

Guiding Questions for Focus Area: **Access to Justice**

National legal framework

1. How is the access to justice by older persons guaranteed under the national legal and policy framework? What judicial and non-judicial mechanisms are in place for all older persons to complain and seek redress for denial of their rights?

There are judicial systems in place, but accessibility and fair treatment and may be an issue.

Availability

2. What steps have been taken to ensure the availability of judicial and non-judicial mechanisms for older persons in urban, rural and remote areas in your country? Are there alternative dispute settlement mechanisms available?

Not sure of any.

Accessibility

3. What steps have been taken to ensure that all justice systems (judicial and non-judicial) are secure, affordable and physically accessible for older persons and adapted to their needs?

Not sure of any.

4. What are the existing provisions to guarantee legal assistance for older persons?

Don't know of any.

5. What are specific challenges encountered by older persons in accessing justice and remedy in your country?

Financial might be the roadblock in accessing judicial or non-judicial system. Older persons are concerned of their daily food and health situations than going through a judicial system for fair hearing.

6. What good practices are available in terms of ensuring equal and effective access to justice and remedy for older persons?

Not sure of any.

Equality and non-discrimination

7. What are the provisions adopted to ensure effective access to justice for older persons on an equal basis with others, including age-appropriate procedures in all administrative and legal proceedings?

As indicated previously, the judicial system may be the last thing on older persons mind in Mali.

8. Please specify existing public policies and awareness-raising and capacity building programmes established for all justice system personnel to address the negative impacts of ageism and age discrimination in justice system.

Don't know of any so far.

Accountability

9. How do you ensure justice systems function in accordance with the principles of independence and impartiality? Please specify if there is any oversight mechanism in place to address any discrimination against older persons committed by justice system professionals.

We are in the process of being engaged in providing services to older people in Mali. it is quite premature for any of the questions asked to give fair answers. We based

our answers from personal experiences in Mali.

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