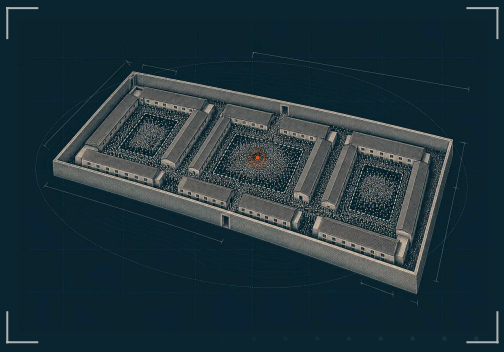
04 — PRISON AUDIT

Understand who is in prison – *and why.*



Case-level and institutional analysis identifying drivers of overcrowding, excessive pre-trial detention and opportunities for lawful release or alternatives.

POLICE · PROSECUTION · COURTS · **PRISONS** · LEGAL AID

TRACING PRESSURE BACK ALONG THE CHAIN

A — THE PROBLEM IT SOLVES

"We need to tackle prison overcrowding and long pre-trial detention"

Prison overcrowding can reflect pressure elsewhere in the justice chain: slow investigations, delayed hearings, limited legal aid or unused alternatives to custody. A Prison Audit looks behind the headline population figure to establish who is held, with what legal status, for how long – and why.

The analysis works at case and institutional level. It identifies people eligible for lawful release or an alternative to custody, for referral to the courts, and policy measures that could reduce recurring pressure on prisons.

National researchers and practitioners work with the institutions concerned to verify findings and develop release and policy recommendations. The institutions concerned are involved in validating the evidence.

B — KEY QUESTIONS

01 Who is in prison – and what is their legal status?

02 Which prisons have the highest proportion of unsentenced detainees?

03 How long are people held on remand?

04 Who is eligible for lawful release or an alternative to custody?

05 What is driving overcrowding?

06 Are alternatives to custody and early release mechanisms being used?

SCOPE	TIMING	PRODUCES
Prisons and pre-trial detention	Scoped to each assignment	Identification of persons eligible for release and policy recommendations

C — HOW IT WORKS

From question to action

STEP 01
Profile the population
Disaggregated by status, case type, gender, age and time in custody.

STEP 02
Trace the drivers
Follow cases back through police, prosecution and courts.

STEP 03
Identify eligibility
People who can lawfully be released or diverted to alternatives.

STEP 04
Recommend policy
Measures to reduce excessive pre-trial detention over time.

D — WHAT YOU RECEIVE

01 **Persons eligible for release**
Case-level identification of people eligible for lawful release or alternatives to custody.

02 **Prison population profile**
The population disaggregated by status, case type, gender, age and length of detention.

03 **Drivers of overcrowding**
Where pressure on prisons originates across the justice chain – and why.

04 **Policy recommendations**
Practical measures to reduce excessive pre-trial detention and overcrowding.

E — WHERE IT FITS

	NATIONAL JUSTICE REFORM	FRAGILE STATES	EU ACCESSION	INVEST-MENT	FIRST 100 DAYS
Justice Audit	●	–	●	●	–
Justice Snapshot	●	●	●	●	●
Court Audit	●	–	●	●	●
Prison Audit	●	–	–	–	●

Prison Audit is used in the National Justice Reform and Justice in 100 Days applications.

F — WHAT IT EXAMINES

- PRISON POPULATION (DISAGGREGATED)
- CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- CASE TYPES AND LEGAL STATUS
- LENGTH OF PRE-TRIAL DETENTION
- HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES
- ALTERNATIVES TO CUSTODY AND EARLY RELEASE MECHANISMS

G — THE INSIGHT

"Prison overcrowding can reflect pressure elsewhere in the justice chain."

WHY LOOK BEYOND THE PRISON
PRISON AUDIT METHODOLOGY

H — NEXT STEP

Need to tackle *prison overcrowding?*

Every Audit begins with a conversation about a specific problem. Tell us about your context and we will show you what the Prison Audit could reveal.

START A CONVERSATION
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justiceaudit.org