

FROM THE FOUNDER



Christina M. Storm
Founder and Executive Director

This Biennial Report celebrates the completion of Lawyers Without Borders' 17th year of operations, as well as the organization's 10th year of Trial Advocacy Training of judges, lawyers, and law enforcement officers in the developing world.

Seventeen years ago when I founded Lawyers Without Borders (LWOB), my aim was to approach the Rule of Law in a dynamic and innovative way while demanding observable and measurable impact. This model's success was designed to depend on the involvement of lawyers from around the world dedicated to pro bono work and it was structured to ensure an unprecedented level of dependability and reliability.

The assumption, since proven to be correct, was that there was a vast pool of untapped resources in the form of talented and committed lawyers eager to find an organization that could channel, manage, and structure their skills and energies into meaningful work in the Rule of Law arena.

If you are new to LWOB and reading this for the first time, then surely we have a few things in common - an interest and possibly even a burning desire to give back, an urge to tap into your legal skills, to generate impact, and to find a way to create lasting change. Whether your interests lie in donating services to LWOB programs or helping to fund the work of volunteer lawyers from around the world, we welcome you to our community of lawyers crossing borders to make a difference.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

- 1 Who We Are
- 2 Our Mission
- 3 2016 2017 at a Glance

Our Work

- 5 Executive Board and Advisory Council
- 6 Financials
- 7 Summary of Work
- 9 Justice Sector Support
- 14 Access to Justice
- 16 The Socially Marginalized

About Us

- 21 Interns
- 22 Student Divisions
- 23 LWOB Support Network

WHO WE ARE

A DIVERSE TEAM FROM AROUND THE WORLD

At Lawyers Without Borders we are dedicated to pro bono, making a difference, and supporting Rule of Law globally. We commit ourselves to creating access to justice for those who are marginalized. Our efforts are often focused on children, victims of human trafficking, endangered wildlife, and other humanitarian causes.

We include among our ranks defense lawyers, prosecutors, judges, magistrates, paralegals, and law students. LAWYERS
WITHOUT
BORDERS
Crossing Borders

to Make a Difference

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JUDGES
WITHOUT
BORDERS
Crossing Borders
to Make a Difference

The LWOB network spans a variety of ages, backgrounds, and nationalities in order to create a sustainable culture of pro bono efforts.

Our full-time, in-house legal staff includes volunteers and lawyers seconded from law firms who work for a year or longer in our offices in Washington, D.C. and New Haven, as well as lawyers stationed in-country where LWOB is administering programming. Undergraduates, law students, and postgraduate students constitute the bustling pool of in-house interns and fellows who perform essential writing, research, and administrative duties.

Experienced lawyers from around the world conduct training, deliver our innovative learning models, plan and orchestrate programming, and support all of LWOB's work with high-caliber input.

The efforts of our staff members are supplemented by independent contractors committed to our mission who offer communication support, IT skills, and gifted art and design services. Each individual plays a critical role in helping LWOB create global access to justice.

OUR MISSION

WHAT WE STAND FOR

At Lawyers Without Borders, we work to protect the integrity of the judicial process worldwide by harnessing and channeling pro bono volunteer services of lawyers and judges from around the world into Rule of Law programming.

Our objectives are achieved through the development of projects and materials that support transparency, capacity building, conflict resolution, access to justice, and service to the underserved.

We strive to keep LWOB and its work neutrally oriented.

THEMES

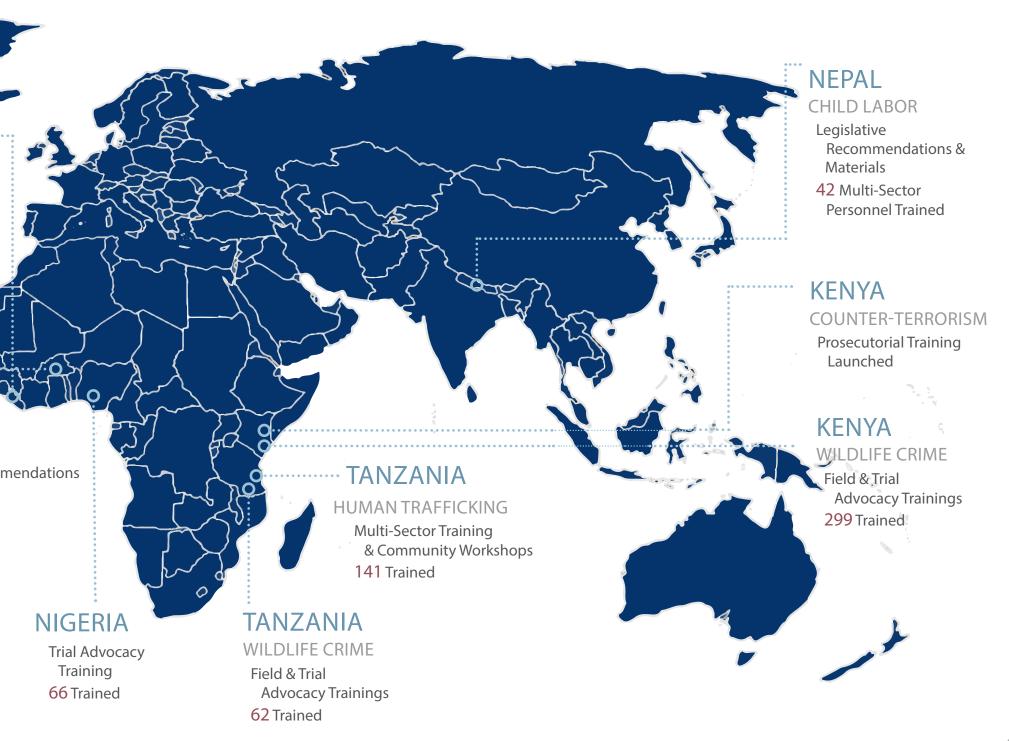
- Child Labor
- Conflict Resolution
 - Corruption
- Counter-Terrorism
 - Gender Violence
- Human Trafficking
 - Inheritance & Succession Rights
 - Wildlife Crime

OBJECTIVES

LWOB PROGRAMMING & DELIVERABLES

- Access to Justice
- Capacity Building
- Fair Trials
- Integrity of the Legal Process





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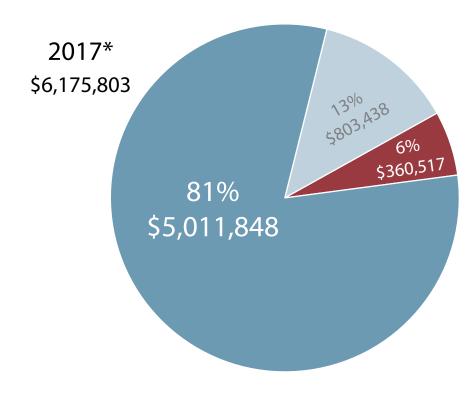
Saralyn Cohen Pro Bono Counsel, Sherman & Sterling LLP

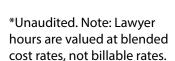


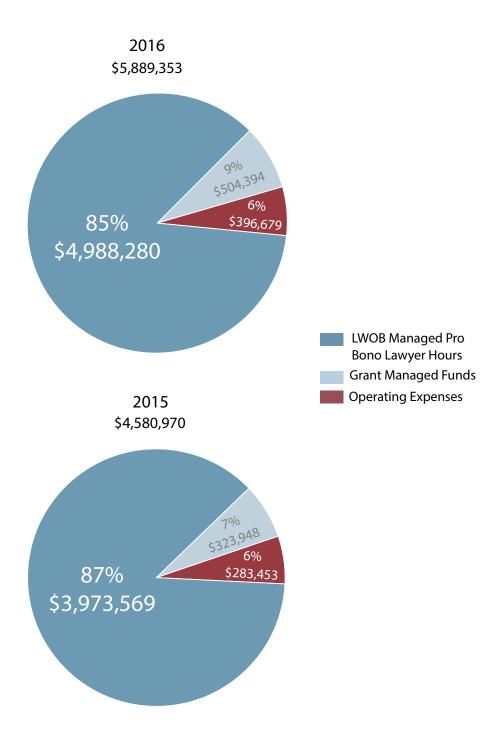
Sara Lulo Assistant Dean, Yale Law School

*Trustee lawyers with LWOB U.K. and Advisory Council Members

FINANCIALS THE POWER OF PRO BONO







SUMMARY 2016





SUMMARY

JUSTICE SECTOR SUPPORT



Judge Angel Kelly Brown presenting in Liberia



LIBERIA

In January 2016, LWOB held its final Liberia Trial Advocacy Training in human trafficking after nearly two years of delay caused by the ebola emergency. The project aimed to promote the Rule of Law and strengthen Liberia's overall capacity to identify, investigate, and prosecute human trafficking. Trainees included 18 judges and magistrates, 14 law enforcement officers, 21 prosecutors, five public defenders, and two NGO lawyers.

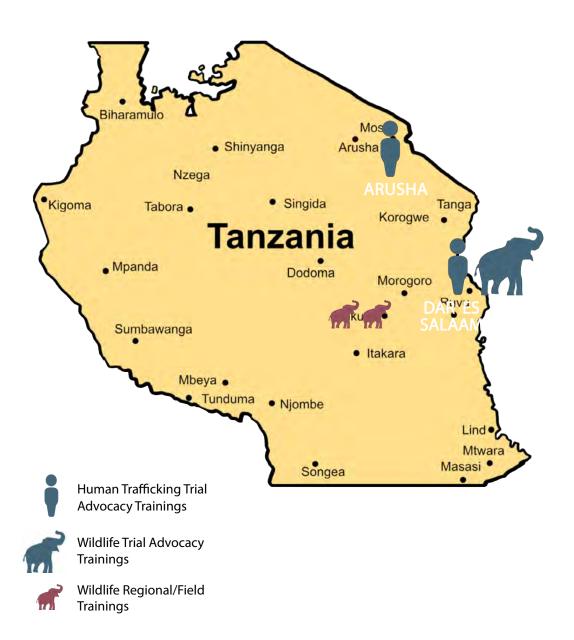
LWOB's first Trial Advocacy Training in Liberia was launched in 2007 from a USIP grant. This team has since conducted five Trial Advocacy Trainings in Liberia. When LWOB first arrived, Liberian courts had not yet prosecuted a single human trafficking case. In the years since LWOB's first Trafficking in Persons (TIP) training in 2010, several cases, including at least two involving trafficking rings, have been prosecuted. As the distribution of several hundred copies of LWOB's graphic novels and other materials make their way through the country, we expect that those numbers will continue to grow.

TANZANIA

LWOB conducted its first Tanzanian human trafficking Trial Advocacy Training in February 2017, training 78 justice sector participants in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

LWOB's efforts to fight human trafficking also included a trial advocacy training in Arusha, training 63 justice sector participants.

In addition to a traditional trial advocacy training in July 2017, LWOB's wildlife trafficking program held field trainings in Mikumi National Park, training participants from several remote conservation and park areas, including the Selous Game Reserve and Southern Protected Areas.



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Support Through Trial Advocacy Training Participants and Trainers in Lagos, Nigeria



Shearman and Sterling partner discussing the training program with KWS officer at a Kenyan field training

PUBLIC DEFENDERS

NIGERIA

In November 2016, in partnership with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), LWOB conducted a four-day Trial Advocacy Program, training public defenders and prosecutors from Lagos, Nigeria. The training was hosted by the Nigerian Office of the Public Defender (OPD). Of the 61 trainees, 51 were public defenders and prosecutors from the Ministry of Justice. By training public defenders and prosecutors together, LWOB can deliver a balanced approach to capacity building in the justice sector.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: WILDLIFE OFFICERS

KENYA

LWOB's training on the Kenyan Wildlife Act is comprehensive, examining every aspect of the law that impacts the investigation, arrest, charge, and trial for a Wildlife Act crime. Therefore, in addition to judges and public prosecutors from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), these training programs included officers from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) whose responsibilities include investigating and prosecuting wildlife crimes. In March 2017, LWOB developed training modules for Kenyan wildlife officers that can be delivered in short segmented sessions that minimize interruption to the officers' work day in the field. The first four modules in this series were: 1) "Processing a Crime Scene I," 2) "Testifying in Court I," 3) "Interviewing a Witness," and 4) "Officer's Guide." KWS officers trained by LWOB went on to train 69 officers during the grant period and another 97 wildlife officers in the few months following the grant close.



A group of Tanzanian law enforcement trainees during a module exercise

LAW ENFORCEMENT: IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AND POLICE

TANZANIA

In February 2017, LWOB led a Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Trial Advocacy Training of over 80 police officers, judges, prosecutors, and lawyers in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Law enforcement officers, including border control officers, participated in skills-based modules such as "Testifying in Court," as well as substantive modules such as "Defining Trafficking in Persons (TIP)," "Indicators of TIP," and "Interviewing Techniques."

These modules train law enforcement officers on the best investigation practices, how to conduct proactive investigations, and how to identify signs that suggest the existence of TIP.



A component of the LWOB Training Module featuring "What's Wrong?" Challenges

SPOTLIGHT: RESOLVING ___ HUMAN/WILDLIFE CONFLICT

One of the biggest challenges in combating elephant poaching is resolving human/wildlife conflict. In communities that border wildlife parks, wildlife frequently wander into farms, pillaging fields, trampling crops, and destroying livelihoods. This wildlife landscape is dangerous for humans and wildlife alike.

Part of LWOB's programming has focused on wildlife officers and their role in supporting community concerns and safety. One important part of combating wildlife crime is establishing strong community ties and helping wildlife officers in the human/wildlife conflict that they encounter daily.

It is imperative that all affected parties, including the government and local communities, appreciate and recognize the value that wildlife brings to the region. Lawyers can facilitate the discussions necessary to garner this appreciation and, through negotiations and training officials and individuals on the front line, can help resolve human/wildlife conflicts.

- Christopher M. Ryan Partner, Shearman & Sterling

ACCESS TO JUSTICE



LWOB presents at the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN.

AT THE UNITED NATIONS

On March 18, 2017, LWOB and its partners, Intel and Gibson Dunn, presented at the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Lawyers spoke about how technology can be employed to financially empower women. This is especially true in developing countries, where the gender gap in both internet access and technological literacy is the widest.

The UN panel shared information about LWOB's ongoing work in Kenya designed to empower women representing themselves in Kenya's Family Courts.

Our work with LWOB expects to link computer literacy with access to justice with a focus on how women, who often find themselves without the wherewithal to hire counsel, can represent themselves in Kenya's courts on family matters, land issues and inheritance challenges.

- Mark Friedman V. P. & Associate General Counsel Intel

LWOB hosts Zambia's Chief Justice Irene Mambilima



World Learning Roundtable with judges from Gambia and Senegal

SPOTLIGHT: SPECIAL VISITS TO LWOB'S D.C. OFFICE

Since opening its Washington, D.C. office in 2015, LWOB has made itself available on a regular basis to visiting delegations from countries like Gambia, Senegal, and Zambia.

LWOB staff members have also been featured speakers at several externally hosted events featuring visiting justice sector delegations.

In March 2016, LWOB's Executive and Deputy Directors attended a roundtable discussion that was part of a three-week program entitled "U.S. Judicial Systems," hosted and funded by the U.S. Department of State. LWOB spoke about some of its recent programming focused on encouraging collaboration in the justice sector, particularly improving the pre-trial investigative phase of prosecutorial work in the criminal justice sector.

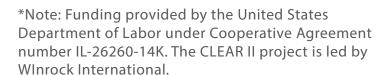
In May 2016, LWOB hosted the Chief Justice of Zambia and her delegation of chief judges from a variety of Zambia's courts. During the meeting, the Chief Justice spoke about issues facing young women in Zambia and the experience of women in trafficking and domestic violence.

In August 2017, an African States delegation visited LWOB under the auspices of the Department of State. During the visit, LWOB described its work on human trafficking, counter-terrorism, and wildlife trafficking in Africa. Maintaining a fully operational office in Washington, D.C., has enabled LWOB to provide potential partners, especially those from developing regions, with firsthand easy access to information about LWOB's justice sector programming.

THE SOCIALLY MARGINALIZED

Children, as a whole, are disproportionately represented among victims of illegal enterprises.

- Steven H. Schulman Partner, Akin Gump



CHILDREN

In January 2015, LWOB, in collaboration with Winrock International and Verité, launched work on the CLEAR II project (Country Level Engagement & Assistance to Reduce Child Labor II).* The four-year, seven-country project provides technical support to government and civil society stakeholders to address child labor issues through a multifaceted approach which includes policy analysis, capacity building to support child monitoring and enforcement efforts, development of National Action Plans to eliminate child labor, and mainstreaming child labor into social policies and programs.

LWOB has collaborated on several proposals for changes in the laws in partnership with select countries to bring national laws and frameworks into line with various international agreements and best practices as articulated by the ILO.

LIBERIA & BELIZE

Recently, the ebola virus landed a devastating blow that proved to be a daunting setback to the country's development. Among those most significantly impacted were children orphaned as a result of the deadly disease plaguing their families.

Some of the worst forms of child labor continue to persist in Liberia, particularly in rubber and charcoal production, stone cutting and crushing, gold and diamond mining, street work, and commercial sexual exploitation.

While Belize has ratified all ILO conventions relevant to child labor, they are working hard to implement them into national frameworks. LWOB is assisting with that process. As part of its ongoing work in the child labor arena, LWOB and its partners are conducting comprehensive assessments of the child labor laws currently in place in Liberia and in Belize, analyzing relevant international agreements, and conducting workshops designed to support in-country efforts to harmonize their child labor laws with current international standards.



A group of Nepalese girls reading LWOB's Graphic Novel

NEPAL

Since 2015, LWOB has been working to combat the labor exploitation of Nepalese children. Statistics published by UNICEF in 2013 put the total child labor percentage for children ages 5-14 at nearly 34 percent, or more than 900,000 children, with 30.2 percent of male children and 37.8 percent of female children working. Child trafficking is also heavily implicated in the child labor situation in Nepal.

In the joint CLEAR II project with Winrock International, LWOB conducted a legislative assessment, created an extensive list of policy recommendations and a comprehensive legislative drafting guide.

One of the final project deliverables was a mini graphic novel focused on ways to protect children before and after a natural disaster, such as the 2015 earthquake. The graphic novel addressed child registration, identification of safe spaces, and verification of child identity at border crossings.



A group of men reading LWOB's graphic novel and engaging in a written exercise



LWOB staff and partners with local magistrates and prosecutors in Burkina Faso

BURKINA FASO

Burkinabe children are vulnerable to falling into the worst forms of child labor, including human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Agriculture, manufacturing, domestic work and mining are few of the industries where children are extensively involved as laborers. In 2010, the Burkinabe Government undertook a study relating to child labor and the mining sector in gold-washing sites and artisanal quarries in five regions of Burkina Faso. This study came to a disturbing conclusion: One third of the population on the artisanal gold-washing sites are children, amounting to a total of 19,881 children. Poverty, lack of development, and the need to participate in sustaining the family all lead to children working in this sector, a practice which is harmful to their health and presents an obstacle to their educational and personal growth.

In 2017 LWOB released a legislative report analyzing Burkinabe legal frameworks that was aimed at identifying gaps under International Labor Conventions Nos. 138 and 182. The analysis concluded with suggested amendments to Burkina Faso's national legislation on child labor and included additional related policy recommendations.



Support Through Trial Advocacy Program, August 2017 Arusha, Tanzania

TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

TANZANIA

In September 2016, LWOB was awarded a three-year grant to conduct victim-focused human trafficking programming in Tanzania. Tanzania is a source, transit, and destination country involving the victimization of men, women, and children who are subjected to forced labor and sexual exploitation. The majority of trafficking is internal, with individuals being trafficked most commonly from rural to urban areas, frequently to Dar es Salaam and Arusha.

Tanzania's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act (2008) has penalties that include fines and prison sentences, but the Act falls short in that the penalties imposed are not commensurate with those of other serious crimes. Like many developing countries, Tanzania continues the struggle to implement the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act.

LWOB conducted its first Support Through Trial Advocacy Training in Tanzania in February, 2017 in Dar es Salaam. The training team for the Trial Advocacy Training program consisted of four U.S. federal judges, ten self-funded attorneys, four LWOB staff, and one university-funded administrative assistant.

The following August, LWOB conducted a two-day long Train-the-Trainer Program, which included substantive sessions on Human Trafficking, such as indicators of Human Trafficking and Interviewing Victims, as well as adult learning training sessions to equip trainers with the skills needed to teach law enforcement officials about human trafficking.

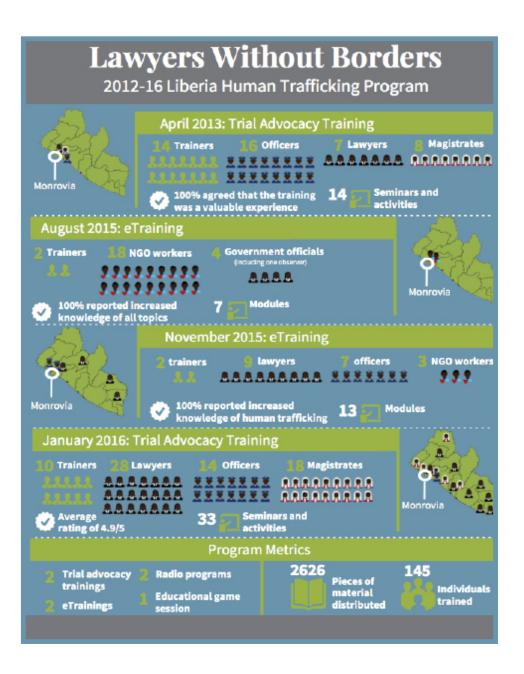
That program was followed by a week-long Trial Advocacy program, during which LWOB trained a total of 68 participants (magistrates, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and immigration officers). All of the participants reported that their knowledge of the Anti-Trafficking-in-Persons Act (2008) had improved meaningfully as a result of the training they received from LWOB.

LIBERIA

In 2016, LWOB completed its four-year Liberia Human Trafficking Program. The program involved two week-long Trial Advocacy Training Programs, several etrainings (due to the ebola crisis), and distribution of eLearning materials, educational board games, and graphic novels.

The ebola emergency prompted the creation of new and digitized educational tools that included a variety of e-learning programs, such as digital courses with animated videos and recorded panel discussions on human trafficking.

As a result of its experience in Liberia, LWOB realized that a back-up plan needed to be in place for all of its programs to ensure that they could continue uninterrupted in the face of unforeseen events such as ebola, conflicts, or natural catastrophes. One solution was eLearning portals provided by Thomson Reuters to LWOB at no charge, which ensured program sustainability.



INTERNS

THE NEXT GENERATION OF PRO BONO







During 2016-2017, LWOB hosted 103 interns, predominantly in its U.S. offices, with six interns working from London, Nairobi, and Dar es Salaam.

Our interns are sourced from the very best of university students around the world, with interns coming to us from countries including the U.S., the U.K., Ireland, Italy, China, and Argentina. There have been "wintern" interns who spend their winter semester break at LWOB, and gap year interns, as well as traditional full-time summer and part-time fall and spring term interns.

LWOB internships give students the opportunity to experience the inner-workings of an NGO and contribute to our ongoing projects. Interns participate in legal research, data analysis, and assembling resources for LWOB training programs and outreach materials. The projects and tasks taken on by interns require them to quickly master sophisticated technologies and apply their analytic and creative skills to a variety of administrative, design, and research tasks.

SPOTLIGHT: INTERN OPPORTUNITIES +

Interns are offered an array of opportunities while working with LWOB. In summer 2017, LWOB interns travelled with our Wildlife Crime team to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to support training program logistics. Interns also had the opportunity to represent LWOB at the UN as youth ambassador pass holders.

STUDENT DIVISIONS

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LWOB Founder Christina Storm with ROLIC winners





ROLIC 2016 and 2017



ANNUAL RULE OF LAW INNOVATION CHALLENGE

With Lawyers Without Borders' official recognition, LWOB Student Divisions give students enrolled in undergraduate studies and law school the opportunity to engage with pro bono work and Rule of Law, fostering a culture of pro bono commitment that we hope will then follow them into their legal careers. We believe investing in students is essential to strengthening pro bono work globally. Currently, all of the licensed and active student divisions are U.K. based.

A signature program of the LWOB Student Division network is the Rule of Law Innovation Challenge (ROLIC) hosted at the Dickson Poon School of Law at Kings College, London. It is a high-spirited competition between LWOB Student Divisions in the U.K. designed to challenge students to create innovative tools for LWOB programs in the developing world.

In February 2017, LWOB held its third Rule of Law Innovation Challenge (ROLIC). Five teams accepted the challenge to create outside-the-box, innovative programming for ongoing LWOB projects. Each team submitted an oral presentation, concept narrative, and program deliverable.

Linklaters LLP and Ropes & Gray LLP, two LWOB-supporting firms, both provided associates and trainees to act as the judges for the competition.



























LWOB SUPPORT NETWORK

COMING TOGETHER AND CROSSING BORDERS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

OUR PARTNERS

COLLABORATIONS

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP • Intel
IntraLinks • Jones Day • Linklaters LLP
McDermott Will & Emery • NITA
Reed Smith • Ropes & Gray LLP
Shearman & Sterling
Thomson Reuters • Wigdor LLP

Artistic Freedom Center • Democracy Council FIDA-Kenya • PAMS Foundation RESOLVE • TRAFFIC • UNODC UNEP • Winrock International World Hope International

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Lawyers Without Borders World Headquarters

59 Elm Street New Haven, CT 06510 USA T. 203 823 9397 | F. 203 823 9438 Lawyers Without Borders Washington, DC Office

51 Louisiana Avenue NW Washington, DC 20001 USA T. 202 737 7400 | F. 203 823 9438







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