The importance of law in development is globally acknowledged. This recognition, however, has never been accompanied by sustained international collaboration of the type and magnitude needed to fully leverage the immense potential contribution of legal knowledge to development. Centers of legal excellence exist around the world that are advancing civic, economic, and social development outcomes, but their advances are not sufficiently communicated or available for wide replication. As a result, development experts, legal practitioners, policymakers and academics are not currently able to access easily the rich array of existing international research, policy, and practice products. The purpose of the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development is to address such constraints — by providing a mechanism for continual and efficient knowledge exchange and cogeneration among stakeholders around the world, supported by an advanced technological platform.
The Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development (GFLJD) provides an innovative and dynamic framework for the exchange of law in development knowledge, connecting developing countries, think-tanks, regional and international organizations, International Financial Institutions, and civil society organizations with relevant research and practice. It comprises a coherent, sustained program of collaborative research and special pilot projects to accelerate knowledge dissemination and use. It promotes a multidisciplinary approach, combining economic, legal, and technical aspects of targeted issues. Through its interactive web based and ICT platforms, the GFLJD leverages the production and dissemination of development-related legal knowledge, supporting the identification, discussion, and production of innovative and customized legal solutions to development issues.

The technology-enhanced collaboration provides unprecedented access to knowledge and opportunities to exchange first-hand experiences between stakeholders across all regions, free of charge. The GFLJD offers:

- **Knowledge exchange repository:** Users are able to search knowledge products across a wide international network of interconnected partners, to locate experts working on particular issues and to post and search news concerning relevant professional events.
- **Resources for user evaluation and rating of shared materials:** Users can tag and comment on citations, ensuring that knowledge users play a key partnering role in determining the quality of knowledge shared as well as its impact.
- **Education tools for creating ongoing education and training opportunities:** With webinars, video conferencing, and other technology features, multiple levels of continuing education courses, trainings, and seminars in real-time.
- **Social media and professional networking tools for ongoing collaboration between members:** Through the channels offered by the ICT platform or in person at the many events organized by the GFLJD.

### Expected Outcomes

GFLJD enhances knowledge sharing on global and regional/country issues, as well as international issues.

- Scaling up of promising approaches to law and justice in development through generation of innovative and customized solutions.
- Better integration of law and justice considerations in the development process to increase development effectiveness.
- Better sharing of knowledge concerning the legal dimensions of development challenges among development practitioners around the world and better use of academic and research institutions to help address those challenges.
- Demand driven and participatory knowledge creation and application of solutions, breaking down traditional barriers to knowledge sharing across regions, resource disparities, and areas of expertise.
- Open Access Publishing to ensure that original intellectual knowledge is freely accessible, making it affordable for practitioners in resource limited environments.

### Information and Communication Technology

The exchange of knowledge and information has been transformed by information and communication technology (ICT), particularly the emergence of interactive online technologies.

The Burton Blatt Institute has been providing qualified technical support for the GFLJD web site and virtual meetings. On August 2013, the GFLJD Secretariat adopted as ICT discussion platform “Collaboration for Development (C4D)”, a secure social collaboration platform hosted by the World Bank Group, that enables online brainstorming, consultations, discussions, knowledge-sharing and learning among GFLJD Partners.

Dedicated virtual spaces for each TWGs and CoPs were created. Any member of any TWG or CoP can access any virtual space set up therein. These virtual spaces are now waiting to be populated by Members.

### What Your Contribution Will Support

The resources provided by partners, sponsors, and supporters are aimed at long-term sustainability of the program. The sustainability of the GFLJD is based on a menu of options that includes:

- In-kind contributions from intellectual partners.
- Financial contributions from financial partners, sponsors, and supporters.
- Different combinations of in-kind and financial support.

Financial contributions can support the substantive and/or technological components required to build and sustain the GFLJD. The goal is to leverage approximately $50 million during a period of 10 years, including $20 million for pilot projects in developing countries.