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RULE OF LAW STABILIZATION PROGRAM - INFORMAL COMPONENT

MONTHLY REPORT JANUARY 2011

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Figure 1: Dand Elders discuss local dispute resolution practices with RLS-I justice adviser

JANUARY 2010

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

RLS-I	Rule of Law Stabilization Program - Informal Component
ILF-A	International Legal Foundation - Afghanistan
IDLG	Independent Directorate Local Governance
CCC	Community Cultural Center
ARoLP	Afghanistan Rule of Law Project
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Committee
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
IPIT	Interagency Planning and Implementation Team
FGC	Family Guidance Center
AIBA	Afghanistan Independent Bar Association
WAW	Women for Afghan Women
ADR	Alternative Disputes Resolution

The contract between Checchi and Company Consulting, Inc. (Checchi) and USAID/DCHA/DG for the Rule of Law Stabilization Program – Informal Component (RLS-I) was signed on March 19, 2010 and its implementation began on April 6, 2010. RLS-I enhances the development of Rule of Law in Afghanistan through 1) researching formal and informal justice trends in 8 pilot districts; 2) strengthening informal justice in those pilot districts based on research findings; 3) enhancing linkages between alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and the state justice system; 4) improving access to legal defense; 5) educating communities about ROL through public outreach; and 5) national policy development.

1. JANUARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

“Prior to the training and seminars by Checchi, the knowledge of elders and Jirgamaran was limited and that is why their work was a bit unorganized and weaker. After ADR training, knowledge has increased especially regarding women rights. They were taught not to give women in Baad and have good behavior with them.”

Focus group member from Dand, Kandahar

Total Participants January & Cumulative				
Events Summary	No of Events	Male	Female	Total
Total Network Meetings	4	360	125	485
Total Learning Workshops	14	353	180	533
Total Discussion Groups	12	279	189	468
January Total	30	992	*494	1486
Cumulative Total To Date	86	2386	**1605	3991

* 33% of participants in January were women ** 40% of participants to date (cumulative) were women

- **Linking ADR with State Justice:** A cumulative total of 42 working group meetings have been held to date (18 Nangarhar; 24 Kandahar), bringing elders and state justice actors together (judges, Huqoq, prosecutors, police, DG's) to enhance linkages between informal and formal justice systems. 2071 attendees (most of whom are multiple attendees) at these meetings have discussed ways to improve coordination between the informal and formal justice sectors. Tangible outcomes include the drafting of pilot forms and procedures for recording ADR outcomes and sharing them with District Governors Offices. (see more detail at page 7)
- **Network of Men and Women Elders:** When the project began implementing activities in October 2010, RLS-I began with 215 male elders and 160 female elders (375 total). As of 30 January 2011, that number has increased to 935 male and 468 female members (1403 total).
- **District Assessments:** RLS-I completed district assessments and action plans for the pilot districts of Kuz Kunar (Nangarhar), Qarghaee (Laghman), bringing the total to six out of eight district assessments completed.

RC East (Nangarhar & Laghman)

- **Infrastructure Support for Jirga Halls:** RLS-I furnished two IDLG (ASOP) *shura* offices and nine *jirga* halls (used by elders to mediate local disputes) with basic furniture and office equipment. These improved resources enable *jirgas* and *shuras* to host more community meetings and to file, process and resolve local disputes more effectively. This level of increased professionalism also raises their standing and legitimacy in their local communities and provides a neutral setting for disputants. In January, one village *jirga* hall reported resolving 40 disputes in their newly equipped facility, prior to this they stated they resolved far fewer disputes as they were often required to meet in open public spaces. Communities also committed to ensuring women have equal access to the facilities for holding meetings and discussion groups – a condition of receiving RLS-I support.
- **Speedy Dispute Resolution Resulting from Inheritance Law Workshop:** Malik Khyali Gul, an elder from Benigah Sahak Village, Behsood District, Nangarhar, had been trying to resolve, without success, two complicated inheritance disputes involving many people from his village. He said he was "in search of finding a judge or scholar to get information about the issues" when he was invited to an RLS-I inheritance law workshop. As a result of the workshop he returned directly to

his village, met with the disputants and **resolved their disputes immediately** using the notes from the workshop to substantiate his decision. He said "everyone was very happy with the outcome, and I learned so much about inheritance law from the first RLS-I workshops, I went to the second one as well. Now I am confident I will be able to resolve many other inheritance disputes that trouble my community."



Figure 2: Malik Khyali Gul asking a question in the RLS-I Inheritance Law Seminar on January 20, 2011

- **Nangarhar Women's Dispute Resolution Groups (WDRG):** RLS-I worked with local villagers (men and women) in Nangarhar to create four WDRG's, known locally as *Spinsary* groups. Each WDRG has a core group of six women elders (24 total) who have been trained in ADR techniques by local elders and RSL-I justice advisers. As a result, the WDRG's have resolved 50 minor disputes and 8 major disputes which were having a long standing destabilizing effect on their communities. Village men have been very supportive of the groups and have reported benefitting from their service to the community.

"The group of Spinsary (women elders) brought peace to my home and community. If Spinsary didn't attend and resolve my dispute, in my village, I would be in prison or killed by now. Thanks to Spinsary my dispute in the community is resolved". Mr Rajab Gulaman, from Nangarhar, allowed an RLS-I women's elder group to resolve a violent dispute he was involved in, January 2011.

RC South (Kandahar)

- **Regional Elders Confront Intractable Disputes:** As a result of the RLS-I meeting of 90 elders from Helmand, Uruzgan, Zabul and Kandahar city in December, a **conflict resolution commission (CRC)** was created to address long term community disputes that have had a destabilizing effect on local villages for many years. The group of **25 elders (6 women; 19 men)** forming this CRC met over four days in January to draft and pilot a **conflict resolution process** on two intractable disputes in Arghandab: a 12 year old land dispute between a Pashtun tribe and a Baloch tribe, and an 8 to 10 year old "violent" dispute between two Pashtun men erupting from land ownership conflict. The latter was resolved in just a few days last week (Jan 20-25). (*see more detail at page 7*)
- **Conference on Baad:** In Dand, RLS-I held a one day conference for both men and women to begin the difficult task of finding **alternatives to the practice of baad** within the district (baad is the practice of exchanging girls or women as part of dispute resolution).
- **Linkage with State Justice:** A **discussion forum** was facilitated between formal and informal ADR rule of law representatives concerning **jirga procedures**; in particular the processes for **recording**

and enforcing decisions. Elders used a consensus based approach to reach agreement on practices for recording alternative disputes resolution (ADR) decisions and sharing these with state justice actors in **Arghandab** district.

- **Outreach:** In Kandahar, RLS-I conducted **two outreach events**, one with women and one with men, regarding **increasing women's participation in dispute resolution** in Arghandab. The events brought 80 elders together (40 men and 40 women) to discuss women's roles in dispute resolution and practical and achievable ways to enhance their roles in ADR in their villages.



Figure 3: Women in Arghandab are now taking a more active role in Alternative Dispute Resolution and Jirga's

Local Implementing Partners

- **International Legal Foundation-Afghanistan (ILF-A):** ILF-A added 331 indigent criminal defendants, closed 225 cases, and filed 113 appeals during the reporting period. Twenty three of the new cases are in Kandahar and 60 are in Nangarhar. Cases included assault, theft, kidnapping, smuggling, terrorism and vehicular manslaughter.
- **Women for Afghan Women (WAW):** WAW delivered four, two-day seminars on *women's rights and human rights* to 150 participants in Nangarhar including 100 local religious leaders and 50 teachers (20 female; 30 male). Religious leaders and schools teachers shared their new knowledge in Mosques, at community gatherings and in schools. Religious leaders also included this information in religious lectures (*Waiz*) after prayer. WAW conducted 59 follow up visits to mosques at prayer time to assess the impact of the seminars.

"This is my first workshop where we focus on women's rights" said a male religious leader from Nangarhar. "I have studied many books, I have a very good education from Pakistan, but my studies never focused on women's rights in detail" he said. "As a result of this workshop I have decided I won't marry my daughter, unless she agrees."

Women's & Human Rights Seminar Participant (religious leader), Jan 2011

- **Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA):** the AIBA delivered two training course in Kabul and Herat for Afghan Attorneys from Kapisa, Wardak, Bamyan, Parwan (Kabul training) and Farah, Badghis, Ghor, Nimroz (Herat training). More than 125 advocates, including 36 women, participated in these 5 day training courses.

2. KEY ACTIVITIES - JANUARY 2011

RLS- I facilitated 30 elder events, including 12 elder/state justice actor discussion groups; 14 workshops featuring family law, property law, inheritance law, social life, women's *Baad*, criminal law workshops; and 4 elder networks meetings.

Meeting	Meeting Location	Male	Female	Total Participants
Elders Network Meeting - Daman	Kandahar City	120	0	120
Elders Network Meeting – Spin Boldak	Kandahar City	120	0	120
Inheritance Law Workshop – Dand	Kandahar City	40	0	40
Afghanistan Criminal Law Workshop - Dand	Kandahar City	40	0	40
Discussion to increase women's role and access in ADR - Dand	Kandahar City	0	40	40
Discussion to find alternative to <i>Baad</i> – Dand Women	Kandahar City	0	40	40
Second round Inheritance Law Workshop – Dand	Kandahar City	0	40	40
Seminar on Women's <i>Baad</i> - Dand	Kandahar City	39	0	39
Meeting between state actors and ADR - Dand	Kandahar City	40	0	40
Meeting between state actors and ADR - Arghandab	Kandahar City	40	0	40
Seminar on Social life including marriages and divorce - Arghandab	Kandahar City	0	40	40
Seminar on women disputes and conflict resolution - Arghandab	Kandahar City	41	0	41
Discussion to increase women's role in disputes resolution - Arghandab	Kandahar City	0	40	40
Conflict Resolution Commission's Meeting	Kandahar City	70	20	90
Afghanistan Criminal Law Workshop – Women Dand	Kandahr City	0	40	40
Seminar on Social life	Kandahar City	40	0	40

including marriages and divorce - Arghandab				
Practical ways to implement decision letter and authorization letter (<i>Waak Khat and Faisla Khat</i>)	Arghandab District Center	53	0	53
RC South Subtotal: 17 workshops/events		643	260	903
Property Law seminar for ADR actors (Behsud and Surkh Rod)	Jalalabad City	39	0	39
Workshop on Family Law for women – Surkh Rod and Behsud.	Jalalabad City	0	30	30
Workshop on family law for Surkh Rod and Behsud – men	Jalalabad City	37	0	37
Property law seminar for ADR actors – Surkh Rod and Behsud	Jalalabad City	38	0	38
Property law seminar for ADR actors – Surkh Rod and Behsud	Jalalabad City	39	0	39
Women discussion session in Surkh Rod.	Surkh Rod – Dehballo village	0	21	21
ADR and state actors discussion – Surkh Rod	Jalalabad City	22	3	25
Women Elder’s Network meeting – Qaraghaee district	Jalalabad City	0	125	125
Third Men’s elders network meeting	Jalalabad City	120	0	120
ADR and state actors discussion group – Behsud	Jalalabad City	25	0	25
ADR and state actors discussion group – Surkh Rod and Behsud	Jalalabad City	29	4	33
Workshop on process and principles of Jirga – Surkh Rod and Behsud	Jalalabad City	0	30	30
Women discussion session - Behsud	Jalalabad City	0	21	21
RC East Subtotal: 13 Workshops/Events		349	234	583
January Total: 30 Workshops		992	494	1486

3.DETAILED ACTIVITY REPORT

Kandahar (RC South)

The concept of creating a volunteer regional **conflict resolution commission** to address major destabilizing community disputes, made up of respected regional elders, was conceived in December

in Kandahar at a meeting of 90 elders from Helmand, Uruzgan, Zabul and Kandahar city. In January, the concept became a reality when 25 respected regional elders (19 men; 6 women) representing the above provinces gathered together in Kandahar city over 4 days to design a pilot process to trial in Arghandab. What is significant about this initiative is, not just the impetus to tackle protracted disputes that have plagued local villagers for years, but the involvement of skilled ADR elders from neighboring districts or provinces to act as "neutral agents" in dispute resolution.

As a result of this four day meeting, a regional **conflict resolution commission** was born (named by the elders present) and a pilot process was trialed on two intractable disputes in Arghandab. The first was an 8 to 10 year old conflict arising from a violent incident related to a land dispute between 2 Pashtun families. This historic dispute was resolved in just a few days (January 20-25). The second was a 12 year old land dispute between a Pashtun tribe and a Baloch tribe. Progress was made toward resolution; however, an agreed outcome was still being pursued in February.

RLS-I also facilitated meetings and **discussion forums between formal and informal** (ADR) rule of law representatives in Dand and Arghandab concerning *jirga* procedures; in particular the **processes for recording and enforcing ADR decisions**. Elders used a consensus based approach to reach agreement on practices for recording community ADR decisions and sharing these with state justice actors in Arghandab district.

RLS-I field teams conducted two **inheritance law workshops** for Dand elders (one for women and one for men). The workshops were conducted by *Shari'a* faculty professors to increase participants' knowledge and understanding of inheritance laws, regulations and rights, in the context of Islam. This also included inheritance elements, division of legacy, number of heirs, fixed shares, conditions of inheritance, wife's shares and husband shares, as well as developing practical ways mediators and ADR elders can resolve local community inheritance disputes.

The inheritance law workshops included extensive questions and answers sessions on inheritance issues to enable ADR actors to exchange local knowledge and work through practical solutions to conflicts they face on a weekly basis. The workshop participants commented on the enormous benefit this new knowledge would bring them and their communities in dispute resolution and they proposed sharing what they had learned with relatives, neighbors and communities. 80 men and women elders attended these workshops in Kandahar City.

Three half day meetings were held for women from **Dand and Arghandab** in order to identify ways of increasing **women's role in dispute resolution** in their local communities. Women elders discussed their participation in ADR and made recommendations for removing barriers faced by women elders and mediators. They focused on what roles women *can* play in resolving disputes in their communities and what roles have been accepted and successful for them to date. They also expressed confidence that they could play a more active role in resolving disputes, particularly disputes involving women.

Men and women elders from **Arghandab** district, in separate meetings, discussed **women's role in ADR**, identifying benefits women can bring through an enhanced role in ADR. The male elders offered to support women in an increased role in local dispute resolution, while the women resolved to consult with their local male elders when they returned to their villages to pursue support for women taking a more active role in ADR in their communities.

Additionally, seminars for men and women were run to find **alternatives to baad**. These were all based in historical and local contexts, with practical examples used to illustrate the negative impact *baad* can have in local communities when used as a dispute resolution tool. In addition locally respected religious leaders and legal experts were involved in discussions to illustrate how *baad* is at odds with Islam and Afghanistan's constitution and laws.

In Kandahar, two **criminal law workshops** were conducted for men and women elders focusing on criminal law processes and procedure, as well as the rights of the accused. Elders discussed access to the state justice system in relation to criminal law. The goal of the workshop was to provide elders with the skills to identify and refer on criminal law cases to state justice systems, as well as to help them develop preventative measures in their local communities. Elders remarked on how useful the workshop was and they offered to pass on this critical information to their families and communities.

RLS-I also ran two workshops for men and women elders focusing on **women's rights in relation to marriage and divorce**. Participants from Arghandab discussed individual rights within the family as well as marriage and divorce from an Islamic point of view. *Maher* (an amount of money given to a bride) was a key point of discussion along with strategies to decrease violence against women. Women elders in particular shared many practical concerns and specific problems in relation to women's' rights in their communities.

Nangarhar (RC East)

Two half day **elders' network meetings** were held drawing 245 elders (including 125 women) from fourteen districts of Nangarhar and Laghman. The women elders' meeting was attended by representatives from the Women's Affairs Directorate in Jalalabad City.



Figure 4: Male elders (120) from Nangarhar and Laghman at the 3rd RLS-I Elders Network Meeting (23 January 2011) discuss ways to strengthen ADR in their villages, and review new ADR techniques trialed in the last 6 months as a result of RLS-I workshops and network meetings.

Three **property law workshops** were delivered to 116 community elders to increase their skills in property dispute resolution, as these constitute the largest number of disputes elders deal with on a regular basis in Nangarhar province. Elders from Behsud and Surkh Rod districts discussed property classifications, property rights, contracts and agreements, complete property, incomplete property, land seizure, and court procedures for property dispute resolution. Elders commented that they found the workshops extremely useful in skilling them to resolve everyday land disputes, which can often escalate into violent disputes if left unresolved. The workshops were lead by Nangarhar Shari'a faculty professor.

RLS-I facilitated two **family law workshops** (one for men and one for women) that drew 67 participants from Behsud and Surkh Rod district in Jalalabad City. Influential women elders from both pilot districts discussed marriage related disputes, guardianship issues, family violence, relatives,

breastfeeding, divorce and women's roles and rights. Participants also discussed family law and women's rights under Islam, as well as the types of family disputes that should be referred to the family court. Men and women elders remarked enthusiastically that they would share the new information they had learned with their families and communities. Women elders also remarked on the comprehensive nature of the training. The workshops were lead by a Nangarhar University, Shari'a faculty professor.

Two meetings between **state and ADR actors**, from Surkh Rod and Behsud, were held involving 50 elders (including three women) with focus on resolving **long standing destabilizing disputes** in Nangarhar. The participants discussed types of disputes, elders roles and blockers to dispute resolution. In a third workshop with state actors, elders discussed the existence of **corruption** in the community, identifying different causes and types of corruption and the impact these have on local communities at a district level. Solutions and strategies to address corruption were also discussed.

RLS-I also convened a workshop on the **principle and processes of the *Jirga* for women elders** in the Jalalabad City. More than 30 women attended the workshop which was lead by a respected male elder, in order to enhance women's skills and understanding of dispute resolution using traditional and trusted *Jirga* principles and processes. Women elders discussed written and verbal authorization from disputants (*Waak*), types of disputes, the *jirga* model and its decision making processes, along with various characteristics of local tribes that need to be observed in the dispute resolution process.

Twenty one women from Qasem Abad village met to discuss women's rights, problems and restrictions they face in their community. These influential local women discussed ways to increase their access to, and role in, alternative dispute resolution. This group of women agreed to **form a *Spinsary*, or women's dispute resolution group (WDRG)**, to attend to women's disputes in their village. The women elders selected six influential women who are most experienced in disputes resolution in their community to form the *Spinsary* (WDRG).



Figure 6: Creation of Spinsaries or Womens Dispute Resolution Groups has increased mens and womens access to local disute resolution mechanisms

A one day meeting of 21 influential women elders from Dehbalo village was facilitated to discuss women's rights, problems and the restrictions they face in their community. They also discussed ways to increase women's access to, and role in, alternative dispute resolution. This group of women agreed

to **form a Spinsary** to attend to women's disputes in their village. The women elders selected six influential women who are most experienced in disputes resolution in their community.

RLS-I furnished four **jirga halls** in Sarach-e-Ali Khan, Saracha-e-Ali Looai Kalay and Kariz-e-Kabeer (Behsud) and Charbagh-e-Safa (Surkh Rod). These meeting spaces, known as *shuras* gathering spaces, were just empty rooms with no carpets or furnishings of any kind, making meetings very impractical. These offices are now furnished with basic furnishings including carpets, desks, shelving, cushions, curtains for privacy, and files to help organize documents and process *jirga* cases and decisions. While these furnishings are humble, they have increased both the legitimacy and effectiveness of the local *jirgas*. They can now have many more meetings (inside rather than under trees), track and file dispute resolution processes, and provide the much needed private spaces required for many dispute resolution processes, especially where women and children are concerned.

4. FOUR NEW PILOT DISTRICTS

Kuz Kunar (Nangarhar) & Qarghaee (Laghman)

Field teams completed assessments in Kuz Kunar and Qarghaee, and preliminary meetings were held with elders (men and women) to introduce the concept of RLS-I and ADR. Some elders from these districts had already begun attending RLS-I workshops in Jalalabad, and requested RLS-I deliver more comprehensive activities in their districts, leading to the proposed pilot expansion to these districts.

Spin Boldak and Daman (Kandahar)

In RC South the approved expansion districts are Spin Boldak and Daman in Kandahar. Assessments and action plans for these districts were well underway throughout January, with completion expected in February.

In addition an elders' network meeting was held that drew 120 elders from Spin Boldak, Arghistan and Panjwayi districts in Kandahar. The event was attended by senior district government officials along with ILF-A defense attorneys. Elders and mediators shared experiences of ADR practices in their communities, and were introduced to the RLS-I project objectives and activities in Kandahar province.

Spin Boldak elders discussed the existing role of elders in ADR and the impact they have on Spin Boldak; in particular they spoke about the security situation and how the creation of an elders network could have a positive impact on the security situation in that district. Elders were eager to collaborate with RLS-I ADR enhancing initiatives. At this event RLS-I also provided an overview of Afghanistan land law, criminal law and constitutional law.

Elders (male) from Daman, Arghistan and Panjwayi districts attended an initial elders meeting in Kandahar City with 120 men attending. Participants were introduced to RLS-I project activities and objectives and expressed eagerness to collaborate with, and gain support from, RLS-I in the future. This meeting was also attended by ILF-A defense attorneys who provided a brief introduction to Afghanistan constitutional law, criminal law and land law. The elders discussed ADR issues in their respective villages, and ideas for strengthening rule of law and improving ADR in their villages.

5. PUBLIC OUTREACH

In January in Kandahar, 106 youth volunteers from community culture centers (CCC's) distributed 20,000 comic books to 53 local communities including 16 schools and 38 villages in Arghandab,

Dand and Kandahar city. All 20,000 comic books carry a range of ROL themes including alternatives to *baad*.

RLS-I also worked with a leading local radio station to produce two radio talk shows with focus on audiences in pilot districts Dand and Arghandab. The talk show panel included a religious leader, ILF-A defense attorneys and elders from Kandahar province. The talk show discussions focused on ADR and *jirgas* and their relation with Arghandab district government. Discussions also included alternatives to *baad* in the context of Afghanistan and Islamic law. Audiences were invited to call in and ask questions and share ideas about the topics discussed.

In Nangarhar a total of 70 CCC volunteers worked 2-3 hours each week distributing ROL public outreach materials in Behsud, Surkh Rod and Jalalabad City. These volunteers are mostly young school or university students, but some are university professors. During January, the volunteers joined a local public event run by an NGO in order to distribute comic books and rule of all and access to justice information materials. The comic books were distributed to 80 elders including 40 women.

Surkh Rod CCC volunteers ran a public outreach event attended by more than 130 local elders, and youth. The volunteers distributed outreach materials and comic books to the participants.

RLS-I contracted with Sayara to develop a third comic book focused on women and *jirgas*.



Figure 5: Distribution of RLS-I educational comic books in schools in Khowja Molk, Arghandab. Just four months ago this village was under Taliban rule.

6. IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Legal Defense

The International Legal Foundation - Afghanistan (ILF-A)

ILF-A added 331 cases to their workload throughout Afghanistan, including 23 new cases in Kandahar and 60 new cases in Nangarhar. Cases included assault, theft, kidnapping, smuggling, terrorism and vehicular manslaughter.

The ILF-A Kabul office opened its legal clinic program on January 8, 2011. The clinic accommodates 16 students of *Shari'a* and Law Faculty of Kabul University. The students are equally divided between the sexes and between the *Shari'a* and Law Faculties. In three months, these students will be

the first graduates of the clinic program, and by the end of 2011, 48 students will complete the legal clinic course in Kabul University.

The Jalalabad office also hosted a legal clinic for twelve students in coordination with the University of Nangarhar *Shari'a* faculty and its Law & Political Science programs.

The head of ILF-A Jalalabad office, initiated the formation of a defense lawyers committee in Jalalabad on January 19, 2011. This action came in response to the difficulties new defense lawyers face when dealing with administrators and officers of the police and judicial organs of the government. He invited a number of defense lawyers of Jalalabad province and the representative of the AIBA, to the ILF-A Jalalabad office where they formed a four member committee who will try to solve any problem or obstacles in the way of Jalalabad defense lawyers.

The ILF-A Kandahar office defense attorneys participated in the law awareness programs of several different Legal Aid NGO's, in particular, ILF-A played a significant role in a training program sponsored by DPK for Helmand, Kandahar, and Uruzgan provinces. The participants in this training program were 18 judges and prosecutors of these provinces. ILF-A South and Central Region Director, gave presentations on the interpretation and correct implantation of criminal laws and procedure.

Below is a summary table showing the status of ILF-A defense attorney's work including new clients, previous clients, and cases dismissed or closed; disaggregated by gender and juveniles.

Province	Lawyers	Total New Clients Contracted	Appeals	Closed	Female	Juveniles
Kabul	28	119	16	47	1	3
Jalalabad	9	60	11	40	3	3
Kandahar	5	23	19	17	1	5
Helmand	3	18	12	4	4	3
Paktia	1	5	3	6	0	0
Bamyan	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mazar-e-Sharif	5	21	12	25	2	0
Kunduz	3	16	3	0	0	3
Jowzjan	2	13	10	35	1	0
Baghlan	3	4	10	14	0	0
Herat	8	44	9	23	8	5

Badghis	1	8	7	6	0	0
Ghor	1	0	1	8	0	0
Grand Total	70	331	113	225	20	22

Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA)

AIBA ran two training programs in Kabul and Herat for Afghan Attorneys from Kapisa, Wardak, Bamyan, Parwan (Kabul training) and Farah, Badghis, Ghor, Nimroz (Herat training). More than 125 participants (including 36 women) attended the 5 day training programs. Participants studied writing defense statements, client interviewing, direct and cross examination, investigation on the process of accused and suspected clients, elements of an indictment, defense statements in family cases, proofing evidence on criminal and civil cases, code of conduct for advocates and the importance of defense lawyers.

Training	Location	Participants		
		Male	Female	Total
Five Days Advocates Training and Capacity Building	Kabul	52	11	63
Five Days Advocates Training and Capacity Building	Herat	38	25	63
Grant Total		90	36	126

In addition, AIBA established a Family Law Committee (FLC) within the AIBA to build the skills and capacities of lawyers to better serve clients in family law matters, and strengthening the administrative capacity of AIBA to better coordinate and monitor the organization and delivery of continuing legal education to AIBA members. So far the family law committees have only seven members who are have a legal working licensed and will meet on a regular basis to develop lawyer's capacity within AIBA. The committee will expand its membership to all interested licensed lawyers who are qualified and committed and participated AIBA regular meetings in AIBA.

Women for Afghan Women (WAW)

"This is my first workshop where we focus on women's rights" said a male religious leader from Nangarhar. "I have studied many books, I have a very good education from Pakistan, but my studies never focused on women's rights in detail" he said. "As a result of this workshop I have decided I won't marry my daughter, unless she agrees."

WAW Workshop Participant, January 2011

WAW delivered four, two day seminars on women's rights and human rights to 150 participants in Nangarhar including 100 local religious leaders and 50 teachers (20 female; 30 male). Religious leaders and schools teachers shared the information in Mosques, at community gatherings and in schools. Religious leaders also included this information in religious lectures (*Waiz*) after prayer. WAW conducted 59 follow up visits to mosques at prayer time to assess follow up of their training.

WAW also printed 1,000 copies of the women right and human rights handbooks and 100,000 copies of pocket-sized informational card to be distributed in the trainings and workshops. WAW also broadcasted ten different messages on women's right and human rights from 11 local radio stations.

Training/Awareness Workshop	Location	Male	Female	Total
Women's right and human right two days workshops for religious leaders – Behsud District	Jalalabad City	34 Religious Leader (<i>Mullah</i>)	0	34
Women's right and human right two days workshops for religious leaders – Khewa District	Jalalabad City	33	0	33
Women's right and human right two days workshops for women school teachers– Behsud District	Jalalabad City	0	20	20
Women's right and human right two days workshops for religious leaders – Surkh Rod District	Jalalabad City	33	0	33
Women's right and human right two days workshops for male schools teach– Surkh Rod, Behsud and Khewa.	Jalalabad City	30	0	30
Total Five workshops.		130	20	150

7. SUPPORT NATIONAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Justice committee to review legislation regarding recognition of traditional dispute resolution did not meet in December. Once the committee, headed by Sayed Yosuf Halim, Administrative Deputy Minister, meets, RLS-I work to assist with the review process for the drafted Law on Dispute Resolution, *Jirgas* and *Shuras*. RLS-I is also working with USG, ISAF and NGO actors to develop recommendations regarding deficiencies in the draft law.

8. TRENDS AND CONSTRAINTS

Security continues to be an ongoing issue impacting on project delivery and also determining which districts can be worked in.

Developing trust with elders is critical to the success of the project, and has been built in just seven months, but it requires constant attention and careful management to maintain.

The ever changing political dynamics between the various governance actors at a district, provincial and regional level also impact on ADR program design and effectiveness.

Measuring tangible outcomes of elder ADR activities remains a challenge. The informal and nascent nature of ADR in Afghanistan means accurately recording elders ADR outcomes is not yet a reality. For example a measurable outcome for the RLS-I program is getting ADR and state actors together to discuss formalizing links and creating systems for recording ADR decisions and lodging these records with state justice actors/systems. Achieving this commitment from elders and state actors, through a collaborative process, precedes the ability to accurately record and track dispute outcomes.