

Technical Workshops

Accessible and People-Centred Justice

April 1st, 2021

14:00 – 17:30 (Paris)/ 8:00 – 11:30 (Ottawa)

The Organisation of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) and the Department of Justice of Canada will convene two technical workshops with a view of identifying key issues for advancing the policy agenda in this area and for further discussion, as part of the OECD roundtable on Equal Access to Justice. The first session will focus on an accessible and people-centred approach to data and evidence-based policymaking, whereas the second one will focus on a people-centred approach to administrative law.

The event seeks to promote and advance a people-centred justice agenda, addressing crucial opportunities and challenges generated in the justice sector by the pandemic. The activity will emphasize methodologies, partnerships, and strategies that can improve the people-centredness approach to justice.

Technical workshops are a space where legal experts, practitioners and data scientists share practices on specific topics around people-centred justice. Therefore, we encourage participants to focus and delve deep on questions posed for each session, particularly on practices, medium-term and “low-hanging fruits” that can help countries push for people-centred justice reforms.

14:00 – 15:30

Paris

8:00 – 9:30

Ottawa

Workshop

A People-Centred Approach to Data and Evidence-Based Policymaking

The justice sector lags behind other social sectors in using data to inform policy. The pandemic has further highlighted the importance of data and evidence-based decision making in the context of managing the pandemic. The justice sector can do more to draw on data and evidence for resourcing, policy and other decisions such as we have seen in health and other sectors. This workshop aims to explore how existing and new sources of data can be collected, mined and used to inform people-focused justice strategies.

Moderator: Adrian di Giovanni, Senior Program Specialist, Law & Development at International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

- **Peter Chapman**, Fellow, NYU Center on International Cooperation (CIC) and Consultant, Pathfinders and World Justice Project
- **Trevor C.W. Farrow**, Canadian Forum on Civil Justice
- **Fayth A. Ruffin**, Centre for Community Justice and Development, South Africa
- **Felix Marco Conteh**, Centre for Alternative Policy Research and Innovation (CAPRI), Sierra Leone
- **Jill Cottrell Ghai**, Katiba Institute, University of Nairobi Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi School of Law, Kenya
- **Mariela Galeazzi**, LL.M., American University, Litigation coordinator of Amnesty International Argentina, Argentina

Discussion and Questions

- **Natalie Byrom**, Director of Research, Legal Education Foundation

Questions for discussion:

- What are the key types – and combinations – of administrative data, population and user survey data and/or expert assessment data that enable justice sector leaders to make decisions from a people-centred perspective?
- How can justice sector leaders better utilize existing data from other social sectors to advance people-centred access to justice?
- What are the main challenges justice leaders face in advancing people-centred data collection and use?
- What are “low-hanging fruits” and changes justice institutions can implement to improve evidence-based decisions from a people-centred perspective?
- What are the medium-term strategies that countries and institutions should aim for to improve data collection and use from a people-centred perspective?

16:00 – 17:30
Paris
10:00 – 11:30
Ottawa

Workshop

A People-Centred Approach to Administrative Law

A host of critical civil justice problems are resolved by boards, tribunals, commissions and other administrative bodies every day. These include landlord-tenant disputes, human rights complaints, employment issues and social assistance claims. The outcomes in these cases impact the fundamental well-being and dignity of individuals and families, determining whether they have a roof over their heads, can put food on the table, and live lives free of discrimination. The workshop will include representatives of different government departments to facilitate cross-sectoral discussions.

Moderator: Grant Hoole, Judicial Affairs Section, Ministry of Justice, Canada

- **Paul Aterman**, Chair, Social Security Tribunal of Canada
- **Jan Prins**, Senior Expert, Nationale Ombudsman, The Netherlands
- **Lindsey Poole**, Director of the Advice Services Alliance

Questions for discussion:

- What are the key trends shaping the practice of administrative law and decisions?
- How to strengthen a people-centred approach to administrative law? What are key challenges and opportunities in this regard? What are “low-hanging fruits” and changes administrative bodies and institutions can implement to improve their people-centred approach?
- What promising practices can help bodies identify and better respond to people’s needs?
- What are the medium-term partnerships and alliances that are key for a people-centred approach to administrative law and decision-making?