Afghan Rule of Law Achievements Recognized at Supreme Court

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN - Afghan judges and court administrators joined representatives from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to celebrate the achievements of the USAID-funded Rule of Law Stabilization-Formal Program during a ceremony at the Supreme Court yesterday. This program trained more than 1,500 judges and court administrators in all 34 Afghan provinces and provided support for the newly established Afghan Women Judges Association.

“We are pleased with what USAID has done through the Rule of Law Stabilization-Formal program in the past four years to effectively strengthen the country’s justice system. The Afghan people will never forget this assistance. We hope these kinds of projects will continue in the future so next generation can benefit from these sustainable achievements,” Dr. Abdullah Atayee, Administrator General of the Supreme Court remarked.

The Rule of Law Stabilization-Formal Program also provided training and support for legal outreach offices and helped enhance capacity of Law and Sharia faculties in Afghanistan’s public universities with legal clinics, law libraries and computer labs.

“With USAID support, Afghanistan has introduced key reforms and improved education for the next generation of judges, prosecutors, defense lawyers, court administrators, and public legal outreach officers. We are very proud of the achievements made in Afghanistan’s justice sector in the past decade and we look forward to many more years of partnership,” USAID Deputy Mission Director James Hope said at the ceremony.

Since 2010, USAID has collaborated with the Supreme Court of Afghanistan, the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), and the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to strengthen the formal justice sector by developing the capacity of current and future judges, court administrators, and Law and Sharia faculties, as well as increasing the public’s confidence in the formal justice system. The Rule of Law Stabilization-Formal Program will be completed next month but USAID will continue support the development and strengthening of Afghanistan’s justice sector.

For more information about USAID’s programs and interview requests, please contact: Senior Development, Outreach and communications Officer Stefan Korshak (0702-626255) KabulAIDdoc@usaid.gov , http://afghanistan.usaid.gov

The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for more than 50 years.”