



INTERPOL - Onfido Security Document Examination Train-the-Trainer activities

STATUS REPORT

AUGUST 2019

INTERPOL For official use only

Acknowledgement

INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch would like to express their appreciation and to thank their trusted private partner Onfido for their generous financial and technical contributions which made possible the organization of train-the-trainer sessions in the Asian INTERPOL statutory region.

Onfido's invaluable expertise and know-how is much appreciated and reached participants from 5 INTERPOL member countries in this training initiative that took place in Philippines (March 2019).

In particular, INTERPOL would like to acknowledge the active support and commitment of the following partners which provided excellent organization and dedication to the police profession throughout the training events:

- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Manila.

We recognize that multi-cultural exchange of views and expertise is essential in police training. Therefore, INTERPOL and Onfido greatly appreciate the contribution of approximately 20 border control officers, immigration officials, investigators, document experts and forensic document examiners from 5 member countries: Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, United States of America (2 representatives from the US Embassy located in Manila) and Viet Nam.



INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch

INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch provides forensic support and operational assistance through its standardized training programmes and reference materials in the area of counterfeit currency and security documents. These training courses are delivered worldwide to forensic document examiners, border control officers, immigration officials and prosecutors, and they complement the forensic, operational and technical support that INTERPOL provides in this domain.

It is essential to equip the law enforcement community and other relevant parties – such as financial institutions – with the knowledge, skills and best practices to successfully detect and investigate travel and identity document fraud. Targeting a mixed audience of law enforcement officers has proved efficient, especially in police training, as it fosters personal contacts and common grounds of institutional understanding.



INTERPOL has implemented a number of training courses and seminars, often in partnership with the private sector and other international organizations, which combine to form a comprehensive capacity building programme. These initiatives proved to be effective in reducing the threat of identify related crimes and supporting efforts in preventing cross-border crimes worldwide. The ultimate goal is to enhance knowledge and encourage innovation, in order to turn training into operational practice.

Identity and travel document fraud

The fraudulent use of identity and travel documents presents a threat to the security of countries and their citizens, the economy, and global commerce, as it facilitates a wide range of crimes and terrorism. INTERPOL provides a number of specialized tools for the law enforcement community to help detect fraudulent documents, and works with partners in different sectors to improve the level of security of official documents. Both false and genuine documents are used to perpetrate a variety of frauds, which can be classified in the following sub-categories:

False documents

Counterfeit – a document that constitutes an unauthorized reproduction of a genuine document. These documents are not legitimately issued by the recognized authority nor are legitimately manufactured.

Forgery – typically based on a genuine document, a part of which has been fraudulently substituted, altered or added to give misleading information about the person that presents it.

Pseudo document – a document produced with no authority and which is not officially recognized. They can occur in various forms and may have the physical appearance of a passport or an ID card.

Genuine documents

Fraudulently obtained genuine document – an authentic identity or travel document obtained through deception by: submission of either false or counterfeit documents, cooperation of a corrupt official or impersonation of the rightful holder of a genuine document.

Misuse of a genuine document through deception by a person assuming identity - commonly known as an imposter. Someone who knowingly misrepresents him or herself by using someone else's identity or travel document. Often, the biographical details and photograph resemble the imposter, helping him or her to pass as the rightful bearer.

INTERPOL Travel and ID Document Reference Centre

Document verification and authentication are crucial in ensuring that the documents presented are both genuine and presented by the rightful holder. These documents are not only used for travel, but in any kind of fraud where identity is an issue. With many thousands of different identity and travel documents in existence it can be a challenging task to differentiate between false and genuine document.

Through its secure global police communications system databases INTERPOL provides a number of tools to assist the law enforcement community in identifying counterfeit, forged and fraudulent identity and travel documents. INTERPOL assists member countries in allowing instant access to its databases and reference libraries by first-line checks and second-line inspection at airports, sea ports and border crossings as well as forensic laboratories.

Stolen and Lost Travel Documents Database (SLTD) - this is INTERPOL's unique database of lost/stolen, stolen blank and revoked travel documents, containing more than 80 million records reported by 174 INTERPOL member countries.

Dial-Doc Digital INTERPOL Alert Library-Documents - is a joint G8-INTERPOL initiative, which allows countries to share at global level alerts produced nationally on newly detected forms of document counterfeiting and is containing about 2,500 alerts from 18 member countries

EdisonTD - Electronic Documentation and Information System On investigation Networks with information on Travel Documents. This reference tool contains images of approximately 4,500 genuine travel and identity documents from 206 countries and organizations.

DISCS Document Information System for Civil Status is an on-line information system that consist of an electronic database for civil status documents and as of today it contains around 2,500 types of certificates to include birth, marriage, death, identity, citizenship, etc.

Train-the-trainer programme

INTERPOL and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) have developed a train-the-trainer programme and accompanying guide entitled *Introduction to Security Document Examination*.

The goal is to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities of the target audience on how to recognize illegally created security documents or the fraudulent use of genuine security documents. In addition, the training programme aims to increase communication and intelligence sharing among border and immigration control officers, forensic personnel, prosecutors, the judiciary and other relevant parties. Comprising several modules and practical exercises, the programme covers topics such as personalization and printing techniques, security features, types of document fraud, international cooperation and INTERPOL's specialized databases including Edison TD, Dial-Doc and DISCS.

Since 2011, INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch has trained more than 1,000 participants in all INTERPOL's statutory regions (Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe), who have in turn been shared their newly acquired skills and knowledge with colleagues in their home countries.



In 2015, we started partnering with and attracting funds from private companies in the security printing and forensic equipment industry, with the aim of conducting several regional train-the-trainer courses for INTERPOL's member countries. This approach has made possible the training of more participants from those regions and backgrounds that are lacking in resources. The number of officials being trained has tripled over a five year period, while the number of training courses delivered has increased from three per year to 10 per year.



Training activities with Onfido

Since 2012, the software company Onfido provides identity verification solutions using the latest biometric technologies to protect against stolen IDs as well as impersonation.

For the first time in 2019, Onfido financially and technically supported a regional train-the-trainer courses organized and delivered by INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch. Expert presentations on the latest developments in the field of document authenticity verification, including express and advanced document examination devices and its accompanying software.

- Manila, Philippines (March 2019)

The specific training components focus on enhancing regional expertise in the detection of fraudulent travel documents and, so far, benefitted a number of approximately 20 participants from police, immigration, customs and border security agencies, forensic document laboratories and criminal investigation units in 5 INTERPOL member countries. Much value to the training was added through the involvement of the training participants, both through formal presentations on the specific country situation in each represented country and through active participation.

During the three-day training, several modules and practical exercises are being presented, such as:

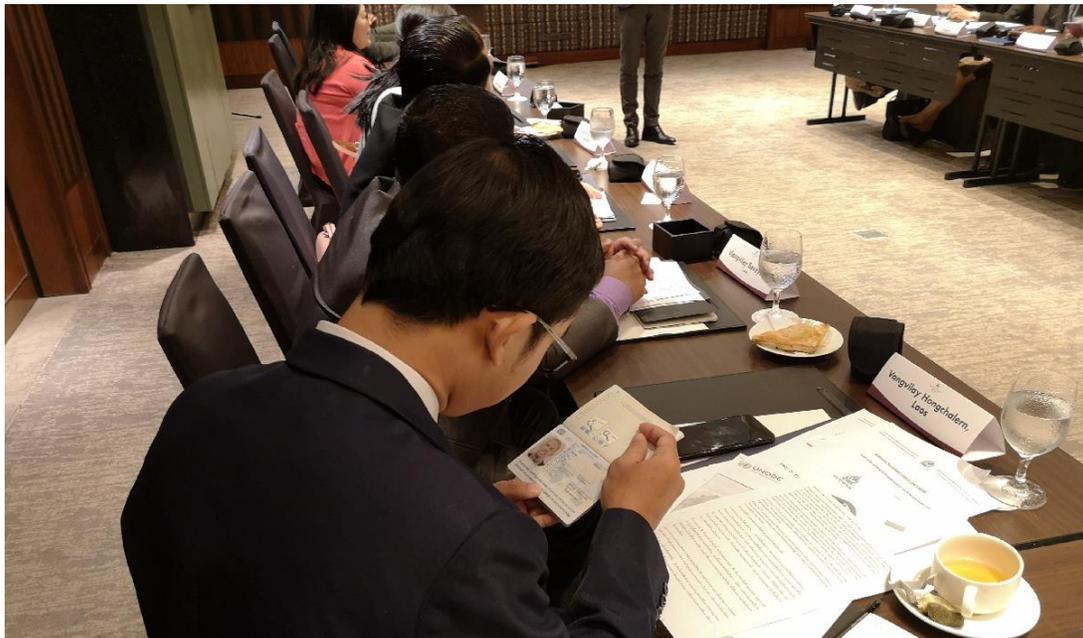
- ✓ Basics in security documents examination
- ✓ Security printing techniques and personalization techniques
- ✓ Security features on unfamiliar security documents
- ✓ Classification of security features with reference to glossaries
- ✓ Safety features in the security paper
- ✓ Equipment for security documents examination (express and advanced document verification)
- ✓ Machine-readable travel documents
- ✓ Passport production process
- ✓ Automatic verification of travel documents with passport readers
- ✓ Document authenticity verification device
- ✓ Facial identification process
- ✓ Impostors' detection
- ✓ International cooperation, databases (SLTD, EDISON TD, DISCS, Dial-Doc) and reference materials
- ✓ Pre and post test as well as practice with reference materials (IDs & Passports specimens) and equipment (combined magnifiers, document verification system)



Onfido and INTERPOL experts, Manila, Philippines (January 2019)



Onfido expert, Manila, Philippines (January 2019)



Participants at the training in Manila, Philippines (January 2019)



The practical exercises were conducted with INTERPOL and Onfido training tools, reference materials and equipment (combined magnifiers, document verification system and many specimens of genuine and counterfeit security documents: IDs & passports).



Participants at the training in Manila, Philippines (January 2019)

It has allowed participants to work with different light sources (UV 365, 312, 254 nm, transmitted, retro reflective, infra-red) in order to identify the different type of security elements contained in security documents.

Participants' feedback

Our stakeholders from the Asian region appreciated the training and were pleased to increase their knowledge and share expertise on security document examination and detecting fraudulent documents. Majority of trainees rated the training as either “excellent” or “very good”.

The comparison of results from pre-training and post-training questionnaires indicate that the course participants improved their skills to identify fraudulent documents by clear understanding between genuine security features, printing and personalization techniques and those on forged and counterfeit travel documents.

Particularly, participants appreciate the effectiveness of trainers and extent to which the course objectives were achieved, to include the reliable information delivered, the quality of visual aids, reference materials and handouts supplied, and the overall usefulness of course content. Additionally, participants were very pleased about the organization of the event, from the prompt assistance of INTERPOL staff to the venues and its facilities.



Delegates as well as INTERPOL and Onfido experts at the Security Document Examination Training in Manila, Philippines (January 2019)

According to the evaluation forms received from all of the participants, the training proved to be instructive and beneficial to attendees, and the mission itself has helped to enhance the level of cooperation between all stakeholder groups that play key roles in assuring document security in all participating countries.

Post-training evaluation questionnaires from Manila, Philippines (12-14 March 2019)

At the end of each training, participants were asked to fill in a post-training questionnaire to check their enhanced knowledge and skills. According to the results, there has been a significant increase in their technical knowledge in all cases. The results are presented in Chart 1 and Chart 2.

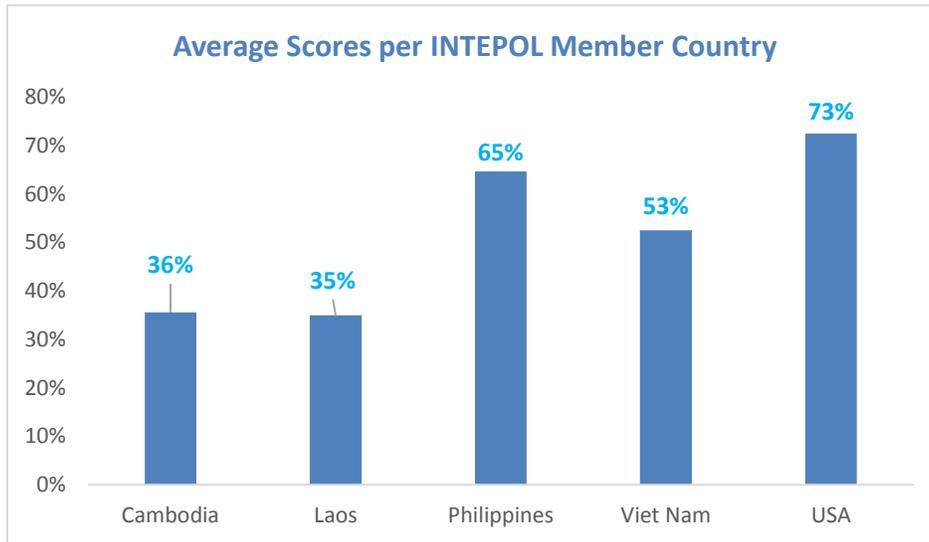


Chart 1. Total average scores by INTERPOL member country at the training in Manila (March 2019)

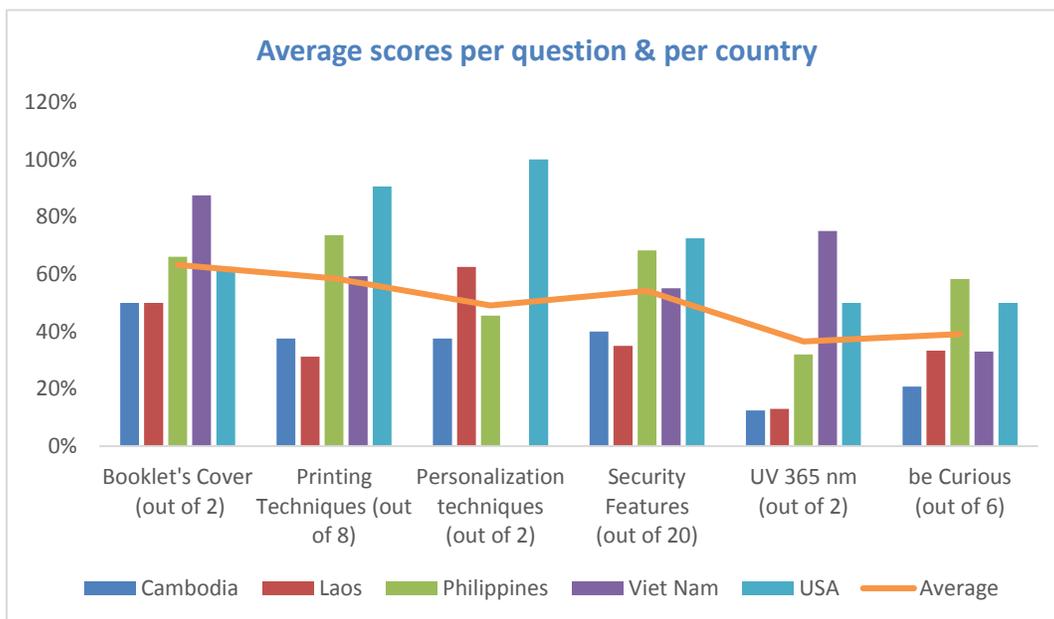


Chart 2. Total average scores per question and per INTERPOL member country in Nassau (December 2015)

Evaluation forms from Manila training (12-14 March 2019)

After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Manila are presented in Chart 3 (*contribution from 18 participants out of 18*)

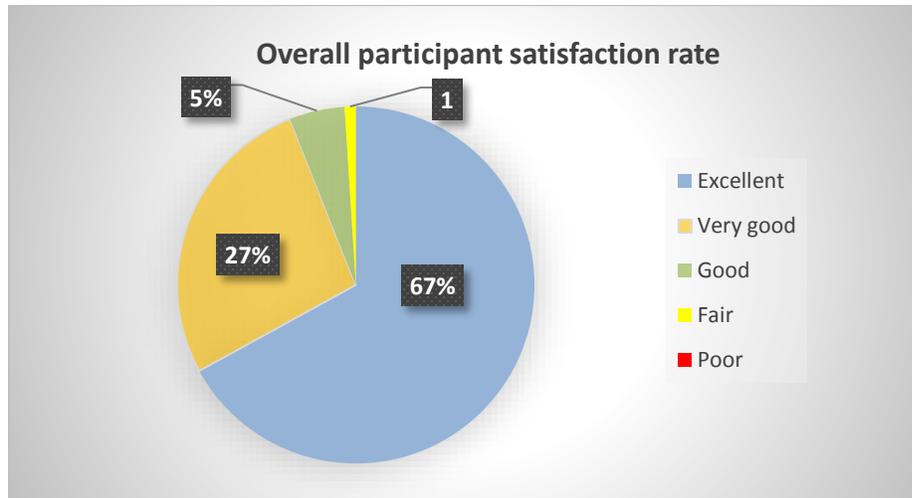


Chart 3. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Manila (March 2019)

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they learned from the train-the-trainer programme. Results are presented in Chart 4 below.

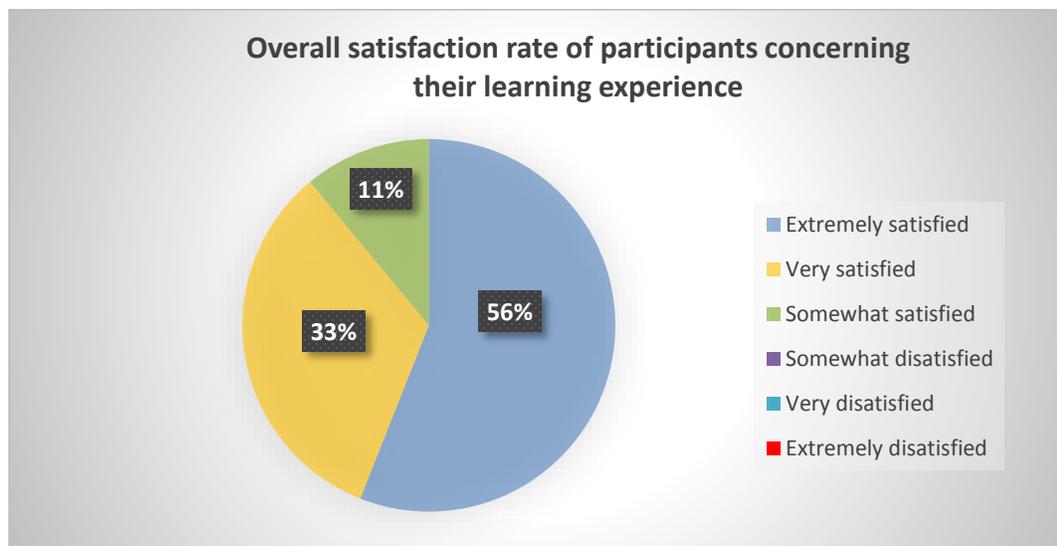


Chart 4. Overall satisfaction rate of participants regarding their learning from the training in Manila (March 2019)

Annex 1. Media release of 15 March 2019

Southeast Asia: officers trained on detecting fake identity documents

INTERPOL and Onfido teamed up to train officers in Southeast Asia to detect fake identity documents.

MANILA, Philippines – With border points crucial to national and international security, 25 border control officers and forensic document examiners in Southeast Asia have been trained in the latest security document examination techniques.

As part of their newly-launched collaboration, INTERPOL's Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents unit partnered with Onfido to deliver the three-day (12 - 14 March) training course benefiting officers from Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines and Vietnam. Training was provided by instructors from INTERPOL, Onfido and the US Department of State.



The course trained participants on the latest security features embedded in official government identity documents and provided practical exercises for identifying fraudulent documents including counterfeits, forgeries, and fraudulently-obtained documents.

The use of INTERPOL global policing capabilities was also high on the agenda, including:

- its Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database, which currently holds some 80 million records on a range of documents such as passports, identity cards, and visa stamps
- Edison (Electronic Documentation and Information System on Investigation Networks), which provides examples of genuine travel documents, in order to help identify fakes

- the Digital INTERPOL Alert Library – Document (Dial-Doc), which allows countries to issue global alerts based on newly detected forms of document counterfeiting.

In his opening remarks, Deputy Executive Director of the Philippines Police Pelagio U. Samson underlined the importance of training to enhance national capacity in addressing counterfeiting, identity and identity-related crimes.

Daniela Djidrovska, Coordinator of INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents unit, highlighted the benefits of working with private sector partners to fight counterfeit documents: “The first joint INTERPOL-Onfido training showcases the standardized procedures for security documents examination while comparing and contrasting with the remote identity verification using images of photo-based identity documents.”



Michael Van Gestel, who leads Onfido’s global document fraud team, underlined the importance of teaming up with INTERPOL: “As criminals get more sophisticated in designing new attack vectors, there has never been a more important time to unify our knowledge of both 3D and 2D document authentication and share this in a unique training course.”

The three-day training also featured a number of incident case studies as well as country presentations.

INTERPOL media release: <https://www.interpol.int/News-and-Events/News/2019/Southeast-Asia-officers-trained-on-detecting-fake-identity-documents>

