

PERFORMING THE ROLE OF UN – CTS FOCAL POINT

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A
PERSPECTIVE
FROM
UGANDA

10/05/2016

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THE CONTEXT

JUSTICE, LAW AND ORDER SECTOR

- Most successful SWAP – adopted by GOU in 1999 for the management of public affairs
- Government department with inter connected mandates
- Previously CJ institutions operated independently – disjointed and expensive to demand side.
- Leadership agreed that the administration of justice could be made more effective if justice agencies worked together in a coordinated manner through a common planning and of necessity a common budget framework
- JLOS was then set up – institutions charged with the administration of justice, maintenance of law and order and or recent human rights and accountability.

- The underlying concept behind JLOS – justice is a chain and can only work if all the agencies are effective and governed by **COMMUNICATION, COOPERATION AND COORDINATION – 3Cs**
- The mission of the JLOS is to ensure that all people in Uganda live in a safe and just society
- The goal is to enhance the quality of life and ensure that poverty in Uganda is eliminated
- The Purpose is to improve the safety of the persons, security of property and access to justice in order to encourage economic development and benefit poor and vulnerable people.

JUSTICE SECTOR INSTITUTIONS

1. Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
2. The Judiciary
3. Directorate of Public Prosecutions
4. Uganda Police Force
6. Uganda Prisons Service
7. Uganda Law Reform Commission
8. Ministry of Local Government
8. Judicial Service Commission
9. Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
10. Uganda Human Rights Commission

11. Law Development Centre (LDC)
12. Uganda Law Society(ULS)
13. Tax Appeals Tribunal (TAT)
14. Uganda Registration Services Bureau
15. Centre for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (CADER)
16. Ministry of Internal Affairs
17. Uganda Human Rights Commission(UHRC)
18. National Registration Authority (NIRA)

THE ROLE OF THE FOCAL POINT

- The selection of Focal Point was based on the role that the JLOS secretariat plays in coordination of the justice institutions in terms of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation programmes.
- As TA in charge of the criminal justice component area,
- Receive tool from UNODC, mail it to statisticians in the chain, follow up with a phone call, face to face meeting in case of delay, cross check the information as against the requirements and forward to UNODC and respond to follow up queries from Vienna.

DATA COLLECTION IN UGANDA

UGANDA POLICE FORCE

- Facts and statistics about crime
- Qualitative (descriptive information) and quantitative (numerical information – discrete or continuous) – crime, day, date, time, location/place (cell/zone, village, parish, sub parish, county, district), method/modus operandi (mobility, conduct, tools/weapons, direction, character etc.) motive, suspects' and victims' particulars
- Analysed reports generated daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, bi-annually and annually.

■ Reports cover the following;

- a) Cases registered,
- b) Cases under inquiry
- c) Taken to court
- d) Not detected
- e) Convictions
- f) Dismissed and
- g) Pending in court

Information is also collected on suspects – arrested, charged to court, convicted, discharged and pending court for trial by gender.

The victim category is also analyzed by gender and a tabulation of value property lost and recovered is made accordingly.

- UPF is structured in 29 Police Regions, 130 Police Districts/Divisions, 296 Police Divisions and 1,882 Police Posts
- A police post is the smallest unit where crimes can be registered under CRR
- The crime data collection (trends, nature of crime, level, time, suspects) mechanism encompasses crimes reported from the police posts, Police stations, Districts/Divisions, Regions and CID Headquarters – informs planning
- Raw crime data is collected by the Crime data Collection and Management department which is under the CID – it collates, analyses and disseminates data to consumers. it maintains and takes custody of all crime related documentation and records

TOOLS USED BY UPF

- 1) Police forms/books – monthly crime data capture, traffic accident register station diary, criminal records book, criminal records register, minor criminal book, suspect profiling forms, wireless transmission etc)
- 2) telephones
- 3) Fax machines

The information is compiled, cleaned, captured using basic excel for analysis at CID headquarters

KEY OUTPUTS OF DATA UNIT

- 1) Support generation of crime trends/crime pattern
- 2) Identification of criminals
- 3) Decision making and intelligence led operations/investigations
- 4) Detection of crime
- 5) Research/study
- 6) Accountability and
- 7) Performance evaluation

TOOLING REQUIREMENTS AT UPF

- 1) Computerized case file management system
- 2) Suspect profiling data base
- 3) Digital senders, cameras, data storage devices
- 4) Networking of all police units – timely data collection and sharing of info. Phased approach

❖ **THE MAIN CHALLENGE AT POLICE IS MANUAL HANDLING OF CRIME DATA CAPTURE AND ANALYSIS. AFFECTING ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, TIMELINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION**

THE JUDICIARY

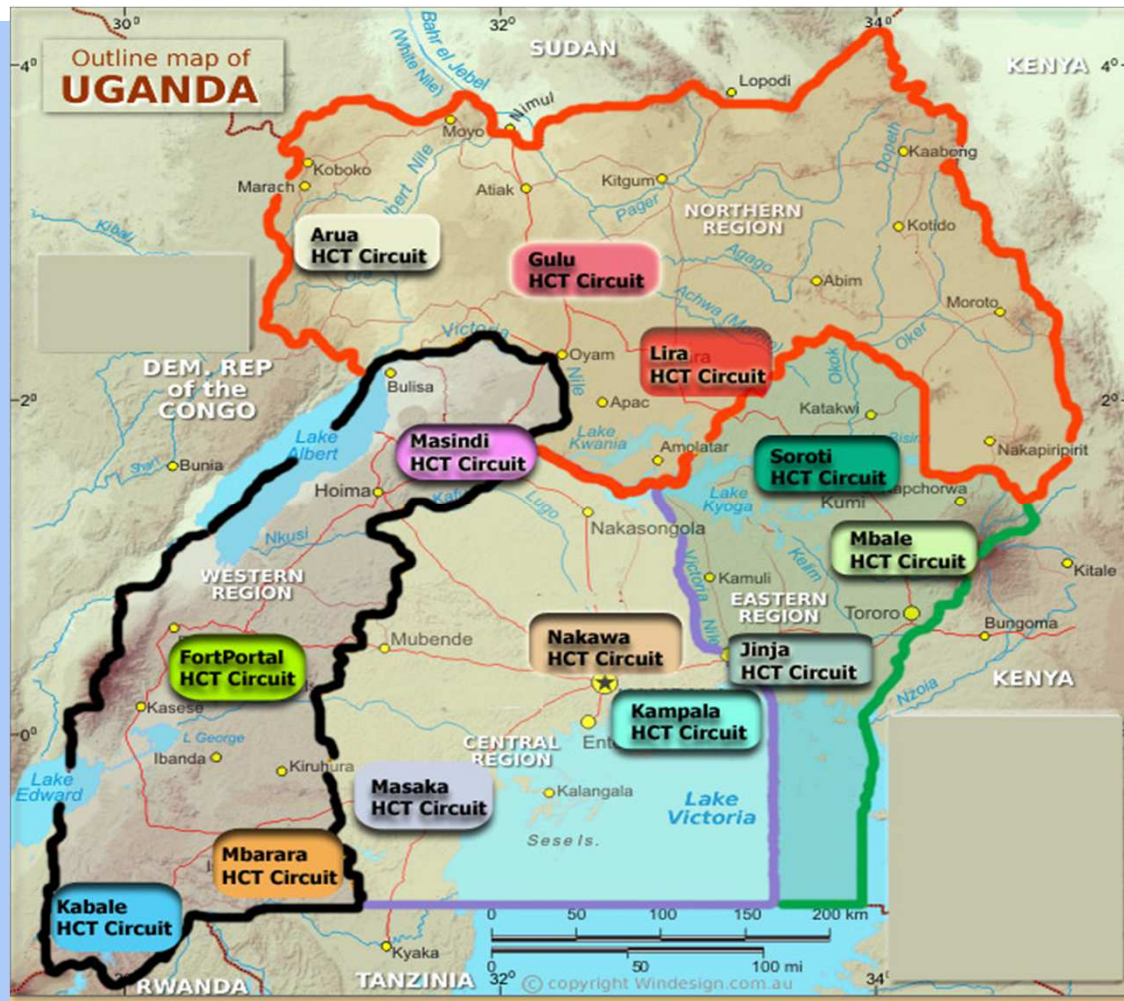
- Comprises of 13 High Court Circuits, 250 courts. Very widespread – data collection very challenging
- Has two systems – Manual (summarised) and computerised (SC, CA, H ct – divisions and circuits and CMs at the Circuits)
- CCAS- integrated system designed to automate the case management process,, facilitate registration and retrieval of case info. Compatible with windows 2003. stores documents only in office 2003 formats and PDF.
- Implemented in 50% courts. Linked to Kila data centre via internet.
- Manual form (attached) not very comprehensive – statistics are ready in the middle of the next month. Sent to data centre.
- Manual forms have figures and not details of the case files
- Done by Data entry clerks and sometimes office supervisor – only 11 data entry clerks mainly in divisions and Kampala
- The computerised system is challenged by limited network coverage
- Current system needs upgrading suit new user needs

LESSONS FROM THE COURT CASE CENSUS

- Strategic focus of the judiciary (JLOS) is to take info mgt as a priority for reform of the administration of justice – planning is challenged due to lack of info to inform budgets
- 10% of cases had lost position – what does this mean for the demand side?
- Transnational crime and terrorism era – data was available for most of the suspects but this data was not converted into information
- Infrastructure – rental buildings, no power
- Structural – few designated data managers (Adm'n of Justice Bill)
- Operational interventions – ICT, Personnel and management of date – transforming it into information for decision making
- ICT – no computers
- Capacity – in charge stations, Judges, CM, G1, GII

WAY FORWARD

- 1) Re- engineering the CCAS
- 2) IJMIS – costed project document
- 3) Judiciary ICT strategy implementation – phased approach – desk top computers – 100 per FY, over 50 areas require support
- 4) E- Justice – Software – open source software



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- The Judiciary In Uganda is moving towards an integrated digital working environment. But many processes are still manual and hard copy records are still widely used.

CHALLENGES

- 1) Manual system - Lack of details of case file, Lack of update /delayed submission of statistical report by the in charge station
- 2) 2) Computerized system – limited coverage, need for reengineering to accommodate current user needs
- 3) Infrastructure – rented space, no electricity
- 4) Structural – no dedicated data managers –
- 5) ICT equipment. Judiciary presently has a total of 823 computers against a required number of 1,850 (45%) coverage
- 6) Obsolete CCAS – developed in 1997.
- 7) Training – data management skills

■ OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

- 1) Re-engineer CCAS – to incorporate new user needs
- 2) ICT coverage – equipment and LAN to roll out computerized Data Management system
- 3) ICT User Training – data managers
- 4) IJMIS – project document – focus is the reform and refinement of the information management process for the whole sector. The systems will be capable of efficiently exchanging appropriate data between them as well as disseminating information out to the general citizenry and other public entities. It will employ technology as a catalyst to enhance the sector's ability to govern its individual and collective mandates transparently and efficiently.

THE DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

- **PROCAMIS – Prosecution Case Management Information System**
- **Able to capture, store as well as update records about suspects and case proceeding details online. It can also post the information to an online database and allows information retrieval by use of a search tool and automatic report generation.**
- **Efficiency is not a guarantee e,g, it does not capture biometric information about suspects**
- **Need for more research so that amore advanced system that can embed more functionalities like biometrics of suspects, GIS capabilities, GPS among others that have not been tackled as a result of time and limited resources is developed.**

CONCLUSION

- Given the manual processes involved in crime data collection, it is clear that there is need for more integrated efforts in collection of crime data with the various institutions/agencies involved. Automated procedures and computerized platforms (ICTs) would add value to the whole data collection effort by increasing efficiency, effectiveness and ensuring quality (and dependability) of the data collected.
- The Justice, Law and Order Sector has proposed an "integrated Justice Information Management Systems" (IJMIS) endeavour where institutions involved in crime prevention/criminal justice – the Police, Prosecutions, Courts and the Correctional services (prisons) have automated systems (applications and databases) that "talk to each other".
- 2012 Project document ready but no resources to implement.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

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