

Rule of Law Pilot Conference
Facilitator Tool for Break-Out Sessions
Questions to Guide Discussion

The World Justice Project's Working Definition of the Rule of Law is:

- a. A system of self-government in which all persons, including the government, are accountable under the law;
 - a. A system based on fair, publicized, broadly understood and stable laws;
 - b. A fair, robust and accessible legal process in which rights and responsibilities based in law are evenly enforced; and
 - c. Diverse, competent and independent judges and lawyers
- (1) The elements of the definition double as a set of goals. Do all the elements ring true for both? Additions, deletions?
- (2) Does the Rule of Law matter to your field or profession?
- a. How does the presence or absence of the Rule of Law affect your work?
 - b. What is your field or profession doing to help strengthen the Rule of Law to advance its goals?
 - c. What obstacles does your field or profession face in advancing the Rule of Law?
 - d. What else should be done to advance the Rule of Law as it is relevant to your field or profession? Who should undertake that work?
- (3) What are the strengths and weaknesses in our state and community with regard to the Rule of Law?
- a. Do we have checks and balances in our state and local government? Do they work?
 - b. Is our judiciary truly independent? Is that important?
 - c. Do we have an independent bar? Is that important?
 - d. Is the legal process accessible to all citizens?

- e. Are our state and local governments accountable under the law?
- (4) Where can the collective strength of multiple disciplines leverage improvements in the Rule of Law?
- (5) Is more education on Rule of Law needed? At what level? How implement?

Where?

How?