

Local perspectives:

foreign aid to the justice sector

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements

Preface

Introduction	1
One: Methodology and definition of terms	3
Methodology	3
Definition of terms	4
Human rights assistance	5
Justice sector	6
Types of assistance	6
Actors and roles: donors and beneficiaries	7
Beneficiaries (recipients)	7
Donors (providers)	8
Government and non-government	8
The beneficiary perspective	9
Two: The national reform context - Bulgaria, Cambodia, Guatemala and South Africa	13
Bulgaria	14
Cambodia	15
Guatemala	16
South Africa	17
Three: Human rights and development - bridging the divide	19
Poverty, underdevelopment and justice	20
Measuring success (and failure)	21
A rights-based approach to development	22
Beneficiaries and a rights-based approach	23
Donor constraints	24
Four: Threshold issues - when to provide assistance and to whom?	27
When to engage (or disengage)?	27
Ups and downs - the Guatemala experience	30
Monitoring and engaging	33
Who to engage? Institution building in the official sector	36
The "safe aid" factor	38
Staying the course	43
Five: Strategic reform	45
Recognising justice as a development sector	46
NGOs as part of the justice sector	48

Planning reform	48
National policy	49
Specific plans for the justice sector	49
Tracking reform	52
Participatory needs assessment	53
Improving co-ordination	55
Five strategic safeguards	57
Access to justice	58
Recognise indigenous systems	60
Empower women	61
Involve minorities directly	63
Make the link between human rights and personal security	64
Six: Effective aid relationships	67
Local relationships	67
Foreign models, expertise and interests	70
Ownership, partnership and donor trends	73
Evolution	74
Transparency	75
Flexibility and responsiveness	75
Sound methodology	79
The right balance: advice and funds	79
Sustained commitment	80
How long is the long-term?	83
Foreign support for independent justice institutions	84
The relevance of international human rights standards	85
Seven: Conclusions and findings	87
Findings	88
Annexe I: List of principal interviews	94
Annexe II: List of persons who provided written comments on an earlier version of this report	96
Annexe III: An overview of donor policies and programmes	98
The DAC	98
Official bilateral aid agencies	99
European Union	108
International financial institutions	109
The United Nations	111
Private foundations and non-governmental donors	112
Bibliography	115
About The International Council on Human Rights Policy	124