# Bridges to Justice Annual Report of International Bridges to Justice



Photo courtesy of Seth Mydans

International Bridges to Justice is dedicated to ensuring the basic legal rights of ordinary citizens throughout the world. Specifically, IBJ works to guarantee all citizens the right to competent legal representation, the right to be protected from cruel and unusual punishment and the right to a fair trial.

"I've known Karen for a long time. I see what a commitment and dedication she brings to her work. Many people suffer, but they come from families with nobody to look after them, so nobody pays attention. Karen understands them. And she is the one who is standing up for them, though they're not in her own neighborhood, not in her own country. In country after country, she's doing that."

Muhammad Yunus Nobel Peace Prize Winner, 2006

### Contents

| Message from the CEO      | 3  |                              |
|---------------------------|----|------------------------------|
|                           |    |                              |
| IBJ's Model               | 4  |                              |
| You Can Help End Torture! | 5  |                              |
| JusticeMakers             | 6  |                              |
| IBJ's Country Fellows     | 10 |                              |
| Country Programs          | 12 |                              |
| China                     |    |                              |
| Cambodia                  |    |                              |
| India                     |    |                              |
| Burundi                   |    |                              |
| Rwanda                    |    |                              |
| Zimbabwe                  |    |                              |
| eLearning                 | 21 | 64 rue de Monthoux           |
| 2009 Jubilee for Justice  | 23 |                              |
| Message from the Chairman | 24 | CH-1201, Geneva, Switzerland |
| Operations                | 25 | internationalbridges@ibj.org |
| Financial Report          |    |                              |
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|                           |    |                              |

### "We fall down, but we get back up"

This past year, I again had the extraordinarily fulfilling experience of spending time with many of you who make IBJ possible - board members, supporters, staff, fellows, volunteers, and

appointed lawyer secured her release. The other was a man accused of stealing electrical wires. He recounted how police had inserted acid into his rectum to extract a confession. Another IBJ-appointed

30 percent of the prisoners went unfed every day. When I asked the prisoners how long they had been in pretrial detention, their answers ranged from two to nine years. They told me stories

Three years ago we hired a former student of mine, Ouk Vandeth, to head our Cambodia program. I asked him to pledge that Cambodia would have a functioning legal aid system

during our lifetimes. He

replied, "Teacher, I cannot

promise you that." A few

### "Countless accused persons without lawyers remain in pretrial detention indefinitely. This is why we need systematic early access to counsel."

lawyers

legal

inspires

me.

friends. I was deeply moved by your resilience in the face of adversity and rejuvenated by your light in times of darkness. Your vision and courage have written a story about IBJ - one of hope and determination - for even as we fall down, we get back up.

I deeply appreciated my time with our India fellows, who face serious challenges and obstacles. Working in a country where custodial deaths are commonplace, they regularly confront cases of illegal detention, coerced confessions, and torture. Yet, glimmers of hope keep shining through.

Fellow Abhijit Datta arranged for me to meet two accused persons. One was a fifteen-year old girl who had been beaten by the family she worked for and accused of stealing gold. Without due process, she was sent to a juvenile detention facility. Months later, an IBJ-

lawver secured his release.

Both individuals were fortunate ~ countless accused persons without lawyers remain in pretrial detention indefinitely. This is why we need to establish systematic early access to counsel. Pilot programs to deliver this important right have been proposed in Delhi and Calcutta. This dream may seem far away. Yet, when meeting with lawyers in Calcutta, I sensed that they had the strength to will this hope into action. They described falling down and getting back up, and coming together with faith in the future.

In Zimbabwe, there are similar stories of hope in the face of despair. Zimbabwe has long been a challenging place for lawyers. But today, lawyers are standing up together to rebuild the legal system.

I visited a Zimbabwean prison, where five IBJ clients had died in the past year and about their detention without due process, and after each story, others stood and clapped. As I left, they sang a traditional song - "Don't forget us," they said. We only



IBJ CFO and Founder Karen Tse

### Seeking Due Process in the 21st Century

Skilled defense attorneys, equipped

with adequate training and support,

### are the key to unlocking the full

In developing countries throughout the world, systematic human rights abuses disguised as routine criminal processes are a daily reality, and the indignities suffered by countless numbers of ordinary citizens accused of crime amount to a colossal injustice hidden in plain sight.

Notwithstanding strides made in recent years in many of these countries towards formal recognition of international criminal justice conventions, domestic laws purporting to safeguard defendants' rights are all but toothless, absent effective enforcement. IBJ believes that skilled defense attorneys, equipped with adequate training and support, are the key to unlocking the full potential of criminal justice reforms.

### Mission

In recognition of the fundamental principles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Bridges to Justice is dedicated to ensuring the basic legal rights of ordinary citizens throughout the world. Specifically, IBJ works to guarantee all citizens the right to competent legal representation, the right to be protected from cruel and unusual punishment and the

### potential of criminal justice reforms.

right to a fair trial. To this end, IBJ significantly supports and enhances criminal defender and governmental legal aid efforts to protect citizen rights and to implement existing criminal laws through providing training partnerships, legal and administrative structural support and material assistance.

### Theory of Change

IBJ's mission is global in scope, marshaling a worldwide community of public defenders and legal rights advocates to support the work of defense attorneys in developing countries. Within each of the countries where it maintains active programs, IBJ works at both the national level, influencing decision-makers to institute system-wide reforms, and on the local level, where IBI fosters grassroots transformation through trainings, criminal justice roundtables, and public awareness campaigns.

#### Trainings

IBJ's most basic function is to increase defender capacity. There simply are not enough skilled defense attorneys available to provide adequate representation to the huge numbers of people accused of crimes. Nor is there the necessary infrastructure to support their work. To address this shortfall, IBI provides training to new and experienced criminal defense attorneys, both increasing the number of lawyers taking on these cases as well as improving each lawyer's ability to provide competent counsel. But IBI does not only train lawyers. Where IBJ has successfully cultivated institutional support for our objectives, other actors within the justice system, such as police, prison officials, and judges, are trained in best practices for safeguarding citizens' basic rights.

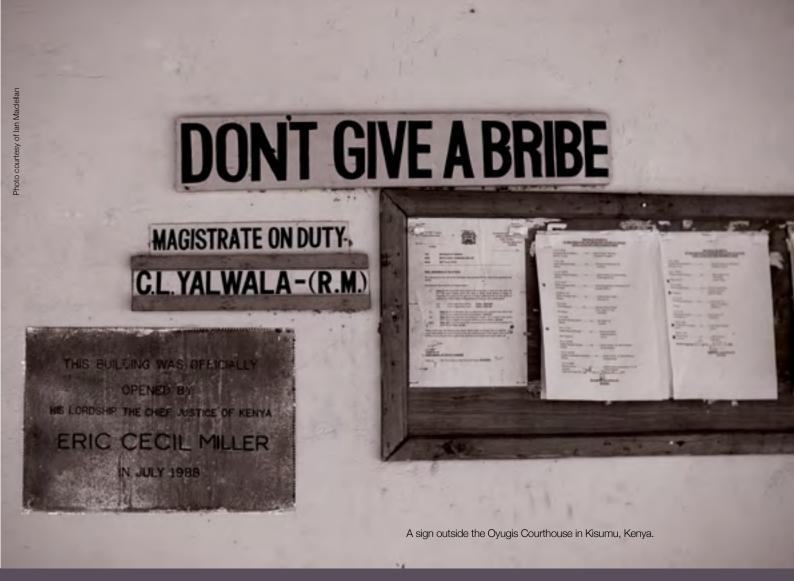
### Criminal Justice Roundtables

Implementing a more humane vision of criminal justice is best accomplished with the cooperation of the entire legal community. In order to promote mutual respect among the different stakeholders, IBJ regularly convenes roundtable meetings where defense lawyers, police, prosecutors and judges can engage with one another and

identify common ground. Representatives from local government, prison officials, community members, and legal academics are also invited. By providing a forum for these parties to communicate constructively, IBJ fosters institutional understanding of the role that defense attorneys have to play in the development of a functioning criminal justice system.

### Rights Awareness Campaigns

Knowledge is a powerful tool in the fight for human rights. By equipping ordinary citizens with a basic awareness of the legal rights to which they are entitled, IBJ greatly increases the likelihood that individuals will assert their rights when arrested. By publicizing the role that lawyers play in protecting people from illegal detention and torture, not only will individual defendants learn to demand representation, but the whole of society will have a better appreciation for the civic importance of defense attorneys, increasing popular demand for public support of their work. IBJ employs a variety of media platforms to raise awareness, from simple posters to radio broadcasts.



### YOU CAN HELP END TORTURE!

We ask for your commitment to help in whatever way you can. We need assistance with every aspect of our programs. Financial support, knowledge, advice, assistance, connections, and referrals are invaluable. Your participation today starts another ripple of hope.

Thank you for your invaluable support.

www.ibj.org/donate

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#### Make a Tax-Deductible Donation

There is no faster way to add resources to IBJ's efforts than a financial contribution. IBJ offers a variety of ways for individual, corporate and institutional donors to support our efforts. Whether you have an interest in supporting a particular country program, our JusticeMakers online platform, or our core administrative costs, your donation or in-kind gift would be invaluable.

#### Join Our Team

With offices in Switzerland, Cambodia, China, India, Singapore, Burundi, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe, IBJ is always looking for passionate, entrepreneurial people to join our team. Whether you're a private lawyer seeking a change of pace, a nonprofit manager with a penchant for human rights, or a university student looking for an internship, we'd love to hear from you.

### **Partner**

IBJ is building a global network of institutions to tackle legal abuses at a local level. Whether you're a lawyer or human rights officer with expertise, an engineer with a technological solution, or a government official who can help IBJ navigate public policy, we could use your help!

### IBJ Expands into 17 Countries

### JusticeMakers Fellowships Inspire Innovations, Hope

On June 26, 2008, IBJ launched JusticeMakers, an online initiative to identify and empower innovative legal aid practitioners around the world. JusticeMakers Fellowships will be awarded regularly to community leaders around the world with the most creative approaches to improving access to legal counsel. The first JusticeMakers competition took place in 2008, with funding awarded to eleven individuals from ten countries: Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Swaziland, and Uganda.

With support from IBJ, the JusticeMakers Fellows implemented their project ideas in 2009. The projects fall under three categories, which correspond to the three-pillar approach IBJ takes to promoting public defense around the world: legal defense training, criminal justice roundtables, and rights awareness campaigns.

### Legal Defense Training Malawi

Malawi has only 300 practicing lawyers in a country of more than 15 million people. Its prisons are severely overcrowded, and prisoners face lengthy stays in pretrial detention. JusticeMakers Fellow Chimwemwe Ndalhoma's project trains paralegals to give

free legal advice to defendants. A key breakthrough for the project was securing permission from the police for trained paralegals to be present during interviews. This protects prisoners from torture and other poor treatment and also improves the image of police.

Joy Mdivo seeks to relieve the backlog of Kenyan prisoners accused of minor offenses. These prisoners wait for trial for long periods, sometimes up to five years, far exceeding the sentence they would have received in court. Mdivo serves as country director for Christian Legal Education Aid and Research (CLEAR), which offers free legal aid to prisoners. She is using her JusticeMakers award to trains prisoners to become paralegals. The grant has enabled Joy to conduct 27 prison education seminars with a total of 498 attendees. Philippines

Rommel Arbitria of the Humanitarian Legal Assistance Foundation works to train prisoners to become paralegals. In the Philippines, the average length of criminal cases exceeds four years, and the conviction rate is a low 18%. Prisons are overcrowded with individuals awaiting trial and are seriously underfunded. Prisoners are allotted less than \$1 per day for food, and many do not have beds. Rommel is providing weekly law classes to inmates;

trained prisoners can then give legal advice to other prisoners. "We have been doing this program because we still see the humanity in each one. So we will do everything, from helping that simple person up to changing the whole system, because we believe that each and every person, despite what he has done, still remains a human being."

IBI ensures that prisoners receive direct legal counsel. **IM Fellows Patrick Dunkwu** and Franck Kamunga achieve this with the innovative use of technology.

Nigeria

Patrick Dunkwu is helping people in Lagos receive legal representation upon arrest by stationing volunteers equipped with mobile phones in prisons and courts. The first person released was Benson Ola, who had been accused of stealing a mobile phone. Shehu Olakunle, a member of Patrick's team of volunteers, was stationed at Ikeja High Court and saw Mr. Ola being escorted into the building in handcuffs. Mr. Olakunle contacted a legal aid lawyer working with Patrick, who immediately informed the court that the evidence against Mr. Ola was insufficient; he had been arrested solely based on the fact that he had visited the store from which the phone was stolen on the day of the robbery. Mr. Ola



Kenyan JusticeMakers Fellow Evans Muswahili at home with his children. Photo courtesy of lan Maclellan

was eventually acquitted of all charges. Patrick is determined to improve police accountability by alerting legal aid lawyers as soon as arrests occur.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Franck Kamunga set up a free text message service and a phone line in 24 police stations in Kinshasa to help ensure access to legal counsel for all women. His legal aid clinic received 348 SMS messages and 231 calls in two months. Since January 2009, 466 women have been provided with counsel. Franck is expanding his model to other parts of the country where women desperately need support.

### Criminal Justice Roundtables

Kenya

In many parts of Kenya, untrained individuals hold unofficial trials in illegitimate courts set up in police stations. Evans Muswahili seeks to educate members of the judicial and prison systems about their obligation to ensure fair trials. He also conducts legal rights awareness campaigns for the public through workshops and weekly radio shows. Evans' project targets victims of torture, arbitrary detention and abuse, and in Vihiga district, focuses on the protection of women. He has partnered with the Provincial Administration, the authority that controls

local government, making cooperation with senior police and local government officials possible. Evans has created forums for judicial officers and the public to interact and conduct peer reviews. He has also documented substandard conditions in prisons, sending the results to the district's prison superintendent. The problems include severe overcrowding, inadequate health care facilities, and the placement of those accused of petty offenses in the same cells as violent offenders. His persistent efforts have led to the approval of a plan to construct a new prison in Vihiga.

Pakistan

JusticeMakers Fellow Tahir Igbal seeks to improve the situation for young people arrested in Pakistan, where no formal juvenile justice system exists. Children are imprisoned with adults, and are not granted access to education or preferential treatment despite their unique vulnerability. He is raising awareness about the problems child prisoners face and advocating for a functioning juvenile system. Tahir has visited police stations in Pakistan to conduct roundtable meetings, facilitating discussions between police officers and legal aid lawyers about the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance, which mandates that arrested children be treated differently

Participants in IBJ's Documentary Journalism Program teamed with JusticeMakers to bring more exposure to their legal aid innovations. From top: Secondary school students participating in a law club organized by the CLEAR-Kisumu JusticeMakers Project; Walker Gunning (left) in Swaziland; and Danny Thiemann (left) in Brazil.

Photos courtesy of lan Maclellan, Nicholas Loomis and Michelle Ferng, respectively







IBJ photojournalist John Densky captured this image of 2008 JusticeMakers Fellow Patrick Dunkwu utilizing what is possibly the single most powerful tool available - cheap cell phones. Patrick seeks to ensure early legal counsel for indigent criminal defendants by using mobile phones to link lawyers and paralegals with defendants who have been recently arrested or sentenced. Volunteers stationed at courts daily will be able to speak with prisoners and call their lawyers or family members early enough to prevent them from being sent unnecessarily to prison on remand custody.



Go online and learn more: http://justicemakers.ibj.org

IBJ's JusticeMakers website includes biographies of current and past JusticeMakers Fellows and in-depth descriptions of their innovative approaches to legal reform implementation.

from adults. According to the ordinance, children should never be handcuffed, and the child's parents should be contacted immediately upon arrest. At the roundtable meetings, Tahir distributes framed posters outlining the rights of children for display at police stations. Tahir is also setting up a juvenile rehabilitation center in Karachi to provide child prisoners with career training. Swaziland

Angelo Buhle Dube, a lawyer and law professor, uses his JusticeMakers award to travel throughout Swaziland conducting workshops for police and community leaders. Dube seeks to address the shortcomings of mob justice by working with officials to discourage torture as a means of interrogation. He also combats abuse by seeking to transfer cases to courts that offer legal protections and lobbying to amend the Swaziland Constitution to eliminate caning.

### Rights Awareness Campaigns

Nepal

JusticeMakers Fellow Ram Kumar Bhandari helps the people of Nepal understand their legal rights through public dialogue and uses radio programming to reach remote villages. During the civil war in 2001, Ram's father was among those who disappeared. Opting for a constructive response, Ram created the Committee for Social Justice, which brings a collaborative approach to the effort to construct a more just legal system.

Brazil

Aziz Aliba has produced videos to educate prisoners about their rights. Even many legal aid lawyers in Brazil are unaware that they can file cases for allegations of violations, and prisoners do not know their rights concerning release. Aziz's first video promoted public awareness of the fact that anyone can file a motion to release a

prisoner. The video was shot in 2009 with the assistance of IBJ interns. A second video aims to show lawyers how to bring cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, an underutilized forum for human rights cases. *Uganda* 

JusticeMaker Robert Kibaya has created systems which allow justice system violations to be reported. He established the Rural Communities Justice Awareness Project to monitor and evaluate justice procedures in rural villages. Robert also educates rural communities through workshops and rights awareness campaigns, and has given legal training to community members. In addition, he has formed the Community Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee to systematically scrutinize legal practices. Committee members, trained in basic legal skills by IBJ, conduct workshops and awareness campaigns, and provide advice to villagers.



On June 28, 2009, the Swaziland JusticeMakers team held a workshop with community police in the rural village of Ngelane in the south of the country.

### JUSTICE AT 100 MPH

At 5:30 a.m., a spotlessly clean, silver Honda Accord pulls up outside the Fan Guest House in Manzini, Swaziland, and Buhle Dube leans on his horn. "Let's go," he yells. "We're not running on Swazi time!"

Bleary-eyed interns stumble over and barely settle into their seats before Dube tears out of the gate. "All right! We've got two hundred kilometers to cover, so let's get moving."

Dube and his interns are traveling to Matsanjeni, a remote village that became infamous after police beat to death an individual suspected of stealing a chicken. Matsanjeni Police Chief Quedusizi Ndlovu contacted Dube, asking him to conduct a police training that would prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

"What happened was that a young guy stole a chicken,"

said Ndlovu. "Maybe he resisted arrest, but being untrained, they used excessive force and the person died."

Unlike other organizations that bring outside pressure on governments to change their policies, IBJ's JusticeMakers program encourages fellows to partner with local authorities to fix malfunctioning systems.

"So far we have held ten workshops and trained more than 300 community police around the country," said Dube. "In some areas there has been a decline in the use of torture."

After the training, Dube and his interns hit the road again, their car swallowed by a cloud of dust. Fueled by cold hot dogs and communicating on a crackling walkie-talkie, Dube is one of our JusticeMakers fellows turning IBJ's mission into a global reality.

"So far we have held ten workshops and trained more than 300 community police around the country."

Buhle Dube, Swaziland JusticeMakers Fellow



Astère Muyango Burundi

"The criminal laws in Burundi generally conform to international standards. What is necessary is implementation."

Astère's commitment to legal aid has deep roots in Burundi. He was the breadwinner for his seven siblings while his country was devastated by a decade-long civil war, a nightmare of violence that led to the human rights abuses of today. Astère has dedicated his life to changing the broken legal system. He teamed with volunteer lawyers to collaborate with magistrates, prosecutors and prison officials to release 63 wrongfully-detained prisoners in Bujumbura.



Ouk Vandeth Cambodia

"When I was a soldier and a policeman, I saw the rights of people being subdued and violated. If people know their rights, they can use their rights by themselves."

Vandeth was raised in a very poor family in rural Cambodia and during his school years often went without enough food or clothing. At one point he lived with monks in a pagoda because he had nowhere else to go. When the Khmer Rouge came to power, he was forced to work on an agricultural commune and had no contact with his family for five years. He served in the military and completed his law degree while working as a police officer. Vandeth started working in the field of legal aid after witnessing widespread injustice. Prior to joining IBJ, he served as director of Legal Aid of Cambodia.



Innocent Maja Zimbabwe

"Most people look at problems without offering plausible solutions. I was convinced that I could be part of the solution."

Innocent Maja, a lawyer based in Harare, chose the path of upholding individual rights when, as a young boy, his father would come home overworked each night with only pennies to show for it. Through his studies and struggles, Innocent realized that the problems extended beyond employment issues and began to notice other injustices brought on by the denial of basic legal rights. Deeply affected by his experiences, Innocent has dedicated his life to the defense of human rights.



Abhijit Datta West Bengal, India

"In Indian society, torture is prevalent everywhere, but in law it is forbidden."

With over 15 years of experience as a public interest lawyer and human rights activist, Abhijit Datta exudes a deep commitment to establishing the rule of law and ensuring justice for the most marginalized populations in India. He collaborates with and extends the work of civil society organizations, state institutions, the court system, and community-based organizations to ensure that all criminal justice stakeholders are informed and engaged in the process. He has had extensive experience facilitating and participating in legal training.

"International Bridges to Justice is an organization that is able to get under the skin of countries where human rights are talked about but not implemented, and actually effect change at the grassroots level, from the bottom up... It's about partnering with locals, including local governments, local officials, local police departments, to deliver those human rights at the local level."



Ajay Verma New Delhi, India

"Unless we have fair trials and effective representation of the accused, the innocent may be convicted."

Ajay grew up without thinking much about defendants' rights. But when a neighbor was arbitrarily detained by the police, Ajay made a commitment to improve India's legal system, and in time he became a human rights lawyer. He provides free legal assistance to the poor in Delhi through his private law practice. Ajay also leads defense workshops for lawyers, in which he promotes early access to counsel for prisoners.



John Bosco Bugingo

#### Rwanda

"I want Rwanda to be a model for criminal defense which Congo, Uganda and Kenya can follow."

John Bosco Bugingo, a lawyer in Kigali, travels around Rwanda to increase awareness of legal rights and to engage with law enforcement officials in constructive discussions about their roles and responsibilities within the criminal justice system. He grew up in Uganda during years of genocide before moving to Rwanda. He is committed to improving the lives of the most vulnerable.

"The ability of our

Country Fellows to work

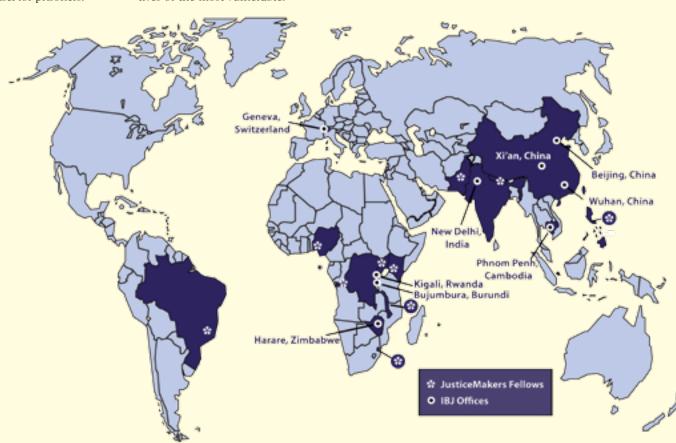
with governments to

effect change is

crucial to our success."

Karen Tse

IBJ CEO and Founder



### IBJ Cultivates a Talented Group of

In 2009, IBJ continued to successfully partner with government legal aid centers, bar associations, and academics to cultivate a new generation of lawyers equipped with the training, resources, and support they need to better defend Chinese citizens in the courtroom.

IBJ operates in China with a very high level of cooperation from the government, owing to relationships with National Legal Aid of China and the Chinese Ministry of Justice first established in 2001, which IBJ has strengthened ever since. IBJ has also developed key strategic partnerships with the All China Lawyers Association and universities

and law firms throughout China.

Even as it maintained ongoing working relationships with a robust partnership network, IBJ expanded the geographic scope of its physical operations in China, establishing a new Defender Resource Center (DRC) to serve the southeastern region of the country late in 2009. Located in Wuhan, Hubei Province, the new SEDRC is a joint effort with the Wuhan University School of Law. The dean of the law school, Yongping Xiao, welcomed IBJ's collaborative approach to advancing the rule of law at the DRC's opening ceremony in September.

DRCs form IBJ's institutional base in China, providing a venue for training, mentoring, and collaboration among the defender community. IBI's first DRC opened in 2004 in Anhui Province. The next year, the DRC model was replicated and built upon in Beijing, where a national DRC was founded. In 2007, a northwestern DRC was started in Xi'an. In the spring of 2009, a significant milestone in the field of juvenile justice in China was reached when this DRC partnered with the Northwest University of Political Science and Law and the Yanta Procuratorate to open Xi'an's first community-based juvenile rehabilitation center.

### JUSTICE FACTS: CHINA

Rule of Law: 45/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 1.57 million, 119 people per 100,000

In 2008, the conviction rate was greater than 99%. (The combined conviction rate for first- and second-instance criminal trials was more than 99 percent in 2008; 1,008,677 defendants were tried, and 1,373 were found not guilty.)

**70 percent** or more of criminal defendants went to trial without a lawyer.



Child at a juvenile detention center reading an IBJ brochure.

### Criminal Defense Attorneys in China







From top: Jim Gronquist (right) at the China University of Political Science and Law. China Director Jean Amabile and Beijing Program Officer Liu Yujin. Workers at IBJ's December 4th Campaign in Nanjing.

### CHINESE LAW STUDENTS SEE POTENTIAL IN LEGAL AID



Children reading IBJ poster at a juvenile detention center.

"Helping hand in hand is the best way to put the theory of rehabilitation and correction into practice."

Jin Yixiang, a volunteer for IBJ's project at the Yanta Procuratorate's Juvenile Rehabilitation Center in Xi'an, is also a student at the Criminal Law Institute of the Northwest University of Political Science and Law. Yixiang's experience working with the youths at the center has enriched his perspective on legal aid in China.

One client, a boy accused of having robbed a taxi driver, was sent to Yixiang by the boy's father in order to improve his behavior and attitude. Yixiang has met with him often, giving the boy a sense of hope.

Yixiang believes that IBJ legal volunteers at the Juvenile Rehabilitation Center play an important role as mentors by spending time with juvenile defendants who have been ignored and ostracized by society. The lawyers inspire them to become more productive members of their communities.

# IBJ Brings Legal Aid Within Reach in Cambodia

### IBJ Lawyers Handled 254 Cases of Pretrial Detainees in 2009

IBJ has officially partnered with the Ministry of Justice and the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia to conduct joint trainings and provide accreditation for defense lawyers.

2009 saw a dramatic expansion of IBJ's organizational infrastructure in Cambodia, allowing our programs to reach more Cambodians than ever before. In addition to the successful establishment of a central Defender Resource Center in Phnom Penh, three regional DRCs were opened in 2009 in Takeo, Pursat, and Prey Veng.

In addition to training defense attorneys, hosting roundtables, and conducting rights awareness campaigns, these regional DRCs are directly providing representation to indigent defendants, effectively functioning as pilot public defender programs for six rural provinces where no other form of legal aid had previously been available. Intended as proofof-concept initiatives, these programs will demonstrate to the Cambodian government that implementing a nationwide system of legal aid is possible.

With 254 cases of pretrial detainees handled by IBJ lawyers in 2009, Cambodian courts are gaining an appreciation for the tremendous value realized by society when every citizen facing

criminal accusation is afforded competent legal counsel.

Together with appeals to the government conducted through the central DRC in the capital city, IBJ is laying the foundation for a state-sponsored legal aid system that will eventually bring early access to counsel to every man, woman and child in each of Cambodia's 24 provinces.

Having forged a strong working relationship with the Cambodian government in a 2008 memorandum of understanding, IBJ has officially partnered with the Ministry of Justice and the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia to conduct joint trainings and provide accreditation for defense lawyers. By the end of 2009, IBJ had trained 130 lawyers in Cambodia.

In several well-attended criminal justice roundtables and workshops throughout 2009, IBJ brought together over 500 judges, police officers, prosecutors, prison and other government officials, and defense lawyers, who together discussed, among other topics, the implementation of Cambodia's recently reformed code of criminal procedure.

### JUSTICE FACTS: CAMBODIA

**Rule of Law:** 13.4/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 10,337, 124 people per 100,000

In a survey of 799 defendants, 34% were tried in absentia, and only 43% had counsel at trial. In the appeals courts, 69% of defendants were absent from their own hearings.

There were reports at some prisons that cells of 40 by 20 feet held up to 110 prisoners. At Correctional Center 1, cells of 26 by 26 feet held an average of 50 prisoners. At least 58 Cambodian prisoners died in 2009.

As of 2009, in most prisons there is no separation of adult and juvenile prisoners, or of persons convicted of serious vs. minor crimes. Moreover, pretrial detainees are routinely held together with convicted prisoners. According to government statistics, an estimated 32 percent of prisoners held in municipal and provincial prisons are pretrial detainees.



### LEGAL AID A LUXURY FOR CAMBODIA'S PRETRIAL DETAINEES "If not for IBJ I would not have been acquitted"

Chey Savoeun

Chey Savoeun was arrested in November 2008 and charged in Pursat Provincial Court with robbery. Cambodian law requires the court to provide a lawyer. But the case was not referred to IBJ for more than 10 months. Chey was unaware of his legal right to a lawyer until IBJ lawyer Chhuon Sithann visited him in prison. A week later, Chey was found not guilty. Despite his ordeal, Chey is fortunate. Without IBJ

assistance, he would still be waiting for trial like most prisoners in Cambodia.

There are legal limits on how long a person can be held in pretrial detention. But courts do not schedule felony cases until they have found a lawyer to defend them. There is no permanent legal aid in Cambodia. Thus, prisoners can remain in pretrial detention for years while courts try to find lawyers.

### India Embraces Judicial Reform

The Neediest Defendants to Be a Top National Priority

### Justice Facts: India

Rule of Law: 56.5/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 373,271, 33 people per 100,000

A 2007 report of the India National Human Rights Commission reported that the country's prisons, with an authorized capacity of 234,462, held 358,177 persons.

In 2009, the Ministry of Home Affairs reported that prisons were at 135.7 percent of capacity. In addition, a reported 69.9 percent of the prison population consisted of persons being tried but not yet convicted.

Since 2007, IBJ has endeavored to transform the culture of India's criminal justice system, from a past in which an immense population of pretrial detainees was left defenseless against torture and other abuses, to a future in which early access to competent legal counsel is afforded to every person accused of a crime.

In May 2009, IBJ was pleased to see this ideal reflected in the public statements of a high government official when India's new Minister of Law and Justice, Moodbidri Veerappa Moily, announced that judicial reform aimed at benefiting the neediest defendants would be a top national priority.

IBJ takes two complementary approaches towards improving access to justice in India, setting the example for legal aid in West Bengal and developing consensus in the legal community in New Delhi

In West Bengal, IBJ has partnered with the Indian human rights protection organization MASUM to launch a pilot legal aid program. West Bengal, with among the highest rates of pretrial detention and reported human rights violations in India, presented an opportunity to demonstrate the positive impact legal aid could deliver to even the neediest communities.

Following up on a successful two-day training session in April, IBJ's Country Fellow in West Bengal, Abhijit Datta, organized a group of lawyers to commit to representing indigent defendants languishing in West Bengal's overburdened prisons. By the end of 2009, these volunteer lawyers had handled over 130 cases. Many of these lawyers confirmed that their clients reported incidents of torture at arrest, during the police investigation, or while in custody.

In New Delhi, IBJ's Country Fellow Ajay Verma builds support for reform in the legal community. In June, in partnership with the Union Territories of Pondicherry Legal Services Authority, IBJ held a seminar on the importance of providing early access to counsel in order to stop police torture.





A patient at West Bengal's Sramajibi Hospital, a grassroots initiative to provide the indigent with medical care. Photo courtesy of Eric Kemp



A public sit-in demonstration in front of district court offices in Murishidibad, West Bengal gave victims in the area a chance to speak out about the human rights violations they have experienced. Victims told their stories to volunteer fact-finding personnel at the sit-in.

Photo courtesy of Eric Kemp

### IBJ-trained lawyer is more capable, hopeful

Rajesh Maharan is a defense lawyer who practices before the High Court of Delhi. Having taken part in one of IBJ's New Delhi trainings, he says that he has become a more compassionate and effective advocate for his clients.

"IBJ gave me a whole new perspective. I now have a much better sense of what it means to pursue justice for my clients. When we first meet, I try to be a better listener, more patient and more understanding. I'm dealing with people who may have been badly mistreated by the system before I was able to reach them. This may be true for the vast majority of the defendants I see."

He also credits IBJ with giving him hope that progress towards a better future is possible for India's ailing criminal justice system. "IBJ's trainings foster a community of like-minded attorneys, deeply concerned with the injustices we see in our clients' cases and newly empowered with the trial skills we will need to make a real difference for those clients. Together, and in partnership with IBJ, I am confident that we will eventually lead the movement for system-wide reforms that we badly need."

### Reform Takes Hold in Burundi

### IBJ Strengthens Ties with Burundi's Leaders

In 2009, IBJ hired Astere Muyango, our first Burundi Country Fellow, to launch a Defender Resource Center (DRC) in the capital of Bujumbura. The DRC directs our activities in Burundi, functions as a pilot legal aid center, and provides training and resources to IBJ's growing pro bono legal aid movement.

In the summer, IBJ facilitated a four-day practical legal skills workshop in Bujumbura that included 18 lawyers and 28 police officers, magistrates, prosecutors, and prison officials. Participants described their motivations to achieve justice, worked on skills-building exercises, studied the amended penal code, and discussed strategies to address prison overcrowding.

2009 also marked successful efforts to reach into other provinces in Burundi and map access to legal aid. We targeted one province each month, combining roundtables and rights awareness campaigns to spread IBJ's reform message throughout the country. Lawyers who undertook these provincial trips identified cases where pretrial detainees had been held for long periods without trial. Many of these cases were fast-tracked with the help of justices and prison officials who took part in

the roundtable discussions. Overall, 73 accused Burundians, including 15 juveniles, were represented and freed by IBJ-trained lawyers.

Additionally, IBJ conducted four on-street legal rights awareness campaigns in remote provinces. Nearly 1,400 citizens participated in constructive discussions about their legal rights. Widely publicized campaigns held on June's "Day in Support of Victims of Torture" and December's "International Human Rights Day" resulted in an increase in requests for legal assistance. Moreover, 85 percent of individuals educated through IBJ's rights

awareness programs now say they are in a better position to demand their rights in case of an arrest.

IBJ also made progress in its efforts to strengthen ties with Burundi's government, meeting with Minister of Justice Iean-Bosco Ndikumana. On July 23, Minister Ndikumana issued an open letter to the President of the Supreme Court, the Director General of the Penitentiary Administration and the Prosecutor General, protesting the unacceptable overcrowding of prisons and the high pretrial detention rate and requesting the immediate release of juveniles under the age of fifteen.

### Justice Facts: Burundi

Rule of Law: 13.9/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 9,114, 104 people per 100,000

**In 2009,** the prison population of Burundi was more than double capacity. (APRODH)



Gitega Prison Director André Mbayabaya works with IBJ to root out irregular pretrial detentions.

Photo courtesy of Nathalie Mohadjer



A mock trial in a 2009 training in Bujumbura, Burundi. On the left, a judge playing the accused; to the right, a prosecutor in the role of a defending lawyer.

Photo courtesy of Nathalie Mohadjer



Rights awareness posters on a courthouse door.

Photo courtesy of Nathalie Mohadjer

### ROUNDTABLE ADDRESSES PRETRIAL DETENTION

The roundtable discussion held on the issue of pretrial detention concluded with bold promises to achieve results. These promises have been kept.

A month after the roundtable discussion, three lawyers traveled from Burundi's capital city to Gitega's prison. The group, led by IBJ Legal Fellow Herman Ndayishimiye, met with the prison director, André Mbayabya.

Together, they scoured prison records and identified 182 cases of irregular pretrial detention.

Of these, 28 cases were identified as requiring immediate attention. The lawyers met with the defendants, became familiar with each of their stories, and prepared defense strategies. As agreed with Gitega's prosecutor and the magistrates who had attended the roundtable discussion, a special court session was conducted the next day to expedite these cases. The result was a resounding success: all 28 detainees were immediately released.



### Optimism Grows in Rwanda

### IBJ Works Closely with the Kigali Bar Association

Since its assessment of Rwanda's legal system in November 2006, IBJ has built strong partnerships with the Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor General's Office and the Kigali Bar Association. An IBI delegation met with the Minister of Justice in June 2009. The minister welcomed IBI's work in Rwanda and encouraged the implementation of programs in line with the ministry's own strategy of decentralization.

Since 2008, IBJ has been working with the President and the Director of Legal Aid of the Kigali Bar Association to develop a human rights and criminal law accreditation program grounded in

Rwanda's Criminal Code. IBJ hired French lawyer Mehdi Benbouzid, who created a comprehensive exam based on the Criminal Code to test substantive areas of human rights and criminal law, as well as practical skills for legal defense.

IBJ is preparing lawyers to take part in the Rwandan government's ambitious Maisons d'Accès à la Justice (MAJ) program, which seeks to provide legal aid in every district in the country. A group of trained lawyers hopes to begin working in collaboration with MAJ centers and to establish additional pilot sites. These lawyers will provide criminal defense training to lawyers,

paralegals, and other actors in the justice system.

IBJ is also launching its own initiative to promote access to justice. Led by the dynamic John Bosco Bugingo, IBI's Country Fellow, the project will commence with the establishment of a Defender Resource Center (DRC) in Kigali. Strategically located in the capital city, the DRC will operate as a place where families of accused persons can seek legal advice and will serve as a hub for volunteer attorneys around the country. It will offer a space where defense lawyers can work, prepare cases, and meet with clients and witnesses

### Justice Facts: RWANDA

Rule of Law: 38.3/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 59,598, 604 people per 100,000

#### By the end of October 2009,

the prison population was approximately 64,000 in a system designed for 43,400. The population consisted of approximately 59,100 men, 4,200 women, and 700 minors. Additionally, as of August there were 679 children living with their parents in prison.

In 2009 there were 19,247 criminal cases and 26,364 civil cases pending in the regular courts; approximately 47,000 cases were pending at the end of 2008.



From left to right: Maître Vincent Karangwa, President of the Kigali Bar Association; Karen Tse, IBJ Founder; and John Bosco Bugingo, IBJ Country Fellow.

#### Radio is the most effec-

tive medium for disseminating information in Rwanda, especially in rural communities. Under the leadership of Country Fellow John Bosco Bugingo, IBJ is conducting a series of rights awareness programs on Contact FM, a nationwide radio station. Vincent Karangwa, President of the Kigali Bar Association, was the guest of the first program on November 1.

The topics discussed have included grounds for provisional detention and release under Rwandan criminal law, the presumption of innocence, and the law of evidence and bail, among others.

The show has generated much listener interest. Many people called in and sent text messages to get clarifications of concepts with which they were unfamiliar, such as the minimum age of criminal responsibility and the steps to take when someone has been unlawfully detained. From the many comments, questions and messages of encouragement received, it is clear that the program responds to a need that has, until now, gone unmet.

# IBJ's eLearning Initiative Extends Defender Training Online



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Loomis

Increased access to the Internet around the globe makes individual web-based learning a cost-effective alternative to hosting local workshops. IBJ piloted an eLearning and Accreditation intiative on our JusticeMakers website in 2009. In 2010, we will launch the IBJ eLearning Center, a web server for web-based training modules based on IBJ's Universal Legal Curriculum.

Delivering high-quality multimedia training content through the Internet allows IBJ to dramatically increase the reach of our defender training programs into countries where population and geography make it impractical to conduct in-person workshops. The eLearning program makes it possible for IBJ to disseminate its training materials worldwide, beyond countries where IBJ has the capacity to maintain a local presence.

This year, IBJ developed a series of 21 legal modules in multiple languages for IBJ's growing programs in Africa, focusing on arrest, the right to counsel, interviews, pretrial detention, legal proceedings, and sentencing. These modules are extensions of the training manuals, legal defense toolkits, and case assessment tools IBJ has developed and used in its training seminars around the world since 2001.

IBJ partners with legal practitioners in program countries in order to refine our eLearning content. In 2009, the All China Lawyers Association agreed to allow IBJ to create a suite of eLearning modules for Chinese lawyers to be released beginning in 2010. In partnering with bar associations, the goal is to eventually incorporate a form of accreditation into the eLearning program, thereby accelerating the distribution of these vital legal skills.

### Making Strides in Zimbabwe

### Justice Facts: Zimbabwe

**Rule of Law:** 1.4/100

**2009 Prison Population:** 17,967, 136 people per

100,000

### The government's 42 prisons

were designed for a maximum of 17,000 prisoners. Local NGOs and the International Committee of the Red Cross estimated that there were approximately 12,000 to 14,000 prisoners in the Zimbabwe Prison System at year's end, a significant reduction from a 2008 NGO estimate of 35,000 and the 2008 government estimate of 22,000 to 24,000.



Criminal defendants granted bail flanked by Country Fellow Innocent Maja (far left) and Legal Fellow John Burombo (far right), who assisted them.

IBJ's Defender Resource Center in Eastlea, not far from downtown Harare, provides Zimbabwe's lawyers with the resources and support they need to advance the agenda of legal reform. IBJ Zimbabwe is led by Country Fellow Innocent Maja, an energetic criminal defense lawyer committed to providing legal representation to impoverished Zimbabweans. To support Innocent's efforts, IBJ appointed lawver John Burombo as a Legal Fellow in February 2009. Burombo is providing direct case support to poor defendants, giving priority to pretrial detainees who have been in jail the longest.

In the summer of 2009, IBJ conducted a three-day

human rights and criminal defense workshop, the very first of its kind in Zimbabwe, for about 60 lawyers from the Harare area. The goals of the workshop were to strengthen practical skills and increase knowledge about Zimbabwe's criminal procedures. Responses to the workshop were extremely positive. Participants committed themselves to the reform of Zimbabwe's criminal defense system by providing free legal assistance to at least two defendants per month with the support of IBJ. One participant concluded that "this has made us believe that it is not extraordinary men and women who change the course of history, but ordinary men and women with extraordinary skills and

beliefs." A series of trainings throughout 2010 will build on this progress.

Looking ahead, IBJ will continue to build its presence in Zimbabwe in 2010 through criminal defense trainings, roundtables involving actors in all sectors of the criminal justice system, and legal rights awareness campaigns in the mass media and at the community level. A planned training in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, will expand our presence beyond Harare. IBJ is committed to building leadership in the Zimbabwean criminal defense movement, enhancing the capacity of the legal community, and facilitating dialogue on the country's justice system.

### Justice Facts Sources (all countries): Bule of Law indicator:

World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators Prison populations and rates: 2009 report of King's College International

Centre for Prison Studies
Survey of Cambodian defendants:
Cambodian Courts Monitoring Project of the
Center for Justice and Reconciliation
All other information drawn from US State
Department's 2009 country reports on
human rights.

At the time of his arrest, Prince Mavaro was 23 years old and married, with a one-year-old child, and was the sole breadwinner for his family. He was arrested in May 2008 on charges of unlawful entry. Prince could not afford a lawyer and ended up stuck in remand prison. During interrogations, Prince was severely assaulted by the police. He was tied up and beaten under his feet and on his knees with batons and bottles, and sustained a series of injuries which made it very difficult for him to stand up and walk. He spent almost three weeks in police custody before he was taken to a court of law, where he complained of the mistreatment he had suffered at the hands of the police. No action was

Ten months after Prince's arrest, IBJ Legal Fellow John Burombo began helping him. When Burombo began providing assistance, his main concern was to get Prince out of prison. He applied for bail, but it was denied. With the court system seriously dysfunctional, Prince remained in custody, which left his wife and child completely vulnerable. Burombo therefore decided to apply for a refusal of the further remand of Prince pending trial. In March 2009, the application was made to the court. The court upheld the application, and Prince was discharged and released from custody. He had lost one year in remand prison.

# Lighting the Beacon of Hope at IBJ's 2009 Jubilee for Justice in Bern

On June 6, 2009, International Bridges to Justice held its first ever Jubilee for Justice at the Bellevue Palace Hotel in Bern, Switzerland, with 200 distinguished guests in attendance. The theme of the awards and celebration dinner was 'Lighting the Beacon of Hope' to bring focus to the many and diverse supporters of IBJ.



IBJ honoree Hilde Schwab with her husband Klaus.

Photo courtesy of the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship

IBJ proudly presented the 2009 Leadership and Innovation Award to Hilde Schwab, the Chairperson and Co-Founder for the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. The award recognized her progressive work and dedication to the field of social entrepreneurship. As the Chairperson for the Schwab Foundation, she is a catalyst for social innovation throughout the world, supporting a community of over 150 of the world's leading social entrepreneurs. Her work has created the platform at the annual and regional summits of the World Economic

Forum for the interaction of social entrepreneurs with corporate and political leaders. Other distinguished guests at the dinner included World Economic Forum Founder and Executive Chairman Klaus Schwab, author Paolo Coelho, and Swiss TV presenter Silvia von Ballmoos.

The dinner included a silent auction, as well as the opportunity to hear from IBJ Country Fellows from Cambodia, India, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, and Burundi. This

insider's perspective allowed guests to gain a clear vision of IBJ's mission, as well as an understanding of the important changes implemented within these various countries by each Fellow. The evening concluded with a final thank you from IBJ's CEO and Founder Karen Tse who aptly summed up the Jubilee for Justice evening by saying, "The path to justice is never easy. But we are encouraged by the community of supporters who by their presence light our way."

IBJ International Program Director Sanjeewa Liyanage with author Paulo Coelho at the 2009 Jubilee for Justice.



### A Message from IBJ's Chairman



Daniel R. Fung, Chairman of the Board of Directors of International Bridges to Justice

In 2009, I had the honor and privilege of being elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of International Bridges to Justice. This post gives me an invaluable opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of an organization that is playing both a unique and a critical role in efforts to establish the rule of law throughout the world.

IBJ is dedicated to upholding the basic legal rights of ordinary men and women accused of committing criminal offences. Specifically, we work to ensure that all accused persons have the right to competent legal

In truth, many people are wrongly accused of crimes. This happens daily, even in the fairest of criminal justice systems. Moreover, regardless of whether someone is innocent or guilty, there can never be any justification for pretrial detention that exceeds the alleged crime's maximum sentence, torture as a tool to coerce confessions, or other State actions that make fair and just outcomes in criminal proceedings far less probable.

When arbitrariness and unfairness infect the criminal justice system, it is only a matter of time before they infect a country's other legal

Thus, with the blessing of Zimbabwe's Ministry of Justice, we conducted a successful training in 2009 for 60 defense lawyers in Harare, including all the lawyers attached to the governmentrun Legal Aid Directorate.

We are also willing to work in countries with tragic histories and challenging environments. This report recounts, among other successes, the dramatic strides we have made in advancing criminal justice reform in three countries scarred by genocide – Cambodia, Burundi, and Rwanda.

Of course, we cannot make progress without

### IBJ is the only organization entrusted with a mission focused exclusively on strengthening criminal defense systems worldwide.

representation, the right to be protected from cruel and unusual punishment and the right to a fair trial.

It is easy to overlook how crucial fair criminal justice systems are to implementing the rule of law. Many of us even in countries where the presumption of innocence has long been established are predisposed instinctively to be unsympathetic to persons accused of crimes. Further, most of us find it difficult to imagine that we ourselves might ever face criminal charges or investigation. As a result, we seldom pause to think of how we would want to be treated if we were ever suspected of a crime.

institutions, eroding the rule of law and diminishing public trust in governmental authority. Criminal defense work, an essential counterweight to arbitrariness and unfairness in criminal proceedings, thus plays a crucial role in strengthening the rule of law and ensuring the vitality of civil society.

IBJ is the only organization entrusted with a mission focused exclusively on strengthening criminal defense systems worldwide. What also makes us unique is our emphasis on working collaboratively with *any* sovereign government interested in effecting positive change for the benefit of its citizens.

resources. We explain on page 5 how you can make a tax-deductible donation. However, we also need inkind assistance. No matter where your talent lies, we can match it to IBJ's mission.

The updated design of this Annual Report provides a vivid example. We are enormously grateful for the services volunteered by William Linthicum, an artist and retired graphic designer living in Geneva.

As IBJ works to bring fundamental legal protections to the accused throughout the world, I ask you to contribute whatever you can to help us achieve our mission. Thank you for your support of IBJ.

sovereignty in 1997. He is also Co-Chair of the United Nations Peace and Development Foundation and President of the Hong Kong chapter of the International

Law Association.

Daniel R. Fung was the first

to serve as Solicitor General

person of Chinese descent

of Hong Kong. He did so

both before and after Hong

Kong's reversion to Chinese

# IBJ Taps In-kind Gifts, Weathers Financial Crisis

In 2009, IBJ's total income increased by 59% from 2008 to \$2.74 million. Excluding in-kind donations, IBI's dollar income increased by 48% from \$1.49 million in 2008 to \$2.20 million in 2009. In-kind donations increased significantly in 2009 for two main reasons: First, having moved to a larger office in December 2008, IBJ was able to accommodate more interns and volunteers than we could accommodate in our old office; and second, the financial crisis resulted in more people applying for longer-term internships, with IBJ benefitting, in particular, from 2009 law school graduates in the US having their employment start dates with law firms deferred by a year and receiving support to work with IBI.

IBJ was fortunate not to feel the full impact of the financial crisis in 2009. While it was hard to raise funds from new sources, we continued to receive strong support from our existing funders, all of whom honored their agreements with us. As a result, the share of funds from different sources in 2009 (excluding in-kind donations) was comparable to 2008:

1. IBJ's main source of funding continued to come from private foundations. While the dollar amount increased by 14%, the share of overall income from private foundations decreased from 62% to 48%.

2. Income from government and multilateral agencies increased significantly in total dollars, but only marginally in percentage to 28%, as we received a full year of income from EuropeAid, from the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and from the US State Department.

3. In 2009, IBJ's founder, Karen Tse, was awarded the prestigious Gleitsman International Activist Award from Harvard University. While this was a personal award for her work, Karen donated the award to IBJ. With a repeat award from the Skoll Foundation for Karen and IBJ's social entrepreneurship, we received 9% of our income from awards in 2009.

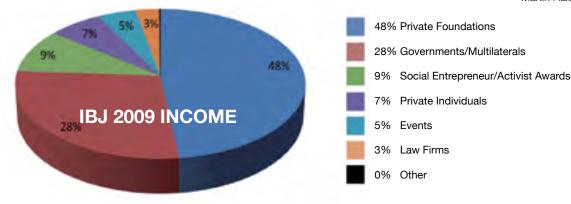
4. In 2009, we organized our first ever fundraising event, which was timed to coincide with our first ever Fellows summit and at which the Fellows spoke of the need for our work in their countries. The event was highly successful and raised over US\$100,000, or 5% of our income.

5. Private individuals and law firms continued to support IBJ, contributing about 7% and 3% of our income, respectively.

At the start of 2010, we had confirmed funding of \$2.5 million for the year and commitments for funding through 2011. Moreover, IBJ plans to intensify its focus on development activities in 2010 to continue its steady growth.

"This is really a cause that makes a huge difference to people who are suffering in a legal system which makes it very difficult to get help. It is not an academic exercise. It is really hands-on in some of the most dangerous and difficult countries in the world, where IBJ goes in and makes a massive difference to individual people."





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Gleitsman International Activist Award

#### Individual Donors

Our work to advance the rule of law and improve access to legal representation would not be possible without the generous support of many people. In 2009, hundreds of individuals contributed nearly \$200,000 to IBJ, including \$35,000 in a fundraising campaign led by our staff, interns and alumni on the website razoo.com. This funding helped pay for JusticeMakers Fellowships; criminal defense trainings; roundtable discussions among police, judges, prosecutors, and defenders; and the operating costs of our offices in Asia, Africa, and Geneva.

Supporting the work of innovators operating at the grassroots level is the most effective approach to implementing legal reform. It puts resources in the hands of the actors who best know how to use them and directly offers tangible benefits to ordinary people around the world. Your support has made a real difference in IBJ's efforts to carry out its mission to ensure access to justice for all. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you.

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**Justice** 

"[T]his is a service that really comes to the assistance of thousands upon thousands of people—the ordinary criminal suspects who get stuck in a dysfunctional criminal justice system—and it's because of the work of Karen and IBJ that they have a much better chance of receiving justice and having a fair day in court."

Ken Roth Executive Director of Human Rights Watch



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