



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

WEST BANK/GAZA

QUARTERLY REPORT #4

Palestinian Justice Enhancement Program
Task order 263-I-03-06-00018-00

1 October to 31 December, 2011

PALESTINIAN JUSTICE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

QUARTERLY REPORT #4 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER, 2011

Table of Contents

ACRONYMS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS	6
COMPONENT 1 – ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY AND EFFICIENCY OF TARGETED JUSTICE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS	6
COMPONENT 2 – STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY AND CREDIBILITY OF JUSTICE SECTOR PROFESSIONALS	10
COMPONENT 3 – BROADEN PUBLIC AWARENESS OF RULE OF LAW AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE JUSTICE SECTOR	13
DONOR COORDINATION	15
IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES	16
OTHER UPDATES	16
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR FY12 QUARTER 2:	17
MONITORING AND EVALUATION.....	18
FINANCIAL SUMMARY.....	20

Acronyms

AD	Authentication Department
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COP	Chief of Party
COTR	Contract Officer Technical Representative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DJS	Diploma Judicial Studies
HJC	High Judicial Council
ICI	Investment Climate Improvement
IT	Information Technology
JIC	Justice Information Center
JLC	Palestinian-Israeli Joint Legal Committee
JRO	Justice Records Offices
KRA	Key Results Area
LAD	Legal Affairs Department
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
PA	Palestinian Authority
PC	Personal Computer
PIR	Project Intermediate Results
PJEP	Palestinian Justice Enhancement Program
PIRS	Project Indicator Reference Sheets
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PJI	Palestinian Judicial Institute
RFA	Request for Application
TOT	Training of Trainers
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government

Executive Summary

The goal of PJEP is to strengthen public confidence in and respect for justice sector institutions and the Rule of Law in the West Bank and Gaza. During the third quarter, PJEP contributed to this goal through targeted assistance to justice institutions, legal professionals, civil society and the public.

To improve HJC services to the public, PJEP completed the furniture upgrades to the Ramallah Court of Appeals and identified the Tubas Conciliation Court to receive assistance. The decision to select the Tubas court for facilities enhancements was made after several visits and consultation with the HJC which agreed to paint and renovate the courthouse before PJEP provided any support. PJEP also began procuring IT equipment on behalf of the HJC for various courts throughout the West Bank. The equipment includes PC's, heavy duty scanners, and printers, networking systems, video cameras, digital camera accessories, and photocopiers.

A major highlight this quarter was the completion of the "short film editing" training that was conducted for MOJ and HJC media staff. The training enabled the participants to receive hands-on training in film editing, a skill the staff previously lacked. Additional filmmaking training will continue next quarter.

This quarter PJEP also coordinated several other training events for justice sector staff including keyboarding training for MOJ and HJC in Hebron, Tulkram, Nablus and Ramallah and English language training for senior level administrators for MOJ, HJC and PJI staff.

PJEP supported the overall expansion of the new MOJ space in Ramallah.

PJEP procured and delivered IT equipment and furniture to JIC, LAD and the PJI which are now housed in the new MOJ space. In addition, the Senior Legal Specialist for the JLC continued to facilitate coordination between Palestinian and Israeli JLC counterparts regarding the permit requests for Palestinian justice sector officials from Gaza and meetings to discuss ways to strengthen the work of the JLC. The JLC gives both the Palestinian and Israeli counterparts a mechanism for discussing troublesome technical issues in a technically-oriented, non-political setting.

To strengthen the PJI, PJEP continued to assist the PJI to develop the DJS program and provided upgrades to the PJI training halls and the PC lab that will be used for trainees in the new MOJ space in Ramallah. In addition, PJEP developed a training evaluation manual and drafted the training materials for the TOT program that will be delivered to justice sector staff once qualified participants are identified.

Another major highlight this quarter was the five day land settlement law training program for 17 First Instance and Conciliation Court judges. The training is the first of its kind to be presented in the West Bank which tackled such issues as land settlement law, renewed registration, tasks of the settlement officer and declarations of land settlement. A pre-test and post-test was conducted that indicated a 354% average improvement in the knowledge level of the judges after the training.

PJEP also received USAID vetting approval to work with five West Bank law schools including Al Ahliya Law School in Bethlehem, Hebron University, Modern College in Ramallah, Al Quds University and An-Najah University in Nablus. Next quarter, PJEP will conduct national and local moot court competitions with students from Al Ahliya, Hebron, Al

Quds and An-Najah Universities. Furthermore, over the next two quarters, PJEP will upgrade the computer labs, support moot court facilities and deliver books and legal periodicals to the law school libraries.

A significant accomplishment this quarter, after a lengthy selection process including conducting workshops on how to develop a full application grant with interested CSOs, PJEP selected the Juhoud, Ellid, Students Forum Institute, and Al-Marsad CSOs to receive grant funds. These public outreach grants will assist in raising awareness of the Rule of Law, human rights and promote civic education. Other public outreach activities also took place this quarter including the JRO campaign for the MOJ highlighting the services the JRO provides to the public and production of the radio series promotions for the HJC that will help educate the public in understanding legal issues and help increase public awareness of the court system operations. This quarter, PJEP reviewed and approved scripts for two episodes titled “Women’s Right to Inherit” and “Honor Killings”. Starting next quarter, 15 episodes of the radio series will be produced and aired, preceded by a 3-week promotional phase. Due to the congressional hold on funding PJEP in coordination with USAID and project counterparts re-evaluated all previously planned project activities and developed a new work plan emphasizing highest priority activities. Later during the quarter the hold on funding was partially lifted resulting in an additional one million dollar increase in obligated funds. As a result, PJEP was able to re-instate some project activities but has not been able to function to its full capacity.

ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

The goal of the PJEP is to strengthen public confidence and respect for justice sector institutions and the Rule of Law in the West Bank and Gaza. All PJEP activities contribute to building capacity among targeted justice sector officials and institutions and are directed to supporting the priorities and objectives of those officials and institutions. This section describes 3rd quarter progress, challenges, and results.

Component 1 – Enhance accessibility and efficiency of targeted justice sector institutions

The goal of these activities is to enable the judiciary to become more responsive to the public and to improve court user satisfaction concerning the fairness, accessibility, and efficiency of court processes and services. Rapid and visible improvements in court processes and services are a priority. The MOJ plays an important role in developing policy, formulating, coordinating, and implementing strategic plans, and in managing relationships with other justice sector institutions. It also provides critical services to the public. Therefore, focusing PJEP assistance to strengthen the public services provided by the MOJ and its outreach to the public capacity are a priority. This component contains two subcomponents: upgrading the capacities of the HJC, and strengthening targeted functions within the MOJ.

Subcomponent 1A - Upgrade the capacities of the HJC

Key Result Area: Improve HJC services to the public



PJEP provides chairs for the Ramallah Court of Appeals

Procurement of furniture for the Ramallah Court of Appeals: During the quarter, PJEP completed the final delivery of furniture to the Court of Appeals. PJEP provided chairs for judges, court staff and courtrooms and curtains. This delivery complements earlier PJEP upgrades of furniture for judge’s offices, public waiting rooms, and the Court of Appeals courtroom. The end result of this activity is a more efficient and user-friendly use of space, better access to the court, enhanced employee performance and improved services to the public.



Upgrades to the Ramallah Court of Appeals

Ramallah Court of Appeals Survey: In order to measure the impact of this improving HJC services to the public, PJEP conducted a pre and post survey. The survey measured employee performance and the speed in which the public received services at the court. The in-house survey results show that as a result of the facilities upgrades 92.8% of staff stated it now takes less than 15 minutes for court users to receive service. This reflects a 42.8% increase in faster services provided to the public. The survey results affirm the positive impact this activity had for both court staff and the public.

Needs assessment for courts: In order to ensure that PJEP is providing the needed assistance to the HJC courts, several site visits were conducted throughout the West Bank. This quarter, PJEP’s COP and the Component 1 leader visited courts in the central, northern and southern parts of the West Bank. In the center, visits were made to the Ramallah Court of Conciliation, Court of First Instance, Court of Appeals, Notification Office, Notary Public Office and the archiving office for the courts as well as Jericho’s First

Instance Court. In the north, visits were made to the Tubas and Salfit Conciliation Courts as well as Tulkrum and Qalqilia First Instance Courts and Jenin and Nablus courts. And finally, site visits in the south included Halhul and Dora Conciliation Courts as well as Hebron and Bethlehem First Instance Courts. During the visits the COP was introduced to the Chief Judges of the courts and was given a briefing on court procedures. The purpose of these visits was to prioritize and examine the possibility of providing support to the courts which would include the purchase of equipment and furniture for the purpose of improving service delivery and making court processes more efficient. After conducting the visits and after several meetings with the HJC it was decided that the Tubas Conciliation Court was to be the first to receive assistance (the HJC also identified the Dora Conciliation Court as the next priority for receiving PJEP upgrade assistance in the next quarter).

Tubas Court upgrades: In partnership with PJEP’s upgrading assistance the HJC agreed to paint and renovate the Tubas courthouse before PJEP provided any support. Once the HJC renovations were completed, PJEP began procuring IT equipment, shelves, an A/C unit, and signage for the court. To date, the shelving for the central archiving room at the Tubas courthouse for the Civil Judgment and Notification departments as well as the Clerk’s Office is complete and the signage for all the departments in the courthouse will be ready for installation early next quarter. The new shelving will assist the court staff to easily retrieve files while the new signage will help the public to easily identify the various departments in the court.



Installation of shelves at the Tubas Courthouse

In addition, 2 computer printers were delivered to the Notification and Civil Judgment departments and a multifunction copier and scanner will be delivered to the court early next quarter. The overall upgrades to the court will assist in improving the work environment for court staff and will facilitate better services offered to the public.

HJC IT Equipment Upgrade: During this quarter, PJEP concluded most of the IT equipment procurement processes related to purchasing PC’s, heavy duty scanners, and printers, networking systems, video cameras, digital camera accessories, and photocopiers for the HJC. The equipment will be distributed to West Bank courts as well as to the Media Department. Currently, the printers and multifunction copiers have been delivered to the HJC Procurement Department who will distribute the equipment to various West Bank courts. The computers will be used in the courtrooms for printing case transcripts for the judges, lawyers and prosecutors. The copiers will support the court registry functions in the courts. In addition, the heavy duty scanners will contribute to the timely and efficient update of case management procedures. The scanners and the remaining equipment will be delivered next quarter. The equipment purchase is part of the overall plan to provide better services to the public.

Key Result Area: Provide training and technical assistance to HJC Departments

Essential skills training: Keyboarding training begun in the 2nd quarter continued this quarter targeting 56 HJC and 12 MOJ employees in Hebron, Tulkrum, Nablus and Ramallah. This training will improve the keyboarding skills of the HJC and MOJ staff and will enable the staff to be more efficient and accurate when producing official documents, including case transcripts.



HJC and MOJ staff takes part in keyboarding training in Ramallah

In addition, PJEP initiated an English language training program for MOJ, HJC and PJI senior level

administrators. The 16 English language training sessions will improve the English language skills of the administrators who conduct coordination meetings with international donors. The training will also increase the staff's accessibility to English language resources. PJEP has subcontracted Galaxy Information System Company to conduct these trainings.

Furthermore, PJEP this quarter met with the HJC Planning and Training Departments to discuss plans for specialized court staff training for Notary Public officers, Civil Enforcement and Court Registries staff and the heads of the Notification Department. A committee was formed that included the HJC Training Department staff who will provide training on the TOT program that PJEP will conduct for the staff. This training will begin next quarter.

Subcomponent 1B - Strengthen targeted functions within the MOJ

Key Result Area: Improve MOJ public services



PJEP provides furniture to the new MOJ space

Support to the MOJ new office space: As well as providing legal services to the PA, the MOJ provides a number of services directly to the public. These include certificates of no criminal record, certification of professional experts (e.g. translators and arbitrators), ratification and authentication of documents such as powers of attorney, certificates, and other legal documents that are ratified by PA representational offices abroad. Alternative dispute resolution documentation is also provided.

During the quarter, PJEP assisted the MOJ by providing furniture and IT equipment to the JIC and LAD which are housed at the new MOJ space. PJEP delivered office and computer desks, cabinets, A/C units, and chairs and installed curtains at the departments in the MOJ. Furthermore, PJEP began procurement of PC's, printers, networking systems, video cameras, digital camera accessories, and photocopiers. This equipment will be distributed to various MOJ departments in Nablus, Tubas and Ramallah. This equipment will enhance the capacity of the MOJ departments to provide better services to the public.

In addition, PJEP installed signage at the JIC and will assist with further upgrades to the center. PJEP will support the upgrades of a conference room that will be used for holding workshops and press conferences. The upgrades to the conference room will be completed next quarter. The assistance provided to these departments will improve public services, support MOJ outreach increasing public satisfaction with the MOJ.



Head of the JIC

Assist the MOJ upgrade and establish district JRO: Early in the quarter, PJEP's COTR, the COP and the Component 1 leader conducted site visits to the MOJ's Nablus and Tubas offices. The purpose of the visits was to gather information on the needs for the offices in these areas. The Tubas site at the time of the visit didn't have an established office but with PJEP's assistance a MOJ office was created. The MOJ agreed to provide and renovate a space for a MOJ office in Tubas; once the rehabilitation was completed, PJEP supplied chairs, desks, cabinets and seats for the public waiting area in MOJ departments including the JRO, Forensic and Legal Affairs Departments and the Office of the Director. PJEP is also providing the Tubas JRO with work station units that seat three MOJ staff. These facilities upgrades will allow the public to receive MOJ related services such as obtaining Non-Conviction Certificates at the Tubas office instead of traveling to Ramallah or Nablus. To date

3 printers and a LCD projector have also been delivered. PJEP expects to deliver computers and produce the signage and complete the shelving for the archiving room next quarter.

For the Nablus JRO, PJEP identified furniture and computer needs which will be provided upon the completion of the office renovations being conducted by the MOJ. PJEP began procuring the furniture late this quarter; PJEP expects to complete all furniture and IT equipment procurement next quarter. The furniture and IT equipment will be distributed to various MOJ departments within the Nablus office. PJEP will also assist in establishing a meeting and training room for the staff.

Key Result Area: Assist in activation and development of the Palestinian-Israeli JLC.

The JLC has recently been revitalized to provide a venue for consideration of practical legal issues concerning both Palestinian and Israel counterparts. The JLC is a venue for committee members to discuss troublesome technical issues in a technically-oriented, non-political setting. In the past the JLC met only sporadically occasionally since its establishment following the Oslo Accords and was co-chaired by the MOJ. The JLC did not have sufficient administrative support for documentation and follow-up relying on limited and occasional assistance from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice. The meetings resumed this quarter with for the first-time ever expert support for the Palestinian representation to the JLC and day-to-day follow-up coordination. Throughout the quarter, PJEP's JLC Senior Specialist coordinated the following:

- The JLC Specialist contacted the Israeli MOJ to follow-up on the extradition requests made by the Palestinian counterpart. These requests, prepared by the JLC Senior Specialist, are the first ever to be prepared and submitted to the Israeli counterpart according to the agreed standards. In addition, he is working with the Israeli counterpart to discuss obtaining the death records for Palestinians that died in Israel. Receiving the death reports for Palestinians that die in Israel is part of the Palestinian Israeli Interim Agreement that was agreed upon during the Oslo Accords.
- The Senior JLC Specialist worked with the Israeli Ministry of Civil Affairs to obtain permits to allow Gaza judges to participate in case hearing being held at the HJC. In addition, he participated in a meeting with the Palestinian Deputy Minister and the Quartet Representative for the Rule of Law regarding the facilitation of movement for justice sector officials. The representative is facilitating the request for movement between the Palestinian and Israeli areas as well as facilitating the extradition of wanted Palestinians who flee into Israel. The JLC Specialist and the representative will continue to coordinate with the Israeli counterparts in regard to the permit requests submitted by the Palestinian counterparts.
- Representatives from the Palestinian and Israeli JLC met to discuss ways to strengthen the work of the JLC. Both parties agreed to promote the work of the criminal evidence sub-committee and to solve issues related to land files. This meeting took place in mid-November, 2011 and the JLC Senior Specialist is working to coordinate future meetings to discuss further the criminal evidence sub-committee.
- The JLC Senior Specialist met with the representative of the UNDP and the Head of the Planning and Unit Support in the MOJ to discuss organizing a workshop with Palestinian and Israeli CSOs. The workshop aims to discuss offenses committed by settlers against Palestinian civilians and to ensure the offenses are dealt with in accordance to the agreements signed between the Palestinians and Israelis. The workshop will be held next quarter.

Component 2 – Strengthen the capacity and credibility of justice sector professionals

Key Result Area: Strengthen the capacity of the PJI

Develop DJS Courses: At the request of the Director of the PJI, PJEP is assisting in strengthening and developing a number of judicial education courses that are part of PJI's new DJS program, which is part of the PJI's curriculum for lawyers who are interested in becoming judges. There are 20 people currently in this program, 7 women (35%).

PJEP's support during the quarter included the development of the Penal Law course that the Component 2 leader is drafting. A judicial committee was formed by the PJI and the HJC Training Department that includes two judges and a senior public prosecutor. The role of the judicial committee is to provide support and review for the development of the DJS courses. In preparation of developing the Penal Law course, PJEP collected legal reviews, court precedents and other related materials according to the outline plan that was prepared by the Component 2 leader in addition to conducting several meetings with the judicial committee members. To date, the outline and methodology have been completed and commencement of the first chapter is underway. Additionally, PJEP identified a consultant to begin developing the Civil Law course; the consultant will begin work next quarter. The Penal and Civil Law courses are the first of its kind to be added to the DJS and the courses are anticipated to be introduced to the program in June, 2012.

In continuing to strengthening the DJS at the PJI, PJEP was tasked to review the Judicial Ethics course that was developed by a High Court judge. PJEP completed the review and editing of the course material will print 500 copies once the PJI approves the course material.

Judicial Continuing Education Program: A request was made by the HJC Training Department to develop a continuing education plan for the Judicial Continuing Education Program. PJEP began developing a list of training priorities for the continuing education development based on various discussions conducted with several HJC departments and judges and on the results of a survey PJEP conducted for judges at the HJC Judicial Annual Conference that took place in July, 2011. The continuing education program targets practicing judges in order to refresh skills and knowledge on new topics such as cyber-crimes and new legislation.

Supporting the enabling environment: With the move of the PJI to the new MOJ space in Ramallah, a request was made to PJEP to assist in furnishing the space as well as providing IT



PJI Accountant Office



PJI Training Room

equipment to the computer lab which will be used for trainings; the computer lab will include PC's, a heavy duty printer/scanner and LCD projectors which will be delivered next quarter. In addition, PJEP will provide three computers to the PJI. During the quarter, PJEP also delivered desks, chairs, cabinets, and an A/C unit as well as installed signage to all

the offices at the PJI. PJEP also designed and printed 2 banners that will be used during the trainings that take place at the Institute. Additionally, PJEP is preparing to install a reception counter which will be situated at the entrance of the PJI in addition to establishing two training rooms and a focus group meeting room. The new space will increase PJI capacity to host additional trainings, and provide necessary space for possible expansion of staff.

The Director of the PJI, Justice Mubarak, thanked USAID and the PJEP project for the financial support and program coordination efforts being made to the PJI. The statement was made during the opening ceremony of the PJI Judicial Studies Diploma training and education program for future judges and prosecutors.

Key Result Area: Strengthen core and specialized legal skills for judges and court staff

Training on land settlement: With the PA processing land registration, the HJC identified a



USAID PJP's COTR and COP along with the PJI Director attend the Land Settlement Law graduation ceremony

need for judges to receive training on land settlement issues, as land ownership issues are both common and complex. PJEP agreed to support land settlement law training for West Bank judges.

On October 23, 2011 the land settlement law training course began with opening statements given by the PJI Director and PJEP's COP. The five day training was conducted in Ramallah for 14 Land Settlement Judges from various West Bank courts. Some of the judges participating in this training have presided over land settlement

cases while others are expecting to preside over such cases when a decision to conduct land settlement trails is given in their jurisdictions (land settlement issues are heard in the First Instance Courts). A Jordanian land settlement expert, who is the Deputy Director of the



The training consultant meets West Bank judges

Department of Land and Survey in Jordan, conducted the training along with a co-trainer from a West Bank First Instance Court.

An October 27, 2011 "Renewed Registration" session included 3 additional judges from various West Bank courts and included topics such as land settlement law, renewed registration, tasks of the settlement officer and declarations of land settlement. The

settlement law training course concluded with a graduation ceremony which was attended by the PJI Director, PJEP's COTR, COP and DCOP. Certificates of completion were given to those who participated.

The training course was designed with input gained from PJEP's Jordanian land settlement law consultant's site visits to courts and meetings with Land Settlement judges and court staff at various locations in the West Bank. The consultant also reviewed case files and observed court hearings which helped the consultant customize the training according to the judges' needs in Palestine.

A pre-test and post-test was administered to those who participated in the training. The results confirm the five day training was a success showing an average 354% improvement in the knowledge level. Given that land settlement law is new to the Palestinian courts the level of knowledge improvement is significant but further training in this subject is needed. PJEP plans to measure the impact of the training on the judges in the coming months. The results were sent to the PJI and the HJC Training Department for review.

Training Evaluation Manual: This quarter, PJEP completed and received PJI approval on the training evaluation manual that will be used as a reference for the PJI to evaluate training programs it conducts. PJEP will also conduct training on the manual for PJI and HJC Training Department staff. The training will familiarize the staff with the evaluation manual as well as

train staff on how to use the manual properly in order to receive maximize benefit. PJEP will print 500 copies of the manual next quarter.

The TOT program on Management Training Cycle (ADDIE Model) Development: The TOT program will target PJI and HJC Training Department staff as well as court staff on the ADDIE model (Assess, Design, Develop, Implement and Evaluate Training Programs). To date, PJEP's Senior Training Specialist completed the development of the training management cycle materials that include 30 case studies, handouts and templates as well as a PowerPoint presentation. The training material will assist in facilitating the learning process and will help build the skills for practical education using the adult learning methodology. Adult learning and facilitation skills are an essential part of the TOT skill learning techniques.

Two additional trainings will take place next quarter, one for PJI and HJC Training Department staff and a second for court staff. The purpose of the training is to enhance the knowledge and skills of the following:

- How to identify training priorities
- How to produce a training plan
- How to select trainees and training providers
- How to develop a training database
- How to design and develop training programs and materials
- How to be a good facilitator
- How to evaluate training programs

Key Result Area: Strengthen practical legal education

Provide assistance to five law schools: During the quarter, PJEP identified the following 5 law schools to receive assistance: Al Ahliya Law School in Bethlehem, Hebron University, Modern College in Ramallah, Al Quds University and An-Najah University in Nablus. All the law schools have signed the Anti-Terrorism Certificate (ATC) and USAID vetting approval was received by the end of the quarter. The vetting approvals enabled PJEP to proceed with several law school activities including the moot court competitions, computer lab upgrades, development of moot court facilities and the purchase of legal periodicals and books.

Moot Court Competitions: PJEP is supporting the development of local, national, regional and international moot court competitions. PJEP will assist law schools in building the skills of students from partner law schools by supporting these moot court competitions.



The Component 2 leader presents during an orientation session at Al Quds University

During the quarter, PJEP conducted coordination meetings with Al Quds, An Najah, Al Ahilya, Modern College and Hebron law schools to discuss the local moot court competition. After the meetings it was decided that fourth year law students from Al Quds, An Najah, Al Ahilya and Hebron law schools were prepared to take part in the local competition; 90 students from these law schools registered for the competition. PJEP's Component 2 leader then conducted orientation sessions that illustrated the main components of moot court competition, including how to read and conduct legal research, as well as how to draft the materials including memorials (case study and analysis). At the end of each session, the students were divided into groups and were given two weeks to develop memorials. The memorials were then submitted to the Component 2 leader for review and feedback. The

Component 2 leader subsequently conducted a training session to discuss the basics of writing memorials as well as highlighting the process of presenting the memorials in the local moot court competition. Further moot court competition training is needed and PJEP is in the process of obtaining vetting information for each student who will participate in the competition. The local moot court competitions will take place next quarter. Winners of these competitions will compete at the national moot court competitions. The winners of the national moot court competition (the English version) may be able to take part in the next International JESSUP Moot Court Competition in Washington D.C., depending on availability of further USAID funding.

Establish/upgrade reliable computer labs for Law Schools:

In order to provide better facilities to law schools, PJEP is currently in the process of establishing computer labs for the law schools. The lab upgrades will enable law students to build their computer skills and will allow the students to conduct legal research which will broaden and strengthen their legal capabilities. PJEP will procure IT equipment including computers and printers for Al Ahliya, Hebron and An Najah Universities.

Create moot court facilities: PJEP has begun the procurement processes for the creation of the moot court facilities for Al Ahliya, Hebron and An Najah Universities. The moot court facilities to be provided will enable students to have an arena to strengthen their oral argument skills and their practical skills knowledge.

Establish specialized legal libraries: PJEP will provide books and legal periodicals for Al Ahliya, Hebron, Modern College, Al Quds and An-Najah Universities. This quarter, PJEP received lists of books and legal periodicals requested from each law school. The books and legal periodicals will be delivered next quarter.

Component 3 – Broaden public awareness of Rule of Law and engagement with the justice sector

Key Result Area: Enhance HJC and MOJ public outreach capacities

Training on Film Editing: PJEP engaged a local company to conduct a training on “short film editing” for the HJC and MOJ Media Unit staff, late last quarter. The 10-session training enhanced the media capacities of the MOJ and the HJC. The media staff have been active in making short films, but relied on outside assistance to edit the final productions. This training enables the media staff to not only produce the films but also to edit the final product.



PJEP conducts a graduation ceremony for MOJ and HJC media staff

To mark the end of the “short film editing” a graduation ceremony was held at the PJEP office on October 25, 2011 and was attended by the MOJ Director of Finance and Administration, the head of the MOJ Media Unit and PJEP’s COP. The MOJ Director of Finance and Administration and the head of the MOJ Media Unit spoke of the impact the training had on the participants and how the training will assist the HJC and MOJ staff develop materials that will be used to produce films and photos for the justice sector institutions. The ceremony ended with the participants receiving a certificate of completion. It is worth noting, that the event was filmed and the film was edited by the participants and broadcast on Palestine TV.

Filmmaking Training: PJEP will continue to build the capacity of MOJ and HJC staff by providing additional filmmaking training to those who took part in the “short film editing training”. Currently, PJEP is preparing a contract for the vendor to provide 6 sessions of training.

HJC Newsletter: PJEP is currently reviewing the HJC quarterly newsletter titled “Qada’una” (Our Justice System). PJEP will print and deliver the newsletters to the HJC next quarter. The newsletters are used as a public outreach tool to inform the public of the HJC’s activities and services enhancements. The newsletters are distributed to court staff, stakeholders, and local news outlets.

Key Result Area: Improve practical civic education in Palestinian communities and schools

Provide grants to raise awareness of the Rule of Law and human rights and promote civic education: Late last quarter, PJEP conducted a pre-award workshop for all potential CSO applicants to ensure that project and grant objectives were clear, and to explain the rules and regulations as well as the application submission procedures. After the workshop, potential CSOs submitted concept notes early in the quarter for review by PJEP. PJEP then short-listed 10 CSOs and requested them to submit full applications for review before a decision was made to select four grantees. The four CSOs selected to receive a grant are: Juhoud, Ellid, Students Forum Institute, and Al-Marsad. Each of these CSOs will be potentially awarded a \$25,000 grant. USAID approval has been received on the full application and PJEP is currently drafting the contracts which will be signed early next quarter. Below is a description of each grant objective:

EL-Lid Charitable Society

This grant will work to increase trust in judicial institutions by broadening public awareness through quiz shows. The grantee will conduct 20 quiz show competitions throughout the northern West Bank. The competitions will be broadcast on local TV stations in order to reach a wider audience. The winners of these competitions will receive a prize. The quiz shows will be used to enhance the understanding of previously unclear legal framework, institutional roles and mandates as well as increase awareness and understanding of Rule of Law and procedures amongst marginalized populations including women, youth, people with disabilities, and rural populations. The quiz shows will also enhance broad-based positive enthusiasm for the growing judicial systems institutions and Rule of Law that provide productive and effective alternatives to traditional tribal judicial techniques.

Juhoud for Community and Rural Development

This grant aims to spread an enhanced understanding of the Rule of Law along with a better understanding of how the justice system and its functions work through a drama show production. The grantee will produce a Rule of Law drama show that will be featured in 6 secondary schools in Tulkram and Salfit. The goal of the activity is to teach youth to become aware of issues related to the justice system and become more involved in observing the Rule of Law.

Students’ Forum Institute

This grant program will raise awareness of the concept of the Rule of Law among school aged students in the Bethlehem area. The grantee will train 20 university students on various Rule of Law topics who will in turn train 7th and 8th grade students. The objective is to increase the rate of student civic participation and to enhance the academic achievement among students at universities and schools.

Al Marsad – Arab World Democracy and Electoral Monitor

The grantee will develop a detailed manual for teachers about the Rule of Law, 1200 schools will receive the manual and 30 teachers will be trained. The goal of this activity is to enhance the teacher's knowledge of Rule of Law concepts and to encourage the Ministry of Education to adopt the manual of the Rule of Law for use in the schools.

Key Result Area: Increase engagement and public awareness of key justice sector stakeholders



The JRO campaign ad

JRO Campaign: During the quarter, PJEP along with the MOJ worked to produce and finalize the JRO campaign. The goal of the campaign is to highlight and provide information on the services the MOJ's JRO offers to the public. The campaign launch began on December 29, 2011. The ads are currently being aired during peak hours on several local and national radio stations including Al-Mahabbah (Nablus), Ajial (National), Bethlehem 2000 (South), and Al-Balad (Northern West Bank). Campaign ads have also been published in Al-Quds and Al-Ayyam newspapers as well as Ma'an website. The MOJ JRO campaign will last for one month.

AD Campaign: PJEP is working with the MOJ to develop a public outreach campaign educating the public on the services provided by the AD. The campaign's message will focus on the various West Bank locations where the AD conducts services. The campaign will also focus on the type of services available at the department. The campaign is part of the MOJ's outreach activities to educate the public on the role of the MOJ. The 30 day campaign will begin next quarter and will broadcast on the radio, Ma'an website and in print form in local newspapers.

Court Files Radio Series: This quarter, the HJC approved the development of a radio series to broadcast case episodes which are drawn from real court cases. The series is intended to serve as a creative communication tool that would contribute to public understanding of legal issues and awareness of the court system. In this regard, PJEP worked in close consultation with the HJC to produce two radio series episodes titled "Women's Right to Inherit" and "Honor Killings". In addition, production on another 3 episodes is currently being developed. Prior to production, PJEP reviewed 7 scripts and provided edits and comments. To date, promotion of the radio series has begun on Raya FM, Minbar Alhurriyyeh (Hebron) and Tareeq al-Mahabbah (Nablus) stations. The actual radio series will also air on Raya FM, Minbar Alhurriyyeh (Hebron) and Tareeq al-Mahabbah (Nablus) stations following the promotional phase.

HJC Informational and Instructional Signage: PJEP is working with the HJC to develop informational and instructional signage that will inform the public of essential information that would save time and effort when visiting the courts. The HJC provided feedback and suggestions on the type of information and instruction to use for the signage, PJEP is currently reviewing the suggestions and will design a draft signage model. The signs will be placed in all West Bank courts.

Donor Coordination

On October 10, 2011, PJEP's COP attended the Justice Sector Working Group meeting at the Ministry of Planning. The COP presented an overview of PJEP and the activities that will take place during the life of the program. Attendees included representatives from UNDP, EUPOLCOPPS, SEYEDA, MOJ, HJC, PJI's Director, CIDA and the Minister of Planning



PJEP's COP attends the Justice Sector Working Group meeting

just to name a few. The agenda included a discussion on MOJ's, HJC's and the Attorney General's Office strategic plans. An M&E framework for the justice sector was briefly discussed and an update was given on the Thematic Group for trainings. The presentation received strong support from UNDP representatives who strongly endorsed the training activities. Also during the quarter, PJEP's COTR and COP attended the Palestinian Public Prosecution's Annual Conference at the Jericho Intercontinental Hotel. The conference was held on December 15, 2011.

Implementation Issues

Late last quarter, PJEP received news that a congressional hold on FY 2011 funds had been implemented. With this information, the project re-evaluated all planned project activities and revised and received USAID approval for an interim work plan that focuses on highest priority activities. This re-evaluation included downsizing PJEP staff. The positions scaled back included the Justice Institution Strengthening Expert, a project assistant and a driver. Short term international experts were notified to leave the project and return home. Two staff members including the Court Strengthening Specialist and the translator were placed on part-time contracts. PJEP halted the hiring process of 8 technical and support staff that was under recruitment. Several cuts to project activities were also made including planned trainings to HJC and MOJ staff, the development of several DJS courses, grants cuts and planned conferences. Late in the quarter, partial additional funding was received and PJEP was able to re-instate some project activities.

PJEP will use the recently obligated money to conduct additional activities in the coming year, in addition to the previously planned activities. The additional activities include supporting service delivery in the Hebron, Dura and Tulkram Courts, increasing specialized court staff training by 50%, providing a short term consultant to develop the HJC Annual Report and assisting with producing and printing public outreach materials for the HJC and the MOJ. PJEP will also hire a consultant to provide assistance for the HJC Media Center as well as support a number of conferences including the HJC Annual Judicial Conference, the Media and Justice Conference and the Court Staff Conference. PJEP will also support specialized judicial training and will develop an additional computer lab for a selected law school as well as award two additional grants to CSOs working in the field of media and journalism.

Other Updates



USAID Mission Director and PJEP's COTR attend PJEP's presentation on milestones achieved throughout the year

This quarter, PJEP hosted a presentation for USAID Mission Director, Mike Harvey and PJEP's COTR Ma'ali Shawish. The presentation which took place at the PJEP's office was an opportunity to showcase PJEP's achievements to date. A PowerPoint presentation highlighted all the program activities that have been implemented as well as existing and future planned activities. The Mission Director reinforced the importance of Rule of Law in Palestine and thanked PJEP's staff for all its achievements and its commitment to working to improve the Rule of Law. A small reception followed at which point the Mission Director met with the entire PJEP staff.



PJEP's COP highlights the projects achievements

During the quarter, Chris Scott, Chemonics International's Middle East Senior Vice President visited the PJEP and ICI offices. During the visit, Mr. Scott met with PJEP and ICI staff and presented a briefing on the current situation regarding funding. After the briefing a question and answer session took place. Other meetings with the PJEP's COP also took place.

Also during the quarter, PJEP's COP and the Operations and Administration Director attended a "Vetting Training" at the USAID Mission in Tel Aviv and the Procurement Specialist and the Finance Manager attended a two day training session titled "Partners Contracted Audit Workshop". The training was conducted by USAID in Jerusalem. PJEP staff also took part in the USAID Partner Fraud Awareness Training held at the Moevenpick Hotel in Ramallah.

Summary of Proposed Planned Activities for FY12 Quarter 2:

Component 1: Enhance accessibility and efficiency of targeted justice sector institutions

- Conduct the TOT training for selected HJC court staff
- Upgrade the Dora Conciliation Court
- Upgrade the Tulkram Courts
- Complete the upgrades to the MOJ Tubas and Nablus branch
- Provide IT support for MOJ, HJC, and Tubas Court
- Provide support to the HJC and MOJ Media Center
- Provide technical assistance to the HJC on the use of statistical tools for improving case management in the courts
- Conduct basic computer skills training
- Continue to support the upgrades to the new MOJ office space
- Conduct a court user's satisfaction survey in selected HJC courts and MOJ institutions

Component 2: Strengthen capacity and credibility of justice sector professionals

- Develop the DJS Civil Law course
- Print 500 copies of the Judicial Ethics course
- Print 500 copies of the Evaluation Training Manual
- Conduct 4 local moot court competitions
- Provide TOT training for justice sector staff
- Develop computer labs for law universities

Component 3: Broaden public awareness of Rule of Law and engagement with justice sector

- Conduct filmmaking training
- Conduct the AD campaign
- Begin the radio series outreach campaign
- Begin the grants implementation program
- Select an additional two CSOs to receive a grant
- Install informational signage for all West Bank courts
- Print the HJC quarterly newsletter
- Provide a consultant to assist the staff at the HJC Media Center
- Provide a consultant to develop the HJC Annual Report

Monitoring and Evaluation

Court User's Satisfaction Survey: PJEP this quarter procured a contractor for a court user's satisfaction survey that will begin early next quarter. Creative Business Solution consultancy firm was selected to conduct the survey. A meeting took place with the management of the firm to discuss developing the questions that will be used in the survey. The contract will be ready to sign next quarter. In addition, PJEP conducted a meeting with CIDA in order to discuss the possibility of adding a few security questions to the court user's satisfaction survey that will be conducted. It was agreed that if applicable, PJEP will incorporate a few security related questions to the survey.

PMP indicator update

Level/#	Indicator	Baseline	FY 2012 Target	End of Quarter
Project				
1	Percent of public expressing confidence in the justice system ¹	3.18	3.3	3.18
Component 1				
1.1	No. of USG-assisted courts with improved case management ²	n/a	n/a	n/a
1.2	Number of legal institutions and associations supported by USG assistance*	0	4	7
1.3	Percent change of justice institution/division users expressing satisfaction in the particular institution or division used*	0	+5%	0
1.4	Number of divisions that receive improvements of equipment, furniture, or refurbishment	0	3	7
1.5	Percent change in number of transactions completed within a specified time	0	+5%	0
Component 2				
2.1	Percent of students from law schools receiving USG assistance participating in practical skills training	0	20%	6%
2.2	Percent of those trained or those who supervisors report that training helped improve how they did their job*	0	20%	0
2.3	Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance	0	2	1
2.4	Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG Assistance*	0	50	25
2.4(a)	Number of men justice sector personnel that received USG training*	0	30	21
2.4(b)	Number of women justice sector personnel that received USG training*	0	20	4

¹ Baseline number taken from UNDP 2011 survey of public opinion on the justice sector, Table 44, change in rating on a scale of 1 to 5.

² Indicator 1.1 will be reported in FY 11 only. Indicator 1.2 will replace indicator 1.1 because indicator 1.2 captures PJEP's activity implementation that will be conducted during the life of the project.

Level/#	Indicator	Baseline	FY 2012 Target	End of Quarter
Component 3				
3.1	Number of justice sector related public outreach activities conducted with USG assistance ³	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.2	Number of USG-assisted campaigns and programs to enhance public understanding, NGO support and media coverage of judicial independence and accountability *	0	3	1
3.3	Number of CSOs receiving USG Assistance engaged in advocacy interventions*	0	4	0
3.4	Number of justice sector materials/publication produced with PJEP support ⁴	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.5	Percent of public expressing awareness of the role of the justice system in serving citizens ⁵	23.15%	25%	23.15%

* = USAID Standard Indicator

³ Indicator 3.1 will be reported in FY 11 only. Indicator 3.2 will replace indicator 3.1 because indicator 3.2 is a USAID Operational Indicator and captures PJEP's activity implementation that will be conducted during the life of the project.

⁴ Indicator 3.4 will be reported in FY 11 only. Indicator 3.4 will replace indicator 3.5 because indicator 3.5 captures PJEP's activity implementation that will be conducted during the life of the project.

⁵ Baseline number taken from UNDP 2011 public opinion survey on the justice sector, Table 6, average of questions 2 and 6

Financial summary

Spending

Ceiling	Obligated	Cumulative	FY12, Q1	FY12, Q2
\$14,994,749	\$6,000,000	\$1,832,450	\$1,001,052	\$991,710

Obligations

