



Creating the West African Police Information System (WAPIS)

*Improving responses to organised crime and drug trafficking
along the cocaine route"*

Rome, Italy, 28-30 May 2013

Philippe Baeten
Head of WAPIS Programme





Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Why WAPIS?
3. What is WAPIS ?
4. Who will benefit from WAPIS?
5. How will WAPIS be realized?
6. Where do we stand?
7. What do we (minimum) need to be successful?
8. Q&A





Introduction

1. ZOOMING

1. One sub-region: West Africa (“in the middle of the Cocaine route”)
2. Police Information => actionable data

2. Long Term View (we want to go far...)

3. Covering the information chain from local to global level

4. Not specifically focussing on Drugs

5. Closing the knowledge gap





**Two years
of preparation and aligning
strategies
to create a Unique
Partnership**





EU Symposium on West-Africa

Brussels, September 30th, 2010



Recommendation 2:

Identify initiatives for sustainable policing development and international police cooperation in West Africa with local ownership; for instance the development of a centralized regional criminal database accessible for all countries in the West African region.





ECOWAS, Ministers for Security

Abuja, Nigeria, July 30th, 2011



Decision n° 6:

Member states should support the efforts being made by INTERPOL at the European Union towards the creation of a system of information for West Africa.





ECOWAS-Annual General Assembly of the West African Police Chiefs Committee, Meeting of Chiefs of Security Services and Meeting of the Forum of Ministers in Charge of Security

Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 12th -15th September 2012



6th Recommendation of WAPCCO:

Total support from the Ministers in charge of Security for the realization of WAPIS.





West African Police Information System

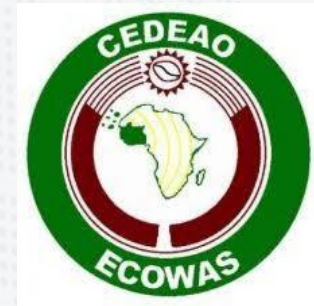
- Partnership -



Implementation



Decision
Funding



Beneficiary
Final owner



Why WAPIS?





Rationale

1. Structured and automated Criminal information is the **KEY** and **BASIC** element of efficient modern policing and a condition precedent for international police cooperation
2. West African police services are in most cases lacking the necessary **means** to collect and share police information in a structured way





Rationale (2)

3. Some countries started already projects to automate existing police manual files (Mali, Benin, Mauritania...)
4. Beginning with the end goal in mind of connecting the Police services of West Africa also with the “*worldwide information net*” of INTERPOL, WAPIS is the SOLUTION



A Room for Improvement

1. West Africa with its 16 countries represent **8,42 %** of the 190 INTERPOL Member countries
2. In 2012 (*Jan - 11 Nov 2012*) statistics in the databases show:

West Africa (16 countries)	Records	Searches
Nominal data	<u>0,66%</u>	0,56%
Stolen and lost travel documents	<u>0,05%</u>	0,45%
Stolen Motor Vehicles	<u>0,04%</u>	0,21%
Red Notices (wanted persons)	<u>0,27% issued</u>	



What is WAPIS?





WAPIS MISSION

To fight (organized) crime and threats from terrorism through the creation of a regional police information system (WAPIS) in order:

1. To facilitate the collection, centralization, management, sharing and analysis of police information **on a national level** in the 15 ECOWAS countries & Mauritania
2. To increase the **police information exchange** between countries from the region and set up the needed **environment on regional level**
3. To establish the link between countries of the region and the rest of the world through **Interpol tools and services**



Macro View Information Flow INPUT



Transfer to the EXISTING **INTERPOL** INFORMATION SYSTEMS

QC
Legal
Framework



Transfer to a NEW REGIONAL **ECOWAS** INFORMATION SYSTEM

QC
Legal
Frame
work

Datacenter

Registration in a **National DATABASE**

Quality Control
+
Judicial Procedure

Paper or Computer

Criminal Record

Quality Control
+
Judicial Procedure

Police Information

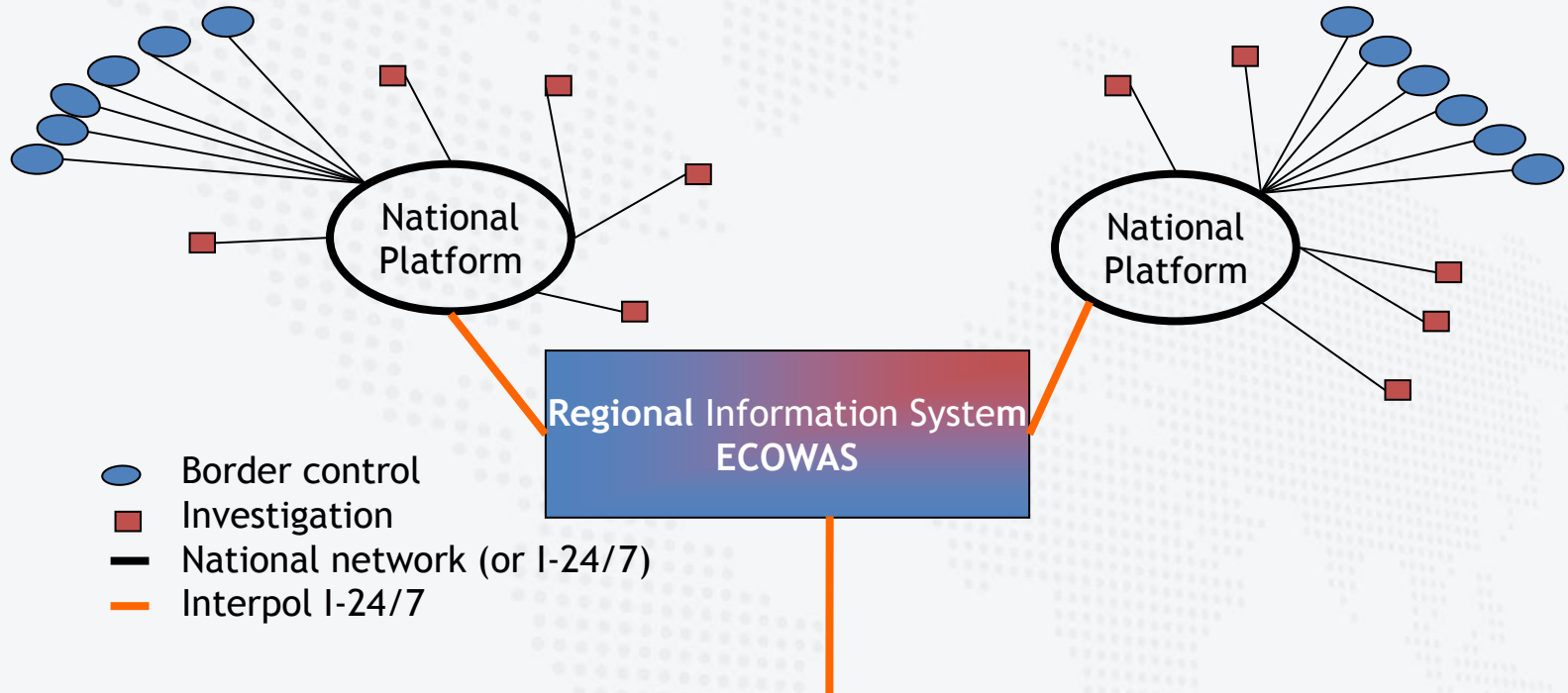






Complaint - Case - Witness - Offender - Suspect





Macro View Consultations



-  Border control
-  Investigation
-  National network (or I-24/7)
-  Interpol I-24/7

INTERPOL

190 member countries

27 EU member countries





Different projects in parallel

1. Creation of a **national database infrastructure** in each (Pilot) country
2. Creation of **regional information system at ECOWAS level**
3. **Linking** the countries and the region with the rest of the world through **Interpol tools and services**





Who will benefit from WAPIS?





WAPIS - Beneficiaries

1. West Africa

- a) Law enforcement agencies and their officers (border control, investigations) on a national and regional level
- b) Citizens in the West African region

2. European and International community

- a) Other West-African projects (UNODC, DPKO, WCO, etc.)
- b) 174 other INTERPOL members including
 - African Union member countries
 - European Union member countries
- c) EU agencies (*EUROPOL, FRONTEX and EUROJUST*)





How will WAPIS be realized?





3 Phases

- **Phase 1: Planning and Putting Team in place**
 - September 2012 - September 2013
- **Phase 2: Implementation in selected Pilot countries and at ECOWAS level**
 - October 2013 - December 2015
 - Proof of Concept
 - Creating the BACK-BONE
- **Phase 3: Roll-out in 11 other ECOWAS member-states**
 - January 2016...





5 PILOT COUNTRIES

- 3 SAHEL COUNTRIES
 - Mauritania
 - Mali
 - Niger
- Benin
- Ghana







The Programme is following a traditional “water-fall model” and is broken into 7 stages:

1. Inception
2. Scoping
3. Design
4. Define Operating Model
5. IT Design
6. Training

⇒ **6 WORKSHOPS in PLANNING PHASE I**

6. Deployment
 - a) Country Deployment 5 Pilot countries (Phase II)
 - b) Country Deployment other ECOWAS member states (Phase III)





4 Workshops already held

INCEPTION Workshop, 21-22 November 2012
Brussels, Belgium

SCOPING Workshop, 23-25 January 2013
Cotonou, Benin

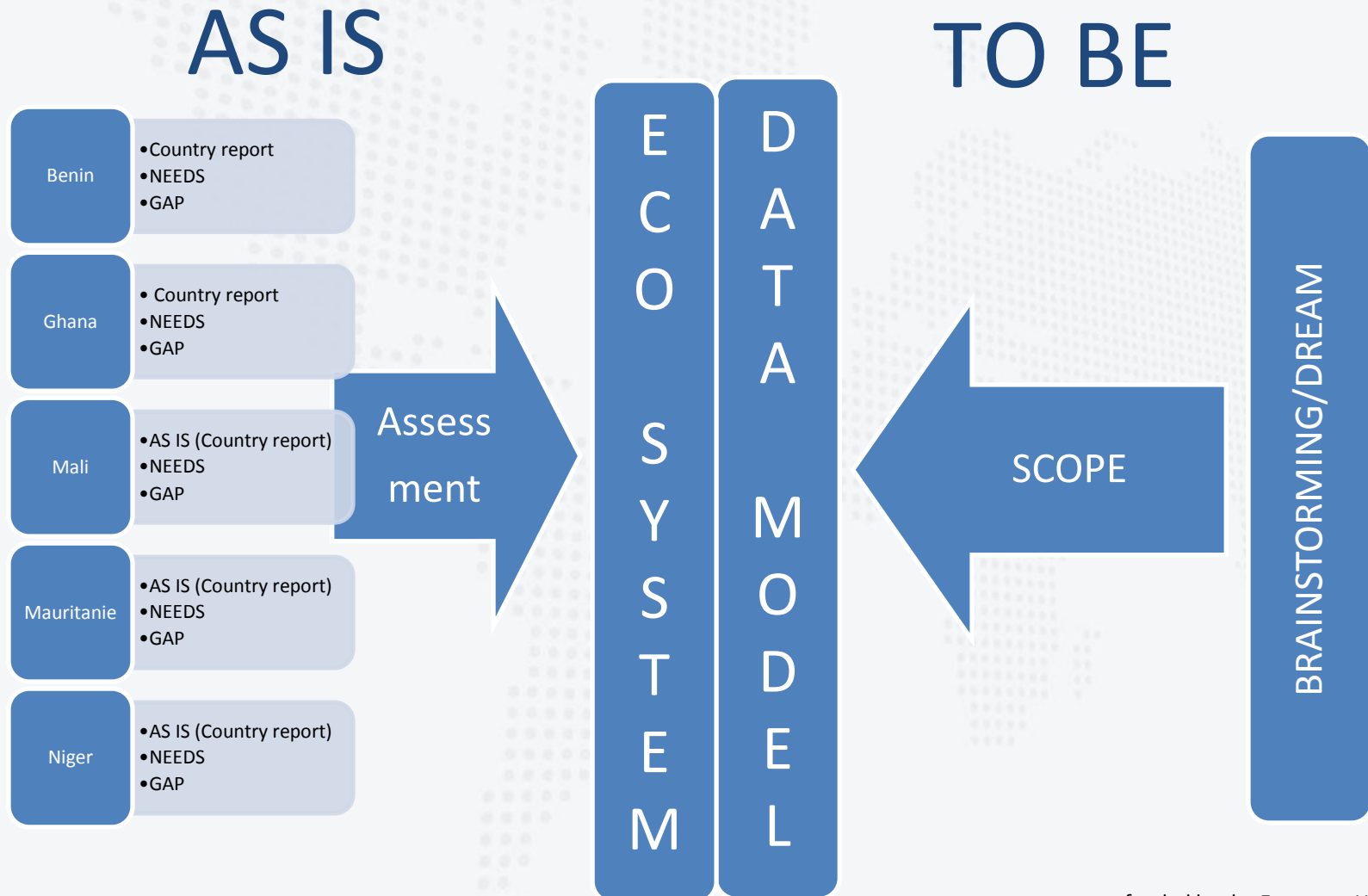
DESIGN Workshop, 21-23 March 2013
Nouakchott, Mauritania

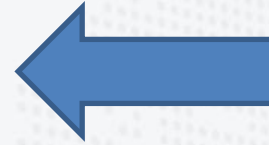
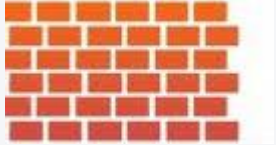
MECHANSIM Workshop, 2-4 May 2013
Abuja, Nigeria





AIM of Workshops







Still 2 Workshops to go before June, 30 2013





WHERE DO WE STAND?



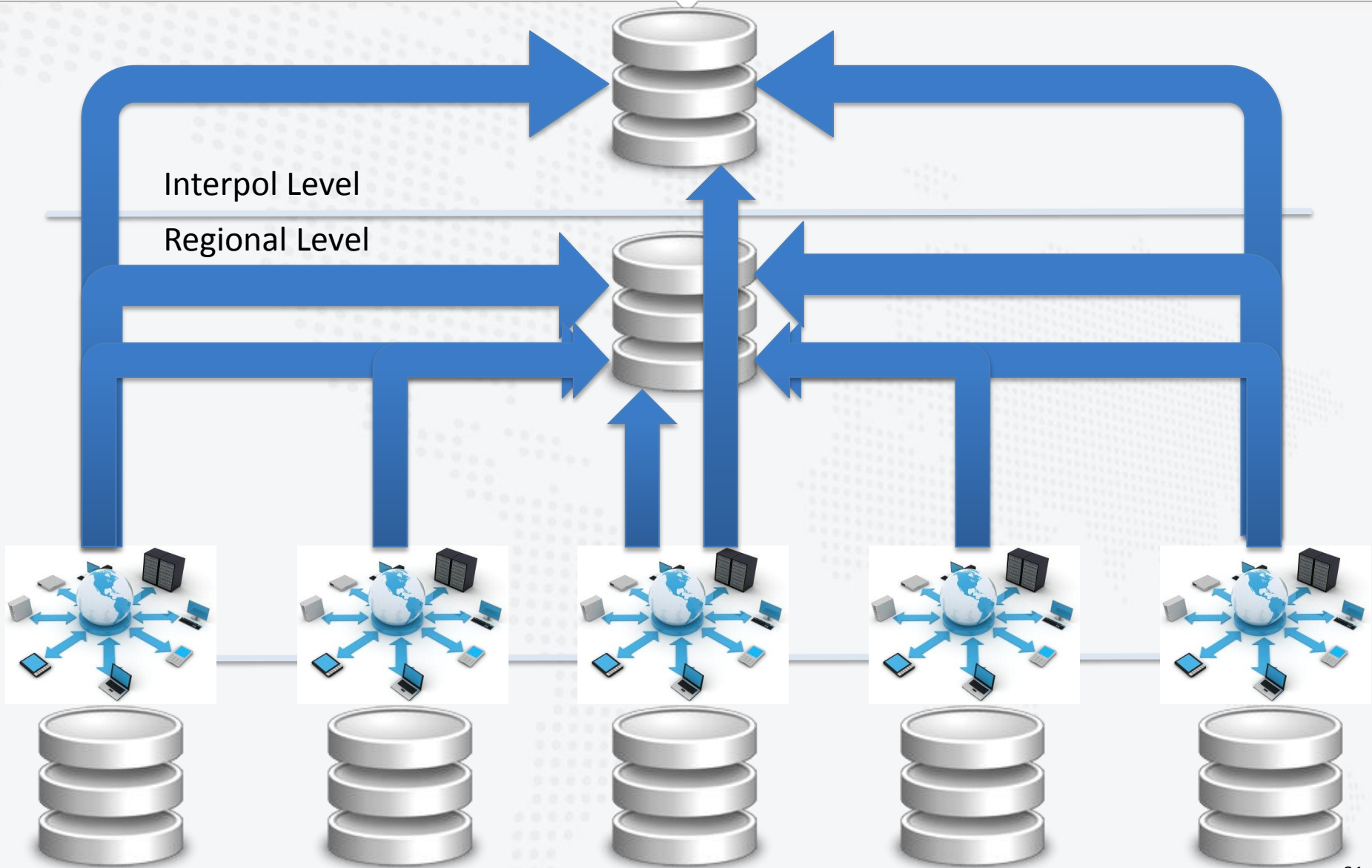


RESULTS OF THE DESIGN WORKSHOP

« TO BE »

DATA
DATAFLOW
DATA MODEL
DATA FUNCTIONALITIES







- Purposes

- Control

- Objective : Take action for wanted entities : Person, Vehicle, Documents, Objects
 - **Local upon national level** (to be decided by each country)

- Investigation

- Objective : Criminal investigation to identify the author of the crime and criminal analysis for investigation purpose
 - **Local upon national level** (to be decided by each country)





- Purposes

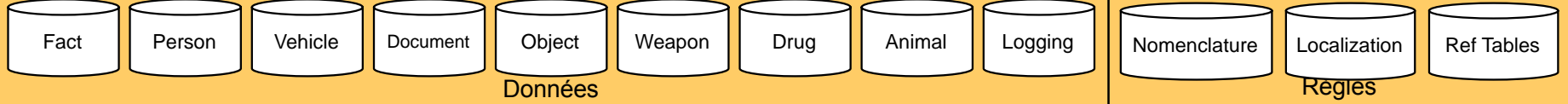
- Criminal analysis

- Objective : Complex criminality analysis and discovery of processes to identify relations between crime groups to support the investigation teams
 - National and Regional level

- Strategic analysis

- Objective : Trend analysis on non nominal information for transnational crimes and local phenomenon for support to national criminal policy and regional advice function
 - Regional level



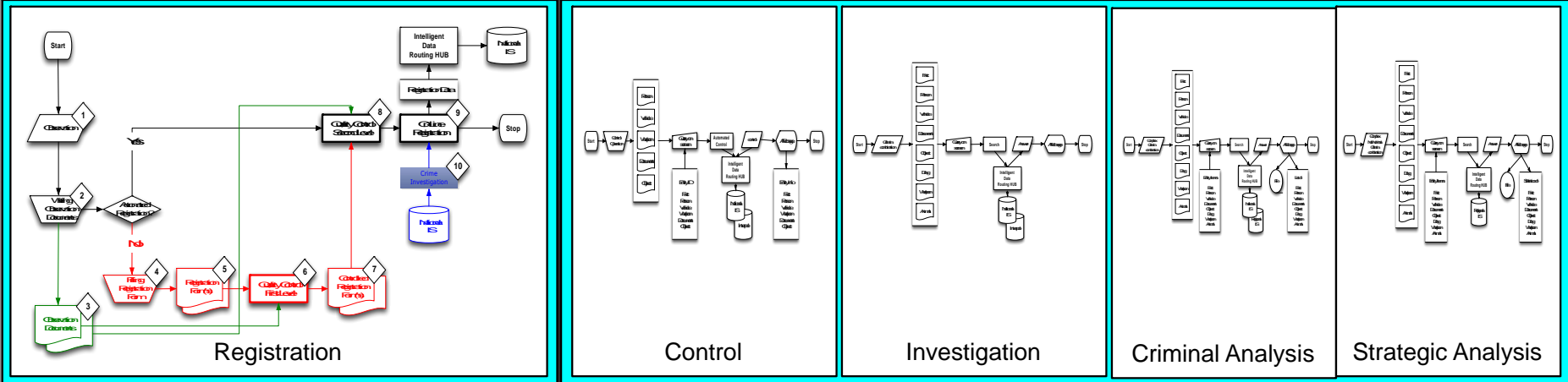


Data Logic Layer



Exchange Layer

Intelligent Data Routing Hub



Analysis - Ongoing supervision - Testing

Project management & Organisation - Change Management - Communication - Organisation

Training

Documentation

Legal

Resources (Human, ICT, Infrastructure, ...)

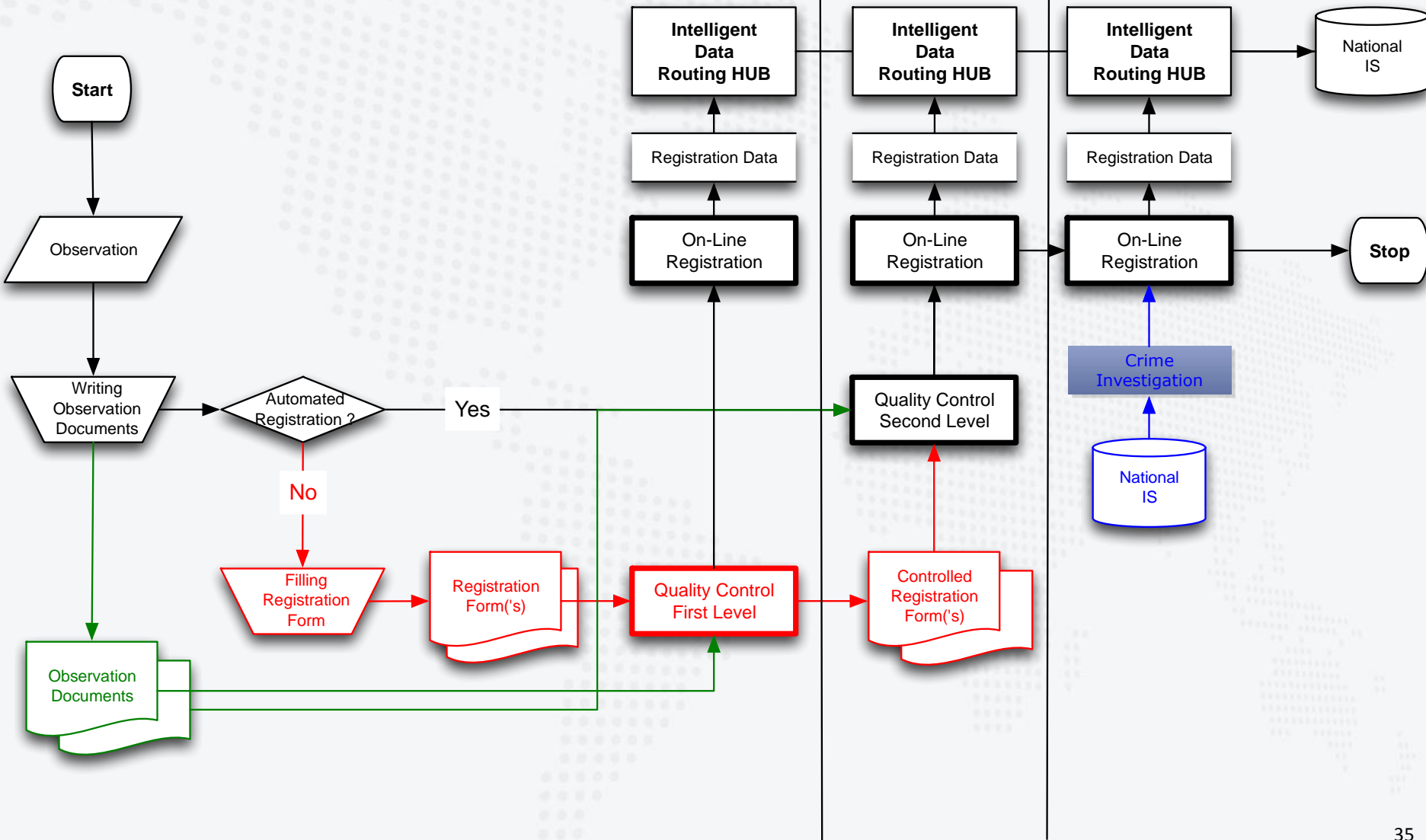




Local

Supra Local

National

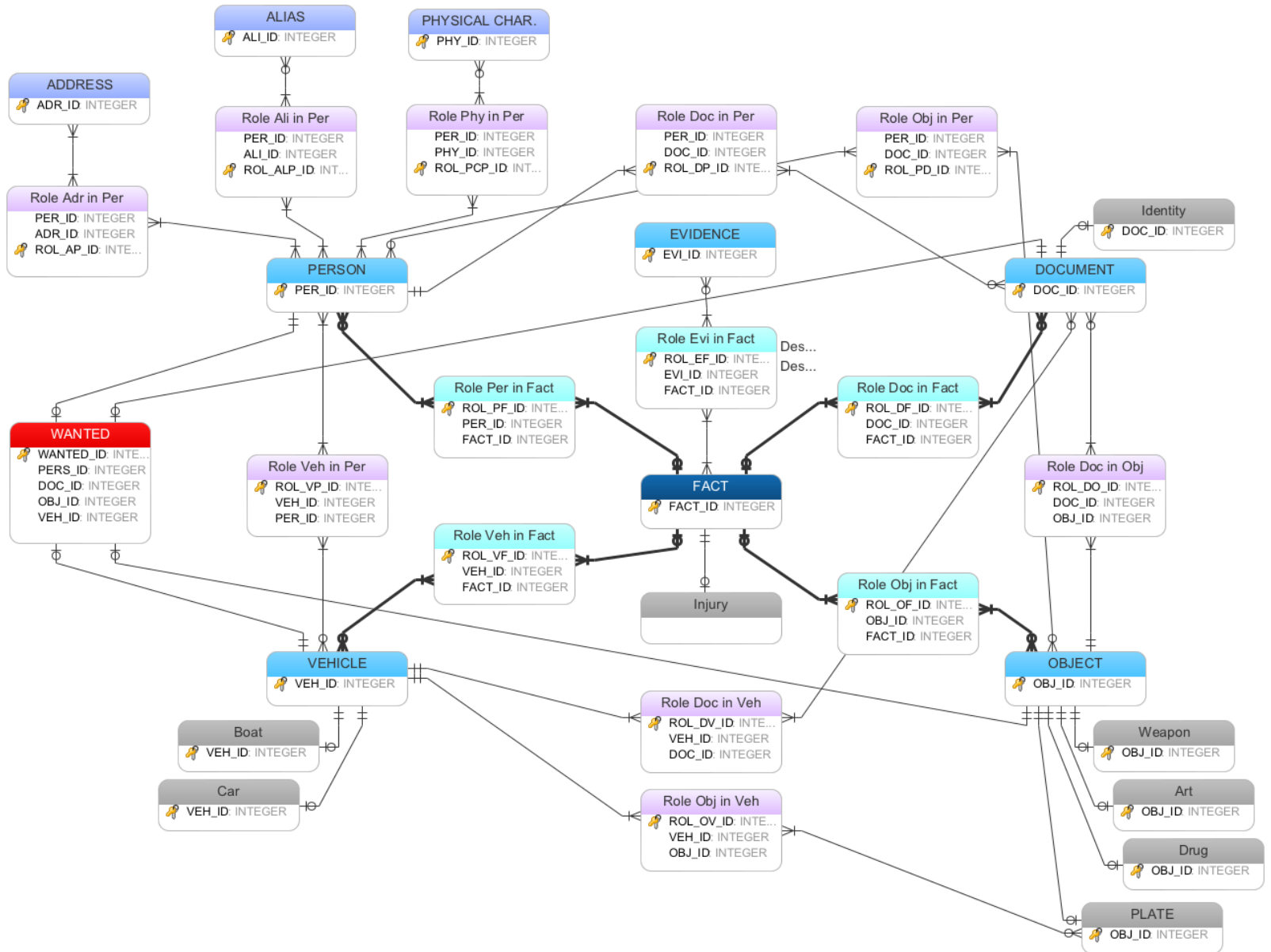




WAPIS Regional Information

- **Traffic based crimes** – Mandatory & automatically
 - Weapons, Drugs, Human beings, vehicles (cars, boats, etc.)
- **Crimes of Interest for Region** – According to Region strategy
 - Cybercrime, Maritime crimes, Terrorism, Money laundry, Financial crimes, immigration, Environment crimes, cattle rustling
- **National crimes with potential transnational interest** – Based on national decision







WAPIS National Committee



Composition:

1 x Single Point of Contact (You!)

1 x Representative from

- National Police
- Gendarmerie
- Immigration
- Customs

Needs:

To be discussed





Tasks WAPIS National Committee

Tasks

- To raise awareness
- To report on the situation/progress
- To inform on legislation issues
- To inform on ICT issues

Mechanism

- Meet with law enforcement services on regular basis (1x2 times every 2 weeks)
- Communicate with WAPIS core team (via Country officer or directly with team in Brussels)
- Organize meeting together with WAPIS core team (define a date with WAPIS core team)

Expected results

- Detailed country profile
- Needs assessment
- Guarantee information flow Brussels – Abidjan – Pilot country

Overall aim: To be ready for the Implementation Phase





Future Challenges

After the Workshops
DETAILED PLAN and...





What do we (minimum)
need to be successful?





1. Continued political support and buy-in from **EU** and **ECOWAS** officials and **Ministers of Security** Pilot countries
2. Continued operational support of **WAPCCO** and the respective **Chiefs of Police** of the Pilot Countries
3. Continued expertise support (INTERPOL, CIVIPOL,...)
4. Correct **legal framework** in the countries, sub-region and internationally
5. Accompanying State-of-the-art capacity building **Training Modules**





5. High ambition for an historic project that itself has to start with **BASIC data and a “simple” technical concept**
6. Continued local commitment and dedication of motivated national and regional coordination and **implementation teams** that can continue the project in the pilot countries
5. Coordination with other International Projects (AIRCOP, WACI,...) especially regarding national multi agencies units
6. Willingness to share information between agencies, countries and regions





Support from International Networks

- EU DELEGATIONS IN INVOLVED COUNTRIES
- EU MEMBER STATES EMBASSIES IN THE SUB REGION
- **CIVIPOL** (IT component CT SAHEL)
- EU LIAISON OFFICERS PLATFORMS (ACCRA AND DAKAR)
- UNODC (WACI, AIRCOP,...)





Any questions?

Thank you very much for your attention!





Philippe BAETEN

Head of WAPIS Programme

Office of the Special Representative of INTERPOL
to the EU

120, avenue de Cortenbergh

B-1000 Brussels

Email: p.baeten@interpol.int

