Optima

With a proven track record of excellence in some of the most challenging environments worldwide, Optima are recognised as market leaders in explosive threat mitigation. Their work is vital to securing the peace, and re-building countries torn apart by conflict. With millions affected by the breakdown of Governance and the Rule of Law, Optima has faced a growing demand to respond to these challenges, and so are delighted to have recruited an internationally renowned leader in justice development and delivery, Patrick Stevens, as our Rule of Law Director.

Expertise and Experience

Patrick, has two decades of unrivalled experience; first leading some of the UK’s most sensitive and serious terrorism cases in the unprecedented period immediately post 9/11, then setting up and leading the Crown Prosecution Service’s International Division. As the CPS’ first International Director, he built a justice assistance network that delivered strategic Rule of Law improvement, at the heart of the UK’s national security effort worldwide for over a decade.

Patrick helped develop the Rule of Law as the ‘golden thread’ of UK foreign policy, and pioneered a ‘one HMG’ approach to worldwide justice threats. He has unique experience leading delivery in partnership with Ministers, Chief Justices, Attorneys General, Embassies, Law enforcement professionals and senior and working level practitioners and policy makers at home and abroad.

Passionate about intelligent, joined up delivery that makes a real difference, Patrick is a natural fit with the Optima ethos and vision, and allows Optima to broaden their offer to partners worldwide.

Optima and the Rule of Law

Not only in conflict zones and developing states, but in every jurisdiction and region, the Rule of Law, good governance, transparency, and the protection of human rights are essential to almost every strategic and operational objective. To deliver aid; to improve security and justice; to combat corruption and create prosperity; to protect our most vulnerable; a fair and functioning justice system is critical. Impunity creates crime and disorder that destroys millions of lives locally and globally.

Improving the Rule of Law is not a long-term aim or a utopian vision; it is essential to effectively address these international and transnational threats. Terrorism, corruption, modern slavery, cybercrime, the illegal wildlife trade, smuggling people, weapons, or commodities, and moving illicit finance are all complex and transnational. Yet with intelligently targeted and delivered justice assistance and interventions, it is possible to make a real difference.
Patrick’s worldwide experience and expertise combined with Optima’s established record of delivering excellence on time and within budget in some of the most challenging environments, means Optima can make that difference.

**The Offer**

With a unique track record of delivering justice assistance, as a trusted partner of governments, policy makers, practitioners, NGOs and international bodies, and with access to a network of unrivalled expertise, Optima can provide justice analysis, advice, delivery and change suitable for almost any challenge.

Able to work with police, prosecutors, and judges; policy and law makers; senior officials and political leaders, Optima can provide interventions from scoping and training to the most sophisticated and innovative bespoke partnership working.

Always aware that real change cannot be delivered without deep and genuine local partnerships and understanding, Optima are expert in securing and delivering long term and committed in-country work that is intelligently joined up with local and donor partners’ priorities. All work is rigorously overseen and evaluated, and has clearly understood and agreed objectives that are sufficiently flexible to respond to evolving needs and demands.

As a proven leader in the delivery of the Rule of Law, good governance, justice and human rights, Patrick is internationally renowned in his field, and will drive Optima to deliver world class Rule of Law assistance from the private sector, but with a genuine public service ethos.

**Optima therefore offers all aspects of international justice assistance including:**

- Strategic criminal justice analysis, advice and capacity building for governments, embassies, international organisations and NGOs
- Law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial training
- Improving human rights, specialist investigations and prosecutions
- Operational mentoring of police, prosecutors and judges
- Improving criminal justice efficiency and effectiveness
- Systemic and organisational justice reform
- In-country assistance, support and advice