



USAID | **IRAQ**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

برنامج العدالة في متناول الجميع
ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM **WEEKLY REPORT #38**

JULY 30 – AUGUST 4, 2011

AUGUST 2011

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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 I

IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE OF LEGAL REMEDIES

The Iraq Access to Justice Program is United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Iraq's three-year program designed to improve access to justice for vulnerable and disadvantaged peoples in Iraq. Included in this group are women, widows, orphans, detainees and the incarcerated, minorities (both ethnic and religious), the impoverished, and internally displaced persons and returnees.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Iraq Access to Justice Program organized the first round of trainings on the topic of “International Humanitarian Right Law,” in partnership with the National Institute for Human Rights and the Iraqi Bar Association in IBA Hall, Baghdad on July 30 and 31, which was attended by 19 lawyers out of which two were female lawyers.
- The recommendations made by the participants of the roundtable conference on Jinsiya have been formally submitted to COMSEC as part of the advocacy functions of the program.

RESULT 1.1: NUMBER AND TYPE OF TARGETED OUTREACH (AWARENESS AND INFORMATION) CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED WITH PARTNERS

- Finalizing Training package for Capacity Building on Grantee on Awareness Raising Campaigns: The program team is working on finalizing the training packages and required materials according to the comments and feedback received in the pre-testing workshop. These modules will be used in upcoming trainings on various levels of design and implementation of awareness raising campaigns like target audience analysis, planning of communication activities, developing messages and selecting appropriate media tools etc.
- Website for NGO Directorate: The team will be working in close coordination with the NGO Coordinator's office on a request from the later to develop a dynamic website for them. In this regard the Media Specialist has held meetings with the concerned staff at NGO Coordinators office and is now in the process of finalizing a need assessment report. The team will finalize details of assistance to the NGO coordinator's office for developing their website, in light of the findings of this report.

COMPONENT 2

IMPROVE LEGAL EDUCATION AND SERVICES

RESULT 2.1: CAPACITY OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS TO ASSIST VULNERABLE AND DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE STRENGTHENED

- Training of Lawyers on International Humanitarian Right Law: Iraq Access to Justice Program organized the first round of trainings on the topic of “International Humanitarian Right Law,” in partnership with the National Institute for Human Rights and the Iraqi Bar Association in IBA Hall, Baghdad on July 30 and 31, which was attended by 19 lawyers out of which two were female lawyers. The first day sessions given by the IBA Trainer addressed the roles of the International Criminal Courts in protecting the Human Rights in the of Humanitarian International Law, and in the Human Rights Law. The first day sessions also addressed the roles of International Criminal Courts in protecting Human Rights as stated in the Humanitarian International Law. This session was facilitated by IBA Trainer Mr. Razaq Hamed. On the second day Mr. Ali Shah of the National Institute of Human Rights led sessions on the international legal framework for Juveniles and the rights given to the juveniles in Iraqi law. The training mostly focused on the rights of vulnerable groups in Iraq and the role of lawyers in understanding their rights and responsibilities, best practices in legal behaviors and ways to promote lawyers participation in encouraging and assisting vulnerable groups to access and exercise their rights. Mr. Muhammed Waheed, Chairman of the IBA, attended the entire training course and appreciated the efforts of Access to Justice Program in serving the vulnerable Groups.
- Law of Lawyers: Access to Justice Program presented its suggestions to the Iraqi Bar Association on the draft of Law of Lawyers. The chairman of IBA thanked and appreciated the program for its support. It was decided that for further suggestions and recommendation on the draft law. IBA will be presenting the recommendation in the upcoming meeting of their board of directors. IBA also plans host a conference in September in Baghdad to discuss the draft of new Law of Lawyers before submitting it to the Iraqi Representative Council. The conference is expected to be attended by various representatives of legal associations such as judges, lawyers, law school teachers, heads of IBA offices in provinces and other stakeholders.
- MoU with IADO: The team has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Iraqi Alliance for Disabled (IADO) during a meeting at IADO headquarters in presence of members of Board of Directors of IADO. The MoU outlines the details of cooperation between the two organizations.

COMPONENT 3

ADVOCACY AND IMPROVED GOVERNMENT SERVICES

RESULT 3.2: MECHANISMS CREATED FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND NGOS/CSOS ON IMPROVING POLICIES, LAWS, AND REGULATIONS FOR FACILITATING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

- Report on Roundtable Conference on Jinsiya: The team is working on finalizing the Arabic and English versions of the report on roundtable conference on Jinsiya. The recommendations made by the participants of the conference have been formally submitted to COMSEC as part of the advocacy functions of the program.
- Recommendations for draft Law of Lawyers: The team in coordination with component two is taking lead in providing comments to Iraqi Bar Association on the draft law on lawyers.

GRANTS

RESULT 1.2: INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF NGO/CSOS, LAW SCHOOL, IBA AND IJU TO EFFECTIVELY APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM GRANT ACTIVITIES.

- Training on Proposal Writing: The grants arranged for training in grant application proposal writing for 20 NGO/CSO partners each in the Basra, and Erbil Regions. A total of 40 NGO/CSO partners received training. The training covered all aspects of writing a simple and effective proposal for grants. This training is expected to strengthen the capacity of participating NGOs and CSOs in writing proposals for funds and grants.
- Risk Assessment of Approved Grantees: The grants team completed Risk Assessments on site for approved grantees, Al-Shabak Women Society, and Salahaddine Law School.
- Risk Assessment and Proposal Writing Training in Erbil: As part of internal capacity building on staff, Grants Team provided training support and assistance to Erbil Regional Office field staff in Grants Application Process, Proposal Writing and conducting Risk Assessments for grantees.
- Grant Applications: The team also completed and submitted the grant application of Al-Mortaqa Human Development Foundation, and University Salahadin to USAID COTR for approval. The COTR has sent her approval on Salam Al-Rafidain and Al-Motaqa Human Development Foundation.
Approval Received on RFA: The USAID COTR has approved the Request For Application document. The RFA provides a detailed briefing on the scope of work of the Iraq Access to Justice Program and its main components. Accordingly the RFA highlight the eligibility criteria for NGOs and CSOs willing to partner with the program.

MEDIA

The media specialist is working in close coordination with the Public Awareness Component on doing a need assessment for NGOs Coordinator office website. The media specialist is also working with counterparts in IREX to develop a proposal for coordination on awareness raising and advanced communication skills training for partners in Baghdad, Erbil, Basra and Babylon regions.

M&E

The M&E specialist and short term consultant visited the Erbil Regional Office to provide the staff with initial support in understanding and implementing M&E tools in accordance with the indicators given in the Performance Management Plan-PMP. The USAID has provided comments on the draft of the PMP submitted to them earlier. The PMP is now being finalized in light of the comments provided by USAID.

TRAINING

The training specialist is assisting the IBA and component two team in training of the lawyers in International Humanitarian Rights Law.

ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS

Registration – In cooperation with TRC, we are currently working to respond on the questions put forward by the Company Registry on our application, which was sent via the Ministry of Human Rights.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES NEXT WEEK (August 20 to 25, 2011)

- Second round of new lawyers training scheduled for August 6-7 2011.
- Meeting with NGO Coordinator's office to finalize details of website.
- Follow up meetings planned with IBA, IJU, NIHR, and Baghdad Law School to discuss next steps of partnership and coordination.
- Grant team along with component 1&2 teams will conduct on site risk assessment of Salam Al Rafidain, Al-Mortaqa and Women for Progress in Baghdad, and Women For Justice in Karbala province.
- Finalize contents for the program website and submit for approval.

PENDING ITEMS/ISSUES

The following items are still pending with USAID: (a) Project Implementation Plan submitted on January 16, 2011 for review and comment.

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

August 6 to September 03, 2011

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
August 06	07	08	09	10	11	12
• Second round of training for new lawyers	• Second round of training for new lawyers					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	• RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
• RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	• RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	• RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	• RFA Roll-out/Grants Training on RFA and Proposal Writing	•	•	•
27	28	29	30	September 01	02	03
•	•	•	•	•	•	•