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# RULE OF LAW STABILIZATION – FORMAL COMPONENT MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

**September 2013**

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SEPTEMBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

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### **DISCLAIMER**

The author's views in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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# ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

<b>ACAS</b>	Afghanistan Court Administration System
<b>ACT</b>	Anti-Corruption Tribunal
<b>AGO</b>	Attorney General's Office
<b>AWJA</b>	Afghan Women Judges Association
<b>CLE</b>	Continuing Legal Education
<b>CMS</b>	Case Management System
<b>COR</b>	Contracting Officer's Representative
<b>GIRoA</b>	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
<b>HR</b>	Human Resources
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>INL</b>	Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
<b>ISAF</b>	International Security Assistance Force
<b>JSSP</b>	Justice Sector Support Program
<b>MOHE</b>	Ministry of Higher Education
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>PRT</b>	Provincial Reconstruction Team
<b>PMP</b>	Performance Management Plan
<b>RLS-Formal</b>	Afghanistan Rule of Law Stabilization Project - Formal Component
<b>SC</b>	Supreme Court
<b>TOT</b>	Trainer-the-Trainer
<b>USG</b>	United States Government
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**The Afghanistan Rule of Law Stabilization – Formal Component (RLS-Formal) is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded program designed to increase public confidence in the rule of law system and support the improved performance and accountability of governance in Afghanistan.**

The project accomplished the following results and activities in September:

**Judicial Education** RLS-Formal conducted a continuing legal education program for sitting judges in northern Afghanistan in September and commenced an additional program for judges from southern and eastern Afghanistan which will conclude in October. The Supreme Court graduated the 28<sup>th</sup> class of the *Judicial Stage*, and 115 new judges will soon receive their court appointments. The project also developed standardized material on criminal procedure and counter narcotics law for continuing legal education programs.

**Court Management** In September, RLS-Formal continued to support the *Administrative Stage* delivering trainings on judicial statistics, court leadership and court management to the participants. The Appellate Court in Herat inaugurated a computer lab where the project trains judges and court administrators on computer literacy. RLS-Formal also procured an electric power generator for the Supreme Court in Kabul and continued to develop a statistics database for the Court.

**Legal Education** RLS-Formal sponsored the 2013 National Media Law Moot Court Competition which concluded in Kabul in September. Al Biruni and Kabul Universities graduated students from legal clinic programs on criminal, civil, family and street law with the support of the project. Several universities administered examinations to select students for their teams for the 2014 Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Kabul University also held a resume workshop to prepare students for a career fair which it will hold in October through RLS-Formal's support.

**Public Legal Outreach** RLS-Formal conducted two training programs on the National Legal Awareness Strategy for public outreach staff from the Ministry of Justice. The project prepared a series of mobile theater performances to raise awareness of women's and children's rights which will be held in October and November in Badakhshan, Kabul and Nangarhar provinces. RLS-Formal also rebroadcast radio programs in Balkh raising awareness of women's rights in coordination with the Ministry of Justice.

**Gender** In September, the Afghan Women Judges Association held its Second Annual National Conference in Kabul through RLS-Formal's support. The project conducted a gender justice training for women judges in Kabul and sponsored forums with women judges and female students at Al Biruni and Kabul universities to increase awareness of opportunities to serve in the justice sector.

# FORMAL RULE OF LAW SYSTEM IMPROVED

RLS-Formal enhances the rule of law system in Afghanistan by strengthening the capacity of the judiciary and court administrators. The project organizes these activities under Component 1 and Component 2, respectively. The objective of the components is to ensure fair, accountable, and transparent dispute resolution in the formal court system and increase public confidence in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

## COMPONENT 1: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE JUDICIARY

### TASK 1: CONTINUING SUPPORT TO THE JUDICIAL STAGE PROGRAM

- On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Supreme Court (SC) graduated the 28<sup>th</sup> class of the *Judicial Stage*, Afghanistan's induction training program for new judges, with the support of RLS-Formal. Justice Bahaudin Baha, a member of the High Council and Acting Head of the Afghanistan Supreme Court, delivered the keynote address. He reminded the graduates that "their clean and bright judicial robes are as pristine as their current reputation," and he admonished them to "take great care not to allow the shame of corruption and dishonesty to stain them." The 90 male and 25 female graduates will soon receive their appointments to courts throughout the country. RLS-Formal provides technical, material and financial support to the *Stage* in order to ensure Afghanistan's newest judges possess the training and skills to excel at judicial service.



*The Supreme Court graduated the 28<sup>th</sup> Class of the Judiciary Stage in September.*

- In September, RLS-Formal advisers continued to coordinate with the SC on an upcoming study tour for decision-makers overseeing judicial education, including members of the Judicial Education Committee (JEC). The SC and the project intend to conduct a ten-day study tour to observe the judicial education system in France, which serves as a model for Afghanistan's *Judicial Stage*. The study tour to the French Judicial Institute will help the participants gain insight

to improve the function of their own judicial education institution. RLS-Formal collaborated with the French Embassy who has agreed to provide a French magistrate and two translators to accompany the Afghan delegation. The study tour will take place from November 19<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

- Despite the ongoing support provided to the *Stage*, a crucial program priority that remains outstanding is the development of a strategic implementation plan that enhances the sustainability of the *Stage* program. RLS-Formal, independently and in coordination with donors Max Planck and the French Embassy, has continuously followed up on its request, originally made in the fall of 2010, that the JEC meet with *Stage* donors to discuss developing a strategic plan and other important issues, some of which directly impact sustainability of the *Stage* in absence of, or reduced support from, international donors. However, the SC and the JEC have been never responded to numerous verbal and written requests for a donor meeting. .

## **TASK 2: IMPROVE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING ANTI-CORRUPTION COURTS**

- In September, RLS-Formal developed a needs assessment questionnaire target to judges in all of the Anti-Corruption Tribunals (ACT) across Afghanistan. The questionnaire gathers information about their level of education and experience, work environment, caseload, administrative support, and case management skills. The project intends to issue an Anti-Corruption Assessment Report in November 2013 based on the results of the survey as well as on site visits and trainings conducted by RLS-Formal with ACT judges and personnel. RLS-Formal works to strengthen the capacity of ACTs in order to empower them to promote transparent and accountable governance, and increase public confidence in the government's commitment to the rule of law.

## **TASK 3: CONTINUE PRACTICAL SKILLS TRAINING & CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION FOR SITTING JUDGES**

- On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the SC graduated 25 sitting judges from a continuing legal education (CLE) program in Badakhshan province through the support of RLS-Formal. During the 10-day training, the male judges from Kunduz, Baghlan and Badakhshan provinces received training on criminal law, criminal procedure, inheritance rights, judicial ethics, gender justice, and use of the Afghanistan Court Administration System (ACAS), the country's paper-based case management system.. RLS-Formal provides CLE for sitting judges in order to build their practical skills and knowledge of legal topics and strengthen the rule of law.



*Judge Mohammad Sediqi leads the opening ceremony of the CLE program in Badakhshan in September.*

- On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, RLS-Formal commenced an additional CLE program for 30 sitting judges in Kabul. 20 male and 10 female judges from 12 southern and eastern provinces began receiving training on criminal law, criminal procedure, inheritance rights, judicial ethics, gender justice, and ACAS. The project identifies priority legal topics for our CLE programs in order to ensure that judges working in the courts obtain the skills and qualifications necessary to uphold the rule of law.



*An RLS-Formal advisor leads a module on judicial ethics for sitting judges in Kabul in September.*

- In September, RLS-Formal advisors worked closely with the JEC to draft standardized course material for CLE programs on criminal procedure and counter narcotics. RLS-Formal provides support to the Judicial Education Department to develop standardized training materials in emerging legal areas in order to enhance the practical skills and substantive legal knowledge of judges and ensure a uniform, high-quality, and sustainable judicial education program.

## COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF COURT ADMINISTRATORS

### TASK 1: TRAIN COURT STAFF TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL COURT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, RLS-Formal advisors presented the preliminary results of the project's first Court User Survey to the members of the Herat Appellate Court. The first round of the national Court User Survey interviewed 935 court users at 26 courthouses in ten provinces.. The upcoming second phase of the survey will be conducted in six different provinces. The survey results from Herat showed that 79% of court users in Herat province agreed the courts performed effectively. This is the highest level of satisfaction in the provinces surveyed thus far. The court personnel discussed their best practices with RLS-Formal advisors and expressed appreciation for the survey. RLS-Formal surveys the perceptions of court users in order to evaluate the impact of its programs to improve the capacity of the judiciary and court administrators.
- In September, the SC continued to deliver training at the *Administrative Stage* program, a four-month induction training program for court clerks, with the support of RLS-Formal. 28 male and two female clerks are receiving instruction on the principles of court administration, the code of administrative conduct, case management, financial management and organizational leadership. In early September, RLS-Formal advisors delivered training sessions on the collection and analysis of judicial statistics to improve data collection and management at courts, and later in the month, project advisors provided training modules on court leadership and the principles of court management. RLS-Formal aims to professionalize court administration in coordination with the SC in order to ensure effective and efficient justice delivery for citizens utilizing Afghanistan's courts.



*An RLS-Formal advisor delivers a training to court clerks at the Administrative Stage program in September.*

- During September, RLS-Formal continued to implement two computer literacy courses for judges and court administrators at the Appellate Court in Herat. In total, 25 participants are receiving instruction on Microsoft Windows and Office through hands-on, problem-solving activities during the two-month programs. Both programs are scheduled to conclude in October. RLS-Formal implements capacity building initiatives for court personnel to gain

knowledge of essential computer applications to enable them to prepare case documents and maintain records and statistics contributing to professional court administrative service and justice delivery.



*Judges and court clerks at the Appellate Court in Herat learn computer skills in September.*

- Over the course of several months, a joint committee comprised of SC advisors and RLS-Formal staff developed procedures to improve court administration through enhanced transparency and efficiency. These procedures were outlined in an ACAS Procedures Manual which was submitted to the SC High Council for approval on January 5, 2013. The joint committee expected the High Council would quickly approve the Manual for implementation and RLS-Formal would then begin training court personnel nationwide on policies and procedures contained in the Manual. However, since submission of the ACAS Procedures Manual to the SC over nine months ago, several follow-up meetings with the Head of the SC administration and other decision-makers to urge the SC to review the Manual, there has been no decision or response by the Court. In October, RLS-Formal intends to send a letter the Chief Justice of the SC shortly requesting his assistance in obtaining from the SC a decision to approve, deny, or modify the Manual. Until the SC responds on the Manual, RLS-Formal cannot move forward on training court staff on expanded ACAS procedures as anticipated.

## **TASK 2: DEVELOP SUPREME COURT CAPACITY TO MANAGE BUDGET, PERSONNEL, AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

- On September 1<sup>st</sup>, RLS-Formal commenced a computer training for information and communication technology staff at the SC. Six male staff members began receiving training on how to design and build technology solutions, including creating knowledge sharing platforms and integrating multiple technology products. The training program builds the staff skills to manage the SC's statistics database, which will track crucial court data to ensure timely case flow and identify backlogs. RLS-Formal works closely with the SC to develop administrative reforms that build human and institutional capacity through enhanced statistical reporting.



*ICT staff from the SC received training on integrating multiple technology products in September.*

- During the week of September 7<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal procured and arranged for the delivery of an electric power generator at the SC in Kabul. The generator, once accepted by the SC, will provide a reliable source of electricity in order to permit uninterrupted work hours, increase staff efficiency and productivity as the SC staff transitions to the use of modern information technology. The generator includes sound proofing, power cables and a transfer switch allowing it to deliver electricity immediately after installation. RLS-Formal supports the SC to develop a modern and efficient court administrative system.
- On September 16<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal advisors met with the Director of the SC Research and Studies Department to discuss the development and installation of a statistics database. The project presented the design plan for the database which will enhance and streamline case management procedures in courts across the country and improve mechanisms for tracking court statistics such as case type, party names, case status, and filing and disposition dates. These improvements will help ensure timely case flow, identify backlogs and enable the SC to allocate personnel and financial resources based on court needs. RLS-Formal works closely with the SC to design and institute administrative reforms to build human and institutional capacity through enhanced case management and statistical reporting.
- On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Appellate Court in Herat inaugurated a computer lab for judges and court administrators through the support of RLS-Formal. The computer lab provides court personnel with equipment to efficiently prepare case documents and maintain up-to-date records. RLS-Formal is also implementing two computer skills trainings for 25 judges and court administrators at the Appellate Court in Herat. These initiatives aim to enhance the human and institutional capacity of the court, enabling it to report into the SC's new statistics database and contributing to a professional court administrative service.
- Over the past three months, the SC has failed to designate a room for RLS-Formal to install computers to create a computer training lab. The SC disassembled their previously computer lab in 2012. The project purchased computers for the new lab in order to train SC staff on essential computer programs designed to professionalize its court administrative service and operate the new statistics database.



*The Appellate Court in Herat inaugurates a computer lab in September.*

- In September, RLS-Formal continued a workshop on construction design software for staff engineers from the SC. Three male engineers received training on 3D design utilizing AutoCAD which streamlines the design and documentation processes for court construction projects. RLS-Formal assists the construction department of the SC to develop and manage infrastructure projects in order to effectively increase and improve the physical presence of the formal justice system throughout each province of Afghanistan.
- In September, an RLS-Formal advisor embedded at the SC continued to assist the Budget Directorate and Administration Department. The advisor provided assistance with developing the presentation of the SC's budget for its formal hearing with the SC Budget Committee and later the Ministry of Finance. The project assists the SC to improve its capacity to efficiently and effectively fund the court system through efficient and comprehensive budget development and management.

## COMPONENT 3

# AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY LEGAL EDUCATION EXPANDED

**RLS-Formal expands the availability of legal education in Afghanistan by building the capacity of Law and *Sharia* faculties across the country. The objective of Component 3 is to form a cadre of well-trained and motivated legal professionals who have received a quality legal education in order to provide meaningful access to justice to the citizens they serve.**

### **COMPONENT 3: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE FACULTIES OF LAW AND SHARIA**

#### **TASK 1: CONTINUE IMPLEMENTATION OF CORE CURRICULUM FOR LAW AND SHARIA FACULTIES**

- Between September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal advisors met with deans and professors from Herat University to facilitate the national effort to draft course syllabus for a unified Law curriculum, which will be discussed at a conference scheduled for November. It is expected that shortly after the November conference, the syllabi will be submitted to the Ministry of Higher Education for approval prior to the start of the new academic year in early Spring 2014. RLS-Formal provides support to Law and *Sharia* faculties to implement a unified curriculum and other educational reforms in order to improve the quality of legal education in Afghanistan.

#### **TASK 2: PROVIDE PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LAW STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS**

- Between September 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal conducted several rounds of legal research training for students from Kabul University. 115 male and 113 female students from the *Sharia* Faculty received training on effective writing techniques and participated in practical exercises to strengthen their research skills. On September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, the project conducted a similar legal research workshop for 98 male students from the Law Faculty at Paktia University. RLS-Formal supports practical training initiatives to assist students with developing their analytical and critical thinking skills in order for graduates to contribute meaningfully to the justice sector.



*Students from the Sharia Faculty of Kabul University participate in a legal research and writing workshop in September.*

- On September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal conducted a workshop on resume writing for 188 male and 154 female students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties of Kabul University. The workshop helped to prepare students for the upcoming, first-ever Career Fair at the University which will occur on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The event will introduce soon-to-be graduating students with potential employers in justice sector organizations, including government institutions, private employers, and donor organizations. The institutions will have representatives on hand to answer students' questions about career options. RLS-Formal supports such events to encourage Law and *Sharia* students to enhance their networking skills and professional career opportunities after graduation.



*Students from Kabul University attend a workshop on resume writing in September prior to the University's first ever career fair in October.*

- In September, RLS-Formal advisors met with deans and professors from the Law and *Sharia* faculties of Kabul University to plan a series of legal research and writing trainings for students. The programs will occur in September, October, and November and intend to reach an estimated 900 students. Additional legal research training programs will occur at Al Biruni, Faryab, Jowzjan, Nangarhar and Panjshir universities throughout the fall. RLS-Formal supports practical training initiatives to assist students with developing their analytical and critical thinking

skills in order so they may contribute to the justice sector by helping citizens to access effective legal advocates.

### TASK 3: SUPPORT HANDS-ON TRAINING FOR LAW STUDENTS

- On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Al Biruni University graduated 74 students from legal clinic programs through the support of RLS-Formal. 45 male and 29 female students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties received certificates recognizing their completion of a four-month legal clinic focusing on various aspects laws, including criminal law civil law, and a street law public outreach program for high school students. RLS-Formal supports practical training initiatives, such as legal clinics, to help students develop their research and advocacy skills and prepare them to enter the legal profession after graduation.



*Dean Rafi Alemi of the Sharia Faculty of Al Biruni University presents a graduation certificate to a student for a legal clinic September.*

#### Quote from a Beneficiary of Practical Legal Education

Maryam Bahar, a fifth year student at the **Sharia Faculty of Al Biruni University**, described her experience in a legal clinic on civil law: “I found the program to be an effective and efficient way for students to apply what they learn in the classroom to **real life situations**. I suggest the program provides students with more **visits to legal organizations** and state courts. We found these visits very useful but only had a few opportunities to participate in them. I can absolutely say it was a really effective program for students, and I request to have more in future for *Sharia* students.”

- On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, students participating in a legal clinic on criminal and civil law from Nangarhar University visited the Appellate Court in Nangarhar to observe a criminal trial. Ten male students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties are reviewing appellate court decisions, analyzing hypothetical cases, and preparing legal petitions and other court documents as part of the ongoing legal clinic.



*Students participating in a legal clinic on civil and criminal law at Nangarhar University observe a real trial at the Appellate Court.*

### Quote from a Leader in Legal Education Reform

Shamsul Safi, Vice Dean of the **Law Faculty of Nangarhar University**, described the objective of his Faculty's recent reforms: "We train lawyers in order to **work for the rule of law** in our country. In order to meet this goal, we need to revise and reform our curriculum to keep up-to-date with society. We also need to set up libraries, computer labs and legal clinics to ensure access to technology, legal research and practical learning resources. So far, **we have been successful** in achieving our goals through support and help of USAID, who has provided their technical, logistical and academic support to our faculty."

- On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Al Biruni, Balkh, Kabul, Kunduz, Paktia, and Panjshir Universities administered examinations to select students to form their teams for the 2014 Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Around 105 male students and 16 female students participated in the examinations which included a written test and oral interviews to gauge students' legal knowledge, critical thinking, advocacy skills, and English language proficiency. From September 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, Kandahar University also administered examinations for students to join the University's team for the Jessup Competition. Kunar University intends to administer the selection exam in early October. The project anticipates that 12 universities and institutes of higher education will field teams for the 2014 competition, a record number of participating schools. RLS-Formal supports moot court contests, such as Jessup, in order to develop a cadre of well-trained future judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys with the capacity to provide meaningful access to justice for all citizens of Afghanistan.



*A student from the Law Faculty of Kabul University sits for the examination in the hopes of becoming a member of the university's team for the 2014 Jessup Competition.*



*Students from Kunar University study before sitting for the examination to qualify for their 2014 Jessup Moot Court team.*

- On July 24<sup>th</sup>, Kabul University commenced multiple one-month computer literacy courses for students from its Law and *Sharia* faculties with the support of RLS-Formal. 50 female and 40 male students will learn Microsoft Windows and Office through hands-on training and problem-solving activities. RLS-Formal supports training on essential computer applications in order to help Law and *Sharia* faculty students perform their coursework and build the basic skills necessary to meaningfully participate in the formal justice sector.
- On September 8<sup>th</sup>, instructors and students from a legal clinic on street law at Al Biruni University visited high schools in Kapisa province to raise awareness of legal rights among students. 105 female students and 68 male students at seven high schools received practical law lessons on the rights of children, girls and women, and were encouraged to apply their

knowledge to better their communities and participate actively in society. RLS-Formal supports practical training initiatives, such as legal clinics, to help students develop their research and advocacy skills and prepare them to enter the legal profession after graduation.



*High school students in Kapisa Province listen to an instructor from a legal clinic on street law at Al Biruni in September.*

- On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Kabul University graduated 65 students from legal clinics on criminal, civil, and family law through the support of RLS-Formal. 50 female and 15 male students from the *Sharia* Faculty completed the clinic program in which they studied actual legal cases and engaged in active learning and problem solving by analyzing cases from the perspectives of the parties involved. Dean Mohammad Gran of the *Sharia* Faculty addressed the students at the ceremony, saying: “One will truly see the benefits of these legal clinics and practical coursework, when you [the clinic students] graduate from university and become judges, defense lawyers, or prosecutors.”
- On September 30<sup>th</sup>, the 2013 National Media Law Moot Court Competition concluded its final round at the Appellate Court in Kabul with the support of RLS-Formal and Internews. Ten teams participated, representing Kabul, Kandahar, Takhar, Al Biruni, Balkh, Herat, Paktia, Kunduz, Panjsher, and Khost universities. The students from argued their cases in their native language, either Pashto or Dari. Kabul University won first place, while Khost University, a first time participant in the competition, was the second place winner. Hamida Bakhtyari, a female student from Herat University, received the Best Oralist award for the entire competition. She praised the competition, saying "The program allowed students from ten universities to come to gather and share their knowledge and experiences. What I learned in the last three months of preparing and participating in the competition, I would not have been able to learn in a classroom in a year." RLS-Formal supports moot court competitions, as well as other practical skills activities, to develop a cadre of skilled and well-trained judges, prosecutors and defense lawyers who are able to deliver legal services to citizens in Afghanistan.



*Hamida Bakhtyari from Herat University receives the Best Oralist award at the 2013 National Media Law Moot Court in September.*

### Quotes from the 2014 National Media Law Moot Court Competition

Karim Amirzoy, a representative of the **Afghan Independent Bar Association**, addressed the closing ceremony of the competition, saying “As a representative of the Afghan Independent Bar Association, I want the students to know that **we lack lawyers with the level of knowledge of these students**, specifically in field of media law, and I encourage them to become lawyers in this field.”

Najeebullah Azizi, **an advocate** and a judge at the competition, said: “I have learned so many things from the participants, including the various articles of international treaties. I promise that should any of these students become a practicing lawyer that I will provide at least three of them with **job opportunities** within my law firm.”

Nabila Barmaki, a participant from Kabul University, described the impact of the competition: “I am sure my newfound experiences and knowledge **will help me when I graduate** from the Law Faculty. **I have decided to work as a defense lawyer**, after practicing as one during this competition. We know our country needs more scholars and experts in the justice sector, and these moot courts can help students become good prosecutors, judges and defense lawyers. I am very thankful for the sponsors and those who worked so hard to make this useful program happen for the students.”

- In September, RLS-Formal continued to conduct informational sessions on the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition for students from Afghan universities. On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11 male and nine female students from the Law and *Sharia* faculty at Al Biruni University attended a session and received information on the history, purpose, and organization of the annual competition. On September 4<sup>th</sup>, 26 male students from Takhar University attended an informational session on the Jessup competition, and on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 25 male students from Kandahar University attended a similar session. The students were encouraged to sit for the examination which will be used to select five students to form the university’s team for the Jessup Competition.



*Students from Kabul University's team prepare for the 2014 Jessup Competition in September.*

#### **TASK 4: DEVELOP ADVANCED LEGAL ENGLISH TRAINING**

- On September 1<sup>st</sup>, Kabul University commenced a two-month legal English course through the support from RLS-Formal. 29 male and 21 female students from the *Sharia* Faculty will learn legal terminology and how to prepare legal opinions in English. RLS-Formal supports legal English programs to help students to access mainstream legal resource materials and enhance their opportunities to participate in moot court competitions, study tours and scholarships abroad, the majority of which require a high level of English proficiency.

#### **TASK 5: MODERNIZE TEACHING METHODOLOGIES**

- On September 13<sup>th</sup>, RLS-Formal advisors met with deans and professors at the Law Faculty of Kandahar University to conduct a needs assessment of the newly established faculty. The discussions focused on potential activities, including establishing a law library and computer lab, as well as approaches for the university to cost share and ensure the sustainability of such activities. RLS-Formal supports the development of well-equipped and professionally managed computer labs and law libraries at universities across Afghanistan in order to provide students with the tools to develop their practical skills and prepare them to enter the justice sector after graduation.

**Illustrative Ongoing Practical Coursework Supported by RLS-Formal\***

Start	End Date	Type of Coursework	Topic	No. of Students		University	Faculty
				Male	Female		
September	TBD	Legal Clinic	Criminal Procedure	44	16	Balkh	Law & Sharia
April	November	Legal Clinic	Civil and Criminal Law	12	12	Kabul	Law & Sharia
September	December	Legal Clinic	Civil Law	30	0	Kabul	Sharia
August	December	Legal English	Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced	29	21	Kabul	Law & Sharia
September	October	Computer Literacy	Microsoft Office	40	50	Kabul	Law & Sharia
August	December	Legal English	Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced	20	5	Kabul	Law & Sharia
September	December	Legal Clinic	Street Law	6	10	Al Biruni	Law & Sharia
September	December	Legal Clinic	Civil & Criminal Law	12	8	Al Biruni	Law & Sharia
August	December	Legal English	Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced	299	168	Herat	Law & Sharia
September	October	Legal English	Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced	105	0	Panjshir	Sharia
May	TBD	Legal Clinic	Civil Law	10	0	Nangarhar	Law & Sharia

\*As of September 30, 2013

## High School Students Learn Legal Rights Through Street Law Clinic

### University students raise awareness at local high schools



*Suria Saadat distributes brochures on the legal rights of women to female students.*

Awareness of the rule of law remains low among youth in Afghanistan who have fewer opportunities to interact with the formal justice system. Students at Al Biruni University have undertaken to raise the awareness of youths at local high schools of their legal rights and responsibilities through a legal clinic program on street law. 14 female and 12 male students from the Law and Sharia faculties of Al Biruni University participated in the legal clinic through the technical and financial support of RLS-Formal.

Street law aims to engage students in discussions about contemporary legal issues and the ramifications of breaking the law. University students visit local high schools and impart on the students an understanding of the fairness and justice that underlie the legal system in Afghanistan. By demystifying the law, street law intends to help young people develop a positive attitude towards the law.

Suria Saadat, a female student from Al Biruni University, leads the clinic's outreach to female high school students in Kapisa and Par-wan provinces. "The opportunity to speak about the law was my main aspiration in joining the street law program. The opportunity to help my Muslim sisters become aware of their legal rights is among the many reasons this program is special for me. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness of the Constitution has caused lots of unrest and violence amongst families, particularly for women."

Suria recalls when she taught female students at Gulbahar High School about marriage law: "Everyone in the class was paying their utmost attention. When I informed them that a boy and girl are allowed to meet each other before their engagement according to Sharia law, the students in the class were shocked. They said, 'this is the first time we have heard this!'" She counts helping young people find happiness through healthier relationships under the law as one of her "unforgettable memories" from the legal clinic.

## COMPONENT 4

# CITIZEN AWARENESS OF LEGAL RIGHTS AND LEGAL PROCESSES OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM INCREASED

RLS-Formal raises citizen awareness of legal rights and court processes with public legal outreach and awareness conducted through strategic communications under Component 4. The objective of Component 4 is to transfer knowledge and skills to government counterparts to develop a core of professionals with the expertise and experience to implement public information campaigns that increase citizen awareness and develop trust in the formal justice system.

## COMPONENT 4: PUBLIC LEGAL OUTREACH AND AWARENESS THROUGH STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

### TASK 1: PROVIDE EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOP PUBLIC LEGAL OUTREACH CAPACITY

- On September 11<sup>th</sup>, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) graduated 21 public legal outreach staff from a training program focused on the implementation of the institution's National Legal Awareness Strategy in Kabul. 18 male and three female staff received practical training over five days on how to conduct legal outreach activities to inform the public of their legal rights and increase their confidence in the formal justice system. In partnership with the MOJ, RLS-Formal conducts national and regional seminars to educate and motivate government officials to engage in legal awareness campaigns.



*MOJ public outreach staff receive training on the National Legal Awareness Strategy in Kabul in September.*

- On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the MOJ graduated an additional 32 public legal outreach staff from a second round workshop on the implementation of the institution's National Legal Awareness

Strategy in Kabul. 31 male and one female staff from 17 provinces received practical training on how to conduct legal outreach activities to inform the public of their legal rights and increase their confidence in the formal justice system over the course of five days. Latifa, a legal outreach official from the MOJ's Daikundi office described how the training benefited her and her colleagues: "The workshop was very practical. We learned about criminal law and criminal procedure which will help us to advise people of their legal rights at every phase of the legal proceedings."

## **TASK 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE PRINT CAMPAIGNS**

- During September, RLS-Formal observed the use of print publications which it distributed in coordination with the MOJ in August. The project delivered 612,000 brochures, 102,000 posters and 14,300 booklets to MOJ legal aid centers across all of Afghanistan's provinces. The publications aim to raise awareness of reconciliation and mediation services, inheritance rights, the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women, and including prohibitions against forced and underage marriage. RLS-Formal assists the MOJ's public outreach staff with the concept and development of publication materials in order to foster a core of professionals with the expertise to implement campaigns that increase citizen trust in the justice system.

## **TASK 3: DEVELOP CAPACITY OF THE SUPREME COURT AND MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO PRODUCE RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMS**

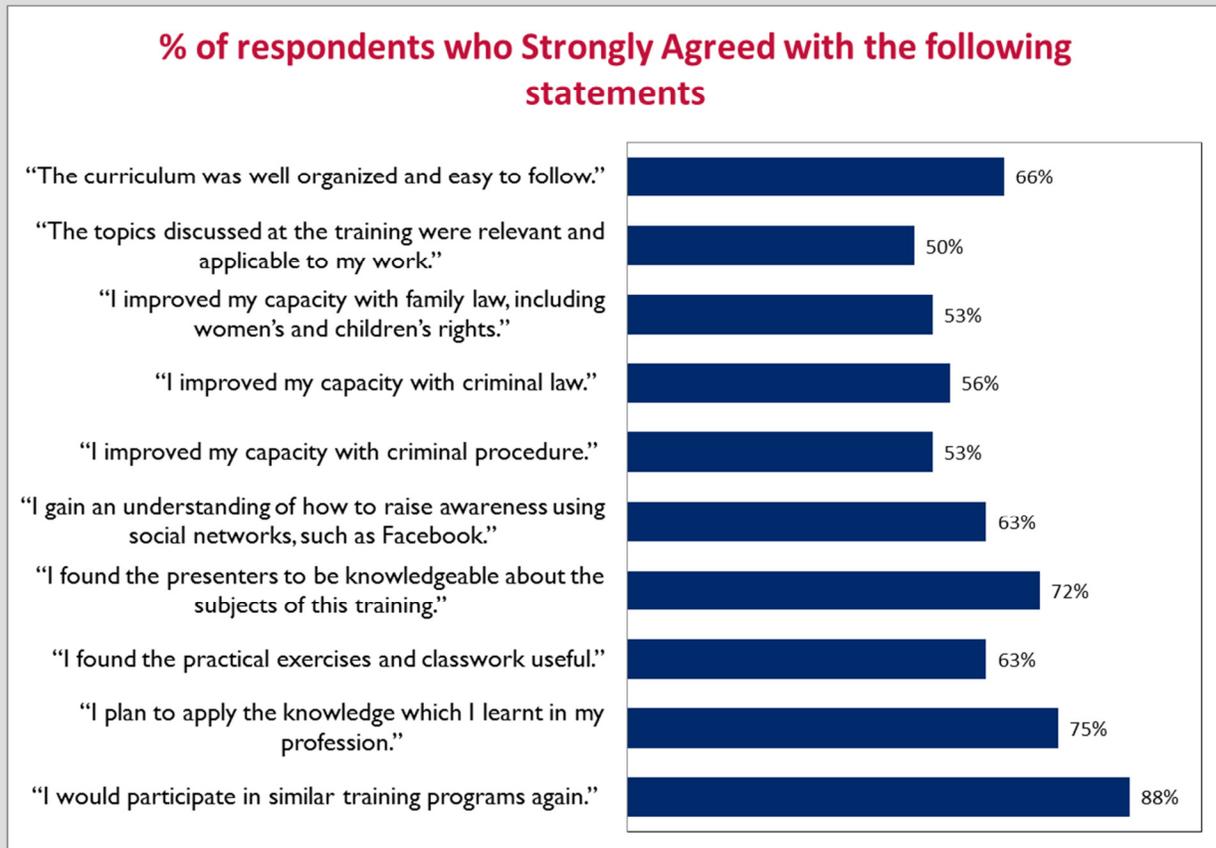
- In September, RLS-Formal finalized plans to conduct mobile theater performances in Badakhshan, Kabul and Nangarhar provinces during October and November in collaboration with the MOJ. The performance will promote an understanding of the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women, child labor laws, and the right of children to receive an education. RLS-Formal assists the MOJ in conducting legal awareness activities to inform the public of their legal rights and increase confidence in Afghanistan's formal justice system.
- During September, RLS-Formal leveraged its relationships with media providers in Balkh province to rebroadcast a radio program raising awareness of the Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in coordination with the MOJ. The program featured a drama promoting women's legal rights with an introduction from the Deputy Minister of the. RLS-Formal assists both the MOJ and SC to develop the communications skills of staff in order to foster a core of professionals with the expertise to sustainably implement public legal outreach and increase public confidence in the justice system.

## Evaluating the Impact of Training Programs

### MOJ Staff Receive Training on National Legal Awareness Strategy

RLS-Formal evaluates the impact of its training programs by administering a post-activity questionnaire to participants. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) staff conduct the evaluations and share the results with program staff in order to determine lessons learned and identify areas for improvement.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, M&E staff conducted an evaluation of **31 male and one female public legal outreach staff** members from the MOJ who graduated from a workshop on the National Legal Awareness Strategy in Kabul. Project staff distributed questionnaires to the participants and recorded their feedback before analyzing the results in a report to share with program and counterpart staff. The graph below represents the **positive results** of the evaluation.



75% of all participants strongly agreed that they plan to apply the knowledge they gained at the training in their professions, while 63% strongly agreed that the workshop build their capacity to use **social networking tools**, such as Facebook, to raise legal awareness in Afghanistan.

The project's M&E staff also confirmed the impact of the training through qualitative tools, such as quotes. Latifa, a public legal outreach official from the MOJ's office in **Daikundi province**, described how the training benefited her and her colleagues: "The workshop was very practical. We learned about criminal law and criminal procedure which will help us to **advise people of their legal rights** at every phase of the legal proceedings."

# GENDER JUSTICE

**RLS-Formal advances the rights of Afghan women and girls by building their capacity to meaningfully participate in the justice sector. By seeking to promote women's rights and gender equality, the project aims to enhance women's access to formal justice mechanisms, improve the availability of legal education for women, and foster a society willing and capable of enforcing existing law and Constitutional rights of women.**

## **RLS-FORMAL GENDER INTEGRATION & AWARENESS**

- Between September 1<sup>st</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>, the Afghan Women Judges Association (AWJA) held its Second Annual National Conference in Kabul. The conference began with an opening ceremony at the SC attended by three members of the High Council, the Minister of Woman's Affairs, Minister of Labor, the Coordinating Director representing the US Embassy, and several representatives from women's rights organizations. Over the three-day period the 186 women judges received presentations on the AWJA's strategic plan, fundraising plan, and upcoming work plan activities, and had a panel discussion on the controversial Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women. AWJA members also took educational site visits to a women's shelter, women's prison, a crime lab, and a forensic center. RLS-Formal works closely with the AWJA and the SC to support the AWJA to advocate on behalf of its membership to increase the presence and capacity of female judges in order to inspire more young women to consider careers in the judiciary.



*Women judges and other participants attend the Second Annual National Conference of the AWJA in September.*

- On September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, RLS-Formal conducted a gender justice training program for 26 female judges in Kabul. The judges received instruction on the Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, women’s right to own property, marriage and divorce law, and were informed that it is not a crime for females to “run away from home” in Afghanistan. RLS-Formal works to promote women’s rights and gender equality as a means to enhance women’s access to formal justice mechanisms and to foster a society more willing and capable of enforcing the Constitutional rights of women.



*Women judges complete a questionnaire at a gender justice training program in Kabul in September.*

- On September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup>, RLS-Formal sponsored forums between women judges and female students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties of Al Biruni and Kabul Universities. The forums introduced over a hundred female students to the opportunities and challenges to serving in the justice sector, including how to become a judge through applying to the Judicial Stage, Afghanistan’s induction training program for new judges. RLS-Formal aims to advance the rights of Afghan women and girls by building their capacity to meaningfully participate in the justice sector.



*Women judges and a dean from Al Biruni University provide information to female students at a forum in September.*

## Evaluating the Educational Benefits of Conferences

### AWJA holds Second National Conference

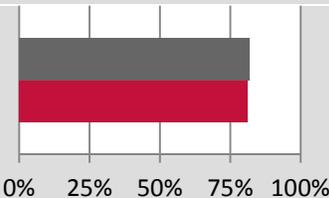
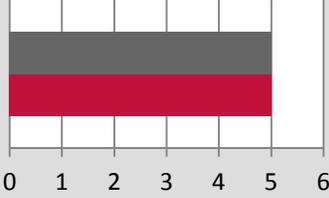
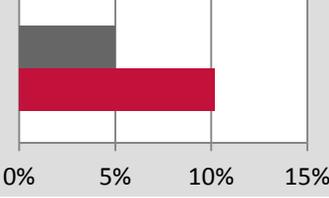
RLS-Formal conducted an evaluation of the education benefits of the AWJA's Second National Conference which included presentations and discussions on the Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women, criminal law, penal code, election law, and personal status law. The project administered a questionnaire to the participants at the end of the conference. M&E staff later shared the results with program staff in order to determine lessons learned for future AWJA events.

On September 4<sup>th</sup>, M&E staff distributed the evaluation questionnaire to **186 women judges** and recorded their feedback before analyzing the results in a report to share with program and counterpart staff. Laila Meher, a **judge from the Personal Status Court in Kabul**, shared her opinion of the education programs at the conference: "The most interesting subject for me was personal status law because it relates to my own court, and the lessons dealt with the **challenges we face every day**. Trainings, such as these, on civil issues are needed especially for judges who work on criminal issues as they don't know about civil law... The trainers were good, and we learned from them, but the duration of the sessions was very short."

# MONITORING & EVALUATION

RLS-Formal measures its program performance through 14 performance indicators as defined in its Performance Management Plan (PMP). The project tracks the indicators monthly and reports most indicators quarterly and several semi-annually.

## Performance Indicators: Quarterly Report for Q4 of FY2013

Indicator	Quarterly Targets (■) vs. Achievements (■)	Notes
1. Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively	48%	The project submitted the first phase of the Court User Survey in August 2013 and anticipates completing the second phase in December 2013. RLS-Formal intends to add new provinces to survey in its second phase rather than resurvey the same provinces.
2. Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law	6.22%	The project reached 6.22% of the population and did not have a quarterly target. Overall, the project has reached 14.15% out of its cumulative target of 19.50%.
3. Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted	-	The project reports on this indicator from The Asia Foundation Survey when it is published in annually in Q1 of FY 2014.
4. Percentage of judges that complete the basic or “stage” training		The project reported 81% of judges have completed the <i>Judicial Stage</i> against its target of 82%. The size of the 28 <sup>th</sup> Round graduating class was too small to achieve the target. The next <i>Stage</i> class is double the size of this round.
5. Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques		The project achieved its quarterly target of 5 stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques.
6. Percentage of judges that received training on women’s legal rights		The project trained 10.19% of judges on women’s legal rights out of its quarterly target of 5% (a 2% increase of last quarter’s target). Overall, the project has trained 34.29%, achieving its cumulative target of 28% of judges trained on women’s rights.

<p>7. Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance</p>		<p>The project trained 356 judges and judicial personnel, exceeding its quarterly target of 244. Overall, the project has trained 2,692 out of its cumulative target of 3,227 judges and judicial personnel.</p>
<p>8. Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms</p>		<p>The project helped 579 courts benefit from improved court management systems, exceeding its quarterly target of 200 courts. The majority of these benefitted indirectly from the project's assistance to the SC's HR and asset management databases. Overall, the project has assisted 579 courts, surpassing its cumulative target of 551.</p>
<p>9. Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Achievement: 93%</b> <b>Target: 90%</b></p>	<p>The project exceeded its target with 93% of students participating in practical coursework expressing confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector.</p>
<p>10. Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships</p>		<p>The project involved 1,189 students in practical legal exercises, exceeding its quarterly target of 560 students. Overall, the project has involved 4,545 students, surpassing its cumulative target of 3,685.</p>
<p>11. Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance</p>		<p>The project developed 2 new legal courses out of its quarterly target of 3 legal courses. Overall, the project has developed 29 legal courses out of its cumulative target of 30, and plans are underway to achieve this.</p>
<p>12. Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Qualitative Level: "Very Aware"</b></p>	<p>The project evaluated the beneficiaries of its public outreach campaigns as "Very Aware" and did not have a quarterly target.</p>
<p>13. Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns</p>		<p>The project did not produce and disseminate television and radio programs during the quarter. RLS-Formal decided to report only programs produced "and" disseminated. It has broadcast at least 32 TV and radio broadcasts in 2013, but it produced these under the prior contract.</p> <p>The project produced and disseminated 727,632 print publications, exceeding its quarterly target of 180,000. Overall, the project has printed over 4.7M publications out of its cumulative target of 5M publications. Plans are underway to fulfill the overall target.</p>
<p>14. Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Achievement: 71%</b></p>	<p>71% of females reported increased self-efficacy at the project's trainings, and the project did not have a quarterly target. Overall, the project has achieved a cumulative average of 76% out of its target of 93%.</p>

Performance Indicator Data							
Indicator	4th Quarter FY 2013					Life of Project	
	Monthly Progress			Quarterly	Quarterly	Achievement	Cumulative Target
	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Achievement	Target	To Date	
1. Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively	-	47.80%	-	47.8%	-	47.8%	-
2. Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law	3.41%	1.20%	1.61%	6.22%	-	14.15%	19.50%
3. Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted	-	-	-	-	-	68%	71%
4. Percentage of judges that complete the basic or "stage" training	-	-	81%	81%	-	81%	82%
5. Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques	0	5	0	5	5	10	15
6. Percentage of judges that received training on women's legal rights *	0.37%	0.48%	10.19%	11.05%	+2%	34.29%	28.00%
7. Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance	107	20	229	356	244	2692	3227
8. Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms	579	0	0	579	200	579	551
9. Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector	-	-	-	-	-	93%	100%
10. Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships	135	198	856	1189	560	4545	3685
11. Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance	0	2	0	2	3	29	30
12. Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries	Very Aware	Very Aware	Very Aware	Very Aware	-	Very Aware	Very Aware
13. Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns**	363,800 Print	363,832 Print	0	727,632	180,000 Print, 1 TV & Radio	4,739,288 Print	5,000,000 Print, 16 Radio & TV
14. Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming ***	48%	48%	81%	71%	-	76%	93%

\* In September, RLS-Formal updated the total number of judges to 1,815 from 1,871 to reflect the number of sitting, active judges in Afghanistan as well as the 28th Class of the Judicial Stage.

\*\* In September 2013, RLS-Formal decided to report only programs "produced and disseminated" under its current contract in Indicator 13. RLS-Formal has broadcast at least 32 TV and radio broadcasts in 2013, but it produced these under the prior contract. The project reset its Achievement to Date to the baseline of 12 TV & Radio programs.

\*\*\* RLS-Formal misreported Indicator 14 in July and August, citing 74%, instead of the correct result of 48%. The indicator increased to 81% by September.

**Indicator 1: Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively**

RLS-Formal utilizes a court user satisfaction survey, or Q10 survey, to gauge the perceptions of Afghan citizens who interact with courts. The views of court users suggest whether judicial reforms result in the creation of efficient and transparent dispute resolution in the eyes of Afghan citizens. RLS-Formal reports the survey results in the third quarter of FY 2013 and the first quarter of FY 2014.

**Indicator 2: Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law**

RLS-Formal works with its implementing partners to collect data on the number of people reached by its public legal outreach campaigns. Exposure to such campaigns increases the likelihood that a citizen will increase his or her awareness of their legal rights and how to access the justice system. RLS-Formal reports this data quarterly. Indicator 2 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1b.

**Indicator 3: Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted**

RLS-Formal employs The Asia Foundation's Survey of the Afghan People, Question 79b to measure the public confidence in courts in Afghanistan. The percentage of the population who agree state courts are fair and trusted speaks to the overall public confidence in the rule of law system. The Asia Foundation publishes the survey results annually in November.

**Indicator 4: Percentage of judges that complete the basic or "stage" training**

RLS-Formal tracks the judges who graduate from the judicial *Stage*, the induction training to prepare a judge to serve in the judiciary. The *Stage* builds the capacity of judges by improving their legal knowledge and professional skills in areas, such as the constitution, civil and criminal code, and the *Sharia* law. RLS-Formal reports this indicator annually when the *Stage* graduates, or when the number of judges changes significantly. Indicator 4 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.11.b.

**Indicator 5: Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques**

RLS-Formal evaluates the teaching techniques of instructors at the judicial *Stage*, including their use of visual aids, learning exercises, student-led debates and classroom discussions. Modern teaching techniques increase the likelihood judges will build the practical legal knowledge and professional skills necessary to serve in the judiciary. RLS-Formal reports the results of its evaluations quarterly.

**Indicator 6: Percentage of judges that received training on women's legal rights**

RLS-Formal tracks which judges receive training on gender equality and gender justice. The training programs aim to improve judges' knowledge of women's rights and enable them to secure these rights through court proceedings. RLS-Formal reports these results quarterly.

**Indicator 7: Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance**

RLS-formal tabulates the number of justice sector personnel that receive training through program activities through attendance sheets. The project's training programs aim to assist judges and judicial staff to effectively carry out their duties and instill a sense of the necessity for judicial independence, transparency and accountability. RLS-Formal reports its training data quarterly. Indicator 7 is the US Foreign Assistance Framework Indicator 2.1.2-7. Indicator 7 represents the project's reported number of personnel trained to USAID. Training numbers mentioned previously in the report represent estimates that may be unsubstantiated by attendance sheets.

**Indicator 8: Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms**

RLS-Formal tracks the courts and court divisions which benefit directly and indirectly from its initiatives to improve court administration and management. Professional management systems enhance the capacity of the Supreme Court to manage its budget, personnel and assets. RLS-Formal reports this indicator quarterly. The courts and divisions benefit directly if they receive a new system or reform, or benefit indirectly if they are helped secondarily by a

reform or system. For example, the newly implemented human resource database directly benefits the Supreme Court which operates the system and indirectly benefits all courts and divisions in Afghanistan by leading to better personnel management of judges and staff at these courthouses.

**Indicator 9: Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector**

RLS-Formal surveys students to measure their perception of the quality of legal education at their university's Law and *Sharia* faculties. Practical legal coursework intends to training and motivating students become legal professionals who can offer meaningful access to justice to more citizens. RLS-Formal reports the survey results in the third quarter of FY 2013 and the first quarter of FY 2014.

**Indicator 10: Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships**

RLS-Formal gages the number of students involved in practical legal activities, including legal clinics, moot courts, mock trials or other competitions designed to hone students' advocacy and research skills, through attendance sheets. Practical legal exercises complement the theoretical legal education commonly found in Afghanistan. RLS-Formal reports this data quarterly. Indicator 10 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1.2b. Indicator 10 represents the project's reported number of student participants to USAID. Student numbers mentioned previously in the report represent estimates that may be unsubstantiated by attendance sheets.

**Indicator 11: Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance**

RLS-Formal tracks the number of new legal courses developed as a result of its assistance to the Ministry of Higher Education. Such courses complement the newly unified core curriculum for Law and *Sharia* faculties by providing the coursework, textbooks, and reference materials for professors to teach their classes. RLS-Formal reports the new legal courses developed quarterly. Indicator 11 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1.2e.

**Indicator 12: Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries**

RLS-Formal conducts listening groups of beneficiaries to gauge the effectiveness of its public legal outreach activities. Public legal outreach activities aim to increase citizens' awareness of legal rights and process through strategic communications. RLS-Formal analyzes and reports the result of the listening groups quarterly.

**Indicator 13: Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns**

RLS-Formal tracks the public outreach materials produced and disseminated through the Ministry of Justice and Supreme Court as the result of its assistance. Effective legal outreach campaigns require leveraging popular media channels and mechanisms to ensure rule of Law message reach the public. RLS-Formal reports these numbers quarterly.

**Indicator 14: Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming**

RLS-Formal solicits feedback from participants through questionnaires to measures the efficacy of its training programs. Training programs aim to stimulate growth in women's confidence and ability to advocate for women's legal status and access justice. RLS-Formal reports this indicator quarterly. Indicator 14 is the USAID Gender strategy Indicator #3.

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Kabul, Afghanistan**