

FACTSHEET: ASSET RECOVERY DATA AVAILABILITY

Members of the UNCAC Coalition Asset Recovery Working Group completed a survey of 15 jurisdictions in May and June 2025, aimed at identifying information accessibility around asset recovery. This factsheet highlights the main findings of the survey, which indicate broadly that challenges remain globally in accessibility of asset recovery information.

Data around frozen, confiscated, returned or received funds

The area on availability of data around frozen, confiscated, returned or received funds, highlighted that this information is difficult to access, with responses from less than half of the jurisdictions indicating that it's possible to access this kind of data.

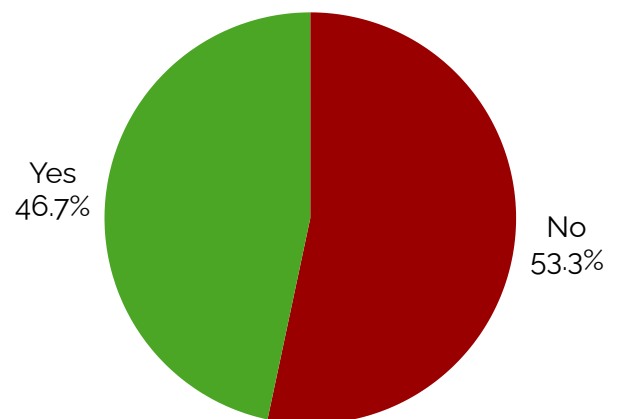


Figure 1. Publication of data on the volume of frozen / confiscated, returned or received funds through judicial processes on a regular basis.

Case information

The second area surveyed looked at accessibility of information on ongoing proceedings and concluded asset recovery cases. The responses demonstrate that it is also difficult in many jurisdictions to access information on corruption cases that authorities are prosecuting and that have been concluded. Respondents also indicated that case information, when available, tends to be more diffusely distributed than aggregate data, making it potentially more challenging for the public to follow the work of authorities to prosecute corruption cases.

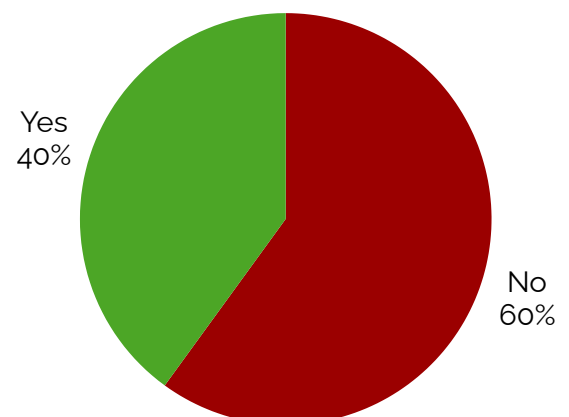


Figure 3. Responses indicating the number of countries surveyed that publish information on ongoing and concluded asset recovery cases.

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Publication of laws, strategies and individual agreements

When it comes to publication of documents setting out national rules and policies around asset return, while the surveyed countries often have laws in place, there is less in the way of published strategies and individual agreements.

A majority of the countries surveyed had published asset recovery legislation, according to respondents. Despite this, three surveyed jurisdictions do not have specific legislation in place that sets out the rules around returning the recovered proceeds of corruption.¹⁵

Fewer than half of the surveyed countries, however, have a published strategy or plan in place to address how they will carry out asset recovery, according to respondents. This may mean that there is no strategy or plan, making the practicalities of working on asset recovery much more challenging for involved authorities. Alternatively it may mean that these are not published, which may make it more difficult for authorities from other jurisdictions to know how to engage with their counterparts.

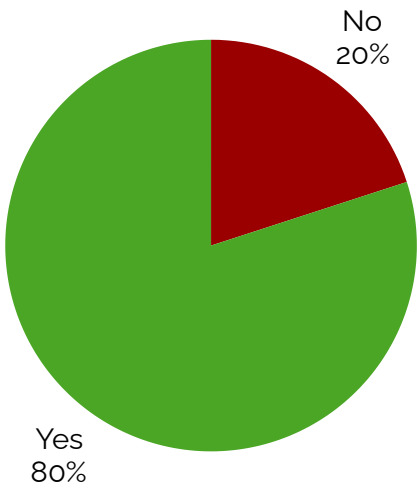


Figure 5. Asset recovery legislation across surveyed countries.

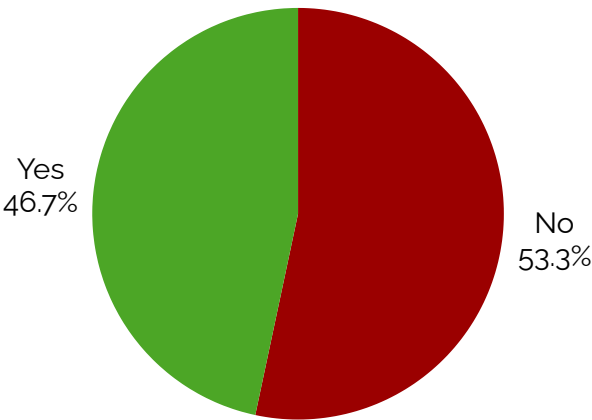


Figure 6. Availability of asset recovery plans or strategies across surveyed jurisdictions.

15. Austria, Equatorial Guinea and South Sudan.

RESULTS

Even less common, according to survey responses, is the publication of memorandums of understanding (MoU) or case-specific agreements between countries involved in asset return. While not all asset return cases may have an MoU or case-specific agreement, publishing these agreements allows the public to understand the values and conditions under which assets are being returned and engage in meaningful dialogue around these returns.

Still less common is the publication of policies and calculations for asset sharing and for apportioning costs in asset returns.¹⁶ These documents would typically set out percentages or amounts retained by returning jurisdictions for, e.g. prosecution costs. Without this information being publicly available, it is challenging for the public to understand any differences between confiscated and returned amounts.

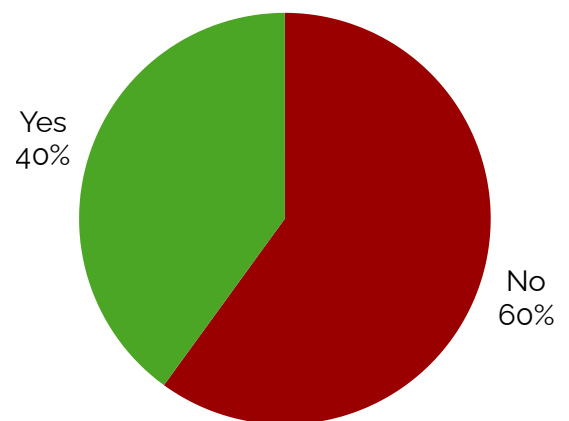


Figure 7. Publication of MoUs and other agreements across surveyed jurisdictions.

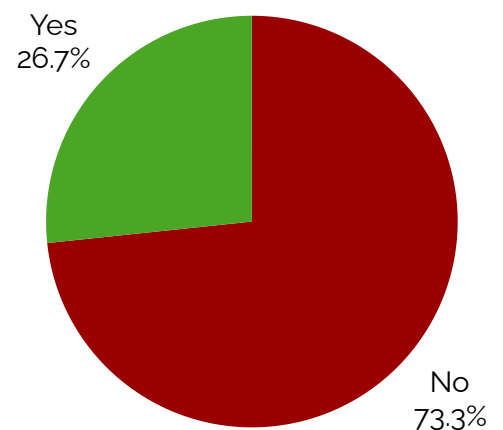


Figure 8. Publication of criteria for asset sharing or apportioning costs.

16. These were only reported as being available in Canada, Spain, Switzerland and the UK.