



USAID | **IRAQ**
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برنامج العدالة في متناول الجميع
ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

IRAQ ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM WEEKLY REPORT #29

MAY 28 – JUNE 2, 2011

JUNE 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

- First Access to Justice grants training in Basrah province planned for next week for civil society actors.
- The Deans' Council reported that they formally endorsed the 9 recommendations from the May 1-3 conference and submitted them to the Ministry of Higher Education. Access to Justice received Dr Mohamed Mattar's report and will circulate it after translation and formatting.
- The Erbil Regional Office staff received training from Communications STTA and the Training Specialist.

- The Component welcomed Ahmed Aziz as the new Communication Advisor
- Component I worked with NGOs that had been recommended by USAID or partners to develop non-competitive grant applications targeting the dissemination of essential information to vulnerable groups.
- We completed a second training module targeting a Strategic Communication Plan element identified in the training needs assessment workshops completed in May.
- *Erbil Regional Office (ERO)*: STTA and Training Specialist trained ERO staff on the elements of a strategic communication initiative and meet with key NGOs on strategic communication initiatives in the Kurdistan Region; team also met with Kurdistan Jurist's Union to discuss strategic communication planning for community based clinics, the Criminal and Social Research Center to discuss communication requirements of the Salahaddin University legal clinic and moot court, and the Women Empowerment Organization to discuss non-competitive grant efforts for war widows and other vulnerable groups.

COMPONENT 2

IMPROVE LEGAL EDUCATION AND SERVICES

SUB-RESULT 2.1: Component 2 met with Mercy Hands Association for Humanitarian Aid and Women for Justice to review capacity and identify areas for partnership.

SUB-RESULT 2.2: Component 2 worked with the IJU and IBA at meetings on May 30 and June 1 to refine training priorities for the Indefinite Quantity Contract that is being developed and prepare for grant programs that are mapped in the current draft of the first Request for Applications. MG Ali is working with the training specialist to develop an initial course for lawyers on the human rights framework and practical skills necessary for processing applications for jensiya and formal appeals.

Erbil Regional Office (ERO) - Review and implementation of NGO Assessment Tool and revision of non-competitive grant proposal for Women's Empowerment Organization; supported initial planning for a legal aid clinic at Salahaddin University and for support to NGO based legal clinics.

COMPONENT 3

ADVOCACY AND IMPROVED GOVERNMENT SERVICES

SUB-RESULT 3.1: Component 3 has completed an inventory of law journals published by the law faculties of public and private universities throughout Iraq.

- Along with Component 2 and the Training Specialist, Component 3 met with the IBA to discuss partnerships in advocacy. The IBA is keen to explore options for building awareness around a new Law of Lawyers, which should implicate areas such as pro bone requirements.
- *ERO:* The Kurdistan Bar Association requested immediate technical advice on the regional Law of Lawyers.

GRANTS

- The Grants team reviewed and finalized the non-compete grants application form and circulated it to components; Reviewed and requested more detail on the non-competitive grants proposal received from the Al-Rahma NGO; Developed justification for non-competition on the rapid grants activity.
- Prepared Materials and forms for Basra Regional Workshops; Followed up with Basra Regional Office on the lists of invitees for the upcoming workshop.
- Participated in a Round Table Meeting with IBA to present a brief summary on the requirements of the grants process.

Training

With Component 2, initiated the development of a Training Needs Assessment for the IBA and IJU.

M&E

Began integrating Component workplans into MS Project framework.

Linguist

Completed advanced drafts of Arabic versions of Deans' Council documents, including the report of Dr Mohamed Mattar.

ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS

- *Administration:* Completed arrangements for Grants Application Form Workshops NGO's, IBA and IJU in Basrah , Manawi Basha-Hotel, and June 8-9, 2011. Working on setting up A2J-Basrah Regional Office with HO.
- *Procurement:* Posted responses on question for the DPK-IA2J-2011-013 RFP on Baghdad Business Center (BBC); Revised Web Site Purchase Order; Completed purchase and installation of Conference Room 2 Audio System.
- *HR:* Processing employment documentation for Basra Regional Director Position; Component I-Communication Specialist, Ahmed Aziz (CCN) started on June 1; Translator and Intern Job Vacancies posted on BBC (in process of receiving resumes and scheduling interviews).
- *IT:* Drafting Office IT Policy.
- *Finance:* Updating Operating Budget.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES NEXT WEEK (June 11 to 1, 2011)

- Arrival of Component I Team Leaders on June 4, 2011.
- Training partners from civil society, including legal professional organizations and law schools, on grant processes per the Grant Manual.

PENDING ITEMS/ISSUES

- Grant RFA review pending with USAID

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

May 28 to June 2, 2011

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28	29	30	31	June 01	02	03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMorrison on RRB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JFinchley and HJabbari to ERO • Interview candidate for Director/Basrah Field Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JDeaunay on R&R/LWOP • Comp 2 to Iraqi Jurist Union 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basra Grants Training • Comp 3 – Planning meeting for Law Journal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comp 3 – Advocacy Training • JFinchley/HJabbari return to Baghdad 	
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comp 3 – First Working Group Meeting on Minorities • Comp 1 Team Leader Starts • Comp 2 temporary Team Leader Starts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and follow-up training of partners in Grant Summary and Application Forms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and follow-up training of partners in Grant Summary and Application Forms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with IADO to discuss MOU 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JDeaunay returns from R&R/LWOP 	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with IBA (tentative) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with IJU (tentative) 	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	