



MICROJUSTICE4ALL  
ZEESTRAAT 100  
2518 AD THE HAGUE  
THE NETHERLANDS  
[www.microjustice4all.org](http://www.microjustice4all.org)

## **MICROJUSTICE4ALL: LEGAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR**



**PARTICIPATE NOW**  
in building a worldwide network of  
**Microjustice Country Organisations**

April 2014

## MICROJUSTICE4ALL INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE

Microjustice4All (MJ4All)<sup>1</sup> has developed the foundation for a worldwide network of Microjustice<sup>2</sup> Country Organisations. As a project-funded international expert organisation, MJ4All has set up Microjustice organisations in three continents. For MJ4All, 2014 is a transitional year. In anticipation of current changes in international development cooperation, we are shifting from the realisation of our goals through donor-funded programs to impact-oriented partnerships with the public and private sector, focusing on creating a self-sustainable network of Microjustice organisations. Seize the opportunity to participate in global sustainable change on the ground.



## MISSION & ACHIEVEMENTS OF MICROJUSTICE4ALL

*“Money won’t create success, the freedom to make it will”*

Nelson Mandela

Have you ever wondered why at least 4 billion people around the world spend their entire lives struggling to move out of poverty and obtain access to basic rights? A key contributing factor is that many poor people lack the proper legal documentation to show they own their land, to run a business, to vote or to access education, health care, social benefits and microfinance. This means they are excluded from participating in society and sustainable development.

MJ4All is dedicated to help set up local legal infrastructures (Microjustice Country Organisations) that provide services to obtain these legal documents with a focus on:

- 1) Birth certificates and various civil documents to enable access to e.g. education, health care, social benefits, microfinance and voting;
- 2) Housing and land registration for property protection, access to collateral and investment opportunities;
- 3) Setting up businesses, cooperatives and other legal entities, and drafting contracts to increase income-generating activities and civil society participation; and
- 4) Legal issues related to the above, mostly related to family law and inheritance matters.

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<sup>1</sup> *Microjustice4All* refers to the international Microjustice support organisation, based in The Hague

<sup>2</sup> *Microjustice* refers to the concept of legal services for the poor

## MICROJUSTICE4ALL FILLS A GAP

MJ4All is a **unique organisation** that develops innovative methods in legal service provision to the poor:

- Having as objective inclusion in society with the enjoyment of public services and social benefits, as well as legal security and protection, enabling people to participate and invest in their land, houses and businesses;
- Hands-on, impact-oriented legal education through a combination of awareness-raising activities with the provision of practical legal solutions by its lawyers and paralegals on the ground;
- Using a **bottom-up approach** to institutional reform through evidence-based lobbying;
- Addressing funding challenges: Microjustice country organisations are sustainable social enterprises, following the **model of microfinance**; clients pay a small fee, which covers the costs of the legal service. However, external funding is needed for establishing new country organisations and complementary activities, such as product development, legal awareness-raising, legal capacity-building, and research; and
- Being a part of inclusive finance, MJ4All partners with the microfinance industry.

## MICROJUSTICE4ALL'S VISION AND STRATEGY

The vision of MJ4All is a world where everyone lives in dignity, enjoys basic rights and is protected by a social system of justice. This vision is achieved by developing Microjustice organisations in countries where there is a need to integrate marginalised groups in society, in cooperation with local stakeholders and partners. These Microjustice country organisations exchange experiences, introduce new methods and mutually support one another through the coordinating role of MJ4All.

The work of each of the Microjustice country organisations has impact throughout the layers of the social pyramid:



**Impact throughout the social pyramid through its bottom-up approach**

# IMPACT OF MICROJUSTICE4All

Per March 31, 2014



## PERÚ

Since Nov. 2008:  
**17** outlets in Puno,  
**and** Lima  
**> 24,800**  
 consultations  
**> 2,700** cases  
**> 1,000** indigenous  
 communities formally  
 recognized  
**> 920** civil documents  
 obtained

## ARGENTINA

Since 2010:  
**16 mobile** outlets in  
 the slums of Buenos  
 Aires  
**> 700** cases  
**> 5,500** consultations

## THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

Headquarters MJ4All

## WESTERN BALKANS

Since 1997:  
**> 50,000** civil documents  
**> 100,000** consultations\* & legal  
 solutions relating to post-war  
 legal rehabilitation

## UGANDA / RWANDA

Since Sept. 2012:  
**4** outlets in border  
 regions  
**> 1,400** consultations  
**> 800** cases\* &  
 complaints  
**> 600** people trained  
**21** partnerships

## KENYA

Since Nov. 2011:  
**6** outlets in the slums of  
 Nairobi  
**1** successful policy  
 change  
**> 590** people trained  
**> 1,600** birth  
 certificates obtained  
**> 2300** consults  
**16** partnerships

## BOLIVIA

Since 2008: Micorjustice Bolivia has assisted directly **42,359** clients with **15,893** cases,  
 and **90,400** consultations with the following effect:

**64,309 consultations to get valid civil  
documentation, which clients needed to be  
able to obtain:**

State pension or family allowance	25%
Property registration	38.5%
Birth certificate / ID	6%
Microfinance services	8.5%
Marriage registration	2.5%
Travelling abroad	1%
Education and a degree	15%
Medical insurance	1.5%
Pension benefits	1.5%
Small enterprise registration	0.5%

**26,091 consultations related to  
property registration, which clients  
needed to be able to obtain:**

Inherit property	23%
Sell property	5%
Protect real estate property rights	62%
Access credit/obtain mortgage	10%

\*Consultation = provided personal legal advice (which is free)

\*Case = legal solution developed by the lawyers of a Microjustice Country Organisation (in exchange for a small fee)

## BUILDING A WORLDWIDE MICROJUSTICE NETWORK

- Over the past **17 years**, MJ4All has developed a new method for rights-based inclusive development, which has resulted in a ‘Microjustice toolkit’, providing tools (know-how, models and databases) for replication worldwide.
- MJ4All has a **strong global network** of contacts with local and international organisations, such as the UN, the EU, local governments, the private sector, the microfinance industry and civil society.
- With its efficient and focused international support organisation in The Hague, and large local teams in the Country Organisations, MJ4All has the capacity to scale-up and expand wherever its partners have the interest to create impact.
- Currently, MJ4All is developing **strategic partnerships** with organisations such as the International Development Law Organisation and the UN Global Compact as well as with various multinationals and global law firms.

## TOWARDS INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

### THE UN POST -2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- The High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda<sup>3</sup> has identified inclusive development, ‘leaving no one behind’ and legal empowerment of the poor as key agenda point.
- This requires a rights-based approach where all can participate and have the same legal rights and opportunities.

*“Societies without a predictable legal framework are societies where people do not invest in their future, or the future of their country.”*

Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary-General, New York, 19 September 2013

### DEMAND FOR IMPACT-ORIENTATED TOOLS

- International development cooperation has shifted from traditional, government-initiated, top-down and project-based to impact-oriented, focusing on creating self-sustainable change.
- Global business and governments are joining forces by engaging in ‘public-private-partnerships’.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.post2015hlp.org](http://www.post2015hlp.org)

## **PARTICIPATE**

MJ4All is now more timely than ever and is ready to further expand globally by engaging in partnerships. It is responding to changes in international development cooperation and to the demand for impact-oriented implementation tools for the new and rights-based approaches to inclusive growth and development.

MJ4All's strategy to roll out Microjustice over the world is by partnering with the public and private sector, international law organisations as well as civil society. These partnerships can have multiple forms, such as: financial contributions, cooperation in the distribution of the Microjustice services and sharing (legal) know-how. By working through independent Microjustice Country Organisations in cooperation with partners, MJ4All may remain an efficient and focused organisation that can swiftly develop its strategies, method and tools around the needs and circumstances encountered in the countries of operation.

See the Annex: "Programme & Aims 2014-16" for further details of our plans in the immediate future.

If you would like more information about the opportunities to participate, please contact us:

Microjustice4All  
Zeestraat 100  
2518 AD THE HAGUE  
The Netherlands  
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## **Annex**

### **PROGRAMME & AIMS 2014-16**

#### **ACTIVITY SET 1 - Further develop existing Microjustice Country Organisations as sustainable social enterprises:**

- Increase the number of service outlets throughout the country
- Expand the portfolio of legal services and products
- Scale-up awareness raising and education on basic rights for target groups (women, children, farmers, small businesses, indigenous peoples and victims of conflict)
- Build partnerships and encourage government institutions to improve the accessibility of administrative and legal procedures

#### **ACTIVITY SET 2 - Establish new Microjustice Country organisations:**

- MJ4All has identified opportunities in: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia
- Develop these opportunities in cooperation with partners internationally and locally (local groups, institutions, international corporations and law firms) and on the basis of the MJ4All Toolkit

#### **ACTIVITY SET 3 - Capacity Building of Microjustice Network:**

- Develop toolkits for specialised services for specific target groups, such as smallholder farmers (formalise legal entities, land registrations and water right protection) and women (inheritance, recognition of children and formalization of partnership, land and property right, small businesses)
- Evaluate impact (show how Microjustice is pivotal in sustainable human development)
- Research and disseminate data in key areas that affect the ability for vulnerable people to participate in society
- Develop expertise to improve legal systems in cooperation with relevant institutions locally and internationally
- Exchange information between MJ4All network members

#### **AIMS**

By the end of 2016 MJ4All aims to (I) reach 1,000,000 people, (II) be represented in 12 countries, (III) be a strong network organisation, providing expertise to its members, with the capacity to replicate MJ4All programs everywhere, and (IV) be recognized as a key player in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals-Agenda.