

SIAM

Security Impact Assessment Measures

Security Technology Effectiveness Report

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1. Introduction

In this report we describe and analyse the effectiveness of selected security technologies in BGIA.

The Airport serves the majority of passengers flying into and out of Israel whereas 2011 was the busiest year ever at Ben Gurion Airport, with close to 13 million passengers passing through the airport.

At the same time it is one of the most heavily secured airports of the world. It is rated as the best airport in the Middle East and the second best worldwide of airport with 5-15 million passengers per year in the Airports Council International (ACI) survey¹. The survey measure passenger's perceptions concerning the quality of 30 different aspects of services they experience at the airport.

1.1 Objectives

The objective of this WP is to evaluate the impact well established as well as failed SMTs had on criminal actions. It will be answered in how far they have been able to prevent or at least disturb criminal actions.”

1.2 Methods

The method used for this report is in depth interviews with relevant experts from BGIA. We interviewed experts from the BGIA police and from the offenses prevention section in BGIA. The interviews followed the implementation guidelines provided by the WP leader, and were conducted in the expert's premises.

2. Findings

2.1 Frequent and dangerous criminal actions

- What are the most frequent criminal actions?
- Why do they occur frequently?
- What are the most dangerous criminal actions?
- What makes these actions dangerous?

Back in 1978 there was a large wave of thefts which included valuable cargo including diamonds. The police and the Airports Authority decided to establish a new unit for the prevention of theft from planes. As a result, the crime rate of such thefts decreased significantly. This unit still exists today, but its activities have widened to include all kinds of thefts in BGIA.

¹ <http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did=1000432940&fid=1725>

The most frequent criminal actions are petty theft including stealing of valuables from passengers' luggage such as smartphones or cash money. In most cases the offenders are pickpockets that enter BGIA in groups in order to perform their criminal activities. In some cases passengers themselves are involved in criminal actions, mainly smartphone or tablets theft.

These thefts occur frequently because passengers usually carry valuables with them and they get confused or careless at some points in the security process, when their possessions are screened, for example. This is a soft spot that pickpockets may take advantage of. One must bear in mind that during summer some 60 thousands passengers get through BGIA on a daily basis/

The most dangerous criminal actions are drug trafficking through BGIA, and serious thefts by employees. Recently hundreds of smartphones were stolen from a container by employees, just as an example. These criminal actions are dangerous because they negatively impact the reputation of BGIA as a safe airport and they also have serious economic implications.

2.2 SMTs

- What kind of SMTs are being operated to deal with these criminal actions?
- Are there any major technological innovations that have been introduced?
- Are any technological innovations expected that will enhance the possibility to deal with them?

The main SMT that is being operated against petty theft crimes is CCTV system that is installed in BGIA. This SMT has some preventive values but mainly enables catching thieves and recouping stolen valuables. Theft criminals inside BGIA can now be caught within 7 minutes after a complaint has been filed. Another key enabler is qualified and highly trained personnel who patrol the relevant areas but also operate covertly.

The main SMT that is used to counter drug trafficking is profiling, which is quite effectively used against potential criminals in this area. The police experts were able to develop a profile of drug smugglers and they are quite successful in using it as an SMT.

The main technological innovation that is planned to be deployed in future is face recognition. Its usage depends on the deployment of digital cameras in BGIA. They are now in the process of assessing several options of face recognition including tracking suspects and offenders inside BGIA.

2.3 Impact of SMTs on criminal actions

- In which way have the SMTs contributed to security, and are there different dimensions of security affected?
- What is the impact of SMTs on crime?
- How is the impact being assessed / measured?
- When is an SMT ineffective?
- How do notions of crime and security change in the course of the introduction of SMTs?
- Which unintended consequences have been observed after the implementation of the specific

SMT?

- Unintended Consequences on criminal actions
- Unintended Consequences on freedoms
- Unintended Consequences on organizational routines (function creep)
- To what extent have the promises of SMTs been delivered?

Preventing petty theft actions in BGIA depends on the professional level of the police as well as the quality of the technology used to support them. The process of theft prevention is human-intensive in the sense that the police still needs to deploy trained personnel to counter the threat. The CCTV system deployed makes possible the fast detection of criminals as well as restoring and replacing the stolen valuables. About one third of the cases where stolen valuables are reported are concluded with recovery of the theft.

Without the aid of the CCTV system, this figure would have been close to zero.

In the matter of drug trafficking, the police is quite good at identifying smugglers but they are not good enough in obtaining prior information. In Europe there is more collaboration between police forces in different countries which makes it easier to capture offenders before (or while) they commit the crime.

The impact of SMTs on crime may be assessed by the percentage of theft incidents that are being prevented but it is difficult to obtain such statistics because some thefts are not reported in time or even not reported at all.

There are unintended consequences of SMTs. Tourists coming to Israel claim that it is scary to go through security and there are stories about freedoms infringements that are published in newspapers. Additionally, drugs are coming to Israel mainly from South America. As a result, people from South America are being checked more often, and this results in complaints of discrimination. They try to minimize the infringement by performing the interrogation of suspects in a concealed location.

The usage of CCTV is performed according to the guidelines provided by the Ministry of Justice. They retain the video content for several hours and when it is safe to do so, they delete the information.

3. Conclusion

Petty theft crimes are the most frequent criminal actions in BGIA. Drug trafficking and theft performed by employees are less frequent criminal actions, but more severe ones. In the case of petty theft crimes in BGIA the main SMTs are a combination of CCTV system and highly trained personnel that can find the thieves rather quickly and restore the stolen items. CCTV has known freedom infringement issues that are dealt with according to guidelines from the Ministry of Justice. In the near future face recognition will be added to these SMTs to increase the overall effectiveness.

In the case of drug trafficking, the main SMT is a profiling technique that was designed by police experts and is used quite effectively against criminals. This technique has an unintended consequence of discrimination against travellers from South America.

4. Annex

Provide an annex with tables listing, for each SMT, assessment criteria that are being used to assess the impact of SMTs (e.g. effective detection, organisational impact, and increase in efficiency) and attributes that are being used to operationalize them. See below for an example.

SMT Type	Crime/Threat	Assessment Criteria	Attribute
CCTV – Situation awareness	Theft in the public terminal area	Preventive effect	Decrease in crime rate
Profiling	Drug trafficking	Preventive effect	Decrease in crime rate