



Afghanistan Justice Sector Support Program Update *March 2008*

U.S. DOS/INL's JSSP program seeks to increase the capacity of the Afghan Government and Afghan legal practitioners to deliver fair and transparent criminal justice and rule of law services to the people of Afghanistan. To that end, JSSP advisors work with the Attorney General's Office and the Ministry of Justice on a wide range of initiatives. In addition, JSSP conducts police/prosecutor training in four provinces and works to promote Afghans' access to justice services by implementing provincial justice conferences, training and mentoring of defense lawyers, and working on a range of other projects.

JSSP assists with Re-organization of the Attorney General's Office and case flow management analysis

In March JSSP, working in close coordination with the AGO, obtained and analyzed information on the current organizational structure and responsibilities of the Attorney General's Office and designed a streamlined structure and implementation plan. JSSP also analyzed the case registration binder of the Kabul Eastern Zone Prosecution Office and entered the complete details of all 565 cases into a searchable worksheet format. The data serves as a critical snapshot of the current case flow process.

JSSP Supports Gender Justice

From May 8-13th, the first Afghan Women Policewomen's Development Conference will be held at the police academy in Kabul. The conference will include sixty female police officers from throughout Afghanistan. JSSP will support the conference through the organization and conduct of a training on family violence and the law. Inter-active lessons will teach the officers the provisions of the penal code that impact women and children.

JSSP Strengthens Police Prosecution and Military Coordination

In support of the Focused District Development (FDD) strategy of the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, JSSP conducted research, developed training materials and completed the course schedule and curriculum outline for the FDD training. The course curriculum covers critical thinking, legal reasoning, constitutional law, criminal procedure, the Attorney General's Office, police/prosecution coordination, crime scene investigation, anti-corruption, counternarcotics, ethics, the advocate's law and gender justice. Twenty students will participate in the FDD program in Jalalabad beginning April 5. The FDD strategy focuses resources on the district uniformed police as the main effort of the Afghan National Police development strategy.

AJIS – Provincial Justice Training

JSSP facilitated the Kunduz Provincial Justice Training (PJT) in the provincial capital from 30 MAR to 1 APR. Approximately 60 provincial and district level police, prosecutors, judges, corrections officers, and defense attorneys participated in the PJT. The topics covered included individual rights, the role of defense attorneys, criminal procedure, and the Police Law. A two-day breakout session was planned for the corrections officers; unfortunately, security issues prohibited the Corrections System Support Program (CSSP) trainers from attending the PJT. A separate report on the PJT is being prepared.



Jawid Shaban, a defense attorney with the Legal Aid Organization of Afghanistan (LAOA), conducts a training seminar at the JSSP Provincial Justice Training in Kunduz on 31 MAR. Approximately 60 police, prosecutors, judges, and corrections officials attended the three-day seminar.

AJIS Supports Gender Justice

On 31 MAR, the AJIS Gender Justice Advisor trained a JSSP-R Kunduz ALC to present lessons on violence against women, illegal arrest, and detention. The ALC presented the lessons at the provincial justice training in Kunduz and will also teach the lessons to the police and prosecutors as part of the JSSP-R Kunduz program.