



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

ACADEMIC WEBINAR SERIES
October 2020-July 2021

1 -Understanding Transnational Organized Crime in Africa: Introduction to the ENACT Organized Crime Index and Related Learning (Thursday, October 15, 2020, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Study the core elements of organized crime that are measured by the ENACT Organized Crime Index for Africa: criminality (actors/markets) and resilience.
- Consider recent trends in organized crime in Africa, analyzing continental and regional patterns of criminality, resilience, and their various components.
- Learn how to situate your country and your country's neighbors on the Organized Crime Index and interpret the meaning of the criminality and resilience scores that they receive on the Index.
- Understand what the Index does and does not reveal about how criminality and resilience interact in the current realities that African security and justice actors face.

2 - Identifying Transnational Organized Crime: Who Are the Criminal Actors, and What Makes for a Criminal Market? (Thursday, November 12, 2020, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Review the Palermo Convention's definition of an organized criminal group and analyze who counts as an organized criminal.
- Conceptually distinguish between organized/unorganized crime, legitimacy/illegitimacy, licit/illicit economies, and formal/informal activity.
- Become familiar with the ENACT Organized Crime Index's typology of criminal actors (state-embedded, criminal networks, foreign, and mafia-style) and understand some of the common strategic challenges that arise for African states in relation to these actors (namely, dismantling collusion between criminal networks and state-embedded actors).
- Consider the spatial reach of various criminal markets across Africa and TOC actors' adaptability in their use of different markets to evade sanction.

3 - Understanding Vulnerabilities: Violence, State Legitimacy, and Livelihood Challenges (Thursday, December 10, 2020, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Identify the common structural drivers of TOC in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Understand why and how political violence, state legitimacy and governance challenges, and livelihood challenges linked to various megatrends can create regional, national, and local vulnerabilities to TOC.
- Analyze how vulnerabilities have differential impacts on women and marginalized populations, as well as whether these vulnerabilities have changed with Covid-19.

4 - Understanding Resilience: The Role of Legal and Policy Frameworks (Thursday, January 14, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Understand why three factors identified by the ENACT Organized Crime Index – international cooperation, national laws and policies, and political leadership and governance – are important influences on African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Describe the key elements of *international cooperation* (international conventions like Palermo), *national laws and policies* (legislation domesticating such conventions, government policies or strategies), and *political leadership and governance* (political will, pressure to counter TOC) that affect African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Identify some of the current challenges African states face in making these resilience factors work.

5 - Understanding Resilience: The Role of Law Enforcement, Justice, and their Coordination (Thursday, March 11, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Understand why three factors identified by the ENACT Organized Crime Index – law enforcement, territorial integrity, and judicial system/detention – are important influences on African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Describe the key elements of *law enforcement* (capacity, intel-sharing, special units, citizen legitimacy), *territorial integrity* (border control), and *judicial system and detention* (criminal justice chain) that affect African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Identify some of the current challenges African states face in making these resilience factors work.

6 - Understanding Resilience: The Role of Financial Flows, Corruption, and Oversight (Thursday, April 8, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Understand why three factors identified by the ENACT Organized Crime Index – anti-money laundering, economic regulatory enforcement, and government transparency and accountability – are important influences on African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Describe the key elements of *anti-money laundering* (adherence to international standards), *economic regulatory enforcement* (rule of law and lack of TOC influence in trade/business), and *government transparency and accountability* (combating government corruption, oversight) that affect African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Identify some of the current challenges African states face in making these resilience factors work, including the difficulties of using anti-money laundering and anti-corruption instruments to dismantle collusive networks involving state-embedded actors with criminal networks and foreign actors.

7 - Understanding Resilience: The Role of Communities, Citizens, and Civil Society (Thursday, May 20, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Understand why three factors identified by the ENACT Organized Crime Index – prevention, non-state actors, and victim/witness support – are important influences on African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Describe the key elements of *prevention* (community outreach/citizen engagement strategies, gender sensitivity in gathering local knowledge to inform prevention), *non-state actors* (checks and balances by civil society), and *victim and witness support* (assistance programs) that affect African states’ resilience to TOC.
- Identify some of the current challenges African states face in making these resilience factors work.

8 - Understanding Criminality: TOC Trends in West Africa (Thursday, June 3, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Classify the key types of criminal actors in the region, as well as the types of criminal markets in which they are engaged.
- Analyze the resources and constraints of organized criminal groups in the region, as well as their strategic incentives for leveraging various criminal markets in the regional political and economic context.
- Consider how regional patterns of criminality interact with resilience factors to shape security for all, including women and marginalized communities.

9 - Understanding Criminality: TOC Trends in East Africa (Thursday, June 10, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT) – see above for session objectives

10 - Understanding Criminality: TOC Trends in North Africa (Thursday, June 17, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT) – see above for session objectives

11 - Understanding Criminality: TOC Trends in Central Africa (Thursday, June 24, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT) –see above for session objectives

12 - Understanding Criminality: TOC Trends in Southern Africa (Thursday, July 1, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT) – see above

13 - Responding to TOC: Engaging the Security-Development-Governance Nexus (Thursday, July 29, 2021, 1200-1315 GMT)

Session Objectives

- Understand what the security-development-governance nexus is and why it is important for national and citizen security, including in relation to TOC.
- Analyze the evidence suggesting that law enforcement and criminal justice responses to TOC are insufficient, and must be complemented by African states' additional, holistic engagement across the security-development-governance nexus.
- Consider ways to carefully design counter TOC efforts to avoid unintentionally exacerbating incentives to perpetrate, abet, or tolerate TOC, identifying any relevant differences in approach in contexts of protracted conflict.
- Identify some inclusive and coordinated approaches to building resilience to TOC that would allow security and justice actors to work with other state and non-state partners to enhance local, national, and regional outcomes.