

National Institution for Human Rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain: Human Rights Education Program

National Institution for Human Rights

HIS MAJESTY THE KING established the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) on 10 November 2009 by Royal Order No. 46 of 2009, and granted it mandates and powers in line with the Paris Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (United Nations General Assembly Resolution 48/134, 1993).

Further independence for the NIHR was sought and four years later, the Council of Representatives and the *Shura* Council endorsed Law No. 26 of 2014 establishing the National Institution for Human Rights, which was issued by His Majesty the King.

Based on the observations of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and to ensure the introduction of a model law that is an outstanding addition to the status of human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain, His Majesty the King issued Decree Law No. 20 of 2016, to amend the previous law of 2014.

NIHR is a permanent and effective member of GANHRI, and the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF). NIHR can participate actively in the Human Rights Council sessions, and treaty body meetings, Special Procedures, Sub-committees and Working Groups, and acts as an independent institution that aims to promote and protect human rights.

In order to achieve its goals and desired results for the protection and development of human rights, the NIHR has defined the scope of its work and terms of reference as follows:

- Participate in the formulation and implementation of a national plan for the promotion and protection of human rights;
- Study human rights legislation, recommend amendments or propose the enactment of new legislation, and ensure compatibility of the laws with regional and international treaties;

- Submit an annual report on progress in the human rights situation, the efforts of the NIHR and its activities, and the submission of parallel reports;
- Receive and examine human rights complaints, refer them to the competent authorities, clarify the relevant procedures and monitor violations of human rights;
- Conduct announced and unannounced field visits, and monitor the human rights situation in correction facilities and detention centers;
- Cooperate with national bodies, regional and international organizations, as well as relevant institutions in other countries that work for the promotion and protection of human rights; and hold meetings and joint activities, cooperate, coordinate and consult with civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and human rights defenders; and
- Host conferences and organize training and educational events, and issue newsletters, printed materials, statistical and special reports.

NIHR Strategies and Action Plans

NIHR Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2018):

This NIHR adopted the Strategy and Action Plan (2015-2018) (Strategy) that represented the goals envisaged by His Majesty the King's initiative under Law No. 26 of 2014. The Strategy has five main themes:

1. Engagement in human rights protection efforts;
2. Promotion of efforts toward legislative development and review;
3. Participation in the preparation of an extensive national program for human rights education;
4. Preparation of a specialized program to promote citizenship rights and support its values; and
5. Reinforcement of cooperation at the national, regional, and international levels.

NIHR Strategy and Action Plan (2019-2021):

For the following years, NIHR adopted its Strategy 2019-2021 which is based upon the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance

with the international human rights principles, frameworks and best practices. It focuses on the following four main strategic goals:

1. Environmental Impact on Human Rights;
2. Human Rights for Sustained Economic Development;
3. The Right to Equal Opportunities; and
4. Promotion of Human Rights Principles in Civil Society and Business.

Overview of the Role of the NIHR

The provisions of Law No. 26 of 2014 establishing the NIHR, amended by Decree-law No. 20 of 2016, emphasize its role in the field of human rights promotion. Article No. 12 affirms a constellation of jurisdictions of the NIHR for purposes of achieving its goals in this field, including participation in laying down and implementing a national plan for promoting human rights at the level of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and studying the existing legislations and regulations related to human rights and to recommend the amendments it deems appropriate, especially those related to the harmony of those legislations with the international human rights commitments of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and to recommend enacting new legislations related to human rights.

The law provides the NIHR the authority to discuss the harmonization of laws and organizational stipulations with the regional and international conventions concerned with human rights issues, including the recommendation to accede to concerned regional and international conventions, to present parallel reports, to contribute to formulating and discussing the reports which the Kingdom of Bahrain undertakes to submit regularly and to express observations on them, in compliance with regional and international conventions particular to human rights, to spread them in the media, and to cooperate with national bodies and regional and international organizations and the relevant institutions in other countries concerned with promoting human rights.

Moreover, those provisions entrusted the NIHR to hold conferences, to organize educational and training seminars and courses in the field of human rights, to conduct research and studies in this regard, and to participate in local and international forums and in the meetings of regional and inter-

national organizations, in addition to issuing bulletins, printed materials, statements and special reports and to post them in its website.

In conformity with the law, the NIHR played an active role in the field of promoting human rights by publishing a number of educational bulletins and printed materials related to human rights, the holding of a number of seminars and lectures, and the signing of a number of Memorandums of Understanding with various civil society organizations and concerned regional parties. It also played an effective tool in the field of legislative review in cooperation with the Council of Representatives and the Shura Council, in addition to its regional and international participation in numerous seminars, workshops, training courses and conferences connected to its activities.

Concerning international human rights conventions, the Kingdom of Bahrain ratified and acceded to seven basic international conventions related to human rights out of a total of nine basic international instruments: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in accordance with Law No. 56 of 2006, and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in accordance with Law No. 10 of 2007, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in accordance with Decree No. 8 of 1990, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in accordance with Decree-Law No. 5 of 2002.

Moreover, the Kingdom of Bahrain acceded to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in accordance with the Decree-Law No. 4 of 1998, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in accordance with the Decree-Law No. 16 of 1991, and finally the Kingdom of Bahrain ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in accordance with Law No. 22 of 2011. The Kingdom of Bahrain has not ratified or acceded to date to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 18 December 1990, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which was adopted by the UNGA on 20 December 2006.

While acceding to or ratifying the basic human rights international conventions requires the signatory states to submit as an obligation tentative or regular reports to the treaty bodies in the United Nations which are respon-

sible for monitoring the extent of the progress achieved by those states in implementing their obligations, the Kingdom of Bahrain has fulfilled its obligations in submitting its preliminary report concerning the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the regular reports concerning Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Within the framework of the NIHR building bridges of cooperation with academic quarters operating in the human rights field, it signed two memorandums of understanding with the Royal Police Academy and the Human Rights Institute of Lyon in France for future cooperation in the human rights field.

Regarding partnership with concerned local, regional and international quarters, the NIHR has held consultative activities with a number of ambassadors and diplomats accredited in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and also with the international organizations and bodies concerned with human rights affairs, in addition to a set of regional and international experts operating in the human rights field. They discussed a number of topics, most prominently, the establishment of the NIHR, its legal framework, and its role in promoting and protecting human rights, in addition to the role of those institutions and their activities related to human rights, the means for bolstering joint support and cooperation between the two parties, and the readiness of the NIHR to offer its experience in the field of training in human rights cases and building the capacity of the affiliates and personnel of those institutions regarding the various international human rights conventions and the obligations of the Kingdom of Bahrain under them, and the international mechanisms related to the UN Human Rights Council.

The NIHR participated in the meetings of the GANHRI and the regional meetings of the Asia Pacific Forum (APF) in Geneva, Switzerland.

Statements and Publications

NIHR Statements¹

NIHR participated in international events related to promoting human rights in the society. It issued in 2017 a number of statements on different occasions, such as: International Women's Day, Arab Human Rights Day, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, World Health Day, World Press Freedom Day, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day,

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, and International Day of Peace.

During 2018, thirteen statements were issued on these and other occasions (International Workers' Day, World Day against Trafficking in Persons, International Day of Democracy, International Day of Older Persons, International Day of the Girl Child, Human Rights Day, Universal Children's Day and Bahraini Women's Day).

NIHR Publications²

As to the publication of printed materials, the NIHR printed a number of international and regional documents in Arabic and English languages related to human rights, such as the Paris Principles related to the National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Universal



NIHR print publications.

Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the two Annexed Protocols, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Arab Charter on Human Rights (ACHR), Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam (CDHRI), and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

NIHR published a colouring book concerned with child rights, which was distinguished by its addressing children about their rights in a simple language and beautiful drawings, in both English and Arabic languages.



Coloring books on child rights.

NIHR also published a flyer for children to promote the articles in the UDHR.



Flyers for children.

NIHR also published a leaflet about its role and the procedures for receiving complaints in six different languages: Arabic, English, Filipino, Hindi, Malayalam and Thai. NIHR also distributed bookmarks to spread awareness on its role in protecting and promoting human rights in the society.



NIHR leaflet about its role and the procedures for receiving complaints in six different languages.

NIHR published four books under the human rights cultural series publications, where the first book entitled *Rights of the Worker in light of the Bahraini Labour Code*, the *International and Arab Labour Standards and Human Rights*, with five chapters addressing the right to work, the financial and non-financial rights of the worker, the rights of the worker after the expiry of the employment contract and the guarantees for securing these rights. The second book was entitled *Human Rights in the Code of Criminal Procedure*, with eleven chapters dealing with the human right to dignity, non-restriction of freedom, the sanctity of private life, and the right of the accused to be tried before a neutral judge, and the right of the accused to exercise the rights to defence, presumption of innocence, and the right to a fair and full trial, the right to appeal decisions, and the right of the accused to raise the invalidity of the illegitimate criminal procedures and for the court to preclude illegitimate evidence, in addition to the right of the accused to abatement of criminal proceedings and the punishment by virtue of prescription.

The third book was entitled *The National Institution for Human Rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain*, with three chapters regarding the human rights “concept and frameworks” and the national institutions for human rights, and the National Institution in the Kingdom of Bahrain in terms of establishment, formation, duties, powers and independence, in addition to the mechanism for receiving complaints, monitoring, national and international cooperation in the field of human rights, the action plan and future horizons.

The fourth book on Human Rights Culture Series entitled *Legal Protection for Persons with Disabilities between Reality and Hope* was published. It focuses on the idea of underlining the need to empower people with disabilities to achieve comprehensive and fair sustainable development, noting that the empowerment of people with special needs is an integral part in the Economic Vision of Bahrain, 2030.

Human Rights Reporting

The NIHR has submitted parallel reports to United Nations treaty bodies such as the Committee Against Torture (CAT), Human Rights Committee (CCPR), Committee on the Right of the Child (CRC), and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In the same context, and by virtue of the interaction of the NIHR with the regional mechanisms in the field of promoting and protecting human rights, it submitted its parallel report to the Charter Committee concerning the first regular report of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the progress achieved in applying the provisions of the Arab Charter on Human Rights (ACHR), ratified by Law No. 7 of 2006. The NIHR prepared its parallel report in accordance with the methodology adopted by the Charter Committee regarding the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights covered in the ACHR, with a view to presenting a number of recommendations it deems suitable for improving the respect for human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

NIHR Activities³

As an expression of interaction between the NIHR and the various segments of society, it undertook a number of field visits to the local communities with a view to presenting an overview of what it does and the services it offers in the field of protecting and promoting human rights. The most prominent places visited were: King Hamad University Hospital, Salmaniya Medical Complex, Psychiatric Hospital, Al-Jazeera Cultural Center, Faculty of Law in the Royal University for Women (RUW), UCO Parents Care Center.

The NIHR received on 4 February 2018 in its Training Center in Seef District the first batch of students under its cooperation program with the College of Law in the Royal University for Women (RUW) based on their Memorandum of Understanding on human rights. This is in line with the NIHR's role in disseminating and promoting a culture of awareness of the respect for human rights among members of the society.

The event was inaugurated by the Secretary-General of the NIHR who, in wishing all the students success, stressed the importance of the program in helping increase the legal and human rights skills necessary to engage in the labor market and respond to its requirements, with a view to achieving the goal of contributing to serving the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The program features the participation of a number of specialist cadres from the staff of the NIHR and continues for a full semester, three days a week. It was attended by a number of students selected by the College of Law in the university.

This event falls within the mandate of the NIHR in the area of promotion and dissemination of human rights through lectures, other educational ac-

tivities and training courses for all segments of society, especially university students, on subjects related to human rights.



Visit of RUW student to the NIHR headquarters.

With a view to enriching the academic and intellectual understanding of human rights among the public, the NIHR held a seminar on “Human Rights and the Environment,” which aimed to spread and instil the principles of the culture of environmental right in institutional and social practices, develop awareness and devote care to the right to the environment, and ensure the safeguarding of this right from any faulty practices. The seminar took up the topics on the legal, administrative and judicial mechanisms for protecting the environment, and the social responsibility of promoting the culture of environmental protection. This seminar was characterized by the wide



Seminar on “Human Rights and the Environment.”

participation of the representatives of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of State, civil society organizations, and a number of people interested in environmental issues.

In conformity with its strategy and action plan in spreading the culture of human rights in line with the best international practices, the NIHR has through SMS and social media⁴ implemented an awareness-raising campaign aiming to foster the culture of awareness of the rights of domestic workers in accordance with national laws and relevant international and regional instruments and conventions.



Domestic workers awareness campaign.

With a view to promoting and developing the culture of human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain for the various segments of society, both public and civil, the NIHR participated in the fifth season of the Al-Basta Market event in the Bahrain International Circuit where a variety of its human rights publications were distributed, in addition to a coloring book on child rights which was distinctively addressing children about their rights in simple language and beautiful drawings. It should be mentioned that the pavilion of the NIHR had a big number of visitors - citizens and members of various communities residing in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



The National Institution hosted students of the Royal Academy of Police (RAP) during its summer camp.

Moreover, the NIHR, in striving to convert knowledge of human rights into practical skills, held a training program for students of the ninth summer youth camp to prepare them for the future. They were students of the Royal Police Academy who received human rights training on various topics (the right to life, the right to health care, and the right to care of the disabled child) and voluntary work. In addition, the NIHR held a lecture on “International Humanitarian Law” for the law students of the Applied Science University.

In this connection, the NIHR contributed effectively to the “the legal human rights clinic in the University of Bahrain,” a practical training pro-



University of Bahrain Legal Human Rights Clinic.

gram for the Faculty of Law students. The NIHR held workshops and visual presentations for fifteen weeks on its role in promoting human rights and on protecting human rights by discussing the mechanism for receiving complaints and related procedures, legal assistance and consultation service and the processes of monitoring human rights violations.

In line with its role in the dissemination and promotion of the culture of human rights among different groups of society, the NIHR organized an introductory lecture on “NIHR’s Role in Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Bahrain” for students of Human Rights Diploma (5th batch) and students of Social Service Diploma in Security Institutions (2nd batch), in partnership with the Royal Academy of Police (RAP).

In the same context, and emanating from its relationship with the civil society which is considered a fundamental partner in promoting, protecting and enhancing human rights, the NIHR organized in cooperation with the Embassy of the Netherlands a training program targeting civil society organizations in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The program aimed to enhance and



Training for the 5th batch of students of the Human Rights Diploma and students of Social Service Diploma in Security Institutions, Royal Academy of Police.



NIHR event with Civil Societies.

develop the capacities of civil society organizations in the field of human rights and to convey to them the culture and way of life supporting human rights. Three hundred and eighty individuals from civil society organizations and affiliates participated in the program.

Actually, the training program tackled a number of topics related to raising the awareness and capacities of those affiliated to civil society organizations regarding their role in protecting and promoting human rights. The topics include the international and regional mechanisms for promoting and protecting human rights, civil society organizations and their role in promoting and protecting human rights, the rules in exercising freedom

of opinion and expression, methodology in preparing parallel legal reports, and monitoring and documentation in the field of human rights.

Moreover, the NIHR devoted attention to the training of the youth sector, by organizing an intensive program for the youth in cooperation with the Embassy of Netherlands under the heading: “Youth Leadership for Peace and Human Rights.” The program addressed topics related to peace and human rights, and most importantly: human rights and good governance, the process of peace building, and advocacy campaigns. Around fifteen youth availed of this program including those affiliated to youth associations and university students.

Moreover, the NIHR was keen on building the capacity of its staff by participating in a number of workshops and local training courses, including a training course on the rights and duties of an employee in Bahraini legislation, a training course on the analysis and interpretation skills to produce synergy between national legislations and international human rights standards, a training course on the international, regional and national mechanisms for promoting and protecting human rights, a training course on monitoring and documenting in the field of human rights, a training course in international humanitarian law, and a workshop elucidating the mechanism on legislative proposal project of the government sector.

The NIHR held a workshop in cooperation with the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office under the title “Fair Trial Guarantees.” The workshop addressed a number of subjects including the international system and its mechanisms for protecting human rights, fair trial guarantees in accordance with the international standards, regional and international agreements on fair trial guarantees and pre- and post-trial rights.

NIHR conducted a training program for the National Security staff from January to September 2018, including a series of workshops, training courses and integrated awareness lectures regarding national human rights mechanisms, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and its Optional Protocol, as well as a review of the international treaty mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

On the occasion of the World Down Syndrome Day, which falls on the 21st of March every year, the NIHR organized a roundtable on the reality surrounding people with Down syndrome in the Kingdom of Bahrain, attended by a number of Excellency members of the Council of Representatives and

Shura Council and civil society representatives, as well as parents of people with Down syndrome to discuss the challenges faced by people with Down syndrome and their enjoyment of various rights and public freedoms.

The NIHR organized a workshop on “the Rights of People living with HIV/AIDS” in the Kingdom of Bahrain with the aim of identifying the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, providing them the means to obtain legal protection, seeking to eliminate all forms of discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS, illustrating some of the misconceptions on the disease, raising legal awareness of the disease and enlightening the members of the society about the danger of HIV/AIDS and ways of its transmission.

The NIHR’s Secretariat-General, in cooperation with the Professional Standards Bureau of the National Security Agency (NSA), held a seminar on the Code of Conduct of NSA personnel promulgated under Resolution No. 31 of 2012. The seminar, presided by the Professional Standards Bureau of the NSA, discussed the doctrine of the NSA that is based on providing security and safety throughout the country, while protecting the rights and freedoms safeguarded by the Constitution and the laws.

The lecturer emphasized that the Professional Standards Bureau of the NSA was established under Decree No. 28 of 2012 to supervise the objectives of the NSA based upon the respect for public rights and freedoms, and stressed the duty of NSA personnel to perform their work in a manner that does not violate the provisions of the Constitution, the laws and the International Bill of Human Rights.

The NIHR organized a capacity-building training course on human rights monitoring and documentation covering a number of important themes on human rights monitoring and documentation mechanism, the experiences of the participating institutions on human rights monitoring and documentation, and the general concepts of monitoring economic and social rights, correctional institutions, detention centers, child rights and the election process.

The program had two stages; the first stage was the online course. The participants who obtained 70 percent and above grade were promoted to attend the two-day training (second stage). The program was attended by a number of staff members of the Ombudsman, Prisoners and Detainees Rights Committee (PDRC) and the NIHR’s Secretary General staff. This training course is in line with the Memorandum of Understanding between the

NIHR and the APF, which aims to implement capacity-building programs and train human rights facilitators.

The NIHR participated in the 10th edition of the annual Bahrain Summer Festival (July 2018), one of the most anticipated events in the Kingdom of Bahrain due to its multi-cultural programs. The festival runs for two consecutive months and offers a variety of activities and workshops, especially for



Child rights awareness lectures in Bahrain Summer Festival, July 2018.

children. The NIHR held a series of awareness lectures on child rights contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in which more than four hundred children of different ages and their families participated. Gifts and coloring books on child rights were distributed to the children, which encouraged them to understand their rights through drawings and basic language, combining education and entertainment.

In April 2018, NIHR launched the second edition of “My Rights” program. My Rights 2 program was organized by the NIHR in partnership with Bahrain Institute for Political Development (BIPD), Judicial and Legal



(Top) NIHR at “My Rights 2” program, 11 July 2018. (Bottom) NIHR lecture entitled “Human Rights and Sustainable Development”, 9 August 2018

The NIHR organized a roundtable entitled “The Reality of People with Autism Spectrum in Bahrain” that was attended by a number of Their Excellency members of the Council of Representatives, the *Shura* Council, representatives of relevant government agencies, civil society organizations and a number of parents of persons with autism, in order to discuss some of the challenges that people with autism may face and their enjoyment of various rights and public freedoms.

The event highlighted the suffering of young and old people with autism, and mostly focused on the needs of this group, the main challenges they faced and how to integrate them into society since the main problem of this group lies in the community’s awareness of their situation.



NIHR event on “The Rights of the Girl Child,” 11 October 2018.

On the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC), the NIHR, in partnership with Shaikha Hessa Girls School, organized an awareness lecture entitled “The Rights of the Girl Child” for the girl students of primary school, in order to strengthen their culture on the rights of the girl child and the most important rights of the girls in general and children in particular. In the same context, the NIHR organized a session about the rights of children for the students of the same school during the celebration of the Universal Children’s Day.

The NIHR organized a training course entitled “Analysis and Interpretation Skills for Harmonizing National Legislation with International Human Rights Standards.” The workshop was attended by a number of law enforcement officials, public sector employees, post-graduate students, human rights defenders and human rights activists.

Within the scope of its role in disseminating the culture of human rights and raising awareness of residents on their rights and duties, the NIHR organized awareness lectures on its competences and mechanism for submitting complaints for members of the Nepalese community, Sudanese Club in the Kingdom of Bahrain and The Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam, and Filipino residents in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The lecture for the Filipinos was held at the Philippine Embassy.

Coinciding with Bahrain's celebration of Bahraini Women's Day, the NIHR in cooperation with the Supreme Council for Women organized an awareness lecture on "The History of Bahraini Women in the Legislative Field and Municipal Work." The lecture, attended by the staff of the NIHR's Secretariat-General, dealt with a number of essential themes in Bahraini women's march as well as the most important articles of the Constitution of Bahrain and the National Action Charter on the Rights of Bahraini women, the establishment of the Supreme Council for Women and its role in supporting women, and the role of women in the Government Action Program 2015 - 2018.

Also coinciding with the International Day of Disabled Persons, 3 December every year, the NIHR launched a book on "Legal Protection for Persons with Disabilities between Reality and Hope," which is one of the publications in the Human Rights Culture series. The book was written by Salah Mohammed Diab, PhD, Associate Professor of Civil Law, Faculty of Law.

The NIHR hosted a meeting with the Masters students of Criminal and Police Sciences, Administrative and Security Sciences and Crisis Management organized by the Royal Academy of Police, in order to inform its academic staff about the work and services of the NIHR in the promotion



NIHR event organized for Master's students at the Royal Academy of Police, 4-5 December 2018.

and protection of human rights, with a view to providing participants with practical skills in this area.

The NIHR participated in the 25th edition of Al Ayam Cultural Fair 2018 by distributing its publications to the public. This exhibition has an important role in enriching peoples' consciousness and thought because of the variety of participating publishing houses from Arab and other countries.

Statistics on NIHR Activities

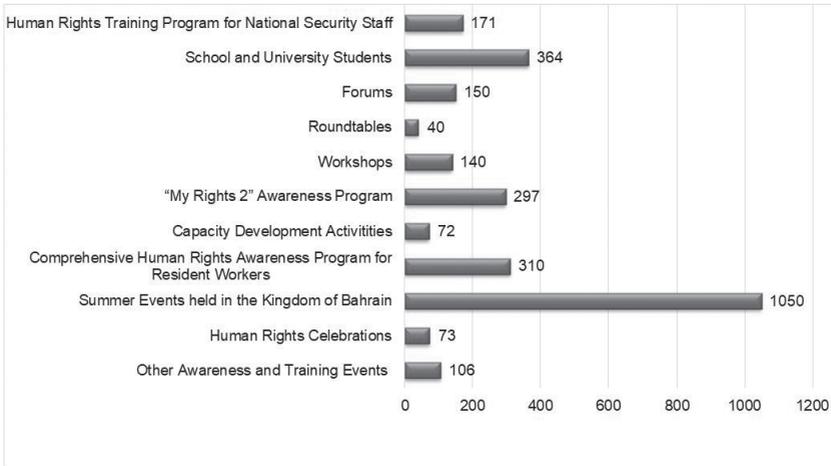
The following table and charts show the number of activities held and their participants in 2017 and 2018.

Table 1. Training events, programs and beneficiaries - 2017 and 2018

Number	Subject	Number/Percentage	
		2017	2018
1	Number of Events	56	49
2	Number of Participants	1,218	2,773

Chart 1. Training events, programs and beneficiaries - 2017



Chart 2. Training events, programs and beneficiaries - 2018.

Conclusion

As stated above, the main role of the NIHR in Bahrain is to promote and protect human rights. This is in addition to its work of striving to consolidate the relevant values and awareness of human rights, and ensuring that these values are practiced freely and independently, in line with the Paris Principles which form the legal reference of its establishment.

NIHR believes that training and education are the main gateways for the promotion of the culture of human rights for all groups in society. Therefore, it will continue to put this mandate in its priority list in the coming years to reach its vision of turning human rights culture as a lifestyle for all.

Endnotes

- 1 See NIHR website, www.nihr.org.bh/en/About/Statement.
- 2 See NIHR website, www.nihr.org.bh/EN/eLibrary?type=2.
- 3 See NIHR website, www.nihr.org.bh/EN/News.
- 4 See NIHR twitter account, <https://twitter.com/nihrbh>; www.instagram.com/nihrbh/.