#### Contact person name and email address Feven Netsanet @ Feven.NETSANET@eeas.europa.eu

SUPPORT TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IN ETHIOPIA Title Story preview picture onsultation and alidation Workshop the gaps which Obstructs ontinuous trials Criminal Cases. July 2024 opean Union g Criminal Justice orm in the me Court of Ethiopia ogramme ጠቅላይ ፍርድ ቤት ል ፍትህ ስርዓት **ሻያ ፕሮ**ግራም **Image** Validation and consultation workshop conducted on gaps that obstruct continuous trial in criminal cases. caption Introduction The overall objective of this program is to increase respect for the rule of law, respect for human rights and enhance access to justice for all. It aims at supporting the ongoing government led justice sector reform in building the institutional and human capacity of the criminal justice system. This will ultimately contribute in enhancing the rule of law, greater respect for human rights, and increased access to justice for all, particularly women and children and other groups living in vulnerable situations. **Objectives** The main problems faced by the criminal justice sector are: Lack of coordination amongst criminal justice institutions at the Federal and Regional levels. Lack of human and institutional capacity within key criminal justice institutions to perform their roles and functions in compliance with existing and new legislation and policy. Lack of accountability and compliance with the rights of all users of the criminal justice system. Insufficient access to justice and legal aid and assistance for arrested, detained and accused persons and victims and witnesses

The programme aims to:

- Enhance horizontal and vertical coordination, collaboration and cooperation between key criminal justice institutions.
- Increase effectiveness, efficiency, fairness and accountability of the criminal justice system.
- Improve access to justice for all, in particular the poor, women and other groups in vulnerable situations.

### Program activities

The programme's key areas of intervention are:

- Grant to the Federal Ministry of Justice
- Grant to the Federal Supreme Court of Ethiopia
- Grant to the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission
- Grant to UNODC to support legal aid providers
- Technical Assistance Unit (GIZ) to support all the program

#### Program activities include:

- Joint 'on the job training' and peer exchanges for actors of the criminal justice chain to encourage joint work to overcome silos approach, i.e. on criminal investigation.
- Technical assistance, capacity building support and provision of equipment to the above mentioned partners on a range of pertinent thematic areas.
- Development of training programmes (including training of trainers) and materials to support the introduction of new procedures and evidentiary rules in the Criminal Procedure Code.
- Specialised training provided on criminal investigation and use of forensic equipment and evidence for Federal, Regional and Addis Police, and Federal and Regional prosecutors and Courts.
- Mainstreaming of gender and human rights into existing and new training programmes for members of criminal justice institutions.
- Providing grant and training to legal aid service provider NGOs and university legal aid clinics to enhance the provision of legal aid services to arrested, accused and detained persons, victims, and survivors of crime.

## (Expected) results

Some of the expected outcomes of the program are:

- Increased capacity of justice institutions at Federal level (particularly the Ministry of Justice and Federal Supreme Court) and Regions to jointly and strategically plan, budget, implement and monitor reform activities.
- Increased capacity of Police and Prosecutors at Federal and Regional levels and in Addis Ababa to conduct criminal investigations and collect, analyse and use forensic evidence in criminal trials.
- Members of criminal justice institutions at Federal level and within targeted Regions and Addis Ababa able to comply with and implement new approaches, rules and procedures in Criminal Procedure Code.
- Human rights and gender mainstreamed into training programmes and procedures.
- Increased capacity of Public Defenders, Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and university legal aid clinics to provide legal aid and assistance to defendants and victims of crime (particularly women and child victims)

# Optional 2<sup>nd</sup> image or link to video Ministry of Justice team during a study visit on legal aid at the Swedish Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Swedish Legal Aid Authority Key info program duration: 2021-2027 o location: Federal and Regional level o total budget: EUR 15 Million o EU's contribution: EUR 15 Million o Implementing partners: Ministry of Justice, Federal Supreme Court, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, UNODC and GIZ for technical assistance. Related https://www.linkedin.com/company/technical-assistance-unit-ethiopia/

Contact person name and email address: Feven Netsanet @

Feven.NETSANET@eeas.europa.eu

links