

FEATURED PROGRAM: CYBER TRAINING



PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS UNDERGO COMPUTER FORENSICS TRAINING IN A MANILA CYBER LAB FUNDED AND EQUIPPED BY ATA, DECEMBER 2011. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

Since its inception in 2002, ATA's cyber training program has provided training to more than 6,000 foreign law enforcement investigators and analysts in 31 partner nations that helped them detect, prevent, and investigate incidents related to the use of computers and other information technology by terrorists and cyber criminals.

ATA training and equipment grants have been used to establish 17 computer investigative and forensic units worldwide. In addition to training and computer equipment grants, ATA personnel provide partner nations with long-term mentoring and advisory consultations to improve the managerial skills of their new cyber units. In FY 2011, ATA delivered 21 courses, consultations, and conferences in cyber security and investigations in 24 partner nations.

As part of its effort to foster regional and strategic collaboration among foreign law enforcement partners, ATA's cyber program provided training and equipment to U.S. partner nations in the Caribbean region in fiscal year 2011.



UGANDAN POLICE INVESTIGATORS LEARN TO IDENTIFY AND CAPTURE DIGITAL EVIDENCE DURING AN APRIL 2011 ATA TRAINING COURSE IN CYBER CRIMES AND COMPUTER FORENSICS IN KAMPALA, UGANDA. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)

In December 2010, ATA partnered with the Organization of American States and the U.S. Department of Justice to provide a three-day workshop on cyber security and cyber crime to 64 policymakers, cyber security specialists, and cyber crime investigators from Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

In September 2011, the ATA cyber program followed up with a cyber and information-sharing conference for Caribbean leaders focusing on ways to combat use of the

internet and telecommunications technology by transnational criminals and terrorists. Conference participants included law enforcement leaders, cyber crime investigators, and criminal prosecutors from Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname.

Also in fiscal year 2011, ATA's cyber program, in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement, launched

a regional traveler's biometric program to help partner nations identify and track terrorist suspects crossing their borders. ATA staff are assisting partner nations in installing, using, and managing the technology for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, which will provide secondary digital fingerprint screening of international visitors to select participating nations in the region.



MAURITIUS AND CYBER SECURITY

With its world-class satellite and fiber-optic telecommunications networks and its ultramodern “cyber city” in Ebene, the Government of Mauritius has sought to develop the country into a high-tech hub linking African and Asian financial markets.

The island nation also is home to the

African Network Information Centre (AfriNIC), a non-governmental registry of internet protocol addresses for Africa. With the development of this high-tech infrastructure have come threats of money-laundering, staging of terrorist finances, and cyber-related crimes. To help counter and investigate these threats, the ATA program provided the Mauritius National Police Service's Independent Commission Against Corruption with cyber investigations training in May 2011 and delivered grants of computer forensics workstations, software, and digital storage media in June.

This support contributed to an immediate investigative success by Mauritius police. On June 8, 2011, ATA-trained and -equipped digital investigators identified and arrested the operator of an illegal enterprise selling pre-paid mobile phone SIM cards. The cards permitted mobile phone users to make international calls more cheaply because those calls—55,000 in all—were routed illegally through telecommunications networks as local, rather than international calls.



AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE MAY 2011 TRAINING, U.S. CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES TROY FITRELL AND MAURITIAN COMMISSIONER OF POLICE DHUN ISWAR RAMPERSAD CELEBRATE THE DELIVERY FIVE MONTHS EARLIER OF COMPUTER FORENSICS EQUIPMENT GRANTED BY ATA TO THE MAURITIUS POLICE FORCE. (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHOTO)