GLOBAL FORUM on LAW, JUSTICE and DEVELOPMENT
GENERATING INNOVATIVE LEGAL SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

NOVEMBER 2015
The Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development is a network of organizations dedicated to creating legal knowledge that promotes the achievement of post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. Its activities bring together experts, scholars and practitioners to address the most pressing legal issues in development. Projects supported by the Global Forum focus on:

- Legal research and study, production of papers, guidance for the development community, and co-generation of knowledge products;
- Production of evidence based approaches to solve legal challenges;
- Pilot activities to identify and apply lessons learned; and
- New methods to strengthen capacity of local leadership to build effective and efficient legal and judicial systems.

**Filling a knowledge gap.** The Global Forum was launched for two reasons: strong legal and judicial systems and institutions are fundamental to sustainable economic and social development, and those most in need of knowledge are unable to easily access the rich array of existing international legal research, policy and practice products. The Global Forum was created in 2012 in order to address this gap.

**Spreading and improving legal knowledge and understanding.** The Global Forum aims to deliver innovative and customized legal and institutional solutions, promote better understanding of the role of law and justice in the development process, and build the capacity of legal and judicial institutions. It enhances collaboration among legal practitioners, and provides access to an open repository of knowledge on topics related to law, justice and development.
Partners of the Global Forum are composed of international organizations at the global and regional level, and national development partner, such as governments, judiciaries, academia, think-tanks, associations and civil society organizations.

46 Europe
27 North America
14 South America
5 Middle East
35 Regional International Organizations
24 Africa
22 Asia
The Global Forum facilitates sharing and generating innovative legal knowledge products in the form of papers, studies, guidelines, standards, databases, models, best practices, workshops, expert meetings, and training. Partners contribute to the Global Forum by:

- Distributing knowledge already created by their organizations;
- Developing new products with other Global Forum partners;
- Updating existing databases, studies, publications, and other documents; and
- Organizing and promoting expert meetings, workshops, and training.

The World Bank Group’s vast repository of law and development information is used to support Global Forum activities.

Knowledge is produced by the Global Forum under an “Open Data, Open Knowledge, and Open Solutions” policy, which makes all information freely accessible in multiple formats under the Creative Commons copyright regime.

Partners collaborate and share information through an information and communication technology platform called Collaboration for Development or C4D.
5 THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS AND 12 COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

The Global Forum is organized in five Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) that report to a Steering Committee. The TWGs are platforms that group partners around topics of common interest.

The Communities of Practice (CoPs) are stand-alone working groups. Participants include members and non-members of the Global Forum. They work outside of the TWGs because their topics either do not fit in the TWGs’ work program or deal with cross-cutting themes. CoPs are vibrant and innovative discussion platforms. They often tackle novel issues and emerging areas of interest to Global Forum partners:

- African Mining Legislation Atlas
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Compensatory Measures in International Government Procurement Contracts
- Cybercrime
- Health Law
- Human-Centered Business Model
- Human Rights and Development
- Insolvency Regimes
- Intellectual Property Rights
- International Poverty Law
- Mass Atrocity Prevention
- Payment Innovations
GOVERNANCE

Partners General Assembly (PGA): The PGA includes representatives of all Partners’ organizations. It reviews progress of activities, advises the Steering Committee, promotes exchange of information, mobilizes commitment, and serves as a channel of communication.

Steering Committee (SC): The Steering Committee is the main governing body of the Global Forum. It sets strategy, guides the work of the Secretariat, reviews the work of TWGs, and oversees use of funds. Meetings of the SC are held several times per year and are chaired by the World Bank Legal Vice Presidency. Membership is comprised of Global Forum partners.

Secretariat: The Secretariat is a technical and administrative support body of the Global Forum, which is headquartered at the World Bank. It is staffed by the World Bank and secondees from Global Forum partners. The responsibilities of the Secretariat include: (i) managing the partnership; (ii) disseminating information on the Global Forum; (iii) supporting the SC and the TWGs; (iv) facilitating engagements between SC, TWGs and the PGA; (v) coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the activities of the Global Forum; and (vi) contributing to the organization of the World Bank’s Law, Justice and Development Week.
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