

**CASE TRACKING AND PERFORMANCE SYSTEM FOR COSTA RICAN  
NARCOTRAFFIC PROSECUTORS**

**First brief progress report to INL  
August 1 to September 24, 2010**



**FIU/ML Team with Costa Rican Attorney General and members of the Judiciary  
Counterpart Team, August 11, 2010**

Country Project Director, Daniel Gonzalez; Adjunct Prosecutor, Juan Carlos Cubillo; FIU/CAJ Deputy Director, Ana Carazo; Costa Rican Interim Attorney General, Lilliam Gómez; FIU/CAJ Senior Technical Advisor, Tirza Rivera-Cira; Master Lex Project Coordinator, Rodolfo Arias; FIU/CAJ Director and FIU Associate Vice-President for Research, Luis Salas; Master Lex Vice-President, Mauricio Chotocruz and Adjunct Prosecutor, Francisco Fonseca (picture taken by Deputy Country Director, Carmen Rodriguez, also present at the meeting)

During the working sessions, Adjunct Prosecutor for Narcotics Walter Espinosa expressed appreciation for the INL donation of the case tracking system, noting that the narcotic prosecutors are desperate for an intelligent tool that allows them to be more effective in prosecuting drug crimes. He said that up to the present, they have been tracking cases in Excel spreadsheets. He said that this primitive solution has helped somewhat, but it is far from being a technical solution that responds to the magnitude of the problem.

These are the main achievements for the first seven weeks.

- FIU established the San Jose office, appointed all project personnel, and signed the Master Lex subcontract.
- FIU submitted the project Work Plan to INL on September 19, 2010.
- The Superior Council of the Judiciary (*Consejo Superior del Poder Judicial*) officially approved the donation on September 2, 2010.
- The Attorney General and the Department of Information Technology of the Judiciary established the Attorney General's Office and Judiciary's Counterpart Teams for the project and the Florida International University/Master Lex (FIU/ML) Team began working with them.
- There were three presentations of the model system, through simulations, and the tool has raised great expectations about the support it could provide to the Office of the Adjunct Prosecutor for Narcotics. Master Lex, with FIU assistance, developed a detailed work plan incorporating all the recommendations proposed by the Judiciary Counterpart Team and clearly indicating products and times of delivery, as well as the obligations of the Counterpart Teams.
- FIU approved the Master Lex Work Plan.
- The four major topics for substantive training were identified and defined with the Attorney General's Office Counterpart Team, as well as the topics for three informal training round tables.
- A series of assessments have begun and they will shed more information on the quality and quantity of information to be recorded. Around 35 reports that prosecutors have to present to different Judiciary Offices have been studied. Currently the FIU-Master Lex team is defining the caseload track for narco-trafficking cases.