اجراء يحد من حرية التعبير.

ويعتبر المركز أن ضعف الأجهزة القضائية و الأمنية في اتخاذ الاجراءات اللازمة بحق كل من هدد الفرقة، والامتناع عن حماية أعضائها خلال الحفل عرضاً عن الغاءه هو دليل واضح على هشاشة حق الأفراد في التعبير في لبنان وغياب السلطة في وجه القمع والتعدي على الأفراد والجماعات الحرة.

#مشروع\_ليلى #حبرية\_تعبير

2019  
POSTS

CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
19 October 2019 · 🌐

نشروا الخط الساخن للمركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان للحصول على مساعدة قانونية في حال تعرض أحد المتظاهرين للتوقيف.  
الصورة مدعة من قبل إحدى المتظاهرات.  
Share CLDH's hotline with protestors for legal assistance in case of an arrest.  
The picture has been created by one of the protestors

Everyone going to the riots: please write down this number on your hands and body. Write it on your stomachs as well. This is the hotline for @cldh.ngo

CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
19 October 2019 · 🌐

CLDH's press release calling Lebanese Authorities to respect domestic and International commitments in light of the alleged violence and torture practices on protestors by security forces.

RIGHTSOBSERVER.ORG

CLDH | CLDH Urgently Calls Lebanese Authorities to Respect Domestic and International Commitments

CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
23 October 2019 · 🌐

تحاول الجهات الأمنية اعادة فتح الطرقات ومنع المتظاهرين السلميين من التظاهر في معظم المناطق اللبنانية منذ صباح اليوم.  
يستنكر المركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان محاولة قمع المتظاهرين والإعلاميين ومنعهم عن ممارسة حرية التعبير والحق في التظاهر، كما يطالب قيادة الجيش اللبناني بالعمل على حماية المتظاهرين بدلاً من التصدي لهم بالعنف.

CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
30 October 2019 · 🌐

يستنكر المركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان الاعتداءات التي حصلت في ٢٩ تشرين الأول على المتظاهرين السلميين والإعلاميين في كل من ساحات الرينغ، الشهداء، ورياض الصلح من قبل مجموعات حزبية. يطالب المركز بحماية المعتدلين من قبل الجهات القضائية اثر تهديدهم للسلامة العامة والتعدي على حرية الآخرين بالتعبير بالسلوب عنفي من خلال حرق خيم المتظاهرين وتكسير ممتلكاتهم والاعتداء عليهم بالضرب في الساحات.  
كما يطالب باجراء تحقيق مسلكي لمعاقبة الضباط الذين لم يتخذوا الاجراءات اللازمة بالتدخل من أجل ضبط الأمن وحماية المتظاهرين المعتدى عليهم.  
#لبنان\_ينتفض  
#ثورة



CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
8 November 2019 · 🌐

NNA-LEB.GOV.LB

المركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان: لاحترام الحق في حرية التعبير والتجمع السلمي  
...وطنية - دان "المركز اللبناني لحقوق الانسان" في بيان، "انتهاك القوانين المحلية والدولية التي وقعت في

CLDH - Lebanese Center for Human Rights  
26 February · 🌐

ندعو المعنيين بحقوق الانسان لحضور جلسة التحقيق الأولية في قضية تعذيب حسان الضيقة في المرة الأولى التي يعمل بها لتطبيق قانون مناهضة التعذيب ٦٥/٢٠١٧ في لبنان.

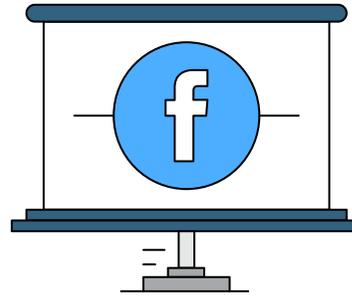
أحيل قرار مدّعي عام التمييز أمام قاضي التحقيق في بيروت بلال حلاوي الذي عين جلسة تحقيق أولية غداً الخميس الساعة التاسعة والنصف صباحاً في  
٢٠٢٠ / ٢ / ٢٧  
(النيابة العامة- العدلية، بيروت).  
وذلك للتحقيق في قضية تعذيب حسان الضيقة، حيث تبلغ والده توفيق الضيقة بالجلسة وسوف يحضر بصفة مدّعٍ شخصي.  
وبناءً عليه، ندعو المعنيين بحقوق الانسان والجمعيات الحقوقية وجميع وسائل الاعلام لمرافقة هذه الجلسة وحضورها، كونها المرة الأولى التي يعمل بها لتطبيق قانون مناهضة التعذيب ٦٥ / ٢٠١٧ في لبنان.

2020

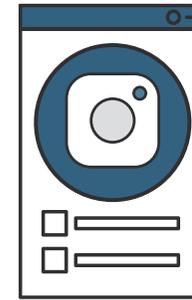
**February 26:** Invitation to court session to investigate on the case of the victim of torture, Hassan Al Dika, who passed away under torture prosecutions. It was the first time that law (65) was used by the Lebanese government to criminalize torture.



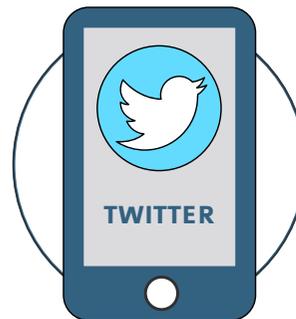
2019  
INSIGHTS



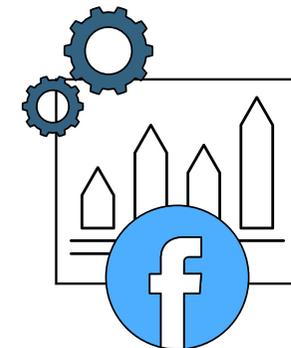
Facebook Page Likes:  
**6,066 likes**



Instagram Followers:  
**420 followers**



Twitter Followers:  
**1,311 Followers**



2019 Facebook Page Reach  
**1,063 average  
organic performance**

# 1 C- Human rights monitoring:

## Human Rights' weekly development brief:

This includes daily updates around human rights on the local, regional, and International level. The weekly brief is shared with several partners and donors every Monday of each week.

CLDH has also been briefing the human rights' developments during the Lebanese uprising since October 17, 2019. This includes tracking and documenting daily developments and denouncing human rights' violations on social media.



**Monday**  
07 September 2020

**Lebanon – Tripoli witnessing spike in COVID-19 cases**  
Caretaker Health Minister Hamad Hasan stated that the number of coronavirus cases was increasing in Tripoli, and that the city needed support, as Lebanon's overall new virus cases showed no signs of declining.

**Lebanon – Enrolling students from a Lebanese mother married to a foreigner**  
The National Commission for Women thanked in a statement the Minister of Education for his response to her request to register students with a Lebanese mother married to a foreigner in schools, high schools, and official and private institutes.

**Lebanon – Manifests condemning the high prices and electric rationing**  
A manifestation started at the invitation of activists in the popular uprising that roamed the streets of Tripoli condemning the high prices of the electricity funds. The protests particularly denounced the harsh electrical rationing witnessed in the city and several northern regions, as the electrical current that supplies Tripoli is limited to only two hours during the 24 hours a day.

**Tuesday**  
08 September 2020

**Lebanon – A Cypriot delegation to Lebanon to stop boats of illegal immigrant**  
Cyprus announced yesterday that it will send a delegation to Beirut this week to discuss ways to prevent boats loaded with irregular migrants from sailing from the Lebanese coast towards the Mediterranean island, which has intercepted an unprecedented number of these boats in recent days. An emergency meeting was held to discuss the issue.

**Lebanon – Lebanese University Students Are Now Banned From Complaining On Social Media**  
The university released a statement warning against online complaining when it comes to its decisions. Students who wish to register for the academic year of 2020-2021 are asked to pledge to abide by that new rule that oppresses their freedom of expression.



**Monday**  
07 September 2020

**Yemen – War-torn Yemen's Covid-19 struggle**  
The conflict in Yemen between the Houthis group based in the north and an internationally recognized government in the south shows no signs of ceasing, despite the coronavirus crisis.

**Syria – Syria Seeks Russian Investment as U.S. Sanctions Hammer Economy**  
President Bashar al Assad said he wanted to expand business ties with Russia to help Syria cope with new U.S. sanctions on its already crippled economy that threaten to undermine military gains Damascus achieved with Moscow's help. Lavrov told a news conference that Syria needed international help to rebuild its economy. Borisov said Russia was helping Syria to fix its power plants but said oil output could not resume as the fields were in areas outside government control.

**Tuesday**  
08 September 2020

**Jordan – Jordan reopens main airport after six-month shutdown**  
Flights resumed Tuesday at Jordan's main airport after a near six-month shutdown to stem cases of the novel coronavirus.

**Iraq – Mosul war victim struggles to make ends meet through pandemic**  
The 39-year-old says his best hope is the government compensation that hundreds of civilians in Mosul were promised after being injured during the campaign by Iraqi and US forces to liberate the city from Daesh. But three years on, Sattar still waits. Sattar used to work as a porter at Mosul's Bab Al-Saray market, pushing merchants' goods on a wooden cart through the Old City's narrow streets. Today, his former home, where his mother and sister died in the bombing is nothing but a pile of rubble. All his belongings and all his memories were destroyed, he said.



**Monday**  
07 September 2020

**Thailand – Free Detained Youth, Environmental Activists**  
On Monday, security forces blocked about 20 protesters outside of Freedom Park from entering the public protest space. "The Cambodian authorities' latest wave of arrests of activists shows a highly disturbing disregard not only for freedom of expression and assembly, but for land rights and the environment," said Phil Robertson, deputy Asia director.

**Japan – Typhoon Haiison strikes South Korea after causing landslides in Japan**  
The powerful Typhoon "Haiison" hit South Korea after it swept through southern Japan, accompanied by record-breaking winds and torrential rains, which caused the loss of four people by a landslide. He left "Hichen" half a million people in the dark as he passed through Kyushu, the main island in the far south of Japan, where he uprooted the roofs of buildings and caused precipitation of about half a meter in just one day, according to "Agence France Presse".

**Tuesday**  
08 September 2020

**Switzerland – Swiss Court Upholds Regulations Banned Against Women Athletes**  
The Federal Supreme Court of Switzerland has ruled that sport regulations that violate women's rights cannot be struck down as inconsistent with Swiss public policy, dealing a blow to the rights of all women athletes. The court came to this conclusion despite finding that the regulations in question – which create a regime of discriminatory surveillance and medical interventions on women – violate fundamental human rights of the South African runner Caster Semenya.

**Africa – Attacks on Students, Teachers, and Schools Surge in Africa's Sahel**  
The Central Sahel has seen a significant spike in attacks on students, teachers, and schools since 2018, according to a new report released on Tuesday by the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA). The report is launched ahead of the first ever United Nations International Day to Protect Education from Attack on September 9, 2020.

**United States – Doctors studying why obesity may be tied to serious COVID-19**  
Excess weight increases the chances of developing a number of health problems, including heart disease and diabetes. And those are among the conditions that can make COVID-19 patients more likely to not survive. But there's some evidence that obesity itself can increase the likelihood of severe

## REPORTS:

This includes around 40 reports that CLDH conducted since 1997 around gross human rights' violations in Lebanon. The topics include: maltreatment in detention centers, torture developments in accordance to law (65), enforced disappearances, death penalties, torture prosecutions at the ministry of defense,

[www.rightsobserver.org/publication](http://www.rightsobserver.org/publication)

## Publications

▶ 2019

▼ 2018

▶ Draft Law concerning the Victims of Enforced Disappearance

Tue 13-Nov-2018 | Arabic

▶ Positive steps for the law of enforced disappearances

Tue 13-Nov-2018 | Arabic

▶ 2017

▶ 2016

▶ 2015

## Recent Blogs

▶ بيان حول استجابة الحكومة اللبنانية الى أزمة انتشار جائحة كوفيد-19

▶ بيان وشجب العنصرية في مواجهة فيروس كورونا المستجد

▶ COVID-19: Urgent measures must be taken by MENA governments to protect the prison population

▶ كوفيد-19: على حكومات منطقة الشرق الأوسط وشمال إفريقيا اتخاذ إجراءات عاجلة لحماية السجناء والمحتجزين

▶ COVID-19 : Les gouvernements de la région MENA doivent prendre des mesures urgentes pour protéger la

▶ Women's International Day in Lebanon - Reality and Issues

## Blog Roll

▶ DETENTION(1483)

▶ DISAPPEARANCE AND KIDNAPPINGS(584)

▶ TORTURE(94)

▶ RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION(357)

## 2 PUBLIC MOBILIZATION:

Public mobilization activities include capacity building, supporting groups, and holding awareness sessions for members of the community in order to enhance active parties' performance in reference to human rights. In addition, mobilization activities allow members to have a broader perspective on various aspects and skills within their communities.

### A- Capacity building trainings for public members:

#### 6 and 7 November:

Training and capacity building around human rights' topics between local laws and international treaties.

#### 1 and 2 February :

Life Skills and Life Coaching training for 25 young community members from Beqaa' Region.

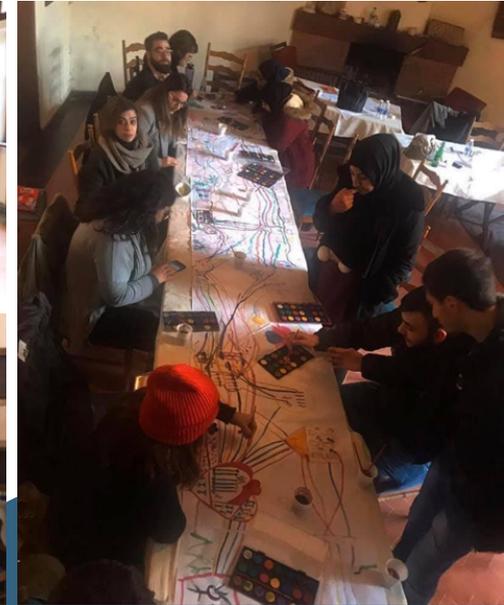
#### 10, 11, 12, 13 February :

Training of trainers on human rights topics and local laws.



#### April:

-Training and capacity building around human rights' topics between local laws and international treaties.  
-Trainings for 150 Focal points of the Syrian Refugees on facilitation skills, residency and raids.



# 2

## B- Public support network:

**9 and 10 October, 2019 :**

Capacity building training for police officers and investigators in Beqaa' region on torture and gender-based violence in partnership with KAFA and OXFAM.



**March 4, 2020 :**

Awareness session on freedom of speech and torture with "House of Peace".

## C- Public awareness sessions:

**July 18, 2019 :**

Ziad Itani's Play about torture "W Ma Tallet Colette".



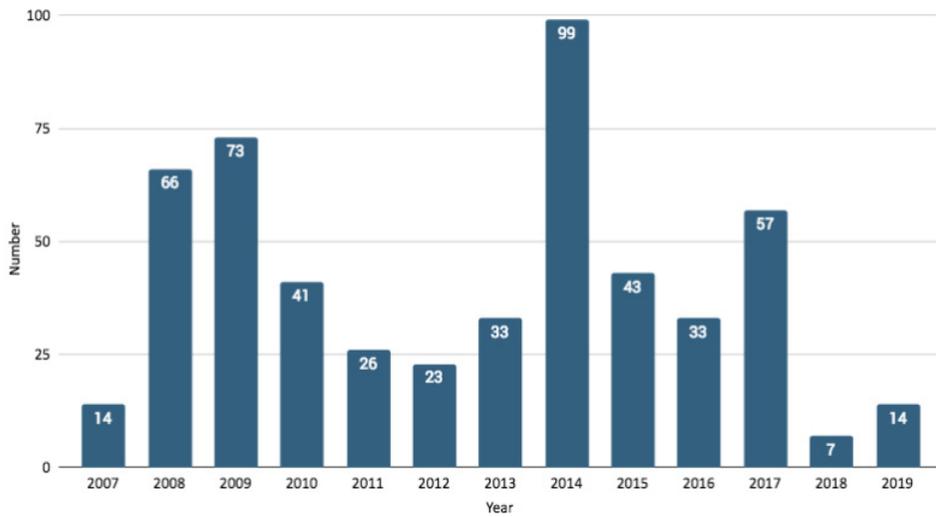
**2019 :**

100 awareness sessions for Syrian Refugees in North Beqaa on civil documents, raids and residency.

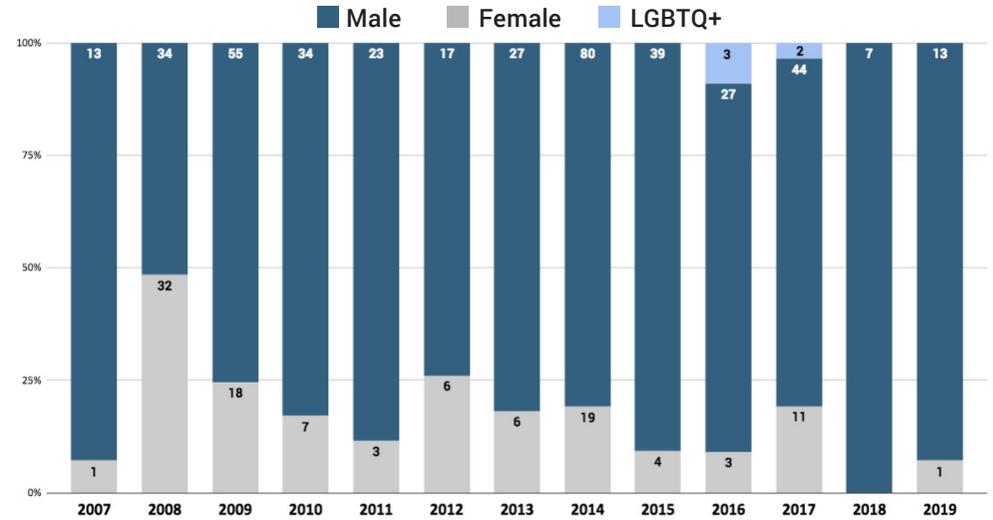


# NASSIM REHABILITATION CENTER:

Number of supported beneficiaries over the years



Number of supported beneficiaries categorized by Gender



Number of supported beneficiaries categorized by Nationalities

Year	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Ethiopian	Egypt	Iranian	Iraqi	Jordan	Lebanese	Malgasy	Malian	Palestenian	Syrian	Palestenian Syrian	Stateless	Somali	Sudanese	TOTAL
2007								8			3	3					14
2008	1					6		42			12	5					66
2009				2	12	15		27			5	12					73
2010					7	26		7						1			41
2011				1	5	9		8			1	2					26
2012				2		6		2			5	4	1	1	1	1	23
2013			1		2			2	1			14	7		3	3	33
2014						4		1	1			81	10			2	99
2015					1	1		2		1		34	4				43
2016		1				3						24	1			4	33
2017				1	1	4	1	1				44	3			2	57
2018												6				1	7
2019				2		1		1				10					14



## SUCCESS STORIES OF NASSIM CENTER:

### **Ben #431:**

In September 2017, Beneficiary #431 who was suffering from PTSD due to severe psychological and physical torture after being detained twice in Syria, visited Nassim Rehabilitation center for the first time. When he first arrived to Nassim, he was having suicidal thoughts, and even had prepared a noose to hang himself, and poison to resort to, if he found himself unable to use the noose. He says that at the time all he could think about was what had happened to him, and how that had wrecked his life. He had no relationship with his children, and he blamed his wife for everything bad happening to them in Lebanon. Ever since September 2017, he sees the psychotherapist and the physiotherapist on a weekly basis, he consults the general practitioner whenever necessary, and he also benefited from social support through the social worker, and social assistance by way of rent, and other commodities.

A few months after he came to Nassim, he enrolled all of his children in public school, to have them near him and because he felt motivated enough to be their father. He said that Nassim Center helped him drive out the black thoughts and induced his motivation. He started working as a garlic peeler, whereby he peeled garlic and sold them to restaurants near-by. He spent a lot of time working, despite his physical pain, to provide for his children and support their education.

Nassim Center also assisted legally through CLDH in-house lawyer. He understood the simplicity of having a legal residency in Lebanon since he is married to a Lebanese woman, and all the legal processes were handled by the lawyers at CLDH. Now, he has a legal residency, and his children are all registered. Today, he is a survivor of torture, yet he seeks a stable job in order to find a permanent solution for his financial situation.

### **Ben #405:**

This beneficiary is a Syrian- Palestinian man who was subjected to severe physical and psychological torture by the Syrian regime until his release via amnesty, 10 years later. He then fled the war after he lost his granddaughter in the Syrian war and arrived to Lebanon where he was kidnapped and taken back to Syria. He was tortured again for 57 days for the purpose of investigating what he was doing in Lebanon. Meanwhile, his wife was also detained, tortured and interrogated about her husband's activity. After their release in 2013, they came back to Lebanon and got settled in Shatila.

When he first came to Nassim Center he had a deteriorated image of himself, felt that the 10 years spent in detention made him become an angry, broken and negative person. He had lost hope of regaining his dignity and humanity. From May 2017 until April 2019 he saw the psychotherapist on a weekly basis, consulted the general practitioner whenever necessary and he also benefited from social support through the social worker, and social assistance to cover rent, medical shoes for his wife and other commodities.

A few months after he came to Nassim, he was able to drive out the black thoughts, became motivated in finding a job and started volunteering with his wife. He would spend his free time creating art crafts at home to decorate his house.

The closure for therapy was done in July 2018 after ensuring a stable mental health, even though he had still been receiving threats. He was feeling calm and had started to adapt to his life, having accepted the fact that he might never be resettled in a safer country because of his Palestinian origin.

In August 2018, he was attacked by two men in an alley as he was walking back from the pastry shop. They hit him and tried to put him in a car. He managed to escape but collapsed in the middle of the road from a cardiac attack which was due to the incident. He underwent a heart surgery and needed a couple of months to get back on his feet.

After this incident, he came back to the center from October till December 2019 for a couple of follow up psychological sessions. He showed signs of relapse as the attack made him relive the trauma.

In the meanwhile, he met with an Italian organization that started working on his resettlement and his family's. In July 2019, they were resettled in France; a dream he'd never thought would come true.

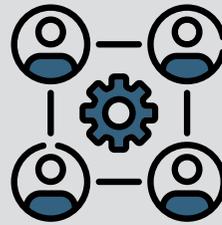
***NASSIM's Hotline number: 79/ 171 272***



# 4 LEGAL SERVICES:



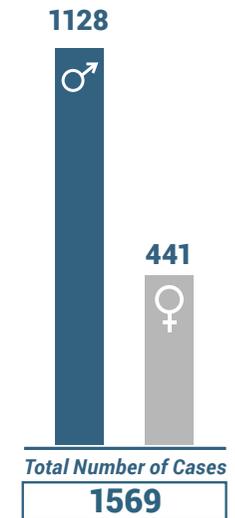
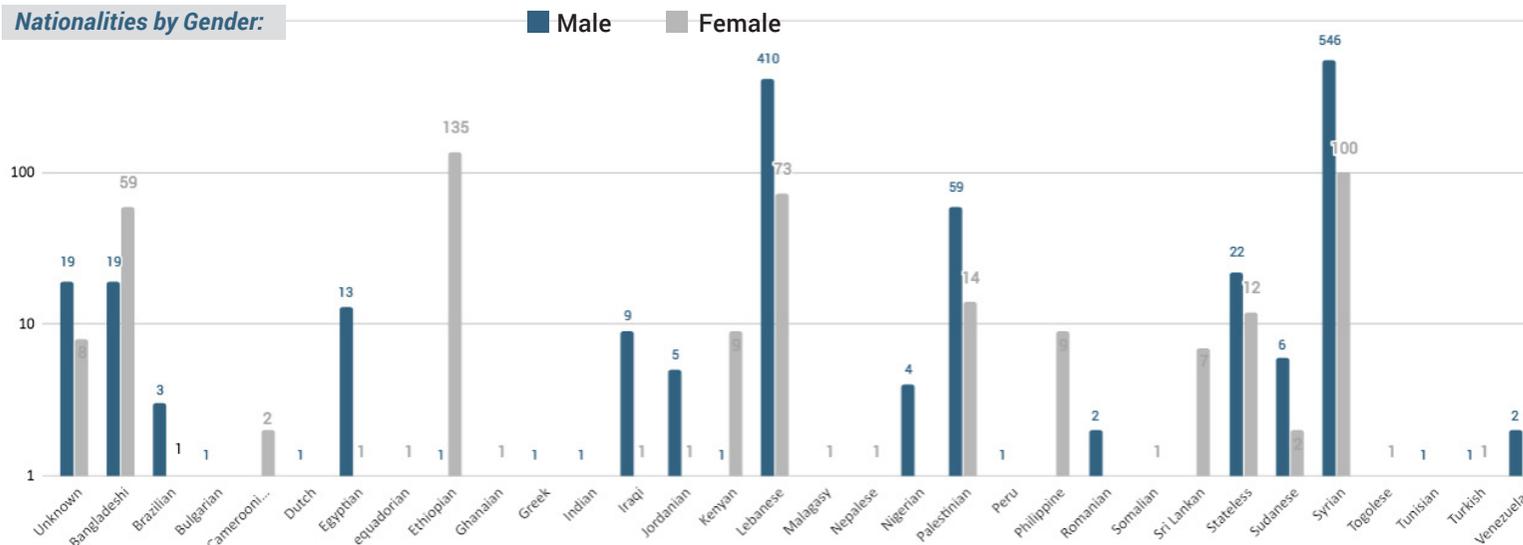
Number of lawyers in 2020:  
**11 Lawyers**



*Vulnerable groups supported by the legal team:*

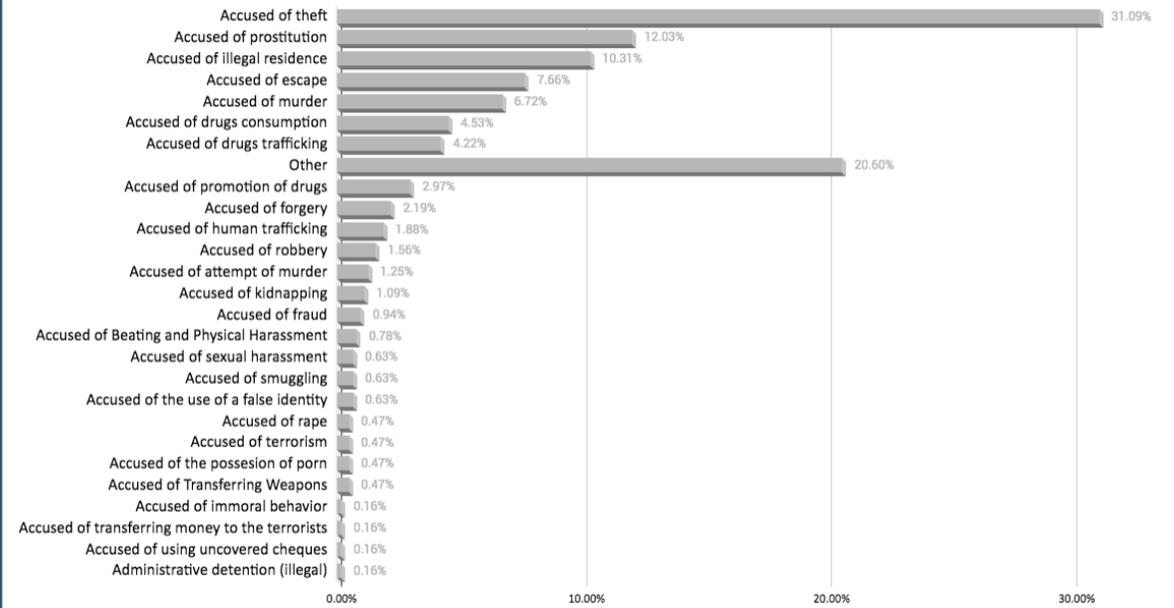
- Migrant domestic workers
- LGBTQ+
- Refugees
- Asylum seekers
- Syrian refugees
- Former detainees
- Vulnerable inmates

## Legal assistance covering years 2016 to 2019

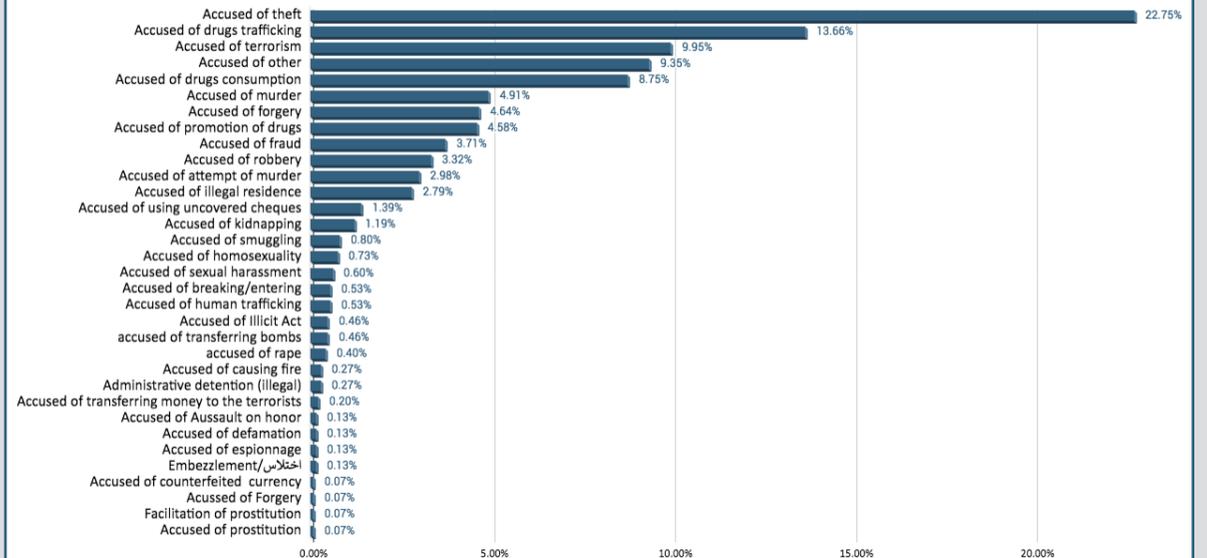




### General Female Accusations



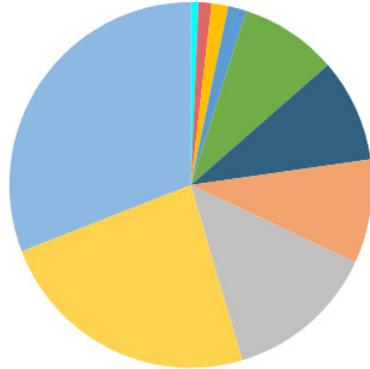
### General Male Accusations



**MALE INTERVENTION**

**General Total 9565**

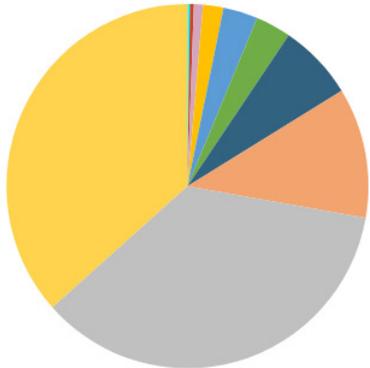
**Legal interventions**



- 13 Submitted/prepared an objection
- 22 Paid the legal fees
- 28 Notified the co-defendant/witness
- 31 Submitted/prepared an appeal
- 165 Paid the bail
- 174 Prepared the defense
- 175 Prepared for/requested concurrent sentences
- 256 Applied for bail reduction
- 450 Attended a session in court
- 588 Applied for release on bail

**Sub-Total 1902**

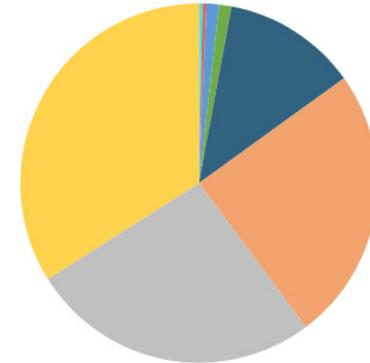
**Administrative intervention**



- 11 Prepared/submitted a demand to clean his judicial report
- 17 Asked for mental/medical examination
- 40 Collected certified judgments/applied for the Comity of reduction of penalty/merger
- 89 Resolved an administrative procedure in order to release him/her
- 151 Sent his/her documents from the court to the prison
- 155 Prepared/submitted the Power of Attorney statement
- 332 Prepared/collected papers for his/her case
- 566 Copied documents for his/her case
- 1745 Asked the judge/clerk about the file
- 1793 Checked on the status of his/her case

**Sub-Total 4899**

**Communication and field visits to the prisons**



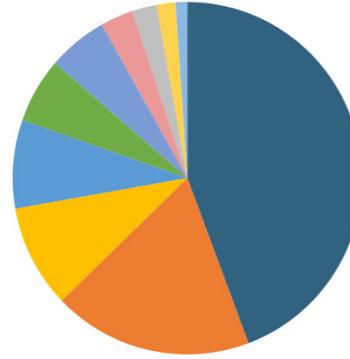
- 1 Contacted the family
- 2 Referred the case to another NGO
- 6 Contacted UNHCR
- 10 Contacted the Embassy
- 31 Contacted GSO representatives
- 31 Contacted the lawyer of the detainee
- 336 Discussed the case with the family
- 683 Visited the detainee and made him/her sign papers
- 725 Visited the detainee to discuss the case
- 939 Talked to the prison authorities

**Sub-Total 2764**

**FEMALE INTERVENTION**

**General Total 3921**

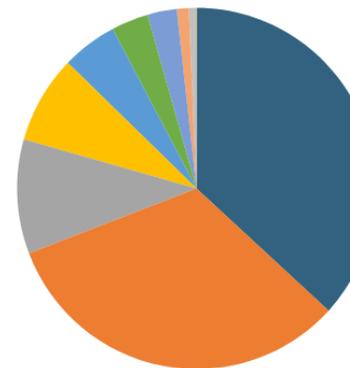
**Legal interventions**



- 408 Applied for release on bail
- 170 Attended a session in court
- 87 Paid the bail
- 75 Prepared the defense
- 55 Notified the co-defendant/witness
- 51 Applied for bail reduction
- 28 Prepared for/requested concurrent sentences
- 21 Prepared/submitted an appeal
- 16 Paid the legal fees
- 10 Prepared/submitted an objection

**Sub-Total 921**

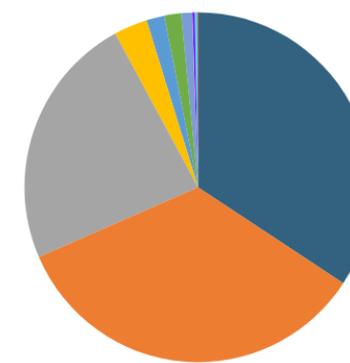
**Administrative intervention**



- 752 Asked the judge/clerk about the file
- 660 Checked on the status of his/her case
- 209 Copied documents for his/her case
- 161 Sent his/her documents from the court to the prison
- 102 Prepared/collected papers for his/her case
- 68 Resolved an administrative procedure in order to release him/her
- 54 Prepared/submitted the Power of Attorney statement
- 22 Asked for mental/medical examination
- 13 Collected certified judgments/applied for the Comity of reduction of penalty/merger
- 1 Prepared/submitted a demand to clean his judicial report

**Sub-Total 2042**

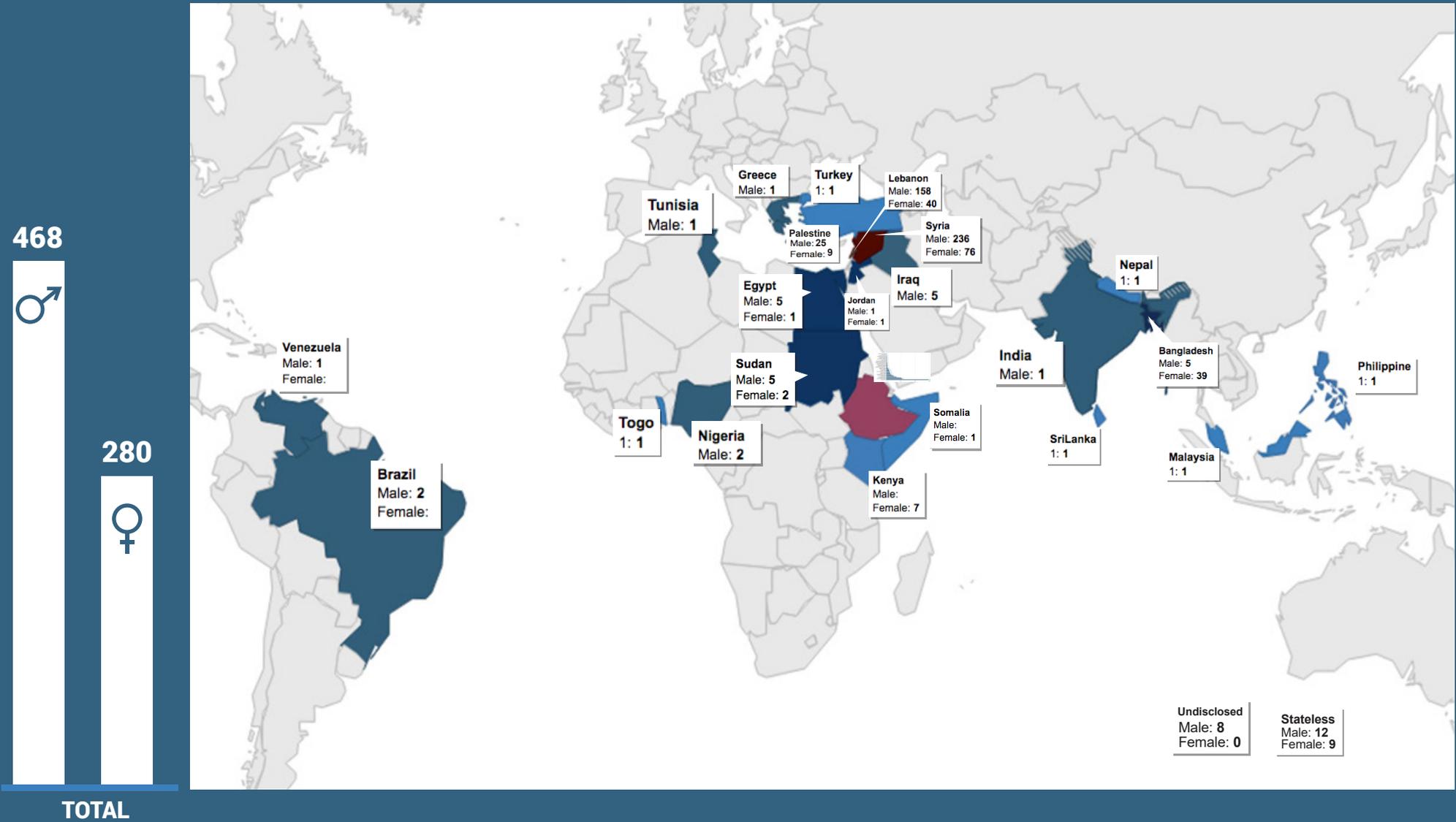
**Communication and field visits to the prisons**



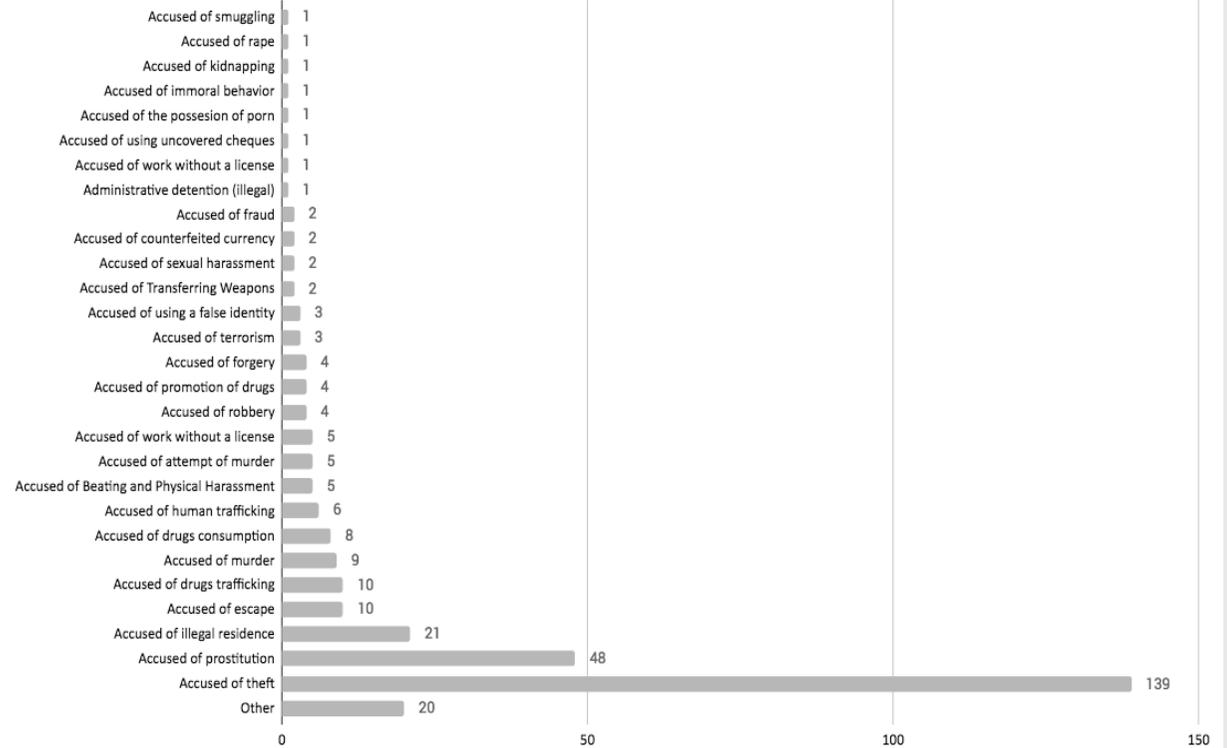
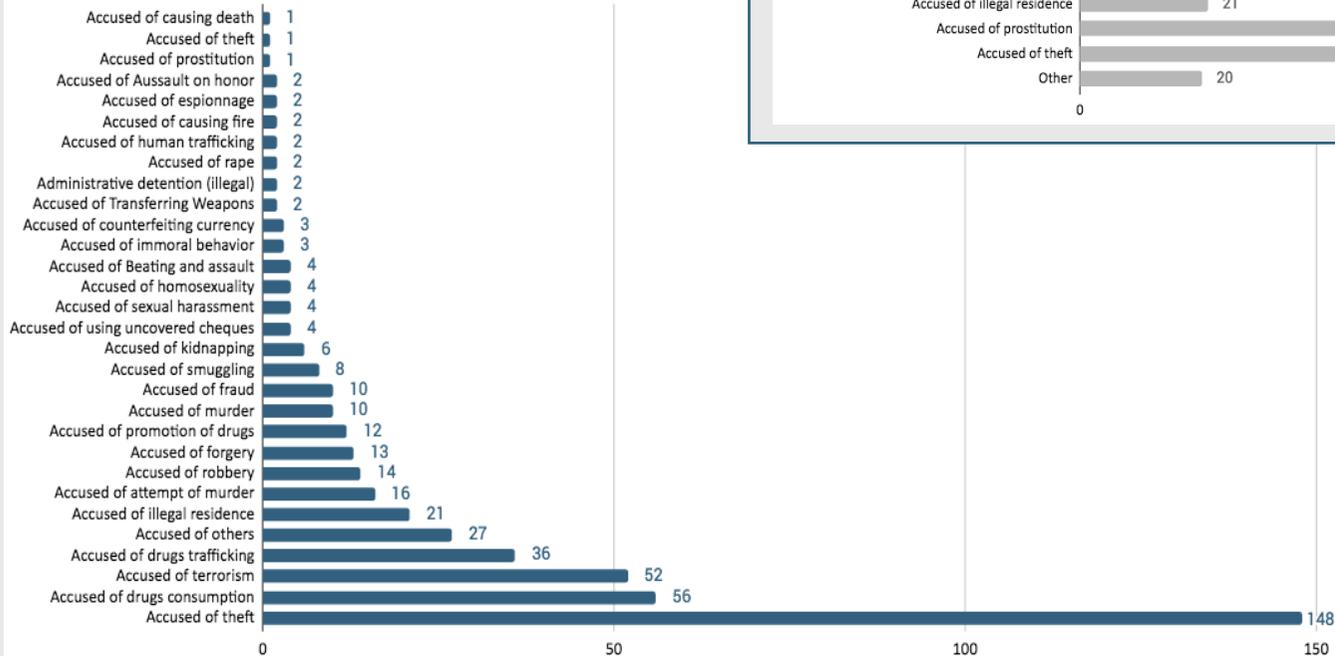
- 328 Talked to the prison authorities
- 328 Visited the detainee and made him/her sign papers
- 226 Visited the detainee to discuss the case
- 30 Contacted the Embassy
- 16 contacted GSO representatives
- 15 Discussed the case with the family
- 10 Contacted the lawyer of the detainee
- 2 Referred the case to another NGO
- 2 Contacted UNHCR
- 1 Contacted another NGO

**Sub-Total 958**

Released based on Nationalities:



## Accusations of Females (Either Released or Transferred to GSO)



## Accusations of Males (Either Released or Transferred to GSO)



## SUCCESS STORIES

\* Names of beneficiaries have been changed due to confidentiality reasons.

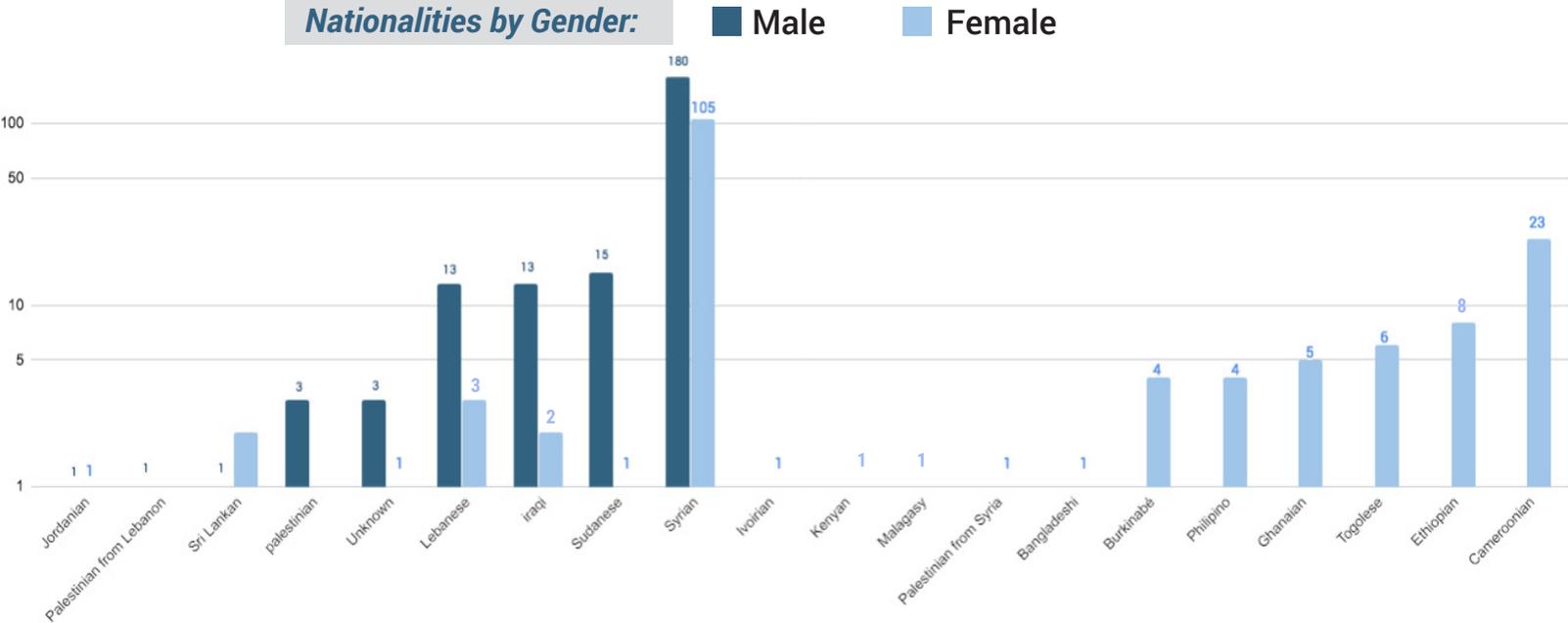
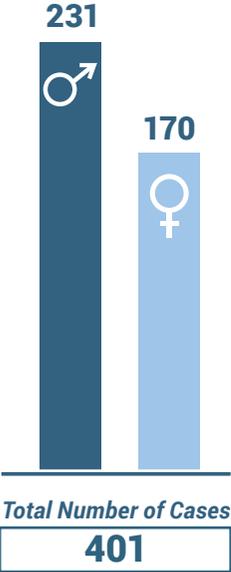
1- **Nawal**, an Ethiopian migrant domestic worker, gave birth to twins and fled from the hospital since she could not pay the expenses, therefore ISF arrested her on 28/04/2017 for human trafficking and for selling the newborns. Nawal was transferred to Qobbeh Women prison, where CLDH met her during one of their field visits to Women prison and discussed the case. Samira was being arbitrary detained and wrongfully prosecuted therefore CLDH's lawyer checked on the status of her case, the file located at the accusation chamber the judge found her innocent of Human trafficking but she got indicted of illegal residence. CLDH's legal team prepared and submitted a power of attorney which allowed them to act as legal representatives on her behalf; The file was transferred to misdemeanor court after one and half year of detention waiting for trial, the lawyer in charge of the case attended her session and the judge closed the trial and issued her verdict on the same day, she was sentenced to five hundred thousand LBP fine.

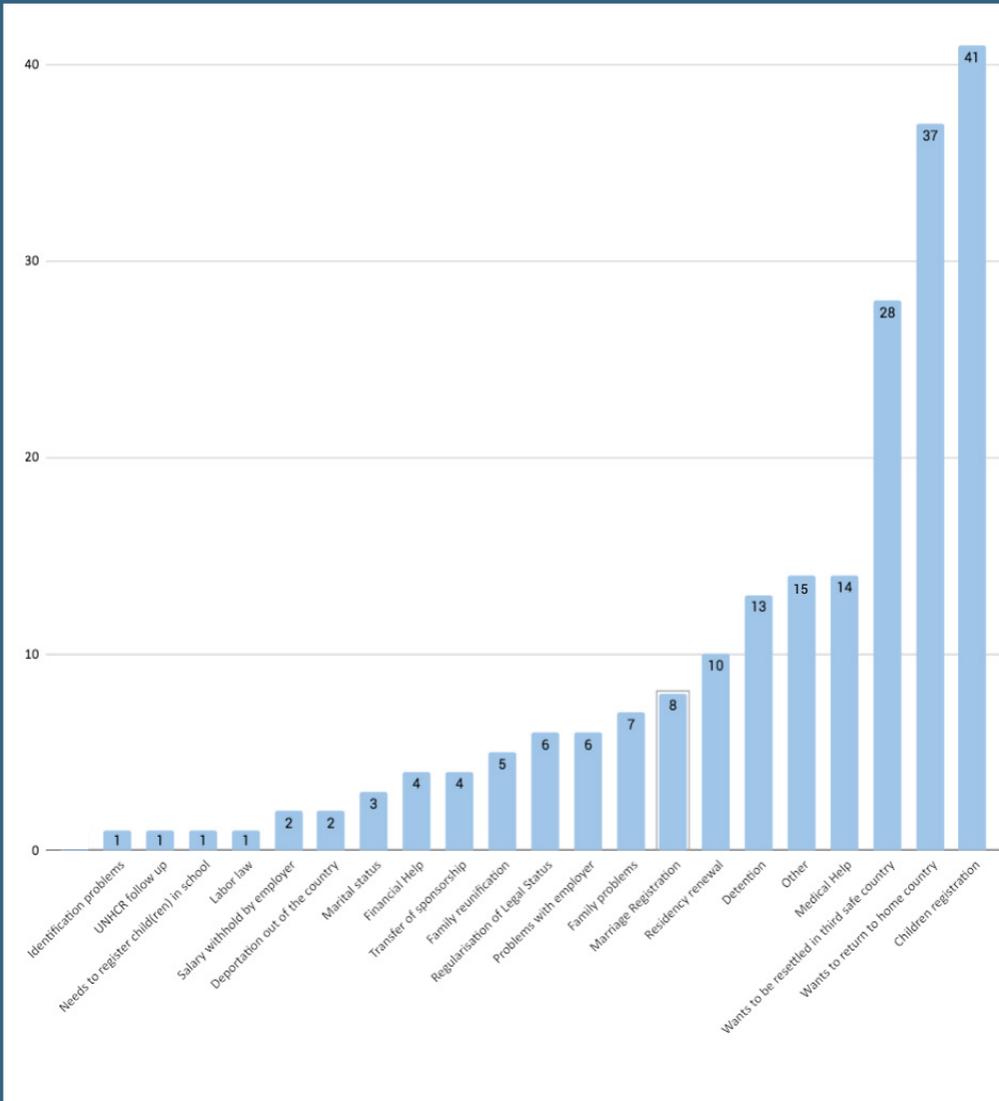
CLDH sent the summary of her sentence to prison, submitted a request to the district attorney to order the GSO not to deport her without her children, as result the judge accepted CLDH's request and ordered GSO to transfer her to Caritas, to rejoin the children, Meanwhile CLDH started a fundraising campaign so a plane ticket could be bought to her. Nawal arrived safely at home with her twins.

2- **Najib**, Lebanese, date of his detention, 16/6/2015, with 19 verdicts accused of theft. He stole to treat his daughter who was suffering from growth deficiency which needed treatment for two years. CLDH's legal team assisted him to get a concurrent sentence, which means to merge all of his verdicts into one sentence: instead of implementing 19 years in total he would serve the highest verdict which was four years. After a long administrative procedure of collecting certified verdicts and statements from multiple courts, CLDH was able to submit his request the judge approved and issue a concurrent sentence. However, it turned out that a new warrant emerged while running a background check, CLDH checked on the status of the file at court, and it turned out that the judge released him without a bail-in this case however the clerk did not send the release order. As a result, the legal team took a copy of the file order and delivered it to the prison, and he got released.

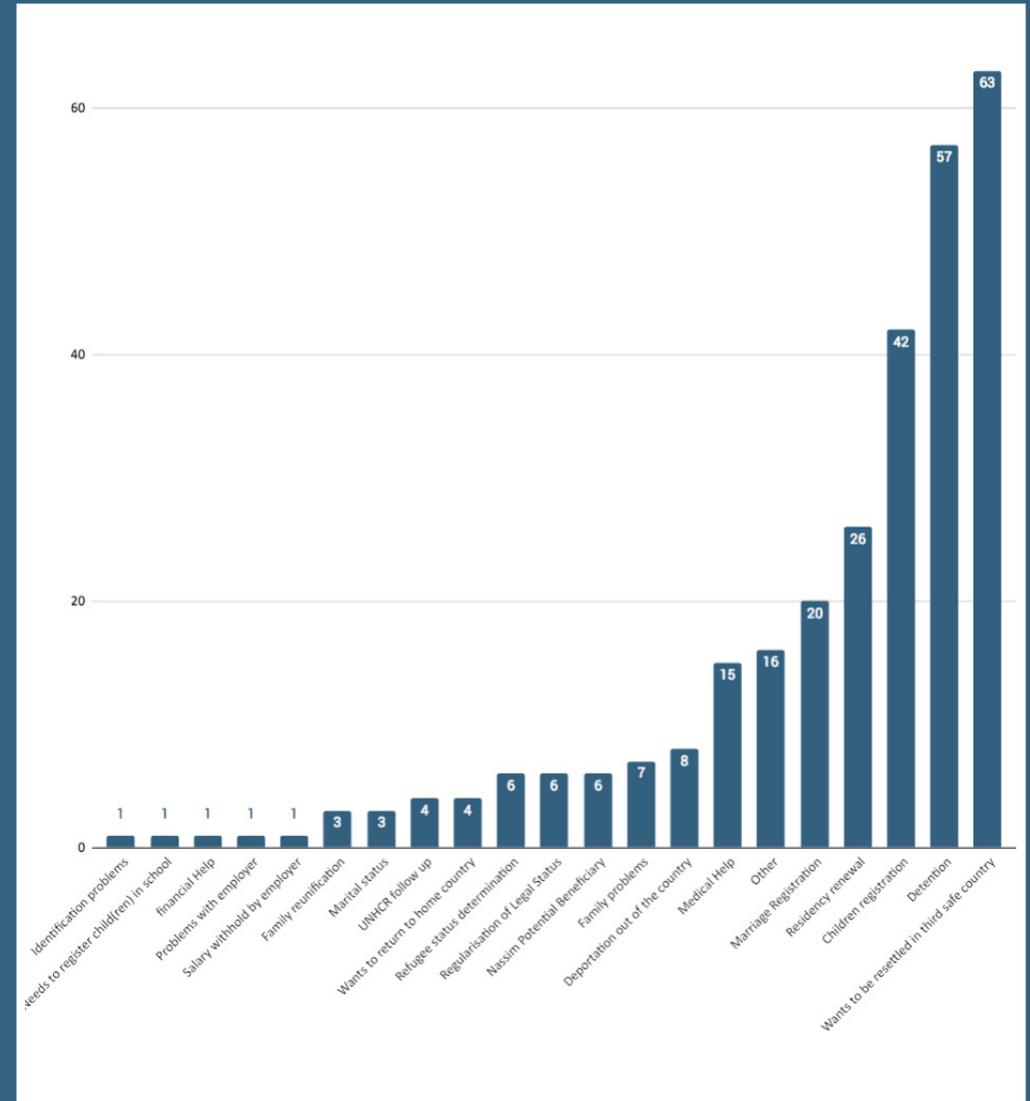
3- **Karim**, a Syrian refugee, got arrested on drugs consumption charges from 05/09/2018, the judge granted him a release on bail the same month, however, he spent two additional years because he couldn't afford bail which was one hundred thousand LBP. By the time he managed to collect the amount he had no relatives outside the prison to bail him meaning to pay his bail at court. During CLDH's field visit to Qobbeh prison the director referred his case to us, we checked on the status of the file and verified the information of his release, therefore we paid his bail and he got a release in April 2020, after waiting for two years for someone to bail him out on drugs consumption charges. "

# Walk-in assistance covering years 2016 to 2019



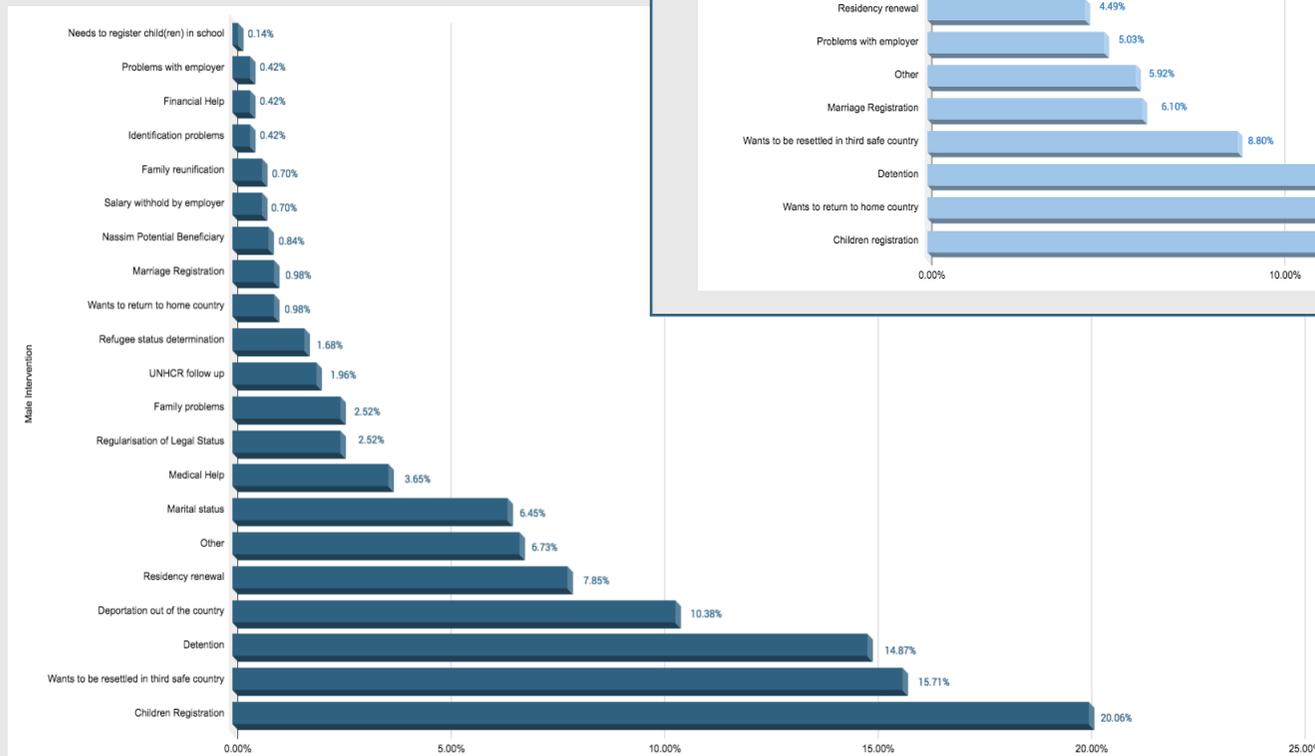
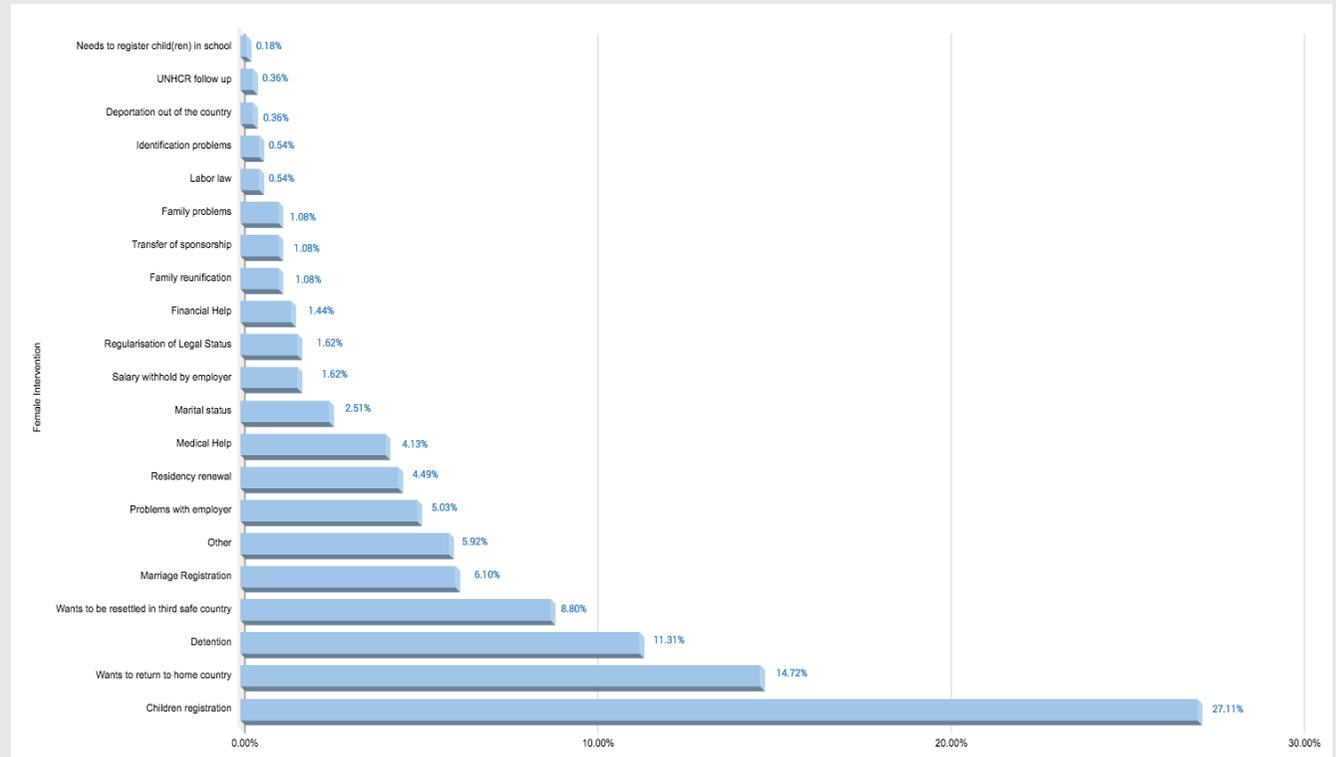


**Number of Cases vs. Female Demands**



**Number of Cases vs. Male Demands**

## Number of cases of Female Interventions

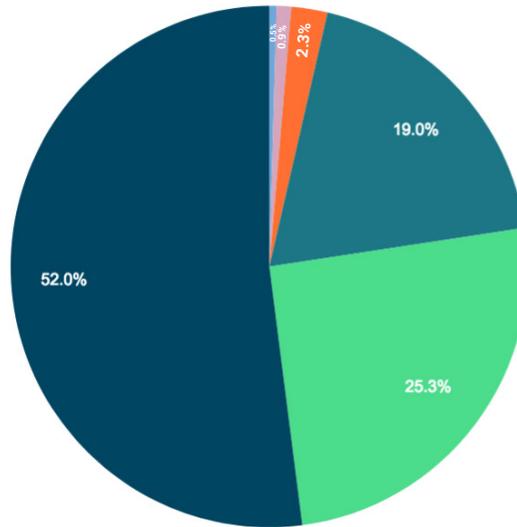


## Number of cases of Male Interventions



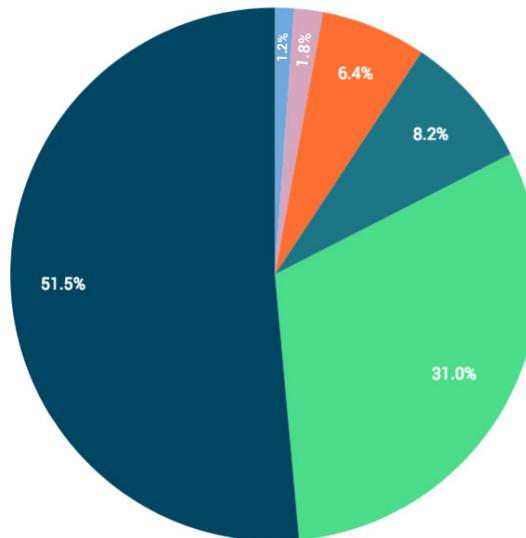
## CASES RESULTS BY GENDER

### MALE RESULTS



- 2 Closed, referred him/her to another lawyer/NGO
- 3 Closed, referred him/her to another NGO
- 11 Closed, gave him/her advice on his/her case
- 14 Closed, no legal ground for intervention
- 53 Ongoing
- 88 Closed, case ended positively

### FEMALE RESULTS



- 1 Closed, referred him/her to another lawyer/NGO
- 2 Closed, referred him/her to another NGO
- 5 Closed, gave him/her advice on his/her case
- 42 Closed, no legal ground for intervention
- 56 Ongoing
- 115 Closed, case ended positively

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