

Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the National Institute of Justice

- Description:** This project aims at supporting the National Institute of Justice in strengthening its institutional capacity to perform its legal functions in a more transparent and efficient manner, thereby increasing the education, training and competency of judges, prosecutors and other justice representatives resulting in their capacity to make fair, just and equitable decisions and ensure access to justice.
- Dates of implementation:** 2008-2010
- Objectives:**
- Enhance the administrative and financial management of the National Institute of Justice;
 - Develop systematic curriculum development, effective training modules and publications;
 - Develop the communications capacities to ensure efficient internal and external communication in the National Institute of Justice.
- Benefits:**
- Database on the records of NIJ trainings and trainees (judges, prosecutors, etc.) developed and used;
 - Skills of NIJ management staff and trainers in management of educational/training institutions enhanced;
 - Initial training curricula and moot court cases/teaching aids concluded and published;
 - System for continuous and systemic evaluation of legal education needs and skills in place;
 - Specialised legal publications developed and published;
 - A survey carried out to understand what the key obstacles are for vulnerable groups in access to justice;
 - NIJ communication strategy developed, public relations unit established and website created;
 - Awareness campaigns on access to justice developed and implemented.
- Public awareness:** The establishment of a public relations unit and the formulation of a communications strategy will help the National Institute of Justice better communicate with its partners and beneficiaries as well as educate citizens about their right to a fair justice system.
- Budget:** The budget for 2008-2010 amounts to \$US 571,224 provided by UNDP.
- Partners:** High Council of Magistracy, Ministry of Justice, Parliament, Courts, UN Agencies, EC Delegation to Moldova, Council of Europe, OSCE, Civil Society Organisations.
- Noteworthy:** An efficient and fully operational National Institute of Justice will contribute to achieving the National Strategy for Strengthening the Judicial System and National Development Strategy 2008-2011 and to raising the level of professionalism of judges, prosecutors and other legal representatives, the impact being that citizens enjoy access to justice and fair, just and equitable decisions.
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