

PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

JUSTICE, SECURITY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

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PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

The British Council helps societies achieve change by working collaboratively with governments, donors and civil society to deliver value for money solutions that are both effective and sustainable. Strengthening the rule of law, ensuring access to justice and addressing and resolving conflict are fundamental to human security and the development of stable economic states where all citizens' voices can be heard and economic opportunities realised.

OUR WORK

STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW

We help societies strengthen the rule of law and its institutions, including the police, the judiciary, courts and prisons.

ENSURING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

We work to make justice accessible to everyone in society, particularly the poor and marginalised, through legislative and policy reform, legal aid, mediation, paralegal services, cross-sector co-ordination and collaboration with civil society organisations.

SUPPORTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION

We help societies address and resolve conflict by strengthening existing mechanisms, encouraging dialogue as a means of community cohesion and supporting the voice of women, girls and vulnerable groups in building peace.

FACILITATING PRO-POOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

We facilitate pro-poor growth by reforming the legal and regulatory environment for businesses and strengthening anti-corruption institutions.

OUR APPROACH

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

We can only embed change by working with partners on the ground. We work with the judiciary, police, prison officers, lawyers, customary and traditional justice systems, anti-corruption agencies and civil society organisations to improve their capacity to deliver fair and equitable services that are locally owned and sustainable.

COMBINING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND GLOBAL EXPERTISE

With a presence on the ground in over 110 countries and territories, including fragile and emerging economies, we've developed a strong track record of shaping and sharing best practice in the justice sector by combining local knowledge and global expertise.

DRAWING ON UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

Through our diverse areas of work, we have built strong relationships with key policy makers, stakeholders and professionals worldwide. With nearly 80 years' experience, we've gained a unique track record, which we draw upon as we continue to deliver lasting change.





OUR TRACK RECORD

JUSTICE FOR ALL PROGRAMME

COUNTRY: Nigeria
CLIENT: DFID
VALUE: £35.5 million
LIFECYCLE: 2010–15

Through the Justice for All Programme we work with stakeholders across the whole Nigerian justice sector to improve access to justice and personal safety for all Nigerians. Building on the success of the predecessor programme – the Security, Justice and Growth Programme – our project team helps to improve the capacity, accountability and responsiveness of key justice and security institutions and supports them in working with civil society as part of a co-ordinated and equitable justice sector.

Justice sector reform teams

Five new co-ordination groups have been established at federal and state levels to support timely case resolution and improved case management across the sector.

Community policing and the Model Police Station

With key stakeholders, a community policing strategy has been developed, focusing on answering the needs of the community and improving police service standards. A Model Police Station has been set up in Lagos, incorporating a Family Support Unit to eradicate gender inequality in police services. Community satisfaction with police response rates rose by over 30 per cent in the Model Police Station's first year.

'The way we do our intelligence work in this Division is way beyond what other police officers and stations are doing. I feel like I outshine my colleagues.'

Corporal Robert Amugho, Divisional Intelligence Officer, Isokoko Police Division in Agege, Lagos, Nigeria

Voluntary Policing Groups

A total of 128 members of the voluntary police sector have received training, and

groups are being supported in improving relations with communities and the Nigeria Police Force. A voluntary police sector code of conduct has been established, and in eight months the number of women members in the service rose by over 40 per cent.

'Our perception, view and vision have changed. It is no longer about laying blame across institutions in the justice sector, but having a unified objective to ensure speedy delivery of justice.'

Justice Darius Khobo, High Court Judge and Chairperson of the Kaduna Justice Sector Co-ordination Group in Kaduna State, Nigeria

Anti-corruption

The major anti-corruption agencies have been assisted in the development of strategic plans and the implementation of these is now being supported. Assistance has also been given in the creation of national strategies on anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and asset recovery. Cross-agency information exchange has also been improved.

OUR TRACK RECORD

JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

COUNTRY: Vietnam

CLIENT: Multiple donors

VALUE: €7.2 million

LIFECYCLE: 2010–15

As part of the Justice Partnership Programme we are helping to develop a capable and democratic justice sector in Vietnam that can protect the rights of citizens and the state.

State institutions are being supported in implementing Vietnam's Judicial Reform Strategy.

Key laws have been revised and implemented, including the Law on Lawyers and the Criminal Procedure Code.

A national legal aid strategy has been developed, and training has been delivered to legal aid providers across the country.

A plan to publish court judgements has been developed and is now being implemented.

A capacity development plan for courts has been produced, and training has been delivered to judges and support staff nationally.

STABILITY AND RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME

COUNTRY: Nigeria

CLIENT: DFID

VALUE: £33 million

LIFECYCLE: 2011–17

Our project team works with federal, state and community level organisations to encourage non-violent conflict resolution and help reduce the impact of violent conflict on the most vulnerable. We also address the key drivers of conflict in Nigeria and provide mediation support in some of the country's most conflict-prone states.

Briefings on conflict sensitive issues are helping Nigerian decision takers and policy makers with developing and delivering policies to reduce violent conflict.

Studies on the role of women and girls in peace mechanisms and conflict management are assisting Nigeria's Ministry of Women's Affairs in drafting policy that meets international standards.



BANGLADESH

As part of the **Community Legal Services** project, we help to build the capacity of civil society organisations and support improvements in the delivery of community legal services, research and advocacy, knowledge management and co-ordination across the justice sector. (DFID, 2012–17, £787,000)

SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN

Through the **Safety and Access to Justice Programme** we support the Sudan National Police Service and South Sudan Police Service with strategic planning, policy development, service delivery and community responsiveness. (DFID, 2010–14, £2 million)

In the design phase of the **South Sudan Access to Justice Programme** we are

looking at potential intervention areas to improve access to justice. (DFID, 2014, £200,000)

CHINA

In the start-up phase of the **China Legal Aid Programme** we are helping to increase access to legal aid provision by supporting provincial institutions and civil society organisations to extend their services to hard-to-reach communities. (European Union, 2013–16, €5.3 million)

BURMA

Through the **Pyoe Pin** programme, we work to strengthen the rule of law and improve the provision of legal aid through strengthening local coalitions to provide legal aid, establish legal aid centres and support the development

of a national legal aid policy. (DFID, SIDA, 2011–15, £12.8 million)

In the **Rule of Law** project we support and train lawyers and non-governmental organisations to work together to provide legal services and advocacy to enable people to claim their legal rights in priority cases. (European Union, 2012–14, €300,000)

NIGERIA

Through the **Security, Justice and Growth Programme**, we supported key justice-sector institutions in the areas of policing and security, justice and pro-poor economic growth. (DFID, 2002–10, £30.5 million)

OUR TRACK RECORD

JUSTICE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

COUNTRY: Sierra Leone

CLIENT: DFID

VALUE: £27 million

LIFECYCLE: 2005–11

Through the Justice Sector Development Programme our project team supported the development of an effective, accountable and equitable justice sector in Sierra Leone, capable of serving everyone in society, particularly the poor and marginalised.

Using an integrated, sector-wide approach, involving the police, judiciary, legal sector, courts, prisons, customary justice systems and civil society organisations, we delivered sustainable change through capacity building, training and organisational development.

Sector-wide reform

A Justice Sector Co-ordination Office was established and now oversees all levels of reform in the Sierra Leone justice sector through a long-term, sector-wide justice sector reform strategy and investment plan. This has led to an annual percentage increase in budgetary support from the government, donors and international agencies.

Police service

Training was delivered to over 80 per cent of senior and middle managers in the police force, leading to a service more geared towards community policing and solving crime.

‘The inclusion of human rights training has changed the perception of the officers and the way they discharge their duties.’

Mohamed M Sannoh, Chief Inspector of Chiefdom Police in Moyamba District, Sierra Leone

Family Support Units

A total of 15 new Family Support Units were established and the whole network of units was strengthened, increasing support for victims of sexual and gender-based crimes.



‘I am confident that had the Justice Sector Development Programme been here before the war, there would have been no conflict in this country.’

Paramount Chief Alhaji Joseph Alie Kavura Kongomo II JP (Justice of the Peace) in Fakunya Chiefdom, Moyamba District, Sierra Leone

‘We had no place to go when we were being battered by our husbands. We now feel protected because we have the Family Support Units to help.’

Victim of violence in Sierra Leone

Community mediation

A team of 300 volunteers was trained in community mediation and they satisfactorily solved over 2,300 cases in less than a year.

Legal aid

A Pilot National Legal Aid (PNLA) scheme was established. It handled over 3,000 cases in one year, with an average of 144 cases being diverted away from the courts each month.

Civil society and justice

A network of non-governmental organisations was developed, with

representation at a national level, linking over 100 organisations actively involved in providing community services.

Anti-corruption

A strategic plan was developed and the investigative and case management capacity of Sierra Leone's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was enhanced. As a result, 238 cases were investigated by the ACC in 2010 (compared with just 32 in 2008) and 54 cases were prosecuted between 2008 and 2010.

‘I was arrested and in detention for over two years with no lawyer to help me because I have no money. PNLA took up my case and now I have a voice in court.’

Accused person in Sierra Leone

The British Council creates opportunities for people worldwide by helping societies achieve change in education, skills, the public sector, civil society and justice. Working closely with governments, donors and businesses, we deliver value for money solutions that are both effective and sustainable.

Find out more:

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