

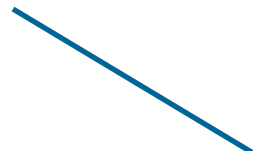


Removing obstacles to justice

Expert group meeting

Policies and strategies to promote empowerment of
people in achieving poverty eradication, social
integration and full employment and decent work for all

10 - 11 September 2013



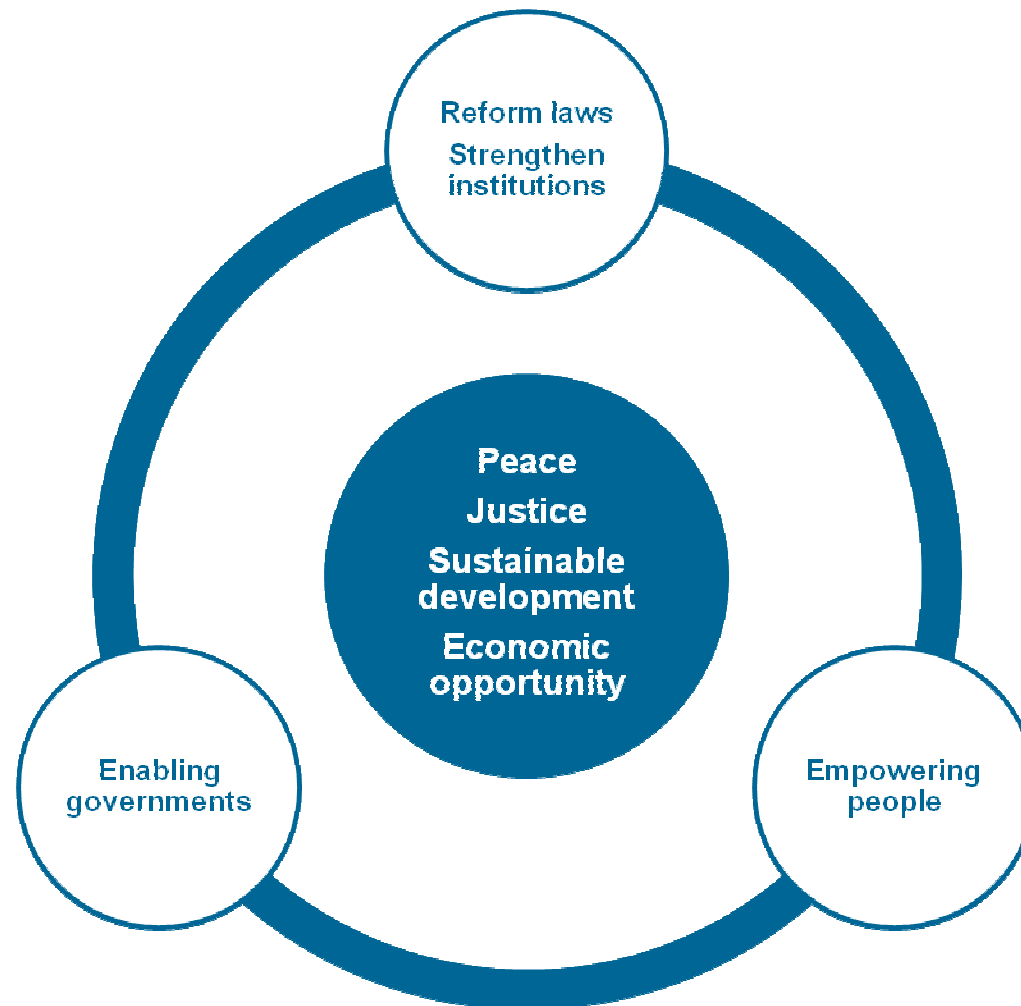


ABOUT IDLO



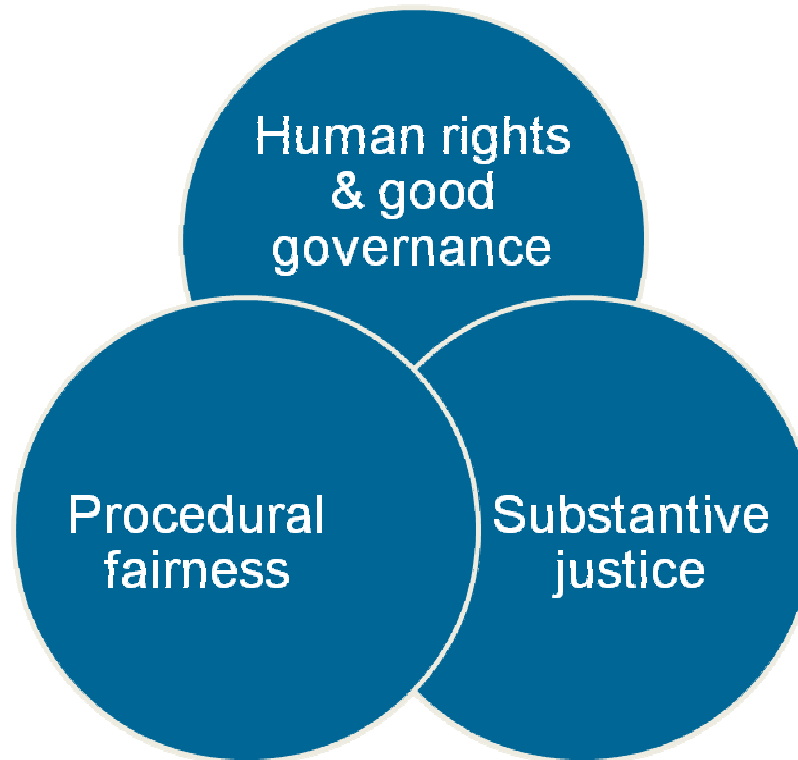


A world where every person lives in dignity and under the rule of law



Justice

- IDLO's programming seeks to achieve:



Creating a Culture of Justice

BY

- Providing technical legal assistance
- Supporting capacity development
- Policy advocacy

THROUGH

- Local ownership
- Innovative legal solutions
- Non-prescriptive
- Partnership-based

Creating a Culture of Justice

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graph TD; A[Build confidence in the justice sector] --- B[Access to Justice]; B --- C[Innovative legal solutions for sustainable development and economic opportunity];
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Build confidence in the
justice sector

Access to Justice

Innovative legal solutions
for sustainable
development and
economic opportunity



OVERVIEW

Empowerment

- Empowerment of people is a core driver, and outcome, of people-centered sustainable development.
- Legal empowerment strategies are an effective way to empower disadvantaged groups, and achieve good development outcomes.

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- Innovative legal approaches to legal empowerment strategies can equip people with the tools to strengthen their own capacities, foster opportunities and improve their quality of life.
 - Incorporation within the Post-2015 development framework.



KEY LESSONS

‘Bottom-up’ and ‘top-down’

- ‘Bottom-up’ legal empowerment strategies and ‘top-down’ measures through local partners
 - Law can deter discrimination & influence behavioral norms and social interaction
 - Grassroots efforts are more effective when coupled with ‘top-down’ reforms
 - “Supportive” law

Promoting access to justice

- Legal empowerment strategies can improve disadvantaged groups' access to justice
 - Legal empowerment strategies, through legal literacy programs, legal aid or alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, can help create a 'culture of justice' among all groups within society and ensure that principles of equality and nondiscrimination are not only enshrined in law, but also translated into practice.

Customary and informal legal systems

- Where appropriate, engage with customary and informal legal systems
 - Informal or ‘customary’ justice systems are often the preferred fora for the resolution of disputes, especially among women.
 - Often deal with a number of key issues of significance to disadvantaged groups, and particularly women – inheritance, family law and access and ownership of land and natural resources, etc

Context-specific

- Context-specific for effectiveness
 - No readymade formulas
 - Projects designed to be pragmatic, realistic and reflective of the local context demonstrate a higher rate of success.

Participation & engagement

- Improve disadvantaged groups' ability to participate and engage in decision-making processes
 - Engaging in decision-making processes is part of a larger empowerment framework necessary for participation, choices, opportunities, access to basic resources, and a voice in decision-making.
 - Open and transparent participatory processes

Legal and institutional reforms *for increased legitimacy and public confidence*

Tunisia



Central Asia



Yemen



Afghanistan



Somalia



South Sudan

Constitution-making and
legal reform
Transparency and accountability
Justice sector development
Legal training

Access to Justice *to empower individuals and communities*



Latin America



Myanmar

Afghanistan



Religious freedom



HIV/AIDS

Gender equality
Legal services for poor and
marginalized communities
Access to social
development

Legal innovation *for fair and sustainable development outcomes*



Tanzania,
Mozambique,
Zambia



Mexico



Kenya

Ecuador



Biodiversity

Climate change, green
economy and clean technologies
Natural resource management
Trade, investment and
intellectual property

Afghanista n

Access to justice for women through increased awareness and support for the implementation of domestic laws on violence against women.



Ecuador

Legally empower indigenous communities to be able to enter the fair trade market.



Rwanda

Local mediation processes on land disputes, to include representatives of the National Women's Council.



Strategies

- Basic Awareness Raising
- Resolving Individual Problems through Formal and Informal Justice Systems
- Highest-Order Strategies and Interventions

Impact of legal empowerment

- Basic impacts
 - increased general awareness
 - knowledge of legal rights and issues
- Intermediate impacts
 - improved access to formal and informal legal systems
 - public decision-making processes
- Higher level impacts
 - increased confidence and higher expectations
 - participation in law, regulatory, and budgetary reforms.



The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) enables governments and empowers people to reform laws and strengthen institutions to promote peace, justice, sustainable development and economic opportunity.

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