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Rule of Law Program - Justice and Enforcement

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West Bank and Gaza

NETHAM

Rule of Law Program

Justice and Enforcement

DFD-I-01-04-00173-00

Implemented by DPK Consulting, a division of ARD, Inc.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summarizing key achievements this quarter, Netham continued to play a key role in strengthening the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), court administrators and other bodies by implementing a number of targeted activities. Netham assisted in the establishment of the Court Administration Department which is a key court department responsible for overseeing the administration of courts. In efforts to support the MOJ, the project hired a Legal Advisor to assist the Ministry of Justice in developing strategies and programs. Netham support to enhancing civic education programs also aimed to help make Palestinian youth more aware of the rule of law by beginning to evaluate the civic education curriculum offered by the Ministry of Education and developing training manuals for Civic Education teachers to improve teaching methodology. In addition, this quarter kicked off the implementation of the Netham Grants Program.

More specifically, Netham conducted training for SJC judges and court administrators, starting with three-day workshops for 25 Supreme Judicial Council Judges on Criminal Case Management. The workshops were led by two senior Jordanian High Court Judges and covered numerous topics of interest to the Palestinian judges including filing, registration and procedures of criminal cases; evidence in criminal cases; application of the Criminal Procedures Law and issuing judgments. Moreover, the first session of Phase II of the 'Capacity Building Training Plan for Court Administrators and Staff' was conducted for 34 Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks who received training on the new Court Unified Procedures system. The training of judges and court administrators will continue into the next quarter. Another key milestone in support to the SJC was the project's assistance in the development of the CAD. The CAD will be the court body responsible for the development, management, and monitoring of court systems. A Director of Court Administration was appointed by the Chief Justice to provide the management and support needed to make this department viable and functional. In support of the CAD, a special two-day workshop for all Chief Judges from West Bank courts was held in Jericho this quarter and attended by the Chief Justice. The workshops commenced the establishment of regular Court Administration Department meetings.

In other efforts, Netham assisted in improving the transparency and efficiency of the Ramallah Civil Judgment Department by strengthening anti-corruption mechanisms. The major objective here was to assist the Civil Judgment Department track fines paid by litigants in a civil judgment case. These fines are deposited into banks accounts administered by the Civil Judgment Department; the department, however, lacks the proper tools to manage the deposits effectively. Netham worked with the Civil Judgment Department to develop a unified financial deposits management system in order to assist in managing all deposits made by litigants. Since the start of this activity, Netham was able to track 1.5 million dollars of accumulated deposits for the Civil Judgment Department. Due to the success of this activity in Ramallah, it is expected that all Civil Judgment Departments in the West Bank will adopt the unified financial deposit system.

With Netham's assistance, the SJC is also showing a marked impact in improving the public's image of the judiciary through improved media coverage. The project assisted the SJC's Media and PR Department in organizing a site visit for 20 journalists representing various print, radio, and television media outlets to the Jenin and Nablus Courthouse in order to educate journalists on the role and function of the judiciary, and encouraging local press coverage of the courts. In addition, Netham, along with the SJC Media and Public Relations Department, worked vigorously to make the public aware of the new renovated Jenin Courthouse. Netham sponsored an SJC public outreach campaign where a number of radio ads with local and national stations to inform the public of the launching of the newly renovated Jenin Courthouse. The courthouse was

renovated by UNDP while Netham provided upgrades and procured equipment for the Notary Public and Civil Judgment Department as well as the First Instance Court.

Support to the MOJ included the complementation of the renovation work of the public services office in the Justice Records Department, along with finalizing the Justice Records System and the hire of 6 interns to begin data entry into the new system. In addition, a legal advisor was hired to help improve the functioning of the MOJ. The legal advisor met with various donors to explore potential activities to implement at the Ministry. The advisor will continue to work and develop appropriate activities.

In supporting public outreach, Netham, along with the SJC Media and Public Relations Department, worked closely with USAID's Ruwwad Youth Development Project to produce a documentary which will highlight the SJC's achievements. The documentary will be screened during Justice Day 2009 events. In other public outreach activities, Netham began implementation of the Netham Grants Program which aims to promote judicial awareness to the public. Netham conducted a workshop for interested Civil Society Organizations to review the grant summary form. To date, seven out of 30 Civil Society Organizations have been invited to submit a full grant application.

In supporting the Civic Education Initiative and rule of law awareness in Palestinian schools, Netham conducted focus groups for students, parents, teachers and principals in order to gather information on the perception of the civic education being taught in the schools. The major objective of the focus groups is to help develop a teacher's manual on teaching civic education in schools and to assist in developing a training-of-trainers agenda. Working with the Ministry of Education, Netham also supported the establishment of a *Rule of Law Award* which acknowledges and rewards rule of law initiatives that have had an impact on schools and local communities. Jawwal, a leading Palestinian telecommunications company, has agreed to co-sponsor the Rule of Law Award with \$12,000 in cash and prizes.

The project's legal education initiatives have also progressed this quarter. Netham assisted in the renovation work of the Al Quds University's computer lab which is located in the Faculty of Law building. The computer lab will serve around 700 law faculty and students. In addition, AMIDEAST, based on a Netham-supported assessment is currently conducting six English training courses for second year law students and two courses for law faculty. Netham is also working on developing law courses to be conducted in the fall.

In staffing issues, this quarter, several staff positions at Netham have been vacated: the Court Management and Training Manager, the Director of Finance and Administration and the Translator/Executive Assistant to the Chief of Party. Netham is now recruiting for these positions. During the quarter, Netham also hired an administrative assistant for the Ramallah office.

2. ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

SPECIFIC PROJECT ACTIVITIES

This section provides updates, progress, and challenges of the key project activities set out in Netham's work plan.

COMPONENT 1: PROFESSIONALIZING THE FORMAL JUSTICE SECTOR THROUGH ASSISTANCE TO THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COUNCIL, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, COURT ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHER BODIES

Supporting the Process of Developing the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC)

Supporting the Development of the Court Administration Department (CAD)

Last quarter, Netham assisted in the development of the Court Administration Department (CAD), a key SJC Department responsible for fostering and maintaining accountability and transparency at court institutions. As part of efforts to support the CAD, the Chief Justice this quarter appointed an Appellate Court judge to serve as the first Director of the new SJC Court Administration Department. Working with Netham, the CAD developed their by-laws, organizational structure, and work plan. The Chief Justice has approved the CAD's work plan and is currently reviewing the by-laws and organizational structure of the department; approval of the by-laws and organizational structure is expected next quarter.

This quarter, a special two-day workshop for all Chief Judges from Palestinian courts was held in Jericho and was attended by the Chief Justice. The workshops commenced the establishment of regular Judicial Court Administration meetings within the SJC. The first meeting discussed a range of topics including major challenges in court administrations and ways to address those challenges. It is expected that all Chief Judges throughout the West Bank will continue to meet on a regular basis.

Also this quarter, a request was made by the Court Administration team to assist in tracking case files entered into Al Mizan court automation software. Netham responded by tasking project-supported interns to complete a comparison between the number of paper files and the number of files recorded in Al Mizan software. It was discovered that many paper files have not been entered into Al Mizan software. To help address the issue, Netham provided the SJC IT department with the comparison findings and a list of cases needing updates. The SJC requested that interns update the records in the Al Mizan software, and this task was completed this quarter.

Assist In Developing the CAD's Administrative and Financial Systems

Netham this quarter began assisting the Director of the CAD in implementing the administrative and financial systems that were developed for the SJC with Netham assistance. The systems will help define administrative and financial procedures in order to make the Court Administrations Department run smoothly and efficiently.

Netham agreed with the CAD Director on the recruitment of a short-term financial consultant to follow-up the implementation of administrative and financial systems that may include

establishing a working group, and carrying out newly developed procedures. It is expected that the systems and procedures will be implemented during the next quarter.

Improving Case Management

To support the Supreme Judicial Council decrease the very large pending criminal case backlog in Palestinian courts, Netham-supported interns assisted judges in the Jenin Conciliation Court to dispose of 600 cases within the last two months. In coordination with Jenin Chief Judges, interns drafted criminal judgments on previously identified cases and submitted them to the judge for final review and disposition.

As a result of the success of the activities in Jenin, Netham will train more interns and extend this activity to other courts in the next quarter.

Correcting Case Information in the Computer Database and Court Registries

Netham-supported interns in Nablus, Ramallah, Jenin and Hebron this quarter completed a comparison between the number of paper files on shelves and the number of files recorded in the registers and in Al Mizan First Instance and Conciliation Courts. The matching process revealed several problems that need corrective action:

- Cases were transferred to other courts, but the information was not updated in the system.
- Some cases are recorded only in one type of file, meaning that the case either only exists on paper or in Al Mizan database.
- Case processing had been temporarily suspended in some cases and the cases have not updated appropriately.
- A few files were found misplaced inside the covers of other files.
- Pending Civil First Instance cases were found to be eligible for disposition.
- Several pending files were found with no next hearing date specified.

Netham provided the Supreme Judicial Department IT department with the findings and a list of cases needing to be corrected and updated.

This quarter Netham-supported interns also reviewed 2,230 pending cases in the Ramallah Conciliation Criminal Court and 109 Jenin First Instance Court pending cases, where they amended the cause of postponements in the court computer system. This process aims at correcting the postponement information in the computer to ensure that statistics are accurate and reliable and enable identification and solution of problems.

Reducing Case Backlogs

To help decrease the pending criminal case backload, and in coordination with Jenin chief judges, interns this quarter began drafting criminal judgments on previously identified cases and submitting them to the appropriate court for ratification. With the assistance of Netham-supported interns, judges in the Jenin Criminal Conciliation Court were able to dispose of over 575 old pending criminal cases since the start of this activity. This effort aims to help decrease the very large pending criminal case backlog in Palestinian courts. As a result of the success of this activity in Jenin, Netham will train other interns and extend this activity to other courts in the coming quarters.

Unification of Civil and Criminal Case Flow Procedures

As part of activities that aim to improve court administration, case management and services provided to the public, the CAD team, Netham staff, and selected chief clerks worked together to develop unified case flow procedures for First Instance and Conciliation courts. The unified

procedures address all case flow from initial registry to disposition and archiving. The Unified Procedures development team originally consisted of the Court Administration Team (CAD) including three Chief Clerks, Netham staff, and Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) IT but grew to include 12 Chief Clerks, IT staff, and Court Administrators so that greater input could be obtained.

The focus groups led to the development of the final draft of the Unified Procedures for First Instance and Conciliation Courts, which includes a unified procedural checklist and guidelines. This report was submitted to the Court Administrations Director. In addition, Netham will assist in the development and presentation of Unified Procedures training for all court administrators in the West Bank, which will start next quarter. These procedures will then be adopted by all West Bank First Instance and Conciliation Courts, contributing to improved case management.

Criminal Case Management Workshop Held with Jordanian Judicial Experts

To help SJC judges to improve efficiency and capacity, all the while reducing case backlog and case adjudication time, Netham assisted in conducting the first of four three-day workshops for 25 Conciliation and First Instance Court Judges on Criminal Case Management. The workshops were led by two senior Jordanian High Court Judges and covered numerous topics of interest to the Palestinian judges including filing, registration and procedures of criminal cases; detention and preservative arrest; evidence in criminal cases; application of the Criminal Procedures Law and issuing judgments. The aim of the workshops was to bolster participants' skills and techniques in the efficient utilization of a variety of applicable laws and procedures governing criminal case proceedings in Palestinian courts. During the opening session of the workshop, the SJC praised the dedication of the Palestinian judges, encouraged the improvement of criminal case management in Palestine, and thanked USAID and Netham for sponsoring the workshop. Netham also presented some results of a recent study of case flow in the Palestinian courts.

The workshop included animated discussions on criminal law and the Jordanian High Court judges led the workshop with sound knowledge and enthusiasm. Many judges commented that the workshop was the best they ever attended and noted that it was particularly useful because the Jordanian trainers used examples that directly related to the Palestinian system. Similar workshops will continue into the next quarter and will train over 75 judges. The workshops are expected to be held once per month in April, May, and June 2009.

Improving the Filing System in Courts

Netham-supported interns continued to help improve the filing system in courts this quarter. In these three months, the interns updated 1,175 files in the Hebron Conciliation Court, 1,340 files in Hebron First Instance Court, 3,010 files in the Jenin Conciliation Court, 1,047 files in Jenin First Instance Court, 1,320 files in Ramallah First Instance Court and 600 in the Ramallah Conciliation Court. This effort was implemented in parallel with the development and implementation of a unified case filing system across all West Bank courts. The new filing system will decrease the number of missing files and make retrieval simple and efficient by assigning serial numbers to each case and filing hard copies of the documents according to the serial numbers.

Capacity Building for Court Administrators

This quarter Netham received approval from the Chief Justice to proceed with Phase II Training Plan for Court Administrators. The Phase II Training Plan directly supports Netham's work plan activity 'Implement Capacity Building and Training Plan for Court Administrators.' The Phase II capacity building training is a continuation to the Phase I training that centered on upgrading the skills and performance of court administrators, which was conducted several months ago. This

phase focuses on enhancing court administration, supporting the development of improved case management, building the capacity of court clerks and judiciary staff, and improving public services.

Netham this quarter conducted several meetings with the Head of the Court Administrations Department and the SJC Judicial Training Department in planning, developing and implementing the training plan. It is expected that over 100 court administrators will receive the training.

The first session of phase II of the “Capacity Building Training Plan for Court Administrators and Staff” was conducted for 34 Chief Clerks and Deputy Chief Clerks who received training on the new Court Unified Procedures system developed by the Court Administration Department with Netham’s assistance. Several sessions were conducted, on issues such as enhancing the effective utilization of Al Mizan automation system, practical training on methods of generating, reading and analyzing Al Mizan reports and the use of the new Notification Management System currently being piloted in the Ramallah Notification Department. In addition, the Chief Clerks and Deputy Clerks received the first Unified Filing Procedures and Customer Relations training sessions. This training will be extended to all Court Administration staff in the West Bank. The trainings will last till July 2009 and will train around 400 SJC court administrators.

Also next quarter, customer service training will be given to all West Bank court administration staff to increase the staff’s ability to communicate effectively with customers and enhance the courts’ service to the public.

Training Newly-Appointed Judges in Jordan

In the last quarter, Netham facilitated training for 26 newly appointed SJC judges where they took part in training at the Jordanian Judicial Institute covering practical judicial training on applicable law and litigation. This quarter, USAID approved the travel of another 14 newly appointed Conciliation Court judges to Amman, Jordan for capacity building training. The judges took part in two weeks of training on practical judicial procedures at the Jordanian Judicial Institute. The training program focused on practical training techniques for the judges with Jordanian counterparts adjudicating a variety of civil, criminal, land, tenancy, and labor cases. In addition, field visits were carried out to the Forensic Medicine and Criminal Investigation Departments in Amman, the Jordanian capital. This training aimed to familiarize the judges with judgment procedures and to build capacities and empower the newly appointed judicial cadre. The same judges previously received seven weeks of new-judge theoretical training at the USAID-supported Palestinian Judicial Institute.

Following the training in Jordan, the new judges were assigned to various courts.

English Language Training for Judges

This quarter Netham contracted AMIDEAST to conduct English language placement testing for 62 SJC judges and court administrators at the Palestinian Judicial Institute. Soon after the testing was completed and USAID vetting approval was given, AMIDEAST began the 10-week English language training courses.

The training courses seek to strengthen the judges’ and court administrators’ English language skills, enabling them to carry out their duties more effectively to better service the public. The training is currently being conducted at three different locations including Ramallah, Nablus, and Bethlehem and is expected to be completed by next quarter. Each class will provide 45 credit hours of training.

Advanced IT Training for SJC Staff

This quarter, a request was made by the Chief Justice to conduct advanced training for SJC IT staff on SQL Sever, Visual Basic and D.Net. The advanced training will give the SJC IT department the capabilities to work effectively on the IT systems in the courts. To that end, Netham signed a contract with the National Institute for Information Technology to conduct the advanced training for SJC IT staff. The training will last about three months and is expected to be completed next quarter.

Perceptions of the Palestinian Authority Judiciary: a Survey of Judges, Lawyers, and the Public

Last quarter, Netham contracted the Arab World for Research & Development (AWRAD) to carry out a perceptions survey on the Palestinian judiciary that would include five key target groups including judges, lawyers, court staff, court users, and the public. The report included the results, findings and recommendations, in addition to highlighting perceived weaknesses and performance of SJC, as well as offering statistics and analysis to assist in improving the SJC. This is the first perceptions survey for the judiciary and will be highly useful to the judiciary in assessing the current situation in addition to developing future plans.

AWRAD surveyed over 2,250 national, court users, judges, lawyers, and court staff in order to assess the performance of the Judicial Authority and to gauge public satisfaction. Among other key findings, the survey showed that participants expressed the most trust in judges and least trust in the police. Also, the majority of the public viewed court decisions as reasonable, with about 66 percent believing that court decisions were fair. Another finding was that judges felt a critical need to improve the court's physical infrastructure, including better maintenance, acquiring more suitable furniture and mounting signs to direct court users to the appropriate departments.

Based on the survey's findings, AWRAD made recommendations, including the need to strengthen the role of the government so it could become a trusted source in the political, social and economic arena. Another recommendation called for activities to make the judicial system more overtly credible, helping the government to be seen as an effective player.

Netham plans to print and circulate the report in addition to holding an event to present the findings.

Supporting the Chief Justice's Office

Early last quarter, the Chief Justice requested Netham to provide a technical assistance consultant to support and increase the capacity of the Chief Justice's Office. Upon receiving USAID approval, Netham hired an experienced consultant with technical expertise to fill this position. .

The Chief Justice's technical assistant began his work with site visits to Jericho, Bethlehem, Hebron, Dura, and Halhoul courts to observe operations and assess needs. Following the visits, the consultant prepared a detailed report for the Chief Justice outlining observations, needs, and actions to be taken. The consultant then began assisting the Chief Justice in a host of key tasks, such as implementing new administrative procedures, training office staff on administrative tasks, organizing and institutionalizing the relations between SJC departments, overseeing the preparation of the SJC annual reports, managing the preparation of the Chief Justice circulations to the judges and SJC employees, and organizing the information flow at the SJC.

To date this consultancy has had a marked effect on the effectiveness of the Chief Justice's Office. The amount of correspondence from the office has increased by 54 percent, indicating greater, and more frequent, communication of instructions and requests. Training was provided to staff of the Chief Justice Office on drafting correspondence and conduction of daily affairs at

the office. Other areas of improvement included a review of the Execution Law allowing the SJC to be better equipped to handle related complaints and communiqués. Working closely with the Chief Justice, the Technical Assistant has established bi-weekly meetings between the CAD and IT departments to regularly discuss and tackle mutual responsibilities of these two key SJC departments. These meetings are now officially conducted on a regular basis and are part of the Chief Justice's agenda.

In the next quarter, Netham's technical assistant consultant will continue to provide support and improve the capacity of the office.

Engage and Build Capacity of the SJC Strategic Planning Unit

This quarter Netham met with the Head of the SJC Strategic Planning Unit and the Donor Relations Officer at the SJC Strategic Planning Unit. During the meeting, which aimed to ensure non-duplication of activities between Netham and other donors and implementers assisting the SJC, Netham updated the unit members with its current and planned activities. The group also discussed areas where Netham could potentially provide assistance including capacity building for the unit. It was agreed to convene monthly meetings between the Netham and the SJC Planning Unit to ensure non-duplication of activities.

Improving the Court Notification Department

This quarter Netham prepared an action plan for a Notification Pilot Project and, after deliberations, the Chief Justice and Chief Clerks selected Ramallah and Jenin Court to participate in the pilot project. The pilot project will focus on implementing a more efficient and effective notification system using a new notification software program and improved procedures. Given the complementary relationship between notifications and effective case management, any weakness in delivering notifications will ultimately lead to a delay in trials and hearing sessions, and, consequently, delay case processing and disposal at the court.

To ensure an effective and timely notification process and improve judicial case management Netham-supported interns were assigned to assist in the implementation of the Notification Pilot Project in Jenin and Ramallah. Tasks conducted by Netham-supported interns in Jenin and Ramallah included sorting and classification of notifications, distribution of notifications, monitoring and auditing results and updating information and providing statistical data. Upon completion of tasks at the courts participating in the pilot, Netham-supported interns will be reallocated to other notifications departments to assist in improving the systems.

Also this quarter, Netham conducted a study to determine the time between issuance of a court notification and receipt. This study was conducted in the Hebron and Jenin Notification Departments. The results of the study show that over 95 percent of notifications involved in the study were delivered within 15 days of issuance, well before scheduled hearings.

In addition, a training plan on the new Notification Management System was created to implement training for all Ramallah notification staff and processors. Netham also assisted the Chief Notification Clerk in providing training for new notification processors on notification law, procedures, communication skills, and administration issues which will bring all new employees up to date on how notifications are processed.

And finally, Netham completed the Notification Department Pilot project baseline survey in Ramallah and Jenin. This was a pre-implementation survey to measure the satisfaction of relevant parties with the functioning of Notification Departments. This survey targeted samples of lawyers, judges, clerks and courts users in pilot locations, and results indicated that most of those surveyed were unsatisfied with the work of the Notifications Department. To measure project

impact, Netham will conduct a post-implementation survey once all upgrades and renovations in this department have been completed.

Developing a Notifications Management System (NMS)

This quarter, Netham's Notifications Management Consultant has installed the NMS at the Ramallah Notification Department. This system will help monitor and track court notifications. Testing and debugging of the system has been completed and the system is now operating fully at the Ramallah Notification Department.

Training for staff on the use of the notification system was conducted by Netham's consultant. In addition, Netham-supported interns were also trained and have begun using the system to enter data. Netham is still awaiting USAID approval to purchase Personal Digital Assistants, which are needed to register the notifications on the SJC's server.

Supporting Renovation of the Ramallah Courthouse

Based on a request by the Chief Justice, last quarter Netham contracted an engineering consultant to conduct renovation work at the Central Archiving Department of the Ramallah First Instance Court. The renovation work included plastering; painting and electrical works at the building, in addition to installation of shelving. The shelving will provide a safer and more accessible place for archived files and create storage for future files. In addition, the renovation created space for material evidence so it now can be kept organized on shelves instead of being piled on the ground, as was the previously practice due to lack of proper storage space.

The upgrades will allow for more efficiency and space for files that need to be archived. This activity is part of Netham's supporting and improving case management at the Supreme Judicial Council.

Supporting the SJC's Media and Public Relations Department

Last quarter, Netham assisted the SJC in establishment of the Media and Public Relations Department that was created to play a key role in promoting public awareness and respect for the judiciary by informing citizens of the critical role and accomplishments of the judiciary. To assist the new department, Netham engaged in a number of activities to raise public awareness and improve the image of the judiciary with the aim of ultimately increasing public confidence. Following are the accomplishments of this quarter:

Last quarter Netham hired a consultant to help develop a media strategy and action plan for the SJC Media and Public Relations Department. This quarter, the strategy was approved by the Chief Justice and Netham began working with the Media and PR on its implementation. The plan includes specific activities to raise public awareness of the SJC and its accomplishments, proposes public relations training for staff and judges, addresses human resource needs, and developing the SJC Media and Public Relations Department website. The strategic and action plan were produced in Arabic and English. It is expected that Netham will assist in implementing the plans within the next few quarters.

Bus Tour to Jenin and Nablus Courts

This quarter, Netham assisted the SJC in organizing a bus tour for about 20 journalists representing various print, radio, and television media outlets to a site visit to the Jenin and Nablus courthouses in order to educate journalists on the role and function of the judiciary, and encourage local press coverage of the courts. The site visit was hailed as a success by the participating journalists as this was the first such activity organized by the SJC to provide the media with information on the courts. The overall aim of this activity is to encourage media

outlets to report on the courts which will bring transparency and increase favorable public perception of the courts.

Also this quarter, as part of its activities to encourage journalists to report on court news and familiarize them with common court terms, the SJC's Media & Public Relations Department, in cooperation with Netham, worked on producing a terminology booklet. The pocket size glossary will contain more than 50 legal terms that are commonly used in courts and will help familiarize reporters with legal terminologies and their proper usage. The booklet is expected to be completed next quarter and will be distributed, with assistance of the USAID-funded project Aswatona, and will be distributed through the SJC to major media outlets in the West Bank.

SJC Newsletter: This quarter Netham supported the SJC Media and Public Relations Department in developing the first issue of a new SJC quarterly newsletter. The newsletter, titled Qadaona, which is the Arabic word for 'our judiciary' was produced and distributed in both Arabic and English. Netham assisted in printing 5,000 Arabic and 1,000 English copies of the newsletter. The newsletters were distributed to various justice sector organizations, as well public and government institutions. The newsletter covered stories including the functions of High Court, a biography on the judges in the high court and judicial inspection. In addition, the newsletter was distributed inside a local newspaper. The next SJC quarterly newsletter will be produced early next quarter.

Other Activities with the SJC Media and Public Relations Department: To continue to support the SJC Media and Public Relations Department and to bring transparency and public awareness to the public, Netham, along with USAID-funded Aswatona Project, began preparing for a three-day workshop on "International Ethics and Code on Court Reporting." This workshop will be led by a Jordanian court reporter and will address theoretical and practical training on court reporting. The workshop will also aim to train reporters on conducting court reporting in an ethical manner. Preparations for this workshop began late in the quarter and the workshop is expected to take place early next quarter.

Outreach Campaign to Launch the Jenin Courthouse Opening

Within its efforts to continue supporting the SJC's public outreach efforts, Netham sponsored a number of radio ads with local and national stations to inform the public of the opening of the new Jenin Courthouse. Al Balad and Al Ahlam radio stations, both based in Jenin, and the national radio station Ajyal Radio broadcast the commercial spots from March 1-19, 2009 as the opening ceremony for the courthouse was held on March 19.

During the opening of the Jenin Courthouse, all three radio stations dedicated March 19, 2009 to the opening. On the day of the event, morning reports on these stations ran a story on the SJC's strategic plan, as well as its achievements. In addition, an interview with the Chief Justice was aired.

The radio campaign helped to reach hundreds of people and helped raise awareness of the work done at the Jenin Courthouse, which had been renovated by UNDP with funds from the Japanese Government. Netham helped to furnish and equip the Notary Public, Civil Judgment Departments and the First Instance and Conciliation Courts in the new Jenin Courthouse.

In Jenin Courts, interns completed the arrangement of nine years of closed files on shelves according to their serial numbers.

Database Unification Efforts

In continuation of last quarter's efforts to develop a unified database in the Ramallah courthouse, Netham successfully implemented the database unification in all the West Bank. All testing and

debugging was also completed. The database unification effort will integrate all information into one master database stored at the Ramallah courthouse. The unified database will allow collection of accurate information, centralized data, and will assist in producing statistical reports and enabling users to track SJC's case records and all activities of Notary Public and Civil Judgment Departments.

To date, all the unifications are being carried out by running scripts from Ramallah via the WAN (Wide Area Network) which was designed by Netham.

Assisting in Designing Al Mizan 2

In order to improve the information technology at the SJC, USAID this quarter offered the Chief Justice the case management software Al Mizan 2 as a donation. The offer was extended because the current version of the Palestinian Al Mizan software cannot meet the increasing requirements of the court activities in the West Bank. Al Mizan 2 was developed by USAID for Jordan and can be made compatible with the version of Al Mizan now used in Palestinian courts.

After the offer by USAID was made, Netham met with the SJC Planning and Project Management Unit to discuss revising the contract which the SJC signed with UNDP to build Mizan 2 software. The SJC is awaiting UNDP's official approval to amend the contract.

It is expected that this matter will be resolved next quarter, at which point the SJC will contact Netham and USAID to meet with UNDP and in order to agree on the work plan and each party's role for Mizan 2.

Improving Notary Public Services

As part of efforts to improve Notary Public Departments, Netham-supported interns continued to provide assistance to the Notary Public Departments in Ramallah, Nablus and Jenin and Hebron. The assistance focused on entering data files into Al Mizan software. Towards the end of the quarter, 7,450 documents had been entered in Ramallah, 11,609 in Nablus, 6,011 in Jenin and 7,729 in Hebron.

Supporting the Civil Judgment Departments

With the hire of more Netham-supported interns last quarter, Netham continued to provide assistance to the Ramallah, Jenin and Hebron Civil Judgment Departments. Interns classified 3,470 files based on Shari'a, Conciliation and First Instance Court cases.

Interns at the Hebron Notary Public entered 445 files of treasury cases into Al Mizan and replaced and labeled 65 files. In Jenin interns classified 4,924 files and amended the status of 2,350 pending cases to that of inactive cases. Also, as part of the classification process, interns in Jenin separated the files and arranged them on the shelves. At the Ramallah Civil Judgment Department interns assisted in entering 5,000 financial deposits into the database.

Also this quarter, Netham's support to the Civil Judgment Department continued with the preparation of a new monthly reporting format. The new format aims to indicate the real workload of the department by providing separate designations for active and inactive pending cases which will enable the SJC to easily identify human resource needs. Netham-supported interns will help Civil Judgments Departments to introduce the new reporting format early next quarter.

Supporting Renovation for the Bethlehem Courthouse

This quarter, Netham's architect began the initial designs for the renovation work of the Notary Public, Civil Judgment Department, and Clerk's Office at the Bethlehem courthouse.

Coordination with Other Donors

To support coordination with other donors and to avoid duplication, Netham met with EUPOL COPPS Judiciary Expert, Emily Rakhorst, to provide an overview of Netham activities relating to courts and identifying areas of coordination and cooperation. EUPOL COPPS has recently completed a needs assessment of the courts, police, prisons, prosecutors, BAR Association, and human rights in the West Bank, which will be distributed to all interested parties. EUPOL COPPS is in the process of developing a work plan to address needs identified in their assessment. One area identified was the notification process, which Netham has currently started addressing, and another is juvenile justice.

STRENGTHENING THE ANTI-CORRUPTION MECHANISM AT THE CIVIL JUDGEMENT UNITS

To assist the SJC in developing unified financial procedures that would transfer accumulated deposits to revenues at the Civil Judgment Departments, a pilot project for the Ramallah area was implemented. The intent of this pilot project is to bring transparency and improve efficiency at the Civil Judgment Departments. Prior to the assistance provided by Netham, civil fines paid by litigants were deposited into bank accounts and were administered by the Civil Judgment Departments. The Civil Judgment Departments, however, lacked proper tools to monitor and administer the deposits, which reduced transparency and caused delays in processing.

To help solve the problem, Netham worked with the Ramallah Civil Judgment Department to identify the accumulated financial deposits by auditing files, reports and documents which resulted in finding approximately one and half million US dollars in financial deposits. In addition, Netham assisted in developing an accumulated financial deposits study and report which will be used as the mechanism to identify all accumulated financial deposits for Civil Judgment Departments. A unified financial deposits management system was developed in order to assist in managing all deposits made.

It is expected that all Civil Judgment Departments throughout the West Bank will adopt all financial deposits procedures.

SUPPORTING THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (MOJ)

This quarter, upon the Ministry of Justice's approval of Netham's activity plan for assisting the performance of the MOJ, Netham recruited a financial consultant and a Legal Advisor to assist in implementing proposed activities.

The Legal Advisor began to develop training and action plans based on the needs assessment conducted by Netham last quarter. The plans are still under development. In addition, the advisor has been involved in coordination with key MOJ personnel and donors. In addition, the advisor met with EUPOL COPPS, a Canadian analyst, UNDP/EC Governance Coordinator for the Ministry of Planning, Justice Sector Project Coordinator SIDA, and the Local Aid Coordinator Secretariat in order to explore opportunities to assist the MOJ. The meeting also familiarized the Advisor with the type of assistance already being provided to the MOJ so as to avoid duplication of efforts. It is expected that next quarter the advisor will begin implementing training and action plans currently being developed.

Supporting the Process of Developing the Justice Records System

Netham has assisted the MOJ in developing public services including establishment of the Justice Records Office which will be an office responsible for overseeing the Justice Records System (JRS). The JRS is a central database system that stores information regarding individuals with criminal records and is used by the Palestinian Authority to issue certificates of non-conviction to individuals. This certificate is often a requirement for citizens when applying for civil service jobs, visas, and other transactions.

Netham's assistance this quarter included the renovation work of the Justice Records Office and other public services at the new location at the Ministry of Justice, the establishment of a Justice Record Systems software and the hire of data entry interns. The Justice Records Office is expected to be officially inaugurated next quarter.

Justice records space renovation at the MOJ

This quarter, the renovation work for Justice Records Office and other public services at the new location in the Ministry of Justice building was completed. The renovation work at the new location included demolishing and removing walls to widen space, electrical and sanitation work, painting and wood work. Networks and telecommunications systems were installed.

Also completed this quarter was the installation of a queuing system to establish greater order, and placing of signage at appropriate locations to make the Justice Records Office easily accessible and user-friendly. In addition Netham procured equipment and furniture, including 120 shelving units for the archiving of the Justice Records documents.

Justice Records System at MOJ

This quarter, the Justice Records System was installed at the Justice Record Office. After several test runs, the system is now fully functioning and ready for use. User manuals and source code were delivered for the Ministry of Justice.

In addition, Netham hired six data entry interns to begin working at the Justice Records Office. They were tasked to clean, classify and filter the judgment briefs prior to entering information into the Justice Records System. Currently, the interns are entering information into the new system.

Prior to starting their work, the interns were trained on the legal issues involved in the Justice Record System and on the interface of the JRS and the use of equipment. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice staff received training on the system which is now able to produce non-conviction certificates for the public.

Justice Record Data Compilation

Before data entry into the Justice Record System could begin, data from the Public Prosecution Office needed to be transferred to the Justice Record Office at the MOJ. Netham-supported interns were tasked to compile the information and transfer it to the Justice Record Office. With the assistance of the Director General of the Justice Record Department, the compilation process has been completed in all of the West Bank, except for the southern areas, where it will be completed early next quarter,

Capacity Building at the MOJ

This quarter Netham contributed to the development of a financial manual to assist the MOJ's performance. The manual will be used to help the department carry out duties more efficiently and effectively.

The assistance included hiring a financial consultant to review and re-introduce the applied financial procedures. To that end, Netham developed the financial procedure expenses, revenues,

cash management, purchasing, budgeting, and introduction to the accounting system. The procedures have been submitted to the MOJ for review and approval. It is expected that next quarter, the manual will be finalized and printed for use at the MOJ.

MOJ IT Training

This quarter after receiving USAID vetting approval for MOJ staff and signing a Purchase Order with Hulul Business Solutions, training on software development began. The training will center on various advanced programming languages needed to maintain the Justice Record System and the Document Management System that was developed by Netham for the Ministry of Justice. This quarter training on SQL Server 2005, UML and ASP.NET will be conducted. The training is expected to be completed next quarter.

In addition, the MoJ IT Manager successfully completed Cisco Certified Network Associate training this quarter. Training on network security and management was the key focus of this training which will improve the IT skills of the MOJ IT Manager.

Supporting the Process of Developing the Document Management System (DMS) at the MOJ

Within effort to support the Ministry of Justice, the final design of the Document Management System (DMS) which began last quarter is completed. The DMS is an IT-based system by which all documented activities within an entity are captured and saved in a database for further processing or for final archiving. The DMS will be used to capture document workflow between and within MOJ departments which will lead to more efficient and improved information management. To introduce the system's design and functions, a presentation for the MOJ IT and administrative staff was delivered this quarter at the Palestinian Judicial Institute.

The next step in developing the Document Management System will be implementation. Netham has submitted a draft Software Requirement Specification (SRS) report which contained some of the critical items needed to carry out the software implementation. It is expected that next quarter a release of the Request for Proposal and a selection of the vendor to implement the system will take place.

SUPPORTING the PALESTINIAN JUDICIAL INSTITUTE (PJI)

Assist in developing financial and administrative capacities of the PJI

This quarter, Netham fulfilled a request from the PJI Director to provide an executive assistant to assist in logistics and training activity support to the PJI. The consultant was involved in a number of activities including accompanying the PJI Director to meetings and providing logistical and administrative support.

In addition, Netham's executive assistant consultant, who had been hired last quarter, continued to provide technical assistance to the PJI by archiving, filing, and providing administrative support to the PJI Director and staff. Netham also assisted the PJI develop the departments' functional description document which outlines each PJI department's objectives and tasks to the PJI General Director. The document has been submitted for review and feedback to the PJI.

Assisting the Palestinian Judicial Institute Training Software Application

As part of efforts to develop a software application that tracks registration and continuing education for applicants and students taking legal courses at the PJI, Netham contracted a consultant to build a training software application. The consultant will develop the full application that meets the PJI's requirements. Also in this regard, Netham, along with PJI's management, began developing the registration and continued education flow chart for the PJI

training and certification process as well as the initial database structure envisaged for the software.

COMPONENT 2: SUPPORT PUBLIC OUTREACH, NETWORKING, AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT ON RULE OF LAW ISSUES

Legal Education

With the official launching of the Legal Education Program at Al Quds University last quarter, a number of activities have been implemented including Netham's participation in developing a joint program between Al Quds University and Bard College, New York. Netham is working with AQU to establish an Honor College in the fall of 2009-10, whereby undergraduate students would be granted a joint degree from both institutions. The Honors College would give degrees in a variety of social and natural sciences, including economics, human rights, international relations, media, biology, mathematics.

In addition, AQU requested Netham to participate in the development of the human rights program, which, as an undergraduate multidisciplinary program, would be the first of its type in the Middle East. In this regard Netham assisted AQU by helping to prepare an appropriate work plan for setting up the Honors College and ways to develop the human rights program. Development of the Honors College will continue into next quarter.

Also this quarter, Netham developed a scope of work for a US consultancy firm to conduct a comprehensive strategic plan for AQU law school. The strategic plan will serve the law school for the next five years. Netham is expecting to hire the consultancy firm by next quarter. Currently Netham is preparing an operational work plan for the strategic planning process.

The USAID COTR conducted a site visit to Al Quds University this quarter. The visit included a briefing by Netham on the implementation of the legal education program over the past six months. The CTO was also given a tour to the newly established computer lab and attended a public lecture on legal ethics presented by Netham's consultant from the American University, Washington DC. In addition a meeting with the Dean of AQU law school was held and USAID's support to the university, including the computer lab, curriculum development, and organizing an international conference was discussed.

In its support for the Legal Education Program, Netham continues to implement activities to assist Al Quds University. The following is an overview of activities implemented this quarter at Al Quds University:

English courses: This quarter, AMIDEAST conducted a comprehensive needs assessment on the English language capacities at AQU's Law School. The assessment targeted law students and law faculty. AMIDEAST used various methods to measure the English level, including conducting ITP placement tests for incoming (first year) and outgoing (fourth year) law students, ITP test for faculty, focus groups for both students and faculty in addition to conducting surveys and gathering demographic data on the students and faculty's academic background. The assessment also considered language skills of the English language faculty.

Based on the findings of the assessment, Netham is designing a new plan for the upcoming English training activities.

In addition, AMIDEAST is conducting six English training courses for the second year law students and two courses for law faculty.

Legal Library: Last quarter, based on a needs assessment conducted by Netham, it was recommended that the Al Quds University Legal Library expand so that more reference material

could be accommodated. The renovation work will include upgrading the current Law Library, purchasing computers and building a security system to ensure proper tracking of the books, and will begin in the next quarter. In preparation, Netham has begun purchasing books for the library.

A list was compiled for the purchase of 200 law books to be bought locally, including books on legal statistics in English and books on women's rights from Al Quds University's Insan Center for Gender Studies. By the end of this quarter, a vendor was chosen to provide the books and Netham purchased 184 of the books on the list. The books are expected to be handed over to the university after USAID branding is completed, early next quarter.

Computer Lab: This quarter the renovation work for Al Quds University computer lab located in the Faculty of Law building was completed. The computer lab will serve about 700 AQU law students allowing students to do research and access electronic files and the internet.

The renovation included an internal redesign of the lab, installing air conditioning, paintings and fixing the electricity network. In addition, Netham procured 24 computers, a printer and office furniture, including computer desks and chairs. Netham's IT staff spent considerable time following up on the networking and electrical work conducted to ensure the computer lab runs efficiently. An opening ceremony for the computer lab will take place next quarter.

Guide on Faculty of Law: After receiving a request from AQU's dean last quarter, Netham agreed to support the development of a handbook on AQU's Faculty of Law detailing the faculty's history, activities, curricula, faculty members, facilities, degrees, programs, and departments. To help in the final stages of the work, Netham hired a consultant to revise, edit and design the draft guide. The guide will be published in Arabic and English and will be distributed to visitors and potential students interested in AQU's Law School. It is expected that the guide will be completed next quarter.

LLM Program: This quarter, Netham continued working on developing a new LLM (Master's) program on international humanitarian law and human rights. Netham is examining ways to design the program, which would be taught in English, and last one year. The possibility of developing this program jointly between AQU and the American University, Washington, DC, was explored. A meeting took place this quarter at AU in Washington to discuss this possibility as part of the Memorandum of Agreement with AQU that was signed on December 20, 2008.

International competition for lawyers: Netham assisted the Al Quds Law School in preparing for an international human rights competition for lawyers in collaboration with AQU, the French Museum Memorial for the Peace and a French university. The competition will be conducted at AQU next quarter and lawyers from various countries will participate in this competition.

Legal Ethics course: The objective of this activity is to develop a course on the ethics standards required for the legal profession. The course will be introduced at AQU law school during the next academic year. Netham continued working with a US consultant who is assisting AQU law professors in developing this course. The consultant worked with the law faculty in a three-day workshop that took place from March 9 to 11, 2009. To share their experience, some practicing Palestinian lawyers and judges were invited to participate on one of these three days. For further development of this course, Netham will organize a US study tour on legal ethics in July.

Legal Writing course: With a view of introducing a course on legal writing (drafting statutes, contracts, pleadings, legal letters, negotiations), four local consultants were hired by Netham last quarter to prepare a textbook on this issue. The consultants have produced a first draft of the book, and a workshop, in which this textbook was discussed with faculty members, was held in

February. Specific recommendations for preparing a course plan and teaching the course in the fall of 2009-10 were adopted in this workshop. Consultants will finalize the textbook by June.

Legal Terminology in English course: Given the lack of English-fluent faculty at AQU, a course plan on Legal Terminology in English has been developed by Netham, and approved by AQU. Netham staff is teaching this course, based on this plan, in the spring semester of 2009. Some 54 students are attending this course.

Law & Society course: With Netham assistance, a Law & Society course is being taught this semester (February-June) for non-law students of AQU based on a course plan that was designed by Netham's consultant and staff. The course plan as well as a course description on Law & Society was adopted by AQU. Netham's US consultant visited AQU in March to evaluate the course and

Street Law/Legal Clinic: Street Law activity is one of AQU Legal Clinic's programs. Netham contracted a US consultant who trained clinic students and faculty in developing practical cases to be used to assist Palestinian citizens on legal issues. As a follow up to the October 2008 training that led by two US consultants, a consultant worked with the clinic's students in March and developed methodologies for the use of clinic students on teaching law in high schools in the West Bank.

Moot Court: Moot court is an activity in AQU law school's human rights course. In October 2008, a US consultant worked with law faculty on the initial preparation for the moot court exercise. During a visit in February and March, a US consultant assisted faculty in developing some cases and prepared the organizational standards of the moot court as a preparatory step for the actual moot court activity. That activity will be led by another US consultant who will be at AQU in May.

Jurisprudence of Equality course: This course is being developed in cooperation between AQU Gender Center and Netham's US consultants. It deals with comparative legal approaches to ensure equality between men and women in legislation and legal practices. This quarter, Netham formed a committee of law faculty from various legal backgrounds. This group started preparing a course plan that addresses women in human rights law, criminal law, labor law, family law, among others. A US consultant is scheduled to visit AQU in May or June to work with the group in finalizing the course plan, syllabus and materials.

Legal Information Technology course: Upon the request of AQU Law School, Netham hired a local IT expert to teach an IT course for law students in the spring semester 2009. The consultant started working in mid-February, and is teaching two classes for about 60 students.

Supporting Civic Education Initiatives

This quarter, Netham's Civic Education consultant arrived in the country to continue to provide support to the Civic Education Program. The main task of the consultant is to continue to report on the civic education activities that were initiated in the previous consultancy and to follow up on the implementation plan. Specifically, the consultant developed and presented the literature review, assisted in developing an outline for the teachers' training manual and participated in a workshop held for 16 civic education supervisors on mechanisms of implementing the creative writing and the script activities in schools. The consultant is expected to continue work on the Civic Education Program next quarter.

In continuing its work from the last quarter, Netham began implementing a civic education initiative to support improving civic education and rule of law awareness of Palestinian students in grades 1 to 9. Based on USAID's approval of the civic education work plan, Netham is

continuing to work with the MOE on the four joint committees to implement the Civic Education Program: 1. *Review and evaluation* of the civic education program content for grades 1 to 9 including teaching methodologies and methods of evaluation. 2. *Training* and specifically building capacity of teachers through creating a pool of civic education experts. 3. Establishing a *Rule of Law Award* to acknowledge and award rule of law initiatives that have had an impact in schools and in local communities. 4. Additional *Rule of Law activities* will address disseminating rule of law awareness to Palestinian youth by holding rule of law summer camps and other activities.

Since their formation last quarter, these four committees have been meeting on a weekly basis. Following is a brief status report on the progress of these committees:

Review and Evaluation: This quarter, the review and evaluation team received and reviewed the existing studies covering the civic education curriculum as well as international studies on best practices. In this regard, Netham consultants delivered a presentation based on international research, comparative and national evaluation studies. The presentation discussed the common definition of civic education and its evolution, the status of civic education in the overall curriculum, civic education dimensions, approaches, key concepts and goals. The presentation also tackled the importance of the civic education environment and successful teaching methodologies. These principles were then used in the Palestinian context to set the stage for the review and evaluation study. The literature review was presented in two parts: First, how to evaluate the curriculum. Second, next steps were defined and recommendations issued as to the scope of the evaluation and the tools to be used.

The purpose of the presentation was to highlight recommendations, which will pave the way for the next tasks, namely, content analysis and design of the necessary evaluation tools which will take place next quarter.

Training: This quarter the training team held a number of focus groups to determine training needs prior to conducting the train-the-trainers workshop and prior to developing a training manual that will be used as a guide for teachers of civic education. The focus groups were conducted for students, parents, headmasters/supervisors, trainers and teacher. A list of appropriate, relevant questions was compiled and used at each focus group.

The first focus group consisted of 21 female and male school students from all of the West Bank. During the focus group session students were asked to discuss the civic education curriculum taught to them and the students were also asked to discuss what they learned in their civic education class.

A second focus group was conducted for 37 teachers who discussed the civic education curriculum for grades 1 to 9. The teachers discussed the methodologies and tools used in teaching civic education in the classrooms. Focus groups were also conducted for parents and principals.

Based on the results of the focus group discussions, a summary report was compiled and submitted to the Ministry of Education. The report also included recommendations that will assist in developing the civic education teacher's manual and training. Netham has finalized the first draft of the training manual, which will be used during the teachers' training next quarter.

Rule of Law Award: This quarter, Netham supported the establishment of a *Rule of Law Award* which will acknowledge and reward rule of law initiatives that have had an impact on schools and local communities. To that end, Netham assisted in producing and printing 7,000 brochures and

5,000 posters to distribute to schools throughout West Bank government, private and UNRWA schools. The posters and brochures will help promote the Rule of Law Award.

In addition, Netham held an orientation meeting with the 16 coordinators who will follow up on the distribution of the printed materials. During the orientation meeting, discussions included an overview of the targets for the award, the selection criteria and the eligibility of applicants. The Ministry of Education also issued a circular to its departments in all the governorates to inform them about the activity and the posters and brochure that were distributed. It is expected that next quarter the Rule of Law Award winner will be named during Justice Day 2009 events. After several meetings with private business, Jawwal, the leading Palestinian telecommunications company, has agreed to co-sponsor the Rule of Law Award. Jawwal's contribution will include \$12,000 in cash and prizes. Early next quarter a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between Jawwal and the Ministry of Education.

Other Rule of Law activities (creative writing, rule of law play):

This quarter after several meeting with the Ministry of Education it was agreed that a *creative writing and rule of law script activities* will be conducted in schools to help promote rule of law awareness among Palestinian youth. Meetings with the MOE were conducted throughout the quarter to discuss mechanisms of implementing these activities in schools. It was decided that pre- and post-activity questionnaires will be distributed to participating students. The questionnaires will be given before and after the creative writing activity and the rule of law script in order to assess the impact of the activities on the students' knowledge, attitudes and performance. In this regard, Netham conducted the pre-activity questionnaire and next quarter the post-activity questionnaire will be administered.

In addition, Netham this quarter produced and printed 10, 000 copies of the creative writing and rule of law script brochure. The brochure, which was distributed to schools throughout the West Banks, is a guide for students who are interested in participating in the rule of law activities that Netham is sponsoring in cooperation with MOE. The creative writing phase is underway and is expected to conclude next quarter. A committee from the MOE will select winning stories which will be illustrated and printed in a book, which will be distributed to schools throughout the West Bank.

Prior to distributing the brochures, Netham held an orientation workshop for 16 Ministry of Education Directors of Students' Activities throughout the West Bank in order to supervise, follow-up progress made in the schools, and coordinate with the MOE on the *creative writing and the rule of law script activities*. The orientation workshop detailed all phases of implementing the *creative writing and the rule of law script activities* as well as detailing the role of the directors in orienting teachers in schools.

The winning stories will receive an award during the Justice Day 2009 events.

Promoting Public Outreach

Production of Film on Judicial Accomplishments: This quarter, Netham, with assistance from USAID's Youth Empowerment Project Ruwwad began producing a documentary that will highlight SJC's achievements. Netham and the SJC compiled a list of SJC accomplishments along with a script that highlights the achievements of the SJC.

As part of the effort to support the production of the SJC documentary, Netham and the SJC arranged for a number of field visits to various courts with the Ruwwad team so the team could begin documenting SJC's achievements. Filming was conducted at the Jericho, Nablus and Jenin Courthouses. Also, interviews with the SJC senior staff, including the Chief Justice, were carried out.

The documentary is in the final editing phase and will be completed next quarter and screened during Justice Day 2009 events.

Supporting Development of Grants Program

This quarter, Netham received USAID's approval on the grants package including the Grants Manual, a Call for Proposals, a timeline for implementation of the grants activities and a proposed list of CSOs to contact in the initial phase.

With USAID's approval of the Grant Manual, Netham held a grants orientation workshop for Civil Society Organizations in Ramallah. Around 30 CSOs attended the orientation representing various districts including Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron, Jenin, and Bethlehem. The session included a presentation on the grant process, the grant summary form and USAID vetting procedure. At the end of the workshop a question and answer session was conducted. CSOs were given a deadline of February 28 to complete the Grant Summary Form.

In addition, a meeting was held with USAID to discuss the launching of the grants program and the next steps in the process. A Grants Committee was formed to review the grant summary forms received from participating CSOs. The Committee consists of representatives from USAID, Netham, and the SJC.

Toward the end of the quarter, Netham and the Grants Committee reviewed all grant summary reports and requested full proposals from the following seven CSOs: Al Marsed, Holy Land Trust, Bani Naim, Tam Drama, Al Mawrid, Amin, and Dar Alfonoon. It is expected that next quarter four to five Civil Society Organizations will be awarded a grant.

Netham Newsletter

This quarter, Netham printed and distributed the third edition of its newsletter. A total of 1,500 newsletters were printed in both Arabic and English. The newsletters were distributed to project counterparts and their institutions including the SJC, MOJ, PJI, Al Quds University Office, USAID, donor agencies, and will be available at project-supported events in the coming months.

Also this quarter, preparations were under way to produce the fourth edition of Netham's newsletter, which will include stories on Netham's Legal Education Program, the Civic Education and Rule of Law Awareness Program, judicial training of newly appointed judges, Netham's support to the development of the Justice Records at the Ministry of Justice and a backgrounder on the SJC Media & Public Relations Department. The newsletter is expected to be published next quarter.

3. OVERALL PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

Netham Staffing

There were several changes in Netham's staffing this quarter as a number of positions became vacant this quarter. The Court Management and Training Manager, Ma'ali Shawish; Executive Assistant/Translator to the Chief of Party, Hasna Dajani; and Director of Finance and Administration Reem Kort resigned this quarter.

Local advertisements were run for the following positions: Director of Finance and Administration, Court Development Manager, Court Development Coordinator, Translator, and Grants Coordinator.

Netham hired an administrative assistant at the Ramallah office; and a project assistant to work with the MOJ Advisor.

4. SUMMARY OF PLANNED ACTIVITIES NEXT QUARTER

- Support Criminal Case Management Workshops.
- Training for judges in Jordan to develop the SJC continuing education curriculum.
- Training workshops on the new Unified Court Procedures System for 200 First Instance and Conciliation Court clerks.
- Training workshops on upgrading Al Mizan techniques and using the new notification software for 80 First Instance and Conciliation Court clerks.
- Training workshops on both customer relations skills and the use of the new unified filing system for 150 First Instance and Conciliation Court clerks.
- Support renovation of the Bethlehem Courthouse including the Notary Public Department, Civil Judgment Department, First Instance and Conciliation court clerks' offices.
- Upgrade Ramallah First Instance and Conciliation court clerks' offices with new shelving.
- Continue support to the SJC Court Administration Department.
- Conduct a workshop in cooperation with Aswatona and the SJC for journalists on court reporting.
- Support Justice Day events including billboards, radio and TV spots as well as screening a film on the SJC's achievements.
- Netham newsletter produced in Arabic and English.
- Glossary on legal terminology will be produced, printed, and distributed to journalists.
- Support the printing of the SJC's second quarterly newsletter (Qadaona).
- Continue to follow-up and provide technical assistance to the Palestinian Judicial Institute.
- Support the launching of the Justice Record System at the Ministry of Justice.
- Continue implementation of the MOJ's financial system and develop the administrative system.
- Assist the West Bank Civil Judgment Departments to implement the unified financial deposits system by conducting a workshop for judgment judges and officers.
- Training Court Administration Department staff on the implementation of the administrative and financial systems.
- Continue to carry out content analysis of the civic education program.
- Conduct train-the-trainers sessions for 44 trainers to qualify them to train other civic education teachers.
- Conducting 16 district workshops and 3 regional workshops to test the first draft of the civic education training manual.
- Hold Rule of Law Award ceremony.
- Conducting a comprehensive strategic planning for AQU Law School.
- Support the opening of the computer lab at AQU Law School.
- Renovate the library of the Law School, provide security sensor system and electronic search engines.
- Three Netham-supported courses would be taught, tested and evaluated including: (1) Law & Society, (2) Legal Information Technology, and (3) Legal Terminology in English
- Netham consultants will finalize a textbook on legal writing to be taught at the Law School in the fall and Netham will finalize the development of three other courses: (1) Women & the Law, (2) Legal Ethics, and (3) Moot Court's Human Rights course

- Organize a study tour for four AQU law faculty members to Washington College of Law at American University; this tour will address the development of a course on legal ethics, legal writing and strategic planning activities.
- AMIDEAST will finalize nine English language training courses for law students, and two English courses for law faculty.
- Five grants will be awarded to Civil Society Organizations.

NETHAM'S FISCAL YEAR 2009 QUARTER 2 MONITORING & EVALUATION REPORT

Netham completed an updated revision of the project's Performance Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (PMEP) in the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2008. The revised PMEP includes fifteen results and twenty performance monitoring indicators designed to measure how well the project is achieving objectives in the two major objectives including Component One: *Professionalize the formal justice sector through targeted assistance to justice sector institutions and other bodies* and; Component Two: *Support public outreach, networking, and citizen engagement on rule of law issues.*

The Monitoring & Evaluation Report for this quarter reports on the 12 performance indicators that the project reports on a quarterly basis according to the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) draft in October, 2008. The reporting period for the current report is for Fiscal Year 2009 Quarter 2, which covers the period of January 1, 2008 –March 31, 2008.

Netham's Monitoring & Evaluation quarterly report for FY 2009 Q2 includes a status report on Netham's target and actual indicators met for this quarter. The information gathered for this report was completed by collecting data using weekly and monthly project reporting forms and Justice Sector reports as well Netham data entered in the USAID Geographic Information System (GIS) database system.

NETHAM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The tables below summarize Netham's performance in Fiscal Year 2009 Quarter 2 by whether the actual values of indicators are "Below Target", "On Target" or "Exceeded Target."

Table: Component Objective 1: Professionalize the formal justice sector by increasing efficiency and effectiveness through targeted assistance to justice sector institutions and other court bodies

Result	Indicator	FY2009 Q2		Performance Rating
		Target	Actual	
1. Improved inter-institutional cooperation and consensus building among justice sector stakeholders	% of Justice Sector Strategy activities addressed	To Date Target: 40%	To Date Actual - 50%	Exceeded Target
2. Increased capacity of the Palestinian Judicial Institute to train judiciary officials	No. of judicial officials trained through PJI programs	50	95	Exceeded Target
3. Improved staff capacities of the MOJ	No. of MOJ employees trained	30	25	Below Target
4. Improved SJC capacity	No. of SJC staff trained	100	126	Exceeded Target
	No. of SJC Judges trained	50	55	Exceeded Target

Result	Indicator	FY2009 Q2		Performance Rating
		Target	Actual	
5. Improved efficiency of Notification Department services in pilot courts	No. of Notification Departments upgraded	1	1	On Target
6. Improved efficiency of Civil Judgment Department services in pilot courts	No. of Civil Judgment Departments upgraded	1	1	On Target
	% Decrease in Judgment Department active pending case load	-45% Jenin	-48% Jenin	Exceeded Target
7. Improved efficiency in Notary Public Department services in pilot court	% of increase in people rating Notary Public Department services "moderately satisfactory" or higher in: Jenin	40%	In Q3	Due to late opening of new courthouse, indicator will be measured in Q3
	No. of Notary Public Departments facilities improved	1	1	On Target

Table 2: Component Objective 2: Increase public knowledge and citizen engagement of rule of law issues by supporting public outreach and networking

Result	Indicator	FY2009 Q2		Performance Rating
		Target	Actual	
1. Improved Civil Society Organization advocacy	No. of Organizations/Schools/Associations benefited	3	0	Below Target Approval on the Grant Manual was received late in the quarter
2. Increased awareness of the rule of law among school students	No. of primary and secondary teachers receiving training on ROL awareness for students.	250	278	Exceeded Target

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

The following information describes the details of each of the seven results and ten indicators measured under Component Objective #1 and the two results and two indicators measured under Component Objective #2. Included are the indicator definitions and FY2009 Quarter 1 targets

and actual achievements disaggregated by appropriate categories followed by a narrative description of activities and results.

Component Objective 1: Professionalize the formal justice sector by increasing efficiency and effectiveness through targeted assistance to justice sector institution and other bodies:

Result #1: Improved inter-institutional cooperation and consensus building among justice sector stakeholders

Indicator: % of Justice Sector Strategy activities addressed

Definition: Activities supporting strategy objectives listed in the “Justice Sector Strategy 2008-2010”: disaggregated by Sector. “Addressing” includes formal meetings, workshops, training, and documents produced dealing with the activity specified, supported by Netham. Although activities may be addressed in several quarters, they are counted only once, in the first quarter they are addressed.

Table: Improved inter-institutional cooperation and consensus building among justice sector stakeholders: % of Justice Sector Strategy activities addressed

% of 50 Activities Addressed by Netham					
SECTOR	Q2 2009 # Activities Addressed	Q2 2009 Target	Q2 2009 Actual	To Date Target	To Date Actual
SJC	2	10%	6%	40%	50%
MOJ	1				
TOTAL	3				

During Q2 FY 2009, Netham assisted the Supreme Judicial Council and Ministry of Justice to newly address 3 of the 50 activities listed in the 2008-2010 Justice Sector Strategy including establishing a special Quality Assurance Unit at the Court Administration Department and reviewing a package of Judiciary-related legislation in the SJC, and activating the complaints system in the MOJ. This number represents 6% of the total activities listed in the Strategy. Although the actual result achieved for this quarter was less than the target for the quarter, Netham has exceeded the to-date target for this time-period. As of Q2, 2009, Netham has addressed 50% of the activities listed in the 2008 Justice Sector Strategy exceeding the 40% target for this time period.

Appendix 1 contains a complete list of the activities listed in the 2008 Justice Sector Strategy by Objective and Justice Sector Institution with year and quarter addressed with Netham’s assistance, and details on the type of assistance. Activities first started in Q2, 2009 are in “bold”. The table also specifies which activities Netham intends to start addressing in the future in FY2009, which activities Netham may address in the future in FY2009, and which activities Netham will not address and/or are pending USAID approval.

Result#2: Increased capacity of the Palestinian Judicial Institute to train judicial officials

Indicator: No. of judiciary officials trained through PJI programs

Definition: Judicial officials from all courts trained in workshops, formal training, or continuing education sessions at PJI or by PJI staff: disaggregated by gender, and location.

**Table: Increased capacity of the Palestinian Judicial Institute to train judiciary officials:
No. of judiciary officials trained through PJI programs**

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAININGS THROUGH THE PJI	
FY 2009 Q1 TARGET	FY 2009 Q1 ACTUAL
50	95

During FY 2008 Netham renovated and upgraded space to house the Palestinian Judicial Institute (PJI) in an effort to provide up-to-date and continuing justice sector education. The space contains offices, a lecture hall, classrooms, computer lab, reception area, restrooms, kitchen and storeroom. Netham also assisted in providing furniture, computers, and audio-visual training equipment.

As a result of Netham's assistance to the PJI, the institute has opened its doors for a number of training events for judges, Ministry of Justice staff and other Justice Sector staff. During the FY 2009 Q2 a total of 95 judicial officials were trained at the PJI, exceeding the total number of 50 targeted.

In addition, 63 SJC judges and staff are currently taking English language courses at the PJI which are being conducted by AMIDEAST

Result#3: Improved staff capacities of the MOJ

Indicator: No. of MOJ employees trained

Definition: MOJ staff trained in workshops, formal training, or continuing education sessions with Netham assistance. Disaggregated by gender, type of workshop, and location

Table: Improved staff capacities of the MOJ: No. of MOJ employees trained

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE STAFF TRAINED FY2009 Q3						
TOPIC	# TRAINED	#FEMALE TRAINED	# MALE TRAINED	LOCATION	2009 Q2 TARGET	2009 Q2 ACTUAL
IT Software Development	5	2	3	Ramallah	30	25
Justice Record System Source Code Training	5	2	3	Ramallah		
Cisco Certified Network Associate	1	1		Ramallah		
Financial Budget Preparation	4	2	2	Ramallah		
MOJ Interns on Data Entry	6	3	3	Ramallah		
Data Treatment Training	3		3	Ramallah		

The table above shows the number of MOJ staff trained in FY 2009Q 2 by topic, gender and location.

During FY 2009 Q2 Netham conducted Cisco Certified Network Associate training for Ministry of Justice's IT Manager as well as training for 5 MOJ staff on IT software development and training for 5 MOJ staff on the Justice Record System Source Coding. In addition 4 MOJ finance staff received training on financial budget preparation and training was conducted for 3 lawyers on data treatment including indexing of data, classification of data in preparing for data entry. Also training was conducted for six interns on entering data into the newly developed Justice Record System at the Ministry of Justice. The total number of MOJ staff trained for FY 2009 Q2 is 25 which are below the target number 30 for this quarter.

Netham was unable to meet the targeted number 30 MOJ staff trained during the quarter due to many reasons. First, the approval of the needs assessment compiled by Netham was received late in the quarter making it difficult to plan for trainings. Second, there seems to be some reluctance on the part of the MOJ in assisting Netham in developing a work and action plans for implementation at the Ministry. However, Netham was able to train 25 MOJ staff and intends to work hard with the MOJ to begin conducting other trainings as soon as possible. Netham is currently working with the Ministry of Justice to address moving forward in assisting the development and performance of the Ministry. Netham anticipates that it will reach its target cumulative goal for Q2 in Q3.

Result #4: Improved SJC capacity

Indicator 4.1: No. of SJC staff trained

Definition: Number of SJC staff trained in workshops, formal training, or continuing education sessions with Netham assistance. Disaggregated by gender, type of workshop, and location

Table: Improved SJC Capacity: No. of SJC Staff trained

# of SJC STAFF TRAINED													
Type of Training and Date	Ramallah	Nablus	Bethlehem	Hebron	Jenin	Tubas	Jericho	Salfeet	Qalqilia	Tulkarem	F	M	Total
Al Mizan and NMS System training March 7, 2009	5	4	4	5	3	1	1	2	2	5	4	30	34
Unified filing and Customer Relations training March 21, 2009	7	3	5	5	3	1	1	2	3	4	1	33	34
Al Mizan and NMS System training March 28, 2009	9		10	9	14	5	8	3			28	30	58
Total Trained	21	7	19	19	20	7	10	7	5	9	33	93	126

During FY 2009 Q2, training for Supreme Judicial Council staff was conducted for 126 staff members exceeding Netham target of 100 SJC staff trained in Q2.

The trainings took place in various locations including Ramallah, Nablus and Bethlehem. The above chart illustrates training dates, locations, and gender of those who participated in capacity building training. The capacity building training for SJC staff is part of the phase two Capacity Building Training Plan for Court Administrators and staff. Phase two training focuses on upgrading Al Mizan computer database skills and accuracy, using the new Notification Management System (NMS) software, implementing unified filing and case-processing procedures in all courts, and improving customer relations skills. The first two trainings this quarter were given to chief clerks and deputy clerks in Ramallah. These trainings focused on identifying and solving Al Mizan database problems, generating and analyzing reports produced by the Al Mizan database, utilizing the newly developed NMS that is currently being piloted in the Ramallah Notification Department, implementing unified filing procedures, and improving customer relations skills. The third training on March 27, 2009 targeted general court administrator staff. They received the Al Mizan and NMS training in three locations: Ramallah, Nablus, and Bethlehem. All court administrators throughout the West Bank will take part in phase two capacity building training and receive training in all areas. Trainings in the next two quarters will include Al-Mizan and NMS, unified court procedures for all courts and customer relations training.

Result#4: Improved SJC capacity

Indicator4.2: No. of SJC Judges trained

Definition: Number of SJC judges trained in workshops, formal training, or continuing education sessions with Netham assistance. Disaggregated by gender, type of workshop, and location

Table: Improved SJC Capacity: No. of SJC Judges trained

# of SJC JUDGES TRAINED												
Type of Training and Date	Ramallah	Nablus	Bethlehem	Hebron	Jenin	Jericho	Salfeet	Qalqilia	Tulkarem	F	M	Total
Judges' Training for Newly Appointed Judges; Jordan, Jan. 26- Feb. 09, 2009	1	4		2	4			1	2	2	12	14
Judges Criminal Case Management Training; March 6, 7, 8, 2009			6	19						0	25	25
Chief Judges' Court Administration Workshop March 26 -27 – 2009	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	16	16
Total Trained	8	6	7	22	5	1	1	2	3	2	53	55

During FY 2009 Q2, training for Supreme Judicial Council judges was conducted for 55 judges exceeding Netham's Q2 target of 50 SJC judges trained.

Training was conducted for fourteen Supreme Judicial Council judges at the Jordanian Judicial Institute on applicable laws and litigation skills. Also 25 SJC Judges attended a training workshop on Criminal Case Management. Topics included filing, registration and procedures of criminal cases; detention and preservative arrest; evidence in criminal cases; application of Criminal Procedures Law; and issuing judgments. In addition, a workshop was conducted for 16 Chief Judges focusing on the role of the Chief Judge in Court Administration. The goal of the workshop was to introduce the newly formed Court Administration Department, reach a common vision for court administration in the West Bank, and develop the structure for judicial administration / CAD efforts toward improving court administration in the West Bank. Regular Chief Judge Court Administration meetings organized by the CAD are expected to take place every month.

Result#5: Improved efficiency of Notification Department services in pilot courts

Indicator: No. of Notification Departments upgraded

Definition: Number of Notification Department facilities improved with paint, furniture, remodeling, equipment and repairs.

In Q2 Netham has focused its efforts on assisting in the development of the Notification Management System by contracting a vendor to build the NMS. The system will help monitor and track notifications. In addition, using Netham-supplied equipment, Netham interns are helping pilot the new NMS in the Ramallah Notification Department.

Netham is still awaiting the SJC's selection of the location for upgrading the Notification Department. Netham will work with the SJC to choose a location for further substantial upgrading in the next quarter.

Result#6: Improved efficiency of Civil Judgment Department Services in Pilot Courts

Indicator #6.1: No. of Civil Judgment Departments Upgraded

Definition: Number of Civil Judgment Department facilities improved with paint, furniture, remodeling, equipment and repairs

During FY2009 Q2, Netham met its target for this indicator by assisting in the upgrading of the Hebron Civil Judgment Department through provision of computer equipment to aid in data entry and service to the public.

Result #6: Improved efficiency of Civil Judgment Department Services in Pilot Courts

Indicator #6.2: % Decrease in Judgment Department Active Pending Case Load

Definition: Percentage decrease in the number of active cases pending in the Civil Judgment Department from baseline number to Netham activity completion: disaggregated by Court

Table: Improved efficiency of Civil Judgment Department Services in Pilot Courts: % Decrease in Judgment Department Active Pending Case Load

CIVIL JUDGMENT COURT ACTIVE PENDING CASE LOAD								
Courts: Nablus and Jenin Civil Judgment Courts								
Court	#Active Pending Cases prior to Netham Activity	#Active Pending Cases after Netham Activity	% Change in #Active Pending Cases	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	COMMENT
Nablus	4500	2100	-53%	-45%	+29%		-53%	Chief Justice decision to remove inactive cases from Pending Caseload March, 2009
Jenin	4924	2574	-48%			-45%	-48%	

In Q2, 2009, the Chief Justice declared that Civil Judgment cases identified as “inactive”, by law, could be removed from the active pending caseload. As a result, both Nablus and Jenin Civil Judgment Courts recorded substantial reductions in pending caseloads as a result of Netham’s assistance. During Q1 and Q2, 2009, Netham-supported interns reviewed all Civil Judgment pending cases in Nablus and Jenin and according to law, classified them as active or inactive cases. Nablus recorded an increase in active pending cases in the Civil Judgment Department last quarter but that number was reversed this quarter due to the Chief Justice’s decision on classifying cases. Netham exceeded targets for this indicator in both Nablus and Jenin courts this quarter.

Result#7: Improved efficiency of Notary Public Department Services in Pilot Courts

Indicator7.1: No. of Notary Public Departments Upgraded

Definition: Number of Notary Public Department facilities improved with paint, furniture, remodeling, equipment and repairs

During FY2009 Q2 Netham met its target for this indicator through assisting in the upgrading of the Hebron Notary Public Department through provision of computer equipment to aid in data entry and service to the public.

Result#7: Improved efficiency of Notary Public Department Services in Pilot Courts

Indicator7.2: % of increase in the public rating Notary Public Department services "moderately satisfactory" or higher in: Ramallah, Jenin & Bethlehem

Definition: % increase in people rating Notary Public Department services “moderately satisfactory” or higher following upgrading in: Ramallah, Jenin & Bethlehem.

Netham will conduct measurements in Jenin for this indicator in 2009 Q3. The Jenin Courthouse opened several months later than expected so Netham was unable to measure improvements in services in 2009 Q1 but will be able to do so in 2009 Q3.

Component Objective 2: Increase public knowledge and citizen engagement of rule of law issues by supporting public outreach and networking

Result#8: Improved Civil Society Organization advocacy

Indicator: No. of CSO's receiving grants to increase public awareness of Justice Sector

Definition: Number of Civil Society Organization receiving grants to increase public awareness of the Justice Sector

During FY 2009 Q2, Netham received USAID approval on the Grants Manual late in the quarter which shifted the timeline for the Call for Proposals, and therefore signing and implementation of the grants. The delay in receiving the approval has postponed Netham efforts to grant awards to Civil Society Organizations. Netham is below target this quarter on this indicator with zero grants issued. However, at the close of the quarter, Netham was reviewing full grant applications from five selected CSOs and Netham was expected to award at least 5 Civil Society Organization grants next quarter at which time the target goal will be exceeded.

Result#9: Increased awareness of the rule of law among school students

Indicator: No. of primary and secondary teachers receiving training on ROL awareness for students

Definition: Number of 1-9 grade teachers receiving training in workshops, formal training, and continuing education sessions on ROL awareness with Netham assistance.
Disaggregated by gender, type of workshop, type of staff and location



QUARTERLY
MONITORING AND
EVALUATION
REPORT

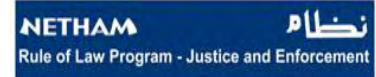


Table: Increased awareness of the rule of law among school students: No. of teachers receiving training on ROL awareness for students

# OF TEACHERS TRAINED														
Type of Training	Ramallah	Nablus	Tubas	Jerusalem	Bethlehem	Hebron	Jenin	Jericho	Salfeet	Qalqilia	Tulkarem	F	M	Total
Braining storming session	12										1	3	10	13
Orientation Session on Creative Writing Activity	3											0	3	3
Literature Review Workshop	3											0	3	3
Workshop on Implementing Creative Writing Activity	4	2	1	2		3	2	1	1	1	1	5	13	18
Focus Group Workshop	7	12	3	2	6	13	9		2	2	4	22	38	60
Orientation Session on Rule of Law Award	1	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	2	14	16
Developing Training Manual Workshops	30											5	25	30
Developing Civic Education Implementation Plan Workshop	95										5	10	90	100
Developing Creative Writing Activity/Brochure/Mechanism Workshop	35											5	30	35
Total Trained	190	15	5	6	7	19	13	2	4	4	13	52	226	278



QUARTERLY MONITORING AND EVALUATION REPORT



During FY 2009 Q 2 Netham began implementing the Civic Education Initiative for the Ministry of Education. The main focus of the Civic Education Initiative is to promote rule of law awareness to youth. Netham has assisted the MOE in creating a number of activities to promote rule of law including the creative writing activity for students and the Rule of Law Award. The creative writing rule of law activity will highlight a story written by a student on knowledge of Civic Education, and the Rule of Law Award will acknowledge teachers, principals, or student committees for promoting rule of law in the community. In addition, Netham is working with the MOE to review and evaluate the Palestinian Civic Education curriculum, preparing for a "training for trainer's" session and developing a teachers' manual for civic education teachers. In this regard, Netham held a series of workshops for MOE staff. The workshops included brainstorming sessions, orientation sessions and implementation workshops on the creative writing activity for students. Also held were a literature review workshop, focus group workshops and an orientation session on the Rule of Law Award. Furthermore workshops were held with teachers and MOE staff on developing a teacher's training manual and developing a Civic Education implementation plan.

Netham has exceeded the target number 250 with 278 MOE staff trained for this quarter.

Appendix 1

Table: 2008 Justice Sector Strategy activities addressed with Netham's Assistance

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
Objective 1: Organize and Develop Complementary Relations among the various Justice Sector Institutions	1SJC: Activating the Supreme Judicial Council and convening its meetings to ensure the proper administration of justice.	SJC	2009	Q1	Coordination was made on several occasions to bring all stakeholders to meetings. Netham initiated a formal request for permission for Gaza Supreme Judicial Council Members to travel to attend Supreme Judicial Council meetings.
	2SJC: Reaching understandings with the related institutions without creating any inconsistency with respect to the philosophy of judicial independence so as to determine the basis for work and communication with each of the following groups:	SJC	2008	Q1	Justice Sector retreat for leaders of MOJ, SJC, AGO
	1MOJ: Completion of Agreements with Relevant Institutions	MOJ	2008	Q4	MOU between MOJ and AGO, and Ministry of the Interior concerning upgrading Justice Records System
	2MOJ: Developing the Legislative Plan of the Justice Sector	MOJ			DIWAN -- Will address in future
	1AGO: Develop Understandings with Related Institutions	AGO			Pending USAID Approval

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
	2AGO: Participate in Reviewing, Evaluating, and Proposing Criminal Legislative Policies.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
Objective 2: Ensure a Fair and Speedy Trial	1SJC: Improving Case Management and Reducing Delay	SJC	2008	Q3	Interns working with Civil Judgment, Notification, and Notary Public Departments: Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron
	2SJC: Upgrading the Skills and Capacities of Judges and Administrators	SJC	2008	Q3	Training needs assessment for Judges; Court Administrators trained on court capacity building throughout West Bank,. Training for Trainers in Jordan for SJC administrators.
	3SJC: Strengthening Accountability and Oversight Systems--Judicial Inspection Dept.	SJC			Netham may address
	4SJC: Establishing a Special Quality Assurance Unit at the Court Administration Department	SJC	2009	Q2	Netham assisted the CAD in establishing a formal structure, bylaws and work plan for 2009 that included the establishment of the Quality Assurance Unit within the CAD.
	5SJC: Reviewing a Package of Judiciary Related Legislation	SJC	2009	Q2	Netham consultant reviewed all

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
					judiciary-related legislation, created comparison charts, made amendments as per Chief Justice suggestions, prepared for submission to legislative council
	1MOJ: Judicial Training Institute	MOJ	2008	Q1	Palestinian Judicial Institute established
	2MOJ:2. Activation of the Institute of Forensic Medicine	MOJ			Netham not Addressing
	3MOJ: Establishment of the Criminal Lab	MOJ			Netham not Addressing
	4MOJ. Establish and Operate the Judicial Police	MOJ			Netham not Addressing
	1AGO: Improve Criminal Case Management	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
Objective 2: Ensure a Fair and Speedy Trial (Continued)	2AGO: Enhance the Efficiency of Public Prosecutors	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	3AGO: Enhance Oversight, Accountability, and Inspection Systems in Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice per Judicial Authority Law for 2002.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
Objective 3: Support and enable the justice sector institutions	1SJC: Adopting an Integrated and Appropriate Organizational Structure for the Judiciary	SJC	2008	Q4	Admin, Finance and Organizational Structure Manual, Workshops
	2SJC: Forming the General Secretariat of the Supreme Judicial Council	SJC			Netham not Addressing
	3SJC: Establishing a Court Administration Department	SJC	2009	Q1	Netham is working with the newly appointed Court Administration Team to develop the SJC Court Administration Department.

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
	4SJC: Supporting and strengthening strategic planning at the Supreme Judicial Council	SJC	2008	Q2	Worked with SJC to complete 2008-2010 Strategic Plan, began in March, 2008. Meetings, Workshops.
	5SJC: Developing and establishing a Judicial Information Center	SJC	2009	Q1	Renovated SJC Legal Library, provided equipment, upgraded; started Q4 2008, finished Q1 2009
	6SJC: Automating Courts and Managing Case Files	SJC	2008	Q1	WAN system connecting courts. MIZAN upgrade will start and continue in FY2009
Objective 3: Support and enable the justice sector institutions (Continued)	7SJC: Creating an Adequate Litigation Environment	SJC	2008	Q3	Planning and renovating court departments. Renovated Notification, Notary Public, and Civil Judgment departments; continuing work in 2009
	1MOJ: Strengthen Strategic Planning within the Ministry	MOJ	2008	Q2	Worked with MOJ to complete 2008-2010 Strategic Plans, started March, 2008. Meetings, Workshops
	2MOJ: Activation and Development of Administrative, Financial, and Technical Systems	MOJ	2008	Q2	Needs Assessment completed
	3MOJ: Provision of Needed Qualified Personnel	MOJ	2008	Q2	MOJ HR needs assessment completed

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
	4MOJ: Upgrading and Developing the Capacities of the Human Resources	MOJ	2008	Q2	MOJ HR needs assessment completed
	5MOJ: Provide Needed Buildings and Equipment	MOJ	2008	Q1	Established Judicial Training Institute in MOJ Building; Renovated MOJ building to accommodate additional staff.
	6MOJ: Automation	MOJ	2008	Q4	Document Management System renovation started
Objective 3: Support and enable the justice sector institutions (Continued)	1AGO: Strengthen Strategic Planning within the Public Prosecution in Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	2AGO: Activation and Development of Administrative, Financial, and Technical Systems in Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	3AGO: Provision of Needed Human Cadre in Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	4AGO: Upgrading the Skills and Capacities of the Human Cadre	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	5AGO: Provide Necessary Buildings and Equipment in Cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	6AGO: Automation	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	7AGO: Activate the Enforcement of Criminal Judgments	AGO			Pending USAID Approval

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
Objective 4: Safeguard the citizens' rights and fundamental freedoms	1SJC: Raise Public Awareness on the Importance of the Judiciary and its Role in Ensuring Rights and Justice	SJC	2008	Q3	Justice Day May, 2008, Public Awareness Campaigns in Schools; posters; Ceremony, media coverage, billboards throughout West Bank
Objective 4: Safeguard the citizens' rights and fundamental freedoms (Continued)	2SJC: Improve Public Judicial Services	SJC	2008	Q3	Upgraded Notary Public Departments, Civil Judgment Dept., Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron
	1MOJ: Improve Public Services	MOJ	2008	Q1	Working with MOJ to modernize justice record system, Started Oct 2007; Process continuing
	2MOJ: Activation of the Complaints System	MOJ	2009	Q2	Netham conducted needs and training assessments for the MOJ Complaints Department. The MOJ Complaints Department is established and operating
	3MOJ: Establishment of the Human Rights Unit	MOJ			Netham will not address
	4MOJ: Establishment of a Gender Unit	MOJ			Netham will not address
	5MOJ: Activation of the Ministry's Inspection of Reform and Rehabilitation Centers	MOJ			Netham will not address
	6MOJ: Reviewing Legislation Related to Citizens' Rights	MOJ			Netham will not address
	7MOJ: Activate Means of Alternative Dispute Resolution	MOJ			Netham will not address

2008 JUSTICE SECTOR STRATEGY ACTIVITIES ADDRESSED WITH Netham's ASSISTANCE					
Objective	Activity	Judicial Institution	Fiscal Year	Quarter	Comments
	8MOJ: Enable Citizens to Access Information	MOJ	2009	Q1	Netham is working with the MOJ to build the Justice Record System and renovate the Justice Record Office so citizens can more easily obtain their records.
	1AGO: Activate Inspection of Reform and Rehabilitation Centers in Cooperation and Coordination with the Ministry of Justice	AGO			Pending USAID Approval
	2AGO: Enable Citizens' Access to Information	AGO			Pending USAID Approval