

Responses in Sub-Saharan Africa

M a r i e - F l o r e K O U A M E

Federal Prosecutor

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(CCIPS)*

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DOJ-OPDAT

- Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training
- Go beyond “legal status”
- Corruption, organized crime, trafficking in persons, financial crimes and terrorist financing, asset forfeiture, racketeering



DOJ-CCIPS

- Intellectual Property
 - Confidential review of draft legislation
 - Interagency task forces
 - Technical assistance
- Cybercrime
 - Mostly legislative drafting
 - Technical assistance
 - 24/7 network
- Practical is our M.O.!



Examples

- In-country specific (e.g., South Africa, Botswana, Nigeria)
- Skills specific (e.g., computer investigative skills, health and safety, judiciary, prosecutors/investigators)
- Regional cooperation (Namibia-SACU, Botswana-SADC, Ghana-ECOWAS, Tanzania-EAC)



Other examples

- Language specific (English, French, Spanish-Portuguese)
- Border countries
- Train the trainers
 - Computer investigative skills (South Africa)
 - Customs (WCO 1st IP World Experts)



Our focus

- Results in host country!
- Using the skills next Monday morning
- Deliverables for recipient country



What was noticed . . .

- Little strategy by donors of technical assistance
- Little coordination among donors of technical assistance
- No request for accountability
- Little investment of receiving country



What was noticed . . .

- Sometimes lack of political will at the top
- Sometimes no continuity in institutional knowledge
- Corruption
- Infrastructure issues
- Inconsistency



What was noticed . . .

- Digital evidence left behind
- Importance of financial or documentary evidence minimized
- Identification of assets not done at early stages of investigation
- Chain of evidence issues
- Sometimes intimidated by complex crimes



BUT . . .



What was also noticed . . .

- Sometimes sincere eagerness to learn
- Sometimes sincere love for one's country
- Creative solutions to difficult problems
- Advanced skills already exist in some cases



Questions to ask

- What is really going on?
- Was host country interviewed?
- Prior assessment?
- Infrastructure?
- Long term impact?



Other issues

- Participants' profile
- Do recipients have the tools to implement training?
- Follow-up



CCIPS 2011 Strategy

- Financial evidence (asset forfeiture, tracking the money)
- Digital evidence
- Train the trainers (force multiplier)
- Organized crime (complex crimes)
- Health and safety
- Increase international faculty cooperation



Thank you!

