



PROMOTING THE RULE OF LAW PROJECT

YEAR FIVE WORK PLAN

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I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The United State Agency for International Development (USAID) Promoting the Rule of Law Project (the “Project” or PRLP) Year 5 Work Plan proposes activities for the remainder of the Project, which is the second year of the project’s two-year option period. This work plan is drafted in accordance with the Task Order Modification No. 7, signed on July 27, 2017. The project supports the U.S. Government’s strategic foreign assistance priority for *Myanmar to consolidate its democracy to become more inclusive, accountable, and responsive to its people through good governance and protection of human rights*. For the past four years, PRLP has been supporting the goals of USAID/Burma to strengthen institutions to promote good governance, rule of law and human rights, and expand space for civil society organizations and the media to support democratic transition.

Many of the Project’s efforts have proven effective, including the development and testing of new court procedures to increase efficiency and transparency in the judiciary, support for legal aid, and awareness raising efforts by civil society organizations (CSO) to increase knowledge of rights and legal processes. Based on the successful implementation of pilot courts, PRLP is now implementing pilot law with the Union Attorney General’s Office (UAGO). As the project has progressed additional needs have been identified to promote effective, accountable, and accessible justice sector institutions and to increase legal literacy, access to justice and participation of marginalized populations in target regions/states. During the past four years PRLP has identified needs that were not specifically addressed at the outset, and are now included in the project’s modified scope of work. A key element of this final year work plan will be to deepen those activities that can provide a measure of sustainability to counterpart institutions.

2. YEAR 5 ACTIVITIES

The start of the PRLP option period confirmed the challenge of implementing rule of law reform programming in Myanmar and the breadth of work to be done. To date, PRLP has gained traction in several areas, including new mechanisms aimed at improving the efficiency and transparency of judicial proceedings, and broad engagement with civil society. The grants program has empowered CSOs to raise awareness and provide legal aid services that are enhancing access to justice, including to combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP). The modified statement of work (SOW) seeks to build on the work to date, and has identified new activities which will further expand reform areas in the justice sector.

High level justice sector reform is a priority for the current Myanmar government, as evidenced by the creation of the Rule of Law Center and Justice Affairs Coordinating Body (ROLCB). While the initial terms of reference (TOR) for the ROLCB lack specificity, national rule of law reform appears to be within its mandate. PRLP, along with other donors, will collaborate with the ROLCB to support a national rule of law forum/conference that may lead to a framework for its work for reform.

Earlier this year, PRLP began to focus on combatting trafficking in persons (TIP). TIP issues became an area for attention in 2016 when the US Department of State identified Myanmar as a Tier 3 country, finding that Myanmar did not meet minimum standards defined under the US’s Trafficking Victims’ Protection Act. In June 2017, Myanmar was moved to the Tier 2 watch list. To support Myanmar’s ability to combat TIP, USAID and PRLP has engaged with the Office of the Supreme Court of the Union (OSCU) and the Union Attorney General’s Office (UAGO) to introduce modern pretrial investigation systems in TIP cases, and has awarded five new grants focused on TIP prevention and prosecution.

Key objectives for the remainder of the project include:



Build and Refine on Work to Date. PRLP will continue to focus on programming which, to date, has proven the most successful and sustainable. Work to improve court performance, for example, has been productive and has strong leadership in the OSCU. This approach is now being replicated at the UAGO, with a focus on developing pilot law offices that can improve efficiency and integrate better case management. The introduction to the Project of Mr. Robert Dean, an experienced prosecutor and rule of law project leader, as Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP)/Senior Prosecution and Justice Sector Advisor will greatly advance this work.

Exposure to Effective International Practices. PRLP will continue to seek exposure for Myanmar counterparts to international practices, especially in the areas of high level justice sector reform. The first PRLP sponsored visit by a US federal judge took place in February and was quite effective. A second visit by a sitting or retired US judge is planned as part of Rule of Law Forum. We anticipated that the judge would provide a presentation at the forum on judicial efficiency and accountability, emphasizing US and international standards and best practice. Developing more efficient and effective practices in both courts and prosecutor's offices utilizing international-tested models will continue to be the focus in the pilot court and pilot law office programs.

Implementation of the Law on Legal Aid. The Law on Legal Aid, initially passed in 2016, was slowed by amendments to the law, which were finalized in May, and the as yet still pending approval of the members of the Union Legal Aid Board (ULAB), which were recently submitted. PRLP will once again engage with the OSCU and its Legal Aid Implementation Committee to relaunch work to implement the law, including, technical support to the ULAB, and pilot testing legal aid services to start the process of introducing a national legal aid scheme in Myanmar.

OSCU Strategic Planning. The OSCU was the first justice sector institution to introduce comprehensive strategic planning to its organization. With the support of PRLP, the OSCU developed an initial three-year strategic plan (2014-2017). The OSCU is now developing their second plan for 2018 – 2022, with PRLP serving as the technical lead for this process. The OSCU is also considering an all-donors consultation to review the draft and indicate areas of specific donor support to objectives and initiatives in the strategic plan before finalizing it. PRLP continues to meet regularly with the OSCU Strategic Planning Team to develop the various sections of the plan with a goal to finalize the first draft by November.



OBJECTIVE 1: PROMOTE MORE EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE, AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS

Component 1: Support the Development of a Comprehensive Strategy for National Rule of Law Reform

A Rule of Law Coordinating Body (ROLCB) was formed earlier this year to bring together justice sector institutions to address rule of law reforms. The Committee is organizing an international rule of law forum, currently anticipated to be held in December, to begin development of a national justice sector reform strategy. PRLP will provide assistance, as appropriate and requested, to support this event, including a high level justice sector expert as a presenter. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Senior Rule of Law Technical Advisor, the European Union (EU) My Justice project Chief of Party, and Robert San Pé, the State Counsellor's Legal Advisor, have been tasked in an advisory capacity (advisory group) to support the ROLCB, but the ROLCB has indicated an interest in broadening the donor support provided to it, and USAID, through its Senior Rule of Law and Governance Advisor, is meeting with the advisory group and other donor counterparts to discuss the issue in detail. As the ROLCB begins its work, it will be important to continue to engage with distinct justice sector institutions and stakeholders to prepare them for the comprehensive rule of law reform work ahead. It will take time for the ROLCB to create its own momentum and basic organizational issues. This would include the creation of a separate secretariat at the UAGO, identifying financial and other resources, and proposing implementation agendas. These issues, along with others, will need to be addressed to ensure the ROLCB can fulfill its mandate.

PRLP will continue to support efforts of the OSCU in the development of their individual strategy for 2018-2022. Work with the OSCU has been positive and the judiciary's leadership has shown a willingness to adopt more systematic and data-dependent processes. However, there is a lack of coordination among justice sector institutions. PRLP will work with the ROLCB and individually with the OSCU, UAGO, and bar association (ILAM) to improve collaboration in the sector including the development of "Bench and Bar" activities. During Year 5, PRLP will continue engagement with the UAGO and OSCU, while laying the foundational work on which the ROLCB and justice sector institutions can begin consideration of national strategies. Activities under this Component will include:

Political economy analysis. Rule of law analyses in Myanmar have been consistent but generally failed to look at critical contextual issues and develop a greater understanding of which is needed to more effectively pursue reform initiatives. The studies to date have focused primarily on qualitative assessments, routinely noting the need for greater legal literacy, inclusion of non-state dispute resolution systems in any reform effort, and a general lack of trust of all branches of government. While these are important issues, they are now well-understood and widely accepted. What is less well-understood are the political and economic processes and pressure points that will be encountered when rule of law reforms are introduced. It is also important to more fully understand the people and institutions involved in rule of law reform, the relationships and dynamics among those actors, the incentives that will promote reform, and the recommendations to account for those in the implementation of justice sector reform initiatives. Tt DPK will complete a specialized rule of law political economy analysis (PEA). The results of the PEA will be shared, as appropriate with counterparts and donors, with recommendations utilized to ensure implementation and sustainability of rule of law reforms.

Rule of Law Forum. To date, there have been few broad-based high-level forums in Myanmar in which rule of law reform issues have been discussed. In July 2016, the Project supported the OSCU in conducting a Consultation on the Law on Legal Aid. This was a gathering of proposed members of the ULAB, OSCU, and other stakeholders to discuss how the new Law on Legal Aid could be most effectively implemented. The outcomes of the consultation were positive and demonstrated a willingness and the interest of justice sector stakeholders to work together toward a shared goal of greater rule of law development in the country.



PRLP will support the ROLCB to conduct a rule of law form. The forum will bring together multiple stakeholders and international experts to begin planning for an overarching Justice Sector Reform Strategy. The event is expected to be held in December for approximately 250 participants in Nay Pyi Taw. PRLP will provide a high level expert who can bring technical expertise in judicial efficiency and accountability. Experts from Myanmar, as well as regional and international experts, will come together to identify reform priorities, initiatives, and ways forward for this new body and other key institutions. Discussions and planning for the forum will take place during the first quarter of Year 5.

US Study Tour. In March 2017, the Project conducted a productive study tour to the US, which focused on commercial courts, judicial education, modern prosecution practices, and justice sector strategic planning. The study tour brought together representatives from various justice sector stakeholders, including the OSCU, UAGO, law faculty, and the private bar. The study tour resulted in greater collaboration among the institutions these stakeholders represented. Based on this success, the Project will develop and deliver a second US study tour in early calendar year 2018. PRLP will identify technical focus areas and study tour participants, as well as locations and technical resources and partners in the US, and will work closely with USAID to implement this activity.

Objective 1 – Component 1: Support the development of a comprehensive strategy for national rule of law reform													
Expected results	Activity	Timeline											
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Is a Reform of constitution, legal, and regulatory framework is supported	Conduct political economy analysis												
	Conduct field work for rule of law PEA and deliver first draft to USAID												
	Revise PEA based on USAID input and finalize report												
Institutional capacity within justice sector to develop a national rule of law strategy is strengthened	Utilize results to inform future activities and support activities such as ROL symposium; share as appropriated with relevant partners in consultation with USAID												
	Support Rule of Law Forum												
Design of a national rule of law strategy and institutional-level strategies is supported	Work with ROLCB to develop plans for the symposium												
	Collaborate with other Justice Sector donors to organize event												
	Identify experts from the U.S. and ASEAN region to attend												
	Support implementation of symposium												
	Follow up activities to support ROLCB												
	Conduct U.S. Study Tour and professional exchanges												
	Finalize concept paper to outline participants, goals, and agenda, and timelines												
Begin invitation and Visa process, monitor to ensure timely completion													
Organize meetings and finalize agenda													
Finalize logistics (airfare, accommodation, etc.)													



	Conduct study tour in U.S.																		
	Conduct follow-up activities to encourage use of lessons learned																		
	Conduct Hluttaw roundtables on issues such as legal aid, judicial appointments, anti-trafficking legislation, etc.																		
	Support professional exchanges for justice sector/government actors, funded by other USG agencies or international organizations																		
	Conduct multi-stakeholder reform dialogues including visits from US judges; visits/support for Constitutional Tribunal; roundtable discussions with Hluttaw in collaboration with NDI																		

Component 2: Enhance the Capacities of the Union Attorney General’s Office

Project support to the UAGO has been challenged by the lack of overall leadership and strategic vision at the institution. The UAGO initially did not demonstrate the ability or willingness to undertake more complex activities, with donor-supported work being sporadic and lacking a comprehensive strategical approach. However, in the third quarter of Year 3, and likely in response to the positive work done by the OSCU in the pilot court program, the UAGO began to show a greater willingness to expand their reform efforts. The UAGO agreed to pursue a pilot law office program, and the baseline studies for this were completed in the last quarter of Year 3. In Year 4, the Project worked with the UAGO to develop an implementation strategy for the pilot program and is now seeking to introduce more modern and effective prosecutorial practices into the criminal justice system. In addition to this work, the Project will continue to pursue cooperation with the Australia Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP), as they support the UAGO.

Pilot Law Office Program. The pilot approach mirrors the methodology used in the OSCU’s successful pilot court program. The initial steps in the process were conducted on schedule, including appointment of the UAGO management team, site selection, closed and pending case surveys, business process mapping, and legal framework analysis. An initial program design workshop was conducted in March 2017, and material support in the form of computers and printers and basic training was completed. Second level training will be conducted this year with selected personnel. The Project’s IT Consultant will develop a methodology for automated case registration and data collection, especially for calendaring and docket scheduling. PRLP will conduct site visits in October to determine office layout and design plans and equipment needs. Pilot locations include: the Chan Aye Tharzan Township Law Office and the Pyin Oo Lwin District Law Office, both located in the Mandalay Region, and the Mawlamyaing Township Law Office in Mon State. The Attorney General has approved in concept five areas of Project support and interventions with the pilot law offices: (1) greater law officer and police interaction and coordination; (2) victim-witness support and outreach by law offices; (3) vertical case assignment to prosecutors in certain cases; (4) modern automated case registration and data collection; and (5) developing a more efficient and effective law-office workspace and environment in their present locations.

Support for handling TIP cases. Earlier this year, PRLP, in conjunction with AAPTIP, began efforts to improve victim treatment by law officers serving as prosecutors during the criminal justice process in Myanmar, focusing in particular on encouraging and training prosecutors to engage with victims prior to trial. The joint PRLP/AAPTIP activity presented a series of technical trainings and the UAGO has requested additional trainings be



delivered to prosecutors in other provinces. PRLP and AAPTIP have developed a program designed to further the understanding of prosecutors in managing TIP cases and to enhance their prosecution skills. An advanced training for previous participants, as well as an additional initial training for law officers will be completed during the first quarter of FY18. PRLP's TIP expert will also conduct a roundtable, in collaboration with the National Democratic Institute to conduct follow up discussions on the current TIP legislation, areas if improvement, the status of possible amendments to the TIP, and to consider implications of the law. PRLP also anticipated that the expert will conduct a roundtable/continuing legal education session with ILAM members on handling TIP cases and supporting the needs of victims and witnesses they may represent.

Follow-up Training on Public Outreach and Engagement: PRLP will field an expert consultant to review progress of the UAGO Public Outreach Plan developed during 2016 through our previous consultancy. This work will review and reinforce the previous plan and provide follow-up training/mentoring to public outreach personnel. Support will also be expanded to include the OSCU including a training-of-trainer for staff from the OSCU and High Courts will be responsible for public outreach.

Objective 1 – Component 2: Enhance the Capacities of the Union Attorney General's Office													
Expected results	Activity	Timeline											
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Improved information about legal procedures available to public	Implement Pilot Law Office Program												
	Analyze data and review progress to date to guide future progress												
Improved prosecution case management practices implemented in Law Offices	Support coordination meetings with other justice sector agencies/actors												
	Support database development and automation to support new case processing and reporting procedures												
	Provide expert/technical assistance to pilot offices												
Law Officers demonstrate improved legal knowledge and analytical skills	Provide training for UAGO law officers and administrators, including on the handling of TIP cases												
	Build institutional capacity of UAGO												
Fair trial standards are incorporated into management of prosecution cases	Support further development of Public Information Offices (PIOs) with relevant technical assistance												
	Support development of internal media guidelines for PIO												
	Deliver training for PIO officers												
	Support public outreach programs by PIO												
	Provide technical support to study tours funded by other USG agencies or international organizations												

Component 3: Support to Judicial Self-Governance and Judicial Reform

With USAID support, the OSCU and Myanmar courts have made progress to improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the legal system. Still, challenges remain such as low public trust in the judiciary and lack of professional human resource capacity in the courts. During this final year, it will be important to maintain the pace of the reforms to date, including continued support as the OSCU expands case management



reforms throughout the country. The OSCU is now in the final quarter of implementing its first strategic plan, and preparations and support for the next five-year plan (2018-2022) will require continued support. The OSCU has asked that PRLP take the lead with donors in the implementation of the Legal Aid Law.

OSCU Pilot Courts. The pilot court program has been one of the OSCU's most visible activities and has helped foster a strong working relationship between USAID and the OSCU. The program currently includes eight pilot courts. During Year 5, PRLP will continue to provide support through training, on-site monitoring and evaluation, and workshops with courts to review results. PRLP is also finalizing a Pilot Court Manual, which the OSCU can use to support its independent management of the program. PRLP will also continue to update the case management system, expanding it to provide required reports and improve data collection. PRLP will conduct evaluations and customer service surveys in each of the five expansion courts during FY18 and conduct an evaluation workshop at the Supreme Court to review progress and plan future expansion. The current draft of the 2018-2022 OSCU Strategic Plan anticipates nation-wide implementation of the case management system based on the experience and lessons learned from the PRLP pilot courts.

Strategic Planning. PRLP is serving as the lead technical advisor for the drafting of the OSCU 2018-2022 strategic plan, participating in regular (usually bi-weekly) meetings since July. The process began with a review of recommendations from earlier USAID-supported consultations with justice sector stakeholders. The working group then began building a strategic plan framework with distinct activities and performance measurement indicators. PRLP technical support will help ensure that the plan is ambitious, yet realistic, and addresses important due process and human rights concerns. Currently the strategic plan is organized around five core strategic action areas: (1) Facilitating and Expanding Public Access to Court Services; (2) Improving Public Awareness of the Judiciary; (3) Enhancing Judicial Independence and Strengthened Judicial Administrative Capacities; (4) Promoting and Ensuring the Professionalism, Accountability, and Integrity of the Judiciary; and (5) Promoting Efficient Case Management and Specialization. PRLP anticipates that a draft will be finalized and submitted to the Chief Justice in November.

Implementation of the Law on Legal Aid. The Law on Legal Aid was adopted in May 2017, after amendments to the original 2016 law. The law provided for a Board to implement the legal aid system, which has been nominated, but is awaiting final approval. By-laws have also been drafted but are undergoing final revisions. PRLP had previously supported a consultation on the Law on Legal Aid, which included participants from the government, Hluttaw, and civil society legal aid providers. Following the consultation, PRLP worked with the OSCU to develop a strategy for implementation of the law, which was subsequently approved by the Chief Justice. PRLP is now ready to make any necessary revisions to the plan and support the board and OSCU in the implementation of the new law. The OSCU has requested assistance to conduct a roundtable on various legal aid models and to translate the by-laws. The OSCU has noted their preference for PRLP to take the lead with donors working on legal aid. PRLP anticipates fielding a legal aid expert who can revise the implementation plan, conduct the roundtable, build technical skills of local PRLP staff (a program manager is being recruited), and develop a pilot legal aid system, most likely in Mandalay.

Specialized Courts. The OSCU has expressed interest in developing specialized courts, but has not chosen to define those yet in the strategic plan. Given that such courts are a long-term prospect, PRLP will only have time to provide foundational support. Based on the needs and request of the OSCU, we anticipate fielding an expert to conduct a feasibility study that will provide recommendations on various models and how they might be implemented in the Myanmar context. During the study tour planned for early 2018, PRLP will also incorporate visits to specialized courts/units



so that justice sector participants can learn about best practices, how the courts/unit operate, and the reform process that led to their integration in the courts.

Support judicial training and curriculum development. Training systems at the OSCU need to be modernized with updated curricula and interactive teaching methodologies. To help leadership understand how a modern judicial training institution works, we will include 2 days of activities at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada during the study tour planned for January 2018. Hopefully, this visit will also build a partnership to continue beyond the life of the project that will support the OSCU as they implement reforms in their training process. We will follow the study tour with an assessment by a judicial training expert who can draft a long-term strategy, in collaboration with the OSCU, to improve both introductory and continuing education systems for the judiciary.

Objective 1 – Component 3: Support to Judicial Self-Governance and Judicial Reform													
Expected results	Activity	Timeline											
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Judges capacity to administer and adjudicate cases improved	Implement OSCU Pilot Court Program												
	Continue on-site monitoring and assistance												
Performance standards for case management implemented	Continue and finalize case tracking system development												
	Finalize and distribute pilot court manual												
Pilot courts established	Support expansion of case management system in consultation with OSCU and USAID												
	Support OSCU Strategic planning												
Transparency of judicial appointment process is improved	Provide technical assistance in bi-weekly meetings for drafting of strategy												
	Support OSCU to finalize the strategy and distribute												
Integrity measure to combat corruption in the legal system are promoted	Support OSCU to implement elements of the strategic plan												
	Support implementation of Legal Aid Law												
OSCE capacity to manage legal aid service enhanced	Update implementation strategy/plan for legal aid law												
	Support OSCU and related counterparts to implement legal aid law												
Professional development of judges improved	Provide technical assistance from experts to implement new law												
	Support Development of Specialized courts												
Improved information about legal procedures available to public	Conduct feasibility study for specialized courts (yet to be determined by OSCU)												
	Provide recommendations for changes in legal framework to support commercial courts												
	Support judicial training and curriculum development												
	Provide Study tour visits to National Judicial College												
	Conduct initial assessments/feasibility study of Judicial Training Institute												
	Draft strategy for long-term improvement of OSCU judicial training programs												



Component 4: Develop the capacity of civil society to engage in public policy development and advocacy.

PRLP is working to promote greater public policy engagement and advocacy by CSOs through multiple channels, including support for the development of the Independent Lawyers' Association of Myanmar (ILAM); the Access to Justice Initiative (A2JI), a consortium which is advocating for structural and policy reforms to improve access to justice and address corruption in Myanmar; previous support in the development of a National Paralegal Network; and coordination with grantees to address specific policy issues such as TIP, gender based violence, legal aid, and corruption. While the capacity of many of these organizations remains low, PRLP has provided and will continue to provide organizational and technical capacity building to ensure their sustainability and increase their chances of success for initiating policy change and being effective advocates for justice sector reforms.

ILAM. PRLP is supporting ILAM to establish and develop an inclusive, independent, active and sustainable national lawyers' association. Through a grant to the International Bar Association (IBA), which ends in December 2017, PRLP is supporting ILAM's effort to build organization capacity, open legal libraries, and delivering continuing legal education (CLE) for members. ILAM has a national steering committee of lawyers from every state and region and has doubled their membership in the past 3 years. With PRLP support, they opened a secretariat in Yangon and have opened branch offices and legal libraries, most recently in September in Monywa. In August, ILAM met with the Supreme Court for the first time since the new government was elected to discuss future collaboration.

An ILAM member participated in a PRLP study tour to the US in March of 2017 and it is anticipated that another member will be a part of the study tour planned for January 2018, which will include visits to a local bar association to raise awareness about organizational capacities, member services, and oversight/discipline of lawyers. PRLP will continue to support ILAM to build their organizational and technical capacities, including a robust CLE program, member services, advocacy skills, and resources such as libraries and materials. During this year, PRLP will also work to build stronger engagement between the Bar, the OSCU, and the UAGO to further justice sector reforms. Comprehensive reforms in the justice sector will require the active participation of the Bar association to demand accountability, improve citizen's understanding of rights, and enhance access to justice.

Access to Justice Initiative. A2JI is a group of more than 40 CSOs from a wide range of organizations working to launch research-based advocacy efforts for reform of specific laws, and to promote transparency and citizen oversight of public justice actors through monitoring activities. The large number of CSOs involved and the capacity of members make issues such as organizational development and a common vision more complex. This group is not yet formally registered and remains an umbrella organization for CSOs which work in several focus areas. PRLP is supporting A2JI to build their capacity to implement a comprehensive activity framework in three areas, including research, advocacy, and monitoring and oversight, and to focus on organizational development and strategic partnerships.

To ensure A2JI's sustainability, the Project has already worked with A2JI leadership to develop an organizational development plan that includes financial management, human resources, and other administrative milestones. These include the opening of bank accounts, steps to register as an association, and the recruitment of an A2JI coordinator, which was completed in mid-2017. PRLP will continue ongoing efforts to increase



membership, develop financial management procedures, and develop a resource rich website. In the last quarter of FY17, A2JI worked with a web designer and continues to collect and upload data, and finalize a logo. The website will also include links to organizations which provide legal services, as well as other legal resources in Myanmar. PRLP will continue to support A2JI in the implementation of their organizational action plan, which was developed earlier this year with project support, as outlined below:

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE INITIATIVE (A2JI) ORGANIZATIONAL ACTION PLAN
JUNE – DECEMBER 2017**

Strategic Objective	Proposed Strategy	Key Activities
1. To become a sustainable, independent, platform with diverse membership that promotes access to justice in Myanmar.	1. Organizational development	1. Developing A2JI website 2. Anti-corruption day events 3. Drafting A2JI's bylaws
2. To build strategic partnerships for promoting access to justice among A2JI, civil society, including CSOs and academics, and government policy makers.	2. Strategic partnerships	1. Meetings with potential strategic partners (EU My Justice project, UNODC, etc.) 2. Participation in MCRB workshop 3. Meetings with ACC
3. To increase the knowledge-base of government officials and the Myanmar public about access to justice.	3. Research	1. Analysis of anti-corruption law 2. Collecting data on corruption complaint mechanisms 3. Disseminating anti-corruption info among A2JI members and general public
4. To affect government policy and laws on access to justice issues through evidence-based advocacy efforts.	4. Advocacy	1. Meetings with key stakeholders (ACC, US Embassy, etc.) 2. Field visits to raise awareness on anti-corruption law 3. Disseminating info on advocacy/research cluster initiatives and findings
5. To promote transparency and citizen oversight of the people and institutions responsible for delivering access to justice.	5. Monitoring & Oversight	1. Preparing anti-corruption law booklet 2. Preparing country report and/or shadow report 3. Meetings with members of ACC and Supreme Court

PRLP will also continue to support A2JI efforts to build strategic partnerships for promoting access to justice among CSOs, policy makers, and development partners. Their 2017 technical focus is on citizen advocacy to prevent corrupt practices. To that end, the A2JI technical resource team and steering committee members served as presenters in a community forum on corruption in southern Shan State which was organized by the Rule of Law Centers implemented by IDLO, on August 7th. A2JI and the Local Resource Center partnered to raise community awareness by delivering anti-corruption training for 45 participants in Mawlamyine Lashio in late September/early October. In August, A2JI conducted their first collaboration with the pilot court in Hlaing Thar Yar, meeting with judges and court personnel to improve their understanding of court procedures and possible avenues of corruption. This will also inform their trial monitoring activities planned for this year.



During this year five work plan period, PRLP will also support A2JI to collaborate with grantees and other CSOs throughout the country with awareness raising and advocacy training to empower citizens to combat corruption. PRLP anticipates providing an international expert to develop a specialized advocacy curriculum and to deliver training of trainers to A2JI members who can replicate this standardized training program around the country. A2JI plans to conduct an awareness event/activities on Dec. 9th, which is international anti-corruption day.

Objective 1 – Component 4: Develop the capacity of civil society to engage in public policy development and advocacy.													
Expected results	Activity	Timeline											
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Capacity of CSOs to actively and effectively advocate for improved access to justice strengthened	Support institutional development of ILAM												
	Build institutional capacity including development of financial and management procedures												
	Support “bench and bar” engagement and activities to enhance justice sector reform												
CSO advocacy to promote access to justice improved	Include ILAM member in US study to improve understanding of bar association role and build relationships between bench and bar												
	Conduct training of trainers for CLE and support CLE programs with technical experts												
Professionalism of lawyers’ association strengthened	Provide technical assistance to A2JI to improve access to justice												
	Support A2JI with organizational development, including a rigorous capacity assessment to establish a baseline for measuring development												
	Support strategic planning to enhance sustainability of future efforts												
	Utilize visiting experts to support A2JI technical activities												
	Support A2JI trial monitoring activities												
	Support anti-corruption empowerment and advocacy initiatives												

OBJECTIVE 2: INCREASE LEGAL LITERACY, ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS IN REGIONS/STATES

PRLP project will continue to support efforts to increase access to justice for marginalized populations by supporting our current 18 grantees to deliver legal aid services and increase legal literacy in regions/states throughout the country. Support to these grantees also includes capacity building and organizational trainings to ensure their ability to effectively implement grants under this program, as well as to receive grants from future donor-funded implementers. Five of the current grantees are focusing on TIP issues and will provide resources to support victims/survivors with needed legal and psycho-social support, as well as to raise awareness about this human rights violation.

TIP Grants. The five TIP grants are tailored to support the principles and objectives of Myanmar’s second Five-Year National Plan of Action to Combat Human Trafficking and coordinated with existing Department of Social Welfare structures to support assistance to trafficking victim/survivors. CSOs will support prevention activities and provide legal and/or protection services for trafficking victim/survivors and those at risk of being trafficked. The grants specifically address the need for increased support to civil society efforts to counter TIP issues in critical



source/transit corridor and destination areas for internal and cross-border trafficking, to support trafficking victim/survivors through the investigation and trial phases of their cases, and to build greater effectiveness through formal justice mechanisms. A key element of these grants will be the prevention of trafficking of those at risk of being put into forced labor, forced marriages, or the sex industry. Prevention activities will include: awareness-raising, community education, campaigns, advocacy, establishment of community watch groups to identify and report potential trafficking, operation of trafficking hotlines, and referrals to social and protection services. Activities will take place in Northern and Eastern Shan State, Kachin State, Magwe Region, and Kayin State.

Toolkit Curriculum. The state of legal education in Myanmar requires broad interventions to ensure quality legal aid services. The university law faculties rely on rote memorization of laws, and the substantive legal curriculum is lacking. There is little evidence that widespread educational reform at the university level is coming soon. Courses are needed on the substantive law and new programming could extend this work to development of a legal certificate program.

With the publication of the USAID Legal Aid Toolkit, PRLP is now developing the curriculum to accompany the toolkit. All but 2 modules have been developed and are currently being translated. The additional 2 modules will be developed and translated during Year 5. Topics include interviewing witnesses, trial skills, statutory interpretation, and legal research. Once finalized, PRLP will work with other legal aid donors such as the EU My Justice Project, the UNDP-supported Rule of Law Centers, Danida-funded university clinics, and ILAM, to provide training on these topics and to conduct training of trainers (TOT) who can continue to spread this knowledge throughout the country beyond the life of the project.

Legal Aid Database. Systematic collection and analysis of cases and case-related information is a challenge for almost all legal aid providers in Myanmar. While some of the more advanced legal aid providers do maintain Excel systems to manage their cases, the project and other programs' experience has been that the use of these systems is largely ineffective, and there is little effort to collect and analyze information that would help define larger issues in the justice sector and support broader advocacy efforts. To address this concern, PRLP is developing a case management tool for legal aid providers. Use of this system will also introduce systematized data collection in a consistent manner so that case data and trends could more readily be identified. This information will be particularly useful in support of the implementation of the Legal Aid Law. PRLP is working closely with the EU My Justice Project to finalize the system and test it with their justice centers. Following the initial testing, final adjustments will be made and an administrator's manual drafted. This will be followed by a wider pilot test of the system at various sites, with rollout planned for the first quarter of Year 5.

Objective 2 – Increase legal literacy, access to justice for marginalized populations in regions/states.													
		Timeline											
Expected results	Activity	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Increased access to justice services for marginalized populations	Implementation of Grants Program												
	Support implementation of grant activities, including specialized TIP activities and events												
	Ongoing monitoring of grants												

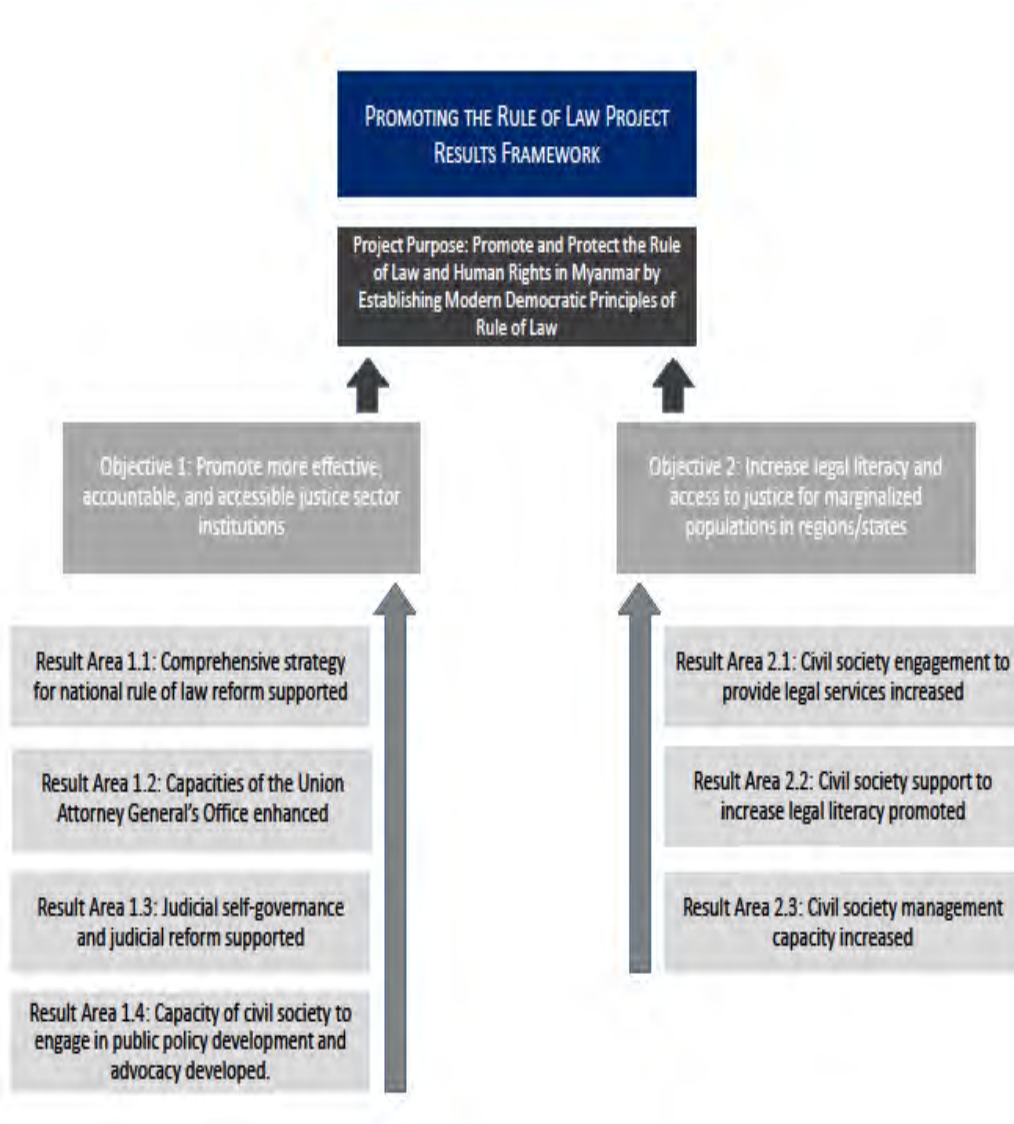


CSO and legal aid providers capacity to manage access to justice projects improved Legal aid service in target regions/state improved	Conduct capacity building training/activities to build sustainability of grantees													
	Implement Legal Aid Database													
	Develop legal aid database for providers													
	Test legal aid database													
	Provide database to legal aid providers and small law firms													
	Provide training manual and training to utilize the database													
	Develop toolkit curriculum to improve access to justice													
	Develop toolkit training curriculum for legal aid providers, including translation and printing													
	Conduct training of trainers on toolkit curriculum													
	Provide copies of the toolkit curriculum to legal aid providers; as well as continuing to also provide copies of the toolkit													

4. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

The results framework, indicators, and targets are elaborated in the Project’s Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (MELP) which was submitted in August 2017 as part of the project modification. The project has 13 indicators that includes both output and outcome indicators. The previously submitted MELP includes target for FY18, as indicated in Annex B: PIRs.

The results framework is included below:





5. YEAR 5 BUDGET

The estimated budget for Year 5 activities was detailed in the Cost Proposal submitted to USAID on May 25, 2017, in response to the Request for Proposal for Task Order Modification from USAID/Burma and is incorporated by references as part of Modification No. 7.



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