

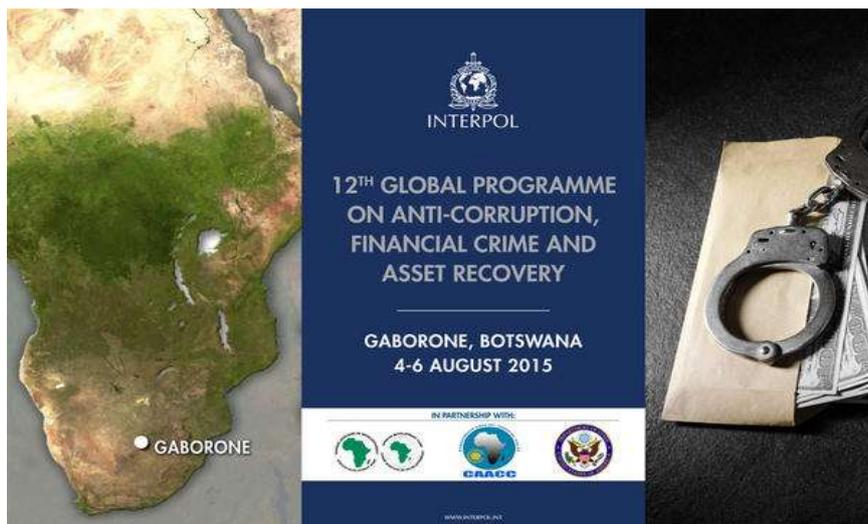


INTERPOL

ANTI-CORRUPTION AND FINANCIAL CRIMES
SUB-DIRECTORATE

12th Global Programme on Anti-Corruption, Financial Crime and Asset Recovery

The 12th Global Programme on Anti-Corruption, Financial Crimes and Asset Recovery, was held from 4 to 6 August 2015 in Gaborone, Botswana. This training was delivered by INTERPOL's Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes Sub-Directorate, in partnership with the African Development Bank and the Commonwealth Africa Anti-Corruption Centre, with the financial support of the US Department of State



INL Bureau. This operational training workshop targeted investigators from East African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA) and anti-corruption agencies and asset recovery units Southern African Forum Against Corruption (SAFAC), with the objective of strengthening the effectiveness of their investigations and collaboration to fight corruption and recover stolen assets.

22 participants from fifteen countries attended, with diverse participant profiles: Prosecutors, police officers and investigators from Anti-Corruption Commissions and Ombudsman Offices, as well as Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs).

The training enabled participants to learn techniques to investigate and mitigate corruption and related money laundering through targeting the proceeds of crime. Participants exchanged best practices in the detection, tracing, freezing and confiscation of illicit assets. It also served to encourage collaboration between countries' anti-corruption units and other agencies or departments on investigations.

Breakout group sessions enabled frank discussions around the complex challenges that countries face, particularly in stemming the illicit transnational transfer of value by organized criminals, given the preponderance of cash-based transactions. They also presented perspectives from their respective countries, and the associated risks and opportunities for law enforcement when combatting corruption and tracing the proceeds of crime.

INTERPOL's role

The training was delivered by experts from INTERPOL General Secretariat, with some modules/presentations delivered by experts from World Bank (StAR), Basel Institute on Governance and UNODC (Pretoria Office) and covered different subjects such as:

- Detection, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases
- Asset recovery process and avenues for recovering assets
- Best practices to secure identified assets
- Management of seized and recovered assets
- Role of FIUs in asset tracing and recovery
- Non-conviction based asset recovery
- Legal barriers in the asset recovery process
- International cooperation in asset recovery
- Emerging trends in electronic payments and clandestine money transfers

Outcomes

By the end of the workshop, participants grasped the importance of targeting the instrumentalities and proceeds of crime, while as well giving attention to the need to diligently investigate and prosecute acts of corruption. They shared challenges, lessons learned and best practices in investigating and prosecuting such cases. Participating countries had similar needs, but overall it was clear that some countries were far ahead of others in developing programmes to fight corruption and recover stolen assets.

Some participating countries revealed challenges in getting the required political will or power to push this agenda at home. They unanimously expressed interest in attending subsequent trainings similar to this, where more time is allocated to developing participants' skills in conducting anti-corruption investigations using existing mechanisms to trace, freeze and recover stolen assets.

Links

<http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Corruption/Corruption>

<http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Financial-crime/Financial-crime>



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