

INDEPENDENT MEDICO LEGAL UNIT



ANNUAL REPORT

2024



A Society Free From Torture and Related Violations

Toll Free: 0800721401
www.imlu.org



A year of standing up, speaking out and pushing forward. Youth and activists took a stand-amplifying voices and demanding justice



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Acronyms

ACHPR	Africa Commission of Human & Peoples Rights
AG	Attorney General
ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
BBI	Building Bridges Initiative
CJAK	Crime Journalists Association of Kenya
COG	Council of Governors
CPA	County Policing Authority
CPC	Community Policing Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCI	Directorate of Criminal Investigations
DOJ	Department of Justice
EJE	Extra-judicial Execution
IAU	Internal Affairs Unit
IEC	Information, Education & Communication
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IMLU	Independent Medico-Legal Unit
IPOA	Independent Policing Oversight Authority
JSC	Judicial Service Commission
KMA	Kenya Medical Association
KNCHR	Kenya National Commission on Human Rights
LSK	Law Society of Kenya
NCS	National Coroner Service
NDMA	National Drought Management Authority
NHIF	National Health Insurance Fund
NPS	National Police Service
NPSC	National Police Service Commission
OCPD	Officer Commanding Police Division
OCS	Officer Commanding Station
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecution
OHCHR	The Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights
POM	Public Order Management
POTA	Prevention of Torture Act
PRWG	Police Reforms Working Group
PRWG-K	Police Reforms Working Group-Kenya
PSC	Public Service Unit
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SJC	Social Justice Centre
TCIDT	Torture, Cruel Inhumane, and Degrading Treatment
UNCAT	United Nations Committee against Torture
TRV	Torture and Related Violations

Executive summary

The Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU) continues to champion justice, accountability, and rehabilitation in Kenya, steadfast in its vision of a society free from torture and related violations. In 2024, IMLU achieved remarkable milestones despite challenging socio-political and economic conditions. Key achievements include the successful hosting of the second global Survivors' Hearing, which culminated in the influential Nairobi Declaration, and pivotal advocacy at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. At the national level, IMLU spearheaded reforms in the policing and correctional systems through strategic partnerships and its leadership of the Police Reforms Working Group.

IMLU supported 164 survivors with medical care, 256 with psychosocial rehabilitation, and 278 with legal aid, including those impacted by extrajudicial executions and police brutality during anti-Finance Bill protests. Additionally, the organization provided business and entrepreneurship training and linkage to 127 survivors, paving the way for economic empowerment.

Cases like the Baby Pendo ^[1] trial underscored IMLU's commitment to justice and accountability. Furthermore, its robust advocacy efforts challenged draconian policies, promoted whistleblower protections, and advanced reparative mechanisms, alongside strengthening collaborations and partnerships with diverse stakeholders.

Put a text box that defines this case such as

Despite persistent threats to human rights defenders and activists, economic hardships, and climate-induced displacements, IMLU remained resilient. Its data-driven research, public engagement, and capacity-building initiatives strengthened the anti-torture movement nationwide.

Looking ahead, IMLU prioritizes its Centre of excellence especially on data, forensic documentation of evidence, survivor centred-trauma informed interventions, expanding partnerships, advancing socio-economic empowerment programs, and scaling up forensic and rehabilitation services. With unwavering dedication, IMLU continues to build a future where dignity, healing, and justice prevail for all.

[1] <https://www.amnestykenya.org/public-pressure-led-to-release-of-4-abductees-now-let-police-account/>

Organizational Profile

IMLU is a governance, health, and human rights NGO whose vision is 'A Society free from Torture and Related Violations'. IMLU's work is fostered by a holistic approach that includes litigation, medical and psycho-social rehabilitation, socioeconomic empowerment, oversight of government compliance with human rights obligations, and advocacy of political, legal, and institutional reforms that promote accountability, healing, and justice. The IMLU work is underpinned on its ability and capacity for forensic documentation of torture and related violations. IMLU invests in adhering to international instruments and standards set on prevention, rehabilitation of torture survivors, and response to human rights violations. Over the last three decades, IMLU has supported more than 6,000 victims of torture, and cruel, degrading, and inhumane treatment. IMLU has a national presence of over 300 volunteer professionals: doctors, trauma counsellors, lawyers, human rights monitors, and journalists.

Our Vision

A society free from torture and related violations.



Our Mission



To prevent and respond to torture and related violations to ensure healing, justice, and accountability.

Integrity
Empathy
Courage

Core Values



Inclusivity
Professionalism
Transparency

Core Values



Foreword by the Board Chairperson

As we reflect on 2024, IMLU continues to stand as a beacon of hope in the fight against torture and related violations. Guided by our mission, the Board has remained steadfast in providing strategic oversight ensuring accountability, and supporting the implementation of initiatives that advance our interventions. This year has been marked by transformative milestones that underscore the importance of multistakeholder collaboration. In partnership with the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), IMLU hosted the second global Survivors' Hearing, featuring the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Dr Alice Edwards. This historic event culminated in the Nairobi Declaration^[2], a powerful advocacy statement calling on African states to uphold human rights and enhance accountability.

As part of our continued efforts, IMLU also actively participated in the regional mechanism at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in Gambia. Notably, we presented a critical report on human rights violations in Kenya to the ACHPR Special Rapporteur on Torture, reinforcing our commitment to advocating for justice on the continental stage. At the national level, IMLU's leadership as the convener of the Police Reforms Working Group (PRWG) has been instrumental in advancing advocacy for police reforms. This collaboration has resulted in the development of a strategic roadmap for advocacy, guiding efforts to reform policing laws from 2024 through 2027 and beyond. These achievements exemplify the impact of collective action in driving meaningful change. To sustain these efforts, the Board has prioritized resource mobilization and diversification of funding streams, ensuring IMLU's financial stability and continued growth.



Christine Kung'u

By building strategic partnerships and fostering relationships with donors, we have strengthened our capacity to respond to emerging challenges and deliver on our mandate. As we look to the future, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting IMLU's mission. The fight against torture and human rights violations requires unwavering dedication, and we call on all stakeholders—government bodies, civil society organizations, international partners, and individuals—to join us in this critical journey. Together, we can create a society free from torture and related violations.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Kung'u', written over a light blue background.

**Christine Kung'u Chairperson,
IMLU Board of Directors**

[2] <https://x.com/IRCT/status/1851618768088100920>

Message From the Executive Director



“ Amidst heightened, and unprecedented political and economic challenges, our commitment to addressing torture, enforced disappearances, and extrajudicial executions remained unwavering ”

The year 2024 marked significant strides in IMLU's pursuit of justice, accountability, and the protection of human dignity. Amidst heightened, and unprecedented political and economic challenges, our commitment to addressing torture, enforced disappearances, and extrajudicial executions remained unwavering. Our advocacy efforts bore fruit, resulting to the gazettment of the National Steering committee to review security sector reforms, ensuring alignment with constitutional and international human rights standards.

As the convener of the Police Reforms Working Group (PRWG), IMLU took a firm stand against the proposed Assemblies and Demonstrations Bill of 2024. Through a detailed memorandum, we highlighted the bill's gaps in protecting protestors' rights and addressing the critical issues they face in Kenya today. This reinforced IMLU's commitment to safeguarding civic freedoms and advocating for laws that respect and promote human rights. Additionally, our contributions to the government technical team under the State Department for Correctional Services underscored the need for evidence-based reforms in Kenya's correctional systems.

In 2024, IMLU demonstrated its leadership in addressing human rights violations through impactful legal and psychosocial interventions. Our involvement in landmark cases, such as the Baby Pendo case, showcased the power of justice in holding perpetrators accountable under the doctrine of command responsibility. IMLU remains a strong advocate for justice and accountability and has been vocal in national, regional and international spheres, calling out of the Government to uphold the rule of law and safeguard the constitution, while at the same time contributing to the body of evidence and standards on survivor centered approaches. As Kenya celebrated 14 years into the new Constitution, key questions around democracy, rule of law, increased impunity, corruption and increased human rights violations cannot be underscored.

The continued defiance of court orders by state officers, coupled with economic hardships that fueled protests, underscores the intersection of governance, human rights, and economic justice. The tragic loss of human rights defender Benna Buluma^[3], also known as Mama Victor, the deaths of 63 young protesters, 82 cases of abductions, and numerous reports of intimidation, harassment, and excessive use of force, serve as a stark reminder of the grave risks faced by those who champion justice and accountability. These tragedies highlight the persistent dangers violations and the urgent need for continued advocacy to safeguard the rights and lives of individuals who stand up for justice.

In 2024, IMLU conducted a mid-term review of the Strategic plan. The focus moving forth will be to deliver the strategic plan, with stronger emphasis on survivor centered, trauma informed interventions, consistent and resilience in demand for accountability and rule of law, as well as promoting its data work and as the center of excellence in torture prevention and related violations.

As we look ahead to 2025, IMLU is determined to scale up its efforts in rehabilitation, accountability, and advocacy. Strengthening data capture and mining, building and strong partnerships, expanding research, addressing sexual torture, advancing socio-economic empowerment for survivors, and enhancing forensic documentation and the management of human remains and morgues remain central to our agenda. These efforts are crucial in ensuring that victims' dignity is upheld, and justice is served. We look forward to establishing a rehabilitation centre for torture survivors and their families. These milestones would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors, partners, and stakeholders. To the IMLU team, your dedication and resilience continue to inspire change. Together, we are building a future free from torture and human rights violations, where justice prevails for all.

Thank you for being part of this journey.



Wangechi Kahuria
Executive Director,
Independent Medico Legal Unit (IMLU)

[3] https://x.com/IMLU_org/status/1783431730134696151

Operating Context

Political
Economic Situation
Environmental and Climate Change
Geo-Political Scenario



Geo-Political Scenario

The 2024 geopolitical situation was dynamic with the rise in intra and interstate armed conflict. In Europe the War between Ukraine and Russia had a ripple effect on global economics. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies including the United States of America, France, United Kingdom and Germany channeled their support to Ukraine by providing weapons and humanitarian aid. The European Union sanctioned its member states from importing natural gas and oil from Russia. In response, Russia increased its oil and gas prices and heightened its attack on Ukraine and destabilized global trade. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries and the European Union shifted their priorities from supporting Human Rights Programs across the globe to addressing the refugee crisis in Ukraine. Subsequently, funding to Civil Society Organizations was reduced. Hence, IMLU contracted associates instead of permanent staff. It equally entrenched the principles of redeploying staff members and performance of multiple tasks instead of hiring new staff members for vacant positions in the programs department.



In the Middle East, the war between Israel and Palestine continued to raise humanitarian concerns in the region. Neighboring countries had to deal with the refugee crisis. Global security was equally threatened by the threats of insurgency and counterinsurgency. Kenya's alignment to Israel henceforth put the country in a precarious situation with organizations that are aligned to Palestine. According to the Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies (CHRIPS), 107 people were killed and 124 people were killed in violent-extremism related attacks along with 124 casualties in Kenya in 2024. The year saw a 19 percent surge of 85 terror attacks compared to 72 in 2023. A rise in terror-related arrests was also recorded, with 161 individuals placed in police custody whereby 161 of them included 113 were Kenyans, 37 Ugandans, one Tanzanian, and 10 of unidentified nationalities. The most affected areas of Northeastern Kenya included Garissa, Mandera and Garissa Counties and Lamu County at the Coast. IMLU was thus compelled to operate with caution regarding the security of its staff members and human rights defenders working in the cited regions. The organization has nevertheless been proactive in documenting cases of torture of terror suspects across the country.

In 2024, Kenya's geo-political landscape was defined by heightened political tensions, growing public dissent, and state responses that often-undermined human rights. Against the backdrop of economic struggles, escalating regional security threats, and shifting international relations, issues such as police brutality and the lack of accountability became central to public discourse, further eroding trust in governance and law enforcement institutions. Kenya has been called out by international agencies including the United Nations on the increasing cases of abductions. The abduction and refoulement of four Turkish nationals highlight the Kenyan government's failure to uphold its international legal obligations and respect the principle of non-refoulement. This principle protects asylum-seekers and refugees from being removed to places where their lives or freedom would be at risk. Further, a Pakistani national was trailed, abducted and later assassinated while in Kajiado County in Kenya raising concerns about the protection of human rights.



Political

IMLU notes with concern the continued disregard for the rule of law by state officers, particularly the defiance of court orders. In 2024, Gilbert Masengeli^[4], the acting Inspector General of Police, failed to comply with multiple court orders in high-profile human rights cases involving enforced disappearances and abductions attributed to the National Police Service. Such actions undermine the rule of law and weaken public confidence in justice systems. Additionally, court orders directing the release of unlawfully detained demonstrators and ensuring their access to legal representation were ignored, highlighting the urgent need for accountability and reform.

In 2024, Kenya has witnessed a troubling increase in cases of femicide, with 97^[5] recorded incidents in the last three months alone. This surge highlights the pervasive issue of gender-based violence (GBV), with most victims being young women, often killed by intimate partners or individuals known to them. The persistent violence starkly contrasts Kenya's commitments to international frameworks, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality). Two national End Femicide marches were held during the year, amplifying calls for urgent action to address GBV, strengthen protective laws, and ensure justice for victims. IMLU is also keen to document cases of sexual torture, albeit the sensitivity around it so as to design appropriate interventions. Increasingly female human rights defenders and activists have been targeted by police and other security apparatus. Case Grace Njoki Mulei accused of causing a disturbance when she bravely demanded for enhanced access to health services

In 2024, Kenya experienced a significant political shift with the impeachment of Deputy President Hon. Rigathi Gachagua. The impeachment process led to pockets of unrest across the country, particularly in regions where the former deputy president enjoyed strong support. Hon. Gachagua joined other prominent political leaders in the opposition to call out the state, especially on the status of human rights in the country. The former second in command noted the role of the state in perpetuating enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions and torture of Kenyans of dissenting opinions on the leadership being experienced in the country.

[4] <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1037017548215558>

[5] <https://ntvkenya.co.ke/news/a-woman-is-killed-every-24-hours-kenyas-femicide-nightmare/>



Economic Situation

In 2024, Kenya faced significant economic challenges that directly impacted human rights and civic freedoms. Rising inflation, exacerbated by global economic pressures and domestic policy decisions, pushed the cost of living to unprecedented levels. The introduction of the controversial Finance Act, which increased taxation across key sectors, further strained households and fueled widespread public dissent.

The protests against the Finance Act and escalating cost of living highlighted the intersection of economic policy and human rights. Unfortunately, state responses to these protests, characterized by violent crackdowns, demonstrated the government's prioritization of control over addressing the legitimate grievances of its citizens.

The economic hardships disproportionately affected marginalized communities, amplifying existing inequalities and deepening socio-economic vulnerabilities. Many families struggled to access basic needs such as healthcare, education, and housing, intensifying the demand for social justice and accountability.

For IMLU, the economic context underscored the critical need for holistic approaches to human rights advocacy. In addition to addressing violations such as police brutality and torture, there was a growing need to consider the socio-economic dimensions of justice, ensuring that survivors not only receive redress but also pathways to economic empowerment. This is a lesson learnt through the SP review, our survivor centered approach and from other jurisprudence on need for holistic services that enable survivors and victims' families regain their productive lives.

Going forward, IMLU remains committed to integrating socio-economic empowerment into its programs, advocating for equitable policies, and amplifying the voices of communities most affected by Kenya's economic challenges. IMLU has supported 127 (101F 6M) victims of human rights violations with business empowerment skills and is looking forward to providing start-up capital to these enterprises for socio-economic empowerment.





Environmental & Climate Change

2024 Floods

Kenya's environmental landscape in 2024 was marked by severe climate-related challenges that significantly impacted livelihoods, public health, and social stability. Floods, erratic rainfall patterns, and environmental degradation exacerbated food insecurity, displaced communities, and heightened socio-economic vulnerabilities,

In the first quarter of 2024, enhanced rainfall was experienced leading to catastrophic flooding in multiple regions, displacing over 300,000 people and causing widespread destruction of homes, infrastructure, and farmland. Tragically, these floods claimed 478^[6] lives, including that of Benna Buluma aka Mama Victor^[7], a human rights defender who died alongside others when their homes were swept away by the raging flood waters in Mathare. These deaths underscored the toll of climate-related disasters and the vulnerability of low-income communities. IMLU joined other well-wishers in donating nonfood items to families affected by the floods. Quote and attach photo of our IMLU support to Mathare residents after the floods.

In Nairobi's informal settlements, thousands of families were forcibly evicted from their homes as part of urban development projects framed as climate adaptation efforts. These evictions, often executed without notice or alternative housing arrangements, left families homeless and exposed to extreme weather conditions. IMLU documented 20 cases of human rights violations during these evictions and provided legal and psychosocial support to affected families.



300,000 PEOPLE DISPLACED
475 LIVES LOST



[6] <https://www.aljazeera.com/gallery/2024/12/15/photos-kenyas-devastating-drought-is-the-worst-in-40-years>
[7] months Operation Update, International Federation of Redcross and Red Crescent Societies, 2024

Extreme Draught Conditions

Kenya experienced its worst drought^[8] in decades, with over 4.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance raising human rights concerns. Religious groups, Civil society organizations, private sector among other partners raised concerns on the role of the government on cushioning Kenyans against the impact of drought.



[8] https://x.com/IMLU_org/status/1783431730134696151

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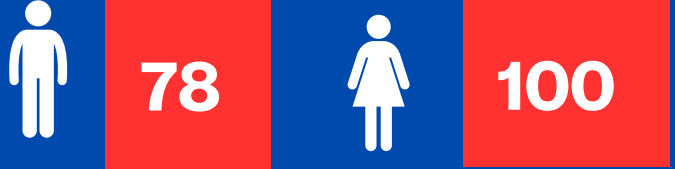
IMLU ED-Wangechi Kahuria leads in tree planting in commemoration of International women's day 2024, Nairobi

Our Key Achievements

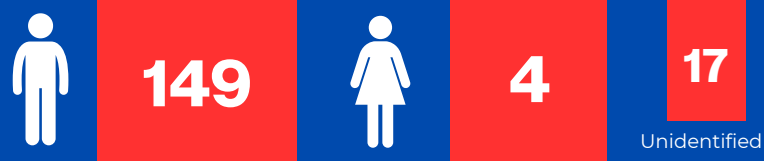


Medical Rehabilitation

178 Survivors supported to access timely medical intervention services

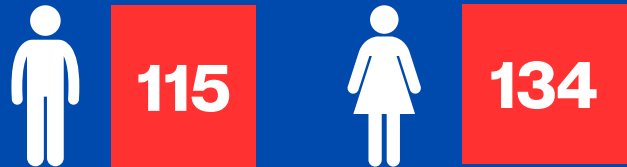


170 victims were supported with post-mortem services to ascertain the cause of death and provide forensic evidence during the litigation process of the gross human rights violation cases.



Psychosocial Rehabilitation

249 survivors and their families received psychological counselling services to enhance their mental well being following traumatic events including torture.



Primary Survivors (243)

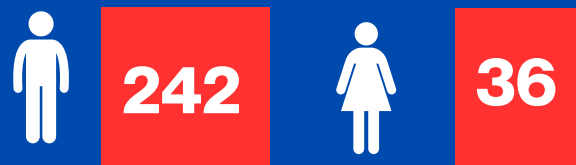


Secondary Survivors(6)



Litigation

278 (242M 36F) clients received legal assistance and representation. Out of these, 171 (143M, 28F) were protest related during the anti- finance bill. IMLU paid bail for 64 clients, who were released unconditionally. 64 Male inmates at Kodiaga Prison were supported to access legal aid



870

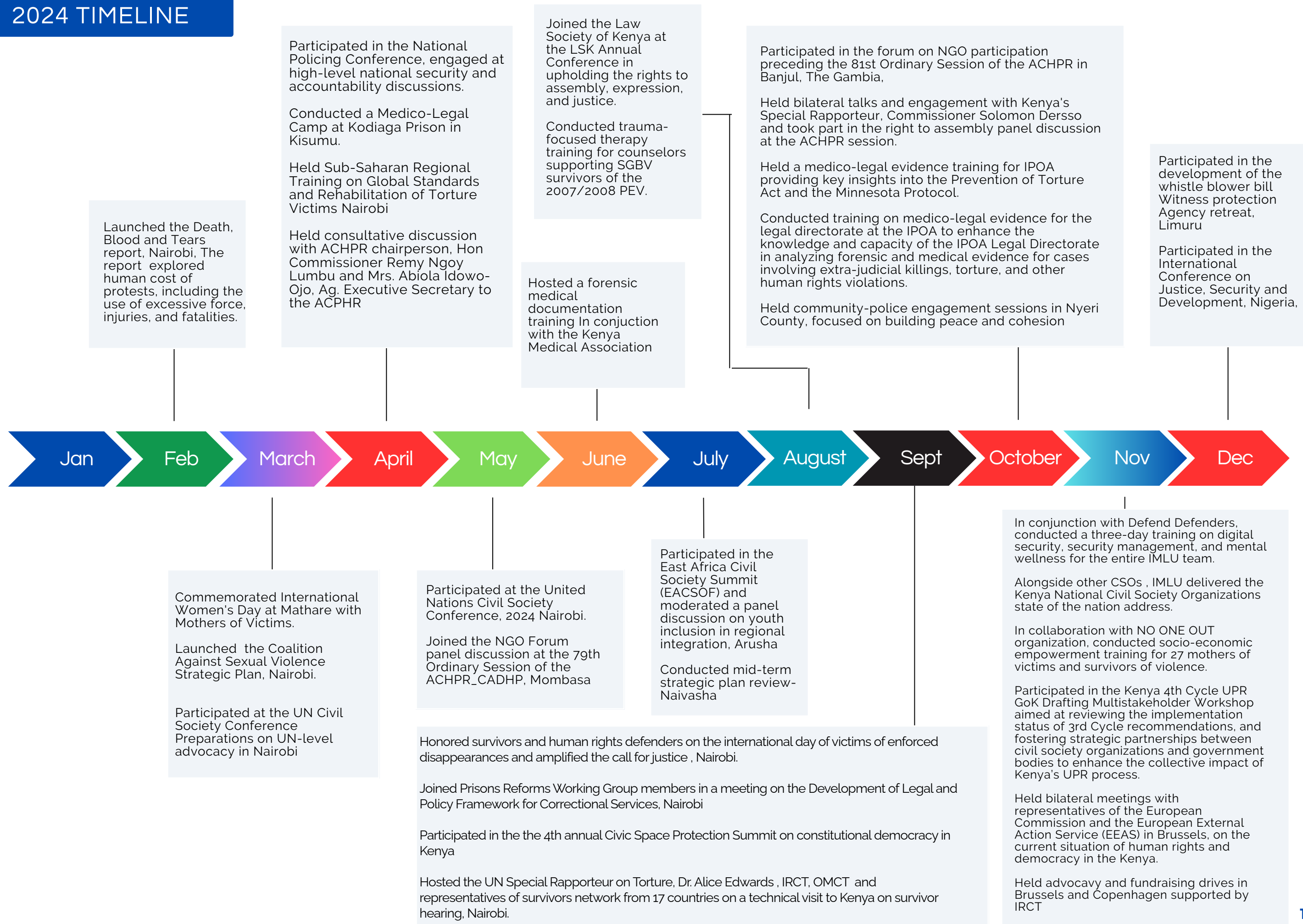
870 Community members reached with peace messaging



members of the network of professionals were engaged in delivering our work.

Our Work in 2024

2024 TIMELINE





- Legal and Policies Reforms Pursued
- Capacities of state agencies in the justice sector strengthened
- Strong Anti-Torture Movement
- Monitoring and reporting of torture and related violations enhanced at country, regional, and global levels
- Strategic research and knowledge management for evidence-based interventions undertaken
- Accessible and comprehensive medical and psychosocial services availed
- Quality & timely legal intervention for redress and precedent setting provided
- Engagement with the network of professionals and partners in holistic service provision enhanced.
- Effective referrals and linkages to socio-economic empowerment opportunities for victims and survivors established
- A diversified, and sustainable resource base achieved
- The operational capacity of the secretariate enhanced
- Improved internal and external communication for visibility
- Monitoring, Evaluation Research and Learning

Strategic Objective 1: Accountability mechanisms to prevent torture and related violations

Legal and policy reforms pursued

IMLU has been at the forefront of advocating for legal and policy reforms in the justice sector to promote human rights. In 2024, IMLU conducted sustained advocacy sessions to push for the review of various security sector reforms including the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) Act, the National Police Service (NPS) Act, the National Police Service Commission (NPSC) Act, and the Public Order Act. Our advocacy work contributed to the gazettelement of the National Steering Committee to review these policies and ensure that the policies are aligned to the constitution and the international human rights standards.

Further, IMLU advocated for the operationalization of the National Coroners Service Act by facilitating the public participation forums in five counties. A total of 600 (410M 190F) participants got a platform to share their inputs towards the development of a memorandum that was submitted to the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee.



IMLU held a consultative meeting with 27(15M 12F) members of the Victims Protection Board and other CSO members for the amendment to critical laws to support the establishment of reparations mechanisms to ensure survivors receive compensation and rehabilitation under the act. IMLU will continuously support the Victims Protection Board in reviewing the law to support not only the establishment of the board but also reparations remedies for the victims. Building on these initiatives, collaboration with the Witness Protection Agency focused on advocating for the protection of whistleblowers and addressing critical gaps that leave individuals vulnerable to enforced disappearances and torture. In 2024, IMLU was privileged to be nominated to serve on the technical committee by civil society to contribute to the codification of enforced disappearance. The meeting, organised by Human Rights Agenda (HURIA), acknowledged the ongoing initiatives to criminalise enforced disappearance in Kenya and highlighted the importance of civil society's input. This involvement aims at engaging the state, the Department of Justice, to ensure the draft law is comprehensive and effective. As a result of this, IMLU will directly contribute to and influence the development of the bill by sharing its expertise based on cases documented over the years.

IMLU as the convener of the Police Reforms Working Group (PRWG), has enhanced advocacy to push for reforms to policing laws. A strategic roadmap on advocacy for police reforms covering the years 2024-2027 and beyond was developed. The draft roadmap was validated at the PRWG-K meeting in September 2024 that sets up engagement strategies with various stakeholders both state and non-state in realising police reforms in the country. Also, through the PRWG-K, IMLU submitted a memorandum on the proposed draconian Assemblies and Demonstrations Bill of 2024, which aimed at amending the Public Order Act (Cap. 56).

In the Memorandum, IMLU noted gaps in the proposed Bill especially in protecting and addressing critical contemporary issues faced by protestors in Kenya. In 2024, the Police Reform Working Group - Kenya (PRWG-K) intensified its advocacy efforts through press statements, media briefings, opinion articles, and radio and TV engagements, persistently demanding accountability for police misconduct and human rights violations. These strategic communications played a crucial role in shaping public discourse on police reforms, exposing extrajudicial killings, excessive use of force, and systemic abuses within law enforcement. By leveraging the media, PRWG-K successfully amplified victims' voices, mobilized public pressure, and engaged policymakers on the urgent need for institutional reforms. As a result, the coalition contributed to heightened government scrutiny, parliamentary debates, and policy dialogues, reinforcing the push for a more transparent, accountable, and rights-respecting police service in Kenya.

As members of the Prison Reforms Working Group (PRWG), IMLU played a pivotal role in submitting a comprehensive memorandum to the government technical team under the State Department for Correctional Services^[9]. This memorandum, grounded in human rights principles and evidence-based insights, highlighted critical reforms needed within Kenya's correctional systems. Key recommendations focused on improving inmate welfare, ensuring accountability in detention practices, and fostering a rehabilitative rather than punitive approach. These contributions are instrumental in shaping the development of the Correctional Services Legal Policy Framework, demonstrating IMLU's commitment to advancing humane and rights-respecting correctional policies that align with national and international standards.

[9] https://x.com/IMLU_org/status/1831652244707500081



IMLU joined other working group members in a meeting with the Technical Committee on the Development of Legal and Policy Framework for Correctional Services. Key proposals were made on shaping the Correctional Services Bill.



Members of the PRWG-K, led by IMLU Executive Director Wangechi Kahuria, addressing the press on the memorandum on the proposed Assemblies and Demonstrations Bill of 2024.

Capacities of state agencies in the justice sector strengthened

To continuously ensure that the state officers are fully equipped, IMLU strengthened the capacity of 108 (38M 70F) officers from the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), Internal Affairs Unit (IAU), and Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) on forensic documentation and evidence analysis to enhance the quality of investigations to ensure better legal outcomes in torture-related cases to promote accountability. The officers were capacity on crime scene management, forensic interrogation, forensic medicine focusing on autopsies, etc.

In 2024, IMLU collaborated with the tripartite task force committee led by the public prosecutions office and enhanced the capacity of 36 (28M 8F) senior IPOA, IAU, and NPS on accountability for gross human rights violations. IMLU led the training on the Prevention of Torture Act, 2017, and the Rapid Reference Guide. Following the training, regional champions were identified to support accountability for police violations, and a commitment was secured to challenge the 'blue code of silence'.

In collaboration with other CSOs under the banner of Civic Freedoms Forum, IMLU supported a national CSO summit in September 2024 in Mombasa that took stock of the human rights situation in Kenya. IMLU shared the findings and recommendations of the Death, Blood and Tears Report published in March 2024 detailing cases of human rights violations from the Cost of living protests in 2023. The forum highlighted cases of human rights violations during the youth led protests in the period June - August 2024.

Further, IMLU continued the engagements and collaborations with the National police service across the country. In 2024, IMLU strengthened the capacity of 169 (84M 88F) police officers in Kisumu and Busia counties, to enhance their capacity on the management, investigation, and reporting and responding to SGBV cases[1].

Good photo



IMLU's Technical Lead, Medical Rehabilitation, leading a training session on Sexual and gender-based violence for NPS officers in Busia County.

Strong Anti-Torture Movement

To expand our grassroots networks, IMLU formed three new Community Policing Committees (CPCs) in Kakamega, Busia, and Vihiga counties. Through these CPCs, the identification and reporting of cases of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence has been enhanced. Further, the collaboration between the community and the police officers has been enhanced through the CPCs. CPCs were also instrumental in the commemoration of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. Three CPCs lead in marking this day towards ending sexual and gender-based violence in line with the theme, “Unite! Invest to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls.”

In Kisumu and Nairobi, 60 Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) were trained in documenting and reporting torture cases, the right to protest, and mental wellness. This group now actively supports IMLU’s efforts to monitor violations in their regions.

IMLU commemorated the International Day of Enforced Disappearance in Nairobi, engaging 100 survivors and families, along with state oversight agencies such as IPOA and the Victims Protection Board.

In June, IMLU coalesced with the Centre for Reproductive Rights, the East Africa Law Society, and the Law Society of Kenya to East Africa to convene a pro bono Guidelines training workshop for a team of 39 (27M 12F) advocates. These advocates are in the process of drafting the first-ever legal pro bono guidelines for use by advocates.

In collaboration with the Civic Freedom Forum (CFF) a convener of CSOs on civic space engagements, IMLU participated in the 2024 CSO summit held in September in Mombasa. This summit brought together over 100 participants from across the country all committed to creating a vibrant and protected civic space that fosters inclusive dialogue, enabling human rights defenders to operate without fear, and ensuring that citizens' voices are heard in shaping governance and justice.

“To us, the Community Policing Committee is a special grassroots structure that has been working closely with the security apparatus (National Police Service) to promote peace, curb insecurity, held with identification and reporting of SGV cases, and also promote cohesion. As a CPC, we have been able to conduct four community engagement meetings together with police officers. We have witnessed an improved relationship between the community members and the officers.

We have also contributed immensely to the reporting of sexual and gender-based violence cases. We have noted that all cases presented to the police station through COC, are effectively followed through by the officers. Incidences of bribery and cases being withdrawn has reduced, especially to cases presented by the CPC.” Said the Chair, Vihiga CPC

Monitoring and reporting of torture and related violations enhanced at country, regional, and global levels

IMLU actively participated in the regional mechanism at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in Gambia, achieving significant milestones. Key highlights included presenting a report on human rights violations in Kenya to the ACHPR Special Rapporteur on Torture (Hon Hatem Essaiem) and delivering the "Survivors of Torture in Africa" report during the public session of the ACHPR. Further, IMLU convened a side event on torture and shared challenges, opportunities, and successes in the protection of human rights and police excesses in the country. IMLU also convened Kenyan CSOs that participated in the 87th session to host the special rapporteur for Kenya, Commissioner Solomon Ayele Dersso. The CSOs shared various challenges, and opportunities in human rights violations in the country especially on torture, EJE, and Enforced Disappearances during protests. HRDs have faced surveillance and abductions by security forces, violating their rights to assembly and association. The commissioner expressed intent to request an official visit to Kenya to document the concerns raised soon



Left to right, Wangechi Kahuria, IMLU Executive Director, Dr. Alice Edwards, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Asger Kjaerum IRCT Director of Advocacy and Maeva Rene-Barry IRCT Advocacy officer during the regional survivor hearing in Kenya, Sept. 2024.

In 2024, IMLU in collaboration with IRCT, hosted the second survivors hearing in the world, with the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Dr Alice Edwards. The event provided a safe space for 30 victims and survivors across the region to share their experiences on torture. The UN special rapporteur would later develop a report on the plight of victims of human rights violations in Africa and present it before the UN General Assembly. The key outcome of the survivors' hearing was the Nairobi Declaration, a statement that was also read by IMLU during the 87th session of ACHPR as an advocacy strategy to call on different African States to respect and promote human rights and enhance accountability.



In 2024, during her visit to Brussels, IMLU's director, Ms Wangechi Grace Kahuria, had bilateral meetings with representatives of the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS), discussing the current situation of human rights and democracy in the country

IMLU in partnership with OHCHR hosted the Special Rapporteur on Summary and Extra judicial Executions and arbitrary arrests Dr Morris Tidball-Binz in Nairobi. IMLU convened CSOs under the Police Reforms Working Group Kenya. Members shared thematic cases of human rights violations in Kenya. The special rapporteur affirmed his intention to seek official invitation by the state to document cases of human rights violations. CSOs present were urged to document cases and share with the office of special rapporteur. Similarly, IMLU in collaboration with Missing Voices Coalition hosted the chair of the UN Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances. She expressed concern that CSOs rarely shared reports of enforced disappearances in Kenya. It was noted that her office had made an official request to visit Kenya for documentation and reporting.

Further, IMLU engaged 32 (17M,15F) journalists and student leaders from universities across Kenya in a forum on the right to protest and the role of media in holding state agencies accountable. The event not only fostered critical dialogue but also showcased the strong leadership capacities of these students and their deep commitment to advancing the anti-torture movement in Kenya.

IMLU, in collaboration with EACHRights, the convener of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Kenya, hosted a retreat to draft the Kenya CSO report in preparation for the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review by the UN Human Rights Council. Kenya is scheduled for review in 2025. The draft report was validated by the CSOs and filed with the UNHRC. Similarly, IMLU, as the convener of the thematic group on Torture, Extrajudicial Executions (EJE), and Enforced Disappearances (ED), prepared a report in line with its special consultative status with The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The report was also submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC).



Simon Malenya, IMLU Lead Treaty Bodies and Criminal Justice Reforms giving a presentation during the UPR retreat, August 2024.



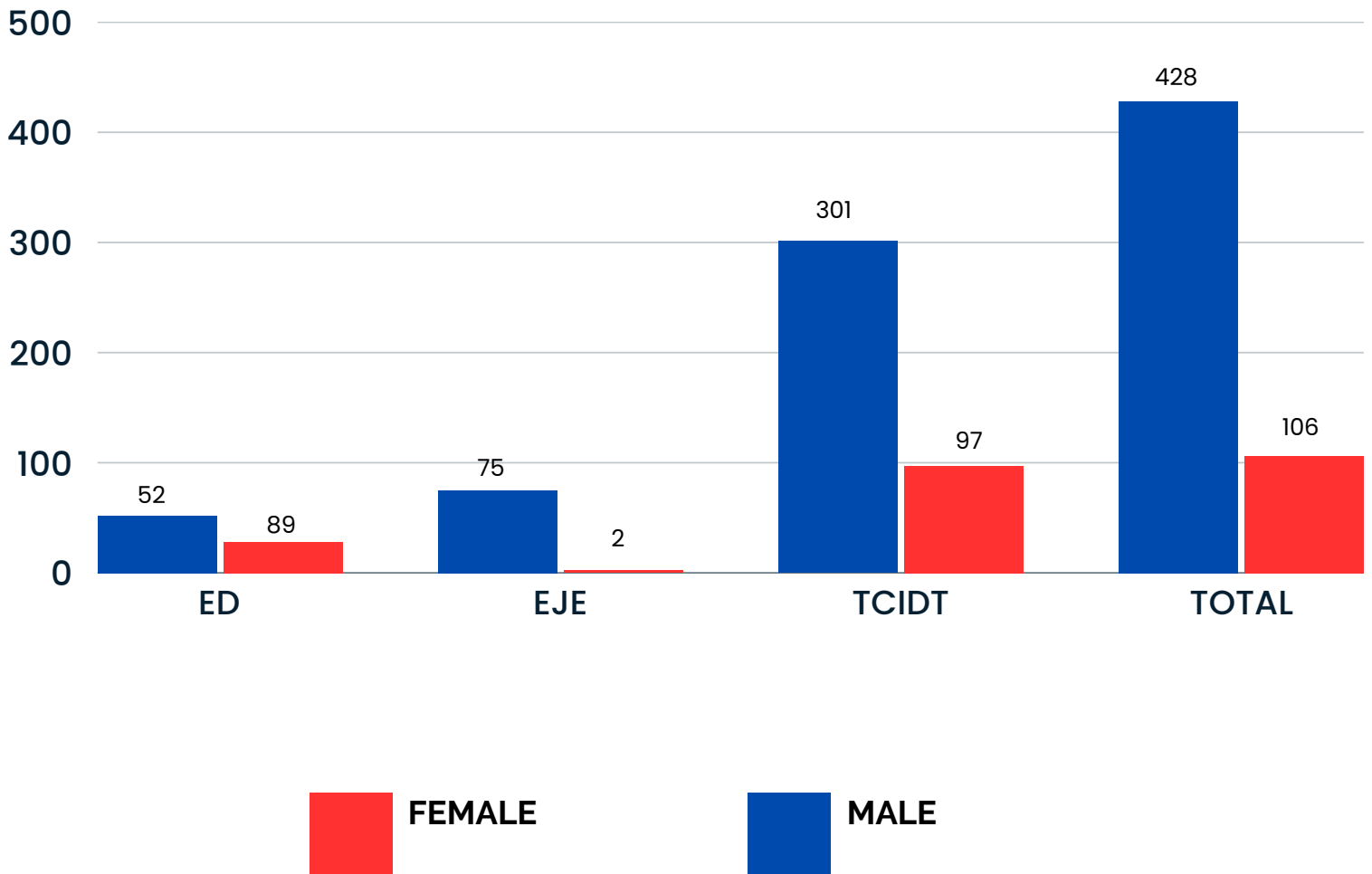
Asger Kjaerum IRCT Director of Advocacy, in an advocacy session with university students and journalists held in Nairobi, September 2024.

In June 2024, IMLU participated in the East African Community CSO Forum (EACCSOF) held in Arusha, Tanzania. During the forum, IMLU provided an update on the status of human rights violations in Kenya. The findings of the Death, Blood, and Tears report highlighted 296 (259M 37F) cases of human rights violations documented during the 2023 protests. In comparison, IMLU recorded 534 (428M 106F) cases of human rights violations in 2024. In Arusha, IMLU also led in calling for better support to youth-led interventions and spaces, citing the Gen- Z movement in Kenya and lessons learnt. By leading the youth panel discussion, IMLU was recognized by participants across EAC as a legitimate human rights organisation in promoting good governance and respect for the rule of law. This activity raised IMLU's profile, and over the reporting period, IMLU was invited for media appearances to disseminate information on the state of human rights violations as reported under the communication and branding of this report.



IMLU represented by the ED-Wangechi Kahuria and Monitoring and Evaluation Lead - Stephen Mukoya (2nd Right) at the East African Community CSO Forum (EACCSOF) held in Arusha, Tanzania June 2024





Bar graph showing the nature of IMLU recorded human rights violations in 2024.

IMLU participated in the International Conference on Justice, Security, and Development in Abuja, Nigeria. This event was organized by Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA) and brought together global experts, stakeholders, and advocates to reflect on three decades of progress in advancing justice, peace, and rehabilitation in correctional services.

A key outcome of the conference was the renewed regional and international commitment to advancing human rights-based correctional systems, emphasizing the need for alternatives to incarceration, improved conditions in correctional facilities, and stronger support systems for reintegration. As part of the panel on Issues and Lessons from the Field: Perspectives from African Countries, IMLU delivered a presentation on the prevention of torture within Kenya's correctional and justice systems, sharing key insights, challenges, and lessons drawn from its work on institutional reform. This presentation highlighted Kenya's progress, challenges, and opportunities in embedding a torture prevention framework within its correctional system



IMLU Lead Communication and Advocacy, Naomi Wambui, (third left) taking part in a panel discussion at the International Conference on Justice, Security, and Development in Abuja, Nigeria.



Moreover, IMLU was honoured with an award in recognition of its role as a key partner in advancing justice, security, peace, rehabilitation, and development. The award celebrated the organization's continued commitment and contribution alongside other individuals and institutions championing correctional sector reforms.

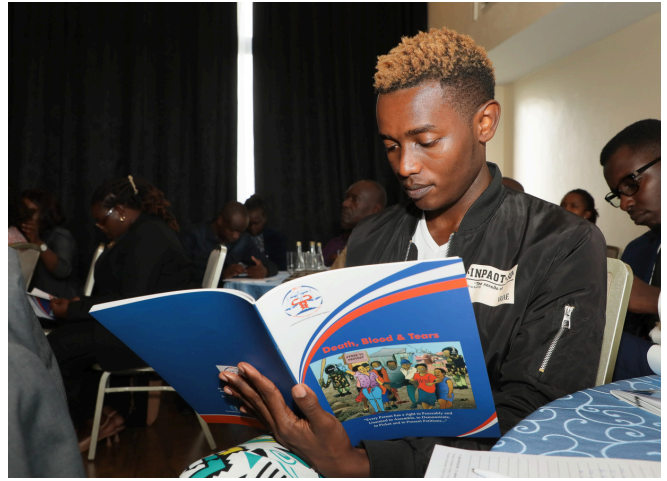
Strategic research and knowledge management for evidence-based interventions undertaken

IMLU provided support for the 12th edition of the All-Kenya Moot Court by offering expertise, reviewing draft compromises, assessing memorandums, and adjudicating moots. The competition's "Sustainable Governance: Unveiling the Intersection Between Tax Burden, Good Governance, and Protection of Human Rights." Through this involvement, IMLU identified gaps in current public participation channels and emphasized the importance of civic education on national human rights institutions and a better understanding of the Inspector General's role. Further, IMLU reached over 4000 students and registered participation from over 16 universities in Kenya.

Further, IMLU launched the "Death, Blood, and Tears" report on February 23, 2024, which monitored the protests in Kenya from January to September 2023. The report issued findings and recommendations based on the study, aiming to shed light on the events surrounding the 2023 protests and provide insights for addressing the issues raised.



Left to right, Regina Opondo, IMLU Board member, Job Munyua of IPOA, and Wangechi Kahuria, IMLU Executive Director showcasing a copy of the Death, Blood and Tears report during the launch, Nairobi February 2024.



Strategic Objective 2: Redress, Rehabilitation, and Socio-Economic Empowerment

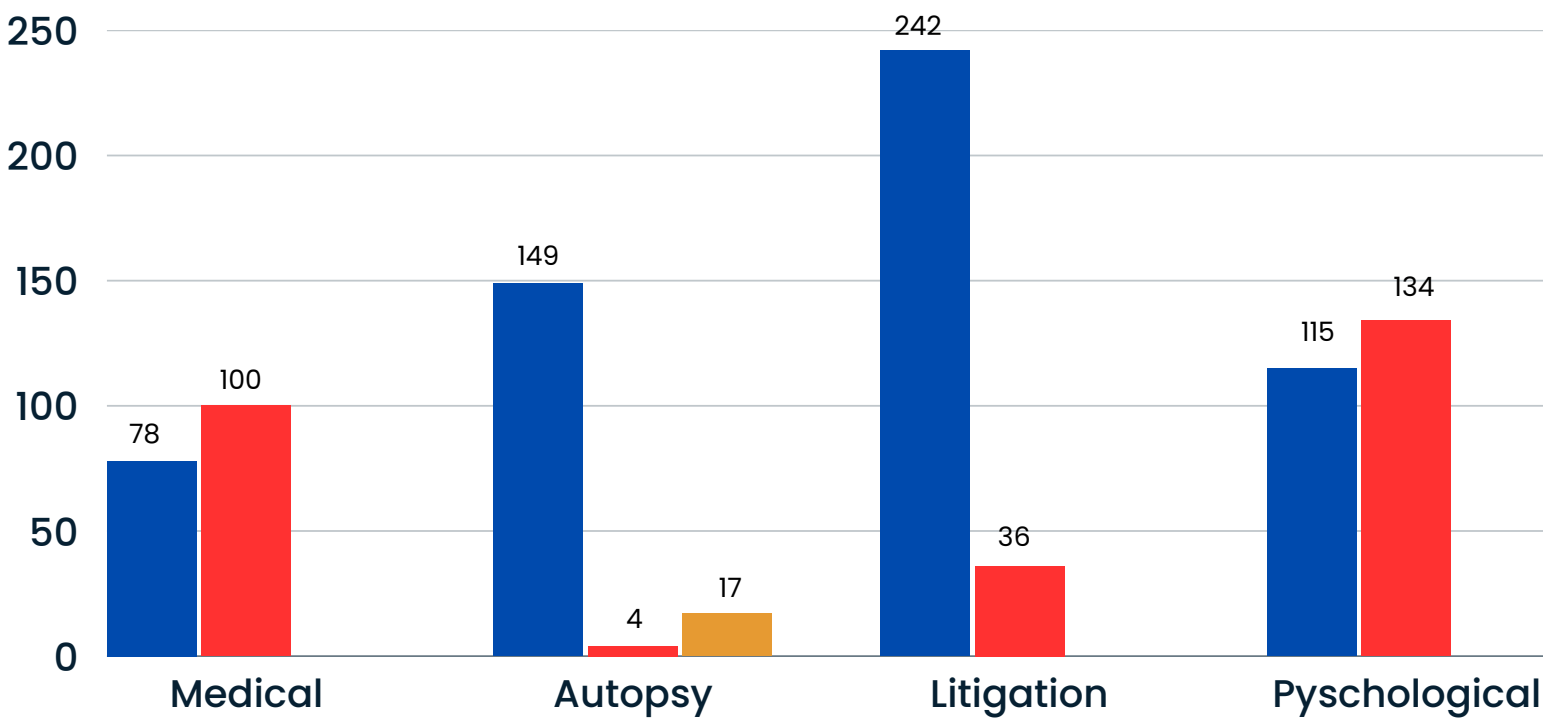
Accessible and comprehensive medical and psychosocial services availed

In 2024, IMLU enrolled 208 survivors (181F, 27M) who experienced Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) during the 2007/2008 post-election violence. and were still struggling with injuries, medical and psychosocial needs as a result of the violence. 97 (8M, 89F) of the 208 received comprehensive medical services. To ensure adherence and implementation of the UN Standard Minimum Rules in correctional facilities, IMLU conducted a medical camp in Kodiaga male prison, Kisumu, where 123 male were examined, assessed and treated. A total of 28 (18M, 10F) new and revisit cases of torture and related violations were provided with comprehensive medical services. These were mainly survivors of the Gen-Z protest, enforced disappearance, police brutality and other human rights violations. Generally, comprehensive medical services were provided to 248 (149M, 99F) beneficiaries in this period. The sessions addressed the mental wellbeing of the inmates while incarcerated.

Other medical services provided were autopsies to victims of torture, inhumane and degrading treatment. The aim of this support is to ensure forensic documentation that is meant to aid the litigation process. IMLU supported 99 autopsies through its network of pathologists. 48 (47M, 1F) of them, were victims of the Gen-Z protests, 17 (11F, 6 non-defined gender) were bodies found dumped at the Kware dumpsite in Nairobi. These were unidentified, mutilated and decomposed bodies. Finally, 34 (31M, 3F) of them were victims of torture related violations including police brutality, extra judicial executions and enforced disappearance.

Towards the end of the year, the Nairobi City Municipality issued a public notice on the intent to dispose of 109 unclaimed bodies from the Nairobi Funeral Home. This matter raised concern among human rights organizations due to the circumstances regarding the deaths reported during this period hence, a verification exercise was recommended prior to the disposal. IMLU supported the observation of the verification exercise to 50 bodies which included identification, forensic documentation, DNA samples retrieval and tagging, to facilitate proper and systematic interment that will enable future retrieval whenever there will be need. Among the findings from the verification exercise was the severe level of decomposition with some not documented. This accounted for most of the cases having their cause of death unascertained hence, limiting actual diagnosis.

A total of 256 (122M 134M) individuals received psychosocial support services, which addressed trauma stemming from torture and police brutality. Out of these, 249 (120M 129F) were primary survivors while 7(2M 5F) were secondary survivors. IMLU adopted trauma-focused counselling approach to minimize retraumatizing the survivors and focus more on the healing process. Further, IMLU supported 155 (19M 136F) access physiotherapy sessions to promote physical healing and mental wellbeing.



A bar graph showing the number of clients IMLU supported with medical services in 2024.

FEMALE **MALE** **UNKNOWN**

Quality & timely legal intervention for redress and precedentsetting provided

In 2024, IMLU's legal team made significant progress in ensuring justice for survivors despite the increased number of human rights violations reported in the year especially due to the anti-finance bill protests. 278 (242M 36F) clients were supported to access legal representation. Out of these, IMLU sought the release and legal representation of 171 (143M 28F) unlawfully arrested protesters during the anti-finance bill protests through bail and litigation.

In the same year, IMLU led in two strategic landmark cases; (i) John Chebochok case that sought to bar Chebochok from being confirmed as the director of the Toror Tea Factory because of engaging in sexual harassment and exploitation of over 75 survivors as exposed in the BBC documentary titled "Sex for Work, a True Cost of Our Tea^[10]". (ii) The Baby Pendo case involves 4 senior police officers who are being charged with torture, murder and rape under the International Crimes Act, based on the doctrine of command responsibility.

IMLU represents Baby Pendo with other organizations including International Justice Mission-Kenya, Utu Wetu Trust, Kenya National Human Rights Commission and Law Society of Kenya. The 6 months old Baby Pendo (the deceased victim) was hit with a baton by police officers in Nyalenda, Kisumu county during the violence that occurred in the aftermath of 2017 elections. IMLU led a petition on behalf of 1 (1M) client who was shot during the anti-finance bill protest, aiming to secure compensation for the victim. Additionally, 2 (1M 1F) clients are being supported in civil cases seeking compensation for torture and related violations they endured. IMLU was also involved in an inquest to determine the cause of a suspicious death of a male victim.

In a challenging and increasingly hostile environment for human rights work in 2024, IMLU had to place one staff member under protection after receiving credible threats. The staff member, who was actively following up on the cases of peaceful protestors arrested during the 2024 Gen Z Anti-finance Bill protests with the intention of processing bail and facilitating their release, was subjected to surveillance and being physically followed, indicating an active security threat to her safety and well being.

[10] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wMdnCx6eUc>

Engagement with the network of professionals and partners in holistic service provision enhanced.

IMLU engaged 70 (38M 32F) professionals in delivering holistic services provided in 2024. These professionals ranged from advocates, psychologists, pathologists, and medical doctors. To continuously retool and ensure our professionals are well equipped to offer services, 6 (3M 3F) counselors underwent trauma-focused therapy to enhance their ability to deliver quality counseling services to clients. Additionally, 10 (3M 7F) counselors underwent clinical supervision to address both their professional and mental health needs while supporting clients. A similar session was held for 30 female human rights defenders to strengthen their capacity and well-being. As a result of these interventions, we have received testimonials from clients that the healing process from the torture ordeals has been enhanced.



Join us for Training on Medical Documentation

Volunteer Doctors Virtual Training

Prof. Emily Rogena
Senior Pathologist

Isabella Obara
Advocate of the High Court

Date: 28 June, 2024 | Time: 7:30am - 9:00am

To join our team of volunteers, reach us toll free on 0800721401
Training Link: <https://meet.google.com/vax-urnnc-ajg> WWW.IMLU.ORG



FORENSIC MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION VIRTUAL TRAINING

Prof. Emily Rogena
Senior Pathologist

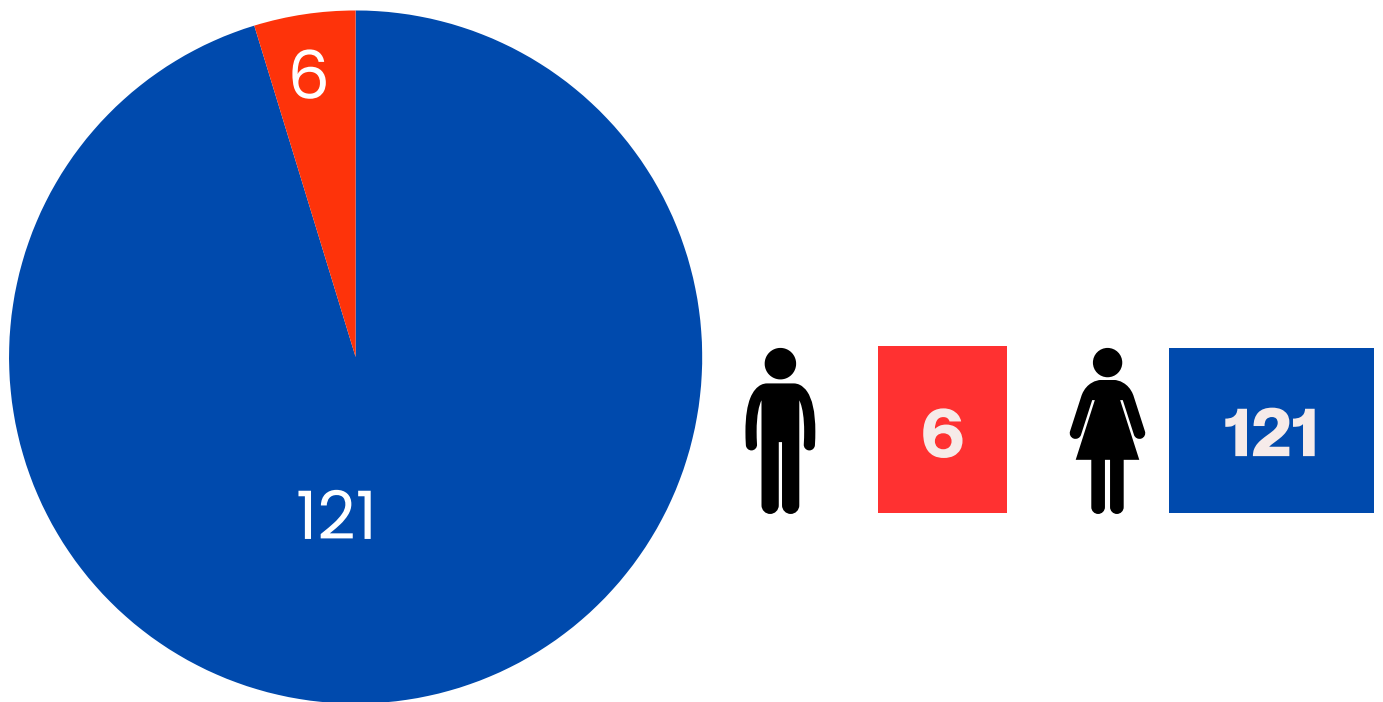
Dr. Ling Kituyi
IMLU Founder

1st July, 2024
7:30am - 9:00am

Register in advance for this training:
https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_ehiSAHIKSzqZEiTo9JmVCg www.imlu.org

Effective referrals and linkages to socio-economic empowerment opportunities for victims and survivors established

IMLU initiated a socio-economic empowerment program to support the full rehabilitation of survivors. In 2024, 127 survivors (121 female, 6 male) were trained in business and entrepreneurship. Following the training, the trainees developed business models in preparation for receiving business grants in 2025.



Pie chart showing clients in IMLU's Socio Economic Empowerment program in 2024

 MALE  FEMALE

Strategic Objective Three: A Centre of excellence in torture response and accountability

A diversified, and sustainable resource base achieved

IMLU extends its sincere gratitude to its development partners for their continued support in enabling the organization to deliver on its mandate during the period. Thanks to this support, IMLU was able to respond effectively to the increased number of survivors in need of medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance, ensuring timely and holistic care. Both IRCT and OMCT supported IMLU to engage with development partners in parts of Europe to piston itself.



IRCT Proposal
UN Women Proposal
UNVFT Proposal
Omega Foundation Proposal

The operational capacity of the secretariate enhanced

IMLU is governed by a Board of Directors, who provide oversight and direction. An advisory council made up of former Executive Directors and Board members in good standing provide advisory support to the board and secretariat. IMLU supported the training for the board to enable it to fulfil its fiduciary role.



Digital Security Training

To ensure the IMLU team is well-equipped to deliver on its mandate, two capacity-building training sessions were conducted. The first focused on procurement processes, enhancing efficiency, compliance, and transparency.

The second covered digital security, security management, and mental wellness, ensuring the protection of staff and organizational data while promoting overall well-being. A total of 19 (10F 9M) team members participated in these trainings.

Social media played a crucial role in the Kenyan Gen Z protests, acting as a primary tool for mobilization, coordination, and information dissemination. Platforms like Twitter, TikTok, and Facebook facilitated rapid updates, real-time communication, and the sharing of information about protest activities. This allowed young people to organize protests, counter misinformation, and even crowdfund for legal aid and transportation.



Moses Karis, Defend Defenders Senior Protection Officer and Wellbeing Lead, taking IMLU staff through a mental well-being session during the digital and security training.



Hillary Kahoza (right), Defend Defenders handing over ICT donations to IMLU's Technical Lead- ICT, Victor Alando



IMLU staff taken through procurement training session.

Monitoring, Evaluation Research and Learning

In 2024, Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) played a vital role in enhancing accountability and driving impact. A key achievement was the successful review and adoption of IMLU's Strategic Plan, 2022-2026 guided by research and stakeholder consultations to align with emerging trends and priorities. Through effective MERL practices, IMLU continues to generate data-driven insights to measure progress and refine survivor centered interventions. A little more on setting realistic goals and the development of the monitoring framework.



Mid Strategic plan review process- Naivasha

Improved internal and external communication for visibility

In 2024, the Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU) elevated its communication efforts, both internally and externally, achieving greater visibility for its vision, of a society free from torture and related violations. Through a comprehensive approach that combined media engagements, strategic partnerships, and innovative use of technology, IMLU successfully amplified its impact and established itself as a leading voice in human rights advocacy.

IMLU's media strategy played a pivotal role in disseminating its messages to diverse audiences. The organization issued 21 press statements addressing pressing human rights issues, including police brutality, harassment of journalists, and extrajudicial killings. These statements gained significant traction through national and international media outlets. Televised discussions and features on platforms like K24 TV, NTV's "Your World Breakfast Show," and Citizen TV's "Daybreak" showcased IMLU's thought leadership. Print and online media coverage, including articles in The Standard, The Star, and Daily Nation, highlighted key reports such as "Death, Blood, and Tears."

IMLU's digital presence grew exponentially in 2024, reflecting the organization's commitment to engaging a broader audience. Twitter activity garnered 39,200 impressions and 431 daily engagements in the first quarter alone. On Facebook, page visits surged by 125.7%, with a 68.8% increase in new followers. Audience reach grew to 3,600, content interactions rose by 76.8%, and link clicks increased by 440%. Special campaigns, such as the International Women's Day and Right to Truth Day initiatives, leveraged social media to amplify critical messages on torture and extrajudicial killings.

Further, Delayed Justice in Kenya: The King'ong'o Massacre Kin's Trek to Justice, an IMLU publication on the King'ong'o massacre case, was featured in Redress's Just Reparation August 2024 issue expanding IMLU's reach beyond Kenyan borders.

The collage consists of six promotional posters for various radio and television programs:

- Top Left:** A poster for a radio show featuring **GRACE WANGECHI**, Executive Director of the Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU). The show is titled "NANE NANE: HOW SAFE ARE PEACEFUL PROTESTERS?" and is part of "The Situation" radio program on Wednesday, 7th Aug 17AM.
- Top Middle:** A poster for the TV show "Your World" featuring **WINNIE LUBEMBE**. The topic is "PROTESTS IN KENYA, THE RIGHT TO PROTEST (ARTICLE 37 OF THE CONSTITUTION)". The show is on NTV at 8AM-9AM on Tuesday, 9th Apr. 2024.
- Top Right:** A poster for the TV show "KALAKALA" featuring **AMOS MATIRONG** (Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU)). The topic is "COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SGBV IN KENYA". The show is on Thursday, 5th Dec. 2024, from 5PM-6PM. Hosted by Deacon Shifalongo.
- Bottom Left:** A poster for the radio show "VUUKA VUCHEE" featuring **Fatuma Kuyeya**, Technical Lead Medical Rehabilitation, IMLU. The topic is "THE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF SGBV ON SURVIVORS". The show is on Monday, 25th November, from 9:00-10:00 AM.
- Bottom Middle:** A poster for a radio show featuring **MARTIN MAVENGIINA** (Senior Program Advisor, Transitional Justice at Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC)) and **VIVIAN MWENJE** (Head of Programs, Independent Medico-Legal Unit IMLU). The show is on Tuesday, 26th November, at 7AM, for International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.
- Bottom Right:** A poster for a radio show titled "LET'S TALK FEMICIDE AND GBV IN KENYA" featuring **TONY OKIRO** and **RUTH KAMAU**. The show is on Wednesday, 4th Dec, from 8AM-9AM, on 89.5 FM | GHETTORADIO.CO.KE.

Lessons Learnt

1

From engaging survivors at different levels, IMLU is now much more intentional on its survivor centered, trauma informed approach. Having listened to feedback from survivors during the mid term review of the SP, this is now a fundamental approach in place. IMLU now listens to and has survivors shaping and defining the programmatic interventions.

2

Strengthened institutionalization of our engagements with professionals. Moving forth, IMLU will engage more with registered bodies of professionals as we seek to enhance efficiency and manage transactional costs. The individuals in our network continue to play a pivotal role in our work.

3

There is need to establish a trauma center for rehabilitation of victims and survivors of torture. IMLU largely relies on partnerships with various medical institutions. Survivors have provided feedback on delayed attention to their needs, lack of consistency in provision of services as well as over reliance on external facilities. A defined trauma center would offer more skilled and timely support to survivors, victims and their families. IMLU is grateful to a former board member who has donated land that will host this centre.

4

Joint advocacy with like minded institutions is the way to demand accountability and safeguard the constitution. IMLU and its partners led in advocacy efforts that enhanced the protection and release of numerous persons held unlawfully, release of victims of enforced disappearance and has cases pending in court. Add to this statement.

5

Partnerships with our development partners should go beyond just finances. IMLU appreciates the great partnership with partners, according us platforms to engage, space to contributing in shaping international tools and instruments, resource mobilization opportunities and advocacy as well.

Conclusion

IMLU wishes to celebrate all survivors and victims' families who have not only been brave to demand for healing and justice, but continue to shape the conversations on prevention of torture and its accountability, as well as to strengthen the anti-torture movement. We thank our stakeholders and especially members of the Police Reforms Working Group (PRWG), Missing Voices Coalition (MVC), Prisons Reforms Working Group (PRWG), Civic Freedoms Forum (CFF), Coalition Against Sexual Violence (CASV), East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EACSO) and all other partners for your resilience in a period we witnessed not only surveillance on our work, but open threats and intimidation. IMLU is an active member of key regional and international human rights networks that enhance its advocacy and impact. Regionally, IMLU is a member of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) and the Pan African Reparations Initiative (PARI). Internationally, IMLU is affiliated with the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT). These partnerships strengthen IMLU's ability to advocate for accountability, share best practices, and engage in global efforts to prevent and respond to torture and related violations.

We thank our development partners for their unwavering support and continue to call upon you to open further doors for partnerships, learning, and growth.

As we move forth, in addition to the current interventions areas, our priorities as outlined in our strategic plan will include:

Priority Area	Explanation/ Justification
Alignment with the PBO Act and Social Enterprise	IMLU commits to developing and implementing a diversified fundraising strategy that incorporates digital platforms, income-generating initiatives, and social impact investments.
Socio-Economic Empowerment	To adequately ensure that survivors are fully rehabilitated, IMLU will map and support survivors with socio-economic empowerment (SEE) initiatives, negotiate MOUs with SEE providers, and institute formal pathways to support clients.
Survivor-centered Approach	IMLU will implement a Victim-Centered Rehabilitation approach, including participatory strategies to emphasize tailoring rehabilitation to the specific needs of a victim. IMLU will create safe spaces for survivors to share their and contribute to the project design and implementation.
Access to Holistic services (Medical, legal and psychological services)	Healing from torture demands concurrent medical treatment, psychosocial support and legal redress. IMLU will continue to design projects that promote healing and justice. IMLU combines rigorous research, strategic litigation, forensic documentation, and integrated medical/psychosocial services into a unified model. This "one-stop" medico-legal framework, grounded in data, ensures that survivors receive coordinated support while generating evidence to drive policy reforms.
Sexual and Gender based Violence	IMLU is intentional in supporting survivors of politically instigated Sexual Violence perpetrated by the state. IMLU will lead effective prevention and response to these cases through tailored legal remedies, rigorous forensic documentation, survivor-centered care, and sustained advocacy for accountability.

We take this opportunity to invite all of us to be part of our journey with special thanks to



For making this report possible



Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024

- 8 -

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31st December 2024

INCOME	Note	2024 Kshs	2023 Kshs
Donor Income	3	143,237,120	178,688,833
Other Income	4	6,634,048	4,050,475
		<u>149,871,168</u>	<u>182,739,308</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Programme coordination costs	5	45,344,665	46,022,433
Strategic objective 1- Effective accountability mechanisms to prevent torture and related violations operationalized.	6	50,042,969	24,679,090
Strategic objective 2 - Enhanced access to holistic and quality services for victims and survivors.	7	30,259,296	14,563,777
Strategic objective 3 - Center of excellence in torture.	8	11,263,858	6,984,515
Administrative personnel costs	9	8,047,260	7,972,535
Administrative costs	10	13,900,282	9,331,179
Total expenditure		<u>158,858,331</u>	<u>109,553,529</u>
FUND BALANCE FOR THE YEAR		<u>(8,987,163)</u>	<u>73,185,779</u>

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Statement of Financial Positionas at 31st December 2024

ASSETS	Note	2024 Kshs	2023 Kshs
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	11	4,276,798	3,806,344
Intangible assets	12	721,163	14,154
Total Non-current assets		<u>4,997,961</u>	<u>3,820,498</u>
Current assets			
Cash and bank balances	13	99,550,618	98,589,158
Accounts receivable and prepayments	14	1,114,051	5,501,344
Total current assets		<u>100,664,669</u>	<u>104,090,502</u>
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accruals	16	11,227,025	5,665,695
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>94,435,605</u>	<u>102,245,305</u>
Represented by:			
Fund balances			
Restricted funds	17	39,793,530	42,770,854
IMLU reserve		27,585,162	35,635,273
General fund		22,058,951	20,018,680
Capital fund		4,997,962	3,820,498
NET FUND BALANCES		<u>94,435,605</u>	<u>102,245,305</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 24 were approved by the Board of Directors on **March 20, 2025** and signed on its behalf by:-

Christine Kungu
(Chairperson)

Wangechi Grace Kahuria
(Secretary / Executive Director)

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Statement of Changes in Funds

for the year ended 31st December 2024

Fund movement	General Fund Kshs	IMLU Reserve Kshs	Capital Fund Kshs	Restricted Fund Kshs	Total Kshs
At 1 January 2023	15,764,085	10,661,739	4,606,219	(1,186,796)	29,845,247
Balance / (deficit) for the year	4,323,796	(8,499,794)	-	77,361,777	73,185,779
Fund transfers (note 17)	(69,201)	33,473,328	-	(33,404,127)	-
Assets addition	-	-	160,984	-	160,984
Assets disposed	-	-	(2,447)	-	(2,447)
Depreciation for the year	-	-	(944,258)	-	(944,258)
AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023	20,018,680	35,635,273	3,820,498	42,770,854	102,245,305
At 1 January 2024	20,018,680	35,635,273	3,820,498	42,770,854	102,245,305
Balance / (Deficit for the year)	2,040,271	(8,050,111)	-	(2,977,324)	(8,987,164)
Additions during the year	-	-	2,649,517	-	2,649,517
Assets disposed	-	-	(51,290)	-	(51,290)
Depreciation for the year	-	-	(1,420,763)	-	(1,420,763)
AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024	22,058,951	27,585,162	4,997,962	39,793,530	94,435,605

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Statement of Cash Flowsfor the year ended 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	Kshs	Kshs
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Fund balance	(8,987,163)	73,185,779
Adjustments for:		
Purchase of property and equipment	<u>2,649,517</u>	<u>160,984</u>
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
(Decrease)/Increase in accounts receivable	4,387,293	(4,736,734)
Increase/(Decrease) in payables and accruals	<u>5,561,330</u>	<u>(9,016,292)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>3,610,977</u>	<u>59,593,737</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property and equipment	<u>(2,649,517)</u>	<u>(160,984)</u>
Net cash flow used in Investing activities	<u>(2,649,517)</u>	<u>(160,984)</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	961,460	59,432,753
Balance at beginning of the year	<u>98,589,158</u>	<u>39,156,405</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR (Note 13)	<u>99,550,618</u>	<u>98,589,158</u>

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Notes to the financial Statementsfor the year ended 31st December 2024 .../(Contd)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	Kshs	Kshs
3.0 GRANT INCOME		
Embassy of the Kindom of the Netherlands	49,358,833	26,332,783
TFV	21,280,118	21,622,500
OSF	19,230,000	18,975,000
Diakonia (Swedish Embassy)	14,186,807	8,499,774
KIOS	10,241,613	10,883,925
IRCT	7,904,251	-
GIZ	6,600,152	-
Misereor	6,229,965	13,474,475
United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	5,674,500	5,320,000
Urgent Action Fund	1,741,959	-
Global Fokus	788,923	-
USAID / IGAPP	-	48,186,636
Sigrid Rausing Trust	-	20,552,117
Misereor Emergency	-	3,291,300
CFLI	-	1,550,323
	<u>143,237,120</u>	<u>178,688,833</u>
4.0 OTHER INCOME		
	Kshs	Kshs
Interest Income	6,173,495	3,309,655
Miscellaneous income	459,054	192,440
Sale of forensic manuals	1,500	2,500
Exchange gain	-	545,880
	<u>6,634,048</u>	<u>4,050,475</u>

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2024.../(Contd)

17. FUND BALANCE ANALYSIS

Project	Donor	Balance at 01-Jan-2023 Kshs	Additions Kshs	Deductions Kshs	Balance for the year Kshs	Fund adjustments Kshs	Balance at 31-Dec-2023 Kshs
Democracy, governance and human rights program Diakonia (Swedish Embassy) (2018-2021)		403,475	-	403,475	(403,475)	-	-
Diakonia 2023 - 2025	Diakonia (Swedish Embassy)	-	8,499,774	8,071,312	428,462	-	428,462
Build and strengthen police structures in Kenya	GIZ	18,331	-	-	-	-	18,331
Strengthening accountability for torture 2023-2026	The state of Netherlands (Netherlands Embassy)	-	26,332,783	5,409,551	20,923,232	-	20,923,232
Core funding application to support IMLU SP 2022: KIOS 2022-2025		(1,351,913)	10,883,925	6,506,447	4,377,478	-	3,025,565
2026 strategic plan outcomes	ICC/TFV	-	21,622,500	8,401,475	13,221,025	-	13,221,025
Torture funds for victims 2023-2024	UNVFVT	-	5,320,000	5,320,000	-	-	-
Torture rehabilitation project in Kenya	CFLI	(1,619,524)	1,550,323	-	1,550,323	69,201	-
Canada fund for local initiatives							
Kenya inclusive governance, accountability, IGAPP							
performance and participation (Kenya-IGAPP)							
Misereor	Misereor	1,302,548	48,186,636	16,015,856	32,170,780	(33,473,328)	-
Misereor emergency	Misereor	(3,005,631)	13,474,475	10,795,005	2,679,470	-	(326,161)
Misereor (2024 - 2026)	Misereor	-	3,291,300	3,291,300	-	-	-
Open society foundation	Misereor	-	-	820,873	(820,873)	-	(820,873)
Sigrid raising trust (2021 - 2024)	OSF	-	18,975,000	18,974,979	21	-	21
	SRT 2021 - 2024	3,065,918	20,552,117	17,316,783	3,235,334	-	6,301,252
Total restricted funds		(1,186,796)	178,688,833	101,327,056	77,361,777	(33,404,127)	42,770,854
Administration / unrestricted funds							
IMLU reserve		15,764,085	4,050,475	(273,321)	4,323,796	(69,201)	20,018,680
Capital fund		10,661,739	-	8,499,794	(8,499,794)	33,473,328	35,635,273
		4,606,219	146,425	932,146	(785,721)	-	3,820,498
Total funds (page 9)		29,845,247	182,885,733	110,485,675	72,400,058	-	102,245,305

INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT

Notes to the financial Statements

for the year ended 31st December 2024... (Contd)

Project	Donor	Donor Code	Balance at 12/31/2023 Kshs	Additions		Deductions		Balance for the year		Fund Kshs	Balance for the year Kshs
				Kshs	Kshs	Kshs	Kshs				
Democracy, governance and human rights program (2018-2021)	Diakonia (Swedish Embassy)	DIAK 2018 - 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diakonia 2023 - 2025	Diakonia (Swedish Embassy)	DIAK 2023 - 2025	428,462	14,186,807	14,017,445	169,361	-	597,823	-	-	597,823
Build and strengthen police structures in Kenya	GIZ	GIZ	18,331	-	-	-	(18,331)	-	-	-	-
Strengthening accountability for torture 2023-2026	The state of Netherlands (Netherlands Embassy)	NIETH 2023 - 2026	20,923,232	49,358,833	41,191,164	8,167,669	-	29,090,901	-	-	29,090,901
Core funding application to support DMLU SP 2022.											
2026 strategic plan outcomes	KIOS 2022-2025	KIOS 2022 - 2025	3,025,565	10,241,613	11,857,605	(1,615,992)	-	1,409,573	-	-	1,409,573
Torture funds for victims 2023-2024	ICC/TFV	TFV 2023 - 2024	13,221,025	21,280,118	24,262,171	(2,982,054)	-	10,238,971	-	-	10,238,971
Torture rehabilitation project in Kenya	UNVFVT	UNVFVT 2024	-	5,674,500	5,674,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kenya inclusive governance, accountability, performance and participation (Kenya-IGAPP)	IGAPP	IGAPP	-	(320,946)	-	(320,946)	-	(320,946)	-	-	(320,946)
Miseror	Miseror	MISEROR 2021-24	(326,161)	338,450	-	338,450	(12,289)	-	-	-	-
Miseror emergency	Miseror	Miseror	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miseror (2024 - 2026)	Miseror	MISEROR 2024 - 2026	(820,873)	5,891,515	16,727,851	(10,836,336)	12,289	(11,644,920)	-	-	(11,644,920)
Open society foundation	OSF	OSF 2024 - 2025	21	19,230,000	6,206,490	13,023,510	-	13,023,531	-	-	13,023,531
Sigrid raising trust (2021 - 2024)	SRT 2021 - 2024	SRT 2021 - 2024	6,301,252	-	6,301,252	-	-	(0)	-	-	(0)
	DEFEND DEFENDERS	DEFEND DEFENDERS	-	160,080	160,080	-	-	-	-	-	-
	IRCT REHABILITATION	IRCT REHABILITATION	-	1,939,938	2,589,214	(649,276)	-	(649,276)	-	-	(649,276)
	IRCT LIVELIHOOD	IRCT LIVELIHOOD	-	2,152,500	1,354,606	797,894	-	797,894	-	-	797,894
	IRCT POM	IRCT POM	-	918,400	287,030	631,371	-	631,371	-	-	631,371
	IRCT HOLISTIC	IRCT HOLISTIC	-	721,805	721,805	-	-	-	-	-	-
	IRCT - SURVIVOR	IRCT - SURVIVOR	-	2,171,608	2,171,608	-	-	-	-	-	-
	GIZ 2024 - 2025	GIZ 2024 - 2025	-	6,600,152	9,999,874	(3,399,722)	18,331	(3,381,391)	-	-	(3,381,391)
	GLOBAL FOCUS	GLOBAL FOCUS	-	788,923	788,923	-	-	-	-	-	-
	URGENT ACTION FUND	URGENT ACTION FUND	-	1,741,959	1,741,959	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Restricted funds			42,770,854	143,076,253	146,053,577	(2,977,324)	-	39,793,530	-	-	39,793,530
Administration / Unrestricted funds	ADMIN	ADMIN	20,018,680	6,794,914	4,754,644	2,040,271	-	22,058,951	-	-	22,058,951
DMLU reserve	DMLU RESERVES	DMLU RESERVES	35,635,273	-	8,050,111	(8,050,111)	-	27,585,162	-	-	27,585,162
Capital fund	CAPFUND	CAPFUND	3,820,498	2,649,517	1,472,053	1,177,464	-	4,997,962	-	-	4,997,962
Total funds (page 9)			102,245,305	152,520,684	160,330,384	(7,809,700)	-	94,435,605	-	-	94,435,605

The Secretariate

The Board of Management

Board Member	Position	Skill/Experience
Christine Kungu	Board Chair	Advocate of the High Court
Shadrack Kirui	Board Vice Chair	HR Professional
Dr. Ahmed Kalebi	Board Member	Forensic Expert
Amina Hersi	Board Member	Gender Expert
Regina Opondo	Board Member	Human rights and Governance Expert
Antony Wamatu	Board Member	CPA Finance
George Morara	Board Member	Development Expert
AbdulKadir Noor Mohamed	Board Member	Development Expert
Evelyn Muriuki	Board Member	CPA Finance



IMLU

2024



69 Mokoyeti West Road, Off Lang'ata Road, Near Galleria
Shopping Mall, Karen Estate, P.O. Box 16035 - 00509,
Nairobi, Kenya.

Tel: +254724256800

Email: medico@imlu.org

www.imlu.org