Rule of Law  Recht & Justiz
Rechtsstaatlichkeit  Law & Justice

German Development Cooperation
Projects at a Glance
Rule of Law – Afghanistan
Promotion of the Rule of Law

Implemented by: giz Deutshe Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Promotion of the Rule of Law

Ongoing project, BMZ from 08.04.2003 to 31.12.2014

The Federal Republic of Germany is assisting Afghanistan to establish a functioning constitutional state based on an official state-run judicial system. The project is in line with the National Justice Sector Strategy (NJSS) and implements the National Justice Programme (NJP). The NJP comprises the strengthening and improving of capacities in justice institutions in three priority areas:

1. A better range of sustainable and adequate services for citizens,
2. Better coordination within the justice sector and other sectors,
3. Improving the quality of the work done by the organs of justice.

The German development measure is contributing to all three areas. In the future, the project will extend its focus more strongly on women’s rights and on promoting civil society. This is an ongoing project, on which almost 10.0 million € has been spent since 2003, that is being supported in Kunduz Province through co-financing with the Dutch government.

Photos: © GIZ, Promotion of the Rule of Law
Rule of Law – Bangladesh
Prison reform to support political human rights
Prison reform to support political human rights

Ongoing project, BMZ from 23.02.2008 to 30.11.2014

From 2011 onwards, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is building on its last 3 years of success in the justice sector by funding a programme through the Ministry of Home and the Ministry of Law to address gaps in access to justice for the poor. This assistance has two levels. First, through the Ministry of Home, it pilots case tracking, proactive legal aid, and coordination of courts, prison and police in 5 districts. The impact is felt in a drastic reduction of poor people in prison, awaiting trial indefinitely, while their families sink into abject poverty. While the success is evident at the level of pilot districts, the second part of German assistance seeks to mainstream this dynamism, in partnership with the Ministries of Law and of Home, by targeting required changes in the law, and by replacing the 19th century Jail Code with a modern Prison Act. A third element of the project will be corruption prevention, with a clear orientation towards chapters 2 and 5 of UNCAC.

Bangladesh

Photos: © GIZ, Prison reform to support political human rights
Rule of Law – Bolivia
Supporting the development of an intercultural legal system in accordance with the rule of law (PROJURIDE)
Supporting the development of an intercultural legal system in accordance with the rule of law (PROJURIDE)


The programme “Supporting the development of an intercultural legal system in accordance with the rule of law” (PROJURIDE) in Bolivia supports the formation of a legal system that is both aware of intercultural issues and the principles of rule of law. A lack of consideration for distinct legal cultures, constitutional criteria and human rights up to now have intensified existing inequalities, particularly regarding the rights of indigenous communities and women. Working with the partner ministry, courts and individuals representing the formal and indigenous justice systems, the project aims to increase respect for differences in legal cultures and to protect human rights. It provides a systematic and flexible combination of policy advice and technical assistance to help set in motion and support the consensus-building processes needed for developing an intercultural legal system.
Rule of Law – Burkina Faso

Strengthening of human rights and reproductive health – promotion of children’s rights and combating the worst forms of child labour and child trafficking
Since 2004 the German Government supports the implementation of basic human rights in Burkina Faso. The project aims at empowering women, men and young people to protect themselves against discrimination and practices that contravene human rights, such as female genital mutilation and the worst forms of child labour and child trafficking. Education about child labour and child trafficking is beginning to bear fruit. In the focal villages, people are increasingly recognizing the difference between work that integrates people into society and exploitative work. People in positions of responsibility with goldmines and cotton cultivation, which traditionally make use of child labour, have, with support from the programme, developed codes of conduct to prevent arduous and harmful child labour. Public transport sector workers have begun collectively raising their vigilance towards child traffickers.
Rule of Law – China

Sino-German Legal Cooperation Programme

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Sino-German Legal Cooperation Programme

Ongoing project, BMZ from 23.10.2009 to 31.12.2014

The Sino-German Legal Cooperation Programme has been supporting the People’s Republic of China in its successful reform of legislation, administration, judiciary and social development on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) since 1986. The intention is to improve overall conditions for transforming China into a social market economy based more firmly on organisational structures that comply with the rule of law. The programme is also engaged in the dialogue on the rule of law with the Federal Ministry of Justice and supports it with a range of activities. At this phase (2010 – 2014) the programme is subdivided into four components – legislation, application of law by the judiciary, application of law by the executive branch and civil affairs – advising, among others, the National People’s Congress, Supreme People’s Court, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry for Civil Affairs.
Rule of Law – Cambodia
Access to Justice for Women
Access to Justice for Women

Ongoing project, BMZ from 26.10.2010 to 31.12.2013

Although Cambodia has at least on paper a well-established legal system and gender equality is guaranteed by law, it is still difficult to gain access to justice, especially for women and girls. Therefore the project adopts a diversified multi-level approach: It promotes and strengthens institutional and individual capacities within the Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MOWA), supports NGOs, which provide free legal aid and social services to women and girls affected by violence; it does educational work, awareness raising and trainings in the provinces and to the media. It also enhances MOWA’s capacity to collect data on instances of domestic violence and rape. With the project, German Development Cooperation aims to achieve in the long run that the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and its sub-national structures as well as NGOs contribute effectively and sustainably to the protection of women and girls.
Rule of Law – Colombia

Strengthening the rule of law (FortalEsDer)

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Midst of 2014, the Republic of Colombia will, with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany, promote an efficient and equitable access to ordinary and transitional justice. To this end, the project FortalEsDer works in partnership with the Prosecutor General and the Ombudsman, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Council of State and the Ministry of Justice. The objective has been developed in two lines of action:

(i) The development of a legal policy centered on human rights.
(ii) Support to implement a judicial policy based on efficiency and the principle of equal opportunity.

Some results so far are: Quality, independence and transparency in the administrative jurisdiction increased from 2005 to 2011 about 8%. Monitoring by the Prosecutor General to full reparation policies and the impacts of the Victims Law Act of 2011. Project proposals adopted when creating the new Ministry of Justice responsible for the formulation of national legal and judicial policy in line with international law.
Rule of Law – Indonesia

Assistance in preventing and combating corruption (KPK)

Implemented by: giz
Assistance in preventing and combating corruption (KPK)

Ongoing project, BMZ from 24.11.2006 to 30.06.2013

The Indonesian Government has shown its willingness to tackle corruption by the creation of the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) in 2003. The KPK has a well-defined mandate with far-reaching competencies for the prevention and prosecution of corruption. However, its internal working and management procedures still need to improve in order to ensure the Commission’s effective operation. While other donor programmes mainly support the legal prosecution of corruption, Indonesian-German cooperation mainly targets prevention activities. The project helps the KPK to establish an Anti-Corruption Clearing House (ACCH) by assisting with the development of knowledge and information management systems. It supports the creation of an Anti-Corruption Learning Center (ACLC). Both of these efforts are components of an overarching prevention strategy. At the same time, the project is also assisting in the improvement of the KPK’s own internal Integrity management system.

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Rule of Law – Indonesia

Good governance in the population administration system (GG PAS) – Birth registration as first step to safeguarding children’s rights

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Good governance in the population administration system (GG PAS) – Birth registration as first step to safeguarding children’s rights

Ongoing project, BMZ from 27.03.2002 to 31.03.2012

Birth registration is key for the realization of the rights of the child. The German Government supports the reform of the administration of the population and administration system in Indonesia. This includes the standardization of registration process, training of officials working in this area. A special focus of the program is birth registration. Information and awareness raising campaigns are also staged to inform citizens about their rights and to explain the benefits of having their own personal documents, such as ID cards and civil registration certificates. For the population in remote areas mobile registration services were put in place. In selected districts, birth and marriage registration has already increased by an average of 30 per cent.
Why Judiciary is Kenya’s last hope

Attention shifts to Mutunga team as Cabinet and House conspire to assault stringent poll rules

Speculation rife as Uhuru sends Wamalwa

Rule of Law – Kenya
Promotion of Good Governance

Implemented by:
Promotion of Good Governance

Ongoing project, BMZ from 15.04.2010 to 31.12.2013

The Kenyan Constitution 2010, promulgated after the post-election violence, provides an unprecedented framework for far-reaching reforms in the justice sectors. In light of the Constitution, the Republic of Kenya, with support from the Federal Republic of Germany, promotes reforms in Rule of Law and Integrity. The programme supports a participatory, sector-wide approach focusing primarily on enhancement of access to justice, anti-corruption and oversight. Some results so far are: Based on the case backlog reduction strategy the Court of Appeal concluded more than 1000 cases and reduced the waiting period for hearings to 6 months. The number of completed investigations forwarded by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission to Public Prosecution increased from 104 cases in 2010 to 134 in 2011. Through the establishment of One-Stop Integrated Public Complaints and Referral Mechanisms 0,5 Million Kenyan citizens will be reached at local level.
Rule of Law – Kenya
Promotion of Social Justice

Implemented by:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Promotion of Social Justice


Within the Transitional Justice process of the Republic of Kenya, the Federal Republic of Germany supports both:

(i) backward looking processes – such as truth telling, research, investigations and improving accountability, – and
(ii) forward looking processes – such as building cohesion, equality of opportunity and fighting hate speeches are indispensable.

Key partners are the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission and the Kenyan National Commission for Human Rights, as well as critical non state actors. Some results so far are: truth telling sessions have been held in 30 localities in Kenya; investigation capacities for hate speech are strengthened, 266 police investigators are trained, high-level cases are forwarded to the office of the prosecutor and currently in court; a national conversation on ethnic diversity has taken off.
Rule of Law – Kosovo

Project on Legal Reform in the Republic of Kosovo

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project on Legal Reform in the Republic of Kosovo

Ongoing project, BMZ from 04.03.2009 to 31.12.2014

The main focus of the project is on following four working areas all of them directed towards improving, informing and supporting the legal system reform, as well as improving and strengthening capacities of the judiciary and state administration:

- Supporting training institutions in further developing the legal training system for judges, prosecutors, and civil servants;
- Compiling legislation in administrative, civil and criminal fields, including applicable laws and bylaws adopted by Kosovo institutions, UNMIK and applicable Yugoslav laws, as well as developing legal commentaries on civil, administrative and criminal procedure;
- Supporting Constitutional Court during the initial phase and its further development;
- Supporting the Reform of Property Legislation.
Rule of Law – Mongolia
Consolidating the Legal Framework for Sustainable Economic Development

Implemented by:
Consolidating the Legal Framework for Sustainable Economic Development

Ongoing project, BMZ from 11.07.2008 to 31.12.2013

The project aims to establish basic procedures in the Mongolian legal system, that raises the production of standards, their quality, and thus their enforceability. The advisory services are applied to the entire legislative procedure with the aim of improving the legal capabilities and skills of judicial institutions. The intermediaries are management personnel and experts at the partner ministry, as well as actors in e.g. the Supreme Court and the Public Prosecutors Office, courts of appeal and of first instance, the National Legal Institute and relevant professional associations. New Instruments and methods to improve the quality of legislation and to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of the judiciary are developed and implemented. These are tested before subsequently being made available to other institutions. They include guidelines on formal requirements pertaining to laws, explaining the techniques of drafting laws and serving as binding rules. A methodology for legal impact assessment, including costs, has been developed. New in this procedure is the fact that the economic, financial and social consequences of a law can be examined, so that the legislator is in a position to determine the impact of a law before it comes into force. Also under development is a new procedure for repealing obsolete statutes, designed to help avoid duplications, contradictions and legal loopholes, as well as monitoring and evaluation systems for the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs and subordinate authorities.
Rule of Law – Morocco
Integration of the gender approach in Moroccan economic and social policy

Implemented by:
Integration of the gender approach in Moroccan economic and social policy

Ongoing project, BMZ from 22.08.2002 to 31.12.2013

In Morocco discrimination against women still exist in various fields such as literacy levels, access to the labour market, presence in decision making positions and family law. The Ministry of Social Development, Family and Solidarity, with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany, are challenging these pervasive dynamics which hinder sustainable development and disrespect human, especially women’s rights. The aim of the project is to (i) identify and measure inequalities, (ii) develop strategies and methodologies to build equity and gender justice in government institutions, in the work of NGOs, and the private sector.

Besides establishing efficient coordination mechanisms and monitoring systems a communication and mobilization strategy was applied to enhance the political participation of women. This included producing a documentary film and cartoons portraying the discrimination and stereotypes women face when actively engaging in politics.
Rule of Law – Peru

Technical support for the consolidation of the penal criminal procedures

Implemented by: giz
Technical support for the consolidation of the penal criminal procedures

Ongoing project, BMZ from 25.07.2002 to 30.06.2015

Since 2002 German Development Cooperation supports the reform of Criminal Law in Peru. One of the main challenges was to reduce the violation of human rights in penal trials. To achieve this, a fundamental systemic change was necessary. The former written and inquisitive process had to be transformed into an oral lawsuit characterized by the principle of accusation.

The three intervention areas of the development area are the implementation of the penal code, the training of judges and better access to justice. Some of the main achievements include increased respect of constitutional rights, fair trial and protection of victims.
Rule of Law – Serbia
Support to Legal Reform
Support to Legal Reform

Ongoing project, BMZ from 19.07.2010 to 31.12.2013

The Project focuses on the major challenges to Serbian legal reforms: improvement of the overall legislative process; implementation of the reformed laws and popularization of legal provisions, particularly in the field of civil and commercial law. These challenges define the three components of the project: Firstly, an efficient, transparent and participative legislative process is a precondition for good laws. Subsequently, the laws must be implemented by the administration and the judiciary. Finally, those to whom the laws apply must know their rights. Some results so far are: Public notaries and bailiffs were introduced as new legal professions in order to reduce the backlog of cases in Serbian courts, thereby enhancing judicial efficiency. A project group bringing together key players from Serbian parliament, government and business community was formed and is developing, for the first time, in a participative way recommendations for a better legislative process.
Rule of Law – South Africa
Public Service Reform Programme

Implemented by: giz
The PSRP provides legal advisory and technical support to key public institutions and civil society:

1. Service delivery model for the courts:
   (a) organisational development of the Office of the Chief Justice, (b) comparative research on service delivery models for courts, (c) support to convene an access to justice conference involving the Judiciary, the Government, the national Legislature and civil society.

2. Capacity building of officials for the administration of justice:
   (a) Support to the South African Judicial Education Institute (organisational development),
   (b) training of staff in the Office of the Public Protector on the application of administrative justice legislation.

3. Promotion of administrative justice:
   (a) Advocacy of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA) amongst public sector institutions, communities and civil society organisations,
   (b) mainstreaming of administrative justice in business processes of public institutions
   (c) establishment of an inter-departmental and inter-sectoral structure to coordinate and promote the implementation of PAJA,
   (d) capacitating civil society organisations to apply PAJA procedures and support communities with PAJA applications.
Rule of Law – Uganda
Strengthening Human Rights in Uganda

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
In Uganda, gaps in national policy and challenges in implementing the rule of law see continuing incidence of gender-based discrimination and violence, interethnic tension, and marginalisation of vulnerable groups including youth, persons with disabilities and HIV/AIDS sufferers. The BMZ-funded Project Strengthening Human Rights in Uganda works on multiple levels of society to improve political sensibility, strength of governance, and public awareness on human rights. Activities include training and mentoring for government planners and the justice, law and order sector, capacity building for institutional watchdogs, and broad-scale publicity campaigns through NGOs, media associations, academic institutes and faith-based networks. The Project is thus in a position to promote the integration of the human rights-based approach into national policy, public ideology, and the measurement of development.
Rule of Law – Zambia
Democratization, State and Civil Society
Democratization, State and Civil Society

Ongoing project, BMZ from 21.09.2009 to 31.03.2015

The programme aims at enhancing civil society participation in poverty reduction and governance reform processes in Zambia. Thereby, it supports civil society dialogue and cooperation with government in different phases of the policy cycle: from policy formulation to implementation of reforms and finally monitoring of service delivery. One important governance reform programme in Zambia – in which civil society organizations (CSOs) play a crucial role – is the national “Access to Justice Programme” that promotes communication, coordination and cooperation between criminal justice institutions and other stakeholders to enhance service delivery to poor and vulnerable population groups. The programme supports the institutionalization of cooperation with CSOs in the justice sector by identifying entry points for cooperation between justice institutions and CSOs. It promotes coordination mechanisms with CSOs, which also increase the demand for a higher degree of accountability in the operations of criminal justice institutions.

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Rule of Law – Africa
Support of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights

Implemented by: giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Support of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights

Ongoing project, BMZ from 26.03.2010 to 31.12.2013

Until December 2013, the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights (the Court) in collaboration with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (the Commission), and with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany, strengthen the protection of Human Rights in pan Africa. The implementation of this objective is ensured by focusing on outreach activities of the Court towards member states of the African Union (AU). The improvement of public relations in regards to Civil Society and Governments within Africa will contribute to the visibility of the Court as a relevant stakeholder in the protection of Human Rights in the AU member states. This will be improving access to the Court. Additionally, the Court and the Commission will intensify their exchange of knowledge and experience through meetings which will be more intensified in terms of number and topics. Both institutions will be supported to establish and to deepen their Human Rights networks within the pan African architecture on Human Rights.
Rule of Law – Latin America
Regional/International Law and Access to Justice in Latin-American (DIRAJus)
The Federal Republic of Germany will support selected Member States of the OAS to improve the prerequisites for Judicial reforms in favor of a more effective and efficient access to Justice at national and regional level in accordance with the commitment given by BMZ in July 2011 to the Presidency of OAS based upon regional Charters and Conventions, the Declaration of Québec and its Action Plan, both of 2001. In the long term, the program focuses on improving compliance with international standards within the national context. The strategy required to reach this target is divided into two steps: (i) support of the OAS in drafting and adopting a regional Framework – derived from the Inter-American Human Rights System and based on the Inter-American International Law – for access to justice; (ii) support of the OAS and selected Latin American countries in the implementation of the Framework, including the monitoring and impact assessment. It is expected that the first step will be reached by midst of 2015.
Rule of Law – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia
Advice on Legal and Judicial Reform in the South Caucasus
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia

Advice on Legal and Judicial Reform in the South Caucasus

Ongoing project, BMZ from 22.10.2009 to 31.05.2014

For 20 years, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia have been striving for further consolidation of the Rule of Law and strengthening the judiciary. The programme aims, on regional level, at a dialogue on the Rule of Law to exchange experiences and promote networks. On bilateral level, the programme provides advice on legislation and supports the implementation of laws, e.g. through trainings and legal literature. Informing the public about court systems and individual rights the programme enhances the dissemination of law. It has been cooperating with parliaments, ministries, judicial self government bodies and judicial training institutions. Some recent results: advice on amendments of the constitutions of Armenia and Georgia and on the new construction code of Azerbaijan; introduction of administrative courts in all three countries; establishment of a regional network of judges’ associations; promotion of the Bangalore Principles (international code of judicial ethics); comprehensive training for judges on administrative law; publication of handbooks on women’s rights.
Rule of Law – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Promotion of the Rule of Law in Central Asia
Promotion of the Rule of Law in Central Asia

This regional programme primarily supports the development of the justice system of the partner countries during their reform efforts. A strong judiciary is a crucial prerequisite for the application of laws in accordance with the rule of law and the progress of reforms.

The main focus is on providing legal advice and supporting working groups in the field of administrative proceedings and administrative process law. Both areas of law have hardly been subjected to fundamental reforms in the post-Soviet legal system. Other activities are directed to the implementation of already adopted reform laws, including civil and commercial law, which is accomplished through seminars, study tours, publications and regional cooperation. The goal of the programme is to improve the execution of tasks by the justice system, legislature and administration to promote economic activity, in accordance with the constitution.
Rule of Law – Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro

Open Regional Fund for Southeast Europe – Legal Reform

Implemented by: giz
Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro

Open Regional Fund for Southeast Europe – Legal Reform

Ongoing project, BMZ from 23.10.2006 to 31.03.2013

The project focuses on the assistance to the countries in SEE to finalize their transition to market oriented economic systems, on the adoption of the acquis communautaire and to the reform of the national legal systems in order to meet the standards of various Free Trade Agreements and for the membership in the European Union and other int. organizations. Promoting cross-border cooperation within the legal community and harmonization of national legislation are the further goals. Thereby the project covers all relevant fields of Civil and Commercial Law and the Capacity Development of respective legal organizations, e.g. Latin notary chambers, Chambers of Commerce, Courts, Judicial Training Institutes, Universities, professional organizations for Enforcement Agents and Insolvency Administrators. Additionally the project facilitates the drafting of regional Conventions and Agreements.