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USAID MALI JUSTICE PROGRAM

ENHANCING JUSTICE SERVICES

The Mali Justice Program works with the formal and informal justice sectors and civil society to advance institutional reforms, increase access to justice, and reduce corruption, ultimately to enhance delivery of justice services in Mali. This includes improving the operational capacities of key justice sector institutions, especially the National Direction of Justice Administration and the courts, and increasing availability of information on legal services, citizen rights, and justice-related reforms so that citizens better understand their rights under the Malian legal system. The program will also provide targeted legal and advocacy services along key trade routes to reduce the level of corruption.

EMPOWERING MALIANS

Sound implementation of this program depends on empowering Malians to improve their governance structures and build their capacity to sustain program initiatives beyond conclusion of the program. The guiding principles of the program are to assist Malians in developing their own solutions to the country’s challenges, to ensure activities undertaken by the program will meet real needs, and to support successful incremental changes that will provide the impetus for more ambitious change.

The USAID Mali Justice Program works under USAID/Mali’s Mission Strategy Development Objective towards the goal of “Public Trust in Government Improved.” The program will follow the precepts outlined under the Ministry of Justice’s *Programme d’Urgence pour le Renforcement du Système Judiciaire* along with any corresponding strategy that the Ministry of Justice develops.

Three components will drive the program forward:

Component 1 activities will include analysis of and improvements to court administration practices, judicial training center initiatives, and enhanced public outreach activities. Under Component 2, the program will support the deployment of paralegals throughout the country to ensure greater access to justice, especially in underserved communities. Activities under Component 3 will establish a corruption-free trade corridors forum, provide legal support to citizens impacted by corruption, and develop a citizen reporting system.

MALI JUSTICE PROGRAM GOALS

Over the 4-year (2016 – 2020) project cycle, Mali Justice Program will leverage the \$22 million budget to:

- Increase efficiency, effectiveness, and competence of Malian justice sector institutions that are responsive to the needs of citizens;
- Improve capacity of the Government of Mali to implement justice related reforms and policies;
- Reduce roadside corruption along key trade corridors;
- Increase access to justice through training and deployment of paralegals and legal clinics.