

Fact Sheet: StAR Asset Recovery Watch

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The significance of StAR Asset Recovery Watch

By systematically compiling and making information about completed and active international asset recovery cases already available to the public, StAR Asset Recovery Watch is a research project launched in September 2011 aimed at promoting the timely return of stolen assets and spurring countries to work at both national and international levels to remove barriers to asset recovery.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Chamber of Commerce's Commercial Crime Services (ICC-CCS) have included StAR Asset Recovery Watch as a knowledge tool/resource on international asset recovery:

OECD CleanBizGov: http://www.oecd.org/document/18/0,3746,en_21571361_48474296_48820306_1_1_1_1,00.html

ICC-CCS: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/home/resources/181-corruption>

StAR Asset Recovery Watch includes:

- **85 cases that were initiated by countries**— including ones that are internationally known and those that are less known outside of their countries of origin.
- **178 entries.** When recovery efforts or assets are located in one or more jurisdictions (a country or territory), cases are organized by the jurisdiction of recovery effort and/or asset location.
- **Recoveries from early 1980s to the present.** The earliest case in StAR Asset Recovery Watch is that of Ferdinand Marcos. With recovery efforts launched in 1986, the Marcos case is considered to be the first modern initiative in the international asset recovery arena.
- **StAR Asset Recovery Watch currently comprises 59 jurisdictions of origin of public officials and 37 jurisdictions of recovery effort** and/or asset location, thus reflecting the extensive global reach of theft and recovery efforts.

While it is the most extensive database of its type to date, StAR Asset Recovery Watch is still in its early stages of development. It will be updated on a regular basis.

How was the StAR Asset Recovery Watch compiled?

The StAR Asset Recovery Watch was compiled using official documents, such as texts of court judgments and orders and government press releases, which are already available to the public. The most relevant source documents have been appended to each entry. We gratefully acknowledge the insights and information shared by numerous experts and practitioners.

How can governments, practitioners, Civil Society Organizations and other interested persons participate in the StAR Asset Recovery Watch?

We invite all governments, public and private practitioners, Civil Society Organization and others knowledgeable about international asset recovery to send us corrections or updated information about current cases, as well as new ones. In this way, we can work together to build a more comprehensive database of cases. Please email us at starinitiative@worldbank.org.

StAR Asset Recovery Watch is a project of the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative, a partnership formed by the World Bank and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to help eliminate safe havens for proceeds of corruption and facilitate more systematic and timely return of stolen assets.

For more information, please visit: www.worldbank.org/star

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