

Transnational organized fisheries crime

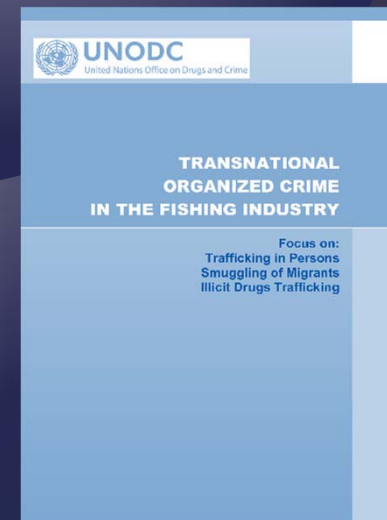
{ INTERPOL project SCALE and
INTERPOL *ad hoc* Working Group on Fisheries Crime

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UNODC issue paper
TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

OUTCOMES MARINE LIVING RESOURCE CRIMES:

- Scenario 1: TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIMINAL GROUPS (abalone)
- Scenario 2: HABITUAL ORGANIZED CRIME COMMITTED BY TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (Patagonian toothfish)
 - Small group of large actors (e.g., Hout Bay Fishing/Bengis)
 - *Modus operandi*
 - FOC/flag hopping (Österblom *et al*, 2009)
 - Renaming (EJF, 2007)
 - Front companies and secrecy jurisdictions
 - Coordinated defense strategies
 - Transshipments/fish laundering
 - VMS switched off



IUU FISHING

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED FISHERIES CRIME

RELATED OFFENCES:

- Tax and customs fraud
- Corruption
- Fraud
- Human trafficking
- Money laundering

PREDICATE OFFENCES



General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 76 (b)

60. *Notes* the concerns about possible connections between international organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and international organized crime;

The role of INTERPOL?

What is INTERPOL?

- 190 Member countries
- Worldwide presence through National Central Bureaus (NCBs)
- Vision: 'Connecting police for a safer world'
- Mission: 'Preventing and fighting crime through enhanced international police cooperation'



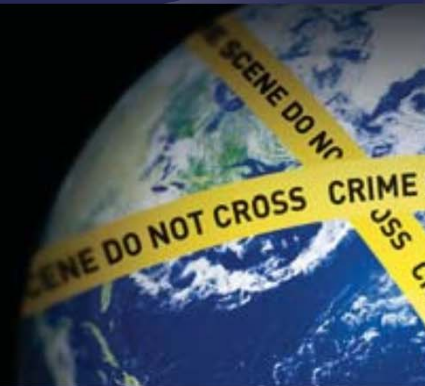
INTERPOL Environmental Crime Programme (ECP)

- Focus area since 2010
- 11 staff
- Supported by
 - Pollution Crime Working Group
 - Wildlife Crime Working Group
 - Ad hoc Fisheries Crime Working Group
- Currently three projects:
 - LEAF
 - PREDATOR
 - WISDOM
 - SCALE (launching 2nd half 2012)



INTERPOL

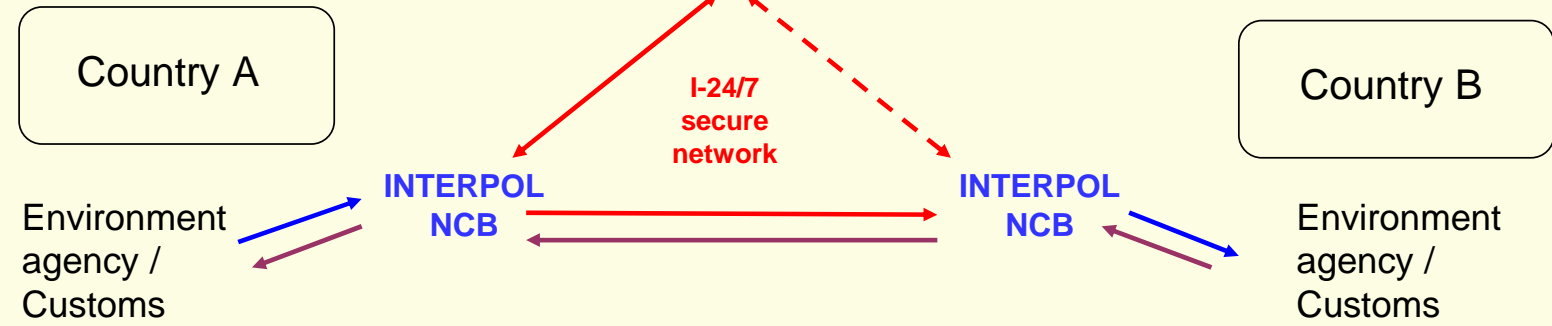
**ENVIRONMENTAL
CRIME
PROGRAMME**





Transmitting Ecomessages

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME
IT'S GLOBAL THEFT



ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME PROGRAMME



INTERPOL



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Project SCALE

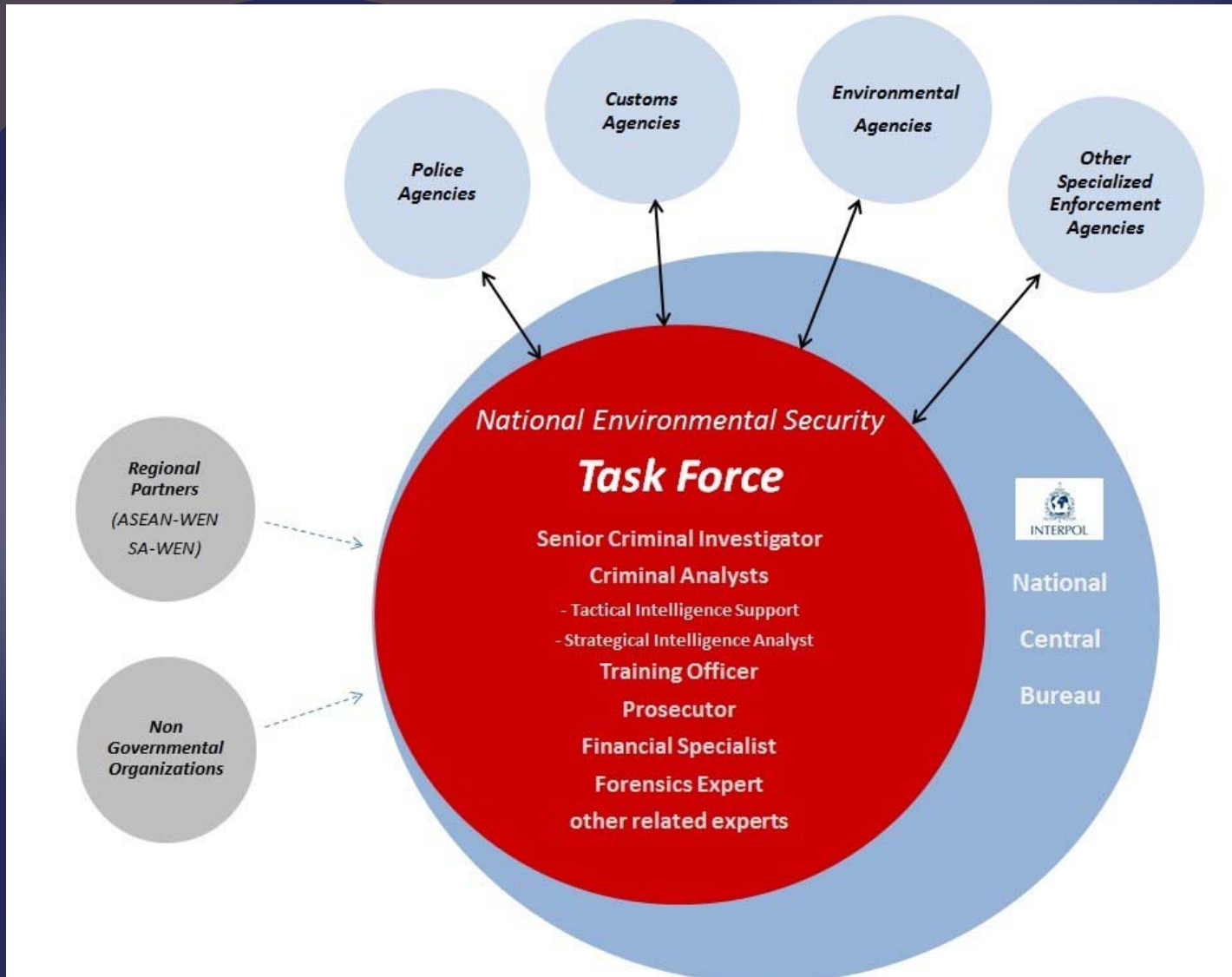
INTERPOL initiative to detect, suppress and combat fisheries crime

Objectives:

- Awareness raising
- Establish NESTs
- Needs assessment vulnerable States
- Conduct targeted operations

Activities:

- Strategic plan for INTERPOL engagement
- Develop Fisheries Crime Working Group
- Case study
- Enhance INTERPOL expertise



Potential role of INTERPOL?

- Coordinate law enforcement actions, e.g. seizure and confiscations?
 - On case by case basis
 - Exercises
 - Operations
- Establish a vessel watch list?
- Help locate wanted persons (e.g., Vidal)?
- Help identify company beneficial owners?
- Help secure evidence?
- Assist with extraditions?
- Provide crime analysts and up dates on changing MOs?
- Coordinate with UNODC/FAO/RFMOs to create a comprehensive justice sector response? 'Combat fisheries crime/crime at sea' manuals?