



# Annual Report on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights 2023

April 2024

# Annual Report on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights – January to December 2023

This report describes bp's<sup>1</sup> implementation of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (the 'Voluntary Principles' or 'VP') during 2023. The structure and the reporting points that follow correspond with the **Voluntary Principles Reporting Guidelines**.

## Introduction

In 2023 we continued implementing the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VP) with the aim of ensuring our business is conducted in a manner that respects the rights and dignity of all people in and around our operations, as set out in our **human rights policy**. The implementation helps us identify and address local conflict and security and human right risks and escalate them as appropriate.

We made progress on our actions related to delivery of our 2025 targets and 2030 aims for responsible security. We provided updates on our progress and our performance against our objectives in the **bp Sustainability Report 2023**.

Consistent with the priorities for 2023 set out in our 2022 Annual Report on the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, we used our improved security risk assessment tool to carry out more than 230 assessments. As a result of these assessments, we identified security and human rights risks at around 30 locations that we operate and put in place relevant measures to prevent or mitigate them.

We have amended our security and human rights impact and risk assessment process to cover conflict analysis, using components of the Voluntary Principles Initiative (VPI) guidelines.

During 2023 we conducted security and human rights-related training for more than 550 security personnel, including more than 40 public security force representatives, in countries with heightened human rights risks.

The following section summarizes the implementation activities in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Indonesia, Oman, and Türkiye.

## Country implementation

### Azerbaijan

bp's private security contractor continues to employ a training supervisor to provide VP training. During 2023 they delivered VP training for 262 employees. Two of these employees were new hires and 260 were going through the annual refresher training.

The State Agency for Protection of Strategic Facilities (SAPSF), which is a public security force assigned to provide security for bp-operated terminal and pipelines, currently employs 76 training officers, trained and certified by Equity International, to conduct training including on security and human rights. In 2023 all newly recruited officers have completed introductory VP training, and all current officers completed refresher courses containing a separate VP module.

During 2023 85 community awareness meetings were conducted with the communities and landowners around bp operated facilities and pipelines, enabling communities to raise questions and concerns, including on topics related to security. During these meetings, communities are made aware of all policies and procedures, as well as means to communicate and raise concerns,

including a bp-maintained 'hot line' available to communities along the export pipelines. In addition, posters describing the grievance processes in local languages are placed in various locations along the pipelines and at other facilities.

In 2023 80 reports were received on the hot line however, none of them were related to violations of human rights connected with security activities.

An annual joint security exercise with the public security forces was conducted in 2023. This included the prevention of unauthorized entry into the operational premises with the emphasis on compliance with the voluntary principles.

### Georgia

bp Georgia has an assigned employee responsible for the implementation of the VPs locally. The formal VP implementation plan is updated, and bi-annual audits of private security contractors are conducted to check conformance with the implementation guidelines. As planned, two audits were carried out in 2023, with appropriate recommendations and actions captured and addressed. In 2023 18 newly hired private security staff assigned to bp-operated facilities completed the training course which includes the VP module.

<sup>1</sup> BP p.l.c. and its subsidiaries are separate legal entities. References to "bp", "we" or "our" and similar terms are to BP p.l.c. and its subsidiaries generally, to one or more of them, or to those who work for them.

bp Georgia employs community liaison officers who are in frequent contact with local communities around bp operated facilities. They conduct regular meetings with communities and communicate how to escalate their concerns. Posters in the local language with relevant contact details are placed along the right of way of pipelines and at other facilities. During 2023 nine different complaints were registered by the community liaison officers. None of them were related to violations of human rights connected with security activities.

As part of the agreement with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, bp monitors the public security grant expenditure, assigned to the protection of bp operated pipelines, to ensure that the funds are spent for the intended purpose. In 2023 bp reviewed the spend for 2022 and verified that all expenses were used by the Strategic Pipeline Protection department according to the terms of the agreement and in line with bp's VP implementation guidelines.

### Indonesia

In 2023 community and security related issues in Tangguh remained challenging due to the impacts of the changing socio-security landscape surrounding Tangguh site. To help ensure the socio-security issues and incidents are properly addressed and managed in compliance with bp Tangguh's VP commitments, the Tangguh security team has tasked a group of personnel with VP implementation. They are responsible for providing VP awareness and training to private security guards and the Police Quick Response Force (QRF) deployed in Tangguh. The QRF, consisting of Papua Barat Regional Police (Polda Papua Barat) personnel, is assigned to protect the Tangguh

liquefied natural gas (LNG) project. In 2023 bp Tangguh delivered refreshed VP training for 115 private security officers – over 60% of our deployed private security officers. Meanwhile, bp Tangguh also rolled out refreshed VP training for more than 40 QRF officers.

Since 2018 the deployment of QRF has been continuously assessed and reviewed. bp Tangguh periodically assesses the unintended consequences of QRF deployment at site i.e. socio-reputational, compliance and conformance, and adherence to the VPs. The QRF is a key operational component of a comprehensive three-tiered security approach. This approach encompasses the integrated community-based security (ICBS), robust industrial security measures, and a public-private partnership framework. In its operations, the QRF adheres strictly to Tangguh LNG's regulations, prioritizes preventative action, and undergoes continuous evaluation to help ensure alignment with bp's commitment to the VPs. There have been no human rights incidents related to securing platforms at Tangguh site or projects.

In 2023 following the COVID-19 pandemic, ICBS activities were stepped up. Tangguh, in collaboration with its stakeholders, took action involving communities, police and military to help maintain the safety and security of Tangguh operations. A community engagement meeting in Tanah Merah Baru (Tangguh's surrounding village) was attended by community and religious leaders, women and young people, students and fishermen.

Reports from the Tangguh Independent Advisory Panel (TIAP) are available [online](#).

### Oman

In 2023 bp Oman continued to implement the VPs. More than 100 contracted security guards received VP training to maintain competency. In addition, tabletop exercises demonstrating how to deal with human rights violations were delivered to bp security teams. To test understanding of security procedures, readiness to respond to different security threat scenarios and monitoring of the VPs, weekly security drills were conducted with the security workforce.

There were no incidents related to the violation of human rights connected with security activities in 2023.

### Türkiye

bp, along with our partners in the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline in Türkiye continued efforts to implement the VPs in 2023 by engaging with security providers to develop and promote best practice.

The security climate in Türkiye is currently volatile and vulnerable to internal and external security threats. Due to these potential threats and security risks, armed private security guards are deployed along the BTC pipeline to protect the workforce and the pipeline during site works. These private security guards received VP training before beginning work. Additionally, gendarme stations and gendarme mobile teams are in charge of security alongside the pipeline. The coast guard operates within the Ceyhan Marine Terminal.

Joint scenario-based drills and trainings have been conducted twice a year to train the private security guards and the gendarme and coast guard on the VPs and improve performance related to the implementation of the principles.

Through the social teams deployed along the pipeline, community meetings are being conducted regularly to assess the impact of the patrolling activities including right of way and gendarme deployment on local communities.

There have been no human rights incidents connected with security activities related to bp Türkiye sites or projects.

### Priorities for 2024

- We will continue conducting annual security and human rights impact and risk assessments across all our operated assets. Using the data produced by the businesses, we plan to gain insights and proactively engage public and private security partners.
- In line with our sustainability frame, we plan to continue to work with our private security partners to promote and achieve full conformance with our contractual requirements based on the VPs.
- We will continue collaboration within and outside of the VPI framework to develop and implement best practice wherever applicable.
- We will continue collaboration efforts with public security partners to further define and deploy activities supporting the voluntary principles framework.

**Give your feedback**

Email the corporate reporting team  
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