Justice Innovation Uganda – Summary

HiIL in partnership with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency at the Swedish Embassy in Uganda will execute a 3-year programme between 2017-2019 called ‘Justice Innovation Uganda’. Through this programme our activities will ensure that citizens of Uganda, and in particular the disadvantaged, see more of their issues resolved fairly and effectively by a justice sector that is more innovative, open, transparent and accountable. Eventually, this reduces stress, violence, and poverty, and improves opportunities by increasing access to justice and making the justice system more inclusive. This programme puts existing justice data to work and uses it as a foundation to develop solutions and strengthen the justice system as a whole. The design is based on collaboration: we are constantly informed by what we have learned from the users of the justice system and for every outcome we work closely with the experts and entrepreneurs of Uganda that deliver justice solutions.

This programme has four main executing components:

**Innovation Challenges.** The data and the Action Plans will reveal bottlenecks for access to justice. We turn these into challenges for innovators: Ugandan entrepreneurs, lawyers, judges or civil society organisations will be challenged to provide innovative solutions. We will run a Start-up Accelerator Programme and a Scaling Proven Innovations Programme to nurture and scale up the most promising ideas and solutions. Through these programmes, we aim to train at least 20 promising Ugandan justice entrepreneurs, invest in at least 10 justice innovations solving justice needs around land, family, employment or crime, and connect these to 30 (international) mentors to help them grow their ideas into impactful ventures.

**Data-to-Action.** We build transparency (people can know), and accountability (people can act) through an interactive Justice Dashboard that will be available through a web platform and an app. Moreover, we develop concrete tools for improvement: (a) Action Plans for three of the most pressing justice problems: a review in detail how the system works, user-stories and terms of reference for optimizing the system, and designs for resolution processes; and (b) a Treatment Guideline for family justice: best practices combined with evidence about what works, providing a more standardized, higher quality way of ‘treating’ the problems. Finally, in 2019/2020 we will conduct a follow-up Justice Needs and Satisfaction (JNS) survey, building on the baseline established in 2015. This will show trends and inform the actors in the justice about priorities, improvements, or lack of improvements.

**Justice Leadership.** We help develop the new kind of leadership that is connected with the methods we use. A leadership that puts the users of the justice systems at its heart and that connects, bridges and drives towards constant improvement, based on our data. Leadership dialogues will be held between Ugandan justice leaders and members of the Justice Leadership Group. Moreover, a documentary will be produced that will highlight stories that inspire citizens and empower them to claim their rights and hold duty-bearers in the justice system accountable.

**Governance, coordination and evaluation.** The management of the programme combines our specialized expertise with effective overall coordination. It includes a local presence with three staff members (Programme Manager, Office Manager and Business Development Manager) to help coordinate the different programme components, lead on the ground logistics and administration, inform and involve the various stakeholders in our activities and progress and take care of any local outreach.

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