



PALI
Pakistan Accelerated Legal Incubation Program
Excellence - Innovation - Development

PAKISTAN'S LAW SCHOOL INCUBATOR PROGRAM

Expands A2J and Promotes
Entrepreneurship and Legal Excellence

Law school incubators continue to lead the way in teaching law students, fresh graduates and young lawyers to build sustainable law practices that center around the principles of access to justice. Incubator participants develop the art of creating client-centered law practices that incorporate legal ideals of entrepreneurship that view each lawyer as part of a larger ecosystem of legal and non-legal providers who offer clients with legal self-help, access to information, advice and practical support. Since the first incubator launched at the City University of New York School of Law more than a decade ago, there are more than sixty incubator programs in the US. Now, because of the tireless pioneering efforts of Fred Rooney, the innovator behind the law school incubator model in the States, a national legal incubator program in Pakistan has been initiated. Known as the Accelerated Legal Incubator Program (ALIP), the model has been created for law colleges and universities by Fred Rooney and Peace & Justice Network (PJN), a national rule of law network working for enhancing access to justice and promoting legal excellence in Pakistan.

Pakistan's law school legal incubator program has been designed to train law students and fresh law graduates to develop the skills needed to build sustainable and socially conscious law practices. ALIP staff will also provide technical support to law colleges and universities in order to strengthen their capacity to establish and run in-house legal incubators and training programs within campus facilities.

The goals of ALIP (much like those of social entrepreneurship models) are twofold. First, ALIP will support a corps of competent and committed law students and fresh graduates by facilitating their smooth transition from law school to solo practice through capacity building in the areas of business and professional skill development. The program combines the best aspects of clinical legal education with the successes of incubator programs so that participants are better able to build sustainable, socially conscious solo or small firm law practices in Pakistan. Second, ALIP will primarily focus on the practical skill development of law students. Programming is designed to improve law students' professional skills so that they will eventually become catalysts for the enhancement of increased access to justice for vulnerable populations and marginalized groups in Pakistan.



PROPOSED OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED UNDER THIS PROJECT:



Objective 1

To establish accelerated legal incubator programs in law colleges and universities using practical training to make up for areas of practice that law schools historically fail to address and to build the capacity of law students' professional skill development so that they can become the next generation of social justice, pro bono champions in Pakistan.

Objective 2

To provide training that participants need to eventually be able to offer high-quality legal awareness and expert guidance through workshops, legal sessions and law clinics. A particular area of training will focus on human trafficking and methods of identifying individuals who have been trafficked and then assist them seek legal recourse, medical and mental health treatment and rehabilitation.

Objective 3

To foster a national acceptance of the law school incubator program in Pakistan as well as to strengthen global linkages and coordination among law schools and law professionals.

Law school-based Accelerated Legal Incubator Program training provides pedagogy for coaching law students to build financially successful, affordable, and accessible law practices in the new post-Covid economy. Under the program, PJN will develop a four month, 100-credit hour Incubator Program Legal Practice and Skill Development Training Course for Law Schools. PJN and Fred Rooney, with the support of other national and international experts, will build the capacity of law colleges and universities to design and successfully implement this program. PJN will also transfer technology to interested law colleges and universities to manage the virtual programming, as well.

Participants will also benefit from frequent presentations and workshops that enable them to receive instruction in basic business skill development in areas relevant to solo and small firm practice, such as communication, leadership, office management and marketing. Participants will also be encouraged to develop client bases by offering low-bono and pro-bono service.

Along with the basics of creating and implementing law schools incubator program, the national initiative will also address, among other topics, the impact on law school curricular reform, collaboration between bench, bar and academics, technology and delivery of legal services, evolution of lawyering role models and access to justice for low and moderate- means clients.



www.palipakistan.com