Transnational Crime

Challenges, Strategies, and Resources

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Agenda

Transnational Crime Threats and Challenges

Alternative Strategic Approaches

African Union and Regional Strategies

Leveraging Resources

Strategy Approaches and Maximization
Threats and Challenges

Customs officers display seized elephant tusks to the media in Kampala, Uganda, Feb. 1, 2019. Associated Press
Threats and Challenges

Threats and challenges
  • Vary considerably by stakeholder perception and perspective
  • Management vs defeat/control

Domain
  • Land, Maritime, Air, Space and Cyber
  • Cyber transforming transnational crime

Prioritization of threats
  • Most dangerous
  • Most likely
  • Unknown
Threats and Challenges

Photograph: Serge Daniel/AFP/Getty Images
Transnational Crime Challenges

Illicit Finance

Human Trafficking

Narcotics

Weapons

Contraband

Other
Threats and Challenges

Senegalese police prepare to incinerate methamphetamines seized at the Malian border in Tambacounda, Senegal, June 29, 2014. REUTERS/Pape Demba Sidibe
Illicit Flows

Trans-Sahara trafficking and threat finance
22 April 2015

Source: Norwegian Center for Global Analysis, 2015
Why is Strategy Important?

Relationship of ways and means to ends: Strategy meaningful only in relationship to objectives pursued
Alternative Strategic Approaches

United Nations

Budapest Convention

National – Major Powers

Other
African Strategic Approaches

National Policy and Strategy Documents
  • Coordination - bilateral and multilateral
  • Nesting
  • Classification

African Union
  • Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection (Malabo)

Malabo vs Budapest
African Strategic Approaches Continued

Bilateral Relationships

Regional Economic Communities
- COMESA
- EAC
- ECOWAS
- SADC

Other Multilateral Relationships
Leveraging Resources and Managing Constraints

Regional

Inter-Ministerial/National

Bilateral

African Union

Ministerial/Departmental/Agency

Public-Private

External
Aligning Regional Goals and Resources

Harmonization of Priorities and Allocations

• Prioritized goals that are suitable and feasible
• What are low cost investments?
• Capacity Building—legal structures, organizational and coordination frameworks, personnel, capital investments, and associated long term sustainment

Types of Resource Constraints

• Budget allocations and consistency
• Regional coordination
• Human Capital
• Equipment
• Sustainment
• Infrastructure
Process of Regional Strategy Development

Assessment of
  • Regional States Capabilities, Vulnerabilities and Fissures
  • Salient Domains
  • Threats

Identification of Stakeholders

Drafting of ends
  • Nesting and Synchronization with National Security Strategies

Planning ways

Application of Means for Implementation
Maximizing Transnational Crime Strategy

Correctly identifying and prioritizing the regional problems and assessing ends/goals right: Criminals and your own

Stakeholder Identification and Participation key

Increasing means and enhancing ways through national, (sub)regional, international collaboration and cooperation

Transnational Crime Strategies are living documents
• The threats never stop evolving
• Frameworks for systematic analysis

Prioritization of investments – targeted requests