

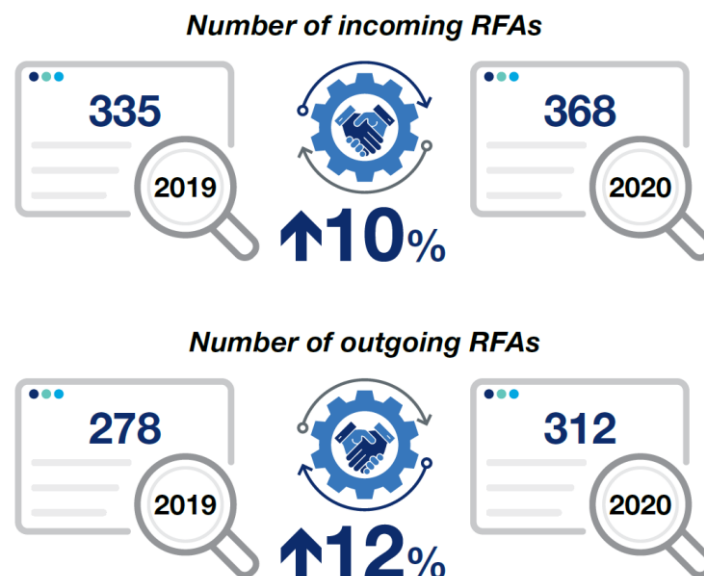
## International Cooperation

### Requests for Assistance (RFAs) to and from Foreign Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs)

The STRO renders assistance to its foreign counterparts in response to their RFAs. The number of RFAs received from foreign FIUs increased in 2020. This demonstrates the foreign FIUs' increased interest in the financial intelligence provided by the STRO.

The STRO also sends RFAs to its foreign counterparts to further its analysis of financial intelligence and provide investigation leads to domestic agencies. The number of RFAs sent to foreign FIUs increased in 2020. This demonstrates the increased cooperation between the STRO and foreign FIUs to tackle transnational commercial crimes.

Besides the STRO, the domestic law enforcement agencies can also request for financial intelligence from foreign FIUs through the STRO.



## **Amendment of Legislation**

With effect from 1 April 2019, the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act was amended to enable the STRO to exchange information with foreign FIUs which are members of the Egmont Group without having to enter into separate bilateral information sharing arrangements. As a result, STRO saw a steady increase in the number of information exchanges with other foreign FIUs.

Besides our Egmont Group counterparts, STRO is also able to exchange financial intelligence with non-Egmont foreign FIUs<sup>1</sup> that we have concluded Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Letters of Undertaking (LOU) with.

## **Cooperation with Fellow Egmont Group Members**

The STRO has been an active member of the Egmont Group of FIUs since June 2002. The Egmont Group was established in June 1995 to provide an avenue for the timely sharing of information and for the provision of assistance among different jurisdictions. Since then, the Egmont Group has grown more than 150 members.

The STRO participates in various activities of the Egmont Group, including Egmont Plenary Meetings and Working Group Meetings to discuss and develop international standards to foster closer international cooperation amongst FIUs.

---

<sup>1</sup> STRO has MOU/LOU with the following non-Egmont FIUs: China, Laos, Myanmar and Timor Leste.