Making Asset Recovery Work

country engagements

What is StAR?

How do we respond to country requests?

Challenges

Results and impact
Making Asset Recovery Work

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Challenges

Results and impact
$20-40 billion estimate of stolen assets each year from developing and transition jurisdictions
Assets Frozen - 2006 to June 2012

- Switzerland: 33%
- Luxembourg: 20%
- United States: 20%
- United Kingdom: 26%
- Others: 1%

$26,233.3 million
Assets Returned - 2006 to June 2012

- United Kingdom: 39%
- United States: 42%
- Switzerland: 2%
- Australia: 17%

$423.5 million
Total Value of Assets Frozen and Returned 2006–June 2012

Millions of dollars

- Assets frozen: 2,623.3
- Assets returned: 423.5

Gap
Partnership
UNODC/World Bank

To end safe havens for corrupt funds

To bolster international efforts to confiscate and recover assets taken by corrupt officials

To secure the return of stolen assets to their legitimate owners
Phase 1
Set up
Policy work
Initiate country support
External review (2010)
2007/2011

Phase 2
Steady state – focus on country engagement - examples
Influence global agenda - examples
Internal review (2013)
2011/2015
current work areas:
1 generating political will
2 country engagement
3 international standards
4 innovation and knowledge
5 partnerships
6 communication
What is StAR?

How do we respond to country requests?

Challenges
how does it work?

Assessment of country engagement requests

Scoping missions in most engagements
Desktop reviews Legislation reviews
(generally by local consultants)

Completion of analysis activities
(e.g., scoping missions)
From 15 days to 5 months

Average time for response to country requests 21 days to 4.5 months

Average time for completion of case engagement strategy 1-2 weeks to 2 months
Honest Broker/ Quiet Diplomacy

- Bringing clients and foreign counterparts together to
- build trust
- facilitate attendance at international conferences and networking (IAA, IAF, AEAAC, LAC, BRAC)

Training

- Provided in almost all engagements as many clients lack asset recovery expertise
- Focus on creating cadre of domestic experts
e.g., Team for Name

Benefits
- Increase in asset recovery cases leading to faster/earlier confiscation,
- Developed understanding of need for asset recovery legislation

Mentorship

- Occasional/continuous mentorship

- Assist formation of specialized case management teams
- Mentoring countries for admission into AEAAC

Advisory Services

- Advisory services support in setting up specialized institutions: e.g., asset recovery agencies
- Domestic coordination/interagency forums
- Legal reforms

General capacity building
Honest Broker/ Quiet Diplomacy

Bringing clients and foreign counterparts together to

build trust

facilitate attendance at international conferences and net-working (StAR Interpol, ICHA, Egmont, EAAACA, CARIN, RRAG)

build political support for AR legislation and efforts
- Provided in almost all engagements as many clients lack asset recovery expertise
- Focus on creating cadre of domestic experts (e.g., "Train the Trainer")

**Training**

- Increase in asset recovery cases leading to freeze/confiscation,
- Benefits:
  - Developed understanding of need for asset recovery legislation
  - Improved domestic coordination & international cooperation.

**Methodology**
- Internal experts, workshop, UNODC's and external experts
- Workshop presentations, simulations and group exercises
- SAI knowledge products and tools
- Case studies and case histories

**Curriculum**
- General overview of asset recovery
- International, regional and domestic frameworks
- Financial/financial investigation
- International cooperation MFA
- Case and evidence management
- Cybercrime/threats and analysis
methodology curriculum

- Internal experts (StAR/WB/UNODC) and external experts;
- Workshops: presentations, simulation and group exercises;
- StAR Knowledge products; and
- Evaluations and Certification.

- General overview
- International
- Forensic.
- International
- Case and
- Court ruling
curriculum

- General overview of asset recovery;
- International, regional and domestic frameworks;
- Forensic/financial investigations;
- International cooperation-MLA;
- Case and evidence management; and
- Court rulings/judicial decisions analysis
Mentorship

Occasional/continuous mentorship

- Assist formation of specialized case management teams
- Mentoring countries for admission into Egmont
Advisory Services

Advisory services support in setting up specialized institutions: e.g., asset recovery agencies

Domestic coordination/interagency forums legal reforms
Challenges

Several country engagements demonstrate positive outcomes:
- Identification of cases to investigate (South Sudan, Tanzania)
- Freezing of assets (Uganda, Bolivia)
- Recovery of assets (Tunisia)
- Successful use of informers (Bolivia, Senegal)
- Joint investigations commenced (Egypt, UK)
- MLA reactivated (Bohime, Peru, El Salvador)

Majority country engagements there is still active engagement on case work:
- In all cases, the technical ability of practitioners has improved
- Opening the informal channel to advance a case
- Combining strategies and avenues (criminal, MLA, Civil, Joining foreign cases)

StAR’s Role as a Facilitator
Challenges

Dynamic political and security situations
Lack of domestic coordination among agencies
Changing political commitment
Changing counterpart landscape
Lack of mobilization and good will from international counterparts
Challenges

Several country engagements demonstrate positive outcomes.

Majority country engagements show new efforts in work.

Evidence of new benefits in country engagement.

Prezi
Several country engagements demonstrate positive outcomes

Identification of cases to investigate (South Sudan, Tanzania)
Tracing assets (Senegal)
Freezing of assets (Uganda, Bolivia)
Recovery of assets (Tunisia)
Successful use of mentor (Tunisia, Senegal)
Joint investigations commenced (Egypt-UK)
MLA reactivated (Bolivia, Peru, El Salvador)

Majority country engagements there is still active engagement on case work
In all cases, the technical ability of practitioners has improved

Opening the informal channel to advance a case
Combining strategies and avenues (Criminal, MLA, Civil,
Joining foreign cases)

StAR’s Role as a Facilitator

10 country engagements leveraged international events to facilitate bilateral meetings

- Building trust;
- Creating an understanding of requirements for international assistance;
- Enabling cooperation to commence; and
- In several cases, restarted MLA
2011-2013 Country Engagement Results

General Capacity Building

+1500 trained in AR procedures & processes

235 trained in case mgt./legal avenues for AR

62 trained trainers

Case Specific Capacity Building

trained in specific AR case context 230

trained in case assessment 20

mentorships 2

Case Specific Actions

assisted in initiating 37 AR cases

132 bi-lateral mtgs. arranged

helped reactivate 11 MLAs

assisted in completing 8 MLAs successfully

28.8 MILLION (from Lebanon to Tunisia)

58 MILLION (physical assets in France, Italy, Spain and Switzerland on behalf of Tunisia)

returned due to StAR assistance
Significant progress in policy and standards development - global and country
Evidence of StAR benefits / impact in country engagement
Cross fertilization global and country engagements
StAR as a leading center of expertise on asset recovery