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Rrezik & Cocovi: the risks and rewards of training interpreters in developing countries

This paper will present two case studies of intensive interpreter training programs delivered in Kosovo and Fiji by Australian interpreter educators. In discussing the risks and rewards of these training projects, we will:

- 1) Identify what we have learned from these experiences and how we can apply this to teaching programs in Australia and other prospective overseas markets. What are the rewards to students and to us as educators? And what are the potential rewards for the Australian translating and interpreting profession as a whole?
- 2) Explore the political sensitivity of working in developing countries, and the risks in implementing such training:
 - What are we exporting?
 - Is the process universal or should it be carefully culturally mediated?
 - Are we empowering or colonising?

The goal of this presentation will be to explore the existence of a world view of translating and interpreting professionalism and pedagogy, and to highlight the benefits and challenges of exporting Australian expertise in translating and interpreting, with considerations of current and future models of training