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# QUARTERLY REPORT #6

Palestinian Justice Enhancement Program  
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1 April to 30 June, 2012

# PALESTINIAN JUSTICE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

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## Acronyms

AD	Authentication Department
CBS	Creative Business Solutions
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
DMAS	Document Management Archiving System
DMO	Deputy Minister's Office
EUPOLCOPPS	EU Co-ordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support
GIA	Grant Implementation Agreement
HJC	High Judicial Council
ICDL	International Computer Driving License
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
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOI	Ministry of Interior
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
PA	Palestinian Authority
PC	Personal Computer
PIR	Project Intermediate Results
PJEP	Palestinian Justice Enhancement Program
PACE	Palestinian Authority Capacity Enhancement Project
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 Palestinian Justice Enhancement Program (PJEP) is to strengthen public confidence in and respect for justice sector institutions and the Rule of Law in the West Bank. During the quarter, PJEP contributed to this goal through targeted assistance to justice institutions, legal professionals, civil society and the public.

In its continued effort to support the High Judicial Council (HJC), this quarter PJEP upgraded the First Instance and Conciliation Courts, Civil Judgment and Notary Public Departments in the Hebron, Dora, Tulkrum, Nablus and Salfit courts. In addition, PJEP partnered with the USAID Palestinian Authority Capacity Enhancement Project (PACE) to upgrade, during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the Ramallah Conciliation Court. PJEP will provide the IT equipment and furniture and the design and engineering services fees while PACE will be responsible for the facilities renovations of the court.

PJEP also delivered 56 computers and 20 heavy duty scanners to the HJC. The computers will be used in the courtrooms to type case transcripts and the scanners will be used to improve the case management in the courts. PJEP's 4 data entry interns are currently using the scanners to process backlogged documents. The interns are also working on entering data into the Al Mizan 2 program. This PJEP assistance will help reduce the case backlog that exists in the courts as well as archive documents in their proper place.

During the quarter, PJEP completed the International Computer Driving License (ICDL) Basic Computer Skills training for 83 justice sector staff. 15 MOJ staff also took part in the training that will help the staff work more efficiently and have a better command of the computer and its functions. Additionally, 9 MOJ staff completed the level two English language training provided by PJEP. PJEP also conducted a Training of Trainers (TOT) program for 11 court staff who are responsible for training 105 court staff from the Notary Public, Civil Judgment and Notification Departments as well as staff from the Court Registry's Office.

Support to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) included the delivery of 36 computers to the new space in Ramallah. The computers were distributed to various departments including the Media Center and the Legal Affairs Department (LAD). At the MOJ Nablus office PJEP completed the upgrades to the training room and delivered equipment and furniture. PJEP also provided assistance to the "One Million Documents Project" that was launched by the MOJ Authentication Department. PJEP's data entry interns are working to archive the official documents that are authenticated by the department. Assistance was also provided to the Deputy Minister Office. PJEP's advisor who is embedded at the MOJ is working to improve the administrative procedures at the Office.

Through the work of the Joint Legal Committee (JLC), two Palestinian suspects who fled into Israel were extradited to the Palestinian territories. The extradition was based on a request which was submitted by PJEP's JLC Senior Specialist and was the first ever to be prepared and submitted to the Israeli counterpart according to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement.

To assist the Palestinian Judicial Institute (PJI), PJEP completed the development of the Civil Law course material that will be added to the PJI's Diploma Judicial Studies (DJS) program. PJEP also completed the upgrades to the PJI computer lab by delivering 23 PC's, a heavy

duty printer/scanner and a video projector. The lab will be used by judges, lawyers and court staff. Other continuing support included training judges on “Judicial Mediation” and “Insurance Law”.

With the aim to improve the practical skills of law students, PJEP conducted the first ever Local Moot Court Competition for qualified third and fourth year law students. 41 students took part in the competition that was conducted at Al Ahliya, An Najah, Al Quds and Hebron Universities. The 19 winners of the competition will take part in the National Moot Court Competition to be held next quarter. PJEP also completed the remodeling of moot court facilities for Hebron, Al Ahliya and, An Najah Universities. The moot court facilities will enable law students to have a dedicated facility to strengthen their oral argument capability.

PJEP assisted the HJC’s public outreach this quarter by completing the radio series campaign. In total 15 episodes were aired on the national radio station Raya FM twice a week. The series is a creative communication tool that enhances the public understanding of legal issues and awareness of the court system. PJEP also completed the Authentication Campaign for the MOJ. The campaign served as a public outreach tool to educate the public on the services the department offers.

During the quarter, PJEP’s grantees El Lid Charitable Society, Juhoud, Student’s Forum Institute (SFI) and Al Marsad completed their grant obligations. PJEP also awarded 3 additional grants totaling \$75,000 to Ma’an Network, Internews Network and Amin Media Network. These grants will focus on bridging the gap between judicial institutions and the media.

A major highlight this quarter was the “Judicial Media Conference” that was sponsored by PJEP and hosted by the judicial institutions. The conference served as an opportunity for justice sector actors and journalists to come together to discuss the challenges and to produce a code of conduct on how to cover judicial news without jeopardizing the integrity of the law and preserving freedom of expression. Over 150 judges, court staff and journalist attended the 3 day conference that was held in Jericho on June 17-19, 2012.

In order to measure the impact of PJEP’s efforts in the courts a pre-court user’s satisfaction survey was conducted in the Hebron, Salfit, Tulkram, Jericho and Dora court as well as the MOJ office in Nablus. PJEP will conduct a post-court user’s satisfaction survey once the upgrades are completed in these facilities.

Finally, PJEP received the balance of obligated funds for the Fiscal Year 2011. With the obligated funds released PJEP began re-instating project activities that were put on hold in the last quarter of 2011 with the freeze on funds. PJEP also began the recruitment and hiring of several approved positions that were delayed because of the funding hold.

# ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

PJEP’s goal is to strengthen public confidence and respect for justice sector institutions and the Rule of Law in the West Bank. 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 this quarter’s 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 in the fairness, accessibility, and efficiency of court processes and services. Rapid and visible improvements in the court processes and services are a priority for the HJC. The MOJ also plays an important role in developing policy, formulating, coordinating, and implementing strategic plans, and in managing relationships with other justice sector institutions and provides critical services to the public. Therefore, focusing PJEP assistance to strengthen the public services provided by the MOJ and its impact upon public capacity is 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

*Court upgrades:* PJEP completed the furniture procurement for the First Instance and Conciliation Courts, Civil Judgment and Notary Public Departments in the Hebron, Dora, Tulkrum, Nablus and Salfit courts. PJEP provided the courts with public and staff chairs, curtains, and metal shelving. The Dora Civil Judgment department will also receive a queuing system which will allow for more efficient customer service early next quarter. Metal shelves were also installed in the Court Registries, archiving rooms, and various departments within the courts. This metal shelving will allow the court staff to easily store and retrieve files in a more accurate and efficient manner while also speeding up public requests and transactions.



PJEP provides metal shelving to the Dora court

In addition, PJEP provided the HJC with an assessment report that identified the type of rehabilitation needs required in the various courts. Once the HJC completed the rehabilitation needs, PJEP began the carpentry work for the courts. The carpentry work includes providing more counter space which will seat additional staff working in the court and redesigning the customer service layout in order to accommodate waiting areas. This carpentry work is expected to be completed early next quarter which will help the HJC provide more efficient and faster services to the public. The upgrades to the various courts and departments are part of PJEP’s overall goal to improve services provided to the public and to assist the HJC to become a more efficient and better functioning justice sector institution.

*Upgrading the Ramallah Conciliation Court:* During the quarter, PJEP was requested by USAID to collaborate with the USAID PACE project in rehabilitating one of the busiest courts in Ramallah. The Ramallah Conciliation Court handles all misdemeanor cases, and a

wide range of civil cases related to land, property, and basic commercial disputes. In 2010, the court handled 32,142 cases—the highest volume of cases handled by any Palestinian court during that year. In comparison, the Ramallah First Instance Court handled only 2,805 cases in 2010, which means that over 92% of cases handled in the Ramallah governorate are handled by the Conciliation Court. This easily classifies conciliation courts as the primary point of contact between Palestinian citizens and the justice system.

As such, this activity is based on the need for more efficient use of space for public customers, including queuing systems, additional seating, and air conditioning. It will also separate judges from public areas, helping to control public access and provide judges with an improved work environment. The refurbishment will also improve filing areas and create appropriate, locked areas for evidence storage.

To get a quick start, PJEP and PACE began visiting the court to determine the preliminary cost for re-designing the court and to discuss the timeline for completing the upgrades as soon as USAID approval was received. PJEP will provide the court with furniture and IT equipment and pay for engineering and architecture fees while PACE will rehabilitate and upgrade the court structure. The rehabilitation efforts of the court will begin early next quarter.

*Coordination Meetings:* Several coordination meetings took place this quarter. PJEP's



**PJEP's team meets with the Chief Justice**

USAID COTR, COP, DCOP and Component 1 Leader met with the Chief Justice to discuss the 5th Annual Judicial Conference. The Chief Justice confirmed the dates of the conference which will be on August 30-31, 2012. PJEP updated the Chief Justice on the progress made to date on the upgrades to the Hebron, Tulkram, Salfit and Nablus courts. There was also a discussion on the proposed study tour to Jordan for the court administration staff.

The study tour will include visiting various courts in Jordan and examining the progress made in using IT in the courts. The Chief Justice is planning a trip to Jordan and following his return he will provide PJEP with a list of suggested topics to focus on when the study tour is conducted.

In addition, PJEP's USAID COTR, COP, and DCOP met with the Chief Justice to discuss future project activities that PJEP will implement in the various courts. The goal of the meeting was to determine the needs of the HJC and to begin developing a timetable of when project activities will be implemented.

*Technical Support to the HJC:* Early in the quarter, PJEP's Case Management Consultant submitted a detailed report of the findings and recommendations that will help improve the case flow management at the HJC. The report was used as a guide when meeting with the head of the HJC Planning Unit to discuss the implementation of activities that will help improve the case management at the courts. The consultant, with agreement and cooperation of the HJC, developed a case management activities matrix that includes the following:

- Develop time standards (this activity is in progress and supported by SEYEDA)
- Develop a time standards implementation timetable
- Develop a case weighing study
- Conduct an exchange program in Jordan

- Form a backlog reduction task force
- Develop a model courts program

These activities will help the HJC develop a more effective case flow management process leading to improvement in the courts. PJEP’s Case Management Consultant will begin implementing the case management activities next quarter.

*HJC IT Equipment Upgrade:* This quarter, PJEP delivered 56 computers and 20 heavy duty scanners to the HJC. The HJC Procurement Department received the IT equipment and distributed it to the various West Bank courts and departments. The computers will be used in the courtrooms for printing case transcripts for the judges, lawyers, and prosecutors. The scanners will be used to archive case files and will assist in improving the case management in the courts. This activity is part of PJEP’s overall goal to improve the public perception of professionalism of the courts and to increase the access to court user information. The IT equipment will also facilitate better services to the public as well as assist the staff to perform their work duties more efficiently.

*Supporting the HJC:* To further aid the justice sector institutions, PJEP recruited 4 data entry interns to assist at the Nablus, Ramallah, and Jericho Civil Judgment Departments. PJEP’s interns will enter data into the Al Mizan 2 program and scan backlogged documents using the heavy duty scanners PJEP provided. The assistance will help the departments reduce its case backlog and assist in archiving documents that have yet to be handled in their proper place. The interns received training and an orientation on how to conduct the needed work for the Civil Judgment Departments.

In addition, PJEP began recruiting a statistical analyst to serve at the HJC headquarters for a period of 4 months. PJEP’s analyst will render analytical services to the HJC through studying the reports and developing recommendation to help improve how the HJC processes case data and stores the information.

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

*International Computer Driving License (ICDL) Basic Computer Skills training:* PJEP



**Ramallah justice sector staff participates in the basic computer skills training**

launched and completed the 60 hour “Basic Computer Skills” (ICDL) training for 68 HJC court staff from various courts throughout the West Bank. The training was conducted in four locations including Tulkram, Nablus, Hebron, and Ramallah. The

training focused on the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and the use of the internet and e-mail. The head of the Court Administration Department Judge Izzat Rameeni launched the first session in Ramallah and commented on the significance of the training course and emphasized the importance of staff to dedicate their time to completing the course in a successful manner in order to receive the best possible results. The overall goal of the “Basic Computer Skills” (ICDL) training was to enable the court staff to work more efficiently and to

have a better command of the computer and its functions. In addition, 15 MOJ staff from Ramallah also took part in the training. In total, 83 justice sector staff attended the training.

*English language training:* During the quarter, PJEP held the English language graduation ceremony at the HJC Media Center.



HJC staff takes part in English language training

The head of the Court Administration Department Judge Izzat Rameeni thanked USAID/PJEP for funding the training which will assist the HJC court staff to conduct coordination meetings with international donors. The training also increased the staff's accessibility to English language resources. Judge Izzat congratulated

the trainees on their dedication. PJEP's COP highlighted PJEP's commitment to the HJC and hoped that USAID/PJEP will fund future trainings in this important area. Both Judge Izzat and PJEP's COP presented the 18 trainees with certificates of completion.

In addition, 9 MOJ administrators completed the level two English language training and 13 MOJ staff completed the level one course last quarter.

## Subcomponent 1B - Strengthen targeted functions within the MOJ

### Key Result Area: Improve MOJ public services

*Support to the MOJ:* As well as providing legal services to the PA, the MOJ provides a number of services directly to the public. These include non-conviction certificates, 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 delivered 36 computers to the new MOJ space in Ramallah. The computers will be distributed to various departments at the MOJ including the Media Center and the Legal Affairs Department. The overall goal of this activity is to enhance the capacity of the MOJ departments to provide better services to the public and to support the MOJ's public outreach and increase public satisfaction with the work of the MOJ.

To further assist the MOJ, PJEP completed the upgrades to the Nablus MOJ training room. PJEP also delivered a smart board that includes a projector and a video screen. The equipment will be used to facilitate training sessions at the institution. The upgrades to the Nablus MOJ office is the last of a series of upgrades PJEP provided to this office. Last quarter, PJEP completed the delivery of chairs, desks, cabinets, and seats for the public area for the Justice Record Office (JRO), Legal Affairs Department (LAD), Forensic Department, and the Office of the Director. The upgrades have allowed the public to receive MOJ related services such as obtaining non-conviction certificates at the Nablus office instead of traveling to Ramallah. The training room has allowed the staff to conduct trainings in house instead of using outside resources for trainings.

*MOJ Authentication Services:* In the Ramallah MOJ office, PJEP is currently working with the MOJ to achieve the “One Million Document Project”. The project aims to electronically archive one million official documents verified by the MOJ as part of the authentication services. Archiving these official public documents will make it easier for staff to retrieve the documents when requested by the public, as well as to preserve the confidentiality of the documents. The assistance will also help the institution reduce its case backlog and assist in archiving documents that have yet to be archived in their proper place, both in paper files and electronically. During the quarter, PJEP completed the upgrades of a designated area at the Authentication



**PJEP's interns working at the MOJ**

Department. The area is being used to house 4 PJEP data entry interns who were employed to assist with the “One Million Document Project”. In addition, PJEP delivered a network storage unit which is heavy duty equipment that will allow for the proper storage of information and documents. The PJEP interns received training and an orientation on how to conduct the needed work for the MOJ. The interns are working to archive the documents during a 3 month period.

*Assistance to Deputy Minister Office (DMO):* In its continued efforts to support the MOJ, PJEP’s advisor began working at the Deputy Minister’s Office. The advisor is embedded at the MOJ for 4 months and is providing support in order to improve the administrative procedures in the Office. During the quarter, PJEP’s advisor conducted a number of assignments, including the development of a concept paper on performance management. The performance management paper will be used as a management tool to track the performance of MOJ staff. The advisor collected information on the internal and external committees the MOJ oversees. The information gathered will help keep a record of the work committees headed by the Deputy Minister. In addition, a data form was developed that includes a cover letter to be used by the MOJ committees. The advisor also followed up on the use of the Document Management Archiving System (DMAS) in cooperation with the IT department. The system is being used to archive official documents and the advisor is overseeing this process. The support provided to the DMO will help improve the administrative practices and help the MOJ to function more efficiently and effectively.

#### **Key Result Area: Assist in activation and development of the Palestinian-Israeli Joint Legal Committee (JLC)**

The JLC has recently been revitalized to provide a venue for consideration of practical legal issues concerning both Palestinian and Israeli counterparts. The JLC is a venue for committee members to discuss troublesome technical issues in a technically-oriented, non-political setting.

*Extradition Request:* A major success accomplished through the work of the Joint Legal Committee (JLC) was the arrest of two Palestinian suspects who fled into Israel and were then extradited to the Palestinian territories. The extradition was based on a request which was prepared by the JLC Senior Specialist and was the first ever to be prepared and submitted to the Israeli counterpart according to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement. The extradition request was sent to the Israeli counterpart for review and approval. The JLC Specialist then received an official letter from the Legal Advisor to the Israeli Government and the Israeli Minister of Justice which approved the extradition requests of three Palestinian murder

suspects from the West Bank city of Qalqilia. After the approval of the extradition request the Israeli counterpart confirmed with the JLC Specialist that all legal procedures are in place for the search of and apprehension for the murder suspects. Once arrested by the Israeli police the suspects were then handed over to the Palestinian police and arraigned in court. With the successful extradition of these Palestinian suspects more extradition requests were submitted to the JLC Specialist. The Palestinian General Police Directorate provided the JLC Specialist with a list of 59 names and charges of Palestinian criminal suspects who have fled into Israel. The Specialist is examining the list of names and charges to verify if they meet the requirements of the extradition request procedure according to the annex 4 of the Palestinian-Israeli Interim Agreement.

*Legal Cooperation:* The JLC Specialist delivered the authentication document of a court decision that was made by a judge in Haifa. The Israeli counterpart requested the JLC Specialist to provide the proper documentation for the court decision. The JLC Specialist received other documents from the Israeli counterpart for authentication. The JLC Specialist will validate the documents that were received by the Israeli counterpart at the Palestinian MOJ Authentication Department.

The JLC Specialist is working with the UNDP contractor who is gathering data on the Palestinian criminal justice system. The data will be used to develop a study that will determine any impact on movement restrictions within the Palestinian justice sector. To date, the Specialist and the contractor have drafted a questionnaire that will be used to gather the needed information. The Minister of Justice has reviewed and given approval for use of the questionnaire.

*Coordination Meetings:* The JLC Specialist met the EU Co-ordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support (EUPOL COPPS) head of Rule of Law to discuss the request by the EUPOL COPPS for the JLC to support the pilot of two cases in which the Palestinian counterpart transfers evidence to the Israeli counterpart in regard to crimes committed by Israelis in the Palestinian territories. The JLC Specialist informed the EUPOL COPPS representative that any support must be conducted through the JLC and the selection of the pilot cases must be approved by the Palestinian MOJ. A second meeting was held with the EUPOL COPPS to discuss conducting two workshops related to criminal investigations and the chain of evidence. The workshops will be conducted for the Palestinian and Israeli counterparts.

Additionally, the JLC Specialist met with the representatives of the Quartet for Rule of Law to discuss the type of support the Quartet could provide to the Palestinian counterpart for cases in area C that are related to the mandates of the JLC. The JLC Specialist met with the Quartet representative for the Rule of Law to discuss the Quartet's efforts to support the JLC. The JLC Specialist briefed the Deputy Minister of Justice on the discussions who then applauded the efforts of the Quartet for the support it provides to the JLC. The Deputy Minister of Justice also discussed the legal paper that was produced by the JLC Specialist, specifically addressing the legal status of Palestinians who hold Jerusalem ID's. The Deputy Minister wanted clarity on how to bring Jerusalem ID holders to court when a crime is committed in the Palestinian jurisdiction. The Specialist then prepared a document on the Palestinian jurisdiction in regard to Palestinians who hold Jerusalem ID's. The document clarifies a number of issues that have to do with the jurisdiction of this group. The document will be sent to the Palestinian Deputy Minister of Justice and the head of the First Instance court for review.

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

Under this component, PJEP is working with the PJI staff to develop PJI’s DJS courses while taking into account the results of both needs and impact assessments. The courses will target judges, court staff, prosecutors, and other PJI audiences. PJEP is working to strengthen core and specialized legal skills for judges and court staff as well as build the capacity of the PJI staff to develop training impact assessments. PJEP is also working with a number of law schools to conduct local and national moot court competitions and has helped establish and upgrade reliable computer labs and moot court facilities for the partnering universities.

### 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. The program is part of the PJI’s curriculum for lawyers who are interested in becoming judges. In continuing to strengthen the DJS at the PJI, PJEP completed developing the Civil Law course material. A workshop will take place next quarter with members of the judicial committee in order to review and approve the course material. The judicial committee was formed by the PJI and the HJC Training Department and includes two judges. In addition, PJEP’s Component 2 leader is continuing to develop the Penal Law course. The Penal and Civil Law courses are designed to include case study exercises and court precedents that will assist in fostering the practical skills of those who take these courses. PJEP will publish the courses once the final drafts are approved. The courses are the first of its kind to be added to the DJS and are anticipated to be introduced to the program in the coming months. PJEP will develop 4 additional courses for the DJS program over the next several months.

*Supporting the enabling environment:* PJEP continued to support the PJI by completing the



PJEP provides upgrades to the PJI computer lab

upgrades to the computer lab. The computer lab, which will be used for trainings, received IT equipment that included 23 PC’s, a heavy duty printer/scanner, and a video projector. The goal of the upgrades is to help the PJI become a more efficient and creditable institution where judges, lawyers, and court staff can use the institution as a resource for training and other educational purposes.

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

*Judicial Continuing Education Program:* In its continued support of the PJI and the HJC Training Departments, PJEP conducted the “Judicial Mediation” and “Insurance Law” trainings. During the opening session of the “Judicial Mediation” training, the Chief Justice thanked USAID/PJEP for all its support to the judiciary. The Chief Justice emphasized the importance of the training courses implemented by PJEP. The “Judicial Mediation” training focused on alternative methods of resolving disputes by a judge outside the formal court setting. During the



**Judges take part in the Mediation training**

training, PJEP’s trainer presented materials related to judicial mediation and screened videos on how to conduct conciliation sessions in front of a judge. 14 judges from various West Bank courts participated in the training. At the end of the training, the head of the Training Department and PJEP’s Component 2 Leader presented the 14 judges with certificates of completions. Also in attendance were the Deputy of the High Court and the head of the HJC Training Department.

The “Insurance Law” training focused on reviewing insurance policies, determining the judgment of the insurance cases and compensation benefits. The six day training targeted 15 judges from the First Instance and Conciliation Courts. During the opening session judge Lu’ay Hamarsheh who spoke on behalf of the Chief Justice commended the efforts of PJEP in supporting the judiciary and the practicing judges.

The continuing education program targets practicing judges for training in order to refresh skills and enhance the knowledge of the judges in specialized areas of the law and core judicial skills.

News of the “Judicial Mediation” and “Insurance Law” trainings was posted on the HJC website, below are the link:

<http://www.courts.gov.ps/atemplate.aspx?id=1018>

<http://www.courts.gov.ps/atemplate.aspx?id=1085>

*Court Staff Training:* The TOT program targeted court staff trainers on the ADDIE model (Assess, Design, Develop, Implement and Evaluate Training Programs). The ADDIE model



**PJEP's Senior Training Specialist conducts the phase one TOT program**

uses an adult learning methodology to assist in fostering on-the-job training. During the quarter, PJEP’s Senior Training Specialist completed the phase one of the TOT program. The

training targeted 11 senior level court staff from the Notary Public, Civil Judgment and Notification Departments as well as the Court Registration.

The training sessions included both classroom training and practical skills on-the-job training. The trainee's learned to produce needs assessments, develop training plans, and how to design training curricula which were used for the second phase of the TOT program. During the second phase of the TOT program, the 11 trainees conducted training for court staff from various West Bank courts. PJEP's Senior Training Specialist aided and supervised the trainees throughout the phase two training program. The breakdown of trainings is as follows:

3 Notary Public trainers conducted training for 16 Notary Public staff. The training focused on reviewing the notary public procedures and the roles and legal responsibilities of the staff. In addition, the trainees provided real case examples of issues that were raised during their work and the trainers provided guidance on how to resolve each case.

3 Civil Judgment trainers conducted training for 17 Civil Judgment staff. The training focused on legal issues regarding civil judgment decisions. Surveys confirmed trainees were very satisfied with the training and that the training increased their knowledge on issues related to their work, law and procedures. 10 out of the 17 court staff (55%) said the training will help to minimize work mistakes. They also felt the training provided them with new information and skills.

3 Notification trainers conducted training for 54 Notification staff. The training focused on notification procedures and protocol. 2 Court Registry trainers conducted training for 18 registry staff. The training focused on court registration process and procedures.

In total, 105 court staff took part in the phase two TOT program. The PJEP Senior Training Specialist expressed satisfaction with the performance of the trainers who used all the skills and knowledge that was taught to them during phase one of the TOT program. A graduation ceremony for the 11 trainee's will take place early next quarter.

Also during the quarter, PJEP's Senior Training Specialist began training 9 PJI and HJC Training Department staff on the phase one TOT program. The training will focus on how to analyze the field data based on the needs assessment data collection schedule, presentation of the main findings, priorities and recommendation and how to develop the training plan for 2013. Once the training is completed the staff will in turn train other PJI and HJC staff members using the skills and knowledge gained in the phase one TOT program. The phase two training will begin next quarter.

#### **Key Result Area: Strengthen practical legal education**

*Moot Court Competitions:* PJEP conducted four Local Moot Court Competitions for law students from Al Quds, An Najah, Hebron, and Al Ahliya University. The moot court competitions enabled the students to take part in simulated court proceedings where they presented their memorials and participated in oral arguments in front of a panel of judges. The competition is a form of practical skills training that allowed the law students to practice oral arguments. During the quarter, qualified third and fourth year law students presented memorials (case study and analysis) in order to practice for the competition during the orientation sessions lead by the Component 2 leader. The students then took part in the local competitions.

The competitions were held in Al Quds, An Najah, Hebron, and Al Ahliya Universities. In total, 41 law students were selected to take part in the competitions which focused on international and humanitarian law. The cases included a military attack against a country; bombing a hospital; women's rights, and investigating bribery and corruption crimes. The moot court competition event was opened to all law school students from the selected universities which were presented as a form of training for the attendees on how to present oral arguments in a court room. Over 300 law students attended the competitions.

During the opening ceremonies the deans of each university welcomed PJEP teams including the COP and thanked USAID/PJEP in supporting the law schools. PJEP's COP thanked the universities for participating in the moot court competition. PJEP presented awards to 19 winning students who will compete in the National Moot Court Competition that will take place next quarter.

The local moot court competition was posted in local newspapers and websites. Below are the links:

<http://www.maannews.net/arb/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=475644>

[http://www.wattan.tv/hp\\_details.cfm?id=a3554617a8223325&c\\_id=1](http://www.wattan.tv/hp_details.cfm?id=a3554617a8223325&c_id=1)

<http://www.hebron.edu/index.php/ar/-news/1561-2012-04-11-12-34-30.html>

<http://www.maannews.net/arb/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=480101>

Also during the quarter, PJEP's Component 2 leader began preparing the 19 winning students for the National Moot Court Competition. The Component 2 leader conducted training on the following:

- Analyzing the case studies
- Assigning the team members to the different components of the case
- Determining the role of each team member
- Explaining how to develop the memorials
- Training on the methodology of using the different sources for public international law to conduct the required legal research

The winners of the National Moot Court Competition may be able to take part in the next International JESSUP Moot Court Competition in Washington D.C.

*Create moot court facilities:* PJEP completed the remodeling of the moot court facilities for Al Ahliya, Hebron, and An Najah Universities. These Universities received judges' benches, desks, chairs, signage plaques, and podiums. The moot court facilities will enable students to have a dedicated area in which to strengthen their oral argument skills and their practical skills knowledge.



**PJEP remodeled and furnished moot court facilities for selected universities**

*Establish/upgrade reliable computer labs for Law Schools:* In order to provide better facilities



to law schools, PJEP procured and delivered furniture and IT equipment for the computer labs of Al Ahliya, Hebron, and An Najah Universities last quarter. This quarter, PJEP completed the installation of the computer desks for these computer labs. 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 delivered IT equipment to selected universities

*Establish specialized legal libraries:* PJEP will provide books and legal periodicals for Al Ahliya, Hebron, Modern College, Al Quds, and An-Najah Universities. The books and legal periodicals will enable law students to have access to specialized and updated resources which are lacking in the law schools. This quarter, PJEP continued to work on the procurement process for the 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

Under this component, PJEP is providing small grants and technical assistance to civil society organizations to build public awareness of legal rights and responsibilities, and enhance the public's understanding of the justice system. The small grants program will assist in increasing the public engagement with the justice system and the Rule of Law more generally. PJEP will also assist in providing equipment and technical assistance to the HJC and MOJ in order to empower the units' outreach capabilities during and beyond the project life. Additionally, PJEP is helping the HJC, MOJ, and PJI to develop effective public outreach strategies and campaigns.

#### Key Result Area: Enhance HJC and MOJ public outreach capacities

*HJC Annual Report:* The HJC has requested PJEP to print the 7<sup>th</sup> HJC Annual Report 2011. The report will include the role of the HJC, the achievements made by the HJC, and the capacity building strategies the HJC is using to empower and improve the performance of the judicial and administrative staff. PJEP will print the report once the HJC finalizes the content of the report.

*HJC Newsletter:* This quarter, PJEP began assisting the HJC to produce the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the quarterly newsletter titled "Qada'una" (Our Justice System). This edition will highlight the HJC achievements and activities for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2012. The newsletters are used as a public outreach tool to inform the public and legal professionals of the HJC's activities and service enhancements.

*MOJ Media Center:* In its continued effort to support the MOJ Media Center, PJEP delivered a video camera and media equipment to the Center. This equipment was provided based on the evaluation assessment that was conducted by PJEP after the “Short –Film Editing” and “Filmmaking” trainings that PJEP provided to the MOJ Media Center staff. The evaluation assessment results highlighted the lack of equipment at the MOJ Media Center which made it difficult for the trainees to conduct filming or editing of its productions. PJEP is working with the MOJ to assist in further developing the media capacity of the institution.



PJEP delivers media equipment to the MOJ

**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:* PJEP’s grantees EL-Lid Charitable Society, Juhoud for Community and Rural Development, Students’ Forum Institute, and Al Marsad – Arab World Democracy and Electoral Monitor completed their grant obligations during the quarter and submitted completion reports highlighting the milestones achieved.

Following is the grant implementation updates for this quarter:

*EL-Lid Charitable Society*

This grant worked to increase trust in judicial institutions by broadening public awareness through quiz shows. The grantee conducted 20 quiz show competitions throughout the northern West Bank. The quiz shows were used to enhance the understanding of a previously unclear legal framework, institutional roles and mandates as well as to increase awareness and understanding of the Rule of Law and legal procedures among marginalized populations including women, youth, people with disabilities, and rural populations. The quiz shows also enhanced awareness of the growing judicial system institutions and the Rule of Law that provide productive and effective alternatives to traditional tribal judicial practices. The competitions were broadcast on local TV stations in order to reach a wider audience. The winners of these competitions received a prize.

During the quarter, El-Lid conducted several quiz shows throughout the northern West Bank. The quiz show event was showcased in Salfit, Tulkrum, Nablus, Jenin, Qalqilia and Tubas.

Follows is a brief of each event:

- El-Lid conducted three quiz shows in Nablus and Tulkrum. The first quiz show event took place at the Women Charitable Society in the town of Huwara in Nablus. 60 women attended the event and discussion focused on women’s rights, inheritance, worker’s rights and the role of courts to guarantee the rights of women. The second quiz show event was conducted at the Palestine Technical University - Khadouri in Tulkrum for university students. 65 female and male students attended the show and the female team competed against the male team. The students were very engaged during the discussions and



Children learning about the Rule of Law

raised several questions in regards to the current operations of the justice system. Some of the students mentioned that many court decisions will not be enforced if they are related to cases against the Palestinian Authority or against influential people. The facilitator was able to address this statement and stressed the importance to the audience to trust the Rule of Law to work equally for all. The third quiz show event was conducted at Al-Jaroshia Village Charitable Society in Tulkrum with 40 female and male and 20 children attending the event. A female team and a male team competed against each other. The quiz show topics included the functions of the judicial authority and the various court levels in the West Bank, the legality of home searches and the legal procedures for arresting a person. Also included were the rights of citizen while they are under investigation. The discussion on the need for a legal warrant to search homes and private locations by the police and security men was very engaging. A 10 year boy old asked the event facilitator if he could ask the police man coming to his home without a legal search warrant to leave the premise if a search warrant was not presented. The facilitator said it is his right to object to the search if a legal search warrant was not presented.

- El-Lid conducted a quiz show in Beit Dajan Boy’s school in Nablus. The quiz show targeted 80 students and teachers. The quiz show topics included the functions of the judicial, executive and legislative authorities, the difference between misdemeanor and felony crimes and the legality of home searches. Two teams were formed and competed against each other; the freedom team and the justice team. The facilitator highlighted the enthusiasm of the students and teachers and that many Rule of Law questions were raised during the competition.

- Several quiz shows were conducted in Al-Quds Open University in Salfit, Jenin, Tulkrum, Qalqilia and Tubas as well as one quiz show event at the Arab American University in Jenin. Over 400 female and male university students attended the quiz shows. The discussion during and after the events focused on judicial proceedings, the type of courts in the West Bank and the rights of prisoners under the law. Also discussed was the role of the public on how to achieve justice and the responsibilities of



Students compete against each other during a quiz show event

the PA in adopting the laws and enforcing the law. A lively discussion took place where the participants presented specific instances where they believed the law didn’t apply in a specific case.

- El-Lid conducted quiz shows in the village of Ramin in Tulkrum targeting village council members, women and youth and at An Najah University in Nablus for the Hisham Hijjawi College of Technology students. In addition, El-Lid Society conducted a quiz show targeting women from the Askar Camp and surrounding villages and disabled students from the Al-Sheikh Zaid vocational rehabilitation center in Nablus. The quiz show topics for these events included:
  - Palestinian laws and the importance of respecting the Rule of Law
  - The basic justice principles including litigation practices and the jurisdiction of the courts
  - Awareness of the citizens’ rights in relation to issues regarding treatment during arrest and interrogation
  - The citizens’ right to a fair trial and the enforcement of the court’s rulings

El-Lid has broadcast the quiz show events on local TV stations and has also broadcast 4 TV advertisements asking the public their opinion on judicial issues and how the justice system works in Palestine. The purpose of the TV ads is to highlight the public's understanding of the Rule of Law. El-LID is using these ads as a public outreach campaign to promote El-Lid and USAID's efforts to facilitate a better understanding of the Rule of Law to the public. Over 1,200 people participated in El-Lid's quiz show events.

In order to continue to work with the public and enhance the Rule of Law El-Lid is considering the idea of developing public law days in some locations in the northern part of the West Bank. The law days will include lawyers, human rights experts, and representatives of the justice sector who will meet with the public and provide consultation related to law and human rights issues without charging a fee.

#### Juhoud for Community and Rural Development

This grant aimed to promote an enhanced understanding of the Rule of Law along with a



Students and their families take part in the Rule of Law open day session

better recognition of how the justice system and its functions operate through a drama show production. The grantee produced a Rule of Law drama show that was featured in 6 secondary schools in Tulkrum 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.

Juhoud contracted Safar Theater Company to conduct the Rule of Law

drama shows. Juhoud finalized the Rule of Law script using legal documents and topics that Juhoud and the MOJ approved for use in developing the drama script.

During the quarter, Juhoud along with the MOE developed a schedule for Safar Theater Company in order to present the Rule of Law drama show. Safar conducted the 4 drama show skits in the Tulkrum Governorate at the following schools Kafr Zibad co-ed school, Kafr Jammal Secondary boys' school, Attil Secondary girls' school, and Dayr al-Ghusoun Secondary boys' school. Also included were Marda Secondary girls' school and Qeera Secondary co-ed school in the Salfit Governorate. Safar Theater presented the drama show which was followed by a discussion on Rule of Law issues for the students, teachers and school administration.

The drama shows focused on the following issues:

- The importance of the Rule of Law and the need for citizens to solve problems and issues using the legal enforcement systems in place including the police and the courts
- The role of the courts and the lawyers during the litigation process
- The importance of enforcing the law without discrimination in all matters and the role of citizens to follow the laws already in place

PJEP attended the drama show skits and noticed that the students and the school administration at the schools were very excited and engaged during the discussion that followed the show. A number of issues were raised related to the role of the courts and the

importance of enforcement of the law for all citizens without discrimination. The students requested more focused workshops on the mechanisms of accountability and law enforcement.

Juhoud concluded their project implementation by conducting two open day sessions at Marda Secondary girls' school and Qeera Secondary co-ed school in the Salfit Governorate. Also included were Kafr Jammal Secondary boy's school and Kafr Zibad co-ed school in Tulkrum. An estimated 500 female and male students from the schools and their families as well as representatives from the MOE took part in the open discussions that were conducted after the Rule of Law drama skit. A court simulation was also conducted and students were able to witness firsthand how the court system works. In addition, students presented their Rule of Law writing scripts. 5 winners were chosen to receive an award for their writing pieces, two female students from Marda Secondary girls' school and one male student from Qeera Secondary co-ed school. Also chosen were one male student from Kafr Jammal Secondary boy's school and one female from Kafr Zibad co-ed school. Juhoud will compile all the winning Rule of Law writing pieces and will develop a booklet that will be distributed to the schools that took part in Juhoud's activities.

### Students' Forum Institute

This grant program raised awareness of the concept of the Rule of Law among school aged



Students and a police officer take part in the tree planting event

students in the Bethlehem area. The grantee trained 17 university students on various Rule of Law topics who in turn trained 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. The objective is to increase the student's civic participation and academic achievement in order to enhance the understanding of the Rule of Law among students at universities and schools.

SFI trained 17 university students, 10 males and 7 females, on various Rule of Law topics, including how the justice sector works in Palestine, the benefits of volunteerism, and civic participation and leadership. The training enabled the university students to better understand the concept and value of the Rule of Law in the Palestinian society in addition to understanding the role of the judicial institutions. The university students then trained 207 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, 62 males and 145 females, from 6 public schools in the Bethlehem Governorate. The schools that participated in SFI's activities include Janata, Beit Sahour, Bethlehem, Al-Obaiat, Al-Doha and Al-Khader. The trainings were open discussions and led by the university students also involved police officers and representatives from the Palestinian Human Rights Commission. The open discussions focused on the protection of human rights, the rights of citizens to seek justice and how to file a complaint to the appropriate authorities.

In order to achieve the objective and enhance the students engagement with the justice intuitions SFI organized field project activities including a visit to the Bethlehem police station and courthouse and a tree planting event with the police officers and the court staff. These activities allowed the students to receive firsthand experience of how law enforcement officers and court staff work to protect the public. The tree planting event opened the door of communication with the students, the police officers and court staff. Students learned that

they could easily approach law enforcement officers and that the offices serve to help the public.

The courthouse visit and tree planting event was highlight by many media outlets including Mix Satellite Channel, Bethlehem T.V and Ma'an news. Below are the website links:

<http://www.palpolice.ps/ar/?p=56716>

<http://www.maannews.net/arb/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=481857&MARK>

<http://www.maannews.net/arb/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=475407&MARK=%D9%85%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%82%D9%89%20%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B7%D9%84%D8%A8%D8%A9>

SFI also conducted IT training in the six schools. The training targeted 207 students and focused on how to use the computer to write letters. The students wrote letters about the Rule of Law and what it means to them. The letters were sent by the students via email to friends and family. A craft workshop led by SFI brought the 207 students together. During the workshop the students designed plaques using wood panel with messages related to the Rule of Law printed on them. The students distributed the plaques to the community.

SFI reported that the teachers, students, and family members acknowledged they have a greater understanding of the concept of the Rule of Law and a better perception of the justice



Students take part in SFI closing ceremony

sector and relevant institutions. During the SFI grant closing event a university student who presented a speech stated, “the tree planting event helped me strengthen my, and other student’s, relationship with the police officers and court staff and also encouraged us to volunteer and get more involved in community work.” The

closing event titled “Students Speak Out: Promoting the Rule of Law in Schools through Participation in Service Learning” was held at the Bethlehem Hotel. All the university students and school students from the 6 targeted schools in addition to representatives from each school, police and courts, the Ministry of Education and PJEP staff attended the closing event. The students all receive certificates that acknowledge their participation in the SFI activities.

The students expressed interest in continuing to volunteer with SFI and help educate other students on issues related to the Rule of Law. SFI has acknowledged the student’s interest to volunteer with them and will keep in contact with the students in order to have them assist in implementing other Rule of Law activities.

### Al Marsad – Arab World Democracy and Electoral Monitor

The grantee developed a detailed manual for teachers about the Rule of Law. MOE



MOE supervisors take part in the Rule of Law training

supervisors and teachers received training on the manual. 1200 schools will receive the manual once it is finalized. 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 further use in the schools.

Al-Marsad completed developing the teachers Rule of Law manual. The manual included a general outline, methods and techniques to be used when teaching Rule of Law in the classroom. Topics in the manual included how the court system works, human rights law, and the various judicial branches that exist in the judiciary.

In addition, Al-Marsad conducted training for 20 supervisors from the MOE representing all governorates throughout the West Bank. The Al-Marsad's consultant along with experts from the MOE trained the supervisors on the Rule of Law teacher's manual. The trained supervisors will in turn use the manual to train social studies teachers who will use the manual as a guide to teach the Rule of Law in the classrooms with students. PJEP will print the manual next quarter.

One of the supervisors who took part in the training mentioned that the manual is a very important tool for raising the awareness of public school students on Rule of Law issues. He went on to say the manual will help to enhance the respect for the law in the Palestinian society and recommended to disseminate the manual to private schools.

*Work with journalists and media outlets to expand accurate coverage of the Rule of Law issues:* During the quarter, PJEP awarded 3 grants, totaling \$75,000, to Ma'an Network,



PJEP's COP attends the grant signing ceremony

Internews Network and Amin Media Network (Amin). A grant signing ceremony took place at PJEP's office with PJEP's COP and DCOP attending. These grants are designed to support the CSOs activities to increase the public's confidence in the justice system. The activities under these grants aim to bridge the gap between the judicial institutions and the public by raising public awareness of the justice sector and working with journalists and media outlets to expand accurate coverage of Rule of Law issues. The objective will be met by supporting outreach activities of the justice sector institutions.

The signing ceremony event was broadcast on Wattan TV and posted on the Ma'an website.

[http://wattan.tv/hp\\_details.cfm?id=a1711299a2892066&c\\_id=11](http://wattan.tv/hp_details.cfm?id=a1711299a2892066&c_id=11)

<http://www.maannews.net/arb/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=495120>. The links are also posted on PJEP's website: [www.wbg-pjep.com](http://www.wbg-pjep.com)

Below are the objectives of each grant:

**Ma'an Network** will work to enhance the public's knowledge and understanding of the Rule of Law through the development of a court room television series. The series will focus on how judicial proceedings are conducted in the West Bank. Ma'an will produce 13 episodes using real cases provided by the HJC. Ma'an will write the scripts with the HJC, MOJ and PJEP approving the content before production begins. Ma'an will broadcast the series in the West Bank/Gaza and will also reach viewers across the Middle East.

**Internews Network** will focus on building the capacity of journalists in order to provide accurate and informative news coverage on the Rule of Law. Internews will train 20 journalists on Rule of Law issues including how the justice system works. The trained journalists will produce radio and TV spots that will be broadcast through Jussor Network in the West Bank/Gaza. The radio and TV spots will also be used by CSOs who specialize in providing Rule of Law activities in the West Bank and Gaza.

**Amin Media Network** will conduct specialized training for 8 journalists on media production and how to present news coverage in the media related to the High Court of Justice and the Court of Cassation. After the training the journalists will begin an internship with Amin. The internship will include working in the field, visiting courts, hearing case sessions and developing news stories as well as presenting the procedures of the High Court and the Court of Cassation. The overall objective of the grant is to build the capacity of the journalists so they are better qualified and prepared to cover the judicial sector news.

*Awarding Additional Grants:* PJEP finalized the Request for Application (RFA) for the third round of the grant selection process and conducted an orientation session for the 25 CSOs who are interested in submitting a grant concept paper. During the orientation session, a presentation of PJEP's goals and objectives were highlighted. PJEP also explained the procedures of how to apply for the grant and answered questions regarding the grant process and USAID and U.S. Government regulations governing grants under contracts. PJEP is seeking qualified CSOs who will engage the public with the justice sector in order to improve the public's understanding and perception of the justice sector and its performance. PJEP will select 10 CSOs to receive a \$25,000 grant. The aim of the grants program is to increase the public's confidence in the justice system and to bridge the gap between the judicial institutions and the public through CSOs as well as raise the public's awareness of the services the justice sector provides. The selected CSOs will also support the justice sector institutions' varied outreach activities in the communities.

Deadline for the submission of the concept paper is July 11, 2012. After reviewing the concept papers PJEP will select qualified CSOs and provide them with full application templates, guidance, separate evaluation criteria, and a new deadline for submitting the full application.

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

**Judicial Media Conference:** PJEP sponsored the first ever Judicial Media Conference at the Jericho Intercontinental Hotel on June 17-19, 2012. The three-day conference was hosted by



**Justice Sector staff and journalists attend the Judicial Media Conference**

the High Judicial Council (HJC), the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the Public Prosecutions Office and Amin News Network Agency. Attendees included the Chief Justice, the newly appointed Minister of Justice, USAID's Mission Director as well as USAID PJEP's COTR and PJEP's COP. Participants

included representatives of the Sharia court, the Military court and the Anti-Corruption court as well as journalists and CSOs. During the opening session of the conference the Chief Justice thanked USAID/PJEP for hosting this event and highlighted that importance of journalists understanding the legal issues when reporting news on the judiciary. The USAID Mission Director stated that there would be support to promote future endeavors that will complement the justice sector and the media to work together.

The conference served as an opportunity for justice sector actors and journalists to come together to discuss the challenges and to produce a code of conduct on how to cover judicial news without jeopardizing the integrity of the law and preserving freedom of expression. During the conference the newly appointed Minister of Justice addressed policy issues that opened a dialogue of discussion with the various justice sector institutions. Discussions also focused on the relationship between the justice sector intuitions and the media. Both bodies addressed the long standing relationship gap that must be narrowed in order to properly deliver justice sector related news that is vital in keeping the Palestinian public aware on Rule of Law issues. Specific recommendations were developed in order to strengthen the relationship between the two parties.

Another major highlight of the conference was the announcement from the HJC to select specialized judges who are qualified to review and hear cases brought to the court regarding journalist conduct. By selecting a group of qualified judges to review such cases the HJC seeks to protect freedom of expression and the journalist's right to produce quality news stories without fear.

**MOJ Public Outreach-Authentication Department (AD) Campaign:** During the quarter, PJEP launched the AD campaign for the MOJ. The campaign message focused on the procedures and steps needed to receive services and the various West Bank locations where the AD conducts services. The message also focused on the type of services available at the department. The campaign ads were posted in local newspapers, on Ma'an website, and the campaign message was broadcast on local radio stations. The campaign is part of the MOJ's outreach activities to educate the public on the role of the MOJ.



**MOJ's AD Campaign ad**

PJEP also re-ran the MOJ JRO campaign ad that was conducted in January, 2012. The reason to re-run the ad came after the Palestinian Authority issued a decision to no longer request security clearances as a prerequisite for employment in a public position or to obtain a work permit. The Palestinian Authority instead endorsed the

non-conviction certificate that is obtained at the MOJ Justice Record Office (JRO) as an alternative to the security clearance. The campaign highlighted the services provided at the MOJ JRO as well as the locations of the MOJ. The campaign ad was posted in local newspaper and on Ma'an website, and aired on local radio

*Court Files Radio Series:* During this quarter, PJEP aired four of the remaining fifteen radio series episodes. The episodes have been aired on Raya FM on Sunday at 12:15 pm and again aired 4 days later at 6 pm. The radio series episodes were advertised in local newspapers, on Raya's Facebook page and website, and on the HJC website. The series served as a creative communication tool that contributed to the public understanding of legal issues and awareness of the court system. In total fifteen episodes were aired and they include "Honor Killing", "A Ponzi Scheme", "Youth Crime", "A Home Robbery Case", "A Purchase Dispute", "Child Custody Case", "Drug Production and Use", "Decree to regulate the use of Government Cars", "Insurance Claims", "and Illegal-Occupancy", "A Blackmail Case", "A Rape Case", "A Counterfeit Case", "Inheritance Claims" and "A Child Molestation Case".



**The Radio Series advertisement**

PJEP is currently planning to produce a second phase of the radio series. PJEP is working with the HJC to produce 15 episodes which will be aired in August, 2012.

*HJC Informational and Instructional Signage:* PJEP is continuing to work 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 is currently finalizing the content of the signage. Once the final content is approved by the HJC, PJEP will begin to produce the signage. The signage will be placed in all West Bank courts.

## Monitoring & Evaluation

During the quarter, Creative Business Solutions (CBS) completed the survey of the Court User's Satisfaction survey. The pre-survey was conducted in various court departments in Hebron, Salfit, Tulkrum, Jericho, and Dora court as well as the MOJ office in Nablus. PJEP conducted the pre-survey before any upgrades were made to the courts and the MOJ. The finding reports, written in both Arabic and English, will be submitted next quarter. PJEP is currently waiting for vetting approval before contracting CBS to conduct the post-survey. During the post-survey the same questions will be asked to selected court users in the courts that have received PJEP upgrades. PJEP will use the information gathered to measure the impact and success of the activities being implemented in the courts and the MOJ. The survey is expected to take place next quarter.

## Implementation Issues

Early in the quarter, PJEP received notice that additional obligated funds were released. PJEP immediately began re-vamping project activities and began the recruitment process for several positions. PJEP has identified candidates for the following positions: Activities Coordinator, Senior Grants Accountant, Justice Institution Strengthening Specialist, Communication & Reporting Officer, Grants Officer, Media Officer and Legal Researcher.

## Summary of Proposed Planned Activities for FY12 Quarter 4:

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

- Complete upgrading the Dora Conciliation Court
- Provide additional support to the First Instance courts in Hebron, Tulkrum and Halhul Conciliation court
- Begin upgrading the First Instance courts at Bethlehem, Qalqilia, Nablus and Jericho
- Continue to support the “One Million Document Project”
- Provide data entry interns to support the Civil Judgment Departments in the West Bank
- Provide case management support to the HJC

### **Component 2: Strengthen capacity and credibility of justice sector professionals**

- Conduct a workshop and review of the Civil Law course material
- Deliver law books and legal periodicals to Al Quds, Modern College Hebron, Al Ahliya, and Al Najah Universities
- Conduct the TOT phase one and two graduation ceremony for court staff
- Complete the TOT phase one and two training for PJI and HJC Training Department staff
- Present the evaluation training manual to the PJI
- Conduct training for Court Registration staff on civil and commercial procedures
- Conduct training for Notary Public staff on document forgery

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

- Conduct the second phase of the radio series outreach campaign
- Continue to implement the Rule of Law grants
- Award three additional grants to CSOs working in the field of media
- Produce and install the informational signage for all West Bank courts
- Assist in producing the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the HJC Quarterly Newsletter
- Assist in producing the HJC Annual Report for 2011.
- Continue to assist in building the media capacity of the HJC and MOJ staff
- Conduct the Rule of Law animation series which will be used as a public awareness campaign
- Assist the HJC and MOJ to develop short film documentaries
- Conduct the MOJ Arbitration campaign

## PMP Indicator Update

Level/#	Indicator	Baseline	FY 2012 Target	End of Quarter
<b>Project</b>				
1	Percent of public expressing confidence in the justice system <sup>1</sup>	3.18	3.3	3.18
<b>Component 1</b>				
1.1	No. of USG-assisted courts with improved case management <sup>2</sup>	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
<b>Component 2</b>				
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	2
2.4	Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG Assistance*	0	50	242
2.4(a)	Number of men justice sector personnel that received USG training*	0	30	175
2.4(b)	Number of women justice sector personnel that received USG training*	0	20	91
<b>Component 3</b>				
3.1	Number of justice sector related public outreach activities conducted with USG assistance <sup>3</sup>	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	6
3.3	Number of CSOs receiving USG Assistance engaged in advocacy interventions*	0	4	7

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

Level/#	Indicator	Baseline	FY 2012 Target	End of Quarter
3.4	Number of justice sector materials/publication produced with PJEP support <sup>4</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.5	Percent of public expressing awareness of the role of the justice system in serving citizens <sup>5</sup>	23.15%	25%	23.15%

\* = USAID Standard Indicator

<sup>4</sup> Indicator 3.4 was 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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, Q3	FY12, Q4
\$14,994,749	\$9,300,000	\$3,741,164	\$1,361,302	\$897,534

## Obligations

