



USAID Justice Program

22/2/2016

The Mali Justice Program will work with the formal and informal justice sectors and civil society to advance institutional reforms, increase access to justice, and reduce corruption, ultimately to enhance delivery of justice services in Mali. This will include improving the operational capacities of key justice sector institutions, especially the National Direction of Justice Administration (DNAJ) and the courts, and increasing availability of information on legal services, citizen rights, and justice-related reforms so that citizens better understand their rights under the Malian legal system. The Program will also provide targeted legal and advocacy services along key trade routes to reduce the level of corruption.

Sound implementation of this program depends on empowering Malians to improve their governance structures and build their capacity to sustain program initiatives beyond conclusion of the Program. The guiding principles of the Program are to assist Malians in developing their own solutions to the country's challenges, to ensure activities undertaken by the Program will meet real needs, and to support successful incremental changes that will provide the impetus for more ambitious change.

The main components of the Program are:

- Component 1: Improve the management, oversight, accountability, and sustainability of justice sector institutions.
- Component 2: Increase access to justice through the training and deployment of paralegals and legal clinics
- Component 3: Reduce corruption along the Sikasso-Kourou and Sikasso- Hèrèmakono trade corridors.

The USAID Justice Program in Mali works under USAID/Mali's Mission Strategy Development Objective (DO) #1 (Democratic Governance): "Public Trust in Government Improved." The development hypothesis of this DO states "*if responsive and accountable local service delivery is increased and the rule of law is respected in Mali, then public trust in government will be improved.*" This Program will contribute to the Intermediate Result 1.2: *Administration of justice improved.* The program will follow the precepts outlined under the Ministry of Justice's *Programme d'Urgence pour le Renforcement du Système Judiciaire* along with any corresponding strategy that the MOJ develops.

Component 1 activities will include analysis of and improvements to court administration practices, judicial training center initiatives, and enhanced public outreach activities. Under Component 2, the Program will support the deployment of paralegals throughout the country to ensure greater access to justice, especially in underserved communities. Activities under Component 3 will establish a corruption-free trade corridors forum, provide legal support to citizens impacted by corruption, and develop a citizen reporting system.

Expected Results:

- Increasingly efficient, effective, and competent Malian justice sector institutions that are responsive to the needs of citizens
- Improved capacity of the Government of Mali to implement justice related reforms and policies.
- Roadside corruption reduced along key trade corridors.
- Access to justice increased.

Program Information:

- Budget: \$22 million
- Life of Project: 2016-2020
- Start Date: January 2016

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