



**StAR**

World Bank and UNODC

**Stolen Asset Recovery  
Balkans Policy Workshop  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
December 2, 2009**



**You can stop**  
**CORRUPTION**

## The Four Pillars of the UNCAC



**Purpose: Integrity, Accountability and the Proper Management of Public Affairs and Property**



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# StAR's Objective

Encourage and facilitate more systematic and timely return of assets stolen by politically exposed persons through acts of corruption





# The Asset Recovery Agenda

## **Legal Framework**

- Criminalization & asset recovery tools

## **Asset Recovery Process**

- Multi-agency teams & practical support

## **Financial Center Initiatives**

- Proactive approach to asset recovery

## **Proceeds of Corruption**

- AML and AC

## **International Cooperation**

- Informal channels, networks

## **Monitoring & Feedback**

- Feedback and quantitative data

## **Success stories**

- Cases, returns and impacts



# StAR's strategic priorities

★ **Front load knowledge products**

★ **Develop policy agenda and advocacy**

★ **Expand and strengthen country engagement**

Global Knowledge and Advocacy

Capacity Building & Networks

40%

30%

30%

Support to National Asset Recovery Programs



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# Innovation & Access to Knowledge

## HANDBOOKS FOR PRACTITIONERS

- **Non-Conviction Based Asset Forfeiture Guide (April 2009)**
- **Proceeds of Corruption: Managing Asset Return (October 2009)**
- **Good Practice Guide on Income and Asset Declaration (October 2009).**
- **Asset Recovery Handbook (October 2010)**

## TOOLS FOR PRACTITIONERS

- **Legal Library (October 2009 and then continuous)**
- **Reporting on UNCAC Implementation (October 2009 and then continuous)**
- **Knowledge Consortium (October 2009 and then continuous)**
- **Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) Request Writer Tool (preparation)**



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# ...policy analysis and advocacy

## POLICY ANALYSIS

- ☆ **Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs)** : enhanced due-diligence
- ☆ **Towards a Global Architecture** : gaps in the institutional framework
- ☆ **Corporate Vehicles** : identifying beneficial ownership (June 2010)
- ☆ **Lowering the Barriers** : policy in financial centers (Summer 2010)
- ☆ **Illicit Enrichment ? Confiscation of proceeds of bribery?**

## ENTRY POINTS / ANCHORS

- ★ United Nations Convention against Corruption
  - ★ Financial Action Task Force
    - ★ OECD
  - ★ Regional networks
  - ★ Civil society





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# Policy developments...

## ☆ As Part of the Anti-Money Laundering Regime

- ★ Assess risks;
- ★ Harmonize standards;
- ★ Beneficial ownership and transparency;
- ★ Integrate Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Corruption agendas.

## ☆ Practical support for asset recovery investigations

- ★ Interpol Incident Response Teams (Corruption)
- ★ UMBRA information exchange on corruption cases







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# Focusing on proceeds of corruption

- ★ Twenty country requests for StAR assistance
- ★ Key areas for assistance
  - ★ Awareness raising
  - ★ Gap analysis
  - ★ Integrating the AML and anti-corruption agendas
  - ★ Legal reform and development
  - ★ Support to multi-agency teams
  - ★ Development of asset recovery programs
  - ★ Support on specific cases





# Support to asset recovery programs

- ☑ Help countries make informed decisions in their asset recovery programs
- ☑ Support the preparation and analysis of information on asset recovery aspects of specific cases
- ☑ Facilitate coordination between states parties through dialogue and Mutual Legal Assistance, playing an honest broker

- ☒ **Be involved in litigation or criminal proceedings**
- ☒ **Finance legal representation**
- ☒ **Be privy to confidential information shared by states**
- ☒ **Manage cases or make decisions on the conduct of cases**



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# Delivery Mechanisms

- ★ Technical assistance and training, targeted focused on practical problem-solving and transfer of skills
- ★ Collaboration with other partners on practical support, eg. investigations & legal representation
- ★ Coordination with other development partners for institution building at country level
- ★ Building networks of practitioners, regional and global level



The screenshot shows the StAR website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the StAR logo, the text "Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR)", a search box, and a "GO" button. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Topics > Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative". On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for "Email" and "Print".

The main content area is titled "Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative". It features a large logo with the United Nations emblem and the text "StAR" in a stylized font. Below the logo, it says "World Bank and UNODC".

The text below the logo reads: "The Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative - known as StAR - was launched jointly by the World Bank and [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime](#) (UNODC) on September 17, 2007 in New York City at an event chaired by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon.

StAR's objective is to reduce barriers to asset recovery and thereby encourage and facilitate more systematic and timely return of stolen assets. StAR emphasizes that developed and developing countries share a joint responsibility in tackling corruption and that international collaboration and collective action are needed to facilitate asset recovery and prevent asset theft.

StAR supports this agenda through:

- [Building National Capacity](#)
- [Assistance in the Recovery of Stolen Assets](#)

On the right side of the page, there is a "NEW: October 2009" section with three items:

- [Progress Report \(October 2009\)](#)
- [Management of Returned Assets: Policy Considerations](#)
- [Income and Asset Declarations: Tools and Trade-Offs](#)

Each item in the "NEW" section has a small thumbnail image showing a stack of money.



*There should be no safe haven for those who steal from the poor” ... “Helping developing countries recover the stolen money will be key to fund social programs and put corrupt leaders on notice that they will not escape the law.”*

Robert B. Zoellick,  
President, The World Bank



## For further information:

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