Potential Partnerships

Public Health

Krista Lauer, Director of OSF’s Global Health Financing Initiative is coordinating PHP’s agenda for discussion with the Bank. She has identified a number of areas for potential collaboration, including: global health financing; health and rights; evidence based interventions; global health outcomes.  She would like to engage Bank counterparts in discussions on vulnerable communities, particularly sex workers, drug users, men who have sex with men, and transgender groups.

Education

OSF’s education programs held a call last month to identify countries where we may discuss cooperation with the Bank. Among them are Bulgaria, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Congo and Liberia. We are in the process of connecting our colleagues with Bank counterparts in Washington and the field.

Transparency – corruption

These are areas of primary importance to both OSF and the Bank.  Some collaboration has taken place already in countries where OSF has a local presence. However, we need to launch broader discussions between both institutions. Ken Hurwitz will take the lead on this.

Food security

Although the shared framework has advanced, there is presently no connection to the World Bank work in this area. Looking at proposals in strategies for 2014, it’s unlikely there will be any connection in the near future. However, as OSF’s expertise in this field grows, this may change but it’s too early to tell. The shared framework is in its infancy and OSF needs to establish a niche in the field before deciding whether to reach out to the World Bank.

Urban planning / land use

HRI’s proposed work on rights and policy related to land grabs may intersect with the Bank’s interest in urban development.  We are about to introduce OSF colleagues to Bank staff who work on urban planning and land tenure issues.

Indonesia

Indonesia is a member of the GPSA, with a focus on extractive industries. TIFA has experience in this sector and is interested in exploring collaboration.

Criminal Justice

There are two possible ways to engage with the WB on this issue, 1) Engaging at a formal political level by approaching Jim Kim, or 2) in an informal way, by reaching out to individual staff members at the WB working on this issue. However, without the political message reaching Jim Kim, it might be difficult to get buy-in from staff. It might be good to get in touch with geographic staff members at the bank to reach those at the country level. The Justice Initiative is looking to identify practical collaborations on the ground with our national foundations and partners.

Christina Biebesheimer (Chief Counsel of the Justice Reform Practice Group in the Legal Vice-Presidency of the WB) sent language to use when bringing up the subject of criminal justice with Jim Kim, but it has so far been difficult to reach him. The Justice Initiative has asked Chris Stone to reinforce the need for WB involvement in pre-trial justice and criminal justice reforms and given OSF’s expertise in this area, to propose technical briefings by OSF staff to the Bank’s new Criminal Justice Resource Group. Chris Stone will have a meeting with Sanjay Pradhan sometime in the next few weeks and will take the opportunity to discuss this with him. We are hoping that by speaking with Sanjay, we will be able to reach Jim Kim.

The JI has been keen to engage with the WB and have been attempting to do so for the past year. The JI has been in contact with both Waleed Malik and Roberto Panzani in the past. Heike Gramckow (Senior Counsel), who helped draft the guidance note on WB involvement in the criminal justice sector, has in the past been keen on JI staff holding a brown bag lunch at the WB to reach staff on an informal level. If JI are able to hold a brown bag lunch they will produce a tailor made WB PowerPoint presentation to frame criminal justice within a development framework and using WB language, such as ‘ending extreme poverty’ and ‘shared prosperity’.