



JUSTRAC

JUSTICE SECTOR TRAINING, RESEARCH
& COORDINATION PROGRAM

Innovation and Technology in Rule of Law Programming: Enforcement, Engagement, and E-Governance

A Justice Sector Training, Research and Coordination Symposium
The Rule of Law Collaborative at the University of South Carolina in coordination with the U.S.
Institute of Peace

May 31, 2018

United States Institute of Peace
2301 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC

Emerging technologies have both advanced and inhibited the rule of law around the world. This thematic symposium will focus on three areas of particular interest to rule of law practitioners: enforcement, engagement, and e-governance.

Specifically, experts on enforcement innovations to the rule of law will address emerging approaches in law enforcement, including advances in forensic science, digital evidence, and other approaches to law enforcement programming. Second, the symposium will address innovative forms of public engagement by examining the emerging roles of social media and mobile apps. Novel popular engagement tools have expanded and proliferated in a variety of contexts to both extend and inhibit the rule of law, such as launching innovative criminal detection techniques or supporting revolutionary responses to corruption scandal. Finally, speakers will examine the emerging frontier of e-governance. This session will consider how e-governance has improved and enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of information and services and how e-governance is transforming the relationships between the public sector, private citizens, and businesses to work in more collaborative ways.

The symposium will consider both the opportunities and limitations of technology and will also address the challenges of technology in countries at different stages of development.

Program

08:00 **Networking and Registration**

09:00 **Welcoming Remarks**

09:30 **Session I: Innovations in Law Enforcement: Digital Evidence & Forensic Science: Advances and Setbacks**

Accurate fact-finding is an essential precondition to the rule of law. Impartial data, produced by forensic science, can be crucial to ensure fair trials. Advances in forensics have the potential to aid in the investigation and reconstruction of crimes, the collection and analysis of trace evidence, and the identification, classification, and individualization of persons, objects, and processes. Moreover, as criminal activity increasingly involves computers, the demands on the burgeoning science of digital forensics have grown, requiring the collection of digital evidence from a variety of devices such as computer hard drives, mobile phones, and camera flash cards. This session will examine forensic science-oriented programming in the field and explore the potential pitfalls and limitations of effective implementation.

11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:15 **Session II: Innovations in Engagement: From Mobile Apps to Social Media**

Popular engagement in the rule of law has expanded exponentially, and is often accessible within the grasp of one's hand. For example, mobile apps have allowed for more efficient detection of gender-based violence and the construction of comprehensive databases that have helped corrections officials better manage prison populations. In the same category of engagement, social media has emerged as a fast, accessible, and often-unfiltered, mechanism for channeling public opinion. This tool has been used to expand the rule of law by exposing bad governance and corruption, but has also been used adversely to foment wholesale revolution. This session will examine innovations in popular engagement through a variety of novel rule of law programs.

12:30 **Lunch and Keynote Address**

14:00 **Session III: Innovations in E-Governance: From Case Management to Consensus Building**

E-governance, known as digital government, has emerged as a tool used by governments to help overcome various rule of law challenges. E-governance can involve processes within government, between government and business, and between government and private citizens. This session will examine the varieties of e-governance programming such as electronic case management programming, and explore various efforts to increase access to justice as well as popular participation in a variety of contexts and countries around the world.

15:45 **Closing Remarks**

