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SRI LANKA

Coherent, Open, Responsive, Effective Justice (CORE Justice) August 2017 – February 2021



BACKGROUND

As part of its good governance agenda, the Government of Sri Lanka aims to strengthen its rule of law. It has taken meaningful steps towards this commitment, including the enactment of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, re-establishing the Constitutional Council, and passage of the Victims and Witness Protection Act and the Right to Information Act.

Efforts to reinforce the rule of law in Sri Lanka also require significant improvements in the justice sector related to court structures, judicial proceedings, automation and case management, and training of sector professionals.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

USAID's Coherent, Open, Responsive, Effective, Justice (CORE Justice) activity supports modernization of the Sri Lankan justice system through:

- Increased effectiveness of justice sector institutions, processes, and actors;
- Improved transparency and citizen engagement in the justice system; and
- Strengthened governance, skills, and diversity of the legal profession.

CORE Justice works with key actors in the justice system, including the Ministry of Justice, Attorney General's Department, Judicial Services Commission, Judges Institute, Bar Association of Sri Lanka, and civil society organizations.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

CORE Justice's technical support to justice sector institutions includes development of strategic and sustainable development plans, performance management systems, training strategies, communication systems, and case management systems.

The activity also strengthens the professional skills of judges, lawyers, and non-judicial staff by improving systems for continuing legal education and supporting codes of professional conduct.

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