



Judicial Strengthening Initiative for Bulgaria

QUARTERLY REPORT

FOURTH QUARTER 2006

October 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006

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TABLE OF ACRONYMS

AIP	Access to Information Programme Foundation
BCNL	Bulgarian Center for Not-for-Profit Law
BJA	Bulgarian Judges Association
BTC	Broadcasting Training Center
CATP	Court Administration Training Program
CC	Constitutional Court
CIP	Court in Partnership
CJT	Continuing Judge Training
CPT	Continuing Prosecutor Training
CLRP	Commercial Law Reform Project
CMS	Case Management System
DOJ	United States Department of Justice
EU	European Union
EWMI	East-West Management Institute
IAJ	International Association of Judges
ICNL	International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
IDI	Institutional Development Index
IREX	International Research and Exchanges Board
IT	Information Technology
JDP	Judicial Development Project
JPI	Judicial Performance Index
JSA	Judicial System Act
JSI	Judicial Strengthening Initiative
LDI	Legislative Drafting Institute
MC	Model Court

M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MP	Member of Parliament
NACC	National Association of Court Clerks
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIJ	National Institute of Justice
PR	Public Relations
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RCJI	Regional Criminal Justice Initiative
RFA	Request for Applications
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SJC	Supreme Judicial Council
UISCC	Unified Information System for Combating Crime
UJB	Union of Judges of Bulgaria
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

USAID JUDICIAL STRENGTHENING INITIATIVE FOR BULGARIA

FOURTH QUARTER REPORT

October 1 – December 31, 2006

INTRODUCTION

As required under its contract with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), East-West Management Institute, Inc. (EWMI) submits the following quarterly report for the Judicial Strengthening Initiative in Bulgaria (JSI) for the Fourth Quarter period October 1 – December 31, 2006, and for the annual period of 2006.

The highlight during this Quarter was the first-ever combined Magistrates Conference in November 2006 attended by over 1,500 magistrates. JSI also presented and received NIJ approval for acceptance by the NIJ of the highly successful Local Court Training Plan program. JSI increased efforts toward development of specific trainings for prosecutors with very active coordination with other donors and sponsors. During the quarter over 4,600 person days of training were presented to magistrates and court staff through the combined efforts of the JSI, the NIJ, court Local Training Plan trainings, and trainings by JSI grantees.

The SJC recognized the importance of courts working on the Court Improvement Plan and held an off-site meeting for the express purpose of seeing the progress made by a USAID CIP using that Plan. The JSI completed the final two trainings on the use of the Court Improvement Plan for non-MC/CIP courts, which raised the total number of non-CIP courts trained in 2006 to 67. More than 40 attendees participated in the Human Resources Management seminars that were provided under the Court Administration Training Program (CATP). Three combined information centers were officially opened and began providing services for a total of six courts.

The last USAID JSI competitive grants cycle was launched and proposals were received and evaluated for 85 potential grant projects. The process for drafting regulatory changes to open access to court records neared its end. To improve court outreach and community support for the courts, the JSI conducted two regional trainings on strategic planning for ways to improve public trust and confidence in the courts.

A significant amount of time in the quarter was devoted to preparation and revision of the 2007 JSI Workplan which was submitted to USAID in November. The announced intention of USAID to reduce the contract funding made it clear that work on the JSI project would be completed by the end date under the contract at the end of the Third Quarter 2007. The planning for the final 9 months of the project included attention to closeout events and the closeout process.

TASK I: IMPROVE COURT ADMINISTRATION

During the fourth quarter of 2006 site visits were conducted at 18 Courts in Partnership to assist these courts in achieving their selected Court Improvement Plan standards. The JSI conducted two Court Improvement Plan trainings for non-CIP courts and this raised the total of trained non-CIP courts from across Bulgaria to 67. More than 40 attendees participated in the Human Resources Management seminars that were provided under the Court Administration Training Program (CATP). Combined information centers were officially opened for the appellate,

district and regional courts in Plovdiv, the district and regional courts in Dobrich, and for the Varna Regional Court. In addition, construction projects for information centers and combined registries were initiated in two of the Courts in Partnership. In early November the Supreme Judicial Council conducted its regular meeting in Veliko Turnovo. The primary purpose for the out-of-Sofia meeting was to provide the members of the SJC with a tour of the Veliko Turnovo District Court CIP (which included the courts' accomplishments and implementation of a combined information center and registry) and to see first-hand the improvements made by a court working under the auspices of the Court Improvement Plan.

A. MODEL COURTS AND COURTS IN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

1.1 Support to Courts in Partnership

The primary goals of the Model Court and Court in Partnership Program are continued improvement of court administration through individually identified standards from the Court Improvement Plan.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The 18 site visits to CIPs referred to above enabled the JSI to continue monitoring and assisting in implementation of each individually tailored court improvement plan and to evaluate each court's claimed progress. These 4th Quarter evaluations show that eight to ten courts will qualify for transition to Model Court status during the first six months of 2007.

During the reporting period, the JSI provided design and financial assistance to the *Montana* District Court for the building of an information center adjacent to the main entrance of the court building. JSI expects that information center to be completed in January 2007. The JSI also provided financial assistance to the Gorna Oryahovitsa Regional Court to construct a combined information center and common registry for the filing of court actions.

In November, 2006, United States Ambassador to Bulgaria, John Beyrle participated in the official opening of the Plovdiv Palace of Justice Information Center. This information center is unique in its inclusion of the appellate, district and regional courts, all of which are either Model Courts or Courts in Partnership. The JSI provided assistance in the construction of the information center and new and improved signage for the court building. The Plovdiv information center is located at the entrance to the court building and provides information about the activities of all three courts to citizens and court users. Litigants and parties to cases can receive timely information on the status of court cases, court calendars and other worthwhile information about the operations of these courts.

In the fourth quarter the Dobrich District and Regional Court combined information center and registries was officially opened by USAID Mission Director, Mike Fritz and Democracy Officer, Gene Gibson. There are six computer workstations which attorneys and citizens can use to review court cases and court calendars. The Dobrich Courts also officially opened the Dobrich Region Training Center. This training room will serve the judges and staff of the Dobrich courts and all other courts within the Dobrich Region. The JSI provided financial assistance and technical advice in the renovation and construction of the information center and the training room in Dobrich.

During the fourth quarter the Varna Regional Court information center was officially opened by Gene Gibson, the Chief of USAID's Democracy and Local Governance Office. The information center provides information on court activities, court procedures, and open employee positions.

The Court has standardized most forms for all case filings so litigants can also receive assistance in completing case filing documents.

To further promote the development of uniformity in partner court information centers, the JSI initiated a working group to study, agree upon, and ultimately recommend uniform products and services. During this reporting period the working group participated in two meetings. The first meeting was with the SJC Administrative staff to identify those materials and forms that could be printed by the SJC and distributed to each court in Bulgaria. The second meeting focused on developing a training module for information clerks and updating brochures and information guides for citizens. The final report and recommendations will be provided to the Supreme Judicial Council early in 2007.

a) Chairpersons Meetings: There were no scheduled meetings conducted during this reporting period. The JSI started the planning process for a chairpersons meeting to occur in February 2007.

As a result of suggestions received from CIP chairpersons, late in the quarter the JSI convened an exploratory group of CIP chairpersons to discuss the concept of a “Council of Court Chairpersons.” The concept discussed by that group was that an operational group of court chairpersons will empower a systematic way for court leadership to communicate with the SJC and will create pressure for better communication and involvement with court administrative matters by the SJC. The group unanimously supported the concept and proposed a second group meeting in January to plan details for presentation of the concept to the MC/CIP chairpersons and to the SJC. Work on this particular legacy aspect of chairpersons meetings was included in the JSI 2007 Workplan.

b) Operations Review Template: In the previous quarter EWMI’s consultant, Kate Harrison, had delivered training on how to conduct an assessment of workflow procedures and processes and on implementing Court Improvement Plan standard 11 (improving administrative processes and paperwork), and provided draft materials for a template. The JSI staff determined that the draft was a good beginning but was not suitable for implementation and usage in a court environment. The JSI will continue to work to incorporate the usable sections of the template and lessons learned into a useable template to enhance the applicability of the Court Improvement Plan in 2007.

c) Verbatim Court Recording: In the previous quarter EWMI had received USAID authorization to subcontract with AMEG to procure equipment for this and other automation areas. In the reporting quarter AMEG received and evaluated bids but did not finalize the process. We expect this procurement to occur in the first quarter of 2007. Procurement must occur before further verbatim installations.

d) Improve Court Statistics and Budget Formulation: There were no activities undertaken during this reporting period.

e) Automation Support not tied to CMS use: Pending completion of the procurement process noted above, the JSI has been providing only limited hardware support and did not provide hardware to courts in this quarter.

f) Presentation of Evidence: Further progress in this initiative depends on the hardware purchases in early 2007.

1.2 Coordination with the Supreme Judicial Council

Under this subtask, the JSI is to provide the SJC with information on the activities and accomplishments of the CIPs and solicit SJC member participation in CIP activities and events in order to promote and recognize the accomplishments of the CIPs.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: Previously in 2006 the SJC had approved the Court Improvement Plan and Guidelines for national distribution, the Plan was distributed nationally to all appellate, district and regional courts in Bulgaria that have not worked with USAID as Model or Partner courts (121 “non-CIP” courts), and the JSI conducted three trainings on the Plan and its implementation for these non-CIPs (trainings were in Burgas, Varna and Sofia). The response to the announced programs and the attendance exceeded expectations and in the reporting quarter JSI conducted two additional trainings for non-CIP courts (in Plovdiv and Veliko Turnovo). Training participants were judges and administrative staff from non-MC/CIP courts and trainers were CIP and MC court judges and staff and JSI staff. At the last training, the chairperson of the SJC Court Administration Committee participated as a speaker and members of SJC staff attended the training. Including the participants from third quarter trainings, sixty-seven courts participated in the five trainings.

In October, 2006 the SJC Court Administration Committee recommended that the SJC hold one of its regular meetings where Council members could observe and learn what and how a Bulgarian Court can improve court operations, openness and transparency by implementing and participating in the USAID Courts in Partnership Program of the JSI. In early November the SJC met in Veliko Turnovo for the purpose of touring a Model Court. The regular Council meeting was conducted in a hotel conference room and the JSI presented to the Council details about the Court Improvement Plan work and the successes of the Veliko Turnovo District Court. SJC members were then hosted at the courthouse by District Court Chairperson Minov who introduced the members to the combined information center and court registry located on the first floor of the court building. Mr. Minov stressed the importance of having services open and convenient to the public and litigants. This visit by the SJC to a model court provided the SJC members with a better understanding of how a court implementing the standards of the Court Improvement Plan can provide a more open and transparent judicial system.

B. SJC INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

One of the primary objectives of the JSI is to strengthen the institutional capacity of the SJC and assist its administrative support staff to function as a national court administrative office.

1.3 Improved Capacities of the Supreme Judicial Council

The JSI is to make recommendations and train staff and Council members on how the SJC can more effectively perform its responsibilities as an office for the administration of the courts nationally.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: Proposed Constitutional amendments were filed in Parliament at the end of the third quarter, 2006. Some of those proposed amendments will affect operations of the judicial system and will need enabling legislation within the Judicial System Act. Both Parliament and the MOJ have determined to resolve issues relating to constitutional amendments before formally addressing JSA amendments. See section 3.3, below, for more information on this subject. There have been no substantive changes made to the JSA since July, 2006. The Ireland PTP group and the SJC Legal Policy Committee submitted amendments to the JSA to the Minister of Justice in late September, 2006. The

majority of these proposed amendments strengthens the independence of the judiciary and strengthens the capacities of the Supreme Judicial Council to act as the office for National Administration of the Judiciary. During the quarter the SJC staff who had participated in the Ireland PTP trip supervised work on revising SJC internal regulations to match the proposed JSA changes. Those regulations should be finished in the first quarter of 2007.

In October, 17 administrative staff from the Supreme Judicial Council participated in the JSI sponsored Human Resources training conference to develop standards for job descriptions. The JSI also provide consultant assistance to the SJC to develop uniform job descriptions for all SJC administrative staff positions. In December, eight SJC administrative department managers attended the Human Resources Management seminar conducted by EWMI consultant Mindy Masias, the Director of Human Resources for the Colorado Judicial Department. The training focused on policy development, performance appraisals and discipline.

1.4 Selection, Promotion and Disciplinary Processes for Judges

The JSI is to investigate and provide information on judicial attestation systems and, in cooperation with EU/Phare, provide resources and expertise in the areas of merit selection, promotion, and discipline of judges.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: There were no activities conducted during this reporting period.

1.5 Improved Collection and Use of Statistics

The JSI is to work directly with the SJC and a Statistics Committee including judges to develop improved statistics reporting and a weighted caseload methodology.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: In the third quarter the JSI distributed the data collection instrument and instructions to all CIP courts to collect data from across the nation. During this reporting period the JSI staff collected over 160 data collection instruments from judges in 16 of the 22 Courts in Partnership. The completed templates contained detailed judge time information on criminal, civil and administrative cases in small, medium and large courts. This information was tabulated and analyzed to develop case weights for the time required to adjudicate various types of cases. In the first quarter of 2007 the statistical working group and JSI will review the analysis and prepare written recommendations to the SJC to implement the “weighted caseload model” to determine appropriate staffing patterns throughout the court system.

As noted in the third quarter report, in 2006 the SJC published its first ever annual report, which included caseload and other statistics relating to the courts.

1.6 Improved Budgeting Process

The JSI is to make recommendations and provide training, technical assistance, and possibly consultant expertise on how to more effectively develop a budget for the judiciary and to manage, monitor and audit local court budgets.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

The PTP Ireland group members included in their action plan an expansion of audit capabilities. and the SJC had approved the request for an expanded audit section within the SJC. During the reporting quarter two new auditors were hired.

The Spanish Twinning Project informed the JSI that they would be conducting a seminar on Judicial budgeting in early February 2007. The JSI staff was invited to attend this seminar and participate in a roundtable discussion on judicial budgeting.

1.7 Improved Public Relations

The JSI/IREX joint activities aimed at improving SJC public relations skills in 2006 are to focus on events that promote greater transparency, accountability, and independence of the judiciary. See Section 3.5, below, for additional information on other public relations activities related to the SJC and the courts.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The JSI staff continued to work with the SJC Public Relations Department by collaborating on media relations and event planning. The technical assistance included coordinating the press release and the press briefing for the National Magistrates Conference co-hosted by the SJC. The SJC PR Unit Head served as moderator for both the pre-Conference press briefing and the event press conference. The JSI also continued to follow up on the second quarter meeting with the SJC Public Relations Department, meeting a request to support a documentary film on the SJC. Through the Competitive Grants Program the JSI reviewed an NGO proposal by Journalists Against Corruption for a national broadcast documentary on the SJC, a survey of awareness about the SJC, and a media campaign to address the findings of the survey. The JSI continued planning with the SJC PR Unit Head about the press room planned for the new SJC building, itemizing the necessary equipment and receiving the draft floor plan for the office. By the end of the quarter the SJC placed further planning on hold since sufficient funds for the new building were probably not going to be available through the budget. The Open Doors Day for Ph.D. law and political science students was postponed, and is being planned for the first quarter 2007. The JSI World Learning PTP proposal on SJC PR Training in the US was approved by USAID, and the JSI collaborated with PTP and the National Center for State Courts to develop the final curriculum for the first quarter 2007 training in Washington, D.C.

C. AUTOMATION

The JSI has continued the improvement and support of the electronic Case Management System (CMS).

1.8 Automation of and Implementation of the electronic Case Management System (CMS) in the Courts

Assuming the appropriate political and donor conditions, EWMI is to implement the CMS in additional courts and to unify, stabilize, and increase the speed of the CMS now in the courts.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

a) Software Development: JSI staff continued to provide courts with technical assistance in development of Web sites and other CMS related software issues. In the third quarter Latona Development completed the JSI requested analysis of the software development work necessary to make CMS UISCC compatible and in the reporting quarter Latona programmed CMS changes designed to accomplish that compatibility. That work has been completed up to a point but has not undergone testing. See section 1.9, below, for more information.

JSI staff developed a database system for the registration of magistrates attending the National Magistrates Conference. Technical assistance was provided to the non-CIP regional courts in

Sliven and Mezdra in developing their court websites. This assistance was offered to the all the non-CIP courts that attended the five regional training seminars on implementing the Court Improvement Plan standards.

b) Software Support to Existing CMS Courts: The JSI staff continued to monitor the functionality and performance of the CMS software by communicating with the system administrators and court users.

c) Hardware Support to CMS Courts: There were no hardware purchases or upgrades for CMS courts during this quarter.

d) Conviction Certificates: The CMS Conviction Certificate interface from the regional courts in Blagoevgrad and Gotse Delchev was completed and exported to the Registry Agency's national Index System for Conviction Certificates. The CMS Conviction Certificate interface is operational and functional with the Registry Agency's national Index system.

e) Rollout CMS to Additional Courts: The Case Management System (CMS) was installed in the Dobrich District and Regional courts and in the Gorna Oryahovitsa Regional court in late November, 2006, and training was completed by the end of the quarter. The court chairpersons in these courts will begin entering new cases on CMS beginning in January, 2007. There are now 20 district and regional courts using the SJC developed CMS software.

1.9 Development of a Transition Plan for Automation Activities

The JSI is to develop an "Automation Transition Plan" for the transfer and maintenance of the JSI automation activities relating to computer hardware, networks and software.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: As of the end of the quarter the Ministry of Justice still had not published specific criteria for the certification of case management systems for use in the courts. As mentioned in 1.8(a), above, Latona Development programmed changes that would support compatibility of CMS with UISCC but was not able to complete the technical testing of the transfer of UISCC data from CMS to the UISCC system because the MOJ system was not operational. Approval and data transfer are important aspects of transition of support for CMS.

D. CRIMINAL LAW INITIATIVES

1.10 Regional Criminal Justice Initiative (RCJI) and Unified Information System for Combating Crime (UISCC)

3rd Quarter Activities and Results: In the third quarter the EWMI JSI contract was amended to delete in their entirety the sub-tasks and expected results relating to the RCJI (contract sections C.2.1.4(a) and C.2.1.4(b)). Work on the RCJI has therefore been completed as of the third quarter of 2006

The only JSI work in the area of the UISCC has been to pursue compatibility of CMS with the UISCC software, and as reported in sections 1.8(a) and 1.9, above, that work has progressed as far as it can because of the limited status of the UISCC and the lack of published specifications.

TASK 2: IMPROVE CAPACITY OF MAGISTRATES AND COURT STAFF

This area of work for the JSI in the fourth quarter was highlighted by the first National Magistrates Conference conducted in November. In addition, the JSI assisted the NIJ with accepting the transfer of the successful Local Court Training Plans (LCTP) program, with strengthening the Mentor Magistrates program, and with the final steps leading to sustainability by piloting a curriculum developer position. Work also continued on the Institutional Development Index. Cross-cutting work with media, public outreach, and legislative drafting contributed in the fourth quarter to a stronger and more productive NIJ, and higher citizen awareness of JSI activities related to training and education.

A subcomponent of the work with the NIJ includes developing the initial and continuing prosecutor training programs. JSI took an active lead in the fourth quarter to facilitate the development of prosecutor training programs that are sustainable, and coordinated with other donors and sponsors.

During the fourth quarter NIJ offered 10 initial, 27 continuing, 11 court administration, and six TOT trainings to 1,417 participants. The trainings were delivered by 172 trainers/experts, 75% of whom were local trainers. These resulted in 1,855 person days of trainings for judges, 480 for prosecutors, 214 for investigators, and 683 for court clerks.

JSI conducted 28 training offerings through 42 instructors, 41 of whom were local trainers. Thirteen trainings (two of which were presented by the SJC) were part of the partial financing of the Local Court Training Program. Trainings delivered addressed court administration, media relations, IT, TOT, and curriculum development topics. All these trainings contributed to 618 person days of training for judges and 606 for court clerks. In addition, 24 prosecutors participated in trainings offered as part of the LCTP which resulted in 48 person days of training for prosecutors.

An average of 85% of the participants find JSI training offerings extremely useful or useful to a large extent. 77% report the trainings helped them improve their awareness, 54% their knowledge, 49% their professional skills, and 34% their attitude towards the job. On average, 89% of the participants state that the trainings completely met or to a large extent met their expectations and their goals and objectives.. Participants rate the quality of training materials provided at 4.52 out of 5.00. Trainers are rated at an average of 4.73 out of 5.00. 98% state that they would recommend JSI-offered trainings to others. The JSI exceeded its training targets for 2006.

Training Statistics, 4th Quarter, 2006

Type of Training	# Courses	Participants							Person Days						
		Magistrates				Clerks	Other	Total Part.	Magistrate Person Days				Clerk	Other	Total P. Days
		Judges	Pros.	Invest.	Total Mag.				Judges	Pros.	Invest	Total Mag.			
NIJ Initial Training	10	117	109	0	226	0	0	226	177	196	0	373	0	0	373
NIJ Continuing Training	27	594	74	103	771	0	43	814	1477	134	193	1804	0	74	1878
NIJ Court Admin Training	11	0	0	0	0	246	0	246	0	0	0	0	683	0	683
NIJ TOT Training	6	67	50	7	124	0	7	131	201	150	21	372	0	21	393
NIJ Subtotal	54	778	233	110	1121	246	50	1417	1855	480	214	2549	683	95	3327
JSI	26	250	24	0	274	207	70	551	501	48	0	549	428	92	1069
JSI Grantees	2	39	0	0	39	60	0	99	117	0	0	117	180	0	297
JSI Subtotal	28	289	24	0	313	267	70	650	618	48	0	666	608	92	1366

GRAND TOTAL	82	1067	257	110	1434	513	120	2067	2473	528	214	3215	1291	187	4693
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A. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

2.1 Institutional Development

Using the results of various assessment instruments, the JSI will work with the NIJ to develop a plan targeted at strengthening the sustainability of the NIJ after USAID closeout.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

a. Survey. The NIJ received 1852 responses to the Survey of Services and Products. The NIJ tabulated the responses using the SPSS software purchased earlier under the NIJ Grant. The initial review of the responses indicated that overall the NIJ is performing well in delivering relevant training programs by competent trainers. An Executive Summary will be written and included in the document. The results of the survey will be discussed in the first quarter of 2007 with NIJ management. Areas of concern will be incorporated into the final NIJ Strategic Plan.

JSI and NIJ discussed how to best use the Survey results in ways other than in the Strategic Plan. NIJ staff raised several possibilities including distributing the Survey to all key stakeholders, using the information to inform the media about the NIJ, providing specific sections to all trainers in order to provide them with feedback, and conducting the survey on a regular basis and using it as a monitoring tool for the institution.

b. Curriculum developer. Kalina Lazarova, part-time curriculum developer funded by the JSI, began working at the NIJ in the fourth quarter. Ms Lazarova is also the training coordinator for the USAID Commercial Law Reform Project. JSI Deputy Chief of Party met with all of the NIJ program directors and staff to clarify the role of Ms. Lazarova with the NIJ. At the request of the JSI, the NIJ Program Coordinator's job responsibilities shifted from primarily being a logistical coordinator to more of a facilitator of program development. Ms Lazarova's responsibilities include training and assistance for the Program Coordinators in their work with trainers to develop new training programs based on a systematic approach and use of standardized templates. Ms. Lazarova's responsibilities do not include actual program development.

Ms. Lazarova conducted two separate training programs for the Program Coordinators. The programs focused on curriculum development processes and procedures. Prior to the training programs, JSI met with the Program Coordinators to discuss possible new training programs to be developed within the first six months of 2007. After several meetings, the Program Coordinators focused on five different areas.

JSI views this shift and the work of Ms. Lazarova as one of the final pieces for NIJ sustainability and quality program development and delivery. (Ironically, the placement of a curriculum developer was one of the first recommendations made in 2000 to the Magistrates Training Center (predecessor to the NIJ).)

See also Section 2.7, below.

c. Board members. The Supreme Judicial Council appointed new NIJ Board members in the fourth quarter. Prosecutor General Velchev, Supreme Cassation Court Judge Avdeva, and Supreme Administrative Court Chairperson Penchev replaced Judges Popova and Balveska and Deputy Prosecutor Manchev. Remaining on the Board are Supreme Court of Cassation

Chairperson Grigorov (who also continues as NIJ Board Chair), Minister of Justice Petkanov, Deputy Minister of Justice Ganev, and Supreme Administrative Court Judge Kostov. The new Board positions the NIJ very well within the entire judicial system. The inclusion of the Prosecutor General on the Board sends a strong message about the importance of training prosecutors. As mentioned in the third quarter report, with the advent of the new administrative courts through the country, representation of the administrative court will ensure active involvement in training. The newly formed NIJ Board met twice in the fourth quarter.

d. Ambassador visit. On October 20, the US Ambassador toured the NIJ facilities, met with the NIJ Director, and spoke to a large group of NIJ participants, staff, and trainers. Ambassador Beyrle acknowledged the work of the NIJ and its important role in judicial development. The NIJ Director presented the Ambassador with the first ever “Sign of Honor” medal, and commented on the significant contributions made by USAID and the Judicial Strengthening Initiative. Media covered the event.

e. Collaboration. As identified below, JSI continued to meet, coordinate and collaborate with USAID partners, DOJ, and other international donors in order to leverage resources and to more effectively deliver assistance to JSI’s Bulgarian counterparts.

f. Mentor program. JSI met several times with the Spanish PHARE project to discuss the Mentor Magistrate program. In October and then in again in December, the Spanish PHARE project brought in Spanish experts with expertise in designing and evaluating mentoring judge programs. JSI worked closely with the experts and the NIJ on utilization of their expertise and incorporated the evaluation component into the mentor training program. The PHARE Project Director convened a panel of Bulgarian judges and then later prosecutors to discuss with the Spanish experts the existing judge mentor program and the prosecutor mentor program which is under development. The JSI-developed Mentor Manual provided a basis for discussions. In all meetings and discussions, the JSI Task Manager attended and participated. In addition, the JSI consulted with the Spanish PHARE in designing the training program for judge mentors conducted in December.

In December, the NIJ provided training to twenty-four mentor judges. The JSI actively participated in the design of the Mentor Judge Training program, selection of the trainer, and overall focus of the program. NIJ Director Penev and the JSI Deputy Director jointly opened the program. One of the Spanish experts attended as an observer. The Mentor Judge training program presented unique challenges. The skills required for a successful mentor are different from that of a sitting judge. These skills include asking open ended questions, establishing a trusting and open atmosphere, guiding rather than directing. The program design also required careful assignments of participants and facilitators at each table due to non-supportive attitudes of some of the participants. The program agenda opened with basic information and moved toward skill development. The design of the program included a great deal of participation and active involvement by the mentor judges. The participants used the Mentor Judge Manual for some of the activities. The Spanish expert expressed to the JSI Task Manager and then to the lead trainer that he had never witnessed such a training with judges and was amazed at how interactive they were during the training. All of the Sofia City Court mentor judges attended. This is significant because the Sofia City Court has the highest number of mentor judges and historically has voiced opposition to the NIJ’s Initial Training Program (of which the Mentor Judge Program is a component).

The trainer for the Mentor Judge program, Vesselina Penevska, worked with the NIJ Initial Training Department and modified the program for the Mentor Prosecutor program which was conducted in December. Thirty seven prosecutors attended the training.

g. Methodology. The Spanish PHARE Project conducted a training methodological program for judges and prosecutors. JSI coordinated with the Spanish on who should participate. This program, however, provided a forum for discussion about training rather than training on adult learning and presentation skills. JSI will offer a more standardized TOT program in 2007 and will invite participants from this group.

h. Court administration. JSI met with the British Council regarding their Court Administration training project. The British Council project focuses on training court administrators on model hiring and personnel issues. JSI shared with the British Council project leader, Mr. Alan Bean, the status of court administrator training including the JSI/SJC Model Hiring manual. Mr. Bean after some discussion agreed to amend the presentation to include reference to the JSI/SJC Model Hiring manual. JSI provided Mr. Bean with an updated manual.

i. Prosecutor training. The British Council also met with JSI to discuss another project focusing on prosecutor training. This program will deal with courtroom presentation skills training and prosecutor ethics.

JSI extended an invitation to Mr. Walter Nemeč, RTA of the new Austrian PHARE project relating to prosecutors to meet to discuss coordination. Mr. Nemeč could not meet during the fourth quarter but agreed to meet in the early part of 2007. JSI forwarded the Prosecutor's Needs Assessment, Mentor Judge Manual, and the list of approved prosecutor trainers to Mr. Nemeč.

j. Remedies. The Austrian PHARE project on Civil and Criminal Remedies continued to be supportive of cooperation with the JSI and NIJ. Although the PHARE project trained judges, prosecutors and court clerks on the new law, they did not train them on training methodology. Using the JSI grant, the NIJ will train selected judges, prosecutors and court clerks on training methodology in 2007.

k. Cyber crime. Prior to Mr. Carl Anderson's departure from CEELI/DOJ, he met with JSI along with three members of the association of financial institutions to discuss again cyber crime/identity fraud training. JSI agreed to include the topic for consideration by the NIJ for further program development. NIJ after discussions concerning five new programs to be developed in 2007 accepted the challenge to convert the existing programs into a sustainable program.

2.2 CIP Local Training Plans and the NIJ Mentor/Correspondent Judge

The CIP Judge Training Coordinator position and the NIJ Correspondent Judge position will be merged and strengthened through training and supporting documents.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: In late November, JSI formally proposed to the NIJ to transfer the CIP Local Court Training Plan program (LCTP) to the NIJ and to merge the LCTP program with the Correspondent Magistrates program. The proposal outlined the merits of the merger, conditions, and recommendations. The conditionality included that 30% of the funds be allocated to court staff, each court deliver at least one program aimed at fighting organized crime (list of topics included), and a specific NIJ staff member be assigned to manage the program. The funding for the program will be through the JSI USAID Grant to the NIJ. The NIJ Board met in late December and approved the proposal as it was submitted.

Merging the successful LCTP program with the Correspondent Magistrate program provides the opportunity for the NIJ to guide and to manage a nationwide training program initiated and delivered at a local or regional level. This delivery mechanism complements the more centralized training delivery mechanism currently in place at the NIJ. By supporting the Correspondent Magistrate program with local training plans, the NIJ is now able to provide Initial Magistrates training, Continuing Magistrates training, and court clerk training.

The Correspondent Judge Manual is comprised of the Correspondent job description, NIJ regulations and the materials associated with the LCTP. An orientation of the NIJ staff will be scheduled for the early first quarter in 2007 followed by training of the Correspondent Judges and court clerks.

See also Section 2.11 below.

2.3 Alumni Group

The NIJ with assistance from the JSI is to establish an NIJ Alumni Group.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The JSI continued to work with the NIJ to assess the best methods of training members of the NIJ Alumni Group. Following a third quarter meeting with the NIJ press attaché, and the drafting of a JSI proposal for the Alumni Group, in the fourth quarter the NIJ responded with a memo written by a Permanent Trainer assessing the JSI proposal. The assessment recommended transforming the idea for the Alumni Group into a loose association, rather than a formal Board-approved and funded registered organization. The NIJ Initial Training Coordinator also circulated the initial JSI proposal at two seminars for alumni, and received written feedback from 2006 graduates. After receiving the Permanent Trainer's memo, and feedback from the alumni seminars, the JSI met again to review and discuss the assessments, decide on the elements of the original proposal which would best fit with the assessments, and arranged to meet again with NIJ representatives in the first quarter of 2007. The final planning will focus on training (on how to work with the media), and the setting up of an Alumni Group link on the NIJ website.

2.4 NIJ Internal Policies

The NIJ is to develop and implement a Faculty Development Policy.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: This activity is one of the Institutional Development Index requirements (3.1) regarding faculty. The current NIJ policies governing trainers include remuneration, selection and qualification. A statement governing the development of the trainers' professional capacity and a review mechanism are missing from the policies. JSI in cooperation with NIJ drafted language for the additional statement. The draft statement outlined various ways in which the NIJ can support the trainers' professional development, ranging from supporting the Trainers' Retreat to purchasing resource materials for the library. Although the NIJ can accept the various methods outlined for professional development, a formalized evaluation process for the trainers is not feasible at this time. It is not feasible because there are over 350 trainers and the NIJ does not have the capacity to formalize the evaluation process. At this time, the NIJ relies on course evaluations used at the end of each course which include sections on evaluation of the particular trainers. The NIJ also looks for general themes regarding the trainers from other general surveys and evaluation forms. After discussions, a statement regarding the trainer professional development was proposed.

2.5 Legislative and Public Outreach

JSI is to work with IREX, ProMedia Broadcast Training Center and NIJ to develop a comprehensive public relations strategy.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The NIJ communications and outreach strategic plan was adopted by the NIJ Board. JSI provided technical assistance to the NIJ in coordinating and publicizing the American Ambassador’s tour of the Institute, receipt of the “Sign of Honor” medal, and address to the trainers and staff.

See also Section 3.5 below.

2.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

The NIJ is to start implementing its Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: NIJ did not conduct any long term impact evaluations in the reporting period. The NIJ will conduct the long term impact evaluation on the Insolvency program when sufficient time (at least four months) has transpired. There are no new court administration programs to be evaluated. At the Trainers’ Retreat conducted in November, JSI Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist presented the concept and procedures for long term impact evaluation that the NIJ conducts. Three participants at the retreat conducted long term impact evaluations previously and commented on the process and their experience. JSI stressed the need for all trainers to understand the process and the value to the NIJ of the data collected through both immediate and long term impact evaluation systems.

B. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

2.7 Continuing Judge Education Curriculum

The NIJ with assistance from the JSI will develop a comprehensive Continuing Judge Education curriculum. Also, the JSI will continue to work with other USAID partners and EU PHARE projects.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: JSI conducted a series of meetings with the NIJ Program Coordinators and Continuing and Initial Directors to analyze the status of the continuing training core curriculum and to make recommendations for changes to the curriculum. One of the first steps in the process was to identify all of the existing continuing core training programs and the extent to which they were developed and sustainable. At the next meeting, the group focused on which programs should be deleted, modified and added. The group used the Continuing Training Needs Assessment as the primary basis for discussion about new programs to be added. During the process, the NIJ staff consulted the Initial Judge Modular Training programs. The Modular Training program is geared for newly appointed judges who have at least two years of legal experience. Thus, the programs are developed at a slightly more sophisticated level than those in the Initial Six Month training program. There was agreement that it would be possible to take some of the existing Modular Training programs and expand them further to be suitable for the Continuing Judge Training program. At the third meeting, the NIJ staff proposed five additional programs to be developed. One of these programs is from the Initial Judge Modular training program. Two of the five additional training programs are aimed at prosecutors, and not judges. The programs identified for development are: Financial Crimes for judges and prosecutors; Property Law and Partition for judges; Cyber Crimes for judges and prosecutors (using the (CEELI/DOJ course); Analyzing Financial Documents and Statements for judges; and

Intellectual Property Rights for Trainers for judges and prosecutors. This last program is aimed at further developing the content of the IPR trainers. The NIJ proposed a Core Curriculum for Continuing Judges.

The National Institute of Justice in cooperation with the JSI offered the new Insolvency Training Program in early December. Sofia City Court judges J. Komitova and S. Mihailov, Supreme Court of Cassation judges T. Raikovska and L. Ilieva, and court expert A. Angelov presented the program to 28 judges, one representative of the MOJ, and one expert. The participants applauded the program for its practical focus, in particular the portion on financial statements. The involvement of judges Komitova and Mihailov in the program development and delivery provided a positive link between the NIJ and the Sofia City Court. As previously mentioned, past animosity between the Sofia City Court and the NIJ over the Initial Judge Training program had created a schism that negatively impacted both the Court and the NIJ. This training along with the positive reception of the Mentor Judge training program is building a bridge between the two institutions.

The NIJ scheduled another Insolvency Training program for 2007. The long term impact evaluation process will be conducted before July 2007.

Although earlier in the year, USAID partner FSIP worked with JSI, World Learning and NIJ to deliver a program to judges on financial institutions, the second program offered at the end of November did not involve the JSI or NIJ. The decision not to work with the NIJ was made by the Bulgarian National Bank.

2.8 Court Administration/Court Clerk Training

The NIJ will pilot a Court Clerk Academy. The NACC with the NIJ will develop one new court clerk manual. The Court Administrator training program will be developed and implemented.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

Court Administration Training Program (CATP). In December 2006 JSI organized two Human Resources Management trainings under the auspices of the Court Administrator Training Program (CATP) JSI collaborated with US court human resource expert and trainer, Mindy Masias regarding the content, and brought Ms. Masias in as the trainer. The trainings focused on important topics including recruitment, policy development, management techniques, performance management, and discipline and termination of employment.

The two trainings were organized for two target groups: court representatives (court chairs, court administrators and administrative secretaries) and representatives of Supreme Judicial Council and National Institute of Justice.

The participants evaluated the program highly. Several reasons for the success of the training include a balanced training approach between theory and interactive practical application, and the opportunity for the groups to discuss how to apply the knowledge to professional duties. Many of the participants rated Ms. Masias as one of the best trainers they ever had the opportunity to work with.

2.9 Computer Basic Skills Training

The JSI will examine how to incorporate computer basic skills training into the NIJ and will present a proposal to the NIJ.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: This activity is completed.

C. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

2.10 National Association of Court Clerks (NACC)

The JSI will assist the NACC to further strengthen their institutional capacity including improving the scores of the IDI. The JSI will conduct a “Membership Satisfaction” survey and the analysis will be included in their strategic plan.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The NACC met its Institutional Development Index targets and required fourth quarter deliverables under the JSI Grant. Activities during the reporting period included a Board visit to regional sections in Eastern Bulgaria, piloting a new court clerk training, partial development of the new Court Secretaries Manual, delivery of two trainings for court clerks, and the NACC database updated. The long term evaluation impact and the completion of the new Court Secretaries Manual will be finished in the first quarter of 2007.

The NACC Board members, an external consultant, and JSI staff developed a realistic Association Financial Sustainability plan. It consists of seven revenue generating activities divided into subtasks and viewed in terms of resources, products, time span, sources, clients, and costs. Most of the Plan activities can be implemented repeatedly every year; this will help produce constant revenues for the Association. The JSI expects that the implementation of the activities under the new NACC Financial Sustainability Plan will serve as one of the important prerequisites for the Association’s sustainability after USAID withdrawal.

Five NACC Board members and one NACC Controlling Committee member met with fifteen chairpersons and representatives of the Association’s Eastern Bulgaria regional sections to discuss the results of the Court Clerk Attestation Workshop, the procedures for proposing and electing new Board members, the newly adopted financial sustainability plan, and the Association’s operations manual. This meeting will be followed by similar meetings in other parts of the country in 2007. These meetings are directly related to the two NACC Institution Development Index priorities 2006 – 2007 (1.2: The regional sections work effectively, observe the rules and take initiatives; 2.3: Mechanisms on ensuring and controlling the feedback from members are implemented.).

The NACC conducted preliminary discussions on the development of a court clerk attestation training for administrative secretaries and court administrators. The preliminary discussions revealed that due to wide ranging interpretations of the legislation regarding attestation there are many different practices around the country. The development of attestation training should occur after clear attestation procedures and legislation interpretations are in place. NACC requested and received the JSI’s approval to not use the Grant funds for attestation training (Deliverables: 1.2: Develop one new court clerk training and 4.3: Pilot the new court clerk training) but to use them to work together with the SJC to clarify the attestation procedures and, if needed, propose changes to the current legislation. As a result, in the fourth quarter the NACC, together with the SJC, conducted an Attestation Workshop that resulted in proposed legislative amendments. NACC, together with the SJC, will continue working on this issue in the first quarter of 2007.

NACC appointed a working group to develop a manual for court secretaries. The group met twice to identify and to develop the materials for the manual. A final meeting for revision and arrangement of the materials and finalizing of the manual will be held in January 2007.

The NACC delivered two team building trainings for forty-six court clerks from Sofia City Court and Pleven District and Regional courts. The courts requested the training by the NACC due to internal difficulties with staff. The long term impact evaluation will be conducted in 2007. The long term impact evaluation process has been identified for all newly developed programs. Because the NACC does not have any newly developed training programs, they themselves elected to conduct at least one long term impact evaluation for the main purpose of building experience and in-depth knowledge about the process.

NACC substantially updated the existing database with membership information. This helps to prepare for the financial audit of the National Incomes Agency and the National Social Security Institute.

Twenty-one members of the Association assisted the SJC and JSI team in organizing and conducting the First National Magistrates Conference, 17-18 November 2006.

2.11 National Judicial Conference

The JSI will assist with organization and support of a 2006 Conference and will work to transition the National Magistrates Conference to the Supreme Court of Cassation and the Union of Judges.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: One thousand five hundred and six magistrates--800 judges, 528 prosecutors, and 178 investigators--attended the first National Magistrates Conference conducted November 17 – 18, 2006, at the National Palace of Culture in Sofia. Bulgarian President Georgi Purvanov and U.S. Ambassador John Beyrle opened the Conference along with leaders of the judiciary and representatives from the National Assembly and the Prime Minister’s Office. The theme of the Conference was “Strengthening the Judiciary,” and the conference included twenty working sessions focused on pressing topics in the judiciary, from the everyday work of magistrates to new national legislation and its application. The forum sought to further strengthen the rule of law by providing a medium for all magistrates to publicly address both achievements of the judiciary and outstanding problems that still need to be resolved.

Conference co-organizers included the Supreme Court of Cassation, Supreme Administrative Court, Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Bulgaria, National Investigation Service, and the National Institute of Justice. The National Association of Court Clerks provided on-site administrative support including providing protocols for all sessions. The U.S. Department of Justice provided partial funding for the expenses of the Conference. The 2006 Conference was modeled on the two National Conferences for Judges held in 2004 and 2005 organized and funded by the USAID Judicial Development Project in 2004, and its successor the USAID Judicial Strengthening Initiative in 2005.

In an effort to build sustainability into the conference the JSI worked diligently with the Supreme Judicial Council to take a leadership role in the organization and delivery of the Conference. As a result, the General Secretary of the Supreme Judicial Council conducted Managing Committee meetings and provided direct assistance in several areas such as invitations and follow up letters to all VIP’s, identifying program assistants and speakers.

The overall evaluations of the Conference were positive. One criticism of the Conference was that by including all magistrates, the size of the conference became cumbersome and diminished the ability of individuals to have small discussion groups. The JSI staff met with the SJC Secretary General after the conference and discussed several aspects of the conference and general functioning of the SJC administrative offices. Several meetings both formally and informally occurred to discuss the organization of the conference and the areas that could be improved. In the first quarter of 2007, JSI will deliver to the SJC a written "How to Conduct a National Conference."

2.12 Local Court Training Plans

Local Court Training Plans will continue to be implemented and evaluated.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The Courts in Partnership organized and delivered eleven local training plan trainings (including three focused at combating organized crime). The Supreme Judicial Council organized and delivered two programs for the SJC staff.

In the fourth quarter the JSI included the SJC in the program for partial financing of the implementation of local training plans. As a result, the SJC developed a training plan and requested financing for two trainings for SJC administration: Human Resource Management and Team Building. Both trainings were delivered with moderate success. The main criticism from the participants related to the trainers' knowledge of the SJC work and subsequently the applicability of the information received at the trainings. JSI attributed the criticism to the fact that SJC selected university professors with little knowledge of the judicial system. In the future, JSI will strongly recommend to SJC to use only trainers that either work in the judicial system or are thoroughly familiar with it.

Implementation of the Local Court Training Plans is a significant success story for the JSI and USAID. This program impacted the courts directly more than any activity within Task 2. Designed to assist the courts in identifying and delivering relevant training to judges and court staff through the Court Improvement Plan, the LCTP program exceeded the expectations of the JSI in the number of programs delivered, the enthusiasm with which it was received, and its importance as a training delivery mechanism. 2006 witnessed growing support for the program and acknowledgement that the LCTP provides the courts with a mechanism to meet their individual court training needs. With the management of the LCTP by the NIJ in 2007, the institution will have a complete and comprehensive training delivery mechanism: centralized through the NIJ in Sofia and decentralized through the LCTP.

2.13 Media Training

Training is to be conducted for key organizations, focused on how to develop communications strategies and on how to manage relationships with the media.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The JSI transferred the media training to the NIJ earlier in 2006. The task is complete. In 2007, however, the JSI will work closely with the NIJ to ensure the media training implementation.

(Also see section 3.5, below, for judiciary-media trainings.)

2.14 IT Training

The CMS training is to be analyzed and a determination made as to whether or not to continue with the training. The Computer Basic Skills training will be analyzed as to its feasibility to be delivered by the NIJ.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: In cooperation with three CIPs, the JSI delivered CMS training in preparation for the courts' use of CMS. CMS trainers from other CIP courts delivered the three day program on site. The three were: Dobrich District Court, Dobrich Regional Court and Gorna Oryahovitsa Regional Court.

2.15 Prosecutors Training

JSI will address both building a prosecutor training infrastructure and actual delivery of training.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: JSI continued to work with three prosecutors and Judge Niki Enchev, Master Trainer, to develop the Initial Prosecutor Training program modules. The group increased the number of the proposed practical training modules from thirty-two to forty. Currently, about twenty modules are well underway in their development. The target for completion of all modules is April 2007. JSI sent to the Spanish PHARE project the list of module topics, but that project will not be moving forward in this area until late spring. JSI did not feel the work could be postponed and therefore started the work and continues to push forward with the Initial Training modules. The group meets regularly to discuss content and training methodology.

On two occasions JSI presented to the NIJ an offer of assistance using available Performance Funds to hire a Prosecutor Training Coordinator. The NIJ did not take advantage of this offer.

The NIJ Program Coordinators identified two training programs to be developed for prosecutors: Financial Crimes and Cyber Crimes/Identity Theft. The Cyber Crime program is based upon earlier work accomplished by CEELI/DOJ. In addition, NIJ will convene a training program for all trainers of IPR programs to further develop the trainers' content knowledge and will use lawyers from ARSIS Consulting as the trainers in the IPR trainers program.

JSI met with the Program Coordinators to learn more about the prosecutor training that currently exists at the NIJ. At this time, there are seven sustainable training programs for Continuing Prosecutor Training. As reported in the last quarterly report, the Initial Prosecutor Training modules will be able to be used for Continuing Prosecutor Training.

JSI, USAID and DOJ worked together to maintain cooperation and coordination between all US partners involved with prosecutors. JSI met with Carl Anderson, CEELI/DOJ, and three members of the banking community to discuss continuation of the Cyber Crimes/Identity Fraud training program. JSI followed up with NIJ Program Coordinators.

In cooperation with JSI, NIJ conducted a Prosecutors Mentor Training program in December that was based upon the Judges Mentor Training program conducted earlier. The Prosecutors Mentor Program does not yet have a manual developed but the overall approach and content were similar to that of the Judges Mentor Training Program.

TASK 3: ASSIST WITH DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTING KEY LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE RULE OF LAW

Highlights of JSI initiatives under Task III during the fourth quarter include the launch of the last JSI grant cycle (See section 3.2), drafting the legislative proposals for improved access to court records (See section 3.3), and delivery of two regional Public Trust and Confidence strategic planning trainings for judges and court staff of MC/CIPs (See section 3.5).

A. THE GRANTS PROGRAM

3.1 Targeted Grants

The targeted grants will continue to provide support to the three judicial system organizations, and as in year 1, are structured with conditionalities for performance toward the ultimate goal of building the capacity, sustainability and ability of the organization to enhance professionalism and integrity, to represent the interests of members, and to advocate for judicial reform and safeguarding of reforms.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: EWMI continues to provide three targeted grants: to the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the National Association of Court Clerks (NACC), and the Union of Judges in Bulgaria (UJB / BJA).

a) NIJ Targeted Grant: See section 2.1, above.

b) NACC Targeted Grant: See Section 2.10, above.

c) UJB/BJA Targeted Grant:

(As reported in an earlier 2006 report, the literal English translation of the name of the judges association is the Union of Judges in Bulgaria (UJB), but since the Union has registered the “Bulgarian Judges Association” as the English name for the association, JSI will refer to the BJA.)

The last phase of the Grant covers funding of activities 1 September 2006 through 30 June 2007. Development of the specific activities contained in the grant was a lengthy process combining BJA Board proposals, activities contained in the 2006 BJA Strategic Plan, and repeated discussions between BJA and JSI concerning the value and scope of both required and optional activities under the grant.

The BJA performed well in meeting the required Fourth Quarter deliverables under the JSI USAID Grant. Activities completed during the reporting period included the following.

1. The Annual Meeting of the BJA (Assembly) conducted in the 4th Quarter was attended by 200 BJA members, 153 of whom participated in the election of new Board of Directors and Control Council. The Meeting agenda highlights were adopting amendments of the Articles of Association and electing new Board members and Chairperson.

On the initiative of the Board, the Assembly amended the Articles of Association to provide for:

- Establishment of regional sections by a court rather than just geography;
- Institutionalization of an Extended Board of Directors as a new intermediate governing body consisting of the members of the Board and representatives of the sections;
- Distribution of competencies between the Extended and the regular Board;
- Expansion of the number of the Board directors from 5 to 7;
- Amendment of the qualifications for a Board member to provide that the nominee must have been an association member at least two years before election and must have made a considerable contribution to the development of the organization and achieving of its goals;

- New provisions stimulating the collection of membership fees.

In accordance to the newly accepted provisions, the Assembly elected a new Board of Directors consisting of three re-elected Board members and four new members. The Board then selected a new BJA Chairperson and Executive secretary and the former chairperson was elected as a Speaker of the BJA.

2. The BJA Board met in Sofia. The members agreed to organize a forum for constitutional amendments where the position of the representatives of the legal community would be heard and to put more efforts in developing projects and searching sponsorships for the activities of the Union. They discussed the development of new BJA project application documents and the actual application process to different donor organizations.

3. The BJA regularly updated the web-site with the BJA calendar, events, accomplished activities, legislation related statements, Board decisions, and other relevant information. The web-site is updated by the BJA media person and the Executive Director, both of whom have been trained by the JSI in working with the website. On the web-page the BJA issued regular statements and addresses on current matters of professional interest for the judicial community – the Supreme Judicial Council, and the Draft Constitutional Amendments Parliamentary Commission.

4. In accordance with the JSI grant, the BJA sent Nelly Kutskova, ex-Board President and current Speaker, to participate in the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Judges that was held in Hungary in the 4th Quarter. At the meeting four research committees held sessions to analyze the answers to the questionnaires previously sent to the national associations. The committees reached conclusions on: how an appointment and assessment of judges may be conducted according to the judicial independence principle; legal regulation of property rights and obligations of unmarried couples; criminal legal treatment of legally insane persons; and special procedures for labor courts and alternative methods of solving labor disputes. At the request of the Romanian association of judges the European Association of Judges passed a resolution protesting the draft law on disciplinary and financial liability of judges for their acts. A full translation of that resolution was posted on the BJA web-page.

5. The Chairperson and Speaker visited judges from Bourgas and Haskovo to discuss issues raised by the local judges and related to the BJA activities. During the visits both BJA representatives also participated in a conference on illegal trafficking conducted under a UK Embassy project for trans-border cooperation between Bulgaria and Turkey. Nelly Kutskova, the BJA Speaker, was the moderator of the general panel in Bourgas and the panel for prosecutors and policemen in Haskovo. Stoil Sotirov, the BJA Chairperson, moderated the judicial panel in Haskovo.

6. The BJA established a new Supreme Court of Cassation regional section chaired by Borislav Belazelkov, ex-executive secretary of the BJA.

7. The BJA conducted in the Palace of Justice a work-meeting discussion on the IV Draft Amendments of the Constitution with the Legislative Commission of the National Assembly. Later in the Quarter, the BJA conducted a public round-table discussion on the same topic with representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Bulgaria.

8. Three new grant proposals were prepared and presented before the JSI under the Competitive Grants Program.

9. The BJA Chairperson organized an excursion to Greece for judges.

The BJA activities in the 4th Quarter directly impacted the following components of the BJA Institutional Development Index:

1.2 Internal regulations (amendments in the BJA Articles); 1.4 Regional structures (Board representatives visit, new regional section in the Supreme Cassation Court); 2.1 Stakeholder and Public Relations (producing, sending to the relevant authorities, and publishing on the BJA web site statements and addresses on current matters of professional interest for the judicial community); 2.2. Legislative Outreach (2 events organized by BJA on the IV Draft Amendment of the Constitution); 2.3. Membership (regular updates of the BJA web page; excursion for the BJA members in Greece); 2.4. Activities (Participation of a BJA representative in the Annual Meeting of the IAJ); 4.2. Fundraising (applying with 3 grant proposals).

3.2 Competitive Grants

The competitive grants program is one of the key components of the JSI. In the reporting quarter implementation work began on all of the second cycle of grants and the remainder of the first cycle grantees concluded their work.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

a. Request for Applications 2/2006: On October 7, 2006, Request #2/2006 for Applications from non-governmental organizations and *chitalishta* was published in the *Capital* Newspaper. Shorter versions of the request were published in the *24 Hours* and the *Trud* Newspapers. The request was also available on-line on the JSI website, and the FLGR electronic newsletter. The priority areas were announced as broader in scope and with a special emphasis on promoting national impact of judicial reform initiatives in Bulgaria. The deadline for submitting grant applications was November 10, 2006.

Media Breakfast: On October 19, 2006 the JSI organized a media breakfast to announce the new competition to the media. Journalists from twelve electronic and print media were present at the breakfast.

Technical and Information Meeting: In the afternoon of the same day a Grants Orientation Meeting was organized for all interested non-governmental organizations and *chitalishta*. The main objectives of the meeting were to provide information on issues related to drafting project proposals and to answer practical questions related to budgeting, application documents, and other grant process details. Over 80 people, coming from both Sofia and around the country, attended the event..

Grant Cycle 3: 85 grant applications were received by the deadline, the highest number in the JSI grants history. After initial technical review of proposals, they were divided into eleven categories, as follows (in alphabetical order):

1. Access to justice for disabled people
2. The court and students
3. Development of manuals and brochures
4. Legal reform achievement and JSI achievements
5. Legal system coordination
6. Legislative drafting
7. Media: court TV and radio
8. Public awareness campaigns

9. Supreme Judicial Council
10. Training of magistrates
11. Other (incl. anti-corruption, jurors, domestic violence, remote access to court administrative services, training of watchdog NGOs, etc.)

The JSI Grant Review Committee (GRC) met in two different stages. Stage 1 reviewed the overall compliance of each individual proposal with the announced Request for Applications and whether the organization met eligibility criteria for applying. The three members of the GRC stage 1 rejected 35 out of the total 85 proposals. Stage 2 of the GRC also consisted of three JSI and USAID representatives.

Stage 2 GRC met on December 4 and 5, 2006. Individual proposals review included consideration of project responsiveness to the announced request for applications, organizations' potential to achieve what they have described in the proposals, the impact of project activities, the capacity of the organization to successfully implement the proposed project, and the proposed budget. Each of the GRC members had filled in a Scoring Sheet prior to the committee meetings and during the meetings members discussed details of proposals, of desirable changes, and of individual organization's performance or background.

Based on committee members' scores, the Grant Administration Unit (GAU) developed a "Best and Final List" of 16 proposals. The GAU successfully negotiated and resolved with the organizations on the Best and Final List the recommended amendments. Below is the Best and Final List (by categories) proposed for funding by GAU:

#	NGO name / Applying organization	Project name	Category
1	Eco-mission 21 Century, Lovech	The young people and the court system	court and students
2	Citizens for Judicial Culture Association, Sofia	Citizens for judicial culture	court and students
3	Bulgarian Institute for Legal Initiative, Sofia	Legal reform watch	legal reform achievements
4	Institute for Political and Legal Studies	JSI in three documentaries on the national TV air	Legal reform achievements
5	Governance Monitoring Association, Sofia	Regulatory impact assessment manual: developing instruments for better regulations and public awareness	legislative drafting
6	Youth Forum, Sofia	Law handbook for journalists and citizens- The three "information" acts and more on the access to information topical issue	manuals and brochures
7	Legal Initiative for Training and Development, Varna (PIOR)	The court on the TV – Part II	media / court TV
8	Bulgarian IDLO Alumni Association, Sofia	Public awareness of the possibilities of effective defense of citizens' rights and interests through court	media / radio
9	BTC Pro Media, Sofia	Court reporter	media / court TV

10	E-Region, Varna	Delivery of court administrative services in a remote office	other
11	Open Society Club, Gabrovo	Compiling a complete record of the decisions made by the Supreme Court of Cassation	other
12	NGO Center, Razgrad	Popularizing the good practices of court civil watch	other
13	Club Journalists against Corruption, Sofia	Supreme Judicial Council – from and for the society	Supreme Judicial Council
14	Future for All Association, Sofia	Regional Trainings for Court Chairpersons on Access to Information. Supreme Administrative Court Best Practice Multiplication.	training of magistrates
15	Nadya Center Foundation, Sofia	Current problems in human trafficking as a form of organized crime activity	training of magistrates
16	Political Science Center, Sofia	Training of judicial system representatives on work with classified information and a series of TV broadcasts on the subject	training of magistrates

The Best and Final list was sent to EWMI as prescribed in the Grants Manual for the next stage of internal review. The list was then sent to USAID for donor approval.

b. Grant Cycle 2 Highlights: Twenty six non-governmental organizations and one chitalishte continued the implementation of their activities in five areas during this reporting period.

1. Media projects

Club Journalists against Corruption, Sofia, produced and broadcast two 30-minute documentaries on Bulgarian National Television during the reporting quarter. The first film was devoted to the work of the Sofia Regional Court, the biggest first instance court in the country. The second documentary reviewed the newly adopted system for private enforcement of judgments in Bulgaria. The estimated audience for each documentary broadcast was about 1,700,000 people.

Media with Human Face, Plovdiv, and *Open Society Club, Smolyan*, also produced and broadcast on Plovdiv and Smolyan local televisions four mock trials and live court hearings.

Four other non-governmental organizations worked in the media area during the reporting period in Varna, Ruse and Stara Zagora.

2. Training of magistrates

The Union of Jurists in Bulgaria carried out two 3-day training seminars on the Budget management of courts. The trainings were attended by court Chairpersons and court administration staff.

IGA Fund, Pazardjik, Animus Foundation, Sofia, and *Childhood without Tears Association, Sofia*, elaborated different training methodologies for judges, prosecutors and jurors to improve

their professional skills in their work with juvenile witnesses or victims of crimes. In the beginning of 2007 the three organizations will start the trainings for the targeted groups of their projects to be offered throughout the country in cooperation with the NIJ.

Childhood without Tears Association, Sofia, accomplished successfully the design and reconstruction of a special interrogation room for children in the National Institute of Psychology, Sofia.

Future Association, Sofia, developed a training methodology for magistrates, aimed at improvement of their professional skills in the specific area of crimes with cultural and historical heritage. The association plans to organize two training seminars on the topic in 2007.

3. Mock trials for students

Svetlina Chitalishte, Trud, organized a performance of a mock trial for students in 16 different villages within the Maritsa Municipality. Actors were children from the high-school in Trud village. A JSI representative attended one of the performances.

In Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Veliko Tarnovo, Shumen and Kostinbrod different organizations implementing projects under the second JSI grant cycle also organized mock trial performances and trainings for teachers on how to organize mock trials for students. A mock trial manual was elaborated by the *National Debates Association, Plovdiv*, as a training tool in this area.

4. Monitoring the implementation of laws and court watch

Two civil court watch organizations in Razgrad and Sliven, monitored more than 500 cases in six court districts. They will provide their quarterly analytical reports in the beginning of 2007 and will present the results to the local media and all interested parties.

Three other NGOs monitored the implementation of criminal, administrative and civil laws in Sofia and Vratsa.

5. Legislative drafting

Legislative Drafting Institute, Sofia: Please refer to Section 3.3.

Center for Economic and Legal Analyses, Sofia, worked on the preparation of a concept for a new law on normative acts, and on the drafting of a comparative legal analysis of Bulgarian and EU regulations for legislative drafting and practices of legislative impact assessment.

Center for Economic Development, Sofia, finalized a concept paper for introducing arbitrage in administrative justice, based on the administrative legislation in force and a draft proposal for amendments and supplements to the Administrative Procedure Code.

B. ADVOCATE FOR LAWS, RULES, AND POLICY REFORM

3.3 Legislative initiatives leading to an improved legislative process

The JSI works through different initiatives towards the overall improvement of the legislative process by aiming to involve key stakeholders at all levels of development.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: During the reporting period the main accents were on open access to court records, the draft Judicial System Act, and the fourth amendment to the Constitution.

Open Access to Court Records Working Group: A long-standing priority of JDP/JSI work is the effort to improve access to court records. This was the final quarter of support to the Access to Information Programme Foundation (AIP) which, together with BCNL and under the coordination of the JSI, prepared during this reporting period the draft regulatory amendments addressing this issue.

Following the journalist/media focus group the Working Group organized a second focus group discussion with representatives of the legal community (including judges, lawyers, interested NGOs, and governmental institutions like the State Committee on the Security of Information). The Working Group presented a summary of the problematic areas with regard to the access to information in the courts as well as the proposed principles for access to court records.

As a result of the discussions, the Working Group and AIP experts prepared the final draft of the report devoted to access to court records. The final report includes proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of Court Administration (also known as Regulation 28). The Working Group, AIP, BCNL and JSI began preparation of an early 2007 public discussion of the proposed amendments that would officially present the proposed amendments and bring together a broad range of interested parties.

JSI also made repeated efforts to meet with the appropriate deputy minister and to present the effort to the MOJ. The JSI and its partners aim to bring the MOJ as a supporter for the proposed amendments and to set the stage for possible re-examination of Regulation 28. The JSI will continue to seek the MOJ's support through different routes.

Constitutional Amendments: A group of MPs deposited in Parliament the proposal for the latest Constitutional amendments on September 22, 2006. The Ad-Hoc Committee (comprised of the same members as the last Temporary Committee on Changes to the Constitution) was convened again to work on proposals for amendments and the first hearing of the Constitution was held on 21 November 2006. During the reporting period the members of the Committee had 7 meetings at which they heard the Chairs of the SCC, the SAC, the National Investigation Service and the Chief Prosecutor presenting their statements on the proposed amendments. The positions of the representatives of the executive power were also presented. This is a process and an approach which should be commended and which the JSI has been a strong promoter of. A representative of the JSI was authorized to and has attended the meetings of the Ad-Hoc Committee in Parliament.

During the reporting period the JSI supported the Bulgarian Judges Association in convening a public discussion of the proposed Constitutional amendments. The forum was well attended by EU member states Ambassadors and media, but by only a few Bulgarian stakeholders.

New JSA Technical Assistance: The draft JSA awaits the adoption of the latest Constitutional amendments before it will be reviewed again at the MOJ.

In the meantime, the LDI experts (under the subcontract between JSI and LDI) gathered and analyzed the regular and monitoring reports of the European Commission on Bulgaria's progress towards EU accession and the recommendations and the reports of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) in light of the pending Constitutional amendments and the draft JSA. LDI prepared an analysis of the constitutional and legal framework of the structure of the judiciary in selected EU member states. The MOJ had identified this as very important and of great interest to the MOJ. LDI also conducted a survey among representatives of the legal community to identify the main problems of the judicial system, the respective causes and their visions for changes in the draft Judicial System Act.

The next step will be to present them to the MOJ and actively engage in the process of better drafting of the new JSA once Constitutional amendments have been adopted. There is likely to be initiated an interesting discussion on a possible new structure of the SJC.

Normative Acts Law: One of the JSI grants (to the Center for Economic and Legal Analyses) looks at the existing Normative Acts law. The law is old and outdated and needs an entirely new shape. This is an effort which has been recognized for years but never really brought to fruition. The JSI hopes that the work of this grant will encourage further serious work on the law.

C. INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR THE JUDICIARY

The JSI prioritizes increased public awareness of the work of the judiciary, and work towards improving the public image of the judiciary. This involves providing substantive information to the public and target audiences with an eye toward shaping opinion and promoting or defending certain issues.

3.4 Improved Public Perception of the Judiciary

The JSI continues to implement a multi-pronged campaign to improve public awareness of the work of the courts.

4th Quarter Activities and Results:

a) Key Stakeholders: The JSI held a fourth 2006 meeting with reporters, this quarter with a focus on the national judiciary partnerships in planning the National Magistrates Conference. The meeting was co-organized with the Supreme Judicial Council, moderated by the SJC PR Unit Head, and featured the JSI COP, the Chief Secretary of the SJC, a Supreme Cassation Prosecutor's Office Prosecutor, and a National Investigation Service Investigator. The meeting was attended by representatives of the major Bulgarian mass media, and by court press attachés, and follow-up interviews were arranged with journalists from additional outlets. The Magistrates Conference was covered by all leading broadcast and print press, including exclusive in-depth print interviews with the American Ambassador in *Sega* and the JSI COP in *Dnevnik*. Relevant materials are attached.

b) Media Plan and c) Audience Analysis: The JSI continues to revise and update its Media Plan, focus its message and audience strategy on the Media Plan themes, and re-submitted an updated Media Plan to USAID in the fourth quarter. The JSI has begun positioning for the final year of outreach: focus on the new generation of judges; emphasis on the specific, concrete work of the courts; highlight the Model Courts and the NIJ as USAID legacies; place balanced emphasis on Sofia and non-Sofia regions; target outreach to youth; support participatory and deliberative forums; and deliver informational rather than persuasive messages.

d) Stories and PSAs: The JSI continues to raise journalist awareness of court reform activities through regular press releases, arranged exclusive interviews, and coordination with partners at national institutions and local courts to support coverage of events. Ongoing implementation of the Media Plan concentrates outreach on broadcast, print, and community media.

The JSI continued the expansion of work in the first core area, broadcast media, through the competitive grants in the area of Court TV mock trials, PSAs, and television documentary projects.

Other work with broadcast media, and in the second core area of print media, continued through the quarterly meeting with media Key Stakeholders, press releases on news events, and work with individual reporters and court spokespersons to promote news stories. Print and broadcast publications centered around JSI and USAID activities, including coverage of the National Magistrates Conference, the NIJ, and separate regional events at MC/CIPs in Varna, Dobrich, Plovdiv, and Haskovo. The JSI continued to monitor samples of coverage from these events, including coverage of the American Ambassador's visit to the NIJ (thirteen stories), and the Model Court awarding ceremony in Haskovo (nineteen stories). Relevant materials are attached.

The JSI continued the expansion of work in the third core area, community media, through mock trials delivered through the Competitive Grants Program. Mock trials aimed at a student audience were developed and filmed in Varna and Veliko Tarnovo, and planned for future broadcast. In Smolyan, mock trials were broadcast on two local television stations. In Plovdiv, a mock trial competition for high school students was developed and preliminary training completed. In the town of Trud (as mentioned in section 3.2(b), above) the local *chitalishte* developed a mock trial with students, and delivered the mock trial in eleven neighboring villages.

e) Special Events

i. USAID and Embassy Events. The JSI assisted in preparations and communications for the following visits and events:

Ambassador Visit to the NIJ: The American Ambassador visited and toured the NIJ, addressed staff and trainers, and received the inaugural "Sign of Honor" medal from the NIJ Director.

Dobrich Courts Visit: USAID Mission Director visited Dobrich District and Dobrich Regional CIPs to launch the new courthouse Information Center, combined District Court intake offices, and regional magistrates training center.

Varna Courts Visit: USAID Democracy and Local Governance Chief visited CIPs Varna District and Regional in recognition of the new courthouse Information Centers.

ii. USAID Internal Communications. The JSI continued its support for the following publications and communications:

USAID Newsletter submissions: Drafted and submitted during the quarter six news items about JSI events for the broader Mission newsletter.

USAID/Bulgaria Website support: Continued to collaborate with the USAID Development Outreach and Communications Specialist regarding JSI information for the new USAID/Bulgaria website.

USAID Europe & Eurasia Bureau Website publications: Three JSI stories were published on the USAID Europe and Eurasia website in the fourth quarter (two "Bulgaria in Action," one "Case Study"). Link:

http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/countries/bg/

iii. Events related to JSI work. In addition to other JSI public events involved with legislative advocacy, the grants program, court administration, and training, the JSI supported the promotion of four events.

National Magistrates Conference: Coordinated with co-hosts SJC and DOJ; prepared event media elements, including communications with USAID and the Embassy, and meetings and materials for the press.

Plovdiv Information Center Launch: The JSI prepared for the visit of the American Ambassador and the Chair of the Supreme Court of Cassation to the event hosted by the three Plovdiv MC/CIPs.

Haskovo Model Court Ceremony: USAID Mission Director visited Haskovo Regional Court and the Haskovo Municipality for the Model Court award ceremony. The JSI also assisted IREX ProMedia with preparation of the Haskovo Model Court film.

Competitive Grants Announcement: JSI COP attended meeting with NGOs and journalists to announce the final request for proposals for the Competitive Grants program.

f) Internet. Weekly JSI website hits increased again, to an average in the fourth quarter of 260 new visitors and 980 return visitors each week. The JSI continues to regularly update its website with project stories, photos, and press releases, and updates website “News Coverage of the Judiciary” in English and Bulgarian. http://www.ewmi-bg.com/news.php?m_id=1&lng=en
The JSI also regularly contacts web-based news outlets with press releases and event invitations as part of its core media outreach work. The Haskovo Regional Court Model Court ceremony provides an example of web-based outreach: seven internet news sources published stories about the event. Relevant materials attached.

g) Brochures. The JSI Working Group on court information centers, brochures, and other public information materials met twice: once with representatives of the SJC Administration to receive input on requested materials, and again to prepare its concept findings for final presentation to the SJC. The JSI Competitive Grants Program also continued to support NGO projects involving brochures and manuals on the courts.

i) Surveys. No work during this quarter. The JSI plans to prepare the second survey of MC/CIP regions and non-assisted regions in the first quarter of 2007.

3.5 Improved Judiciary-Media Relations

The JSI and IREX continue work with the Key Stakeholders to improve the dialogue between the media and the judiciary.

4th Quarter Activities and Results: The JSI and sub-contractor IREX/BTC organized a media training seminar for Chairpersons of Regional partner courts and for judges delegated to perform the functions of PRs for the courts. Most of the judges assigned those functions attended the training. The training took place October 4-6 in Lyulyatsite, near Gabrovo with 22 judge participants. As always, the participants had the opportunity to get real hands-on experience by visiting and giving real time interviews in a TV studio. The Gabrovo court and the Gabrovo JSI partner NGO were very helpful in organizing the studio and assisted in the overall logistics of the seminar. Judges have evaluated the course extremely highly and the JSI still receives comments as to how it is helping them in their work. Improving the skills of judges in their interaction with the media brings about a qualitative change in the trust and image of the judiciary. List of participants and agenda are attached.

The JSI collaborated with the Participant Training Program and the National Center for State Courts to review and revise all draft documents and curricula for the *Judiciary-Media Relations Training* for court press attachés, planned for the first quarter of 2007 in Washington, D.C. The JSI continued to coordinate press events with local court press attachés and judicial spokespersons.

The JSI delivered two regional *Public Trust and Confidence strategic planning trainings* for MC/CIPs, one in Varna and one in Plovdiv. Nineteen MC/CIPs sent a total of thirty representatives to the trainings, which helped participants draft Public Trust and Confidence written plans to enhance the work conducted under their Court Improvement Plans. Relevant materials attached.

The JSI completed the Working Group meetings with the *Sofia Regional Court* on Public Trust and Confidence strategic planning. The yearlong series of meetings with judges, clerks, and the court press attaché coordinated new and ongoing outreach efforts and work under the Court Improvement Plan. The Working Group has collaborated on several activities, including mock trials, website development, and in the fourth quarter produced a final draft of the Sofia Regional Court written plan for Public Trust and Confidence. The draft plan will be presented to the court Chairperson for approval in the first quarter of 2007.

The JSI continued to provide technical assistance to the press attachés of the *SJC and the NIJ* through regular meetings and contacts. The assistance involved media planning for events such as the National Magistrates Conference and the American Ambassador's visit to the NIJ, and continued technical assistance on areas such as planning for the SJC press center and development of the new NIJ Alumni Group.

TASK 4: THE FUND FOR JUSTICE

This task was eliminated from the EWMI - USAID contract and JSI work in this area has been completed.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION TABLES

JSI 4th QUARTER, 2006 CONTRIBUTIONS TO TARGETS

Indicator	2005 Baseline Data	2006 Annual Target	4th Quarter 2006 Results	Cumulative Annual Result (QR 1, 2, 3, 4)	Fulfillment of Annual Target
IR.2.2.1.1 Task 1: Improved Court Administration					
#1. Number of agreements/MOUs signed with MCs/CIPs.	22	22	N/A	22 agreements	100%
#2. Number of Court Improvement Plans implemented by percentage completion.	37% completion	68% completion	78%	78%	114%
#3. Progress on SJC Institutional Development Index.	29 points or 57% completion	41 points or 80% completion	34 points or 67% completion	34 points or 67% completion	83%
Organization: 9 points or 50% Communications & Outreach: 2 points or 33% Management of Judiciary: 6 points or 67% Ethics & Discipline: 5 points or 56% Budgeting: 2 points or 67% Auditing: 3 points or 100% Appointment & Career Development of Judicial Officials: 2 points or 67%	14 points or 78% 4 points or 67% 7 points or 78% 8 points or 89% 2 points or 67% 3 points or 100% 3 points or 100%	12 points or 67% 4 points or 67% 6 points or 67% 5 points or 56% 2 points or 67% 3 points or 100% 2 points or 67%	12 points or 67% 4 points or 67% 6 points or 67% 5 points or 56% 2 points or 67% 3 points or 100% 2 points or 67%		
#4. Percentage of cases disposed within one year in MCs/CIPs.	80%	81%	82%	82%	101%
#5. Annual level of funding for the SJC.	76%	75%	63%¹	63%	84%

Notes: All of the above data reflects deliverables as a result of the current level of effort.

¹ The 2006 annual level of funding for the SJC is a percentage of the amount approved (273,500,000 BGN) to the total amount requested (471,900,000 BGN). The actual level of funding received by the SJC in 2006 is a percentage of the total amount received (299,000,000 BGN) to the total amount requested (471,900,000 BGN).

JSI 4th QUARTER, 2006 CONTRIBUTIONS TO TARGETS

Indicator	2005 Baseline Data	2006 Annual Target	4th Quarter 2006 Results	Cumulative Annual Result (QR 1, 2, 3, 4)	Fulfillment of Annual Target
<i>IR.2.2.1.2 Task 2: Improved Capacity of Magistrates and Court Staff</i>					
#1. Progress on the NIJ Institutional Development Index.	28 points or 72% progress	36 points or 92% progress	35 points or 90% progress	35 points or 90% progress	97%
Organizational Structure:	15 or 83%	17 or 94%	17 or 94%	17 or 94%	
Communications & Outreach:	3 or 50%	5 or 83%	5 or 83%	5 or 83%	
Faculty Development:	2 or 67%	3 or 100%	3 or 100%	3 or 100%	
Curriculum Development:	6 or 67%	8 or 89%	7 or 78%	7 or 78%	
Evaluation:	2 or 67%	3 or 100%	3 or 100%	3 or 100%	
#2. Annual level of funding for the NIJ.	57%	11% increase on the baseline	59%²	75%³	27% increase on the baseline
#3. Number of person days of training.	Judges: 8,986 C.Clerks: 1,803	Judges: 7,000 C. Clerks: 2,000	Judges: 2,473 C.Clerks: 1291 Prosecutors: 48	Judges: 9,773 C.Clerks: 3,195 Prosecutors: 82 ⁴	Judges: 140% C.Clerks: 160%
Total number of trainings offered this quarter:	Total number of trainers provided this quarter:		Total number of participants this quarter:		
82	214		2,067⁵		

Notes: All of the above data reflects deliverables as a result of the current level of effort.

JSI 4th QUARTER, 2006 CONTRIBUTIONS TO TARGETS

² The 2006 annual level of funding for the NIJ is a percentage of the amount approved (2,334,000 BGN) to the total amount requested (3,945,019 BGN). The annual target is set at 11% increase in the baseline

³ The actual level of funding received by the NIJ in 2006 is a percentage of the total amount received (2,969,861 BGN) to the total amount requested (3,945,019 BGN). The annual target is set at 11% increase in the baseline.

⁴ In addition to Judges and Court Clerks, JSI training offerings contributed to 82 person days of training for Prosecutors.

⁵ In addition to the above number, the 2006 Magistrates Conference attracted a total of 1,506 participants, of which 800 judges, 528 prosecutors and 178 investigators.

Indicator	2005 Baseline Data	2006 Annual Target	4th Quarter 2006 Results	Cumulative Annual Result (QR 1, 2, 3,4)	Fulfillment of Annual Target
IR.2.2.A. Task 3: Assist with Drafting and Implementing Key Laws and Regulations to Support Effective Rule of Law					
#1. Progress on the legislative reform index.	48%	68%	66%⁶	66%	98%
#2. Percentage of court users who are satisfied with the judicial system.	36.4%⁷	37% or better	36.4%	36.4%	36.4%

Notes: **All of the above data reflects deliverables as a result of the current level of effort.**

⁶ Please see Legislative Reform Index attached

⁷ Please see attached National Survey on Court Users Satisfaction with the Judicial System. Baseline data is relevant to April 2006. Next survey measurement will be conducted in the spring of 2007.

QR4 2006 COMPILED DOCUMENT LISTED

QR4 2006 COMPILED DOCUMENT LISTED Task and Sub-Task Relevant Document Provided Judicial Strengthening Project 4th Quarter Report	Document Status & Version (BG/EN)	Date Submitted & Type of Media		
		Electronic Copy	Hard Copy	CD
<u>TASK I: IMPROVE COURT ADMINISTRATION</u>				
<u>A. MODEL COURTS AND COURTS IN PARTNERSHIP</u>				
<u>1.1 Current MCs/CIPs</u>				
Q2				
CIP Score Card Database	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
CIP Case Disposition Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
Court House Layout Conference Materials	Final – BG		QR2	
Q3				
CIP Score Card Database	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
CIP Case Disposition Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Budgeting and Finance Training, July 11 - 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Reengineering Training , July 13, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Leadership & Strategic Planning Training, Sept. 13 - 15, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
CIP Score Card Annual Database	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
CIP Case Disposition Annual Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
HR Management Training, Dec. 11 – 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>1.2 New CIPs</u>				
Q2				
CIP Score Card Database	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
CIP Case Disposition Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
Court House Layout Conference Materials	Final – BG		QR2	
Q3				
CIP Score Card Database	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
CIP Case Disposition Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Budgeting and Finance Training, July 11 - 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Reengineering Training , July 13, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Leadership & Strategic Planning Training, Sept. 13 - 15, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
CIP Score Card Annual Database	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
CIP Case Disposition Annual Statistics Database	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
HR Management Training, Dec. 11 – 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>1.3 Verbatim Recording</u>				
<u>1.4 Coordination with the Supreme Judicial Council</u>				
<u>B. SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT</u>				
<u>1.5 Conduct an Operations Needs Assessment</u>				
Q1. SJC IDI 2006 Annual Tragetts	Final – EN	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q3 SJC IDI 2006 Semi – Annual Progress	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
SJC IDI 2006 Annual Progress	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
ILCTP, Team Building Training for SJC, Nov. 3, 2006	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
ILCTP, Human Resource Management Training for SJC, Oct 20, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>1.6 Improved Collection and Use of Statistics</u>				
Q1. Working Group on Statistics	Final – EN	QR1	QR1	QR1

Q3 Working Group Information Center	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4 Working Group Information Center	Final - EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>1.7 Improved Budgeting Process</u>				
<u>1.8 Improved Public Relations</u>				
<u>C. AUTOMATION</u>				
<u>1.9 Improved and Expanded Case Management Software(CMS)</u>				
<u>D. CRIMINAL LAW INITIATIVES</u>				
<u>1.10 Uniform Information System for Combating Crime (UISCC)</u>				
<u>1.11 Regional Criminal Justice Initiative (RCJI)</u>				
<u>TASK II: IMPROVE CAPACITY OF MAGISTRATES AND COURT STAFF</u>				
<u>A. NIJ INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT</u>				
<u>2.1 NIJ Management: Strengthened Board and Staff</u>				
Q1. NIJ IDI 2006 Annual Targets	Final – EN	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q2				
NIJ Strategy 2006 - 2009	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
NIJ Template Survey on Products and Service	Final – EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
Q3				
NIJ IDI 2006 Semi-Annual Progress	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
NIJ Survey on Products and Service, Final Report	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
NIJ IDI 2006 Annual Progress	Final – EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>2.2 Training of Trainers (TOT)</u>				
Q1. TOT Level II, March 29 - 31, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q3 TOT Basic Level, July 5 -7, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
TOT, Advanced Level, Dec. 6 - 8, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
TOT, Methodology of Prosecutor Initial Training, Nov. 29 - 30, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>2.3 Legislative and Public Outreach</u>				
Q3. Alumni Association	Final – EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
<u>B. NIJ CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT</u>				
<u>2.4 Strengthened Program Council</u>				
<u>2.5 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) for Magistrates</u>				
Q3				
Judges Training Needs Assessment Report	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Judges Training Needs Assessment Questionnaire	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4				
Insolvency Training, Nov. 30 - Dec.1, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>2.6 Court Clerk Training</u>				
Q1.				
Team Building for Dobrich DC&RC, Feb. 15-16, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Team Building for Dobrich DC&RC, Feb. 16 - 17, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Team Building for Plovdiv DC&RC, March 8 - 9, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Team Building for Plovdiv DC&RC, March 9 - 10, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Work of Court Secretaries, March 1 - 2, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Work with Company Cases, March 10, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Customer Service, March 16-17, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q2				

Team Building, April 13 - 14, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Stress & Time Management, April 27 - 28, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Team Building, May 10 - 11, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Team Building, May 11 - 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Customer Service, May 25 - 26, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Court Secretaries Training, June 15 - 16, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Stress & Time Management, June 29 - 30, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, The Summoning Process, April 3, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Training of Court Secretaries, April 7, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Dealing With Difficult Customers - Part I, April 13, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Customer Service & Court Admin Orientation, April 17, 06	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Microsoft Excel, April 25, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Topical Issues With Regard to Partition, April 25 - 26, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Microsoft Excel, April 27, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Microsoft Excel, May 2, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Microsoft Excel, May 4, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Appeal of Decisions Issued by the Municipal Council, May 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Stress & Time Management, May 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Professional Ethics, May 19, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Stress & Time Management, May 20, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Child Protection Act, 29 - 30 May, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Stress & Time Management, June 1 - 2, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, New Penal Procedure Code, June 6 -7, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Basic Computer Skills, June 7 - 8, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Basic Computer Skills, June 8 - 9, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Conflicts at Work, June 16, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Appeal Procedures, June 16, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Access to Justice, June 17 - 18, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, EU Law and Mediation, June 24 - 25, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Summons Process, June 29, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
ILCTP, Aspect of Court Clerks Work, June 29 - 30, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Q3				
ILCTP, Practical Issues With The Implementation of The Criminal Code, July 1 - 2, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Stress & Time Management, July 6, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Procedural Complications, July 7 8, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Tax & Insurance Procedure Code Implementation Issues, July 12, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Issues Related to the Implementation of CrPC, July 13 - 14, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Stress & Time Management, July 14, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Practical Issues with Regard to the Implementation of the Amendments to the CrPC, July 14, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Partitions, July 14, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Money Laundering, Sept. 20, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Money Laundering, Sept.21, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Money Laundering, Sept. 21, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Human Trafficking, Sept. 21, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Classified Information Act, Sept. 25 - 26, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Advanced Computer Skills, Sept. 25 - 26, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Human Trafficking, Sept. 27, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
ILCTP, Human Trafficking, Sept. 29, 2006	Final – EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3

Local Court Training Plans Information Team Building, Sept. 28 - 29, 2006	Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG	QR3 QR3	QR3 QR3	QR3 QR3
Q4 ILCTP, Property Law & Partitions, Oct. 4 - 5, 2006 ILCTP, Work of the Court Secretaries, Oct. 5 - 6, 2006 ILCTP, Crimes Against Intellectual Property Rights, Oct. 4, 2006 ILCTP, Money Laundering, Oct. 9, 2006 ILCTP, Criminal Cases of Private Nature & Issuing General Punishment, Oct. 12, 2006 ILCTP, Issue Related to the Application of the New CrPC, Oct. 16 - 17, 2006 ILCTP, Human Trafficking, Oct. 20, 2006 ILCTP, Code of Ethics, Oct. 24, 2006 ILCTP, Microsoft Office Training, Oct. 25 - 26, 2006 ILCTP, The New Penal Procedural Code Training, Oct, 13, 2006 ILCTP Training on Microsoft Office and other Word-Processing Software, 4-5 Oct, 2006	Final – EN Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG Final – EN Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG Final – EN Final – EN Final – EN, BG Final – EN Final – EN, BG	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4
<u>2.7 Strengthened Impact Evaluation</u> Q2. LT Training Impact Evaluation template Q3 LT Training Impact Evaluation, Company Cases Program, Sept. 06 LT Training Impact Evaluation, Conviction Certificates Program, Sept. 06 LT Training Impact Evaluation, Court Secretaries Program, Sept. 06 LT Training Impact Evaluation, Initial Training Program, Sept. 06	Final – EN Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG	QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR3	QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR3	QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR3
<u>2.8 Mentor Judge Program</u> Q2. List of NIJ Mentor and Correspondent Judges Q3 Rules for Mentor and Correspondent Judges and NIJ Coordinating Judges in Courts Q4 Mentor Judge Evaluation Questionnaire results	Final – EN Final – EN Final – EN	QR2 QR3 QR4	QR2 QR3 QR4	QR2 QR3 QR4
<u>2.9 National Association of Court Clerks (NACC)</u> Q1. NACC Strategy 2006 – 2008 NACC Social Policy NACC Survey Q2 Institution Development Index Stress & Time Management, April 26, 2006 Team Building, May 4, 2006 Stress & Time Management, May 26, 2006 Team Building, May 29 - 30, 2006 Customer Service, June 1- 2, 2006 Q3 NACC Media Plan for 2006 NACC Media Strategy for 2006 NACC Operations Manual Q4 Media Training for NACC, Oct. 21, 2006 NACC, Team Building, Dec. 15, 2006 NACC, Team Building, Dec. 20, 2006 NACC Financial Sustainability Plan	Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final BG Final BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG Final EN, BG	QR1 QR1 QR1 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR1 QR1 QR1 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR1 QR1 QR1 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR2 QR3 QR3 QR3 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4

<u>2.10 National Judicial Conference</u>				
Q4 Agenda List of participants List of guests Budget and costs Participant materials Session minutes NMC 2006 Post Conference Feedback Results	Final EN, BG Final BG Final BG Final EN Final BG Final BG Final EN, BG	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4 QR4
<u>2.11 IT Training</u>				
Q1. Maintaining MS Windows Server 2003 Environment, March 22 - 24, 2006	Final EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q2 WebSite Template Management, May 29 - 31, 2006 WebSite Template Management, May 31 - June 2, 2006	Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG	QR2 QR2	QR2 QR2	QR2 QR2
Q4 ILCTP, New CMS 1.4 Version Training, Oct.2 - 4, 2006 Full-Court CMS User Training, Nov. 29 - Dec. 1, 2006 Full-Court CMS User Training, Nov. 29 - Dec. 1, 2006	Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG Final – EN, BG	QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4	QR4 QR4 QR4
<u>2.12 Media Training</u>				
Q1. Court - Press Relations Working Seminar, Feb. 9-11, 2006 Work with the Media, March 9 - 11, 2006	Final EN, BG Final EN, BG	QR1 QR1	QR1 QR1	QR1 QR1
Q2 Media Training for Court Chairpersons, PRs & Journalists, April 26-28, 2006 Training for PRs from the Judicial System, EU Law Introduction, May 12, 2006	Final EN, BG Final EN, BG	QR2 QR2	QR2 QR2	QR2 QR2
Q3 Media Training for Court Chairpersons, PRs and Journalists, July 5 - 7, 2006	Final EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4 Media Training for Court Chairpersons, Oct. 4 - 6, 2006	Final EN, BG	QR4	QR4	QR4
<u>2.13 U.S. and European Study Tours</u>				
Agenda WL Financial Sustainability	Final EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
<u>TASK III: ASSIST WITH DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTING KEY LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE RULE OF LAW</u>				
<u>A. GRANTS PROGRAM</u>				
<u>3.1 Targeted Grants</u>				
Q1. UJB Strategic Planning Retreat, Jan. 26 - 28, 2006 Q2 UJB Quarterly Report	Final EN, BG Final EN	QR1 QR2	QR1 QR2	QR1 QR2
Q3 UJB Strategic Plan UJB Quarterly Report	Final EN Final EN	QR3 QR3	QR3 QR3	QR3 QR3
<u>3.2 Competitive Grants</u>				
<u>Q1. Task 3: Grantees Development Workshop, March 13-14, 06</u> Q3 Grantees Participants List	Final EN, BG Final EN, BG	QR1 QR3	QR1 QR3	QR1 QR3
<u>B. ADVOCATE FOR LAWS, RULES, AND POLICY REFORM</u>				
<u>3.3 Legislative and Regulatory Initiatives</u>				
<u>3.4 Improved Legislative Process</u>				
<u>Q1. Legislative Progress Index</u> <u>Q2. Legislative Progress Index</u> <u>Q3. Legislative Progress Index</u> <u>Q4. Legislative Progress Index</u>	Final EN Final EN Final EN Final EN	QR1 QR2 QR3 QR4	QR1 QR2 QR3 QR4	QR1 QR2 QR3 QR4

C. INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR THE JUDICIARY				
3.5 Improved Public Perception of the Judiciary				
Q1. Sofia Regional Court Working Group on Public Trust and Confidence	Final EN	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q2. Sofia Regional Court Working Group on Public Trust and Confidence	Final EN	QR2	QR2	QR2
Q3. Sofia Regional Court Working Group on Public Trust and Confidence	Final EN	QR3	QR3	QR3
Q4. Sofia Regional Court Working Group on Public Trust and Confidence	Final EN	QR4	QR4	QR4
3.6 Improved Judiciary-Media Relations				
Q1.				
<u>Media Partners Meeting, March 14, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR1	QR1	QR1
<u>Main Rules for Working with the Media of Court Press Offices</u>	Final EN	QR1	QR1	QR1
<u>Judiciary Media Interview Slots with Leading Publications</u>	Final EN	QR1	QR1	QR1
Q2				
<u>Media Training for Court Chairpersons, PRs & Journalists, April 26-28, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
<u>Training for PRs from the Judicial System, EU Law Introduction, May 12, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
<u>Forum Theatre Media Coverage and Conference Presentations, QR2 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
<u>Media Breakfast. June 6, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
Q3				
<u>Advanced Courts Training, July 5 – 7, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
<u>Advanced Media Training, July 5 – 7, 2006</u>	Final EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
3.7 Monitoring Impact				
<u>Q2 Survey on the Impact of Judicial Reform</u>	Final EN, BG	QR2	QR2	QR2
<u>Q3 Survey on the Impact of Judicial Reform – Press Breakfast & Media Spots</u>	Final EN, BG	QR3	QR3	QR3
TASK IV: THE FUND FOR JUSTICE				
4.0 Documents Submitted				