

The IIJD Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote justice and provide innovative development solutions for long-lasting positive change in poor communities and developing nations

The Development Program Mission

Much of Africa is in a state of underdevelopment due to weak institutions, bad policies and poor management of development efforts.

There is a need to redirect international aid toward sustainable solutions that incorporate the will of the African people.

The Development Program works with local partner NGO's and communities in order to enable grassroots institutional reform and increase capacity and citizen participation.

As a result, to be involved in creating specific and well-designed solutions to poverty, improve local quality of life to allow for creative and effective development solutions:

The Development Program has three projects:

1. Election and Political Process Reform
2. Legislative Reform
3. Civil Society and Citizen Participation

We acknowledge the diversity within and between communities. The Development Program respects and involves local conditions, capabilities and people. This practice is the basis of all sustainable solutions.

"We have to ensure that future generations do not live to reflect only on what they would feed themselves everyday before going to bed. We know that poverty denigrates human beings and denies them the right to live and think rationally; poverty inhibits people from achieving their full potential."

Benjamin Ngachoko
President - CEO, IIJD, Inc.



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The International Institute for Justice and Development

The Development Program



**Promoting Justice and
Development Solutions for
a Better and Safer World**

Initiatives of the Development Program

1. Civil Society Strengthening and Citizen Participation

The Civil Society Strengthening and Citizen Participation Initiative helps people increase their standard of living so that they are able to take part in civil society.

By partnering with grassroots NGOs, we help civil society groups take active roles in the development efforts of their communities and states.

Our goals are to:

- Strengthen the management of civil society organizations
- Improve the capacity of locally-run organizations and of governments
- Sustain citizen civil society involvement
- Reduce local tensions caused by underdevelopment and disenfranchisement
- Achieve universal representation
- Teach skills of and provide models for democratic organization and governance

2. Election and Political Process Reform

The Election and Political Process Reform Initiative acknowledges that elections are an essential way to increase citizen ownership of and participation in government. We aim to:

- Establish institutions that guarantee democratic governance and peaceful political processes
- Encourage fair and transparent elections, organized by independent electoral bodies
- Institute legislative reform that allows for free and fair elections
- Make governments accountable to their stakeholders
- Observe elections and consult with governments and NGOs about organizing and carrying out free and fair elections

3. Legislative Reform

The Legislative Reform Initiative is designed to sustain the positive effects of free and fair elections through legislative and institutional reform. Elected officials must be able to transform their political platforms into effective laws in order to be legitimate representatives of the people. We aim to:

- Apply democratic legislation and the rule of law
- Assist in the drafting of new laws that create and maintain new structures and institutions needed for sustainable development
- Train local leaders in both government and civil society
- Assist with the management of public resources
- Translate development policy into executable law
- Build the capacity of people engaged in the drafting and law-making process (in both the government and NGOs)
- Translate policies into clear and precise laws that help effectively implement development projects dedicated to democratic governance.



Working With Partners

To ensure that local citizens directly participate and benefit from our initiatives, the IJJD collaborates with local grassroots organizations. In this way, the IJJD is able to use local expertise to design and implement cost effective programs, which address all aspects of the problem and ensure practical long-term solutions.

IJJD's Role in Development

Local NGOs often lack the technology, expertise, resources and credibility to effect great change. Also, aid donors, volunteers and experts frequently lack the local know-how to see what solutions are needed. Therefore, the IJJD plays an intermediary role by connecting like-minded organizations with donors and developers.

Our mediation is essential to the efficacy and sustainability of our partner's development projects. Participatory community-based development depends on local and foreign aid.

Our intermediary functions include:

- Facilitating communication between project beneficiaries and funding sources;
- Helping to identify and voice community needs as well as helping to address those needs;
- Supporting participation and group formation;
- Training and building the capacity of community groups;
- Channeling resources to the most disadvantaged.

Our Current Partners

Our Current Partners are located in:

- Togo
- Benin
- Niger
- Sierra Leone
- Burkina Faso
- Senegal
- Ethiopia