New Working Paper

Asset recovery state of play

Solutions to addressing persistent and emerging challenges



Andrew Dornbierer
Head, Policy and Research, ICAR,
Basel Institute on Governance

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“Stripping criminals of the benefits of their crimes by **recovering the illicit proceeds** helps to deter, disrupt and prevent crime.”



But states around the world are struggling to do so.



Only a fraction of illicit assets are frozen and confiscated.

THE PROBLEM

A widening gap



1

Criminals face little difficulty laundering money

Thanks to complex ownership structures, new technologies and other tools

THE PROBLEM

A widening gap



2 Authorities face huge difficulties recovering illicit proceeds

Challenges cover legal frameworks, resources, capacities and international cooperation

THE SOLUTIONS

What works

- A comprehensive AML framework
- Robust asset recovery laws
- Adequate powers and resources
- Independent judiciary
- Asset recovery as a policy objective

THE SOLUTIONS

What to consider

- Innovative legislation
  e.g. whistleblower rewards
- Alternative international cooperation mechanisms
  e.g. joint investigation teams
- Public-private partnerships
- Civil society participation
- Cross-border practitioner communities

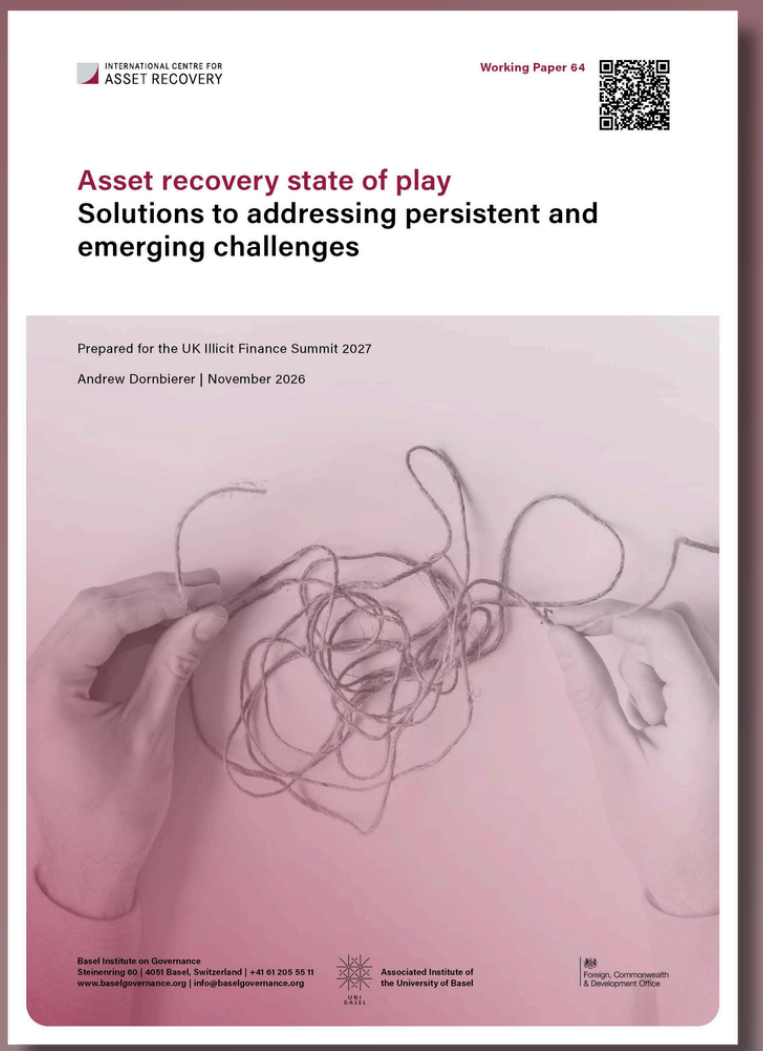
MAXIMISE RESOURCES

Each recovery can help fund the next



We can **boost global capacity by reinvesting recovered assets** back into asset recovery efforts, both at home and abroad.

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Working Paper 64:

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