Country Engagements

Year In Review

19 countries received STAR assistance in 2019

2 countries adopted new laws or amendments related to asset recovery with STAR support

2 countries receiving STAR assistance opened a new AIP case involving proceeds of corruption

1 country adopted new domestic coordination mechanisms with STAR support

5 scoping missions conducted in response to new requests

11 countries received technical assistance on legislative reform

5 countries received STAR support to improve domestic coordination processes

12 countries received STAR support to improve international coordination processes

670+ people trained globally by STAR

31 global policy events contributed to by STAR

AUSTRALIA
Joint publication by STAR and International Bar Association, Going for Broke, presented at the UN Commission on International Trade and Law Colloquium

UKRAINE
STAR advised on asset declaration, illicit enrichment and civil confiscation legislation; enacted in October and November 2019

ARMENIA
STAR provided comments on the legislation drafted on civil forfeiture of illegal assets currently under review by Parliament

KUWAIT
STAR assisted with international cooperation, with the U.S. that, inter alia, resulted in the return of USD 4.5 million from the U.S. to Kyrgyzstan

ABU DHABI
At CoSIPU, STAR hosted STAR Day, a full-day event of discussions on asset recovery and organized 23 bilateral meetings between 21 countries involved in asset recovery cases

NIGERIA
STAR participated in the High-Level Conference on Fast-Tracking the Implementation of UNCAC in support of the Sustainable Development Goals

ETHIOPIA
STAR, supported an international expert meeting on the return of Stolen Assets ("Addis II") to further develop good practices on asset returns

STAR is an excellent organization that bridges the gap in information between countries where assets are kept and where they are taken from.

—Executive Director, Economic Advocacy NGO

Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative
The World Bank • UNODC
Highlight: capacity building

△ Mongolia

In Mongolia, over the course of the year, StAR trained over 150 participants from the Prosecutor General’s Office, FIU, Independent Authority Against Corruption (IAAC), customs and police on financial investigations, e-verification systems and advice on key reform needed to strengthen asset declaration and conflict of interest. Practical examples applying these concepts to concrete cases were shared with the training attendees.
In 2019 in Ecuador, following up from a workshop discussion regarding an inter-institutional asset recovery group in 2018, representatives from all institutions involved gathered to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the creation of the Interinstitutional Links Group for the Recovery of Assets (GEIRA), and held initial coordination meetings. StAR experts played an instrumental role in presenting the initial idea in 2018 and participated at the signing of the MoU as an international partner signatory.
Last year, StAR launched and presented 3 publications
  o StAR publications are made freely available through the StAR website, and most are available in multiple languages

This year, the StAR team contributed to chapters on asset declarations and beneficial ownership, as well as the peer review of the World Bank’s Anti-Corruption Report: Enhancing Government Effectiveness and Transparency: The Fight Against Corruption
**StAR international partners/fora:**

- Asset Recovery Working Group (ARWG)
- Implementation Review Group (IRG)
- Conference of States Parties to UNCAC (CoSP)
- Addis II
- UNODC expert group meeting on the topic of Corruption Involving Vast Quantities of Assets
- CARIN
- Egmont Group
- CiFaR and Transparency International
- Global Illicit Trade Summit
- G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group
- SEA-PAC
StAR Day at 8\textsuperscript{TH} Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC (CoSP)

- Full day of sessions organized by StAR
- Over 150 participants
- Panel discussions covered topics related to asset recovery challenges and best practices, returns and management, importance of an evidence base for asset recovery cases, and beneficial ownership transparency
- Presented ‘Going for Broke’
- StAR organized 23 bilateral case-related meetings between representatives of 21 States parties to UNCAC
StAR External Review and response 2019

StAR Initiative underwent an external review of its program for the period 2013 – 2018. Main findings and recommendations:

➢ StAR continues to be relevant - extension recommended
➢ Put more emphasis on knowledge generation
➢ StAR original mission is denial of safe havens: make that an area of focus going forward
Forthcoming new knowledge work

- Asset Recovery Handbook Update
- Data collection on international asset recovery efforts in corruption cases 2010 – 2019
- Enforcement of Foreign Confiscation Orders
- Update Non-Conviction Based Handbook
- Damages and Standing as Victim of Corruption (with IBA)
- Legal Professional Privilege and Beneficial Ownership
Looking ahead

- Remote country engagements with a strong focus on online trainings
- StAR Workplan 2020 – 2024
  - additional focus on denial of safe havens
- Research and knowledge tools
- New StAR website
  - repository of StAR and external resources
  - more efficient request for assistance set-up
  - access to detailed information on asset recovery process
Questions?

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