

PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

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# JUSTICE, SECURITY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



# PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

The British Council is committed to building engagement and trust through the exchange of knowledge and ideas between people worldwide. We believe that the rule of law, access to justice and conflict resolution frameworks are fundamental to human security and the development of stable, democratic states in which all citizens' voices can be heard and economic opportunities can be realised.

## OUR WORK

### STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW

We help societies strengthen the rule of law and its institutions, including the police, courts and prisons.

### ENSURING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

We work to make justice accessible to everyone in society, particularly the poor and marginalised, through legislative and policy reform, legal aid, mediation, paralegal services, cross-sector co-ordination and collaboration with civil society organisations.

### SUPPORTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION

We help societies address and resolve conflict by strengthening existing mechanisms, encouraging dialogue as a means of community cohesion and supporting the voice of women, girls and vulnerable groups in building peace.

### FACILITATING PRO-POOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

We facilitate private sector, pro-poor growth by reforming the legal and regulatory environment for businesses and strengthening anti-corruption institutions.

## OUR APPROACH

### WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

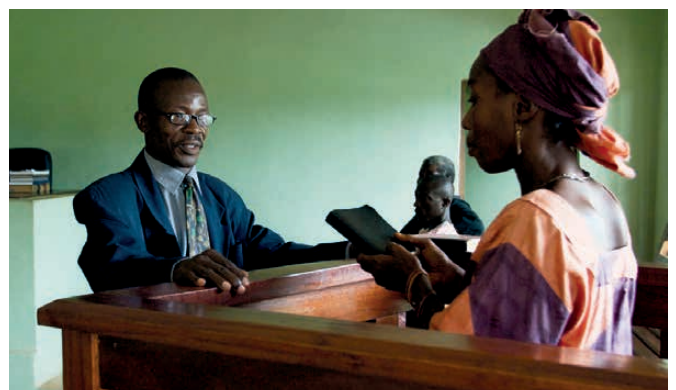
We can only embed change by working with partners on the ground. We work with the judiciary, police, prison officers, lawyers, customary and traditional justice systems, anti-corruption agencies and civil society organisations to improve their capacity to deliver fair and equitable services that are locally owned and sustainable.

### COMBINING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND GLOBAL EXPERTISE

We have developed a strong record of shaping and sharing best practice in the Sub-Saharan Africa justice sector over ten years, through an approach that combines extensive local knowledge with global expertise.

### DRAWING ON UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

We have built trust and long-term relationships with key policy makers, stakeholders and professionals across Sub-Saharan Africa. We've gained a unique track record, which we draw upon as we work towards lasting change in the region.





## OUR TRACK RECORD

# JUSTICE FOR ALL PROGRAMME

**COUNTRY:** Nigeria  
**CLIENT:** DFID  
**VALUE:** £35.5 million  
**LIFECYCLE:** 2010–15

Through the Justice for All Programme we work with stakeholders across the whole Nigerian justice sector to improve access to justice and personal safety for all Nigerians. Building on the success of the predecessor programme – the Security, Justice and Growth Programme – we help to improve the capacity, accountability and responsiveness of key justice and security institutions and support them in working with civil society as part of a co-ordinated and equitable justice sector.

### Justice sector reform teams

Twelve co-ordination groups have been established at the federal and state levels to drive a broad range of activities, including supporting timely case resolution and improved case management across the sector and enabling citizens to access their rights.

### Community policing and the Model Police Stations

With key stakeholders, a community policing strategy has been developed, focusing on answering the needs of the community and improving police service

standards. Twelve Model Police Stations have been established in Lagos, Enugu, Niger, Kano, Kaduna, Jigawa and the Federal Capital Territory, including Family Support Units to support victims of gender-based and domestic violence. As a result of the interventions, community satisfaction with the police has risen (by more than 15 per cent in some states) in their first year of operation.

Support has been provided to improve the performance of the Voluntary Police Services (neighbourhood protection guards and vigilante groups) in Model Police Station jurisdictions. Community Accountability Forums have been set up and have resolved nearly 80 local safety issues in the first year across six sites in Lagos, Kano and Enugu.

### Community mediation

Access to good-quality, objective justice for poorer citizens has been increased through improvements in the lower courts, customary courts, traditional ruler's justice and village mediation services. The Citizens Mediation Centre in Lagos State has received support (and has handled more than 28,000 cases in one year) and 141 traditional rulers from Dutse Emirate in Jigawa State

have been trained in human rights, alternative dispute resolution and gender issues. The Justice Sector and Law Reform Commission is now replicating this training for 900 more traditional rulers using the materials developed.

### Anti-corruption

The major anti-corruption agencies have been assisted in the development of strategic plans and the implementation of these is now being supported. Assistance has also been given in the creation of national strategies on anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and asset recovery. Cross-agency information exchange has also been improved. Support provided through the programme was central to helping the anti-corruption agencies recover stolen assets of over £700 million overall.

*'Our perception, view and vision have changed. It is no longer about laying blame across institutions in the justice sector, but having a unified objective to ensure speedy delivery of justice.'*

*Justice Darius Khobo, High Court Judge and Chairperson of the Kaduna Justice Sector Co-ordination Group in Kaduna State, Nigeria*

## OUR TRACK RECORD

# STABILITY AND RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME

**COUNTRY:** Nigeria  
**CLIENT:** DFID  
**VALUE:** £33 million  
**LIFECYCLE:** 2011–17

We work with federal, state and community-level organisations to encourage nonviolent conflict resolution and reduce the impact of violent conflict on the most vulnerable. We also address key drivers of conflict in Nigeria and provide mediation support in some of the country's most conflict-prone states.

### Conflict briefings

We help to disseminate impartial, independent, professional research and analysis covering conflict sensitive issues to Nigerian decision takers and policy makers to assist in the development and delivery of policies to reduce violent conflict.

### Increased participation of, and reduced violence against, women and girls

We support studies that investigate the role of women and girls in peace mechanisms and conflict management to assist Nigeria's Ministry of Women's Affairs to draft relevant policy that meets international standards.



# ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN SOUTH SUDAN

**COUNTRY:** South Sudan  
**CLIENTS:** EU/DFID  
**LIFECYCLE:** 2015–20

The European Union and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) have contracted a consortium led by the British Council to implement two Access to Justice Programmes. We support efforts to improve **access to justice** for the most vulnerable people in society, particularly women.

### Research

During the inception phase, we conduct a **political economy and conflict analysis** (at national and state levels) to understand the current context in the country.

An **access to justice analysis** (at the community level and in IDP camps) aims to explore people's justice concerns and how they engage with available justice mechanisms. The study identifies obstacles and barriers to accessing justice, and assesses the adequacy of responses and remedies offered.

We perform a **review of existing access to justice initiatives** currently being implemented in South Sudan to inform activities and avoid duplication efforts.

The findings of the various studies will influence the design and implementation of the Access to Justice Programmes.





## OUR TRACK RECORD

# JUSTICE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**COUNTRY:** Sierra Leone

**CLIENT:** DFID

**VALUE:** £27 million

**LIFECYCLE:** 2005–11

Through the Justice Sector Development Programme we supported the development of an effective, accountable and equitable justice sector in Sierra Leone, capable of serving everyone in society, particularly the poor and marginalised.

Using an integrated, sector-wide approach, involving the police, judiciary, legal sector, courts, prisons, customary justice systems and civil society organisations, we delivered sustainable change through capacity building, training and organisational development.

### Sector-wide reform

A Justice Sector Co-ordination Office was established and now oversees all levels of reform in the Sierra Leone justice sector through a long-term, sector-wide justice sector reform strategy and investment plan. This has led to an annual percentage increase in budgetary support from the government, donors and international agencies.

### Police service

Training was delivered to over 80 per cent of senior and middle managers in the police force, leading to a service more geared towards community policing and solving crime.

*'The inclusion of human rights training has changed the perception of the officers and the way they discharge their duties.'*

Mohamed M Sannoh, Chief Inspector of Chiefdom Police in Moyamba District, Sierra Leone



I am confident that had the Justice Sector Development Programme been here before the war, there would have been no conflict in this country.

Paramount Chief Alhaji Joseph Alie Kavura Kongomo II JP (Justice of the Peace) in Fakunya Chiefdom, Moyamba District, Sierra Leone

### Family Support Units

A total of 15 new Family Support Units were established and the whole network of units was strengthened, increasing support for victims of sexual and gender-based crimes.

*'We had no place to go when we were being battered by our husbands. We now feel protected because we have the Family Support Units to help.'*

Victim of violence in Sierra Leone

### Community mediation

A team of 300 volunteers was trained in community mediation and they satisfactorily solved over 2,300 cases in less than a year.

### Civil society and justice

A network of NGOs was developed in four districts, with representation at a national level, linking over 100 organisations actively involved in providing community services.

### Anti-corruption

A strategic plan was developed and the investigative and case management capacity of Sierra Leone's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was enhanced. As a result, 238 cases were investigated by the ACC in 2010 (compared with just 32 in 2008) and 54 cases were prosecuted between 2008 and 2010.

The British Council creates opportunities for people worldwide by helping societies achieve change in education, skills, enterprise, civil society and justice. Working closely with governments, donors and businesses, we deliver value-for-money international development solutions that are both effective and sustainable.

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### **Photography**

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