

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (2010-2015)

Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives and Guiding Principles

LACC's long term Vision

Creation of an equitable and legally just society

LACC's Mission

LACC will be active in establishing rule of Law, non-discrimination and equitable society for women and children propagating human rights through Legal Aid, advocacy and empowerment.

Goals

1. Women have improved access to justice and support in cases of gender based violence and civil conflict related rights violations
2. Children have improved access to justice and are protected from all forms of violence and exploitation

Objectives:

1. Increase access to counseling and legal aid to women and children, victims of violence;
2. Reduce violence against women and children
3. Improvement in policies and laws for gender equality through advocacy
4. Increase awareness among policy makers, policy implementers on the rights of women and children
5. Increase awareness among families, communities on the rights of women and children to change their behavior to respect those rights
6. Increase capacity of LACC, women rights lawyers and law students to develop expertise and pool of human resources
7. Ensure the livelihood of victim women through livelihood support (skills training and inputs for income generation opportunities)

LACC's guiding principles

1. Right Based Approach: LACC activities and programs will be focused to protect and promotion of human rights addressing issues related to women and children.
2. Equitable Society: LACC activities will be geared towards contributing to establishment of equitable society by addressing prevailing issues of gender, caste and ethnicity, race and religions discriminations.
3. Policy advocacy: LACC will design and implement various advocacy programs and campaigns for the development of Human Right friendly policies focusing on rights of women and children based on international instruments.

4. Protection of Rights of Specific Groups: LAAC will develop and implement programs to protect and promote rights of women and children of Dalits, Disables, Indigenous/ Janjaati, Madhesi, Third sex and people from geographically remote areas.
5. Mitigation of Domestic Violence: LACC strongly believes that domestic violence is a part of human right violation and will develop and implement programs to mitigate all forms of domestic violence to protect the rights of women and children.
6. Livelihood and Life Skills: LACC will also implement livelihood and life skills development programs to address immediate survival needs of helpless victim survivor women and children.
7. Research and Development: LACC will conduct researches to identify issues, underlying causes and recommend the possible domestic violence mitigating strategies.
8. Transparent and Accountable: LACC will maintain transparency of its policies, programs and budget to the stakeholders and be accountable to its activities undertaken.
9. Mitigation of Impunity: LACC will contribute to mitigate impunity by designing and implementing advocacy campaigns, legal aid services and other related activities against violation of women and children rights.
10. Political Non- alignment: LACC will develop and implement programs for the benefits of its clients without influence from and aligned with political parties to achieve the broader objective of the organization.
11. Promotion of culture of peace: LACC strongly believes that women and children can play important role in promoting the culture of peace. With this backdrop, LACC will design and implement activities related to reintegration of conflict affected women and children.

Programmatic Focus:

- Access to justice (counselling and legal aid)
- Advocacy and lobbying for policy formulation and implementation
- Social awareness to protect the rights of women and children
- Capacity building, training, networking and linkages
- Shelter and Livelihood support to the victims of violence

Strategic directions

a) Target Groups:

LACC will work to protect the legal rights of women and children of poor and marginalised communities (dalit, janajati and madhesi) and of the people with disabilities.

b) Geographical Coverage:

- LACC's legal aid program will be concentrated in the existing districts (4 districts outside Kathmandu and 3 districts in the valley) in order to strengthen the existing Helpline Centres, provide quality services to the clients and to ensure sustainability of these centres.
- LACC's awareness programmes will be implemented throughout the country by conducting radio programmes, training, and workshops.
- In those districts, where LACC is not present, the cases will be referred to the local Bar Association for legal aid and counselling.
- Piloting of Mobile legal clinics will be conducted in selected districts and will be replicated based on the learning and availability of resources.

c). Programs and Activities:

- **Legal Aid:**
 - Provide counseling, mediation, paralegal services and court representation services to the target groups
 - Develop strategies and guidelines to make separate wings/ teams within LACC to provide services to criminal and civil cases in order to keep in line with the reform of judicial system in the country
 - Develop strategies and guidelines for the paying clinic to provide services to those clients, who can afford the costs of legal aid. This includes registration of the paying clinic under the company act and its operation by the end of 2013 AD.
- **Social Awareness:**
 - Continue radio program, out-reach awareness program, distribution of publications (leaflets, calendars, magazines), street drama and documentary shows to raise public awareness on the rights of women and children and to change public attitude and behavior.
 - Continue supporting radio listeners clubs and develop strategies to communicate and support them for their effective mobilization for awareness raising and advocacy.
- **Policy Advocacy:**
 - Networking among like-minded NGOs for policy advocacy
 - Prepare guidelines for issue advocacy and lobbying
 - Sharing of district level issues at national level
 - Filing writ-petition at supreme court for policy directive to the government
 - Organize protest, rally, demonstrations, and meetings
 - Networking among different agencies and NGOs to avoid duplication
 - Use the Women's Commission as an effective medium for policy advocacy and implementation
 - Prepare programmes to advocate on issues of transitional justice to provide compensation to the victims of conflict

- Prepare strategies and programmes to advocate for increased women representation / seat reservation for women candidates during the up-coming elections
- Develop programmes to advocate for the establishment of shelter for women, victims of violence and trafficking including provisions for psycho-social counseling
- **Policy Implementation:**
 - Increase awareness on policy provisions to the policy implementers like VDC secretary, municipalities, police, CDO for the implementation of DVA
 - Launch coordinated advocacy and lobbying with the concerned ministries for the implementation of DVA national action plan prepared by the Prime Ministers Office.
- **Livelihood Support:**
 - Develop strategies and guidelines to provide livelihood support to women victims, who are in difficult financial situation
 - Seek donors to establish a rehabilitation centre / temporary shelter for women who need shelter and rehabilitation
 - Hire, develop human resources to provide psycho-social and medical counseling for victims of violence.
 - Develop programmes with other NGOs to provide livelihood support to the victims of violence (skills training; inputs and micro-credit support; creating revolving fund to support the clients who need support)
- **Strengthening LACC Management:**
 - Revise the existing policies in consultation with staff members
 - Develop strategies and guidelines for the impact assessment of LACC programmes.
 - Develop a funding diversification plan for organizational sustainability
 - Implement various training programmes cost recovery basis to increase institutional income
 - Give priority to the marginalized groups while hiring staff
 - Develop annual budget (internal and external) and review it periodically.
 - Increase monitoring visits to the districts to provide them technical and management support
 - Develop constitution for district Helpline centers and register them locally as NGOs by 2012 AD, so that these centers could generate resources locally and be sustainable.
- **Capacity building:**
 - Continue providing training for women lawyers
 - Continue Juvenile justice training to the members of Bar Association
 - Continue providing Clinical Legal Education training (3-9 months duration) to women lawyers, students
 - Provide mediation training to local level activists and leaders

- Prepare a training package for Bar Exam Preparation Training to be implemented on cost recovery basis
- Develop training package for Legal Service Examination.
- Provide leadership training to leaders, activists both at national and local levels.