

Public-Private Policing Partnerships in Africa

Leeds, 11-12 July 2016

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The Private Security Industry in South Africa and Kenya

South Africa:

- 2015: 8195 registered security providers
- Semi-state regulation: Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA)
- “Cut-throat” and saturated industry

Kenya:

- 2000 companies/400,000 security officers
- Competitive, yet growing market
- ‘Firearm’ issue
- No state regulation

The “regulation assemblage”

State regulation

1. South Africa: Numerous state bodies (PSIRA, Department of Labor, SASSETA).
2. Kenya: No state regulation.

Self-regulation

1. Kenya: Rivalry between two main associations (KSIA and PSIA).
2. South Africa: 38 associations

Agency-level regulation: training, recruitment strategies, surveillance, etc.

Policing Partnerships (1)

South Africa:

1. “Multi-agency approach” (Singh 2008: 14)
2. Formalized initiatives: Honeydew Project, city improvement districts (CID)
3. Operational meetings
4. Informal/ad hoc encounters: “Meeting on the streets”

Policing Partnerships (2)

Kenya:

1. State-centered approach
2. Formalized initiatives:
 1. Diplomatic Police Unit (DPU)
 2. Cash-in-transit (CIT)
3. Informal/ad hoc patrols



Concluding Remarks

- Various forms of policing partnerships.
- Divergent state strategies and attitudes towards partnerships.
- State regulation also about regulating state forces.