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HOSTED BY THE NYU CENTER ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Moving Towards a Financing Framework for People-Centered Justice: A Roundtable on the side-lines of the Summit of the Future

Concept Note

18 September 2024

9.30am – 12.30pm EDT (In-person)

10.00am – 12.10pm EDT/ 16:00 – 18:10 CET (Online)

Baha'i International Community (866 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY)

For in-person attendance register: [here](#)

For online attendance register: [here](#)

Co-Sponsors: Canada, The Kingdom of The Netherlands, Sierra Leone and USAID

Co-Organizers: Justice Action Coalition, Hiil, ODI, OECD, Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies UNDP, and the World Bank



About the Justice Action Coalition

The [Justice Action Coalition](#) is a multi-stakeholder, high-ambition coalition of countries and organizations, championing equal access to justice for All. Its guiding ambition is to close the global justice gap and achieve measurable progress in justice outcomes for people and communities by 2030 and beyond.

The Coalition acts as a platform for inspiration, dialogue, and action, based on inclusion and diversity, to bring together different voices, perspectives, and technical expertise on the rule of law and access to justice. The Coalition's mandate is to:

- Foster political dialogue and alignment to transform justice systems to put people at the center, by joining forces around shared goals, key messages, and global policy asks at national, regional, and global levels to influence agendas, international priorities, and funding streams.
- Accelerate progress toward the goal of providing access to justice for all, by enabling national justice leaders and change-makers to access relevant resources, expertise, and international support, and otherwise supporting them to develop and implement credible, inclusive, and adequately funded strategies.
- Advance the understanding of what works to provide access to justice for all, by encouraging the collection of people-centered justice data and evidence, endorsing standards and methodologies and assessing the ever-growing body of knowledge and know-how.

The work of the Justice Action Coalition is organized around four workstreams on (i) Data and Evidence, (ii) Strategy, Programming and Innovation, (iii) Communication, Narratives and Connection to the SDGs and (iv) Justice Financing. The secretariat for the Justice Action Coalition is hosted jointly by the [Pathfinders for Peaceful, Justice, and Inclusive Societies](#) and the [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP) in partnership with the [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development](#) (OECD).

The Workstream on Justice Financing

The Workstream on Justice Financing seeks to arrive at and promote a shared understanding of how to invest effectively in justice, providing a roadmap for interested policy makers.

Countries do not often consider investing in people-centered justice as a top tier priority and even when investment is made, it is not always towards some of the most impactful and scalable solutions. At the same time, justice leaders, the world over, are under pressure to demonstrate change and effectiveness.

Finance is a constraint in most countries, even as the justice sector continues to be hampered by a weak record of delivering results. One of the ways in which the Workstream on Justice Financing intends on addressing these challenges is through the creation and adoption of the Justice Financing Framework.

The aim of the Justice Financing Framework is to guide country-level justice financing, setting out financing principles, benchmarks and ambitions to deliver people-centered justice. Its foundation is the [2019 Hague Declaration of Equal Access to Justice for All by 2030](#) and the [OECD Recommendation on Access to Justice and People Centred Justice Systems](#). The

Framework enables effective strategies and policies to transform justice systems to respond to the unmet legal needs of billions of people and ensure respect for human rights. It comes from the realization that without changing financing structures and processes, ministries of justice and judiciaries will not be able to effectively make the transition to people-centered justice programming, as set out in the OECD Recommendation. The Framework draws inspiration from the approach to financing in other sectors (especially health and education) that have scaled-up front-line services and improved outcomes.

Objectives of the Event

The [Summit of the Future](#) is a high-level event, bringing world leaders together to forge a new international consensus on how we deliver a better present and safeguard the future. Effective global cooperation is increasingly critical to our survival but difficult to achieve in an atmosphere of mistrust, using outdated structures that no longer reflect today's political and economic realities.

“This once-in-a-generation opportunity serves as a moment to mend eroded trust and demonstrate that international cooperation can effectively achieve agreed goals and tackle emerging threats and opportunities.”

One of the key ambitions of the Pact of the Future (as stated in the current version - Rev.3) is to *“accelerate progress towards achieving the [sustainable development] goals, including through concrete political steps and mobilizing significant financing for developing countries”*.

It is in this context and backdrop that the Justice Action Coalition Workstream on Justice Financing will host a hybrid meeting on the sidelines of the Summit of the Future to discuss effective financing for justice and the proposed Justice Financing Framework. The meeting aims to:

- Emphasize the importance of financing for justice differently to ensure improved outcomes for people;
- Provide an opportunity for members of the Workstream on Justice Financing to, for the first time, unpack the draft concept and roadmap of the Justice Financing Framework to participants who will include governments, permanent missions to the UN, judiciaries, World Bank, OECD, donors, policy makers and justice sector technical experts, amongst others; and
- Generate feedback and input on the proposed framework and roadmap, to help to refine the Framework and to promote the ultimate adoption and use of the Framework by a broad range of actors within the justice sector.

Agenda

<i>Time (EDT)</i>	
9.30 – 10.00 <i>30 minutes</i>	Arrival and networking over Tea/Coffee
10.00 – 10.10 <i>10 minutes</i>	Opening Remarks Claire Ehmann , Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, USAID
10.10 – 10.15 <i>5 minutes</i>	Context Setting Swati Mehta , Director, Justice for All, Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, NYU-CIC
10.15 – 10.45 <i>30 minutes</i>	Presentation of the Justice Financing Framework Theresa Smout , Programme Director, HiiL Marcus Manuel , Senior Research Associate, ODI
10.45 – 10.55 <i>10 minutes</i>	Reflections on the people-centered justice Financing Framework presentation Maaïke de Langen , Head of Strategic Programmes and Senior Policy Advisor, OECD
10.55 – 12.00 <i>65 minutes</i>	Interactive discussion and feedback from participants Moderated by Clare Manuel , Senior Research Associate, ODI and Swati Mehta , Director, Justice for All, Pathfinders
12.00 – 12.10 <i>10 minutes</i>	Next Steps and Closing Remarks Erica Bosio , Senior Public Sector Specialist, World Bank
12.10 – 12.30 <i>20 minutes</i>	Networking and departure