

Access to Justice: Dutch & British Experiences

December 11, 2002, 10:45 – 2:30
World Bank, 1818 H Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.
Room MC C1-108

Over the past two decades both the Netherlands and the United Kingdom have pursued a variety of policies aimed at expanding citizens access to justice: advice bureaus, legal aid clinics, prepaid legal assistance schemes, small claims courts, alternative dispute resolution, contingency fee arrangements, to name but a few. How have these various policies fared? Which ones have succeeded? Which ones have failed? What have been the costs? What lessons can those seeking to enhance access to justice in developing countries take from the experiences of these two developed, democratic states, one common law, one civil law?

The workshop will address these and other questions. A set of readings on access to justice programs covering experiences in both the developed and developing world will be available at the workshop.

Agenda

10:45 – 11:00: Registration (coffee and tea served)

1:00 – 11:10: Welcome. Richard Messick, Co-Director, World Bank's Legal Institutions Thematic Group

11:10 – 11:30: The Dutch Approach to Access to Justice. Prof. Erhard Blankenburg, Free University, Amsterdam

11:30 – 11:50: Access to Justice: The British Experience. Tamara Goriely, Commercial and Common Law Team, Law Commission, London

11:50 – 12:10: Coffee Break

12:10—12:25: Implications for Development Agencies. Michael Anderson, Senior Justice Advisor, DfID

12:25 – 1:30: Structured Discussion. Moderator, Robert Rhudy, Executive Director, Maryland Legal Services Corporation

1:30 – 2:30: Buffet luncheon, informal discussion.

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