
NAVIGATING COMPLEX PATHWAYS TOWARDS JUSTICE FOR ALL

*A publication launch and dialogue organized by IDLO
Monday 4 February 2019, 15:00-17:00
IDLO Office, Hofweg 9E, 2511 AA, The Hague*

Customary and informal justice systems are an integral pathway to justice, indispensable to the realization of access to justice for all as reflected in Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.

While precise data is difficult to discern, recurring estimates suggest 80 to 90 percent of legal disputes in developing, fragile and post-conflict states are resolved using customary and informal justice systems. Users of these systems are disproportionately women and vulnerable groups — the poor and remote, marginalized, and minority populations.

To better understand the complexities of informal justice mechanisms, IDLO produced '*Navigating Complex Pathways to Justice: Engagement with Customary and Informal Justice Systems*' – a series distilling lessons from programming and research, aimed at advancing policy dialogue and, to strengthen customary and informal justice systems as an integral part of providing access to justice for all. The Briefs provide insights and detail good practices for both policymakers and practitioners from a decade of literature and program implementation.

On the eve of the [Task Force on Justice](#) Partner Forum, taking place in the first week of February 2019 in The Hague, IDLO will launch two briefings, part of the Navigating Complex Pathways to Justice series:

1. a *Policy / Issue Brief*, presenting findings and policy recommendations for engaging with customary and informal justice systems and providing information on features and challenges related to engagement; and
2. a *Practitioner Brief* offering a set of concrete tools, recommendations and good practices to support engagement with customary and informal justice systems.

National experiences will be brought into focus to highlight the importance of this work and progress being made. Invited customary justice leaders will share insights on ongoing reforms, complementing formal courts and curbing practices breaching human rights while contributing to political stabilization efforts. States may recognize customary law or informal justice jurisdiction with varying conditions or levels of qualification and regulate in legislation, including the Constitution. Efforts to realize these linkages will be explored, including how to integrate the beliefs, customs, and traditions of local inhabitants with human rights and modern legal standards.

Speakers for this event include:

- Ted Hill, IDLO Hague Office Representative
- Dr. Ilaria Bottiglieri, IDLO Director of Policy, Research and Learning
- Xeer and Aksakal justice leaders

We cordially invite you to participate in the launch event and actively contribute to the dialogue on the engagement between formal and customary and informal justice systems.

Light refreshments will be served after the discussion.



Agenda

- 14:30 Registration
- 15:00 Welcome on behalf of IDLO
- 15:10 *Opening: A compass to engage with customary and informal justice systems*
- 15:30 *Inclusive dialogue: How to navigate complex pathways to justice building on national experiences*
- 16:45 *Launch: IDLO Policy / Issue and Practitioner Briefs – ‘Navigating Complex Pathways to Justice: Engagement with Customary and Informal Justice Systems’*
- 17:00 Closing and refreshments

RSVP

Please inform Widya Boerma at thehague@idlo.int of your participation on or before
Friday January 25, 2019

For further information please contact Arthur van Buitenen at
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