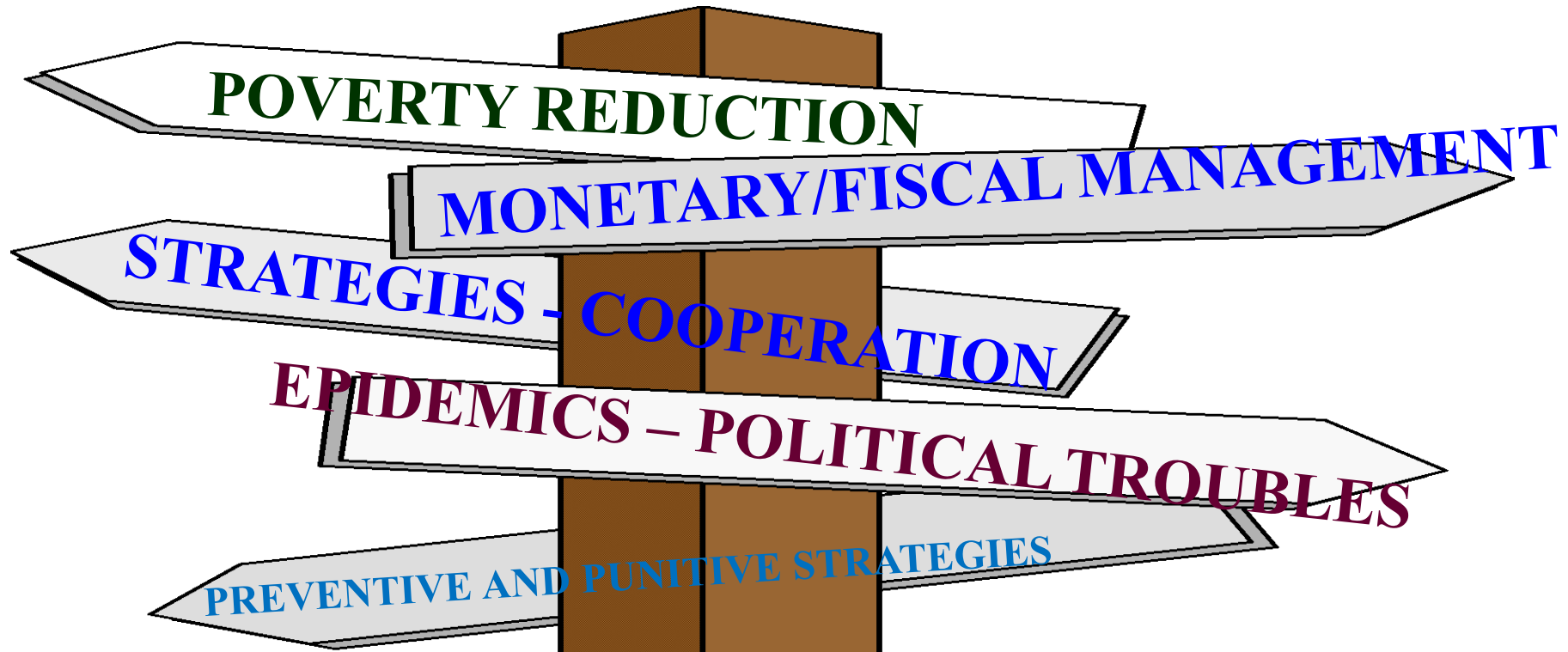
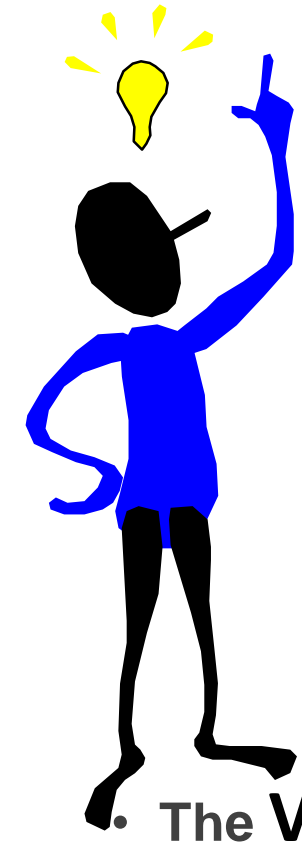


Risk factors and causes of drug trafficking and goods smuggling in Africa

Examples from our work in Senegal and South Sudan

Poverty – Unemployment – Search for an easy buck – Territorial inequalities – Porous borders – Lack of orientation – Lack of social cohesion – Social exclusion



- The **Vienna Convention of December 19 1988**

In its preamble, the convention presents an international situation in the midst of incessant escalation in the *war on drugs* and underscores the incapacity, despite past conventions, of the international community to halt this traffic. The convention also describes the different problems created by the traffic and production of drugs (economic and political instability...)

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

- **WEST AFRICA**

- Is the geographic area LINKED to CANNABIS and COCAINE flows, coming from SOUTH AMERICA and ASIA, via EUROPE and the USA.
- The division between countries in ECOWAS and their other Anglophone and lusophone counterparts sometimes provokes (directly and indirectly) socioeconomic imbalances in this region.

CENTRAL AFRICA

CANNABIS cultivation became prominent at the end of the 1990s and continued thereafter

THE TRAFFIC AND ABUSE OF OPIATES AND COCAINE has increased.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

CANNABIS is the most important locally produced drug followed by METHAQUALONE.

KHAT is also very PRESENT.

The **TRANSIT** of drug traffic is principally occurring in **CAPITALS** and in **COASTAL AREAS**.

What are the harms and consequences of drug trafficking and goods smuggling for politics, economy, and society in African states? The stakes of the fight against transnational organized crime

- NEW ALLIANCES WITH TERRORIST GROUPS
- LOGISTICAL HUBS OF TERRORISM
- SOCIAL DISORDER (PUBLIC HEALTH – FISHING – FARMING –FORESTS - THREATS TO THE RULE OF LAW)

How are drug trafficking/goods smuggling groups linked to actors implicated in other forms of transnational organized crime, as well as legal economic activity?

The Golden Triangle: MYANMAR (ex-Burma) - THAILAND – LAOS

- LEBANON – SYRIA – TURKEY
- MEXICO – COLOMBIA
- GUINEA-BISSAU – CAPE VERDE
- MALI - NIGERIA

LEGAL MEANS OF COUNTERING

- Currently, principally it is institutions of the United Nations (UNODC) in charge of drug issues, which intervene for the benefit of African countries.
- CONVENTIONS – VIENNA – MERIDA – NEW YORK
- DRUG CODES (taken from the above conventions)
- INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEES (reporting – guidelines)
- However, they are supplemented from time to time with cooperation missions (DEA – ATF – INL-), which help to train personnel and establish appropriate materiel and means.



Current trends in drug trafficking and goods smuggling in Senegal

Has Senegal become a transit point for drug trafficking?

- Cocaine was packed in luggage, hidden in 15 new cars that arrived in Dakar from Brazil. It is alleged that the drugs were destined for Germany and Ghana. An investigation is underway to identify the people implicated in this drug trafficking. Local media that was present at the port during the journey say that a foreign couple was among those who were detained for interrogation.

A record seizure of cocaine at the Port of Dakar, Wednesday, June 26. Drugs were discovered in vehicles made in Brazil that were destined for Angola.

- The traffickers are not visibly fearful of inspection. The cocaine, wrapped in kilo-weight packets, was simply placed in the storage compartments of four new cars made in Brazil and destined for Luanda. It was through intelligence that customs agents decided to search the vehicles as they were moving between ships.
- « *This time, it happened at the port. It's true that this is not usual. These were vehicles that were only passing through Dakar to be loaded onto another boat for Angola. »*
- *Customs at the Port of Dakar: of the 24 vehicles being shipped, only 4-5 were used.*

New drug seizure: After Senegal, narco-traffickers suffer a setback in Guinea-Bissau (September 2019)

- This seizure took place in two phases. The 264 kilos were taken at Caio whereas the rest of the drugs – 1605 kilos – were discovered in a house in Cachungo, in the north of the country, 120 kilometers from the capital. The drugs seized came from Colombia and were of an estimated 32 million euro value, according to judicial sources.

Eight people, including three Colombians, four Guinea-Bissau citizens, and one Malian are currently arrested in relation to this operation. According to the deputy director of the Judicial Police, the possibility of a link between this seizure and the one of last March is not out of the question.

Between June 26 and July 1, customs has seized more than 1000 kilograms of cocaine at the Port of Dakar. The drug was hidden in duffel bags, which themselves were hidden in Renault vehicles coming from Brazil.

Senegal : New Seizure of Drugs at Port of Dakar

DAKAR, October 30

-- A new seizure of drugs, about 43 one-kilo packets of cocaine, took place Tuesday at the Port of Dakar, according to a security source, the local media reported on Wednesday.

The drugs were seized in a vehicle coming from Antwerp (Belgium), which was in transit to The Gambia, indicated a Senegalese customs agent.

The estimated value of the seizure was 3 billion FCFA (5.08 million dollars), said the Senegalese customs agent, addin that all the competent units involved in countering international narcotics trafficking worked together to determine the actual provenance of the drugs.

Early last July, about 750 tons of drugs were seized by Senegalese customs at the Port of Dakar.

LESSONS LEARNED AND NEXT STEPS AFTER INVESTIGATION

- JOINT INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES WITH THE COLOMBIANS–
- ESTABLISHING THE ANTI-DRUG LIAISON GROUP (GLAD)/DEA –
- SPECIAL CUSTOMS UNIT
- COLLABORATION OF HASMAR–FRONTEX– FISHING DIRECTORATE
- INCREASED POWER OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKING (OCRTIS)
- ESTABLISHING A NEW DRUG LABORATORY
- G5/SAHEL WITH ITS LOCK ON EASTERN SENEGAL (GARSI SAHEL)
- FRONTEX FOR ADDRESSING ILLEGAL MIGRATION