

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0921-16: DIGEST OF INFORMATION

Project Proposal Form

**Short Project Summary**

*In no more than 200 words explain what the project plans to achieve and how (setting out how the Outputs will deliver the Purpose/Objective, and how the activities will deliver each relevant Output), and what difference will it make on the ground over the next few years?*

*This question will be looked at again during any Evaluation of this project, and when an Impact Report is done. The success of the project will largely be judged on what is said here*

The Honduran police force faces huge challenges – particular in investigative work. The country's impunity rate currently stands at over 90% in homicide cases. [redacted]  
[redacted] We will use the proven experience of experts from the College of Policing (CoP) [not in scope] to do this.

The President of Honduras completely overhauled the national police force in September 2015 in an attempt to professionalise and improve the standard of police investigations, and reduce impunity. This involved the establishment of a new Police Investigation Department. [redacted]

[redacted] The proven experience of the UK's CoP [not in scope] in this area of work will ensure that efforts are directed in the right area and will be able to influence the direction of reform.

**The Implementer**

*Provide details of any previous work with the Implementing Agency, and relevant background information on financial, reputational, organisational etc issues*

In 2015, representatives from the Police Service of Northern Ireland visited Mexico and delivered workshop on homicide investigation implemented by the Mexican Institute for Human Rights and Democracy. The training was conducted by the Head of PSNI's Serious Crime Branch, and a Senior Investigating Officer for homicide investigations, not just to deliver subject matter expertise but to deliver compelling messages about policing and investigating with professionalism, accountability and respect for human rights. Having these messages delivered investigator to investigator gave them added weight.

[not in scope] [redacted]

[redacted] [not in scope]

<p><b>Cross Cutting Issues</b></p> <p><i>What additional impact will the project have on issues such as the environment, diversity and human rights?</i></p> <p><i>Please note both positive and negative possible impacts</i></p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>The problem of impunity and lack of capacity on the Honduran police force was dramatically thrown into focus with the murder of leading environmental activist Berta Cáceres in March 2016 resulting in worldwide condemnation and accusations of police complicity <b>[Not in scope]</b>. The recent installation of the OAS funded Mission Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras has also brought impunity issues to the forefront of the national debate in Honduras. The project is wholly aligned with the DCF objective of building capacity and political will to address identified gaps in wider governance and rule of law capability.</p>
<p><b>For ODA projects:</b> Are you satisfied that the proposed activity is likely to contribute to a reduction in poverty?</p>	<p>No. The project will not contribute to reducing poverty but improving life conditions in the northern triangle</p>
<p><b>For ODA projects:</b> Are you satisfied that the proposed activity will promote gender equality? If this is not possible, are you satisfied it will not contribute to further gender inequality?</p>	<p>Yes. CoP <b>[not in scope]</b> will use real cases to illustrate best practice in homicide investigation. There will be particular focus on homicides motivated by the victim's gender (femicide) given the high rates of this crime in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.</p>

**Email dated 18 May 2016 From Security and Justice Officer, British Embassy Guatemala City to COSUDE (Agencia Suiza para Cooperacion Internacional, Oficina de Cooperacion Honduras)**

This great opportunity for us to engage with the Honduran Police and build capacity on criminal investigation. [REDACTED] is a good moment to engage given the newly established Direccion Policial de investigaciones (DPI), and is clearly addressing a real need as shown by the high level of impunity and low standards of investigation work especially following high profile murders. The idea of involving Guatemala and El Salvador is also good, but we would want the training to be delivered in Honduras. We are planning to conduct this training with the expertise of either with the College of Policing **[not in scope]**.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email dated 8 July 2016 From Desk Officer, Americas Directorate, FCO to Desk Officer, Multilateral Policy Directorate, FCO

a) Is this project compatible with HMG's international priorities and objectives? – *[not in scope]*. We believe that this project fills a clearly identified need, and will make a noticeable contribution to improving the professionalism and capacity of the Honduras police force, thus reducing impunity rates.