



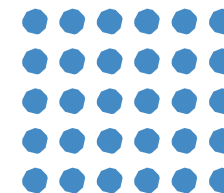
# STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN UZBEKISTAN



Project board meeting – February 7, 2024

Tashkent

# About project



Donor:

Government of Finland



Implementing partner:

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Partner:

Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights (Ombudsman)



Implementation modality:

NIM



Gender marker:

Gen 2



Budget for 2023:

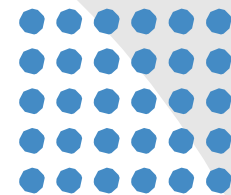
**467 531.82** USD

As of Dec 31:

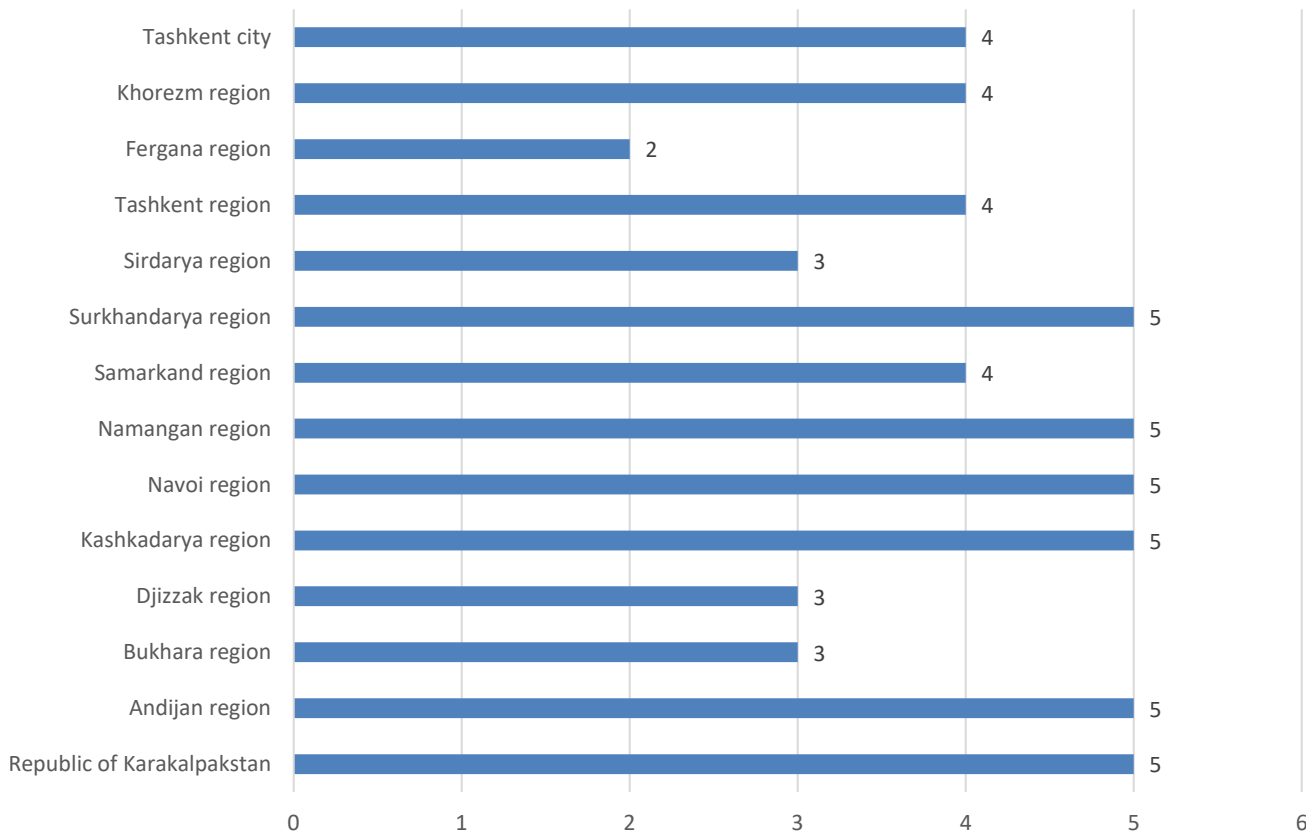
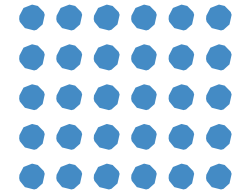
**402 412.55** USD (86%)



# RESULTS for 2023



# In area of free legal aid

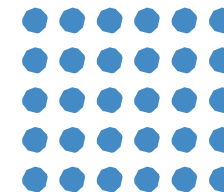


Needs assessment (capacity, specialization, coverage) of NGOs specialized in free legal aid provision was organized.

1) In total **57 ta** NGOs specialized in free legal aid provision were surveyed.

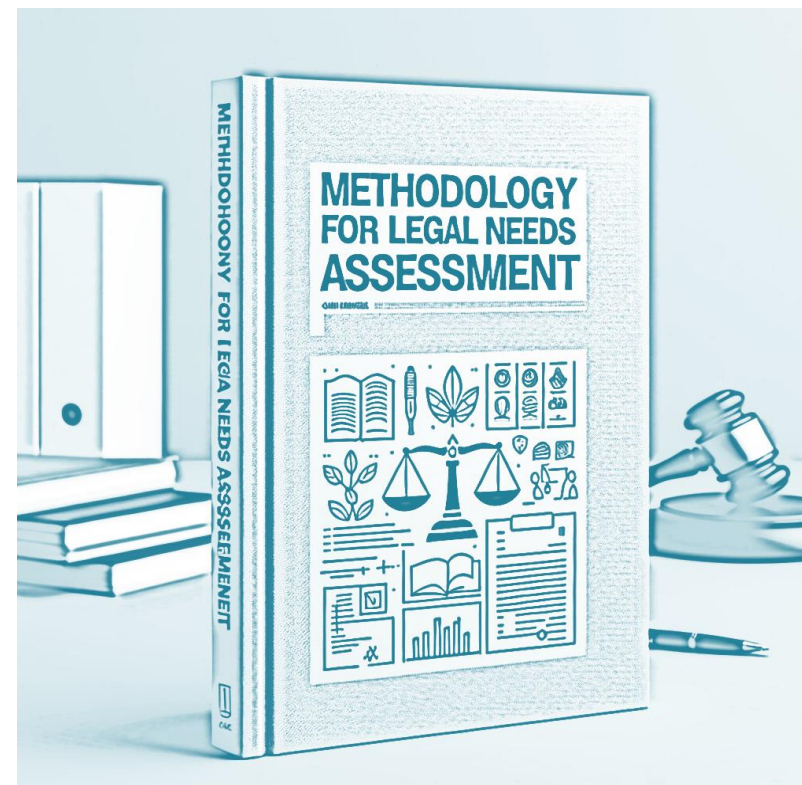
2) **37** (out of 57 participated NGOs specialized in free legal aid provision) are headed by women and **20** by men.

# In area of free legal aid

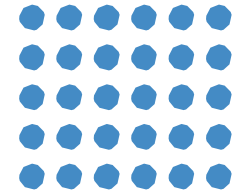


Legal needs assessment methodology was developed.

- 1) Cooperated with the HiIL (The Hague Institute for Innovations in Law) experts.
- 2) Center for research initiatives 'Ma'no' was hired to develop Legal needs assessment methodology in cooperation with international expert, pilot the draft methodology in Tashkent city and Tashkent region.
- 3) Legal Needs Atlas:  
<https://worldjusticeproject.org/legal-needs-atlas/>



# In area of free legal aid



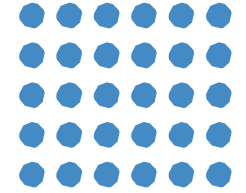
Concept on further development of the Free Legal aid system in Uzbekistan was developed.

In this regard:

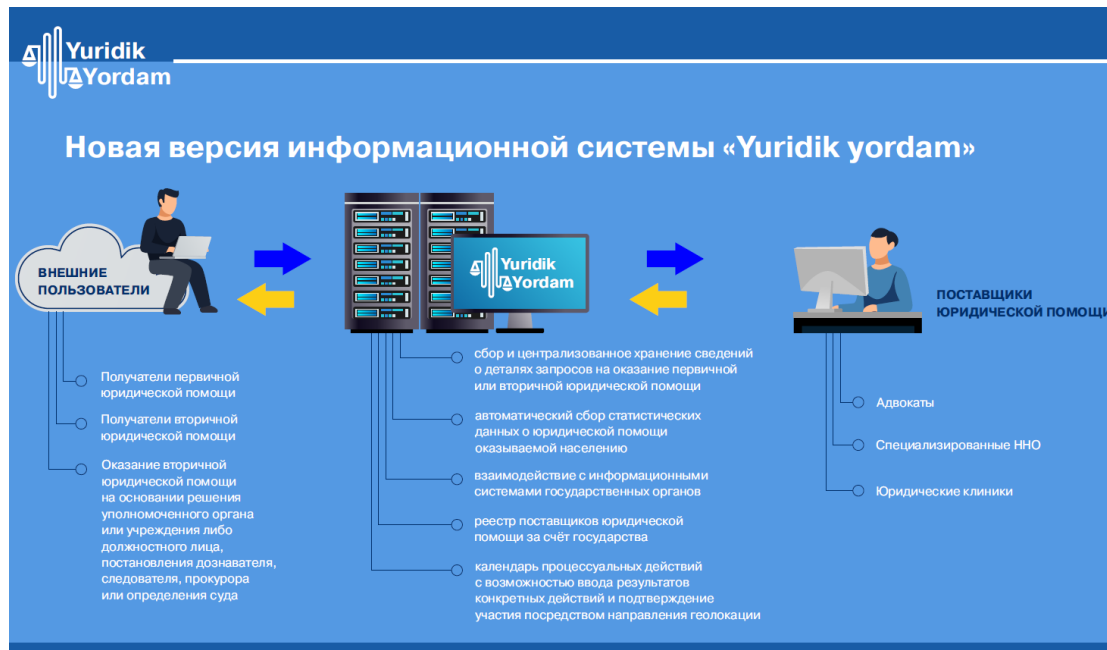
- 1) Experiences of more than **20** foreign countries were studied;
- 2) National legislation was analyzed, proposals to amend **7 legislative acts** were developed and **1 regulation** was developed.
- 3) The developed concept was presented at a SDG Forum organized on November 23 to discuss implementation of **SDG 16** in Uzbekistan.



# In area of free legal aid



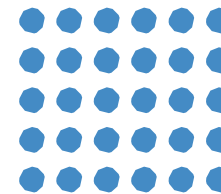
Concept of the case management system for free legal aid providers (legal clinics, NGOs and CSOs, lawyers developed.



The positive effects of creating an information system include:

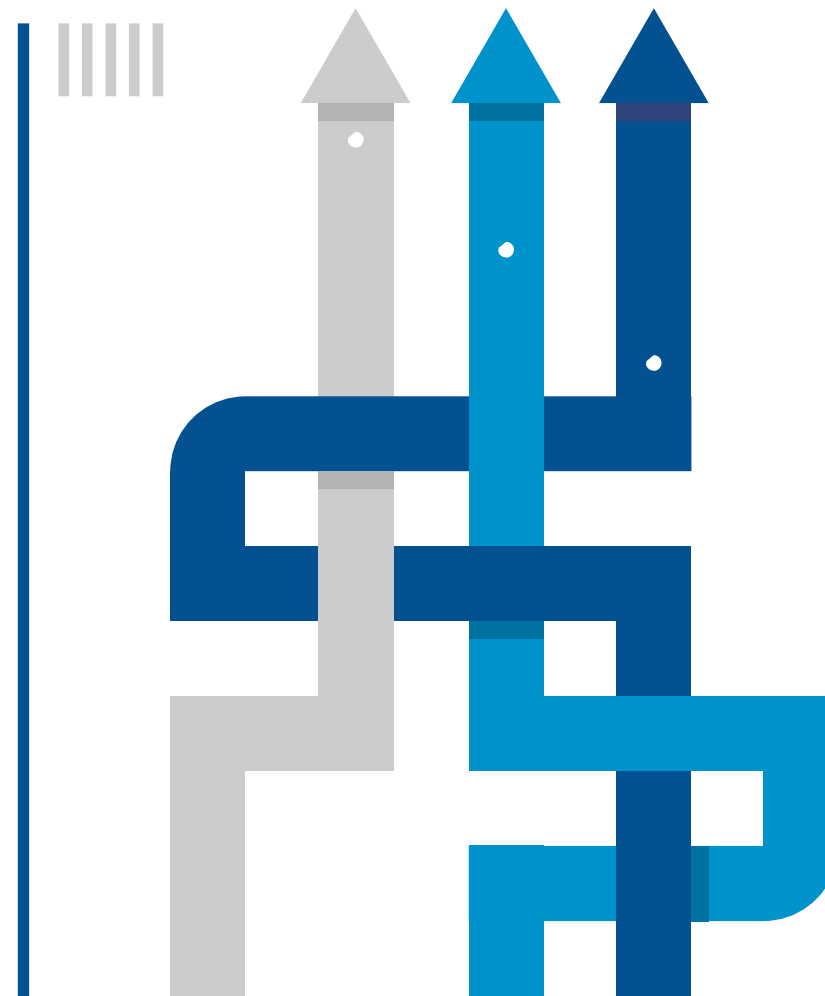
- **single database** of population applied for both primary and secondary free legal aid;
- **remote coordination and monitoring** of the efficiency and timeliness of free legal aid provision;
- the ability to conduct **centralized research** into the **population's legal needs**, based on requests for both primary and secondary legal assistance, including those funded by the state, etc.

# In the area of supporting Ombudsperson's office



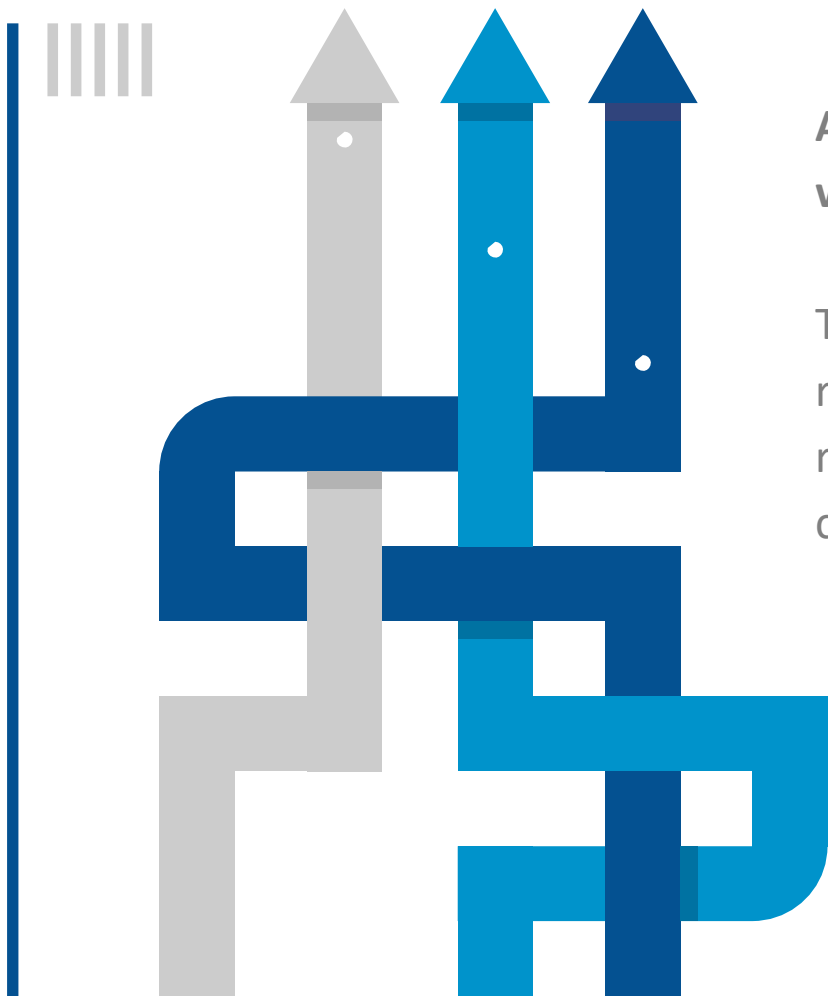
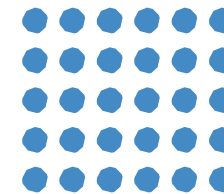
On June 16, 2023, a roundtable discussion on the topic of “Mutual Cooperation between State Bodies and Civil Society Institutions in Providing Human Rights and Freedoms’ was organized

The event was attended by representatives of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Committee for Family and Women Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Prosecutor General's Office, the National Center for Human Rights, the Supreme Council of Judges and **activists from more than 10 civil society institutions**, including the Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, the non-governmental organization Madad, the public association Legal Support, the public movement Yuksalish, Development Strategies. Center, the Association of Judges of Uzbekistan and other public organizations and media workers.





# In the area of supporting Ombudsperson's office

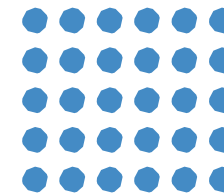


A seminar on “Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” was organized on 8-9 November.

The seminar was attended by the staff of the Ombudsperson, regional representatives of the Ombudsperson in the regions, representatives of non-governmental non-profit organizations and civil society institutions.



# In the area of supporting Ombudsperson's office



**SUOMI  
FINLAND**

**OMBUDSMAN**

**30 UNDP**  
years in Uzbekistan

**“Ozodlikdan mahrum qilish yoki cheklash joylarida  
qiynoqlarning oldini olish bo'yicha milliy preventiv mexanizm (MPM) doirasida  
monitoring tashriflarini rejalashtirish va o'tkazish metodologiyasi” bo'yicha**

**TRENING**

**TRAINING**

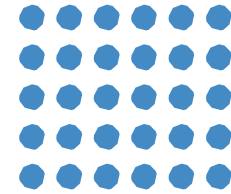
**'Methodology for Planning and Conducting Preventive Visits  
by the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) of Uzbekistan  
in Places of Deprivation or Restriction of Liberty'**

2023 yil 25-26 dekabr  
Toshkent shahri

National preventive mechanism – Methodology on monitoring of places of detention was developed based on international standards.

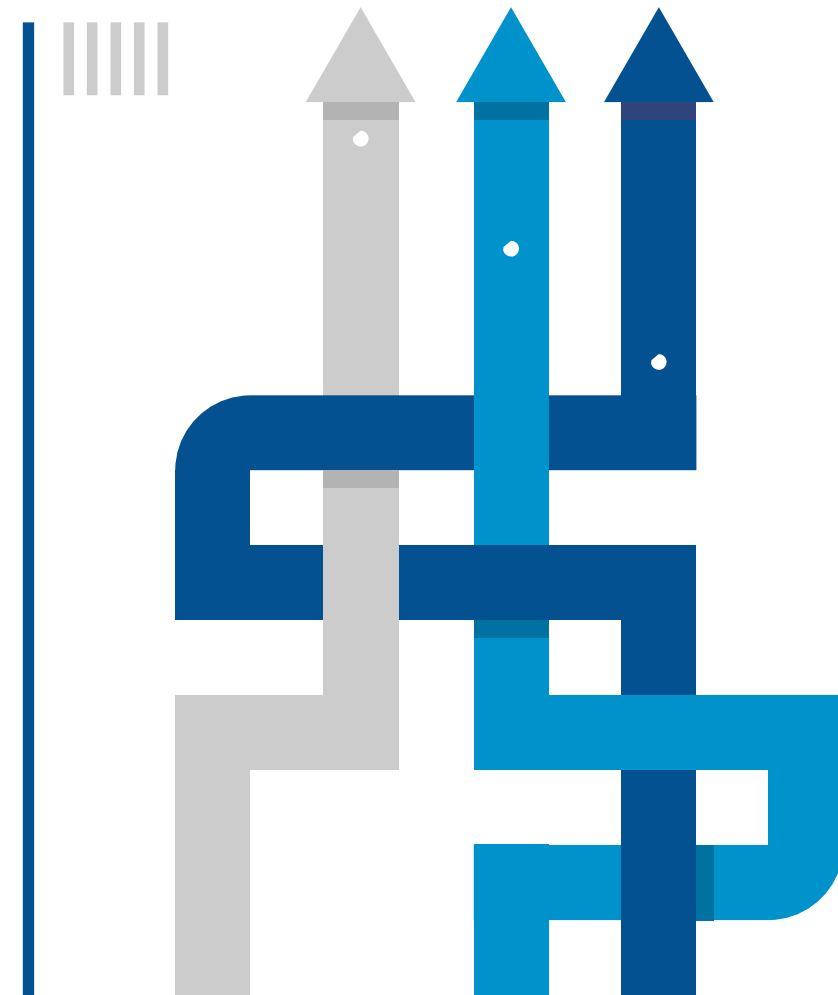
On December 25-26, 2023, a training was held for regional representatives of the Ombudsperson as well as for a number of CSOs participating in the monitoring of places of detention.

# In the area of supporting Ombudsperson's office

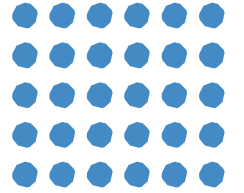


Cooperation established with NGOs to conduct analyses of judicial practice.

- 1) **3 NGOs** – ‘MADAD’, ‘Huquqiy tayanch’ and ‘Rahmdillik’.
- 2) Over **650** court decisions related to defamation, mandatory moving in and deprivation of parental rights were analyzed.
- 3) Project is planning to hold round-table discussion to present and discuss the findings of the analyses in 2024.



# Results in numbers



**28** staff of state funded **legal aid providers** were trained on gender based violence

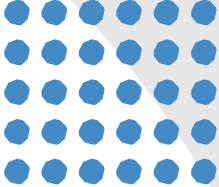
A total of **20** employees of **10 NGOs** and **14 regional representatives** of the Ombudsman, who participated in **2 events** organized in cooperation with the Ombudsman's office, were trained in the field of human rights, including the rights of persons with disabilities.

**27 young people (including 13 girls)** working in legal clinics in **5 regions** of the Republic have increased their knowledge and understanding of human rights, including labor rights.

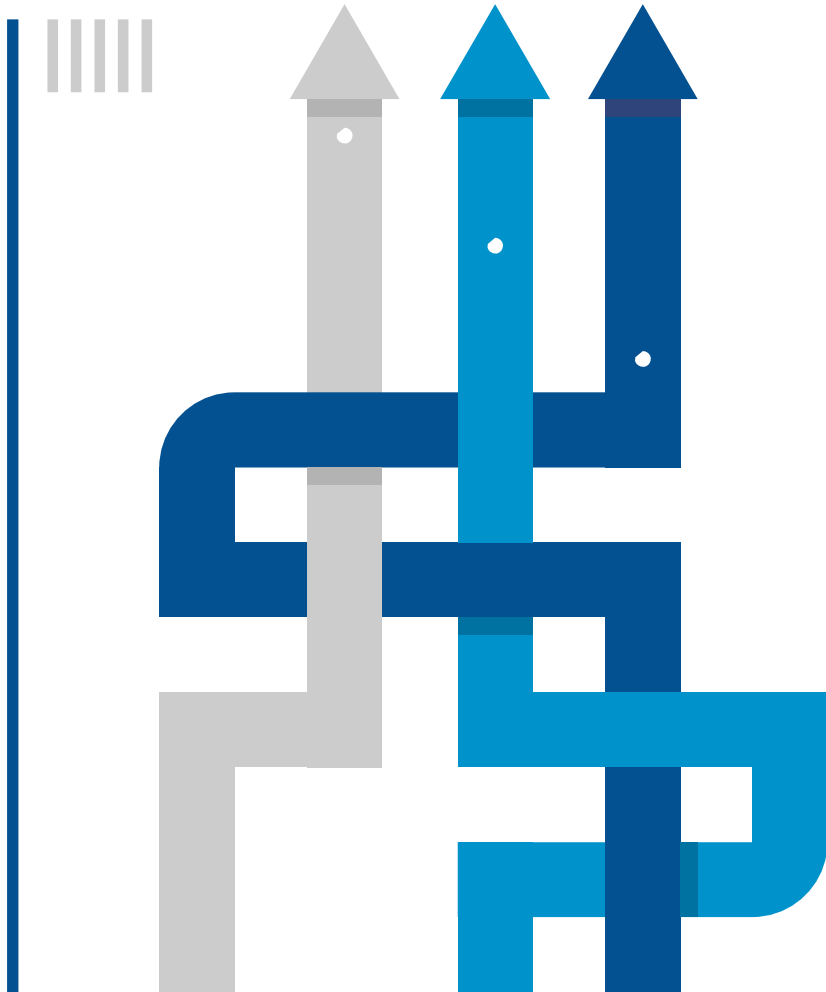
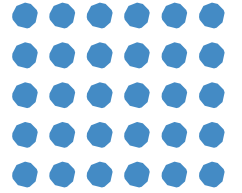
In cooperation with the Ombudsman, more than **650 court decisions** were analyzed in the course of summarizing judicial practice with **3 NGOs**.

**5** primary **legal aid providers** were provided with ICT equipment.

**PLANS  
for  
2024**



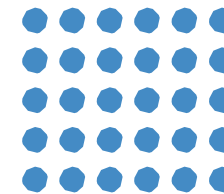
# In area of free legal aid



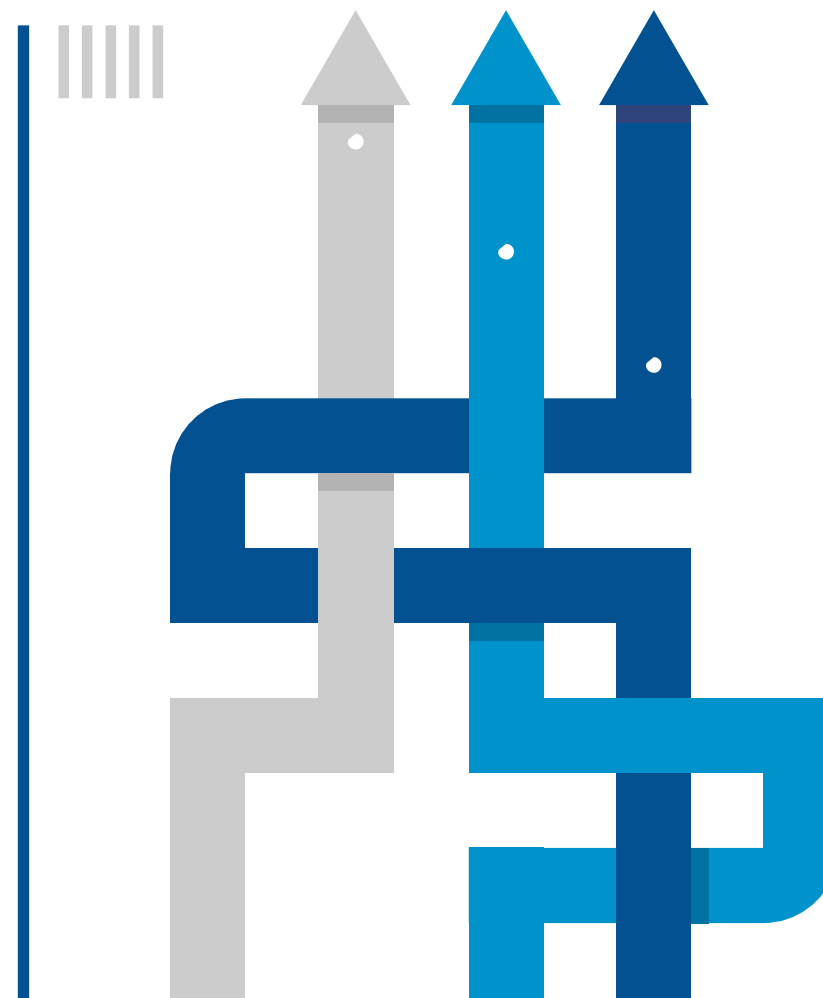
- 1) **Development of standard operating procedures** and indicators for the provision of free legal aid in criminal proceedings and for victims of domestic and gender-based violence.
- 2) Researching the best foreign experiences in **providing legal assistance to victims of domestic and gender-based violence** and developing proposals for further improvement of national legislation.
- 3) Organization of **legal needs assessment** survey



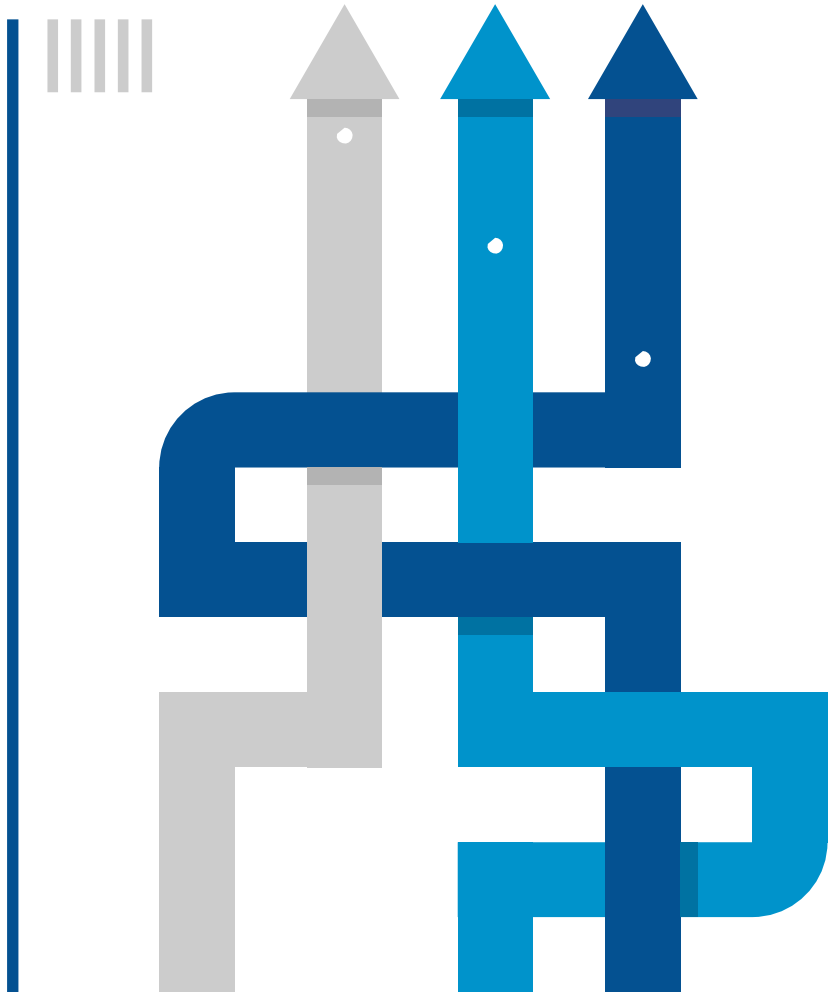
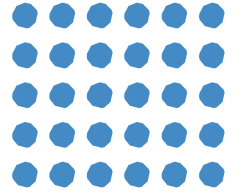
# In area of free legal aid



- 4) Organization of round-table **“Implementation of the Free legal Aid in Uzbekistan: Lessons Learned”**
- 5) Development of a new version of the **“Free Legal Aid Information System”**
- 6) Organizing an event for students studying at the Legal Clinic on **“Providing free legal aid to victims of family (domestic) violence and gender-based violence”**.



# In the area of supporting Ombudsperson's office

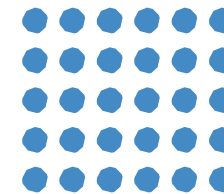


- 1) Developing a **Competency Framework for the Ombudsperson** of Uzbekistan aimed at further strengthening its capacity.
- 2) Developing **methodological recommendations** on issues of **expert assessment** of torture cases and on how to conduct **monitoring of court hearings**.
- 3) **Trainings** regional representatives of Ombudsperson and selected NGOs **on inclusive and gender sensitive communication** as well as abovementioned topics.



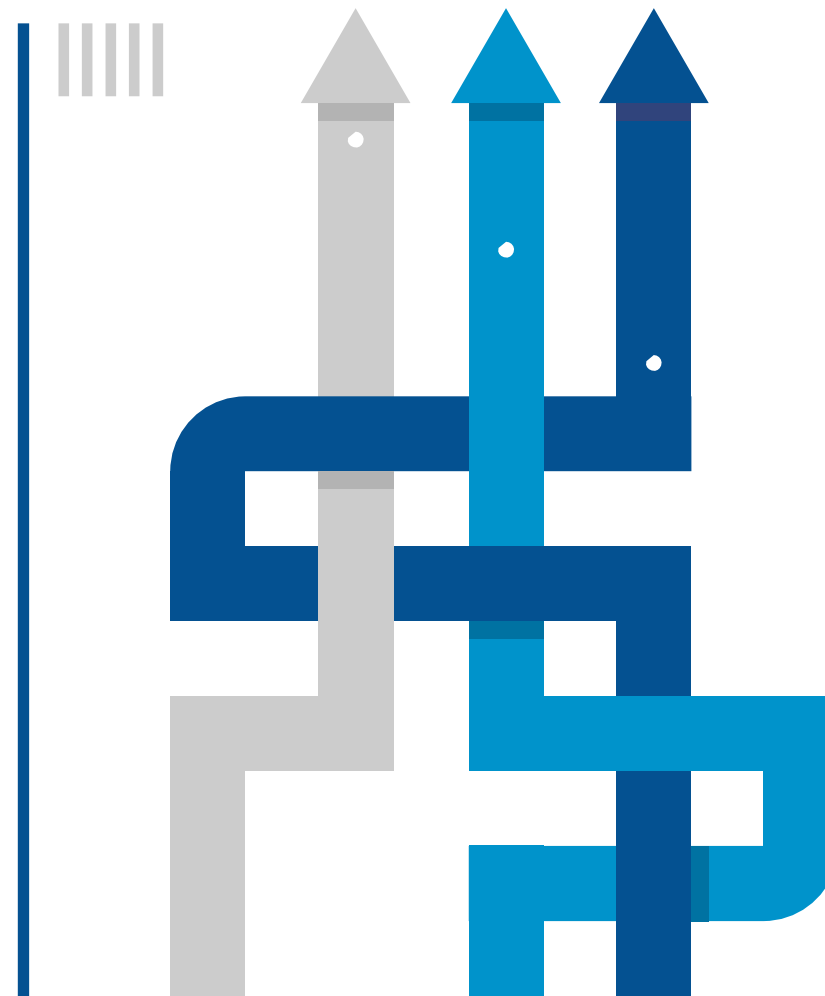


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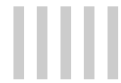
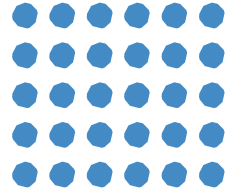


4) Supporting Ombudsperson's Office in Uzbekistan in development of a **user-friendly database for complaints management system**.

5) Supporting **organization of international conference** on the occasion of 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation of Ombudsperson's office.



# As well as:



1) Support organization of **activities for “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence”** in 2024.

2) Organization of a round-table **“Results of the Research of Judicial Practice by NGOs”** to discuss findings of analyses of the judicial practice by NGOs in the year 2023.

3) Organization of **training for selected NGOs** on a) how to conduct analyses of judicial practice and b) conducting monitoring of court hearings.





**THANK  
YOU!**

