



JUSTRAC

JUSTICE SECTOR TRAINING, RESEARCH
& COORDINATION PROGRAM

Rule of Law Systems: Country Analysis

The program will occur over four sessions
(Plus Weekly Homework Modules)
January 16, January 23, January 30, 2025
10am-12pm

Workshopping
(sign-up sheet will be sent to participants):
February 4 or 5, 2025

Virtual Platform: Zoom

Participants will receive instructions regarding access closer to the dates of the program.

This training is open to personnel from all hiring categories, including U.S. Direct Hires, locally employed staff, PSCs, and TPCs. This training is offered at no cost. If you are a PSC/TPC, please seek approval from your supervisor and your contracting officer before registering for the course. Please contact rolc@sc.edu with questions about the training or eligibility.

Additional information:

Greg Gisvold

Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina

rolc@sc.edu



Rule of Law Collaborative
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA





Rule of Law Collaborative
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (INL)
JUSTRAC Workshop-Rule of Law Systems: Country Analysis

Course Objectives

These workshops are offered over four weeks in response to demand for a less concentrated training format. However, the learning content still requires commitment. Each workshop will consist of four 2-hour instructor-led online learning sessions. In between sessions, participants will have homework, including practical application of skills and viewing or completing other workshop content. Inter-session work will take approximately 1 hour to complete before the next session. Participants are expected to attend every session and to complete all homework assignments. This workshop will provide 12 hours of training time.

This workshop will focus on the analytical process preceding development of rule of law interventions. Program participants will learn and practice applying key skills necessary for development of strong, meaningful, and effective projects. Course content will focus on understanding country context and justice systems from an interdependent perspective to help participants develop better programming decisions. Participants will learn how to map, analyze, and understand key features of a country's justice system—including legal frameworks, organizations, and formal and informal actors—as a way to better identify context-specific interventions and opportunities. Participants will hone critical thinking skills and explore the breadth and depth of holistic justice systems. Participants will also learn key tools and problem-solving approaches to help them collect useful information. Participants will become familiar with varying perspectives on assessment, modalities for information collection, and linkages between problem analysis and project design. Finally, participants will have opportunities to practice the skills they learn in an interactive country analysis workshoping session.

The program will occur over four days; participants will learn through a mix of interactive lecture, practical hypothetical exercises, guided homework assignments, office hours, and small-group discussion of a sample context map developed by the participant. The course is limited to 25 participants to promote interaction. The course involves a moderate amount of work outside of instructor-led sessions and, in registering, participants agree to attend all sessions and to complete assignments, including the preparation of a justice system map.

Prior to the first day, participants will choose a country/jurisdiction they wish to work on. Because participants will start mapping exercises in the first session, participants should do some preliminary research before the workshop by reviewing country information at <https://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/#> (or other assessments participants have access to.) If a participant's work is global or regional in nature, please choose just one country for purposes of this workshop.



SESSION ONE—COUNTRY ANALYSIS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MAPPING

Thursday, January 16, 2025

9:45am-10:00am Technology Check

Participants will be able to sign on to the platform to mitigate any technology issues.

10:00am – 10:15am Introductions and welcome

Instructors will provide a summary of ROLC and the JUSTRAC Program as well as the agenda, ground rules, and logistics for the seminar.

10:15am – 12:00pm Thinking about Justice, Holistically

On the first day, after introductions, participants will delve into the theory and basics of country analysis, including thinking about justice systems in a holistic sense, as well as identifying the salient features of justice systems in different kinds of country contexts.

The first topic of exploration will be assessments. Participants will consider the purpose and advantages of assessment as part of justice reform programs and explore the decision-making steps for including an assessment phase. General subject matter vs. Specific subject matter assessments will be discussed, and examples of each will be given.

This session will then focus on a holistic justice system model that will be referred to throughout the rest of the workshop. Particular attention will be paid to the interconnected nature of a justice system. Participants will be introduced to context mapping as a tool of justice system assessment and program design and build on that review to clarify reform goals, entry points, and related concerns. Participants will learn how to map processes, institutions, and groups of people within a justice system and explore the relationships between them. Participants will create their own maps with particular focus on their reform “targets,” and relevant interactions, incentives, inputs, outputs, etc.

Homework

- At the end of the session, participants will be provided a link to an interactive website where they will complete a homework assignment containing a comparative law tutorial, further information on assessments, and a template to complete the context maps begun during class time.

Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to identify the appropriate assessment tools and methods for their programs.
- Participants will be able to construct a rudimentary context map of their target justice subsector in their country of focus.

- Participants will learn how laws, institutions, processes, people, and civil society organizations are interrelated in a justice sector context.
- Participants will be able to identify and understand the primary attributes of the major legal traditions.

SESSION TWO—COUNTRY ANALYSIS 2: UNDERSTANDING LAWS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND TRAINING PATHWAYS

Thursday, January 23, 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm Laws, Organizations, and Training

Participants will be exposed to the elements of a legal framework and learn how legal frameworks interact with the rest of the justice system in strengthening the rule of law. Participants will also identify the role of stakeholders in the legal drafting and promulgation process and explore the process of legal framework analysis.

This session will next explore the nature and role of organizations in rule of law systems and reforms. Organizational self-assessment models will be discussed, as will identification of organizational “chains,” and inter-institutional accountability webs. Special attention will be paid to understanding and working in complex systemic environments.

This session will continue the discussion of mapping justice system dynamics, by turning to the common activity of training. Participants will survey and map the comprehensive education paths of justice system officials and explore the role of continuing education. Participants will discuss common problems in rule of law programs solely focused on training.

Homework

- At the end of the session, participants will be provided a link to an interactive website where they will complete a homework assignment exploring the relationship between national-level legal frameworks and international standards. Homework will also contain a practical exercise dealing with organizational self-assessment and explore the topic of training needs assessments.

Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to describe the legal framework reform process and understand its relationship to international standards.
- Participants will be familiar with the value of organizational self-assessment and able to evaluate the appropriateness of organizational self-assessment as part of a program.
- Participants will understand the process of a training-needs assessment and be able to locate tools to assist in a training needs assessment.
- Participants will be able to construct a “lifetime-of-learning” map specific to their country of focus.

SESSION THREE—COUNTRY ANALYSIS 3: IDENTIFYING CIVIL SOCIETY CAPABILITIES AND THINKING POLITICALLY

Thursday, January 30, 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm Civil Society and Political Economy Analysis

Participants will also discuss the role of citizens in the system. The idea of connection point mapping will be explored. Focus will turn to understanding civil society organizations and will start with exploring definitions of civil society and NGOs. Participants will examine ways in which citizen participation in rule of law systems can be transformative. This session will explore existing or possible tools for better understanding citizen perception and buy-in.

Recognizing the complicating factors that come with individual country contexts--such as political will, corruption, culture, and historical trends-- participants will discuss ways of understanding these factors. Specific techniques and approaches, such as political and social network mapping, will be summarized and discussed. Different tools will be linked. Participants will discuss the role culture plays in assessment and access to information.

Prior to the final session of the workshop, the instructor will issue directions for taking advantage of office hours, and preparing for the final week's workshopping process.

Homework:

Participants will watch a video presentation on civil society mapping and then attempt their own map of civil society in their country of interest according to a provided template. Participants will also complete an activity regarding political economy analysis. Finally, participants will complete and upload their country context maps for discussion in the workshop session on March 21.

Office Hours: Course instructors will offer sign up times for one-on-one feedback on country context maps. These meetings are voluntary, but provide a valuable chance to discuss course topics with experienced rule of law experts.

Learning objectives

- Participants will understand the role of citizens and civil society in rule of law reforms.
- Participants will consider non-traditional NGOs as possible program partners.
- Participants will understand approaches to address complicating factors, such as corruption and political "will."

Office hours between sessions TBD. The instructor will make a range of options available so every interested participant can meet with the instructor.

SESSION FOUR—COUNTRY ANALYSIS 4: DISCUSSING CONTEXT MAPS

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 or Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Time varies* Workshopping

Participants will present their context maps to fellow workshop attendees. Each attendee will provide feedback and comment to their peers. Workshop instructors will also provide feedback.

Learning objectives

- Participants will have completed a refined context map to help them engage in further country analysis and design country specific programs.

*participants will sign up for their workshopping time during session 1 of the workshop.