FCO SPF PROJECT EVALUATION

1. **Project Details**

Project Number	
	GB-3-PPY RSA 1302 RSA
Project Title	Alert Africa
Project Cost (total cost / cost to FCO if different)	£29,946.97
Project Start/End Dates	01 June 2013 to 31 March 2014
Programme	Properity Programme
Country/Countries	South Africa
Official Development Assistance Y/N	Yes

2. **Project Purpose** (from proposal form)

Build a sustainable South African and African portal to raise awareness and improve collaboration on critical cybercrime topics using the latest web, animation, gaming and social media tools

3. **Project Background / Context** including what the project set out to achieve (150 words max)

Global cyber threats such as phishing, social media dangers, privacy invasion and a host of other cybercriminal or espionage motivated attacks are on the increase. Such activities exploit vulnerabilities in the use of the internet and other electronic systems to illicitly access or attack information and services used by citizens, businesses and the government.

In the project implementer's Wolfpack 2012/3 SA Cybercrime Barometer research report (funded by the FCO) the implementer uncovered the losses incurred as a result of cybercriminal activity in South Africa. One of the national initiatives the implementer proposed in the report was the rollout of a nation-wide awareness programme.

The victims are no longer just large corporations or high-profile government departments but increasingly innocent civilians are being targeted. From the youngest of children to the most fragile of senior citizens are compromised by merciless attackers using internet, mobile and social media platforms. The sad reality is that the majority of South Africans and Africans in general do not know how to safeguard themselves from the wide range of cyber threats. Apart from the billions lost by organisations, individual bank customers, according to figures released exclusively by SABRIC to the Wolfpack research team, reported phishing related losses of R92,4 million in approximately 10 000 incidents over a 1 ½ year period. Many of these victims sadly we discovered were not aware of the danger and have very little recourse in recovering their money.

What is one of the few counter-measures that are effective against this type of threat? The experts

agree – ensure that people receive regular high-impact awareness updates on key threats and the significant risk to their personal and work environments.

The intention of the project was to compliment government's recently approved National Cyber Security Framework and help fast-track partnerships between public and private bodies by building a sustainable African portal to raise awareness & improve collaboration on critical cybercrime topics using the latest web, animation, gaming & social media tools.

4. **Evaluation summary** (150 words max)

This was a small project aimed at raising awareness. It followed on from a previous project aimed at identifying the challenges South Africa faced with regard to Cyber crime. It was relevant to both the Prosperity Fund strategy and Post's Country Business plan. Whilst the project was focussed on South Africa, it will now be rolled out to other countries to increase the project's impact and sustainability.

The project has increased the pressure on the South African government from civil society and the public to tackle some core cyber crime issues. This has lead to a better relationship between the UK and South Africa on cyber issues. It has also led to South Africa showing interest in the new Global Centre for Cyber Security Capacity Building at Oxford University with the new Chief Director for Cyber Security at the South African Department of Communications confirming that our focus on cyber capacity building was a good initiative. He also agreed with the need for South Africa to boost capacity in this area.

The website produced as a result of this project has specifically helped 30 people directly who found themselves victims of harassment, and has helped indirectly to bring about new legislation in the field of harassment.

With Cyber crime on the increase, the project being rolled out elsewhere and the hits the website steadily increasing, this small project will end up having an impact greater than its original cost.

5. **Questions**

Did the project achieve the project purpose?	Yes
Did the project come in on budget? (Y/N) If no, why and what was the difference in cost?	Yes
Was the project completed on time? (Y/N) If not, why not?	Yes
Were the Project benefits sustained after project completion?	Yes

6. **Overall Red / Amber / Green rating** for project

Overall Rating for project
(put **X** in relevant box)

Red		
Red	Amber	
Amber	Green	
Green		x

Guide to overall rating:

Green- project performed well under each of the evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact and management

Green/Amber – project performed well under most criteria and adequately in others

Amber/Red – project performed adequately under some criteria but poorly in others

Red – project performed poorly under most criteria

7. Top 3 Lessons learned

1. The project would have been enhanced by having a formal communications plan to show to a wider audience what it was aiming to deliver and how individuals and companies might benefit.
2. To help measure the success of this project, it would have been good to have had an indicator related to the amount of page views in a particular period.
3. As ever, having the right implementer with the right level of influence helped to deliver what the project has achieved so far.

8. Recommendations for future projects

1. I recommend that Post, the Implementer and the relevant part of the South African Government meet to discuss any training needed to widen the impact of this project.
2. I also recommend that the Implementer try to find a part of Government to take over or support the continual upgrade of the website in order to ensure that it remains relevant and able to meet the ever changing challenges of slowing down or defeating cyber crime.
3. I further recommend that Post and the South African authorities discuss how best to build on this project and what else Post can do to help South Africa in this policy area.