

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR LAWYERS PROJECT

Serving the World Community

2008 ISLP PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

The mission of the International Senior Lawyers Project (ISLP) is to advance the rule of law, human rights and equitable economic development worldwide by providing highly skilled *pro bono* legal services from experienced lawyers and distinguished law firms to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), developing country governments and other institutions that share our goals.

2008 witnessed substantial increases in the number of projects ISLP developed, the number of volunteers it sent abroad, and the number of law firms involved in its projects. Overall, ISLP implemented or substantially developed a total of 76 projects in 2008, sent 57 volunteers on overseas assignments, and worked with 31 law firms on 46 different projects.

Below are brief descriptions of all projects implemented or substantially advanced toward implementation by ISLP in 2008.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

AFRICA

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA): IHRDA was founded and established in 1997 in Banjul, The Gambia (where the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights is located). It is a Pan-African non-governmental organization with the specific objective of advancing the respect for human rights in Africa by increase the effectiveness and accessibility of the human rights protection mechanisms of the African Union. Among the Institute's core activities is acting as *pro bono* counsel to individuals and NGOs bringing cases before the Commission. IHRDA invited local activists and NGOs in the DRC concerned with issues of child labor, safety standards, and environmental protection to attend an October workshop (held in Banjul, Gambia for safety reasons) focused on identifying cases for strategic litigation before the African Commission and – possibly – Court of Human and Peoples Rights. At the request of IHRDA, ISLP recruited **Michael Ellman**, a retired British solicitor and past Vice-President of the Fédération Internationale des ligues des Droits de l'Homme who speaks fluent French, to facilitate the workshop. Michael gave a presentation on bringing claims under the African Charter on Human Rights, before the African Commission for Human Rights and other international jurisdictions, particularly on matters of environmental law and facilitated a number of sessions, both in groups and plenary, at which specific cases were discussed and draft complaints prepared for presentation, where appropriate first to the local courts, and then to the African Commission.

KENYA

The Kenyan Coalition for Disability Legal Action (KCDLA): Volunteer **Mike Haroz**, a Boston lawyer with **Goulston & Storrs P.C.**, spent the month of September in Nairobi, Kenya helping to catalyze the establishment of the first legal aid clinic in Africa for persons with disabilities. The clinic is the result of unique cooperation between disability rights advocates and Kenya's legal community. ISLP first became involved in the project in the summer of 2007 at the invitation of Denver University's International Human Rights Advocacy Center. The formal establishment of the clinic, appointment of the Board of Directors, and adoption of a constitution and action plan represent a major step forward and has attracted the interest of potential funders. ISLP is presently planning the next phase of its support, which will likely include trial advocacy training for the clinic's lawyers.

Centre for Disability Rights Education and Advocacy (CREAD): CREAD focuses on producing thorough research and analysis on the status of disabled persons in Kenya – including the annual State of Disabled Peoples Rights in Kenya – and is one of the founding members of the Kenyan Coalition for Disability Legal Action. CREAD asked ISLP to provide comparative research into effective litigation strategies for disability rights across common-law countries and to send volunteer for 2 weeks to work with Kenyan lawyers & disability rights advocates to adapt those strategies to the Kenyan context. The resulting document is expected to contribute significantly to the strategic direction of the KCDLA (above). CREAD has requested that the research begin in early 2009, to coincide with the inception of the clinic's operations.

LIBERIA

Liberia Ministry of Justice: In April, **Jim Dube**, a partner (now retired) at **Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**, completed a second six-week assignment in Monrovia. As he did in 2007, Jim advised the Ministry of Justice on cases and matters ranging from anti-corruption prosecutions to the government's strategy for recovering looted assets. Jim had the opportunity to participate once again in the quarterly training program offered to government prosecutors (many of whom do not have law degrees) in Liberia's rural counties. The Minister of Justice also called on Jim to help draft the statute that created a special court covering sex crimes; the statute has since been passed by Parliament and the first judge has been appointed to the court although it has yet to begin hearing cases.

Liberia Law Fellows: Volunteers **William Gardner**, a retired partner at **Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP**, and **Jeffrey Wood**, a retired partner at **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP**, made, respectively, two and three visits to Monrovia to assist the Government of Liberia. Bill Gardner spent the months of February and June with the Ministry of Justice to advance several corruption prosecutions, while Jeff Wood spent a month each in March, June and November advising on a range of economic initiatives. These included proposed regulations governing mineral exploration licenses, commentary and critique of proposed amendments to the Liberian tax code regarding investment incentives, and the development of a Model Mineral Development Agreement for the Ministry of Land, Mines and Energy. He also provided legal advice to the Minister of State for Economic and Legal Affairs with respect to a number of issues pending in his office. Jeff's work is more fully described in the section of this report on Economic Development.

Liberia Rape Law: The President of Liberia invited ISLP to help the country improve its ability to prosecute the crime of rape, which reached epidemic proportions during Liberia's civil war and has only been partly addressed by the country's 2005 legislation – the first law in the country's history to prohibit rape. Volunteer **Aparna Bhat**, an experienced sex crimes lawyer from India, traveled to Monrovia for five weeks in May and June. She met with a wide range of local and international stakeholders, and produced a first draft of a manual to train prosecutors specializing in sex crimes. The Ministry of Justice endorsed the draft, and invited a task force composed of several local and international organizations – including ISLP – to finalize the manual. Training of prosecutors is expected to commence in early 2009.

Liberia Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW): During fourteen years of civil war, much of Liberia's legal and regulatory structure was dismantled. On the forefront of the effort to rebuild that structure is the MoHSW. In 2008, the Minister, a Liberian-born, US-trained surgeon, established the first Office of General Counsel of any of Liberia's ministries and asked ISLP for an experienced health lawyer to work with the new General Counsel. ISLP Volunteer **Darrel Grinstead**, Of Counsel at **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, spent the month of November in Monrovia helping the General Counsel to organize and establish the office, create a comprehensive picture of the rights and obligations of the Ministry under existing law and regulations, and, working with the General Counsel, Ministry staff, and others, identify issues that are a high priority for legal reform and the specific features/characteristics the Ministry would like to see reflected in those reforms. These include legislation dealing with the logistical needs of new doctors, adoption policy and pharmacy regulations. Darrel also assisted with the development of anticorruption policies and procedures and outlining a set of ethical standards and rules for the Ministry.

Also on behalf of the MoHSW, **John Ketels** and **Wendy Weyson**, both partners at **Clifford Chance** (John has since retired), reviewed a number of proposed agreements between the Ministry and NGO health providers to define their roles and responsibilities, while **Robert Liebenluft**, a partner at **Hogan & Hartson**, provided advice on the regulation of the distribution of drugs and other matters for the Ministry.

ISLP plans to send a second expert to work with the Ministry in 2009.

MALAWI

Clinical Drug Trials Training Program: Malawi presently lacks either a comprehensive biomedical ethics policy or a legislative framework for the ethics provisions of drug trial applications. The absence of such a framework puts the human rights of trial participants at risk. Decreased clarity about which ethical standards to apply creates obstacles to the government's efforts to increase international collaboration and build on clinical research to improve the capacity of its own health sector. ISLP Human Rights Program Officer Nathan Miller, along with volunteers **Stuart Land**, a retired partner at **Arnold & Porter LLP**, and **Adam Sonnenschein**, a partner at the **Feinberg Law Group**, traveled to Malawi for a six-day project development mission in May. The mission was successful in establishing a concrete plan of action that includes developing a bioethics policy for the Government of Malawi, a regulatory framework for the implementation of that policy accompanied by a model clinical trial agreement, and capacity-building activities to ensure that key personnel are able to put the new framework into practice. The team subsequently delivered a draft policy statement and draft clinical trial agreement to the government. Plans to organize and raise funds for a capacity- and consensus-building workshop in 2009 are underway.

MALI

TEMEDT: An estimated 500,000 people in Northern Mali live in trans-generational slavery, yet the country has no law forbidding the practice. ISLP was invited to Mali by TEMEDT, a grassroots, member-supported Malian organization, to explore ways we could assist them as they work to first outlaw, and then eliminate, the practice. Volunteer **Michael Ellman** undertook an assessment visit in late 2008 to coordinate with TEMEDT and will return as a longer-term onsite volunteer in 2009. The Paris office of law firm **Winston & Strawn LLP** is preparing background research to be used in assessing the comparative advantages of bringing Malian slavery cases before national and regional courts. Among the results of Michael's trip was an alliance between ISLP and one of TEMEDT's closest partners, London-based Anti-Slavery International (ASI). ASI and ISLP are in the process of jointly developing a regional anti-slavery litigation strategy encompassing Mali, Niger, and Mauritania.

NIGERIA

Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA): IHRDA was founded and established in 1997 in Banjul, The Gambia (where the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights is located). It is a Pan-African non-governmental organization with the specific objective of advancing the respect for human rights in Africa by increase the effectiveness and accessibility of the human rights protection mechanisms of the African Union. Among the Institute's core activities is acting as *pro bono* counsel to individuals and NGOs bringing cases before the Commission. Under a constitutionally-mandated scheme, localities in Nigeria enforce an 'indigene/settler' divide whereby those who are "from" an area are accorded more rights (e.g., employment, scholarships) than those who are not. Volunteer **Cynthia Rollings**, a partner at **Beldock, Levine & Hoffmann LLP** in New York who specializes in plaintiff-side class action discrimination suits, is assisting the Institute and local Nigerian barristers to develop a class action challenging this discriminatory practice. Cynthia went to Abuja, Nigeria in November to meet with Institute staff, attend sessions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, and traveled to the cities of Jos and Yelwa to conduct follow-up interviews with potential Muslim plaintiffs to seek additional evidence. She continues to advise on the project from New York, and is presently working with IHRDA and Nigerian barristers to identify a group of Christian plaintiffs from another part of the

country in order to reflect the universality of the discriminatory regime, and to insulate the lawsuit from charges of ethnic or religious favoritism.

SOUTH AFRICA

University of Pretoria Human Rights Centre: Each year, the Human Rights Centre trains 30 of Africa's most promising human rights lawyers in its LLM program. **Joel Martin**, an ISLP volunteer with extensive experience – including teaching trial advocacy skills in the West Bank and Gaza, and serving as the Executive Director of the CEELI Institute in Prague – was selected for this assignment. In 2008, Joel completed a three-month assignment in Pretoria where he established the Center's first-ever trial advocacy seminar, ran a clinic that undertook legal research on behalf of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, and lectured on US constitutional law. He was invited back, and will repeat the course in February and March of 2009.

ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Afghan Human Rights Organization (AHRO): Volunteer **Allen Keese** completed two assignments in Afghanistan, evaluating AHRO's programs. Since its inception in May of 1997 – and especially after the fall of the Taliban – AHRO has provided legal aid to more than 4,000 victims of human rights abuses. In a post-conflict environment where the rule of law is fragile and the judiciary widely viewed as corrupt, AHRO's assistance helps to bolster perceptions of the fairness of the judicial system -- thereby helping to consolidate the rule of law and prevent a return to conflict. Allen's first assignment was to evaluate those legal aid activities. He traveled to Kabul and several other regions of the country, compiling a comprehensive report. During his second assignment, Allen helped AHRO draft five concrete grant proposals to garner much-needed financial support that will enable it to expand its activities in rural areas.

CHINA

International Bridges to Justice (IBJ): IBJ works to guarantee all citizens the right to competent legal representation, the right to be protected from cruel and unusual punishment, and the right to a fair trial, by – among other things – providing direct technical support and training to emerging legal aid organizations. In the past six years, IBJ has trained well over 10,000 lawyers in China, Vietnam and Cambodia. Volunteer **Leslie Rosenberg**, a career public defender from Minnesota, spent three months in China this fall working with IBJ to improve China's juvenile justice system. Among other activities, Leslie drafted a training manual to be used by public defenders in juvenile cases. The manual focuses on day-to-day practice issues, such as how to collect and organize evidence, how to interview a juvenile, and the role of the lawyer. Part of Leslie's mission was to refine the manual through wide consultations and pilot trainings in different regions of the country. The completed version is being circulated to juvenile defenders throughout China. ISLP will continue to send volunteers to IBJ in 2009.

Freedom of Expression: The ISLP Media Law Working Group cooperated in the planning of a conference held in April 2008 that explored China's role in establishing global Internet norms and standards. It is well known that China filters web content for their citizens. China is able to crack down on online journalists and bloggers largely due to their elaborate and sophisticated filtering, surveillance and blocking technology--popularly referred to as the Great Firewall of China. The conference focused on China's role both as a model for other regimes seeking to impose internal and external information controls on news and information, and as an exporter of the technologies and technical assistance that enable that level of regulation, particularly for repressive regimes in developing countries.

Legal Helpline for the Beijing Olympics: Organized by ISLP volunteer and Board member **Richard Winfield**, several law firms and lawyers offered a legal helpline for journalists during the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

MONGOLIA

Centre for Human Rights and Development (CHRD): Since 2005, CHRD has built a program focusing on public interest environmental advocacy in order to address the negative impacts of Mongolia's mining industry on the environmental rights of local herder communities. The program currently encompasses strategic litigation, and monitoring the government's process for granting exploration licenses. CHRD is also working with mining-affected communities to promote local advocacy and reform. **Robert Mansell**, a Canadian environmental and mining lawyer, spent July through September in Ulaanbaatar. He helped CHRD to develop a model Community Benefits Agreement for use in negotiations with mining companies, trained CHRD's young staff litigator, and advised CHRD on a range of environmental advocacy strategies. Robert is the third volunteer ISLP has sent to work with CHRD. He has plans to return in early 2009 to advise on civil society participation in the drafting and negotiation of investment agreements in Mongolia

REGIONAL - SOUTHEAST ASIA (THAILAND, LAOS, VIETNAM)

Bridges Across Borders - South-East Asia (BABSEA): ISLP is working with BABSEA, a grassroots international organization based in Chiang Mai, Thailand, whose overall mission is to improve access to justice and legal training in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia. In 2008, ISLP sent three volunteers— **Evan Rosen**, a public defender from Minnesota; **Mark Andrews**, a retired attorney from Alaska; and **Scott Neilson**, a retired judge from Washington State – to assist BABSEA's Community Legal Education Program in Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam.

EUROPE

THE CZECH REPUBLIC

League of Human Rights (LIGA): LIGA is a nongovernmental organization based in Prague and Brno, which represents victims of human rights violations, in particular, victims of domestic violence and discrimination, and advocates for law reform and enforcement of the rule of law. ISLP Volunteer **Michael Haroz**, a senior partner in Boston firm **Goulston & Storrs P.C.** who spent three weeks with LIGA in 2006, worked on-site from March 3-31, 2008 to further the organizational and training efforts initiated by him and ISLP Volunteer Arline Pacht in 2006. Mr. Haroz's assignment included an assessment of organizational and management issues confronting LIGA and promotion of the concept of pro bono activities among private law firms and law school students. As a member and the former managing partner of a major private law firm, Mr. Haroz was well positioned to review LIGA's operations. Mike helped LIGA make improvements in policy and practices, and provided training and advice to staff on how to address challenges faced by their various programs. He prepared a comprehensive report for LIGA, and, together with other Czech NGOs, helped LIGA to organize three pro bono seminars for private Czech law firms and Czech law schools. The seminars stimulated a great deal of interest among the private bar in the Czech Republic and planted important seeds for the emergence of a viable pro bono culture in the country.

THE HAGUE

Trial of Charles Taylor: Although the trial of former Liberian leader Charles Taylor for war crimes and crimes against humanity is of historic import to West Africans in general, and Sierra Leoneans and Liberians in particular, the decision to move the trial to The Hague, Netherlands (at the request of the current President of Liberia) means that many people are deprived of easy access to news about the proceedings. The Open Society Justice Initiative requested ISLP's assistance in monitoring the ongoing trial and providing timely information about the proceedings to constituencies in Liberia and Sierra Leone, as well as to journalists and professionals. **Clifford Chance**, working through its Washington,

Amsterdam and London offices, provided a monitoring team to cover trial sessions. To facilitate broad and rapid dissemination of trial developments, ISLP led in the way in the establishment of a live blog, which may be accessed at www.charlestaylortrial.org.

RUSSIA

Center for Journalism in Extreme Situations (CJES): In response to a request from the Open Society Institute, ISLP recruited **Edward DeLaney**, a senior US media lawyer and Russian speaker, to conduct an assessment of CJES, a human rights organization based in Moscow, which advocates on behalf of journalists faced with legal charges under defamation and related laws in the Russian Federation. Ed's mission was to conduct an evaluation of the organization and provide recommendations on how CJES might more effectively provide legal assistance to local journalists. Before departing for his assignment, Ed reviewed the CJES and related websites, conducted research in the U.S. press relating to Russia and its media, read some of the Russian publications on press freedom. As soon as he arrived in Moscow, Ed met with CJES Director Oleg Panfilov and the organization's in-house lawyers. The week was filled with meetings with Russian lawyers actively involved in media cases and with journalists who have been beneficiaries of CJES' work. Following the trip, Ed presented his report, which included a number of recommendations on how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of CJES. Among his main recommendations were that CJES needs to (i) strengthen the policy and procedures for selecting cases for support; (ii) establish a system of monitoring and reporting the cases on the website; (iii) seek to extend its services to other areas of the former Soviet Union, and form partnerships with other NGOs working in the field; and (iv) train and mentor their in-house lawyers.

International Protection Centre (IPC), Onsite Capacity Building: IPC is a Russian non-governmental organization, which specializes in bringing cases against Russia in the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). Since it was founded in 1994, IPC's mission has been to promote the use of international human rights mechanisms to protect human rights against violations by Russian authorities. Karinna Moskalkenko, IPC's founder and lead counsel, is a prominent Moscow lawyer who has won recognition for her human rights advocacy both within Russia and abroad. From her offices in Moscow and Strasbourg, Mrs. Moskalkenko coordinates and supervises nearly 200 cases against Russia in the ECHR. A significant number of IPC's clients are families of victims of the war in Chechnya. ISLP Volunteer and Board member **Natasha Lisman**, a Russian speaking litigator with **Sugarman, Rogers, Barshak & Cohen, P.C.**, spent from February 9-16, 2008 in Strasbourg helping to organize IPC's caseload and assisting the Centre's Director in conducting a training program for Russian and CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) human rights lawyers. The trainees were staff lawyers working for human rights organizations in Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, and Moldova dealing with such problems as gender, racial, and ethnic discrimination, violence against women, child abuse, mistreatment of the mentally ill, police misconduct, and deprivations of due process and fair trial. The goal of the seminar was to expand their substantive and procedural knowledge, and raise the participants' oral and written advocacy skills. In addition, Natasha taught a workshop on practical legal writing skills.

European Court of Human Rights research and analysis: ISLP recruited the Paris, London and U.S. offices of several global law firms to provide case research for IPC and prepare general research and analysis for use in cases against Russia being brought before the European Court of Human Rights, many of them involving victims of the war in Chechnya. ISLP volunteer and Board member **Natasha Lisman** coordinated and oversaw all of the law firm work. *[Specific information relating to this work is confidential.]*

LATIN AMERICA

GUATEMALA

International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG): After the end of Guatemala's 46-year civil war, in 1996, many of the illegal security forces and clandestine organizations involved in prosecuting the war turned from counterinsurgency to organized crime. Although no longer directly

supported by the government, these former parastatals retained ties to officials at all levels – rendering them nearly impossible to prosecute. To combat this climate of impunity, the Guatemalan government and the United Nations established the CICIG. Among other functions, the CICIG is mandated to investigate and build cases against organized crime groups on behalf of the government, which remains responsible for bringing prosecutions in court. ISLP has been asked by the CICIG to provide a volunteer to assist the Commission with its efforts to liaise with the Department of Justice regarding its investigations in Guatemala. Partners **Leslie Caldwell** and **Ted Cruz** of **Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP** have undertaken this project.

PERU

The Trial of Alberto K. Fujimori, Peru: Former President of Peru, Alberto K. Fujimori, was put on trial in Peruvian court for crimes he allegedly committed while in office, including the killings of 25 people by a death squad created under his rule in the early 1990s. Although many of the crimes charged constitute human rights violations, his trial is under Peruvian law – potentially representing a step forward in the ability of domestic jurisdictions to implement transitional justice. To help disseminate the trial and ensure fairness and transparency in the proceedings, ISLP assisted in the development and design of the blog *Fujimori on Trial* (<http://www.fujimoriontrial.org>) and sent volunteer **James Manahan** to Lima for the first three months of the trial (January-March 2008) to serve as a monitor and to train other monitors.

MIDDLE EAST

Government Assistance: The Speaker of Parliament asked ISLP to improve a draft media law that was being considered by Parliament. **Clifford Chance** undertook this project, under the direction of volunteer **Richard Winfield**. At the request of the government involved, ISLP cannot release any further details.

EGYPT

Gamal Eid Amicus Brief: Volunteers **Robert Penchina** and lawyers from the Paris office of **Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP** and the U.S. offices of **Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP** and **Levine Sullivan Koch and Schultz LLP** provided research and analysis of intellectual property laws for an Egyptian free speech advocate who was criminally charged with copyright infringement for posting on the web a court brief of a lawyer who is suing them for libel in another action. The charges against Mr. Eid were dismissed. In his letter thanking the ISLP volunteers, Mr. Eid wrote: “Let me express my gratitude to all of you for your great efforts on our case. I have good news to share with you. Only today, I have been informed about the judgment on the case. The judgment was in our favor & the case was rejected & thus, we are declared innocent of the accusation of violating the IP law. Without you & your excellent efforts & consultation we wouldn't have won the case.”

YEMEN

Yemeni Freedom of Information Laws: In August, 2008, **Baker & McKenzie** attorneys **Charles Hallab**, **Sigurd Sorenson**, and **Madeleine Schachter** served as ISLP volunteers for the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) in connection with a review of best practices for Freedom of Information (FOI) laws. Madeleine and Sigurd then participated in a collaborative workshop in Amman, Jordan with members of the Yemeni Parliamentarians Against Corruption to revise the draft law. ISLP will provide follow-on assistance in 2009. In January 2009, **Madeleine Schachter** and **Benjamin Allgroud** chaired a second workshop with 20 Yemeni parliamentarians in Amman, Jordan, to revise the draft FOI law.

Yemeni Press Laws: In May 2008, ISLP volunteer **David Cook**, former Counsel to **Clifford Chance LLP**, went to Amman, Jordan, to meet with a delegation of Yemeni parliamentarians to draft a proposed press law.

CORPORATE ORGANIZATIONAL AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECTS

AFRICA

Play31 (Sierra Leone): Play31 was born when founder Jakob Lund, while working in Sierra Leone, came upon children playing soccer with a completely ruined soccer ball. Their enthusiasm and joy after he gifted them with a new ball were the impetus for his idea to donate soccer balls to children throughout war-ravaged Sierra Leone and to let the balls be part of local peace efforts. **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP** is helping Play31 with organizational and contract issues.

Ghana on Tap (Ghana): **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** is assisting this group working to raise funds to build wells for schools in Ghana on issues related to fiscal sponsorship by a larger NGO.

ASIA

Chab Dai (Cambodia): Chab Dai is a network of 40 Christian organization committed to ending sexual abuse and trafficking in Cambodia through programs of prevention, restoration and reintegration that include: education in communities, schools and churches; legal intervention; counseling and social work; assessment centers; shelter programs; foster care networks; and vocational training and employment opportunities for survivors. **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP** is providing legal assistance for the founding of a US office and a trademark application.

The Rights Practice (China): TRP works with local partners in China to promote human rights and the rule of law by helping to build organizational capacity, by encouraging greater public/civil society participation, and by increasing rights awareness. **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** helped this UK-based group establish a US-based 501(c)(3) organization.

REGIONAL

InterAmerican Court of Human Rights: **Clifford Chance US LLP** provided research into procedural requirements and the exhaustion of local remedies as it pertains to filing in the InterAmerican Court.

Media Law Moot Court Competition: ISLP board member and volunteer Richard Winfield joined Hon. Dean Spielmann, a justice at the European Court of Human Rights, in judging the inaugural Monroe E. Price International Media Law Moot Court Competition at the University of Oxford Faculty of Law

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AFRICA

BOTSWANA

Commercial Law Training Program: This year's program took place in Gaborone from July 2 to August 17, 2008. Five ISLP Volunteers conducted the trainings, together with five Botswanan co-instructors. Participants attended two three-hour evening sessions per week for six weeks. The program provided training and interactive workshops in various commercial law topics, including the following: forms of business; understanding corporate financial statements; capitalization of an enterprise: debt and equity, loan agreements, real estate purchase & leasing agreements; product purchase and sales; employment; contract drafting workshops; company governance and transparency; dividend distributions; fiduciary obligations; developing a commercial law practice; engagement and fee arrangements. The program trained a total of 20 Black lawyers. At the conclusion of the program, the participants took a two-hour written examination in solving practical commercial law issues. Those who passed the examination received certificates at the closing ceremony, which was attended by several instructors, by ISLP, and by Law Society of Botswana representatives. Yvonne Chulime, a partner with Chilume & Attorneys, one of the Botswanan co-instructors, in her email to ISLP said: "Thank you so much and hopefully we shall

continue to work together in running the program... On behalf of the Council of Law Society and myself... we appreciate it... Please pass my warmest regards to all the members of ISLP who have carried out a task of teaching here, they have all been fantastic in sharing their knowledge and time..."

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Mining Agreements: ISLP was asked by the Carter Center to assist in conducting a review and analysis of a number of mining contracts to which the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party, with particular attention being paid to revenue streams, transparency and citizen participation. ISLP's team was led by senior partner **John Reboul** of **Ropes & Gray LLP** and included associates from several Ropes & Gray international offices. The team reviewed and evaluated five key mining contracts, submitted a memorandum to the Minister of Mines and relevant civil society entities in both French and English, and traveled to the DRC to meet with government officials. Regrettably, the political situation in the DRC has made it no longer possible to continue the project.

LIBERIA

Bong Iron Ore Deposits Concession Agreement: ISLP has assisted the Government of Liberia in the solicitation of bids for the rehabilitation and expansion of the Bong iron ore mine, one of the two most important mining assets of the Government after the Mittal iron ore mines, the evaluation of the bids received, and in documenting a \$2.68 billion 25-year investment agreement with the winning bidder, China Union Investment Company ("China Union"). This agreement is of the highest importance to the government and, if completed, this will be the largest single investment into Liberia. It is expected that the deal will be closed in 2009, and in five year's time, China Union will create about 3,000 jobs for the Liberians. China Union will build modern facilities, including a residential area with schools, hospital and clinics in the concession area as well as in surrounding communities, and will also construct a 130MW Hydro Power Plant on the St. Paul River to supply electricity to Monrovia and other areas. ISLP Volunteers **Lorraine Sostowski** and **Joseph Bell**, partners with **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, and **Jeffrey Wood**, a retired partner of **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP**, provided pro bono assistance on this agreement in 2008 and will continue to work on it in 2009.

Buchanan Renewables Concession Agreement: The Government of Liberia asked for assistance in negotiating a concession agreement with Buchanan Renewables, a Canadian company, for the development, financing, construction, ownership and operation of a 35 MW (gross) wood-fired power plant near Kakata, Liberia and a 56 km transmission line running from Kakata to Painesville (near Monrovia). The Buchanan Renewables project will be the first significant private investment in the power sector in Liberia. The first power from the plant is expected to be available by the end of 2010. The plant will use exhausted rubber wood for fuel, contributing to the rejuvenation of the rubber industry in Liberia and will create hundreds of construction jobs and more than 100 full-time jobs associated with the power production and distribution. This contract and the power it will provide represent a tremendous advance for a country that just three years ago had virtually no foreign direct investment and was without electricity in many zones of its capital city due to 15 years of civil war. ISLP Volunteer **Keith Larson**, a partner with **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, assisted Liberia with respect to the negotiation of the Concession Agreement and the Power Purchase Agreement for the project. Following the execution of these two documents, which is expected to be completed in January, the second stage of the project will involve reviewing the various financing documents and providing a legal opinion. Hogan & Hartson is unable to continue its pro bono assistance on this project, and ISLP recruited **Jeffrey O'Brien**, **John Baner** and **E. Waide Warner**, partners with **Davis Polk & Wardwell**, to work on the second phase, which will begin early in February 2009.

Capacity Development and Concession Agreements Generally: While on sabbatical, ISLP Volunteer **Robert Hillman**, Fair Business Practices Professor of Law at the **University of California at Davis Law School**, spent about three weeks during the month of August 2008 in Monrovia working on Liberian matters including following up on a number of pending mining, agricultural and forestry concessions.

Professor Hillman also analyzed what steps ISLP might take to further enhance capacity development with the government.

Hotel Concessions: ISLP Volunteer **Donald Gellert**, Of Counsel with **Otterbourg, Steindler, Houston & Rosen, P.C.** provided review and advice with respect to two hotel agreements, the Nubian Consortium Transaction, a proposed concession agreement for the construction and operation of a hotel complex, and Kendejah Lease Agreement, a proposed agreement of lease for the construction of a luxury style hotel.

Investment Incentives: ISLP Volunteer **Jeffrey Wood**, a retired partner of **Debevoise & Plimpton LLP**, provided commentary and critique of proposed amendments to the Liberian tax code regarding investment incentives.

Liberian Agriculture Company (LAC) Rubber Plantation Concession Agreement: ISLP assisted the Government of Liberia in the renegotiation of a concession agreement for the LAC rubber plantation, a 300,000 acre concession that was granted in 1959 under an agreement that has never been modified to reflect changed conditions. This contract renegotiation is an important part of the Government of Liberia's goal of ensuring that the country's agricultural resources are more fully developed in a manner that provides greater revenue to Liberia and more employment and other social benefits to communities where the concessions are located. In 2008, ISLP Volunteers participated in multiple meetings with LAC at which the basic parameters of a renegotiated contract have been discussed. It is expected that a new agreement will be signed in 2009, and it is hoped that this will lead to a 10-year development plan through which LAC will fully develop the concession for both rubber and palm oil production. ISLP Volunteers **Bruce Gilchrist** and **Joseph Bell**, partners with **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, worked from their offices and in Liberia to deliver their pro bono assistance on this agreement and will continue to work on it in 2009.

Liberia International Ship & Corporate Registry: Since 2007, ISLP has been assisting the Ministry of Finance in reviewing and restructuring the operation of Liberia's International Ship and Corporate Registry. LISCR, LLC, a Delaware corporation is currently managing the Registry under an Operating Agreement with Liberia. In 2007, ISLP volunteers prepared a detailed due diligence report for the Minister of Finance and a draft of a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between Liberia and LISCR. The MOU would clarify key points in the existing Operating Agreement and introduce a new revenue allocation formula, enhancing revenues to Liberia. In 2008, ISLP Volunteer **Michael Cheroutes**, retired from **Hogan & Hartson LLP**, represented the Ministry in negotiations on the MOU. However, in August of 2008, the Government ordered an internal investigation and put the negotiations on hold after suspicions of corruption in the registry contracting process were raised. ISLP assistance to the Ministry on this matter is expected to continue in 2009.

Palm Oil Concession Agreement: Pursuant to a request from the Government of Liberia, ISLP Volunteers **Richard Gittleman**, **Shannon Grewer** and **Kenneth Natale**, partners and associates with **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP**, advised the government in its negotiation of a concession agreement with Sithe Global Bio Diesel LLC for the development of a large scale commercial palm oil plantation and processing mill. The agreement will include upgrades to existing infrastructure, employee housing, schools, community projects, medical centers and hospitals. The investment project is expected to generate significant employment opportunities and tax revenue for the Government over the life of the project. It is expected that an agreement will be signed in 2009. In connection with this project, the ISLP Volunteers also worked with the Government in drafting legislation for a palm oil development fund that will be funded by direct contributions from the palm oil producers. These contributions will fund research and help to improve and support the palm oil industry on a national basis.

Research on International Treaties: The Liberian Ministry of State for Finance, Economic and Legal Affairs ("MOS-FELA") in the Office of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf requested help with legal analysis of 23 international treaties under consideration for ratification. Three law firms, **Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**; **Clifford Chance US LLP**; and **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP**,

completed this project in May, 2008. Additionally, **Clifford Chance** lawyer **Marye Cherry** spent three months in Liberia supporting the Minister as Chief of Staff.

Tax Issues: **Joseph Bell**, a partner with **Hogan & Hartson LLP** provided assistance to the Ministries of Finance and Agriculture regarding various agricultural tax issues as well as efforts to have ongoing concession negotiations reflect the decisions of the government with respect to taxation in the mining and agricultural sectors.

Western Cluster Iron Ore Deposits Concession Agreement: Last August, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf requested advice from ISLP on an urgent basis concerning strategic options pertaining to the award of a mining concession for the development of the Western Cluster Iron Ore Deposits, one of the two most important iron ore mining assets in the country, in light of due diligence information indicating that the selected bidder was insolvent. **Robert Hillman**, Fair Business Practices Professor of Law at the **University of California at Davis Law School**, and Professor **Louis Wells** of the **Harvard Business School** went to Liberia from September 2-5, 2008 and met with the President, the Concession Bid Evaluation Panel and the Inter-Ministerial Concessions Committee to advise on issues related to this bid. Attorneys from **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP** also assisted by preparing two thorough memoranda concerning (i) the strategic options available to the government relating to the award of a mining concession when the selected bidder is insolvent and (ii) a preliminary analysis of each of the bid submissions with a particular emphasis on grounds for disqualification and subjects for qualification. ISLP Volunteers will assist in the negotiation of an agreement in 2009 once the rebid process and tender are complete.

MADAGASCAR

Committee for the Safeguard of Integrity (Comité pour la Sauvegarde de l'Intégrité or CSI): The CSI (former High Council Against Corruption), a Malagasy government entity under the office of the President of the Republic, which promotes the integrity of public and private institutions in the country, asked ISLP for assistance in the field of policy development and regulation in the petroleum sector, most pressing with regard to a new Malagasy Petroleum Code. ISLP recruited **John Riggs**, a retired partner of the Paris office of **White and Case LLP**, for an assessment mission to Madagascar to explore the possibility of assisting the Malagasy government. The January 26-30, 2009 assessment mission had two main objectives: (i) identify relevant areas of need; and (ii) determine appropriate partners with whom ISLP can engage to have a meaningful influence on the process.

MALAWI

Trade Negotiation Training: **Patrick Macrory**, ISLP's Trade Negotiation Training Consultant, who practiced international trade law for more than 30 years at two prominent Washington-based firms, and **Stephen Lande**, President of **Manchester Trade, LTD.**, led a trade negotiation training program from October 25-31, 2008 for Malawian government officials. Twenty-four senior or mid-level trade officials in government departments directly involved in developing and/or implementing trade policies and negotiation strategies participated in the program. The Minister of Industry and Trade welcomed the group and gave the opening remarks. The program covered an overview of the world trading system, focusing on the World Trade Organization and regional trade agreements; principles of international trade; negotiation strategies and concepts; processes and outcomes of trade negotiations; and a detailed trade negotiation simulation exercise. After the negotiation exercise, the trainers led a discussion reviewing the results and the lessons learned. In their written evaluations, all the participants said that they expected to use what they had learned in their work. One commented: "currently I am one of the technicians involved in EPA negotiations and this training is crucial. I will also use the knowledge in negotiating other bilateral agreements."

RWANDA

Trade Negotiation Assistance and Training: Following the first trade negotiations training that ISLP implemented in Rwanda in May 2007, ISLP arranged for Rwanda's trade negotiators to receive ongoing

mentoring by the law firm **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP**, a leading Washington firm with a highly regarded trade practice. **Patrick Macrory** and **Spencer Griffith**, a partner with Akin Gump, visited Kigali in January 2008 for meetings with the Rwandan government trade office to plan the program of technical assistance in detail. On the basis of these meetings, a work plan was developed that included several training sessions and ad hoc technical advice relating to common market negotiations, Rwanda trade policy strategy review and Rwanda implementation plan for U.S. market access under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. In June 2008, Patrick and Spencer conducted the first training session on trade negotiations practical skills and techniques for about 20 members of the Rwanda government negotiating team who are handling the East African Community (EAC) Common Market negotiations. The firm was asked to provide another workshop relating to the negotiation of the four freedoms (goods, services, capital and people) as part of the EAC Common Market negotiations. Akin Gump also made itself available to advise the Rwandan Government on particular issues that came up in the course of trade negotiations and prepared two memoranda concerning (i) trade in services with the European Union; and (ii) freedoms of residence and establishment in common markets. Prudence Sebahizi, the Executive Secretary of the National Regional Integration Committee of Rwanda, referring to the information she received from Akin Gump lawyers, said in her email: "I appreciate once again the kind cooperation and support you have extended to me during these busy days of negotiations. I thank you very much."

IP Training: ISLP Volunteers **Michael Kiklis** and **Edward Fenn**, partners with **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP**, taught the first-ever Intellectual Property class in the LLM program at the National University of Rwanda from July 21-30, 2008. The class, attended by judges and other high ranking public officials, challenged the participants to think through real-life intellectual property issues of a developing country. It was especially timely, as Rwanda has been in the process of enacting their own set of comprehensive intellectual property laws. The class was very well received, and Akin Gump lawyers were asked to repeat it in 2009.

SIERRA LEONE

Capacity Development for Negotiation and Regulation of Investment Contracts: ISLP is assisting the new government of Sierra Leone in reviewing four key mining contracts entered into by previous governments and in the renegotiation of these contracts. Volunteers **Brian Fix**, a retired **Salans** partner, and partners **Boris Dolgonos** and **Lydia Protopapas** with associate **Kathleen Clark** of **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**, worked on this project. In 2008, ISLP Volunteers traveled four times to Sierra Leone and London to discuss issues with the Government Task Force established by the President of Sierra Leone to renegotiate the investment contracts, analyze the contracts, make recommendations and conduct negotiations with one of the mining companies. The ISLP Volunteers will continue to work on this project in 2009.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commercial Law Training Program: 2008 was the fifth year of the Commercial Law Training Program in South Africa. It was conducted in Johannesburg from July 10 to September 25 and in Cape Town from July 17 to October 2, 2008. Nine ISLP Volunteers conducted the program in partnership with 27 South African pro bono co-instructors. Participants attended two three-hour evening sessions per week for 12 weeks. In terms of subject matter, the program provided training and interactive workshops in various commercial law topics, including the following: forms of business; understanding corporate financial statements; capitalization of an enterprise: debt and equity, loan agreements, real estate purchase & leasing, and other agreements; product purchase and sales; employment; contract drafting workshops; company governance and transparency; dividend distributions; fiduciary obligations; commercial transaction negotiation workshops; developing a commercial law practice; engagement and fee arrangements. The program trained a total of 95 Black lawyers. At the conclusion of the program, the participants took a two-hour written examination in solving practical commercial law issues. Those who passed the examination received certificates at closing ceremonies. The ceremonies were also attended by several instructors, by Black Lawyers Association representatives, and by a distinguished attorney as the featured speaker. Representative comments from the participants in program included the following:

“highly practical due to presenters involvement and experience in various areas of practice;” “the programme was practical as the instructors focused on case studies and often probed the attendees’ understanding by seeking solution from them;” “we received information that was relevant and practical;” and “the level of practical information was excellent especially the exercises we did in class as a group.”

South Africa Conference on the Integration of Black Lawyers into the Corporate Legal Profession: From March 3-5, 2008, ISLP, the Black Lawyers Association Legal Education Centre and the Senior Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association working with The Mandela Institute at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg presented a three-day conference to provide a forum for consideration of opportunities to better enable black lawyers in the growth of their country’s economy. The first day of the conference focused on an evaluation of the past four years of an annual 12-week commercial law education training presented by ISLP in South Africa and its role in helping foster commercial law opportunities. The conference’s second day involved a broader-based exploration of the opportunities and challenges for historically-disadvantaged South African attorneys to practice commercial law, while the third day convened a roundtable discussion on initiatives to make commercial law legal services by black attorneys available to small and medium-sized businesses in historically-disadvantaged communities. **Keith Watson**, volunteer program manager for ISLP’s Commercial Law Training Program (CLTP), and two CLTP volunteer instructors, **Craig White** and **Kevin Salisbury**, attended the conference. Other participants included: instructors and certificate recipients from past ISLP commercial law training programs; South African government officials; commercial law practitioners; and business and financial sector leaders. The conference generated a number of suggested improvements to the course which the sponsors successfully implemented in the Summer 2008 program. It was also agreed that the conference provided important networking opportunities to those interested in developing or expanding a commercial law practice. It was noted that, while very useful, training and networking alone are not sufficient to overcome the various obstacles these attorneys are facing in building a successful commercial law practice. Accordingly, Black attorneys need experienced mentors and hands-on opportunities to improve their skills through secondments and internships, and more aggressive marketing of their services. The conference’s steering committee set up a forum on the Advancement of Black Commercial Law to further assist Black lawyers in their development of commercial law opportunities in both public and private sectors.

TANZANIA

Negotiation and Regulation of Investment Contracts: ISLP Volunteers **Brian Fix**, a retired partner of **Salans**, and **Jack Lipson**, a retired partner of **Arnold and Porter LLP**, participated in a diagnostic mission to Tanzania. The mission’s main objectives were to meet with government officials, development partners and civil society, and recommend an action plan to strengthen governmental efforts to reform its extractive industries sector. The ISLP Volunteers spent four days meeting with various government officials in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma. The mission was successful in identifying the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs as a potential recipient of ISLP assistance and formulating a plan of action that included: (1) reviewing and analyzing several key investment contracts; (2) training Ministry of Justice lawyers on contract administration; and (3) providing on-going help and assistance related to the various operations of the Ministry. ISLP Volunteers will continue to work on this project in 2009.

ZAMBIA

Trade Negotiation Training: Together with the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD), ISLP conducted a training program for Zambian trade officials from April 23-25, 2008. ISLP provided two volunteers: **Patrick Macrory** and **Jean Anderson**, a partner with **Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**. ACCORD provided a highly experienced negotiation trainer, Vasu Gounden, the Founder and Executive Director of the organization. The development of the program took place over several months of discussions among ISLP, ACCORD and the Zambian authorities. Patrick Macrory visited Lusaka in February of 2008, for meetings with the Ministry of Commerce to plan the program in detail, including an issue-specific trade negotiation simulation exercise. Seventeen members of the

Zambia government negotiating team participated in the training. The training curriculum included presentations on the international trading system; trade negotiation principles and techniques; negotiation strategies and concepts; and processes and outcomes of trade negotiations. The highlight of the program was a two-day simulation exercise which was particularly relevant to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations that were being conducted between the EU and various African countries, including Zambia. Reviews of the program were highly positive. One participant commented that “one wishes these could have been held much earlier in the past.”

REGIONAL

Responding to a request from *Oxfam America*, ISLP volunteers from **Arnold & Porter’s** Washington, DC and Brussels offices, led by retired partner **Jack Lipson**, prepared an analysis of aspects of a draft Convention on Mining for the member nations of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The draft mining code is the centerpiece of a region-wide effort to impose more transparent financial practices and strict environmental standards upon the extractive industries and to assure that more revenue reverts to local African communities.

Transparency International asked ISLP for assistance with the pre-publication review of a report covering the revenue transparency policies of 42 oil and gas companies and their upstream operations in 21 countries. Partner **David Schulz** of **Levine Sullivan Koch and Schulz, LLP** undertook this assignment.

EUROPE

RUSSIA

Small and Medium Business Legal Support Project: ISLP Executive Director **Jean Berman** and Board member **Natasha Lisman**, a partner with **Sugarman, Rogers, Barshak & Cohen, P.C.**, traveled to Russia in May 2007 to meet with potential partners, lawyers, representatives of small business and relevant governmental entities to assess the viability of Tomsk and Samara as locales for developing the small and medium business legal support project. As a result of this trip, the Tomsk Chamber of Commerce and ISLP worked together in 2008 to develop an agreement to establish a Small and Medium Business Legal Training and Support Centre, which would provide (i) training for lawyers in the practical skills of representing business enterprises; (ii) training seminars for small business entrepreneurs on the benefits of including lawyers and legal advice in the planning, launching and operation of a business; and (iii) individual legal consultations to local business entrepreneurs in the early stages of establishing their businesses. ISLP secured assistance from the Moscow office of **White & Case LLP** on Russian law and in structuring the relationship with the Chamber of Commerce. A proposal was sent to the Tomsk Chamber of Commerce in December 2008. ISLP will continue to work on this project in 2009.

INTERNATIONAL

Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property (CAS-IP): CAS-IP is an advisory affiliate of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), a strategic partnership of countries, international and regional organizations and private foundations that supports the work of 15 international centers. Each Center aims to achieve sustainable food security and reduce poverty in developing countries through scientific research and research-related activities in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, policy, and the environment. The objective of CAS-IP is to enable access to and use of CGIAR products for the benefit of the poor through effective IP and technology transfer management. CAS-IP asked ISLP for highly experienced *pro bono* counsel to strategize and “think-out-of-the-box” in providing legal advice on a number of innovative initiatives with respect to agricultural products. **Morrison & Foerster LLP** has taken on this project.

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: Two ISLP volunteers assisted an international NGO in strategizing about the use of the FCPA . This project is confidential and further information may not be disclosed at this time.

LeapFrog Investments: Former President Bill Clinton announced at September's Clinton Global Initiative annual meeting the launch of LeapFrog Investments, a "microinsurance" business that will enable low-income people around the world to take the risk of starting businesses and dampen financial shocks that leave families destitute. ISLP became involved with LeapFrog when its founder, Ashoka Fellow Dr. Andrew Kuper, asked for legal assistance with setting up the new organization. ISLP enlisted **Prakesh Mehta**, Co-Head of Private Equity at **Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP**, to support LeapFrog's investment/structuring planning, and **Wiley Rein LLP** to help LeapFrog with its incorporation as well as to develop a Prospectus for potential investors. **Tom Brunner**, who heads Wiley Rein's insurance practice, noted that "My colleagues here at Wiley Rein and I have been thrilled to be involved in launching LeapFrog Investments. Its fund will invest in and support micro-insurance initiatives in developing countries in Africa and Asia, providing important forms of financial security to a targeted 25 million people on a sustainable basis."

CORPORATE ORGANIZATIONAL AND OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

AFRICA

One Village Planet Women's Development Initiative (Ghana): **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** provided support for this organization that is working with a women's cooperative in the Gushi/Tamale area of Ghana, West Africa to create a self-sustaining business processing shea butter products.

Goodwill for Ethiopia: **Clifford Chance US LLP** assisted the US fundraising arm of an Ethiopian organization which provides carpentry and other skills training to vulnerable youth in Addis Ababa, especially those who are not accepted into University and have little other chance at gainful employment, so that they can become productive and self-reliant members of society and can help meet the need for more skilled workers in this developing country.

ASIA

Children of Tomorrow: COT's aim is to enhance the primary education of children, especially girls, in countries most lacking access to educational tools by providing classrooms with computers, specialized curriculum software, and training. **Morrison & Foerster LLP** is providing them with legal guidance on incorporation, issues regarding the handling of international donations such as computer hardware, solar panels, etc. and the transfer of funds internationally.

Developments in Literacy: DIL establishes, adopts and operates primary and secondary schools in Pakistan for underprivileged children, particularly girls. They manage 150 schools in partnership with non-governmental and non-profit organizations across nine regions of the country and directly operate 23 schools. **Covington & Burling LLP** is providing ongoing legal advice as DIL works to create formal rules and policies to guide the relationship between DIL Pakistan and its sister organizations around the world

LATIN AMERICA

Caines Family Foundation (St. Kitts and Nevis): The foundation was organized to improve and enhance education initiatives in St. Kitts and Nevis where hypertension and diabetes are the two leading non-communicable diseases affecting the local population and account for a majority of national health care spending. **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** is assisting with organizational issues related to U.S. fundraising and the solicitation of in-kind medical donations for the treatment of diabetes and heart disease within public health centers on the islands.

The Rottkamp Charitable Foundation (Peru): The foundation supports approximately 100 of the poorest children and adolescents in the Valdezio section of San Martin De Porres in Lima, Peru with programming that focuses on basic nutrition and healthcare needs (supplementing food, showing parents how to prepare nutritious meals, providing clean water sources, etc.) Programming has grown to include reading and writing coursework at all grade levels, sports and dance classes, and educational group trips for the children, many of whom live in the mountain slums surrounding Lima. **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** assisted with organizational, tax and other issues.

INTERNATIONAL

The CO2 Offset Trust (UK): The CO2 Trust is drawing the attention of Rotarians worldwide to the effects of carbon dioxide emissions on climate change and encouraging them to devise CO2 reduction programs. **Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP** provided legal assistance with the creation of the US legal entity.

ONGOING PROJECTS

ISLP volunteers, both individuals and law firms, continued to provide significant pro bono assistance for a number of matters that were initiated prior to 2008 and did not require more than occasional ISLP input in 2008. These included substantial work on behalf of detainees at **Guantanamo Bay**, assistance to the **Millenium Cities Initiative** and advice to various NGOs.