



USAID | **IRAQ**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

برنامج العدالة في متناول الجميع
ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

WEEKLY REPORT #73

March 31 – April 6, 2012

April, 2012

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DISCLAIMER

The author's views in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.



COMPONENT 1 - IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE OF LEGAL REMEDIES

Result 1.1: Partner CSOs, Professional Organizations, and Government Partners Launch Strategic Communication Campaign That Effectively Delivers Priority Access to Justice Messages to Targeted Vulnerable Populations

As the first cycle of grants is approaching completion, two additional awareness campaigns implemented by grantees Al-Shabak and Al-Rahma were successfully completed during the week.

A2J is currently supporting nine awareness raising campaigns being implemented by grantees in different parts of the country. Four are new campaigns and A2J is providing start up support for them to ensure quality and compliance. A status report of current campaigns is provided in the table below. In addition a new table is being added to reflect the status of new started awareness campaigns:

Weekly Update of Awareness Campaigns

#	Grantee	Quantity of Print	Distributed	Radio / TV / Web	Awareness Trainings
1	Iraqi Al-Mortaqa Foundation for Human Development	8 Banners	8 Banners	N/A	4 (Completed)
2	Fatema House Charity Women	5 Banners	5 Banners	0	54
		1200 Brochure	1235 Brochures		
		2000 Plastic Bags with Advertising (Contribution)	2000 Plastic Bags with Ads (Contribution)		
3	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid	5250 Brochures	5250 Brochures	60 Radio Adv.	40 (Completed)
		2650 Posters	2650 Posters	60 TV Adv.	
4	Al-Malak Human Organization	2000 Posters	2000 Posters	16 Live Radio Programs	16
		3000 Booklets	3000 Booklets		
		3 Banners	3 Banners		
		6000 Adv. in Magazine	5100 Adv. in Magazine (100)		
5	College of Law and Politics, University of Salahaddin	0	0	0	1
6	Women Empowerment Organization	2 Banner	2 Banner	13 Live Radio Programs (1)	48 (1)
		Handout 1000	Brochure 697 (200)	TV Ad. 1	
		Booklet 500	Booklet 215 (45)		
7	Salam Al-Rafidain Organization	26 Banners	26 Banners	N/A	(Completed)
		1500 Business Cards	1500 Business Cards (40)		
8	Al-Rahma Humanity Association	300 Handbooks	300 Handbooks	TV: 1 Web: 1	(Completed)
		10 Banners	10 Banners		
		3000 Brochures	3000 Brochures (75)		
9	Al-Shabk Women Association	5000 Posters	5000 Posters	8 Radio Advertisements Web: 1	(Completed)
		4000 Brochures	4000 Brochures		
		Announcement in the Al-Yaqeen newspaper about the project			
10	Kurdish Human Rights Watch	4000 Booklets	4000 Booklets	Web: 16 Adv. Radio: 6	(Completed)
		6 Banners	6 Banners		
11	Soran Association for the Care of the Handicapped (SACH)	1000 Posters	1000 Posters (100)	1 Radio Adv.	(Completed)
		1 Banners (1)	1 Banners (1)	6 Live Radio Programs	
		250 Brochures	250 Brochures		
		Booklet 1000 (1000)	Booklet (250)		
12	Iraq Al Amal Association	2000 Brochures	2000 Brochures (50)	12 Live Radio Programs	5
		19 Banners	19 Banners		

Note: **Entries in parentheses indicate new additions this week.** Numbers in the above table have not been verified by M&E data collection forms, but are a close approximation for the purposes of communicating accomplishments of grantees within a reasonable margin of error. Verified data will be presented in quarterly reports.



Newly Started Awareness Campaigns

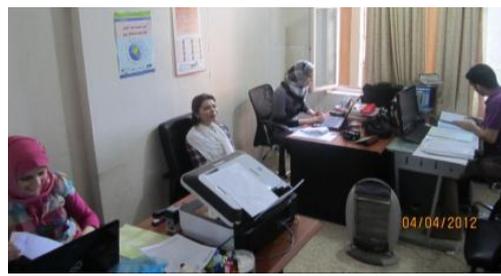
#	Grantee	Status
1	Baghdad Law School	Print materials and TV Adv. under process
2	Women For Justice	Preparations Started
3	Iraqi Alliance of Disability (IADO)	Posters and Brochures on printing process
4	Kurdistan Bar Association	Print draft materials approved, Radio program under review

Result 1.4: Effective Monitoring and Evaluation of Implementing Partner Public Awareness Campaigns

As part of regular monitoring visits, component one team conducted a site visit to Baghdad Law School on the 3rd of April, 2012, and provided technical input for improving the designs of their Public Awareness materials. During the visit the team also explained the USAID branding and marking requirements.



During a site visit this week, Salam Al-Rafidain briefed A2J that the awareness raising workshops and communication materials encouraged a large number of people to approach the legal clinics to get assistance in accessing services from the State or for filing law suits. Salam Al-Rafidain is in the process of developing a database that, among other details, will include the number of people who accessed legal clinic services as result of the awareness raising campaigns.



COMPONENT 2 - IMPROVE LEGAL EDUCATION AND SERVICES

Result 2.1: Support Iraqi NGOs Working in Priority Access to Justice Areas to Improve their Administrative and Substantive Capacity to Support Vulnerable Populations

Component 2 completed a site visit to Al-Amal Organization’s Najaf legal assistance center. Of the 224 cases handled by the center, 13 involved legal representation. Eight of those cases (alimony, custody, debt and divorce) have been resolved and five (registered marriages and compensation) are ongoing in court.



Success Story

Haneen's (name changed to protect her identity) life has been difficult and filled with tragedy. Now in her 50's, she married at a very young age and quickly gave birth to seven daughters. Her husband, a poor shepherd, passed away leaving her alone to care for their children. Given the dire economic and social pressures of her life, she married off her oldest daughter, also at a young age, to a man who died in a car accident, leaving her with four children. The deceased husband's family seized all of his estate, denying the rights of his bereaved wife and children, leaving her with no choice but to live in Haneen's house.

Shortly thereafter, a second daughter divorced and returned to Haneen's home. A third daughter ended her marriage and returned back home with a four year old baby son. A fourth daughter married as a second wife and after her husband was convicted of a crime and sentenced to life imprisonment, she returned home. The fifth and sixth daughters faced the same fate—both were married and divorced—and both returned to live with Haneen. The last daughter is unwilling to leave the house or experience the same fate as her mother and sisters.

Haneen heard from some relatives of the Rahma Humanitarian Association legal assistance center. The Association, funded by the Access to Justice Program, is an NGO in the economically and socially depressed eastern part of Baghdad where Haneen and her family live. Haneen appealed to the center to help her apply for social security benefits. She had been unable to claim her benefits because her husband's death had not been properly registered. Thus, she didn't have the correct identity card that would've allowed her to apply for social security benefits rightfully available to her as a widow.

In addition to bearing the burden of her large family, Haneen was suffering from many illnesses and was desperately in need of money. The Rahma Association lawyer assisted Haneen in obtaining her new identity card with the adjusted status of a widow. Thereafter, she went to the personal status office located in the appropriate part of the city to receive her new identity card. She also received assistance from the Association to register her name with the social security network in order to begin receiving benefits.

COMPONENT 3 – ADVOCACY AND IMPROVED GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Result 3.1: Support Partners in Reviewing Processes and Procedures for Reform of Policies, Regulations, and Legislation as they Relate to Vulnerable Populations

Access to Justice briefed the Advisor to the President of Parliament, Salah Latef Al Karboli, on the program's work, while Mr. Salah explained how to access Parliamentary Committees to coordinate efforts toward passage of relevant laws. With the termination of the USAID Legislative Strengthening Program, Mr. Salah is interested in new partners and new support measures, particularly given the progress that Access to Justice has delivered such as the two large Law on Lawyers conferences with the Iraqi Bar Association and our substantive work on disabilities law and identity with COMSEC and civil society. Access to Justice agreed to provide technical assistance in preparing a widow's benefit analysis in support of the Social Insurance Law that includes a comparative analysis from Japan and East and West Germany after WWII.



Having an Effect on Vulnerable People

COMSEC informed the Access to Justice Program of Iraq's plans to build special housing for persons with disabilities and COMSEC's ongoing collaboration with Ministerial structures regarding plans and arrangements to make those housing accommodations a reality. The housing plans flow in part from the unanimous recommendations calling for such accommodations made by participants of the Access to Justice Roundtable on Disabilities Law that was held on December 17, 2012.

Access to Justice is working the IADO in advocating that such specialized housing should not separate disabled populations from the community but rather integrate them fully in community life—mainstream them—as required by the newly acceded-to UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Component 3 prepared model arguments for the IBA to consider in staging the Moot Court advocacy visibility event scheduled for April 30. The Plaintiffs' argue that disabilities rights directly flow from the Constitution and disabled populations should be able to secure their rights without having to wait for Central Iraq to vote on a long-delayed disabilities law. The Respondents' argue that the law is coming and the Plaintiffs' complaint is premature. The purpose of this event is to demonstrate that a law is urgently needed.

Access to Justice provided technical assistance to Hannah Youth to improve their *jensiya*-oriented grant application.

Result 3.2: Coalitions, Hotlines, or Other Positive Linkages to Support Government Efforts to Improve Legal Frameworks for Vulnerable Populations

Access to Justice and Women for Justice NGO are developing a process that will link clinical grantees in order to identify recurring problems that will guide the A2J advocacy agenda.

OPERATIONS

A2J submitted to the CO a Request for Consent to Subcontract with Relief International to begin the perception survey to measure the perceptions of Iraqis on the rights of the vulnerable in the country.

The DIP Note containing the name of DPK a Division of ARD sent by the US Embassy to the MOI Residency Office has now been certified and validated by the MOI which will allow the Program to process visas.

A2J submitted for Mission Director approval a request to waive branding and marking for program grantees.

GRANTS

USAID approved the program's first strategic grant for Kurdistan Human Rights Watch to build the capacity of other legal service NGOs providing services to vulnerable Iraqis.

A2J is processing agreements for the approximately 20 grants approved by USAID.

A2J is also in the process of finalizing grant applications for the following Basrah-based NGOs:

1. Sayed Al-Shuhdaa Organization for Social Development
2. Hiyad Organization for Legal and Media Development
3. Hadia Society for Human Rights and Civilian Community Development
4. Alamal Humanitarian Association Al Basreyaa
5. Al-Arqam Cultural Charity Association
6. Al-Meameen Humanitarian Association
7. Al-Rawaby Humanitarian Organization
8. Al-Taqwa Association for Women and Child Rights

A2J is preparing for the quarterly partners meeting, scheduled for April 22-24 in Erbil. In addition to open grants and new grantees—Iraqi Center for Human Rights Activists (ICHRA) and Bustan Association for Children's Protection and Education—the above 8 pending applicant NGOs will be invited to participate in the event. The 3-day meeting provides grantees with an opportunity to exchange ideas, experiences and information regarding project activities. Time will also be allocated to discuss the program's reporting system.

The following table is a complete list of current Program grants and status.

Access to Justice Program Current Approved Grants

NGO/CSO Name <i>Project Name or Activity</i>	NGO Location	Activity Location	Target Beneficiaries	Grant Life	Begin Date	USAID Budget	Status
Iraqi Al Amal Association <i>Legal awareness campaign and legal services as a tool for protection of women from domestic violence</i>	Baghdad	Najaf/Kirkuk	Women affected by gender-based violence	6 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$84,070	Executed
Fatema House Charity for Women <i>Women's legal clinic</i>	Baghdad	Sadr City	Women	6 mos.	1-Nov-11	\$51,810	Executed
Al-Rahma Humanity Association <i>Center for legal consultations and representation in court for women</i>	Baghdad	Al-Sha'ab	Women	6 mos.	1-Oct-11	\$47,500	Executed
Women Empowerment Organization <i>Public awareness on Women's rights and mobile legal clinics</i>	Erbil	Ainkawa	Widows	8 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$100,000	Executed
Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid <i>Legal Clinic Aid and Information Services for IDPs and Returnees</i>	Baghdad	Karrada	IDPs	6 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$74,650	Executed
Kurdistan Human Rights Watch <i>Providing public awareness and legal assistance to IDPs</i>	Erbil	Ainkawa	IDPs	6 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$85,800	Executed
Soran Association for Care of the Handicapped <i>Legal Awareness/Services, Support for Accessibility for People with Disabilities</i>	Erbil	Soran	Disabled	8 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$72,044	Executed
Salam Al-Rafidain <i>The right for knowledge and justice to weak women and girls</i>	Baghdad	Yousfiya	Women	8 mos.	15-Sep-11	\$73,065	Executed
Salahaddin Law School <i>Improving Access to Justice for Vulnerable Groups in Erbil through a Law School Clinic</i>	Erbil	Erbil	Vulnerable	8 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$93,860	Executed
Baghdad Law School <i>Legal Clinic at the College of Law</i>	Baghdad	Adhamiya	Vulnerable/Students	12 mos.	1-Dec-11	\$91,410	Executed
Kurdistan Bar Association <i>Continuing Legal Education for Lawyers Serving Vulnerable Groups</i>	Erbil	Erbil	Vulnerable	8 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$86,310	Executed
Al-Malak Human <i>Improving the access to justice for women in Mosul</i>	Mosel	Mosel	Women	8 mos.	1-Oct-11	\$83,606	Executed
Al-Shabak Women's Organization <i>Improving Access to Justice for Vulnerable Groups in the Ninewa Plains</i>	Ninewa	Bartella	IDPs	8 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$83,310	Executed
Al-Mortaqa <i>Public awareness training</i>	Baghdad	Karada	Govt. and NGO employees	6 mos.	1-Sep-11	\$92,000	Executed

NGO/CSO Name <i>Project Name or Activity</i>	NGO Location	Activity Location	Target Beneficiaries	Grant Life	Begin Date	USAID Budget	Status
Sayed Al-Shuhdaa Organization for Social Development <i>Legal rights awareness campaign and Legal Aid Centre for Vulnerable Women</i>	Basrah	Basra	Women	12 mos.	NA	\$99,502	Grant Agreement in Process
Hiyad <i>Provide legal and awareness advices to vulnerable women in Basrah</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Women	6 mos.	NA	\$59,802	Grant Agreement in Process
KHRW Strategic Partnership Grant <i>Training, Mentoring and Resource Centers for Legal Clinics</i>	Erbil	Iraq - Wide	Beneficiaries of all legal clinics	8 mos.	NA	\$234,840	Grant Agreement in Process
Al-Arqam Cultural Charity Association <i>Legal Aid Centers and Awareness</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Women	12 mos.	NA	\$99,402	Grant Agreement in Process
Al Rawaby <i>Legal Clinic and Legal Awareness Clinic for Disabled</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Disabled	12 mos.	NA	\$99,532	Grant Agreement in Process
Al-Taqwa Association <i>Legal services clinic for women returnees, immigrants, and IDPs</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Women	12 mos.	NA	\$99,899	Grant Agreement in Process
Al-Meameen Organization <i>Legal Clinic and Awareness</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Women	12 mos.	NA	\$97,877	Grant Agreement in Process
Amal Association Humanitarian Al Basyra <i>Legal Clinic and Legal Awareness Clinic for the Disabled</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Disabled	12 mos.	NA	\$99,342	Grant Agreement in Process
KHRW Phase II <i>Legal awareness and legal services for IDPs</i>	Erbil	Ainkawa and Khabat	IDPs	8 mos.	NA	\$97,900	Grant Agreement in Process
Al-Meezan newspaper <i>Issuing Al Meezan Legal Independent newspaper</i>	Babil	Babil	Babil Population	6 mos.	NA	\$99,300	Grant Agreement in Process
Hadia <i>Awareness campaign and legal services to vulnerable women</i>	Basrah	Basrah	Women	6 mos.	NA	\$99,682	Grant Agreement in Process
Salam Al Rafidain <i>Registered marriage is essential to ensure the rights of women and children</i>	Baghdad	Baghdad	Women/ Children	8 mos.	NA	\$99,976	Grant Agreement in Process

TOTAL: \$3,503,123

Calendar of Activities

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
March 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC Workshop on Strategic Comm. for new IKR A2J Grantees in Erbil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop on Strategic Comm. for new IKR A2J Grantees in Erbil Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop on Strategic Comm. for new IKR A2J Grantees in Erbil Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC
31	April 1	2	3	4	5	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessup Moot Court Int'l Rounds in Washington, DC 					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
▪	▪ Access to Justice Quarterly Partners Meeting - Erbil	▪ Access to Justice Quarterly Partners Meeting - Erbil	▪ Access to Justice Quarterly Partners Meeting - Erbil	▪	▪	▪
28	29	30	31	May 1	2	3
▪ Program-wide team meeting, Baghdad ▪ Planned Civil Society Reception for Program Partners – US Embassy (To Be Confirmed)	▪ Mid-Year Program Review	▪ IBA Advocacy Moot Court Event	▪	▪	▪	▪

USAID Recommended to attend events circled in RED