

UNDEF Update – No. 50 AtA1231012000 # A 5 6# 76 C # 66 C #

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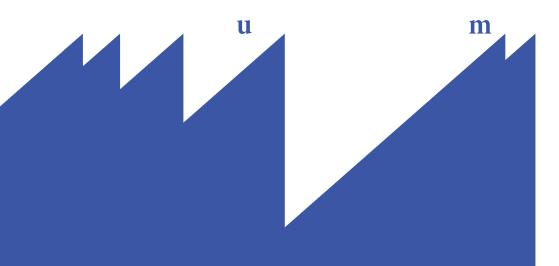


An UNDEF project in Gambia facilitated the National Assembly's passing of an Access to Information Bill in July 2021. With this, Gambia becomes the last English-speaking country in West Africa to recognize access to information as a legal right. It marks the frst time in Gambia's history that civil society has worked directly with the Government on legislation from conception to enactment, all made possible by UNDEF's support.

Implemented by <u>The Gambia Press Union</u>, the project built a coalition of civil society and media organizations -- the Civil Society Coalition on Freedom of Information -which engaged with Government and drafted the proposed legislation for the freedom of information bill; created a platform for

dialogue with the Ministries of Justice and Information to allow for direct consultations and reach a consensus on the legislation; provided training for journalists on the topic; and conducted advocacy among the general public to build wide support for access to information as a tool to enhance accountability and good governance.

## **NEWS FROM THE FIELD**



An UNDEF project in Chile is seizing the historic opportunity of the country's current constitutional process to ensure women's participation and the inclusion of gender content. Implemented by chos Humanos y Justicia de Género, this nation-wide initiative is working to advance women's understanding of a new constitution's importance to them and their rights; generate debates on key gender issues; and advocate for the inclusion of gender aspects in the drafting process.

On 15 June, the project brought together online over 100 civil society organizations and social leaders as well as 35 constitutional assembly delegates, key actors of the reform process, to discuss and agree on the principal components of a gender-sensitive constitutional agenda. The agenda frames the key demands for the coordinated advocacy e forts of stakeholders towards the inclusion of gender issues in constitutional debates and deliberations.

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An UNDEF project in Palestine is empowering youth to changemakers and leaders. Implemented by Zime , the project trains youth to formulate policy challenges and solutions, , the prohwelbeen holrstanmderhssetwo-day, thf prtitutiject stane ikshopeba