



# USAID | KOSOVO

NGA POPULLI AMERIKAN  
OD AMERIČKOG NARODA

## Kosovo Justice Support Program (KJSP)

USAID Support – Since 2001, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has worked to support the development of the judicial system in Kosovo. In cooperation with local government counterparts and international stakeholders, USAID has worked to facilitate the establishment of an independent and impartial judiciary; to improve court operations; to strengthen professional ethics; to support minority participation; and to increase public awareness of the judicial system.

KJSP in brief – Building on previous assistance to the judiciary, USAID launched the KJSP in July 2007. KJSP is a 3-year, 19.5 million USD program targeting six objectives:

1. Improve the capacity of the Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC) in support of an independent judiciary
2. Improve Court Administration
3. Improve Professionalism and Ethics of Judges and Court Staff
4. Support for minority service and representation of minorities in the judiciary
5. Develop Ministry of Justice (MOJ) legal drafting, policy formulation and guidance skills
6. Establish and support the public prosecutors service

## Select accomplishments from KJSP's first 18 months:

- The KJSP flagship *Model Courts Initiative* was launched in 6 municipal and district courts, imparting best practices and lessons learned in court reform and modernization. Focus areas include court management; caseflow; execution of judgments; public information and access; archiving; record-keeping; IT; personnel; and facilities maintenance.
- Procurement of renovation services for the model courts is underway. The renovation will result in enhanced and accessible public areas of each court, modern filing and archiving areas and up-to-date and accessible court clerk and administrative offices.
- *Kosovo CourTools* (a series of standardized court performance measures) were developed and implemented by the Judicial Council Court Administration Committee.
- Turn-key training was provided to the Judicial Council Secretariat Statistics Division enabling the first-ever collection, analysis, and use of court statistics for management purposes.
- A multi-part series of Public Service Announcements concerning the justice system were produced and broadcast for free, in primetime, on the three most popular TV stations in Kosovo.
- The Kosovo Judicial Institute launched its first-ever Magistrate's school, an 18 month initial legal education program for candidates for judicial and prosecutorial positions.
- Court Liaison Offices continue to facilitate minority access to the Kosovo courts, working in coordination with the Legal Aid Commission and Kosovo Chamber of Advocates, through referral procedures developed and implemented with the assistance of the project.
- A prosecution computer-based case management pilot initiative resulted in the real-time entry and maintenance of cases in Gjilan District. The successful initiative will be replicated in other prosecution offices in partnership between USAID and USDOJ.

