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## REFORMING LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS: LESSONS FROM THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Livingston Armytage  
Senior Counsel, Legal & Judicial Reform, United Nations  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Friday, Sept. 22, 2006, Noon - 1: 15 PM  
EWC, Burns Hall (Rm 3015)

The speaker will address the key question of how to monitor the impact of justice reform assistance: *Does our work really make any difference and, if so, what difference does it make?* The last fifteen years have seen not only a significant growth in official development assistance in this area, but also a substantial increase in expertise in justice reform assistance. We are however still developing our approaches to improving the law and justice situation in countries. And, we are still exploring how to measure whether and how the reform efforts are working to improve the law and justice situation.

The first signs of serious investment in performance monitoring have started to emerge over the past five years led by thinking in organizations like the World Bank, ABA-CEELI and the Vera Institute. The speaker will examine the application of this thinking in two developing countries: Papua New Guinea and Cambodia. While early days, practical experience is now emerging that offers potentially significant lessons on the needs for a shift in design paradigm, strengthening change management strategies, refocusing on sustainability, and extending timeframes and resources.

The foundations for systematic and reliable systems for monitoring performance in law and justice are now being laid in some developing countries. This is a potentially significant step towards transforming the capacity of governments to direct, oversee and reform their law and justice situations, and for donors to monitor the value of their assistance. Experience already indicates that this will require substantial and sustained commitments from the international community in the years ahead.

For those interested, Livingston can also talk about establishing the Khmer Rouge Tribunal which commenced operations in July.



**Livingston Armytage** is the Senior Counsel for Legal & Judicial Reform in the United Nations Development Program based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Livingston holds a Master's Degree in Law with 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honors, and is author of "*Educating Judges*," the seminal work in the field of judicial education. He is also the director of the Centre for Judicial Studies and has worked as a project director and technical specialist on numerous projects for the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, USAID and the United Nations in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Haiti, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Palestine and Vietnam.

For more information:

Phil Estermann, EWC Research Program  
Tel: 808-944-7464 Email: [estermap@EastWestCenter.org](mailto:estermap@EastWestCenter.org)