

An Invitation to Contribute to the

Rule of Law Solutions Initiative: Access to Civil Justice in the Sahel

Deadline: February 1, 2020

What Is the *Rule of Law Solutions Initiative?* The Rule of Law Solutions Initiative aims to identify, document, and promote best practices and lessons learned for strengthening rule of law around the world. You can learn more about this project and our commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goal 16.3 by reading our Acceleration Action Commitment on the UN-DESA Partnerships Platform.

What is Access to Civil Justice in the Sahel? WJP has launched a qualitative pilot study to examine efforts to close the justice gap in seven West African countries where WJP has already collected extensive data: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal. Our summary analysis indicates that access to civil justice is a significant challenge in these fragile and conflict-affected countries. To address this justice gap, WJP is gathering information about local impediments and practical approaches to the rule of law, as well as specific programs that are working to strengthen access to civil justice. With support from the Knowledge Platform Security and the Rule of Law, we plan to interview legal practitioners, government officials, local implementers, program beneficiaries, and experts in the field. However, we need your help to identify promising candidates and solutions.

How can I contribute? If you are program officer, a local practitioner, or a regional expert with significant experience in at least one of the target countries listed above, then the World Justice Project invites you to nominate a program or policy that is working to resolve the everyday legal issues confronting citizens of the Sahel. To participate, please **complete this brief survey**. You can also contact our program manager directly at jhaley@worldjusticeproject.org with recommendations or feedback.

What does WJP do with interview data Nominations will be accepted on a rolling basis until the February 1, 2020 deadline; at which point, WJP will selected local partners for in-depth interviews and field documentation. Individual responses will be confidential (seen only by members of the Rule of Law Solutions team at WJP) though you may elect to have your identity acknowledged in the contributors section of our final report. WJP will publish its findings in the *Rule of Law Solutions Guidebook*, a narrative-based report that identifies best practices and actionable recommendations for policymakers, program implementers, activists, and donors around the world. In addition, participants may be invited to present their work at the next World Justice Forum, and select policies and programs will be highlighted in blog posts and podcast episodes on the World Justice Project website.

About the World Justice Project

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law around the world. Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights. For more detailed information about the World Justice Project and the *Rule of Law Solutions Initiative*, please visit our website at: www.worldjusticeproject.org

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