



**JUSTICE AND
RULE OF LAW**

Global Program on Justice and the Rule of Law

Justice institutions are vital to achieving the World Bank Group's (WBG) mission of ending poverty and boosting shared prosperity on a livable planet. Effective justice institutions underpin accountability and citizen trust, safeguard investments and property rights, and stimulate economic growth, thereby laying the foundations for good governance and prosperous societies. Indeed, empirical studies demonstrate the critical role of justice in fostering a healthy business environment, improving access to public services, curbing corruption, and restraining abuse of power. More recently, scholars have begun to highlight how justice institutions can support the enforcement of climate rights and regulations, promoting social and environmental responsibility and a livable planet.

Accessible, Efficient, Fair, and Transparent Justice Institutions

End extreme poverty

Ensure access to services for the poor

Constrain elite capture of public resources

Ensure accountability of governments

Fight corruption & prevent violence



Boost shared prosperity

Enforce contracts

Protect property rights

Promote fair competition

Help SMEs development

On a livable planet

Enforce climate rights and regulations

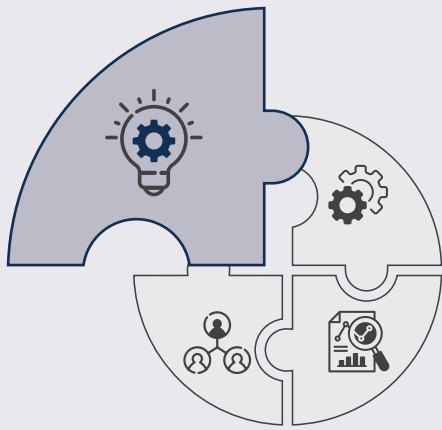
Resolution of conflicts arising from climate change

Justice institutions are the foundation of rule-based governance that supports the social contract between the people and the state. These institutions include courts, prosecutors, public defenders, complaint mechanisms, anti-corruption agencies, ministries of justice, and others. They address breaches of the law, provide redress for rights violations, and facilitate peaceful dispute resolution. They also oversee state institutions and enforce the state's role as regulator.

HOW WE WORK

The WBG has supported the strengthening of justice institutions worldwide for over **25 years** through more than 800 projects and activities. To consolidate this expertise and provide analytical and thought leadership to advance justice reform, the WBG launched the Global Program on Justice and Rule of Law (GP-JROL) with the generous support of the Governance & Institutions Umbrella Program. The Program's work is divided into four activities:

Knowledge and Innovation



GP-JROL contributes to advancing the thinking on justice reform by producing research pieces ranging from academic papers, topic-specific briefs, policy notes, how-to manuals, and blogs. Most recently, the Program produced [research](#) on the optimal design and sequencing of justice reform based on 25 years of empirical evidence. Similarly, GP-JROL used quantitative data on fragile and conflict-affected settings to produce an evidence-based policy [brief](#) on access to justice in countries affected by violence and fragility. The Program's analytical offerings are complemented with thematic how-to notes, which highlight lessons learned from justice reform efforts and focus on the “why, how, and what” of reform. For example, the first series explores topics such as how to engage with countries on judicial budgeting, improving judicial service delivery through technology, and increasing access to justice through small claim courts.

Operational Work



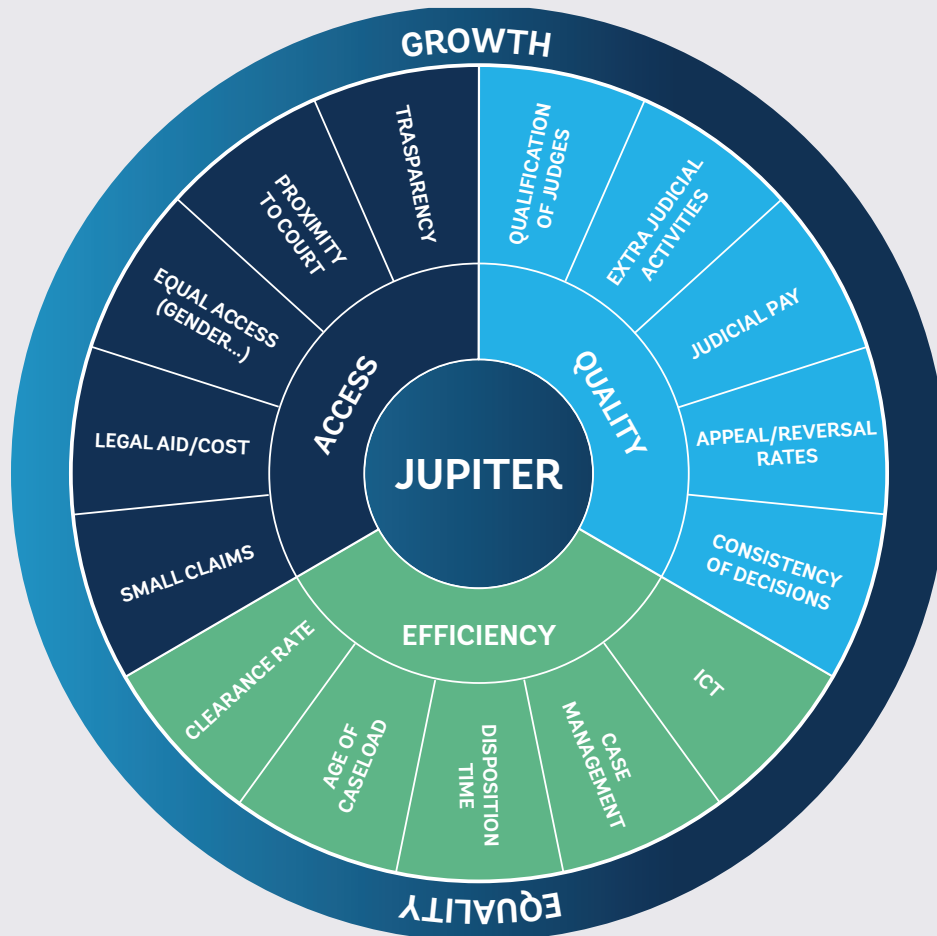
By leveraging the full range of financial instruments available to the WBG (investment and project lending, results and policy-based lending, technical assistance, trust funds, grants, and reimbursable advisory services), global and regional teams work with governments to:

- Strengthen justice institutions by reforming the legal framework, reengineering processes to improve workflow efficiency, improving case management, strengthening human resources, and building capacity.
- Promote legal empowerment by strengthening legal aid systems, establishing advisory and mediation services, conducting legal literacy campaigns, and promoting public access to legal information.

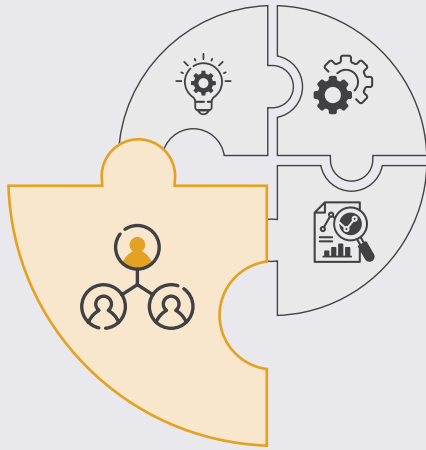
Data and Analytics



With its new assessment framework for measuring the effectiveness of a country's judiciary in service delivery ([JUPITER](#)), GP-JROL contributes country-specific diagnostics that are used to promote engagement in justice reform and contribute to potential operational work. The Program also provides ad-hoc analytics on specific areas or components of the main JUPITER assessment depending on the client's needs. Functional Reviews produced by regional teams complement GP-JROL's analytical offering. In terms of cross-country data, the Program produces the [Justice Factsheets](#) – a curated and consolidated selection of perception-based indicators on judicial effectiveness across years and countries available on [Prosperity Data360](#).



Partnerships and Convening



GP-JROL mobilizes internal and external partners to promote joint efforts and raise the profile of the justice reform agenda. Since 2023, the Program launched the [Global Partnership on Justice and the Rule of Law](#), which convenes partners from governments, civil society, academia, development agencies, and the private sector. Partners can play various roles, from co-hosting events to co-producing knowledge, leveraging the WBG's financial instruments, and influencing the scope of the WBG's work in justice reform. In June 2024, GP-JROL organized the Justice and the Rule of Law Global Forum with several co-hosting partners. This event brought together over 400 experts and thought leaders in person, with over 5,000 online participants, who jointly discussed key challenges and opportunities affecting justice and the rule of law.

Join our Partnership on Justice and the Rule of Law

By joining the Global Partnership on Justice and the Rule of Law, Partners can multiply their impact by leveraging the knowledge and resources of other members, including the WBG. Through shared knowledge, co-hosting events, and co-producing innovative solutions to common problems in the justice reform space, Partners can create shared value and optimize their resources by prioritizing work and research on current knowledge gaps, thus avoiding duplication of efforts across organizations and maximizing cooperation.

Contact us to become a Partner of the Global Partnership of Justice and the Rule of Law.



For more information or inquiries, please contact:

Erica Bosio, Program Manager, Global Program on Justice and the Rule of Law, ebosio@worldbank.org

Manuel Ramos-Maqueda, Governance Specialist, mramosmaqueda@worldbank.org

Carmen del Rio Paracolls, Partnership and Communications, cdelrio@worldbank.org

Visit our website:



www.worldbank.org/justice