International Justice Mission Summary

International Justice Mission is a global organization that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems. IJM works in 18 communities throughout Africa, Latin America, South Asia and Southeast Asia.

About the problem

Throughout the developing world, fear of violence is part of everyday life for the poor. It’s as much a part of poverty as hunger, disease or malnutrition. The poorest are so vulnerable because their justice systems – police, courts and laws – don’t protect them from violent people. According to the UN Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, justice systems in the developing world are so broken that the majority of poor people live life “far from the law’s protection.”

Model

In every field office, IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors and strengthen justice systems. Together with our local partners, IJM sustainably protects the poor from violence through a unique, multi-year model called Justice System Transformation.

Where we work

Africa
- Nairobi, Kenya - since 2001 - Child Sexual Assault, Police Abuse of Power
- Gulu, Uganda - since 2012 - Property Grabbing
- Kampala, Uganda - since 2004 - Property Grabbing
- Kigali, Rwanda - since 2007 - Child Sexual Assault
- Lusaka, Zambia - since 2004 - Property Grabbing

Latin America
- La Paz, Bolivia - since 2006 - Child Sexual Assault
- Guatemala City, Guatemala - since 2005 - Child Sexual Assault
- Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic - since 2013 - Sex Trafficking

South Asia
- Bangalore, India - since 2006 - Forced Labor
- Chennai, India - since 2001 - Forced Labor
- Delhi, India - since 2012 - National Advocacy Center: Forced Labor
- Kolkata, India - since 2006 - Sex Trafficking
- Mumbai, India - since 2000 - Sex Trafficking

Southeast Asia
- Phnom Penh, Cambodia - since 2004 - Sex Trafficking
- Chiang Mai, Thailand - since 2000 - Citizenship Rights, Child Sexual Assault
- Cebu, The Philippines - since 2007 - Sex Trafficking
- Manila, The Philippines - since 2000 - Sex Trafficking, Sexual Violence
- Pampanga, The Philippines - since 2012 - Sex Trafficking
IJM casework types

- **Sex Trafficking** - Children and forced adults are abused in the commercial sex industry, generating profits of $99 billion annually for the criminals who exploit them.
- **Forced Labor Slavery** - Millions of children, women and men are forced to work for little or no pay in abusive and often violent conditions.
- **Property Grabbing** - Vulnerable people — particularly widows and orphans — are chased from their own homes by more powerful members of their communities.
- **Police Abuse of Power** - Hundreds of millions of the poorest people in the developing world are abused by corrupt police who extort bribes and brutalize innocent citizens, or are held in abusive pre-trial detention.
- **Sexual Violence** - 1 in 5 women around the world is a victim of rape or attempted rape, and impoverished women and girls are particularly vulnerable.
- **Citizenship Rights Abuse** - Thousands of members of minority ethnic groups in Thailand are legally entitled to citizenship, but do not have it. Without a country to claim them or a justice system to protect them, they are left virtually defenseless from violent abuse.

Leadership

IJM was founded by Gary A. Haugen, President and CEO. Additional leadership can be found on IJM.org. In 2012, Gary Haugen was honored with the State Department’s Trafficking in Persons “Hero” Award — the highest honor given by the U.S. government for leadership in the fight to end slavery.

Staff

95% of IJM’s employees work in their own countries — leveraging their deep understanding of the local laws, language and culture in their communities.

The Locust Effect

IJM wants to transform the way the world talks about and responds to serve poverty in the world. IJM is launching an ambitious effort to awaken the world to a revolutionary truth: If we are serious about combating poverty and securing basic rights for the poor, we must end the plague of everyday violence that has engulfed their communities — and this is impossible to do without effective criminal justice systems. The Locust Effect — released by Oxford University Press in 2014 — is a key tool in sharing this truth broadly, and in reaching target thought leadership platforms with this idea.

Endorsements

Featured on the Washington Post Bestseller list

“...The Locust Effect is a compelling reminder that if we are to create a 21st Century of shared prosperity, we cannot turn a blind eye to the violence that threatens our common humanity.” – President Bill Clinton

“The Locust Effect should be required reading for every politician, every law enforcement professional, and every anti-poverty advocate.” – Connie Rice, Stanford Social Innovation Review

“By reminding us that basic legal protections are not a privilege, but a universal right, Gary Haugen has issued a moral call to arms that informs the brain and touches the heart.” – Madeleine Albright, Former U.S. Secretary of State

Contacts

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