IDLO

Creating a Culture of Justice

International Development Law Organization

ABOUT IDLO

Image: IDLO

IDLO is the only global intergovernmental organization exclusively devoted to promoting the rule of law to advance peace and sustainable development.

Our Vision

- **A world in which every person lives in dignity and equality under the rule of law.**

Our Mission

- **We champion people-centred justice and promote the rule of law to advance sustainable development and help build more peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies.**

IDLO Values

- **Sustainability.** We work to ensure that the gains of peace and development can be sustained over the long term by seeking to achieve lasting impact for our partners.
- **People-centred.** We put people and their needs and human rights at the centre of justice systems.
- **Gender equality.** We promote gender equality and mainstream it throughout our work.
- **Local ownership.** We believe that legal reforms must be locally driven and nationally owned.
- **Human rights.** We work within a system of rights and corresponding obligations established by international law and guided by principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation, transparency and accountability.
- **Legal pluralism.** We are committed to engaging with the plurality of legal systems, consistent with international standards.
- **Transparency & accountability.** We maintain the highest standards of transparency and accountability.
- **Partnership.** We work with a range of actors at the international, regional and national levels to pool expertise and resources, strengthen our convening power and maximize our impact.

IDLO's strengths include:

- Specialized mandate on the rule of law and focus on SDG 16 as an enabler of the 2030 Agenda.
- Legal expertise and thought leadership on issues related to justice, rule of law, gender equality and sustainable development.
- Intergovernmental status and ability to contribute to global dialogue through presence in policy hubs including Rome, New York, Geneva and The Hague.
- Field presence and strong in-country networks and relationships of trust.
- Ability to work both "top-down" with institutions and "bottom-up" on promoting access to justice and legal empowerment.
- Experience working across a variety of legal systems and expertise operating in highly complex, fragile, and transitional environments.
- Convening power to mobilize multistakeholder coalitions around key issues of global concern.
- Flexible and agile, offering a good return on investment to national partners and donors.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Justice is vital to secure rights and dignity for all. Yet many around the world – the poor, women, children, migrants and sexual minorities – struggle to access it. Legal and non-legal empowerment strategies are critical to help people claim their rights.

IDLO has significant experience empowering legal service providers and civil society organizations and building their capacity to spread rights awareness, improve legal literacy and provide legal services. We also facilitate networks to promote collaboration among groups representing justice seekers.

Using our wide-ranging legal expertise, we help combat discrimination and reduce social exclusion. By engaging with customary and informal justice systems, we aim to sensitize them to international standards and find ways to improve their services to women, girls and other disadvantaged groups. Our strategies, programmes and projects have a strong gender focus.

IDLO's programmes include:

- **Access to justice**
- **Rights awareness**
- **Gender justice**
- **Customary and informal justice**

› BY LEVERAGING ITS COUNTRY-LEVEL EXPERIENCE, MULTISTAKEHOLDER CONVENING POWER AND FLEXIBILITY, IDLO CAN MAKE A TANGIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE DECADE OF ACTION TO ACHIEVE THE SDGS. ‹

Jan Beagle, IDLO Director-General

Image: IDLO

STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS

Image: Business Daily Africa

A strong, independent and effective justice sector is essential to strengthen citizens' confidence in the rule of law.

IDLO is known for building legal and judicial institutions in countries recovering from conflict and moving towards democracy as well as in middle-income countries. With local and international partners, we help countries in transition lay the foundations for peace and development. We enable institutions by strengthening their capacity and integrity as well as their responsiveness to the people whom they are meant to serve.

We know that different societies have different needs; legal systems and traditions vary. Our solutions are therefore non-prescriptive and mindful of context – bespoke tools to realize bold ideals.

IDLO's programmes include:

- Legal and judicial capacity-building
- Legal and constitutional reform
- Institutional transparency and integrity
- Economic development and sustainability
- Commercial and economic law

Image: The Judiciary of Kenya

CHAMPIONING RULE OF LAW AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Image: IDLO

As both a driver and outcome of sustainable development, the rule of law plays a key role in advancing access to justice, combatting inequalities and promoting social inclusion. That understanding is explicit in Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda and embedded implicitly in various other goals and targets through references to equality, inclusion, rights, legal frameworks and accountable institutions.

Whether in fragile contexts, emerging democracies or middle-income countries, IDLO supports the 2030 Agenda through its programmes, research and policy advocacy. Building institutions for peace and justice, strengthening accountability, empowering women and girls, fighting corruption, advancing climate justice and promoting inclusive economic growth are some of the ways in which IDLO's programmes and other activities further the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

By engaging in policy dialogue with governments, donors and policy thinkers at global and national levels, IDLO highlights the significance of the rule of law for the achievement of Agenda 2030. Its advocacy is backed by robust research drawing on the lessons learned from its programmatic experience.

MEMBER PARTIES

Afghanistan
Australia
Austria
Bahamas (The)
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
China
Cyprus
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
France
Honduras
Italy
Jordan
Kenya
Kuwait
Liberia
Mali
Mauritania
Mongolia
Montenegro
Mozambique
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
Niger
OPEC Fund
Pakistan
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Qatar
Romania
Senegal
Sudan
Sweden
Tunisia
Türkiye
Uganda
Viet Nam

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and country offices to implement programmes

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