

**PROJECT EVALUATION**

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**CONTENTS**

**1. Executive Summary 2**

**2. Introduction 5**

**3. Description of Project 6**

**4. Evaluation Scope and Objectives 6**

**5. Methodology 7**

**6. Analysis 7**

**6.1 Project Design**

**6.2 Project Impact**

**6.3 Relevance and Effectiveness of the Project’s Strategy**

**6.4 Project Performance - Effectiveness, Efficiency and Timeliness**

**6.5 Quality and Timeliness of Inputs**

**7. Findings and Conclusions 17**

**8. Recommendations 18**

**APPENDICES**

**I ToR (Procurement Notice) 19**

**II List of Acronyms 23**

**III List of People Interviewed/Consulted 24**

**IV List of Documents 25**

**V Matrix of activities 26**

**1. Executive Summary**

This is the terminal evaluation, mandated by the project document, of a UNDP Project to support the Government of Bahrain (GoB) in implementing the recommendations it accepted during its Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and its voluntary pledges and commitments made in its candidacy for the Human Rights Council (HRC). Taking a rights-based approach focussed on the Project beneficiaries, the evaluators undertook a desk study of relevant documents and face-to-face interviews in Bahrain with UNDP officials, government officials, the NHRI and some members of the UPR Steering Committee and civil society representatives.

The evaluation has not been without some constraints. The in-country part of the exercise was limited to four days to accommodate the travel plans and other commitments of the key personnel and one evaluator was not ultimately able to be present in-country when she, unexpectedly, was unable to obtain a visa. She participated in interviews and presentations via Skype and telephone conferences. Also, several interviews were cancelled at the last moment. Nonetheless, sufficient information was obtained to complete the evaluation to appropriate standards.

The evaluators set out to assess Project design in terms of the usual UNDP evaluation criteria – relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. We have also examined the management arrangements, drawn some conclusions and made recommendations for future human rights capacity development in Bahrain.

We identified some divergence in Project objectives – while the title of the Project indicates a focus on the implementation of UPR recommendations, voluntary pledges and commitments (UPR outcomes) the outputs specified in the Project document cover a much broader range of human rights capacity. This raises the question whether the success of the project should be measured in terms of implementation of UPR outcomes, or improved human rights capacity. We have endeavoured to use both measures and in order to do so have developed a matrix of Bahrain’s UPR outcomes and outputs under the UNDP Project and their relationship with the activities of the UPR Action Plan that the Project was designed to support.

The Project was innovative, given Bahrain’s position as the very first State to undergo the UPR process and, overall, we consider that it has been successful. This, despite several major constraints – the main three being an eighteen month delay in appointing a Project Manager; the events of February 2011 and their aftermath; and the relocation of the Project, mid-stream, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development – all of which had a significant impact on Project activities. However, a range of capacity development activities have been successfully undertaken under all five of its output areas with, generally, positive results. We specifically mention capacity development of UPR Steering Committee members, development of UPR capacity in MoFA and building capacity of the NIHR. On the other hand, it has not been easy to discern whether observed changes in the government attitude and polices towards the implementation of recommendations/voluntary pledges can be attributed to Project activities given some shortcomings in monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in the Project.

As far as we were able to determine, Project activities were implemented efficiently. However, the size of the UPR Steering Committee and difficulties in its operation meant it was unable to provide effective oversight of the Project. We consider that a separate and smaller steering committee (though still representing all stakeholders – government, civil society and UN) would have been more effective. The Project provided value for money and evaluators found no evidence of excessive expenditure on activities. The Project was underspent by approximately $177,180, a relatively small amount given the disruptions to activity implementation that were experienced by project management.

We have concluded that the objectives of the Project remain current – if anything, given the events of the past year, there is a greater need for a Project now than when it was conceived. We have therefore recommended the “renewal” of the Project, though with significant variations.

We consider that future human rights capacity development in Bahrain should have the following objectives:

* To support follow-up to the forth-coming 2012 UPR recommendations;
* To build on the achievements of the current project and implement some activities not completed under the new project;
* To reflect the new human rights realities and needs in Bahrain following events over the past year and to implement the recommendations of the Bassiouni Report;
* To integrate OHCHR – in a modality to be discussed with OHCHR – into the new project.

We propose two projects – one focussed on government and the other on the NIHR (since to combine them would impinge on the independence of the NIHR). Capacity building of the NIHR should focus on compliance with the Paris Principles and the three main roles for such bodies – human rights awareness raising and training of officials, “claims”/human rights grievances, and human rights policy and research.

In terms of project implementation, we propose a new GoB project that is a partnership between the GoB, UNDP and OHCHR; and an NIHR project, which would be a partnership between UNDP and the NIHR. We recommend that the projects should be 5 of years’ duration, to cover the next UPR cycle, and that the GoB project, at least, should have a mid-term evaluation to enable the balance of the project to be responsive to any developing human rights situation in the country. We suggest that the Project Steering Committees be small groups, with representatives of the partners plus a civil society representative, that are separate from the UPR Steering Committee (which has a different role). We recommend that in the interests of sustainability, the projects should be NEX executed, with national Project Managers with clear human rights credentials, unless it proves impossible to identify suitable national candidates, in which case international project managers might be considered. In addition, especially where national Project Managers have been selected, there should be international human rights advisers attached to the projects. In the case of the NIHR project, the adviser should have first-hand experience in an NHRI at a high level.

**2. Introduction**

This evaluation has been undertaken to assess the relevance, performance, management arrangements and success of the UPR Project. The evaluators have, reflecting a rights-based approach, examined the potential impact of project activities with beneficiaries and also at sustainability of project results, including the contribution to capacity development.

In our findings, we have also documented some lessons learned and we make recommendations that project partners and stakeholders might use to improve the design and implementation of future interventions in the human rights field in Bahrain and for the renewal of the UPR Project itself.

The evaluation was agreed in the Project document – which required a project review to be conducted during the fourth quarter of the final year as a basis for assessing the performance of the Project. To the extent possible in the time available, and given the restraints outlined below, we have endeavoured to involve as many key project stakeholders and implementing partners as possible. The focus has been on the extent to which progress has being made towards outputs, and the extent to which these have been aligned to appropriate outcomes.

This evaluation was to undertake the following principal tasks:

a) Assess the project design in terms of its relevance to the overall human rights situation at the national level; relevance to national strategies, and relevance to beneficiaries;

b) Assess the project impact on the general population and Universal Periodic Review (UPR) beneficiaries;

c) Assess relevance and effectiveness of the project’s strategy and approaches for the achievement of the project objectives;

d) Assess performance of the project in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of producing the expected outputs;

e) Assess the quality and timeliness of inputs, the reporting and monitoring system and extent to which these have been effective;

f) Assess relevance of the project’s management arrangements; identify advantages, bottlenecks and lessons learn with regard to the management arrangements;

g) Assess new areas and opportunities for further human rights work in Bahrain;

h) Provide recommendations to key project stakeholders for follow-up activities.

The terms of reference, in the form of a Procurement Notice, are at **Appendix I.**

At **Appendix V** is a Matrix of Bahrain’s UPR Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges and Commitments that are the subject of the UNDP Project analysed in relationship to the activities of the UPR Action Plan.

**3. Description of Project**

The aim of the Project (at least according to its title) was to support the Government of Bahrain (GoB) in implementing the recommendations it accepted during its Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and its voluntary pledges and commitments made in its candidacy for the Human Rights Council (HRC). It was to be implemented mainly through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), which had established a UPR Unit. Later the UPR was transferred to the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development (MoHRSD). The main vehicle for the Project’s objectives was follow-up and implementation of the National Action Plan to Implement Bahrain’s Pledges, Voluntary Commitments and UPR outcomes.

The Project, which covers the year 2008-2012, focuses on the following areas:

* Strengthening Bahrain’s human rights database and information system;
* Effective implementation of Bahrain’s obligations under international human rights treaties;
* Strengthening Bahrain’s institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights;
* Strengthening Bahrain’s institution dealing with ratification of international human rights instruments and dealing with national legislative incorporation of human rights treaties that Bahrain has ratified;
* Strengthening Bahrain’s human rights capacities, both governmental and nongovernmental, especially capacities for monitoring and evaluation; and,
* Strengthening Bahrain’s capacities for applying a human rights based approach to development.

**4. Evaluation Scope and Objectives**

The evaluators, consistent with the terms of reference, adopted the following criteria in examining project outputs and activities:

* Relevance – the extent to which Project activities were relevant to objectives established for the Project and, ultimately, the implementation of Bahrain’s UPR recommendations, voluntary commitments and pledges (UPR outcomes);
* Effectiveness – the extent to which the Project’s objectives were achieved, taking into account their relative importance;
* Efficiency – how economically were resources/inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) converted to results for the Project
* Sustainability – the probability of long-term benefits from Project activities once they were over, including whether it is feasible to continue them in the future

**5. Methodology**

**5.1 *Approach***

Consistent with UNDP evaluation standards and a rights-based approach, the approach adopted by the evaluators has been to assess the Project essentially from the viewpoint of its beneficiaries – the members of the UPR Steering Committee, the participants in Project activities and the ultimate beneficiaries, the Bahrain general public.

A desk study was undertaken of the range of documentation for the evaluation – annual project reports, activity reports, (some) evaluations carried out of training activities etc. The full list of documents reviewed is at **Appendix IV.** We undertook interviews of UNDP officials, government officials, the NHRI and some members of the Steering Committee and civil society representatives (**Appendix III)**.

***5.2 Limitations***

The evaluation proceeded under a number of constraints. First, the in-country part of the exercise was limited to four days to accommodate the travel plans and other commitments of the evaluators and the Project Manager. Secondly, one evaluator was not ultimately able to be present in-country when she, unexpectedly, was unable to obtain a visa. She took part in a number of interviews and presentations via Skype and telephone conferences. Thirdly, given short notice, several interviews were cancelled at the last moment. Notwithstanding these limitations, the evaluators consider that they have been able to obtain sufficient information to carry out their task to appropriate standards.

**6. Analysis**

***6.1 Project Design***

We have undertaken an assessment of the Project’s design in terms of its relevance to the overall human rights situation at the national level, rather than just its relevance to the implementation of UPR outcomes. The Project’s title is “Supporting Implementation of Bahrain’s Universal Periodic Review Action Plan”. If this was all that the Project encompassed, then the most effective indicator of Project results would have been the extent to which UPR outcomes had been implemented in Bahrain. However, the main objectives, outputs and activities of the Project were much wider than UPR implementation and, indeed, the Project document outlined five output areas which related more to building human rights capacity – these are set out below. We agree with this approach. A project supporting only UPR recommendations would not necessarily have covered the most pressing human rights issues in the country, since UPR recommendations are crafted by member States for the purposes of the review – a process which may not necessarily result in the most robust or relevant analysis of the human rights situation in the country.

The difficulty, however, from a project design perspective is that there are essentially two main objectives – supporting the implementation of UPR outcomes and improving the human rights situation via the various project output areas. These latter (five) areas have reasonably defined expected results, but the implementation of UPR recommendations is not an explicit result of the project. However, we have endeavoured to review the Project from both perspectives.

***6.1.1*** *Relevance of Project to the Overall Human Rights Situation*

In April 2008, the Kingdom of Bahrain was the first country to undergo the UPR of the UN HRC. In addition to Bahrain’s State Report, reports by the UN and 12 non-governmental stakeholders were also provided for the Review. Following an interactive dialogue with the State, the HRC adopted the report by the UPR’s Working Group on Bahrain and its list of recommendations and voluntary pledges. The 47 recommendations and voluntary pledges and commitments made as a result of the HRC’s interactive dialogue with the State are summarised below:

* Include a gender perspective - (Recommendation 1);
* Sign and ratify international human rights treaties (eg. Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (CED), and remove reservations to international human rights treaties to which Bahrain is a State Party (such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) - (Recommendation 2 & 4; Voluntary Pledges 16 &17);
* Adopt domestic national legislation that conforms with Bahrain’s existing international human rights obligations (such as on female domestic workers, provision of citizenship to children of a non-Bahraini father, family law) or streamline existing legislation in order to conform with those obligations (press law, freedom of expression) - (Recommendation 2,3,5,6,7 and Voluntary Pledges 38,39,44);
* Improve its cooperation with different UN treaty and non-treaty bodies, by extending invitations to UN Special Procedures and responding to requests for information, encouraging visits by OHCHR and other UN human rights officials and participating in human rights fora - (Recommendation 10 and Voluntary Pledges 18, 22,23,24,25, 26, 36, 41);
* Establish and strengthen the work of an independent national human rights institution (conforming with the Paris Principles) - (Voluntary Pledge 11);
* Develop and implement a National Action Plan on Human Rights, and follow up and report on the outcomes of the UPR, and on progress made - (Recommendation 8, Voluntary Pledges 12, 27, 31, 34, 37);
* Develop a National Action Plan on Human Rights Education and record the dynamism of the Information Sector - (Recommendation 9,Voluntary Pledge 14);
* Improve its working relationship with the UN human rights treaty body system through timely submission of its State reports and follow-up and capacity building on its concluding observations - (Voluntary Pledges 13,20,21,42);
* Support the full participation of civil society and increase their awareness of human rights issues - (Voluntary Pledges 15 & 29);
* Provide capacity building to representatives of government bodies such as ministries, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors, parliamentarians etc. - (Voluntary Pledges 19, 35, 40 &43)
* Apply best practices in all areas of the UPR and emphasising human rights in its efforts to achieve comprehensive development - (Voluntary Pledges 28,30,32,33, 45);
* Use the UPR to promote the use of existing means of redress - (Voluntary Pledge 47);
* Pose no objections to peaceful demonstrations - (Voluntary Pledge 46);

Subsequently, Bahrain embarked on developing a National Action Plan for the domestic implementation of these Recommendations and Voluntary Pledges. The UNDP-Bahrain Project Supporting Implementation of Bahrain’s UPR Action Plan (the Project) was developed to provide assistance to developing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on this Action Plan.

**6.1.2** *Relevance of Project Activities to the Human Rights Situation during Project Period (2008-2012)*

While initially the Project Document outlined 6 main outputs through which supported activities seek to achieve this objective, an examination of the project’s work-plans, annual reports and summary of activities indicates that the output that related to focusing on the development of Bahrain’s human rights capacities, (both governmental and non-governmental), was dropped as a specific project output, and incorporated as an element of an overarching support that related to the Project’s 5 remaining outputs.

Project activities under those outputs were highly relevant to the human rights situation on the ground. They were developed in response to the interactive UPR dialogue between the HRC and the State that is designed to identify the country’s most pressing human rights challenges and issues, based on information that is compiled by the State, the UN, and non-governmental stakeholders. In addition, Project activities were focused on providing support to Bahrain’s Action Plan to implement the UPR recommendations/pledges. In our assessment, of the 47 recommendations/pledges identified, Project activities have contributed to the successful implementation (at least partial) of at about 31 recommendations/pledges, including:

* Providing a mechanism (in the form of the Project’s Steering Committee) for the development and implementation of a UPR National Action Plan;
* Launching a UPR website;
* Conducting follow-up activities to the UPR process, such as regional workshops to compare UPR experiences;
* Issuing thematic reports (eg on foreign workers) and annual reports on the situation of human rights (eg annual reports 2009, 2010, 2011);
* Beginning to build the capacity of a national human rights institution intended to conform with the Paris Principles;
* Developing and implementing a National Plan for Human Rights Education through thematic and capacity building workshops as well as technical assistance support;
* Supporting and strengthening the capacities of non-governmental actors (such as NGOs, labour unions, universities) through the development and conduct of training courses and workshops that address international human rights standards, thematic issues and skills (monitoring), as well as on the functioning of international human rights system;
* Supporting and strengthening the capacities of governmental bodies (such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, Prosecutor General’s Office, law enforcement officials) on international human rights issues and standards of concern (such as anti-trafficking, anti-corruption, torture, health, children’s rights) and on Bahrain’s obligations under international human rights treaties;
* Cooperating with OHCHR in the development of human rights curricula and courses for various target groups;
* Improving labour standards and practices.

However, in the case of at least 12 out of these 31 recommendations/pledges, project activities were limited to providing a mechanism (through the UPR Steering Committee) for the submission of human rights related updates and statistics for the UPR Government 2012 report, and for the ensuring the timely submission of State reports to various UN treaty bodies, or of information related to the government’s efforts to review existing reservations.

While the government has taken steps towards the implementation of a number of the remaining recommendations/pledges, in some cases it is not clear whether and to what extent project activities have provided direct support for this – for example:

* Ensuring that a gender perspective is included in the planning of the next stages, including the outcome of the review (Recommendation 1);
* Consider the signing of the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Recommendation 4);
* Inviting special procedures (Recommendation 10) and conduct study on feasibility of doing so (Voluntary Pledge 23);
* Reviewing international human rights treaties to which it has not acceded, and seek international assistance to strengthen individual institutional capacities in this connection (Voluntary Pledge 16);
* Use the UPR to promote any existing means of redress (Voluntary Pledge 47)

The Project would have benefited from a tighter nexus between recommendations/pledges on one hand, and Project activities on the other. In addition, although the outputs identified for the Project provide an adequate framework, the majority of activities were undertaken under Outputs 2, 4 and 5 – fewer activities related to Outputs 1 and 3.

***6.1.3.*** *Relevance to UNDP National Strategies*

Part of the rationale for UNDP’s Country Program Action Plan (2008-2011) was that Bahrain has embarked on a successful political and development reform path with the country meeting most MDGs targets. However, there was recognition that “some areas of national importance such as the capacity development of civil society and their contribution in planning cannot be effectively addressed by UNDP without cooperation of concerned national institutions in Bahrain.” The UPR National Action Plan Project sought to incorporate this in its overall strategy and implementation, by emphasising the need for close interaction and cooperation between UNDP, civil society, and governmental bodies in the development, implementation and follow up of project activities (most notably through the creation of the UPR Steering Committee). It should also be noted that the Project is also relevant to at least two of the national priority goals identified by Country Programme, viz:

* Participatory governance by ensuring the participation of a wide spectrum of stakeholders (government, CSOs, universities, National Independent Human Rights Institute, etc) in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the Project activities. Project activities sought to support the participation of those stakeholders on the UPR Steering Committee; target them with capacity building activities; increase their knowledge and understanding of a number of international human rights issues and UN human rights mechanisms; and to develop their skills at monitoring and reporting to the UN;
* Promoting gender equity and empowerment through activities by the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) that seek to increase awareness of the duty to address women’s needs in the development process. A national plan has also been formulated to ensure that women have access to equal opportunities at the governmental level. However, although the SCW is a member of the UPR Steering Committee, it is not clear which project activities took place specifically in support of SCW’s steps in this regard – possibly because UNDP had another gender project with the SCW.

**6.1.4** *Relevance to Beneficiaries*

Overall, the Project has been of relevance to all its beneficiaries (both government and civil society). However, stakeholders’ perception of the relevance of project activities is influenced to some degree by whether they are governmental or non-governmental. One of the strengths of the UPR’s Steering Committee is that it brought together governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to work together on common issues of concern and foster cooperation with international human rights actors (such as UN bodies and NGOs) concerned with advancing the human situation in Bahrain.

The Steering Committee includes representatives from a wide range of ministries and government bodies, providing a mechanism for intra-governmental cooperation between those different bodies on the human rights recommendations/pledges. Representatives on the committee approve work-plans, discuss future steps to be taken in Project implementation and compile information needed for the upcoming 2012 UPR Government report.

Several non-governmental stakeholders are also represented on the Committee. This was a very positive step, but several of civil society stakeholders have expressed concern that they have been unable to participate adequately on the UPR Steering Committee: they consider that that their voices are not being adequately heard in the decision-making process, with activities being “imposed” on the committee by the chair, and that their role is confined to providing comment and advice rather than having a say in decisions taken by the Steering Committee, let alone having equal participation. There was also a long period when the steering committee was not brought together.

The difficulties experienced by independent NGOs in participating on the Steering Committee are illustrated by the way in which the 2012 UPR National Report has been finalised. While government representatives insisted that non-government stakeholders represented on the committee contribute to the report, and even endorse it, NGOs noted that few of their comments and feedback were given any real consideration. Independent NGOs, while accepting that the report is a “national” document, expected that at least some of their views warranted reflection in the report.

**6.2 Project’s Impact on the General Population and UPR Beneficiaries**

***6.2.1 Impact on the General Population***

Overall, few of the human rights awareness raising activities carried out targeted the general public as a whole. One commendable exception was the development and uploading of the UPR website (<http://www.upr.bh//projects/projects.html> ) in both Arabic and English. Its main purpose is to raise awareness and disseminate information about the UPR process, the project activities undertaken and the members of its Steering Committee. It also provides information (by category) on the status of human rights in Bahrain (such as freedom of expression, freedom of association, women’s rights, children’s rights; equality and non-discrimination etc.). Other Output 2 awareness raising activities of the project, such as the campaigns on the rights of domestic workers, and on CEDAW and its Optional Protocol, scheduled for 2010 and 2011 were postponed.

***6.2.2 Impact on direct UPR Beneficiaries***

The government and non-government beneficiaries represented on the UPR Steering Committee were the focus of many of the capacity building activities (in the form of training courses and workshops) aimed at strengthening the human rights normative framework. These workshops and training courses addressed a wide spectrum of issues (such as the health, combating torture, anti-corruption, and children’s rights), tailored to the needs of particular groups such as law enforcement officials, media and Ministry of Health staff. Some activities brought together government officials and participants from civil society organizations (CSOs). Highly valued capacity building workshops (such as on human rights monitoring, UN treaty body reporting, relations with government and civil society and strategic planning) were also conducted for the members of the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR).

An important set of Project activities supported the government’s efforts to develop and implement a National Plan for Human Rights Education - to introduce a human rights based curriculum targeting students at the primary, intermediate and secondary level. These focused largely on strengthening the capacity of the staff of the Ministry of Education who are involved in curriculum human rights content and the pedagogy of learning. It is apparent from the report of the consultant who worked on these activities that baseline knowledge in this area was very low and that Project activities made a real contribution to increasing understanding of human rights principles and their place in the curriculum and its teaching. Yet, much more needs to be done.

However, some other Project activities, particularly those supporting efforts to adopt legislation that conforms to Bahrain’s international human rights obligations, or to streamline existing domestic legislation, have not been implemented at the same pace. Several workshops were postponed, including those targeting judges, lawyers (on examining and assessing the family law) as well as follow-up activities for NIHR staff (including on the UPR process), and the assessment of the human rights information available in and about Bahrain.

**6.3 Relevance and Effectiveness of the Project’s Strategy and Approaches for the Achievement of the Project Objectives**

The Project strategy is driven by the need and scope, identified in the UPR process, for enhancing the promotion and protection of several specific human rights in Bahrain, notably the right to life, liberty and security of persons; freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly; the right to participate in political life; the right to adequate standard of living; the right to equality and non-discrimination; and rights related to the administration of justice. A specific rationale of the Project is the need to enhance the protection of the human rights of certain vulnerable groups (such as women, children, workers and human rights defenders).

The five Project outputs were identified as the means for ensuring a participatory process involving national stakeholders; for expediting the implementation of the Action Plan; and for providing a vehicle for the further development of emerging needs and implementation experiences over the Project period. The evaluation sought to measure the relevance of these outputs in relation to how effectively they have managed to address those identified needs.

Here it is important to mention that Project activities under each output were intended to provide support to different outcomes. Some outcomes were the focus of a substantial number of activities, others were less so. A brief review of each output and their respective outcomes is provided below:

*Output 1: Bahrain’s Human Rights Data Base and human rights information system are strengthened*

Most activities under this output were geared towards the development of a National Plan to strengthen and sustain a Human Rights Data Base. For reasons that we have been unable to determine, neither an initial assessment of human rights information in and about Bahrain nor an evaluation of the National Plan carried out. Nor is it clear from progress reports and work plans, what types of activities that were carried out to build the capacity of government and non-government beneficiaries, related to the collection, compiling generation, dissemination, and utilisation of human rights information. Considerable work was initially done on the database although it has become somewhat out of date

*Output 2: Bahrain’s Implementation of Human Rights Improved*

Here, most activities focused on providing support to the two sub-outputs – human rights sensitising of both those involved with law enforcement and those involved with implementation of the law. Activities intended to support regional and comparative study of relevant laws, measures and programmes, or to support the development of methodologies and capacities for human rights based management, monitoring and implementation were also carried out. However, there was less emphasis than contemplated by the Project document on implementing the activities that focused on conducting human rights assessments of existing laws, measures and programs, reflecting, no doubt, the difficulties faced by the Project in working with Parliament and other legislative bodies.

*Output 3: Application of a human rights based approach to all development activity in Bahrain is conducted*:

Few Project activities were conducted under this output and, while we have no criticism of what was done, it remains clear that the GoB is yet to adopt a rights based approach to planning and development.

*Output 4: Establishment of a National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights in Bahrain.*

The most widely implemented activities under this output sensitised officials to diverse human rights issues; enhanced the role of human rights defenders; and worked to create and strengthen the NIHR. These latter activities, from reports of members and the Secretariat of the NIHR, seem to have been particularly effective. However, as mentioned, there were few Project activities intended to sensitise members of the public – possibly because the NIHR, which could have been the vehicle for these activities found it difficult to become fully operational (budget, secretariat, premises etc) and was also affected by the resignation of several members after the events of February 2012.

*Output 5: The Human Rights Normative Framework in Bahrain is strengthened*

There is an obvious overlap in activities carried out under this output with activities under outputs 2 and 4. Again, we don’t criticise this since such is the nature of human rights principles – they are not just universal but also inter-dependent and inter-related. However, some activities that were intended to strengthen the capacity of institutions dealing with ratification of international human rights instruments (undertaking ratification studies and strategies) and others intended to strengthen Bahrain’s legislative incorporation and harmonisation of existing laws did not take place. This was doubtless influenced by the four months before the elections, and the long period after the events of February 2011, when Parliament did not sit.

In terms of effectiveness, it has not been easy to discern whether observed changes in the government attitude and polices towards the implementation of recommendations/voluntary pledges can be attributed to Project activities given the lack of systematic monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in the Project. Although some evaluative activities can be identified, (such as highlighting activities that were implemented in periodic progress reports and soliciting feedback from participants regarding a number of training activities), generally speaking the interventions were not followed up to assess their impact.

Also, we consider that there was scope to both broaden the range of capacity building activities and to follow up with more detailed and tailored activities, including human rights workshops. These would be designed for specific needs (such as monitoring, documenting and reporting on human rights, writing of alternative reports). Sometimes it will be desirable to target government and non- governmental beneficiaries independently of each other (since their needs are often different and training these sectors together can restrain openness and hence limit the potential effectiveness of the training. That said, given the tensions encountered by the Project between government and civil society there are also benefits to be gained from undertaking some activities together and when a workshop on monitoring and reporting was organised, it was delivered separately for government and NGOs.

The main reasons, however, for only limited implementation of project activities were the time taken to engage a Project Manager (18 months) and the events of February 2011 and their aftermath – including the relocation of the Project to the Ministry of Human Rights and Development. Somewhat ironically, the risk of staff turnover in the Ministry and lack of core staff being designated for the project was initially classified as “potentially non-existent and avoidable” (Annex III of the Project Document). Neither of these impediments was within the capacity of Project management to address - and together they covered nearly 2.5 years out of a 3.5 year project. In making these comments, we make it clear that we are not criticising UN and government personnel who had responsibility for the Project until the Project Manager was appointed. Activities were certainly organised during this period, some of them involving a significant amount of work which had to be done over and above their normal daily responsibilities.

***6.4 Performance of the Project in Terms of Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Timeliness of Producing the Expected Outputs***

Despite the limitations described above, most Project activities, particularly those related to capacity building, were conducted during the Project period. Those that were not carried out, as already noted, included awareness raising and capacity building activities on streamlining existing legislation with human rights standards and adopting new legislation; ratifying international treaties; and lifting reservations to treaties to which Bahrain is a State party. These issues were at the core of the 2008 UPR review and have been the focus of long standing demands by civil society.

As far as we were able to determine, Project activities were implemented efficiently. However, the size of the UPR Steering Committee and difficulties in its operation meant it was unable to provide the most effective oversight of the Project. A separate and smaller steering committee (though still representing all stakeholders – government, civil society and UN) would have been preferable.

We found no evidence of excessive expenditure on activities and most of those carried out provided good value for money. The project was underspent by approximately $177,180 (Budget $1,170,000 less Actual Expenditure $992,820), but that was inevitable given the restrictions encountered in carrying out activities. A breakdown of expenditure appears over.

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| --- | --- |
| OUTPUTS | EXPENDITURE  July 2008 – December 2011 |
| Output 1: Bahrain’s human rights data base and human rights information systems are strengthened | USD 211,762.71 |
| Output 2: Bahrain’s implementation of human rights is improved | USD 49,125.75 |
| Output 3: Application of a Human Rights-based Approach to all development activity in Bahrain | USD 141,908.02 |
| Output 4: National system for the protection and promotion of human rights is established | USD 231,057.35 |
| Output 5: A strengthened human rights normative framework in Bahrain | USD 358,967.60 |
| TOTAL: | USD 992,821.43 |

Finally, for completeness we note that the timeliness of some Project activities was, as explained, severely affected by matters that were unforeseeable and beyond the control of the Project.

**6.5 Quality and Timeliness of Inputs, the Reporting and Monitoring System and Extent to which these have been Effective**

In line with the Project document, monitoring and evaluation was addressed through quarterly and annual progress reports as well as annual reports and minutes of the UPR Steering Committee. These reports clearly indicate the activities that were and were not implemented. However, in our view, there is a need for a more systematic and periodic evaluation of the constraints that affect the progress of activities; the elements that have contributed to the successful implementation of activities (or their delay), emerging needs; good practices; risk factors; etc. Essentially, however, this was the responsibility of the Steering Committee rather than the Project.

There is also a need to ensure that indicators for each output (as elaborated in the Project document) are more specific, realistic and measurable, to provide data to assist in assessing progress and for an outcome evaluation at the end of the Project. Steering Committee minutes should have addressed monitoring and evaluation in a more systematic manner so that evaluation results are better integrated into the project. For example, we were provided with participant self-evaluations of some activities but these could have been enhanced by follow-up surveys to determine after, say, six months or a year, how the training has been incorporated into the participant’s work and any successes they have achieved using their training.

The project also required more clarity on which entity/individuals have the mandate and task of monitoring and evaluating Project activities, and of ensuring effective data collection and management (Project Manager, UPR Steering Committee). According to the Project document, one of the Project objectives is to strengthen the “capacities for both governmental and non-governmental bodies for monitoring of human rights implementation and evaluation of human rights impacts and results.” Therefore, information should have been collected on what training has been conducted (for UPR Steering Committee members, civil society etc) to ensure that they have gained those skills.

**7. Findings and Conclusions**

1. This Project had its successes but these were constrained by three significant factors – the fact that a project manager was not appointed until February 2010 (eighteen months into the Project); that the events of February 2011 and their aftermath essentially brought a halt to most activities for several months; and the Project’s shift from MoFA to MoHRSD. This resulted in some of the planned activities not being completed.

2. The objectives of the Project remain current – if anything, given the events of the past year, there is a greater need for a Project now than when it was conceived.

3. Focussing the Project (at least nominally) on implementing UPR recommendations was innovative and could have been a very effective intervention that was foiled only by matters outside the control of the Project. In any new Project, however, human rights capacity building more generally should remain a central objective – there remains considerable scope for human rights capacity building across government, civil society and the NIHR alike especially in the light of the recommendations of the Bassiouni-chaired Independent Commission of Inquiry.

4. Having the UPR Steering Committee to act as the Project Steering Committee was not a success – the UPR committee’s primary focus was elsewhere, and it would have been preferable to have established a smaller PSC simply to oversee the Project.

5. In relation to the UPR Steering Committee, its working methods require re-evaluation to ensure that a transparent and participatory approach (including the meaningful participation of all stakeholders including civil society) is maintained in the implementation of new UPR recommendations and the preparation of UPR related reports.

6. Considerable efforts were put into employing a national project manager and only when it proved impossible to find a suitable candidate was an international project manager employed. As it turned out, this proved advantageous during 2011 particularly when sectarian tensions developed. There are advantages, particularly for sustainability, in employing national project managers but in conflict situations there can be advantages in having international presences. This can also bring expertise to the Project that might otherwise not be available.

**8. Recommendations**

**8.1 Project Modalities**

Based on lessons learned from the current project, and the changed situation in the country following the spring events, ***we recommend:***

* In relation to the new GoB project recommended below, that it should be a partnership between the GoB, UNDP and OHCHR;
* In relation to the new NIHR project, that it should be a partnership between UNDP and the NIHR;
* The projects should be 5 of years’ duration, to cover the next UPR cycle. While this is relatively long project by UNDP standards, institutional capacity development is not a short-term exercise and there will be advantages in projects that cover the whole UPR cycle. At this length, the GoB project, at least, should have a mid-term evaluation to enable the balance of the project to be responsive to any developing human rights situation in the country;
* That Project Steering Committees be small groups with representatives of the partners, plus a civil society representative, that are separate from the UPR Steering Committee;
* In the interests of sustainability, the projects should be NEX executed. We recommend the employment of international project managers with clear human rights credentials, assisted in each case by a national staff member of the project to whom responsibilities can be progressively delegated as the projects are implemented. In the case of the NIHR project, the international project manager should have first-hand experience in an NHRI at a high level or at least access to advice from such a source.

**8.2 “Renew” Project**

As noted, despite design challenges, impediments to implementation beyond the scope of the Project and several activities being incomplete, ***we recommend*** that the project be renewed. We use this expression “renewed” because we consider that rather than a completely new project, (actually two projects, for reasons that appear below) with a new set of objectives and activities, a similar project with revised design and somewhat broader scope be implemented, with the following objectives:

* To support follow-up to the forth-coming 2012 UPR recommendations;
* To build on the achievements of the current project and implement some activities not completed under the new project;
* To reflect the new human rights realities and needs in Bahrain following events over the past year and to support implementing the recommendations of the Bassiouni Report. We have given consideration to whether there might be a separate project on the implementation of the BICI’s recommendations, but since we expect the Bassiouni recommendations will feature strongly in the upcoming UPR review and in recommendations made to Bahrain by member states of the HRC, we think it not practical to have separate projects that divide up the recommendations;
* To integrate OHCHR – in a modality to be discussed with OHCHR and the GoB – into the new project.

**8.3 Two Projects**

***We recommend*** that two projects be developed for the next phase – a project focussed on the GoB and a separate project focussed on the NIHR, with a different NPD and different NPM. This is because, now that the NIHR has been established in fulfilment of GoB’s voluntary pledge, it would be an impediment to the NIHR’s independence for it to be the subject of a GoB project directed by a government employee as NPM.

**8.4 Focus of GoB Human Rights Capacity-Building Project**

Reflecting that implementation of the 2008 UPR recommendations (the focus of the current Project) is incomplete; that successes of the current project need to be built on; and that new circumstances need addressing, ***we recommend*** a GoB Human Rights Capacity-Building Project to address:

* Implementation of 2012 UPR recommendations;
* Capacity development of MOHRSD, other Ministries, Parliament, University of Bahrain, Judiciary etc;
* Civil society programmes – capacity development, including on registration issues and mechanisms for civil society to work with government and vice versa.

**8.5 Focus of NIHR Capacity-Building Project**

As already noted, the NIHR has been established by Royal Order and (initially) a chairman and 22 members appointed, also by Royal Order. It has taken a considerable period of time to address organisational and structural issues, but the NIHR now has a Secretary (a former member), a small Secretariat, and recently moved into its first premises. Unfortunately a number of members resigned in the aftermath of the spring events and the “board” needs re-establishing.

All that said, the NIHR, with new staff, with (some) new members and with a completely new role for the country will need considerable investment if it is to fulfil its important role of promoting and protection the rights of everyone in Bahrain. ***We recommend*** a capacity-development programme should focus on the following:

* Paris Principle compliance – currently the NIHR does not comply with these principles in several important respects. Its establishment by Royal Order, rather than by legislation or constitutional means is likely to attract the scrutiny of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the International Coordinating Committee (ICC). Also of concern will be the presence on the “board” of government members. We are informed that this is in the process of being addressed, although we did hear comment that government officials might be involved with the institution “in a liaison (ie non-voting) capacity”. No-one in Bahrain will regard the NIHR as independent if it has even non-voting government officials present at board meetings when it goes about its business and nor, we consider, will the SCA. These issues should be addressed as a Project component:
* Institution-building – NHRIs have to function efficiently if they are to be effective in carrying out their roles and the Project could offer to assist with organisational structure, management training, strategic planning where necessary;
* Education, training, promotion – unless people in Bahrain know their rights they are unlikely to be able effectively to claim them. Working to develop a culture of human rights throughout the country is often seen as a prime responsibility of NHRIs, as is the training of government officials, including law enforcement officials and the judiciary. Capacity-building of civil society (key stakeholders of NHRIs) could be carried out under this project (as well as the GoB Project) to build cooperation between the NHRI and civil society;
* “Claims” – NHRIs traditionally have a role in assisting people whose rights have been violated to resolve their grievances. Capacity will need to be built in the NIHR to investigate claims and assist in their resolution;
* Human rights policy – this third main role of NHRIs involves monitoring legislation, policies and practices for consistency with national and international standards, human rights research etc. The NIHR will need competence in this role if it is to influence duty-bearers to develop a culture of human rights within officialdom.

**APPENDIX I**

**INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE** 

Date: 21/12/2011

**Country: Bahrain**

**Description of the assignment: Final evaluation of UPR Project**

**Project name: Supporting Implementation of Bahrain's Universal Periodic Review**

**Period of assignment/services (if applicable): January 2011 (dates to be defined)**

Proposal should be submitted by email to [giorgia.brignone@undp.org](mailto:giorgia.brignone@undp.org) no later than 30 December 2011.

Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic communication to the address or e-mail indicated above. UNDP Bahrain will respond in writing or by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all consultants.

**1. BACKGROUND**

The aim of this Project is to support the Government of Bahrain, mainly through the Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development, to follow up and implement the National Action Plan to Implement Bahrain’s Pledges, Voluntary Commitments and UPR outcomes.

The project, which covers the year 2008-2012, focuses on the following areas: strengthening Bahrain’s human rights database and information system; effective implementation of Bahrain’s obligations under international human rights treaties; strengthening Bahrain’s institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights; strengthening Bahrain’s institution dealing with ratification of international human rights instruments and dealing with national legislative incorporation of human rights treaties that Bahrain has ratified; strengthening Bahrain’s human rights capacities, both governmental and nongovernmental, especially capacities for monitoring and evaluation; and, strengthening Bahrain’s capacities for applying a human rights based approach to development.

**2. MAIN OBJECTIVES, RESPONSABILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK.**

**2. SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK**

The Evaluation is intended to assess the relevance, performance, management arrangements and success of the project. It looks at signs of potential impact of project activities with beneficiaries and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development.

The Evaluation also identifies/documents lessons learned and makes recommendations that project partners and stakeholders might use to improve **the design and implementation of other related projects and programs and for the renewal of the UPR Project itself.**

As agreed in the Project Document, an annual project review will be conducted during the fourth quarter of the year as a basis for assessing the performance of the project. It will involve all key project stakeholders and the implementing partners, and focus on the extent to which progress is being made towards outputs, and that these remain aligned to appropriate outcomes.

This evaluation has the following principal tasks:

1. Assess the project design in terms of its relevance to the overall human rights situation at the national level; relevance to national strategies, and relevance to beneficiaries;
2. Assess the project impact on the general population and UPR beneficiaries;
3. Assess relevance and effectiveness of the project’s strategy and approaches for the achievement of the project objectives;
4. Assess performance of the project in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of producing the expected outputs;
5. Assess the quality and timeliness of inputs, the reporting and monitoring system and extent to which these have been effective;
6. Assess relevance of the project’s management arrangements; identify advantages, bottlenecks and lessons learn with regard to the management arrangements;
7. Assess new areas and opportunities for further human rights work in Bahrain;
8. Provide recommendations to key project stakeholders for follow-up activities.

**3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

I. Academic Qualifications:

* PhD or Master’s degree in relevant subject (International Law, Human Rights)

II. Years of experience:

* A solid experience in the areas of human rights and programme management as well as legal analysis. Previous work with Government, National Institutions, or UNDP is an asset.

III. Competencies:

Analytical skills, communications abilities, specifically excellent writing, editing, and oral communication skills in English. Knowledge of Arabic is an asset. Ability to meet deadlines and prioritize multiple tasks.

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

1. Proposal:

(i) Explaining why you are the most suitable for the work

(ii) Provide a brief methodology on how you will approach and conduct the work (if applicable)

2. Financial proposal

3. Personal CV including past experience in similar projects and at least 3 references

**Lump sum contracts**

The financial proposal shall specify a total lump sum amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables (i.e. whether payments fall in installments or upon completion of the entire contract). Payments are based upon output, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR. In order to assist the requesting unit in the comparison of financial proposals, the financial proposal will include a breakdown of this lump sum amount (including travel, per diems, and number of anticipated working days).

* **Contracts based on daily fee**

The financial proposal will specify the daily fee, travel expenses and per diems quoted in separate line items, and payments are made to the Individual Consultant based on the number of days worked.

**Travel;**

All envisaged travel costs must be included in the financial proposal. This includes all travel to join duty station/repatriation travel. In general, UNDP should not accept travel costs exceeding those of an economy class ticket. Should the IC wish to travel on a higher class he/she should do so using their own resources.

In the case of unforeseeable travel, payment of travel costs including tickets, lodging and terminal expenses should be agreed upon, between the respective business unit and Individual Consultant, prior to travel and will be reimbursed.

**4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS.**

**5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL**

**6. EVALUATION**

*[The procuring UNDP entities will choose among one of these two evaluation methods prior to submit the have the Individual Consultant Procurement Notice. Once the evaluation method has been selected the other one shall be deleted to avoid any misunderstanding]*

Individual consultants will be evaluated based on the following methodologies:

*1. Lowest price and technically compliant offer*

*When using this method, the award of a contract should be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as both:*

*a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and*

*b) offering the lowest price/cost*

*“responsive/compliant/acceptable” can be defined as fully meeting the TOR provided.*

*2. Cumulative analysis*

*When using this weighted scoring method, the award of the contract should be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:*

*a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and*

*b) Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.*

*\* Technical Criteria weight; [To be determined]*

*\* Financial Criteria weight; [To be determined]*

*Only candidates obtaining a minimum of XXX point would be considered for the Financial Evaluation*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Criteria*** | ***Weight*** | ***Max. Point*** |
| *Technical* |  |  |
| * *Criteria A* |  |  |
| * *Criteria B* |  |  |
| * *Criteria C* |  |  |
| * *Criteria […]* |  |  |
| *Financial* |  |  |

**ANNEX**

**ANNEX 1- TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR) –** [*to be provided by procuring unit with the individual consultant procurement notice*]

**ANNEX 2- INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS –** [*to be provided by procuring unit with the individual consultant procurement notice*]

**APPENDIX II**

**LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

**BICI Bassiouni Independent Commission of Inquiry**

**CAT Committee against Torture**

**CED Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**

**CEDAW Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

**CERD International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination**

**CRC Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**CRPD United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**CSO Civil Society Organisation**

**GoB Government of Bahrain**

**HRC UN Human Rights Council**

**ICC International Coordinating Committee of Human Rights Institutions**

**ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**

**NHRI National Human Rights Institution**

**NIHR Bahrain National Institution on Human Rights**

**OHCHR Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**PSC Project Steering Committee**

**SCW Supreme Council for Women**

**UNCT UN Country Team**

**UNDP UN Development Programme**

**UPR Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR outcomes UPR recommendations, voluntary pledges and commitments**

**APPENDIX III**

**LIST OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED/CONSULTED**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Giorgia Brignone | Project Manager | UNDP |
| Peter Grohmann | Un Resident Coordinator | UNDP |
| Firas Gharaibeh | Deputy Resident Representative | UNDP |
| Khalifa Al-kaabi | NPD and Asst Under Secretary | MOHR&SD |
| Abdulnaki Al Ekri |  | Transparency |
| Issa Al-Ghayeb | Deputy Secretary General | Bahrain Human Rights Society |
| Khalid Al Khaja | HOD Languages/Member | MOE/NIHR |
| Mariam al Rouaie |  | Women’s Union |
| Ebrahim Hamid Abdulla | Deputy Secretary General | General Fedn of Trade Unions |
| Ezz El Deen Al-Moayyed | General Director | Supreme Council for Women |
| Dhawiya Sharaf Alalawi | Asst Secretary General | Supreme Council for Women |
| Dr Ahmed Farhan | Secretary General | NIHR |
| Yasser Shaheen | Director, Legal Affairs | NIHR |
| Brig.Mohamed Bu Hammood | Brigadier, Asst Under Sec, Legal | MOI |
| Rashid Bu Najma | Director, Legal Affairs | MOI |
| Abdulla Abdullatif Abdulla | Undersecretary | MOFA |
| Said Al Faihani | Undersecretary | MOHR&SD |
| Khatoon A Sabt | UPR Team | MOHR&SD |
| ? | ? | MOF |

Note: Project management also made arrangements for interviews with the Central Information Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mabadir and the Labour Market Reform Authority (LMRA) but the respective personnel did not arrive for the meetings and there was insufficient time to follow-up or re-schedule.

**APPENDIX IV**

**List of Documents**

**Project Documents (General**

* ***Annual Work-plan*** 2009 (English)
* ----------------------- 2010
* ----------------------- 2011
* ----------------------- 2012
* ***Progress Reports*** , 2008-2009 (English)
* ----------------------1st Quarter, 2010
* ----------------------2nd Quarter, 2010
* ----------------------3rd Quarter,2010
* ---------------------4th Quarter, 2010
* ---------------------1 Quarter, 2011
* ---------------------2nd Quarter, 2011
* ---------------------End of Year Progress Report, 2011
* *Supporting the Implementation of Bahrain’s Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Action Plan*, July 2008, (English);
* *Table of UPR Recommendations and Voluntary Commitments*, November 2011 (English)
* *The Activities and Events of the UPR Review Committee towards the Implementation of the Commitments and Recommendations of the UPR (2008-2012)*, (English)
* ***UPR Project Expenditures*** Table
* ***UPR Steering Committee***, *List of Members*
* --------------------------------*Minutes of Meeting,* 17 September 2008 (Arabic)
* --------------------------------------------------------, 21 October 2008.
* -------------------------------------------------------,10 November 2010
* --------------------------------------------------------17 November 2010
* --------------------------------------------------------24 March 2011
* --------------------------------------------------------21 November 2011
* --------------------------------------------------------8 December 2011.

**Project Documents (Workshops and Other Activities)**

* ***Association for the Prevention of Torture, on Safeguards Against Torture and Other Ill-Treatment,*** (workshop), 21-22 June 2010, *Diagnostic of the National Protection System against Torture and Ill-Treatment in Bahrain* (English)
* --------------------------------------------------*Reinforcing the Safeguards against Torture and Ill-Treatment in the Framework of Bahraini UPR Commitment,* Project Idea-draft, updated 22 March 2010;
* --------------------------------------------------- Workshop *Agenda*
* ----------------------------------------------------Workshop *Preparatory Work*
* ----------------------------------------------------Workshop *Recommendations*
* ----------------------------------------------------Workshop *Report*
* ***Human Rights Basics for Human Rights Defenders*** (workshop),7-8 June 2011, *Draft Agenda* (English)
* -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*Final Report*
* -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*Training Program*
* ***Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting to Treaty Bodies for CSOs*** (workshop), 31 May-1 June 2010, *Draft Agenda* (English)
* -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*Report*
* ***Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting to Treaty Bodies for Government Officials*** (workshop), 2-3June 2010, *Draft Agenda* (English)
* --------------------------------*Report*
* ***Mission Report,*** of Short-Term HR Consultant to Build Capacity of MoFA`s UPR Team, 10-18 February, 2010 (English)
* ------------------, of Consultant providing Technical Support to NIHR, 1 July-14 October 2011.
* ------------------, of NHRI HR Advisor Supporting Implementation of Bahrain`s UPR , 8-20 June 2010.
* ***Modern Inspection Practices (Theoretical and Practical) for Labour Inspectors*** (workshop), 26-28 December 2010, *Agenda* (English)
* ----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*Mission Report*
* ***National Action Plan on HR Education***, *Project Description*,2011 (Arabic)
* ---------------------------------------------------*Strategic Plan Table*
* --------------------------------------------------, *Strategic Plan-Narrative*
* -------------------------------------------------, *Work-plan*, 9 February 2010.

**Other Documents**

* Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, *“Report”,* 23 November 2011

**UNDP Documents**

* *Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results*
* *UNDP (Bahrain) Country Program Action Plan, 2009-2011*
* *UNDP (Bahrain) Country Programme Document, 2008-2011*

**UN Documents related to the UPR of Bahrain**

Human Rights Council, First Session, “National Report: Bahrain”, (A/HRC/WG.6/1/BHR/1), of 11 March 2008.

Human Rights Council, Working Group on the UPR, First Session, “Compilation prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Accordance with Paragraph 15(B) of the Annex to the Human Rights Council Resolution 5/1”, (A/HRC/WG.6/1/BHR/2) of 14 March 2008,

Human Rights Council, Working Group on the UPR, First Session, “Summary Prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Accordance with Paragraph 15(C) of the Annex to Human Rights Council Resolution 5/1”(A/HRC/WG.6/1/BHR/3) of 6 March 2008

Human Rights Council, Eighth Session, “Report of the Working Group on the UPR: Bahrain” (A/HRC/8/19) of 22 May 2008.

**APPENDIX V**

**Matrix of Bahrain’s UPR Recommendations & Voluntary Pledges under the UNDP Project to Support the UPR National Action Plan and their Relationship with the Activities of the UPR Action Plan**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommendation/Voluntary Pledge** | **Activities Undertaken by the Government as Cited in Government Reports/Sources** | | **UPR Project Activity as Cited in Project Reports and Work-Plans** |
| **Recommendation 1:** A Gender Perspective be Included in the Planning of the next stages including the outcome of the review | - In June 2008, a national conference on mainstreaming women's needs into development (gender mainstreaming), entitled “True partnership between men and women in national development…How?” The conference aimed to create awareness of the importance of mainstreaming women needs into development process, and how to plan and analyse to implement some ministries plans based on gender mainstreaming.    - The SCW is working now to establish an “equal opportunities” unit within the official institutions.  - An announcement was passed by Ministry of Finance to consider women's needs in budgeting of ministries. (Source: Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - In 2009, the Supreme Council for Women and the UNDP began a project with the purpose of bringing  women into the mainstream of development activities  - 3 workshops were held in 2008 and 1 in 2009 by the Supreme Council on mainstreaming gender in plans and policies, and bringing women into the mainstream of development (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010)  - Affirms that over the years women have held leadership positions providing them with the opportunity to participate in decision-making and, similarly, have actively participated in the 2010 elections(Source: Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011)  - 4 women are in the legislative branch (Government UPR report 2012) | |  |
| **Recommendation 2:** Initiating a Public Campaign with a View to Removing Reservations to CEDAW, ratifying the Optional Protocol and harmonizing the national legislation with the Convention | - Supreme Council for Women continues to work on studying the reservations on the convention that are not related to the Islamic *Shari'a* in order to remove the restrictions when it comes to compliance with the constitutional law.(Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - Considers ratifying the Optional Protocol (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010).  - Government is currently considering the revision of the reservation on article 2 to make it more specific. However reservation regarding article 15(4) will remain (Government UPR report 2012). | |  |
| **Recommendation 3:** Bahrain can conduct wide consultations between different partners with a view of adopting a family law | - King passed law number (19) for year 2009 regarding passing the family law (first section) and which is being considered for approval by the legislative authority.  - Bahrain is said to be working on achieving social consensus to pass the second section of the law (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - Conducted a training course on how to use the Family Law in judicial processes before *Shari’a* courts. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-20010)  - The Supreme Council for Women, in cooperation with the Women's Support Centre, established a new service that provides family counselling, judicial assistance, services and legal advice for women. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-20011)  - A marriage counselling service has also been established in the MoJ and Ministry of Islamic Affairs, as well as Family Counselling Service within the Ministry of HRSD to provide counselling and legal assistance (UPR Government Report 2012) | |  |
| **Recommendation 4:** Bahrain would consider signing the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. | It has decided to ratify the International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. The Convention has been referred to the Legislative Council. Still under discussion (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011). | |  |
| **Recommendation 5:** The draft law on the provision of citizenship to children where the father is not a Bahraini citizen would be considered a priority | - Consultation is in process regarding Supreme Council for Women’s recommendations to  amend the citizenship law in a manner that would abolish the suffering of the children of Bahraini women who are married to non Bahrainis (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - Law No. 35 (2009) passed which aims at ensuring equal treatment in governmental, health, education, residential and other services for non-Bahraini women married to Bahrainis as well as for their children. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010).  - In 2011, the King granted 335 children from mixed marriages Bahraini citizenship (Government UPR report 2012). | |  |
| **Recommendation 6:** Bahrain would inform the Human Rights Council in the next review on the status of the Adoption of New Legislation on Female Domestic Workers | - Government has enacted Article 25 of the Law Regulating Labour Market, which gives foreign labour the right to work for another employer, without prejudicing the employer's rights under the work agreement signed by both parties. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011).  - New Labour Law, which includes provisions protecting domestic labour, is currently being debated in the Parliament. New provisions include commitment to sign a contract defining rights and obligations of both employer and employee, with details on salary, annual leave, end of service, exemption from court fees and other issues. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010).  - Ministry of Labour set up a complaints mechanism, with a telephone hotline(Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  -In March 2010, the Kingdom signed the “National Program for Decent Work in Bahrain”, with the participation of the Ministry of Labour, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the General Federation of Labour Unions and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) | | - ***A report on the situation of foreign workers in the Kingdom of Bahrain*** by MoFA and relevant Ministries, on 10 December 2011, (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011). |
| **Recommendation 7:** The draft press law out not to be unduly restrictive on freedom of expression | March 2008 Press Law was approved by the Cabinet and it is now pending consideration with the House of Representatives. The main feature of this law is that it abolishes imprisonments as a punishment for journalists. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) | |  |
| **Recommendation 8:** Bahrain could consider Inviting the UN to a Workshop on the follow up to the UPR | Various ministries participated in the workshop | | ***- Workshop on “Regional/International Conference on Comparison of UPR Experiences – Past, Present, Future”,*** 19 – 20 November, 2008 by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNDP, OHCHR  Output 5: a strengthened human rights normative framework in Bahrain  Target Group: Universities, Shura Council, Council of Deputies, Representatives of Government and Non-Governmental Bodies members of the UPR Consultative Committee. Representatives from Arab & non Arab countries  Sources: Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. |
| **Recommendation 9:** The Positive Dynamism of the Information Sector be Recorded |  | | ***- Launching the*** ***Electronic UPR Site***, 26 April 2009 by UNDP, MoFA  Output 1: Bahrain’s human rights database and human rights information systems are strengthened  Sources: Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. |
| **Recommendation 10:** Bahrain would consider inviting special procedures in the future | - The Kingdom of Bahrain is considering extending invitations to Special Procedures mandate holders (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010).  - Has extended an invitation to the UN SR on Torture (Government UPR Report 2012). | |  |
| **Voluntary Pledges** | | | |
| **Pledge 11:** Bahrain is Committed to Establishing a Human Rights Institution which conforms with the Paris Principles | - Royal Order No. 46 (2009) establishing the Kingdom’s National Institution for Human Rights.    -Royal Order No. 16 (2010) appointing the 23  Members of the National Institution for Human Rights. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) | ***- Workshop on “Mandate and Functions of NHRI: Regional and Comparative Experiences”***  22-24 July 2008, with OHCHR  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is established  Target Group: Representatives of Government and Non-Government bodies that are members of the UPR Consultative Committee, in addition to representatives of broader civil society.  Sources: Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) English.  - ***Workshop on: Capacity Building to Work and Support the Establishment of the NHRI***, 9-17 June 2010 , with UNDP and NHRI  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is established  Target Group: NHRI members.  Sources: 2nd Quarter 2010 progress report, Mission Report of Consultant June 2010, Terminal Report, UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  - ***Workshop on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting***, September 2011 with UNDP, NIHR  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is Established  Target Group: NHRI (12staff including the Secretary General)  Source: Consultant 2011 mission report, Terminal Report UPR Project | |
| **Pledge 12:** Bahrain is currently examining the need for a Comprehensive National Action Plan on Human Rights |  | - In 2008, Bahrain ***adopted a comprehensive national action plan on the implementation of outcomes, recommendations and voluntary commitments of the Universal Periodic Review***. A representative of OHCHR attended the launch of this plan in Bahrain. . (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) | |
| **Pledge 13:** Bahrain is currently examining the Idea of Creating an Inter-Ministerial Human Rights Mechanism to guarantee the implementation of Pledges made by the international treaty bodies to which Bahrain reports | Bahrain is currently examining the idea of creating an inter-ministerial human rights mechanism to guarantee the implementation of the recommendations made by the international treaty bodies(Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - A Higher Coordinating Committee for Human Rights has been established, and which consists of representatives from various ministries to follow up on human rights issues of concern (Government UPR Report 2012). |  | |
| **Pledge 14:** Bahrain is examining the Idea of Drafting a National Action Plan on Human Rights Education as soon as possible | - In 2009, Ministry of Education set up a team to prepare a plan with regards to human rights education  - In 2010 conducted a workshop which focused on the role of the different departments in the implementation of this plan. (Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-20010) | **- *Workshop on Children’s Rights***, 26-27 October 2009 with UNESCO, Ministry of Education  Output 5: A strengthened human rights normative framework in Bahrain  Target Group: Representatives of Ministry of Education, Ministry of Human Rights and Social Development  Sources: 2008-2009 Annual Progress report. Project Terminal Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  **- *Workshop to Support the government’s efforts to establish a National Plan of Action on Human Rights Education,*** September/October 2010 (project until 2015) by Ministry of Education  Output 3: Application of a Human Rights Based Approach to all Development Activity in Bahrain  Target Group: primary, intermediate and secondary schools in Bahrain, Teachers, Ministry of Education  Sources: 4th Quarter 2010 progress report, Terminal Report, UPR Project, Consultant Final Mission Report and Project Description, MoEducation strategic plan | |
| **Pledge 15**: Bahrain is fully committed to supporting non-governmental organizations through legal and other instruments to develop a constructive dialogue with these organizations |  | - ***Human Rights Training Course*,** 1 March-4 June 2009 Implemented (three months) with the Center for Legal and Constitutional Consultation and Studies at the Bahrain University  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is established  Target Group: Representatives of Government Ministries and Bodies that are members of the UPR Consultative Committee  Sources: Project Terminal Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  - In June 2010, the UPR Project, in collaboration with OHCHR, organized a workshop on “Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting” for civil society organizations.  **- *Training on Human Rights and Responsibilities***, 7-8 December 2009 with OHCHR  Output 4: National system for the protection and promotion of human rights is established  Target Group: 20 Journalists from 9 newspapers, as well as Representatives from the MoForeign Affairs, MoInterior, MoHealth, MoLabour, , MoCulture, MoInformation, MoHuman Rights & Social Development, Supreme Council for Women, Public Prosecutions Office, MoLabour, LMRA as well as a number of NGOs.  Sources: 2008-2009 Annual Progress report and Project Terminal Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  **- *Workshop Theme: Human Rights Basics for Human Rights Defenders***, 7-8 June 2011 by Geneva Institute for Human Rights and the Center for Community Development-Jordan.  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is Established  Target Group: Civil Society Organizations particularly youth, MoHR&SD staff (20)  Source: 2nd quarter 2011 progress report, Project Terminal Report, Training Proposal and Final report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  **- *Workshop Theme: Three Months Human Rights Course,*** October 2011-January 2012 with the University of Bahrain, UNDP, MoHRSD  Output 4: National System for the protection and promotion of HR is established  Target Group: CSOs and activists (including some that are not represented on the UPR Consultative Committee), MoForeign Affairs, MoHuman Rights & Social Development, MoLabour, MoJustice, National Institute for Human Rights, MoEducation, Chamber of Commerce.  Sources: Not included in the original 2011 annual work plan. Info available in 2nd quarter progress report for 2011 and in 2012 annual work-plan, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge16:** Bahrain studies and reviews the international human rights treaties to which it has yet to accede to assess the feasibility of doing so. It will seek international assistance and cooperation in order to strengthen individual and institutional capacities in this connection |  |  | |
| **Pledge17:** Bahrain will explore the possibility of reviewing some of its existing reservations to the treaties to which it is a State Party (ex: Bahrain already withdrew its reservation to article 20 of CAT) |  |  | |
| **Pledge18:** Bahrain is committed to contributing to the current process of human rights standard setting at the UN and participating in UN human rights forums where human rights standards are discussed |  |  | |
| **Pledge19:** Bahrain is determined to strengthen its capacities to ensure effective implementation of its obligations under international human rights treaties which it has ratified |  | - ***Workshop on Health and Human Rights***, 13-14 May 2009  Output 5: A strengthened human rights normative framework in Bahrain  Target group: Representatives of Ministry of Health, MoForeign Affairs, MoInterior, Ministry oHR&Social Development, MoLabour, MoInformation, as well as civil society representatives and of universities and Bahraini Defence Forces.  Sources**:** 2008-2009 Annual Progress report., Project Terminal Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  - ***Tour to Geneva for UPR Team***, May 2010  Output 5: a strengthened human rights normative framework in Bahrain  Target Group: 5 persons from MoFA  Sources: 2nd quarter 2010 progress report. | |
| **Pledge20:** Timely submission of reports under these treaties | - Bahrain submitted its joint first and second report to the CEDAW Committee in November 2008, and third report in July 2011 (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009 and Government UPR Report 2012)  - Bahrain has submitted its second and third joint periodic report to the Committee on the Rights  Of the Child in June 2011 (Government UPR Report 2012). |  | |
| **Pledge21:** Follow up to the concluding observations of human rights treaties | It is studying the concluding observations made by CAT in particular regarding the legal system, the removal of inappropriate restrictions on the work of non-governmental organisations, especially those dealing with issues related to the Convention and other comments. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge22:** Bahrain pledges to respond in a timely manner to requests for official visits from Special Rapporteurs for official visits , as well as independent experts and working groups | With respect to the recommendations made by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, following its visit to Bahrain in 2001, Bahrain had noted in its National Report of 2008 to the HRC that the Cabinet had in 2005 transferred responsibility for the Juveniles  Centre from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Social Development (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge23:** Conduct a study on the feasibility of inviting officials of the special procedures system for consultation and discussions |  |  | |
| **Pledge24:**  Follow up on the recommendations that the special procedures make | In May 2009, the Special Rapporteur on unlawful detention and the Special Rapporteur on the Enhancement of Human Rights in relation to Terrorism sent a questionnaire regarding an international study on unlawful detention, and the concerned authorities are taking the necessary measures to respond to this by 15 June 2009. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge 25:** Continue to participate in ECOSOC meetings and its various commissions in the GA and SC | Bahrain continues to participate actively in the meetings of the Economic and Social Council and  its various Committees, General Assembly and the Security Council (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010). |  | |
| **Pledge26:** Continue to participate in follow up and proceedings of relevant conferences such as the upcoming review of the Durban Conference | Continues to participate actively in follow-up to the proceedings of relevant conferences, including the review of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination held in Geneva on 20-24 April 2009 (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge27:** Submission of a report during the next review on the fulfilment of voluntary pledges |  | Summary reports on follow up to UPR Recommendations for the year 2009 , 2010 and 2011 | |
| **Pledge 28:** Bahrain will confirm its adoption of good practices |  |  | |
| **Pledge 29:** Awareness Raising and support for the full participation of civil society | The Ministry of Social Development has intensified technical support programs for NGOs through an assessment of institutional performance conducted on approximately 308 national associations in 2009. In addition, the National Center for NGOs’ Support within the Ministry organized a number of training workshops (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) | UPR Consultative Committee is made up of representatives of government and civil society. Certain activities, particularly capacity building workshops target both jointly. | |
| **Pledge 30:** The application of best practices in all areas of the UPR process, beginning with the preparation of consultation with the relevant stakeholders | Bahrain, by way of Labour Law 7 (2010) ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) | ***Workshop* *on Anti-Corruption***,2009 with Program of Governance in the Arab Region (POGAR), Bahrain Society for Transparency  Target Group: Parliamentarians  Sources: 2008-2009 Annual Progress report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge 31:** Examining the idea of creating a national Action Plan to implement the outcome of the UPR |  | - In 2008, it created the UPR Steering Committee(Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - According to Cabinet decree No. 06-2092, issued on 9 January 2011, the Steering Committee of the UPR Project was restructured to include the Ministry of Social Development as chair of the Committee, instead of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs(Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011) | |
| **Pledge 32:** Intensification of inspection of worker’s housing and checks on its suitability in terms of security, health, habitability and compliance with applicable laws and decrees | Bahrain has through the Ministry of Labour completed a number of inspections in the year 2009 (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) | ***- 2 Workshops on Labour Inspection Practices (Theoretical and Practical),*** 26-30 December 2010by UNDP, ILO Office in Beirut, MoLabour  Output 4: National System for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights is established  Target Group: 1st Training workshop: 20 Labour Inspectors from the Ministry of Labour (26-28 December) , second workshop 25 LMRA inspectors (29-30 December)  Source: not mentioned in any progress report, only in Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge 33:** Creating an effective mechanism to deal with cases of neglect by private sector institutions of worker’s housing |  |  | |
| **Pledge 34:** Bahrain will include information in future reports on the outcome of the UPR and its impact on the human rights situation on the ground. | Same as 27. |  | |
| **Pledge 35:** It has asked the HRC for technical assistance to help run human rights training workshops and courses for law enforcement officials and members of the Prosecution Service of the Judiciary. |  |  | |
| **Pledge 36:** It will liaise with the President of the HRC and OHCHR on the possible organization of visits that might prove useful for the purpose of discussions and consultations | - President of the Human Rights Council visited Bahrain during 16-20 May 2009 and met high level officials and H.E the Prime Minister. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge 37:** Bahrain will examine the possibility of issuing an annual or periodic report on the human rights situation on the ground. |  |  | |
| **Pledge 38:** Bahrain will include in its next report to CERD information on the follow up to the Committee’s concluding observations and recommendations, and explore the possibility of obtaining appropriate technical assistance to strengthen national implementation of the Convention | The Kingdom of Bahrain will duly include in its next report to the Committee additional information on the follow-up to the Committee’s concluding observations  and recommendations (Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-20010) |  | |
| **Pledge 39:** Bahrain will consider the possibility of enacting a law on combating racial discrimination | Bahrain is looking into the possibility of passing this law in consultation with the concerned authorities. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge 40:** It will ask OHCHR for assistance in developing and improving human rights curricula and training courses |  | **- *Workshop Theme*** **on** ***Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting to Treaty Bodies,*** End of May-June 2010 (2 day workshop), with OHCHR  Output 2: Bahrain’s implementation of human rights is improved  Target Group: CSOs and Labour Unions.  Sources: 2nd quarter 2010 progress report, Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  **- *Workshop on Human Rights Monitoring and Reporting to Treaty Bodies***, 31 May- 3June 2010 with OHCHR  Output 2: Bahrain’s implementation of human rights is improved  Target Group: representatives of government bodies, most notably: MoForeign Affairs, MoInterior, MoHuman Rights& Social Development, MoLabour, MoJustice, Supreme Council for Women, Public Prosecutions Office, Legal Affairs Department  Sources: 2nd quarter 2010 progress report, Terminal Project Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge 41:** Bahrain welcomes a visit by the High Commissioner for Human Rights | In April 2010, it received the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, (Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) |  | |
| **Pledge 42:** affirm its willingness to cooperate with CAT on the implementation of article 20 of the Convention |  |  | |
| **Pledge 43:** Law enforcement agencies will increase the number of training courses and workshops that they run on the protection and promotion of human rights |  | *-* ***Workshop on*** ***Detention and Prison Administration***, 3-4 June 2009 with ICRC  Output 2: Bahrain’s Implementation of human rights improved  Target Group: law enforcement officials, MoForeign Affairs, MoInterior, MoHuman Rights & Social Development, MoHealth, MoLabour, MoJustice, MoInformation, Supreme Council for Women, Chamber of Commerce, Bahraini Red Crescent Society, a number of Bahraini Universities as well as civil society organizations  Source: 2008-2009 annual progress report, Terminal Report, UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  - ***Workshop on Prevention and Criminalization of Torture, under CAT and its Additional Protocol***, 6-7 April 2009, together with (APT) and Amnesty International  Output 2: Bahrain’s Implementation of human rights improved  Target Group: police and other law enforcement officials, MoForeign Affairs, MoInterior, MoJustice, Legal Affairs Department, House of Deputies, Shura Council, Pubic Prosecutions Office, Supreme Council for Women  Source: Terminal Report UPR Project, 2008-2009 Annual Progress Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English.  - ***Workshop on Safeguards against Torture according to CAT and its OP***, 22 June 2010 (2 days) with APT  Output 2: Bahrain’s Implementation of human rights improved  Target Group: law enforcement officials, MoInterior, MoJustice, Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Public Prosecution  Source: 2nd quarter 2010 progress report, UPR Terminal Report, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge 44:** Bahrain will begin to implement the articles and provisions of the Act on trafficking in Persons | - Following promulgation of Law No. 1 of 2008, concerning combating trafficking in persons, several institutions have been given mandates to implement it and to monitor its Implementation  - Hosted an international forum on combating trafficking, on 1-3 March 2009, which resulted in the Manama Declaration, calling for action at national and international levels. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - A National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking was established consisting of NGO and government representatives and which issued a report in 2010, highlighting all the steps taken by the Government of Bahrain in matters related to trafficking  - Ministry of Interior and Prosecutions office established a special unit to combat trafficking. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2011).  - Ministry of HR & SD established a shelter for victims. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2010) | ***Workshop on Trafficking in Persons and Human Rights***, 28-31 March 2010  Output 2: Bahrain’s implementation of human rights is improved  Sources: Terminal Report UPR Project, Summary of Project Activities (2008-2012) in English. | |
| **Pledge 45:** Bahrain will continue in its efforts to achieve comprehensive development with emphasis on centrality of human rights in development and importance of supporting a culture of human rights |  |  | |
| **Pledge 46:** The Ministry of Interior states that it has no objection to peaceful demonstrations provided they are conducted lawfully and participants do not engage in criminal acts or rioting | The government noted that there have been no new cases filed in this case against any persons or organisation in 2009. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009) |  | |
| **Pledge 47:** In keeping with domestic law and Bahrain’s pledges under the international human rights treaties, the periodic review will be used as a further opportunity to promote the use of existing means of redress and explore concrete measures that might be helpful in this regards | - The Ministry of Interior had set up the special office to receive complaints and suggestions from residents and citizens, and has distributed 37 complaint boxes to all directorates, departments, custody and detention centres, as well as rehabilitation centres and had plans to launch a website. (Summary Report on Follow Up to UPR Recommendations-2009)  - Passed legislation to create a fund that compensates those that have incurred damages as a result of the events of last year. Committee to consider claims is made of representatives of 2 NGOs, 2 Judges and 1 Government body  - A unit was created within the Prosecutor General’s Office to deal with the human rights issues of detainees and to receive complaints, and follow up on these cases.  - The government will implement all the recommendations of the Bassiouni led Independent Commission of Inquiry (UPR Government Report 2012). |  | |