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برنامج العدالة في متناول الجميع  
**ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM**

# IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

WEEKLY REPORT #62

January 14 – January 20, 2012

**January, 2012**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by ARD, Inc., through its operating unit Tetra Tech DPK.

**Contract: 267-C-00-10-00006-00**

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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**

A2J met with Minister Asos Najib Abdullah of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in the Kurdish Region (KMoLSA) on January 17. The Minister requested assistance in implementing a series of awareness raising campaigns to include: information, education, and communication (IEC) materials; a series of radio and television programs; and documentaries targeting vulnerable groups. A2J agreed to support the Ministry's efforts through CSOs. The Minister asked for a list of potential CSOs who had the capacity and experience to implement the campaigns and agreed to form a committee of high level KMoLSA officials across the region to assist in coordination. In addition to the meeting with the Minister, A2J also met with the Erbil DG of KMoLSA on implementing the awareness campaigns through specialized media NGOs with A2J technical and financial assistance. The KMoLSA request for more in depth assistance on their media campaigns follows A2J's assistance to the Ministry in printing awareness raising materials.

### **Result 1.3: Practical Knowledge of Vulnerable Populations of How to Access and Use Tools Improved Through Traditional and Social Media**

Component 1 is organizing a seminar on January 23 to develop and increase coordination between government institutions, CSOs, and the media to highlight the plight of vulnerable communities in Iraq. The seminar is the conclusion to a series of trainings completed in coordination with IREX for the staff of media offices of the Ministry of Human Rights (MoHR), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MoLSA), the NGO Directorate, and A2J grantees. Attendance is expected to include high level officials.

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

Component 1 attended an awareness raising workshop conducted by Mercy Hands on January 17, in Al-Hurriyah District, Baghdad. The workshop was facilitated by a lawyer and was attended by 33 participants, 19 of whom were female. The main focus of the workshop was the rights of IDPs and returnees under Iraqi law and the Constitution.



Component 1 conducted site visits in the Kurdish Region to Kurdistan Human Rights Watch (KHRW) and Soran Association for Care of the Handicapped (SACH) to monitor the quality and progress of their awareness raising campaigns, and to reiterate the importance of complying with USAID branding and marking regulations. The team reviewed KHRW's TV ad about their legal



clinic and provided feedback with suggested changes for improvement. A2J will review and approve the final version.

A2J is supporting 12 awareness raising campaigns implemented by grantees in different parts of the country. Component 1 provides ongoing mentoring support and quality control by working closely with each grantee on their awareness raising materials. An update on the status of these campaigns is reflected in the table below:

### Weekly Update of Awareness Campaigns

#	Grantee	Qty. of print	Distributed	Radio / TV / Web Advertisements	Awareness Trainings
1	Iraqi Al-Mortaqa Foundation for Human Development	8 Banners	8 Banners	N/A	3
2	Fatema House Charity Women	5 Banners	5 Banners	0	20 (3)
		900 Brochures	430 Brochures (67)		
		2000 Sacks (Contribution)	2000 Sacks (Contribution)		
3	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid	3500 Brochures	2290 Brochures (1500)	60 Radio Ads	26 (3)
		1750 Posters	1360 Posters (60)	60 TV. Ads	
4	Al-Malak Human Organization	1500 Posters (500)	1100 Posters (100)	2 live Radio Programs	7 (1)
		2000 Booklets (500)	1300 Booklets (400)		
		3 Banners	3 Banners		
		1000 Ads In Magazine	1000 Ads In Magazine		
5	College of Law and Politics, University of Salahaddin	0	0	0	1
6	Women Empowerment Organization	1 Banner (1)	1 Banner (1)	6 live Radio Programs	17
7	Salam Al-Rafidain Organization	25 Banners (3)	25 Banners (3)	N/A	9
		1500 Business Cards 500	1000 Business Cards (250)		
8	Al-Rahma Humanity Association	2000 Hand books	1750 Hand books (500)	0	5
		10 Banners	10 Banners		
		150 Brochures	150 Brochure		
9	ALShabk Women Association	5000 Posters	2150 Poster (150)	5 Radio Ads (1)	5 (3)
		4000 Brochures	2000 Brochures (250)		
10	Kurdish Human Rights Watch	4000 Booklets	2000 Booklets (300)	Web Ads	4
		3 Banners	3 Banners		
11	Soran Association for the Care of the Handicapped (SACH)	1000 Posters	400 Posters	1 Radio Ads	3 (1)
				6 live Radio Programs	
12	Iraq Al Amal Association	1500 Brochures	1350 Brochures	5 live Radio Programs	6

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.



## 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 the review of 38 Grant Summary Forms (GSF) for the December cycle. These GSFs represented NGOs from a range of Iraqi provinces, including Baghdad, Basrah, Diyala, Babil, and the Kurdish Region (Erbil, Sulaymaniya, and Dohuk). Component 2 approved six from Baghdad, Basrah, and Erbil to move to the next round.

Component 2 reviewed progress reports from five grantees in Baghdad, Najaf, and Erbil. Despite issues with the layout of the reports, the team was pleased with the progress of the NGOs. .

Component 2 and the new Training Specialist are developing training materials and a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) for NGOs. The TNA, compiled from focus groups held with partner NGOs at the last Quarterly Partners Meeting, will help guide Component 2's training plan for the year.

The Basrah Regional Office (BRO) opened communications with NGOs in Dhi-Qar and Maysan Provinces. Identifying and selecting NGOs in the South is being done in a variety of ways such as advertising in newspapers, using the database provided by the NGO Department in COMSEC, and networking with other key partners such as UNHCR and the People in Need Organization. Over 15 NGOs have been identified that will be invited to the RFA workshop in Basrah in early February.

BRO assisted the Al Manahil Humanitarian Association and the Disadvantaged Humanitarian Association in the preparation of their Grant Summary Forms (GSF)

### Weekly Update of Legal Assistance to Vulnerable Groups Provided by Access to Justice Partners (Cumulative and New)

#	Grantee	Location	Focus of Legal Assistance	# of Hotline Calls	# of Legal Consultations	# of Legal Cases
1	Iraqi Al Amal Association - Najaf Center	Najaf	Women	38(3)	161(16)	80(9)
2	Iraqi Al Amal Association - Kirkuk Center	Kirkuk	Women	79(15)	63(3)	69(7)
3	Fatima House Charity for Women	Baghdad - Sadr City	Women	N/A	N/A	209(27)
4	Al-Rahma Humanity Association	Baghdad - Shaab	Women	73(9)	220(22)	73(15)
5	Women Empowerment Organization*	Erbil - Einkawa	Women	49	13	19
6	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid	Baghdad - Karrada	IDPs	129 (14)	117(3)	50(12)
7	Kurdistan Human Rights Watch*	Erbil - Einkawa / Khabat	IDPs	57	111	21
8	Soran Association for Care of the Handicapped*	Erbil - Soran	Persons with Disabilities	181	80	8
9	Salam Al-Rafidain	Baghdad - Yousifiya	Women	52(4)	118(15)	15



#	Grantee	Location	Focus of Legal Assistance	# of Hotline Calls	# of Legal Consultations	# of Legal Cases
10	Al-Malak Huma*	Ninawa - Mosul	Women	84	44	11
11	Al-Shabak Women's Organization*	Ninawa - Bartallah	Women	180	93	11

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

\* Update not available for NGOs marked with an asterisk (\*)

### **Result 2.2: Work with Iraqi Legal Professional Associations (Primarily the IBA and Jurist Union and their Subsidiaries) to Increase Administrative and Substantive Capacity for Empowering Lawyers and Other Legal Professionals to Assist Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Populations**

An A2J team met representatives from the Kurdistan Bar Association (KBA) to discuss the capacity of the KBA to implement their grant activities. The KBA has impressive relations with civil society, NGOs, Governmental Directorates, and lawyers in the region which will help them succeed at promoting the involvement of bar association members in the provision of free legal services to vulnerable groups via NGO legal clinics.

### **Result 2.3: Assist the IBA and Other Legal Associations to “Increase the Supply of Lawyers” Assisting Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Populations through Initiatives such as CLE for Lawyers, Pre-service Orientation Training for New Lawyers, and Targeted Training on Assisting Vulnerable Groups**

#### **Weekly Update of Training to Lawyers Provided by Access to Justice Partners (Cumulative and New)**

#	Grantee	Focus of Lawyer Training	# of Training Sessions	# of Trainees
1	Kurdistan Bar Association	Human Rights Awareness	5	125
2	Iraqi Bar Association	Human Rights Awareness	9	590

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

### **Result 2.4: Support Development of Programs and Modernization of Academic and Practical Curriculum Related to Extending Access to Justice to Vulnerable Populations at Law Schools in Iraqi Universities in Key Locations throughout Iraq**

Component 2 and the Erbil Regional Office spent the week preparing for the Iraq National Rounds of the Jessup International Moot Court Competition to be held in Erbil from January 22-25. Tasks included finalizing materials, translations, supplies, and logistics.

Baghdad Law School signed a modified grant agreement.

An A2J team conducted a site visit to assess the activities of the Salahaddin Law School Legal Clinic. The team found that the legal clinic is in need of more intensive mentoring and monitoring by the program to reach its goals.



After the BRO team met with Dhi-Qar Law School regarding the possibility of establishing a law school legal clinic, the school agreed to participate in a future workshop on proposal writing.

**Weekly Update of Legal Assistance to Vulnerable Groups  
Provided by Access to Justice Law School Partners (Cumulative)**

#	Grantee	Focus of Legal Assistance	# of Legal Cases	# of Students Participating (Current or Completed) in the Legal Clinic	# of Courses Relevant to Legal Clinical Education	# of Students in Legal Clinical Education Courses
1	Salahaddin Law School (Erbil)	Various	10	80	1	15
2	Baghdad Law School	Various	Starting Jan 2012	Starting Jan 2012	Starting Jan 2012	Starting Jan 2012
3	Basrah Law School	Various	Not Started Yet	Not Started Yet	Not Started Yet	Not Started Yet

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

**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.**

Component 3 assisted the KURDS Organization and Hanna Youth in finalizing their grant applications.

A2J received the draft law for the Care for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs from MoLSA who also sent it to COMSEC for further legislative action. The draft contains a controversial provision to reduce the consultative body on disabilities to non-independent status within MOLSA. Component 3 coordinated with the DG of MOLSA’s Legal Department on follow-up drafting issues from the COMSEC Legal Department, and informed the NGO community of the status.

Multiple conflicting drafts of the new Social Security Law presently exist. Component 3 is working with MoLSA and CSOs to devise a strategy to unify the drafts.

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

In accordance with the plan previously discussed and agreed to, a new meeting agenda for February 1st was issued by COMSEC with Component 3 collaboration. The meeting will concern Stateless Persons Identity Issues.

COMSEC has agreed to hold a meeting with Component 3 at the end of February concerning Gender Based Violence.

**GRANTS ADMINISTRATION**

A2J signed grant agreements and released the first payment for Women for Justice Organization and IADO, paving the way for their grant implementation to begin February 1<sup>st</sup>. The Grants Team is reviewing payment requests for a second release of funds from Fatema House and Salam Al-

Rafidain to ensure that they are in compliance with their grant provisions. The Grants Team followed up with other grantees regarding their report submission for the period ending December 31, 2011.

The Grants Team met with IADO staff to review the contractual provisions contained in the grant agreement, and also met with Salahaddin Law School. Issues and concerns surrounding this visit are being summarized into a report.

## **PROGRAM SUPPORT**

### **GENDER SPECIALIST**

#### **Result 5.1: Assessment of Gender Integration Activities to Date that Will Inform the Development of a Gender Action Plan that Identifies Cross Cutting and Component Specific GIAPs**

The Gender Specialist conducted Gender Assessment interviews with A2J NGO grantees, Al-Rafidain, Mercy Hands, Al-Mortaqa and IADO. The purpose of the interviews was to identify gender based constraints and opportunities for gender integration in grant activities and to identify capacity building needs of A2J NGO partners.

A2J completed a focus group with representatives from Iraq Al-Amal, Al-Rahma and USIP to collect information for the Gender Assessment.

Development & Training Services, Inc. (dTS) home office is reviewing data as it is being gathered in the field.

#### **Result 5.2: Strengthened Capacity of Project Staff to Integrate Gender into all Project Components**

Because widows have been identified as the first vulnerable population of the Value Chain Analysis, a focus group was held to identify two discrete issues that are of primary concern and importance. Several key issues affecting women were identified and will be utilized in the Analysis.

### **MEDIA SPECIALIST**

The NGO Directorate Website and Database Project began this week with a meeting between the Media Specialist and the DG and his deputy in order to fully understand their vision of the scope of work. The project is expected to continue until April and will culminate with A2J handing over a newly developed directorate website providing NGOs easy online registration and creating one unified NGO database.

## **ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS**

Will Mathopoulos will join the Access to Justice Program for two weeks to provide oversight to the grants team.

On January 15, Haider Noori joined A2J as the new Training Specialist.

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>December 31</b>	<b>January 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
▪	▪	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Baghdad	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Baghdad	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Baghdad	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Baghdad	▪
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
▪	▪ Law School Legal Clinic Best Practices with Dr. Mohammad Mattar, Erbil	▪ Law School Legal Clinic Best Practices with Dr. Mohammad Mattar, Erbil	▪	▪	▪	▪
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
▪	▪	▪ C1 Media Coordination Seminar in Partnership with IREX, Baghdad	▪	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Erbil	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Erbil	▪
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
▪ Moot Court Training for Judges and Bailiffs (Abu Shehab Rest. in Erbil)	▪ Iraqi National Moot Court Competition, Erbil – Erbil International Hotel (aka the “Sheraton” Hotel)	▪ Iraqi National Moot Court Competition, Erbil – Erbil International Hotel (aka the “Sheraton” Hotel) ▪ C1 Seminar for NGO Partners - Increased understanding of the real needs of stakeholders in partnership with IREX, Baghdad	▪ Iraqi National Moot Court Competition, Erbil – Erbil International Hotel (aka the “Sheraton” Hotel)	▪ Iraqi National Moot Court Competition, Erbil – Erbil International Hotel (aka the “Sheraton” Hotel)	▪	▪

28	29	30	31	February 1	2	3
▪	▪	▪	▪	▪ C3 Meeting for Jinsiya with HJC Judges hosted in COMSEC		▪
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Basrah	▪ Grant RFA and Proposal Writing Training, Basrah	▪	▪	▪	▪	▪

USAID Recommended to attend events circled in **RED**