

## AFGHANISTAN JUSTICE SECTOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

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پروگرام حمایت سکتور عدلی افغانستان

تمویل کننده: وزارت خارجه امریکا - ریاست بین المللی مبارزه با مواد مخدر و تنفیذ قوانین



### SPECIAL REPORT

#### Graduation of Police and Prosecution Training Classes

#### JSSP-Regional and FDD-Law

In late May 2008, the Justice Sector Support Program's Regional Section (JSSP-R) graduated a total of ninety-eight (98) investigative police officers and prosecutors from its seven-month Police/Prosecutor Training Programs. JSSP-R trained thirty-nine (39) prosecutors from Herat (16), Balkh (9), and Nangarhar (14). These programs also trained a total of fifty-nine (59) police criminal investigators from Balkh (20), Herat (21), and Nangarhar (18).

On 1 May 2008, JSSP-R graduated twenty (20) prosecutors and two (2) Afghan lawyers working with the U.S. military from its thirty-day Focused District Development Legal Training Program (FDD-Law) in Jalalabad.

To date, JSSP-R has trained and graduated a total of 206 criminal investigation police and prosecutors across Afghanistan. As a result of JSSP-R instructional programs, these criminal justice actors are able to more effectively implement the law and criminal justice system reforms in Afghanistan. The JSSP-R team in Kunduz will graduate thirty (30) additional students (20 investigative officers and 10 prosecutors) on 30 July 2008.

#### *A. Background*

The primary objective of JSSP-R is to build the capacity of the police and prosecutors to effectively investigate and prosecute serious crimes. The program emphasizes effective and efficient cooperation between provincial/district prosecutors and their police counterparts - criminal investigation police. JSSP-R provides its education and training programs at Regional Training Centers (RTC) at or near four major urban centers across the country – Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kunduz, and Jalalabad. JSSP-R accomplishes its program objectives through two formal education and training programs: a seven-month Police/Prosecutor Cooperation Training Program (Police/Prosecutor Program) and a four-week Focused District Development Legal Training Program (FDD-Law). The education, training, and mentoring provided during these programs focus on legal reasoning and the fundamentals of law as well as the practical application of legal knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to fairly investigate and prosecute serious criminal complaints.

The Police/Prosecutor Program was designed (and has been refined) to teach and reinforce through mentoring the application of effective, efficient, and fair law enforcement techniques in

criminal prosecutions as well as to improve provincial/district police and prosecutor cooperation. The program achieves economies of scale by teaching criminal investigation police and prosecutors how to work together to detect, investigate, and prosecute serious criminal cases. The Police/Prosecutor Program emphasizes practical education and training.

The FDD-Law Program is a cooperative effort with the Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan (CSTC-A). FDD-Law has been designed to complement CSTC-A's Focused District Development (FDD) training – a comprehensive program to train and reform the Afghan National Police (ANP) in select districts across Afghanistan. The 100-hour long FDD-Law Program provides education and training for prosecutors from the same districts in which CSTC-A is focusing its efforts to reform the ANP. Students in the FDD-Law Program are provided with instruction on critical thinking and legal reasoning, the Afghan Constitution, criminal procedure, the Attorney General's Office, police/prosecutor coordination, crime scene investigation, anti-corruption, counter-narcotics, ethics, the Advocates' Law and the Afghan Bar Association, gender justice, the Juvenile Code, and file administration and case management. The program is offered at the RTCs in Herat and Jalalabad.

Both the Police/Prosecutor Program and the FDD-Law Program are operated on a rotating basis throughout the year. By improving police/prosecutor coordination and building inter-agency efficiencies, JSSP-R systematically advances the overall goal of the government to create a transparent and effective criminal justice system. By teaching police and prosecutors to work together during the detection, investigation, and prosecution phases of serious criminal cases, the people of Afghanistan will begin to trust the formal criminal justice processes.

## *B. Graduation Statistics*

### *1. Police/Prosecutor Coordination Program*

As noted above, the Police/Prosecutor Program is designed to improve provincial/district police and prosecutor capacities by teaching criminal investigation police and prosecutors how to work together to effectively detect, investigate, and prosecute serious criminal cases. In August 2007, JSSP-R graduated a total of eight-six (86) students from courses held in Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, and Jalalabad (Year 1 graduates). Twenty-eight (28) prosecutors were trained: ten (10) in Balkh, ten (10) in Herat, and eight (8) in Nangarhar. A total of fifty-eight (58) investigative police officers were trained: twenty (20) in Balkh, twenty (20) in Herat, and eighteen (18) in Nangarhar.

A second cycle of the Police/Prosecutor Program began at the RTCs in Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, and Jalalabad in late October 2007. In late May 2008, this program graduated ninety-eight (98) investigative police and prosecutors (Year-2 graduates).

The JSSP-R team in Kunduz started its first Police/Prosecutor Program in January 2008. The team is currently training thirty (30) students in its inaugural program: twenty (20) investigative police and ten (10) prosecutors. These students will graduate on 30 July 2008.

***JSSP-R Police/Prosecutor Coordination Program***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>PROSECUTORS</b>		<b>POLICE</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
August 2007	Balkh	10	Balkh	20	<b>86</b>
	Herat	10	Herat	20	
	Nangarhar	8	Nangarhar	18	
		<b>28</b>		<b>58</b>	
May 2008	Balkh	9	Balkh	20	<b>98</b>
	Herat	16	Herat	21	
	Nangarhar	14	Nangarhar	18	
		<b>39</b>		<b>59</b>	
July 2008	Kunduz	10	Kunduz	20	<b>30</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>214</b>

***2. FDD-Law Program***

The JSSP-R team in Nangarhar’s provincial capital, Jalalabad, launched the first FDD-Law Program on 5 April 2008. On 1 May 2008, the team graduated twenty (20) prosecutors and two (2) Afghan lawyers working with the U.S. military. Fifteen (15) criminal investigation police and fifteen (15) prosecutors are enrolled in the second cycle of the FDD-Law Program in Jalalabad, which commenced 21 June 2008. The students came from districts in Kunar, Laghman, Wardak, Kapisa, Zabul, and Baghlan provinces.

The FDD-Law Program has also expanded to Herat. The team in Herat started its first FDD-Law Program on 21 June 2008. The team has enrolled approximately thirty (30) prosecutors from districts in Kandahar, Helmand, Herat, and Farah provinces.

***FDD-Law Program***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>PROSECUTORS</b>	<b>POLICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
May 2008 – Jalalabad	20 + 2 lawyers	0	<b>22</b>
June 2008 – Jalalabad	15	15	<b>30</b>
June 2008 - Herat	30		<b>30</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>82</b>

***C. Progress in Police/Prosecutor Education and Training***

After-action reviews addressing the effectiveness of JSSP-R’s most recent Police/Prosecutor and FDD-Law programs have focused on four primary questions:

1. The Learning Question
2. The Instruction Question
3. The Assessment Question
4. The Alignment Question

## ***1. The Learning Question***

The learning question is, “What is important for students to learn in the limited classroom and mentoring time available during the program?” After completing two cycles of the Police/Prosecutor Program in Herat, Balkh, and Nangarhar provinces, JSSP-R instructors have found that students respond best to instruction that emphasizes the practical aspects of detection, investigation, and prosecution. Based on feedback from students over the 2 years, JSSP-R advisors are fairly confident that the content and sequencing of the program meets the needs of both police and prosecutor students as well as the needs of the country. The program is interspersed with lecture and theory, but the primary teaching method is on real life instructional activities requiring collaboration between police and prosecutors. This methodology encourages students to work together to put into practice the procedures and protocols specified in the law and required on their jobs.

While FDD-Law is a relatively new program, JSSP-R has been able to take the lessons learned from the Police/Prosecutor Program to quickly design and implement a four-week program for prosecutors to parallel CSTC-A’s police training and reform efforts. While the FDD police training program focuses on unit cohesion, the FDD-Law program teaches prosecutors how to cooperate and collaborate with their police counterparts (investigative police) within the requirements of procedural and substantive law. The FDD-Law curriculum serves as an effective vehicle to introduce police and prosecutors to the basics of Afghan law and emphasizes collaboration between police and prosecutors as the key to criminal justice system reforms. Initial feedback from graduates of the program suggests that while the program is fundamentally sound, emphasis should be placed on putting police and prosecutors in the same class whenever possible. Consequently, the second cycle of the FDD-Law program in Nangarhar province includes an equal number of prosecutors and investigative police officers.

## ***2. The Instruction Question***

The instruction question is: “What is the best way to deliver instruction that will result in high levels of learning for students?” High school and university education in Afghanistan is primarily delivered through a theory and lecture format. Consequently, JSSP-R instructors have found that students comprehend the law, but have difficulty applying it. Thus, JSSP-R programs focus on teaching to objectives. The objectives are intentionally developed and sequenced to ensure that students attain the knowledge, skills, and abilities that they will need on the job. The objectives are created by JSSP’s curriculum experts in cooperation with the educational and training officials of the Afghan Ministry of Interior (MOI) and the Office of the Attorney General (AGO).

While teaching to set objectives, instructors across JSSP-R’s regional programs are given some flexibility to modify instruction to meet the specific needs of their students and regional peculiarities. While the objectives of the program remain the same across regions, there are a variety of different objectives within the course. These different objectives often require different approaches to instruction. Consequently, JSSP-R instructors are free to creatively implement learning activities, supplement curricular materials, and vary teacher/student roles within a global and sequenced curriculum to facilitate students’ learning the set objectives.

### ***3. The Assessment Question***

The assessment question asks: “How well are students learning?” The answer to this question takes time and data from the actual application of a program. JSSP-R has two complete cycles of the Police/Prosecutor Program that has allowed it to properly identify and select the appropriate objectives to teach, identify the scope and content of instructional activities, and properly sequence the overall program. The lessons learned from the initial evaluations of the Police/Prosecutor Program enabled JSSP-R to quickly design and implement the FDD-Law Program. Having settled on the content, sequencing, and options for delivery of instruction for its two programs of instruction, JSSP-R is now in the process of selecting and/or designing assessment instruments and procedures that will provide more accurate information about how well students are learning.

### ***4. The Alignment Question***

Education is an iterative process. Program content, instruction, and instructional activities require constant evaluation and modification. The alignment question asks, “Are we teaching to our objectives and are we testing what we teach?” JSSP-R administrators, instructors, and the education and training directors at the MOI and the AGO work as a team across regional stations to ensure that objectives are aligned with instruction and assessment. Through this collaborative process, JSSP-R programs are constantly evaluated and adjusted to meet the needs of both prosecutors and investigative police across Afghanistan.

### ***D. Conclusion***

JSSP-R teams in Herat and Nangarhar provinces started FDD-Law Programs on 21 June 2008, and will have another class begin on 2 August 2008. After the completion of the FDD-Law Programs, the teams will each start a seven month Police/Prosecutor Program in late September or early October. The team in Kunduz will graduate its first class of Police/Prosecutor Program students in July 2008 and start a second Police/Prosecutor Program in late August 2008. The team in Balkh will start its third Police/Prosecutor Program on 5 July 2008. This cycle of instruction will continue until JSSP-R completes its mission of preparing every investigative policeman and prosecutor to meet the challenges of the developing Afghan legal system.