



COLLOQUE INTERNATIONAL – FOOD RISK

« INTERPOL CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOD CRIME »

Nîmes (France) - 30 January 2020

INTERPOL - A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION

194 MEMBER COUNTRIES

GLOBAL POLICE ORGANIZATION FOUNDED IN 1923

PROVIDES EXPERTISES AMONG RANGE OF CRIMINAL AREAS **FACILITATES COOPERATION AND INFORMATION SHARING**



INTERPOL



INTERPOL - A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION



INTERPOL - A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION

Article 2

INTERPOL's aims are:

- (1) To ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights";
- (2) To establish and develop all institutions likely to contribute effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.

Article 3

It is strictly forbidden for the Organization to undertake any intervention or activity of a political, military, religious or racial character.

CRIMINAL AREAS

COUNTER-TERRORISM

In recent years, the scale and sophistication of international terrorist attacks have increased. They often involve many countries, threatening public safety and economic and political stability, and all require a global, multi-jurisdictional response.

FOREIGN TERRORIST FIGHTERS

MARITIME PIRACY

CBRNE

WAR CRIMES

CYBERCRIME

Policing the virtual world creates new operational, technical and legal challenges; cybercrimes committed from one location can instantly touch victims in other countries. It is a relatively new and fast-growing environment, and police may lack expertise and tools.

VIRTUAL CURRENCIES

BOTNETS

RANSOMWARE

CRIMINAL WEB HOSTING

DARK MARKETS

COUNTER-TERRORISM

INNOVATION

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING

COMMAND AND COORDINATED RESPONSE

FUGITIVE INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT

SPECIAL PROJECTS

CYBERCRIME

POLICE DATA MANAGEMENT

FORENSIC ANALYSIS

CRIMINAL ANALYSIS

ORGANIZED AND EMERGING CRIME

DRUG TRAFFICKING

ORGANIZED CRIME

PEOPLE SMUGGLING

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL GOODS

PHARMACEUTICAL CRIME

ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

ORGANIZED AND EMERGING CRIME

Globalization and new technologies have presented organized crime networks with immense opportunities to exploit their victims and fund their activities, which span multiple crime areas. Strong and coordinated law enforcement action is necessary to dismantle these complex networks.

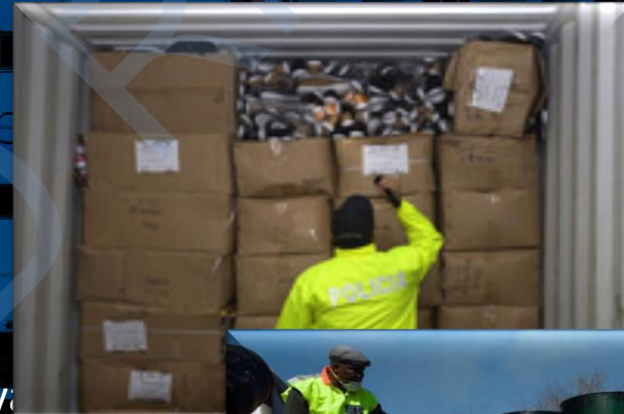
Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme

WHAT IS TRAFFICKING OF ILLICIT GOODS?

Generic term used by INTERPOL to describe all types of illicit trade.

It includes such practices as:

- **Falsification** (pharmaceuticals)
- **Counterfeiting** (trademark infringements)
- **Piracy** (copyright infringements)
- **Smuggling** (legitimate products and tax evasion)
- **Traffic of Environmentally Sensitive Commodities:**
 - ✓ (natural resources : timber, etc.)
 - ✓ (hazardous products : chemicals, waste, etc.)



Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme

**WHY A DEDICATED APPROACH BY
INTERPOL ?**

Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme



Global Phenomenon

Health and Safety

Organized Crime

Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme

WHICH IMPACT ?

Citizens

Threat to
**HEALTH AND
SAFETY**

Damage to the
ENVIRONMENT

Government

**DROP IN STATE
TAX COLLECTION**

Fight against
**ORGANIZED
CRIME GROUPS**
involved in the
trafficking

Industry

LOSS of markets
and jobs

**HUMPER TO
INNOVATION**

**REPUTATION
& BRAND'S
CONFIDENCE**

Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme



Strong, legal agricultural trade is crucial to achieving several SDGs, especially in developing and emerging economies. This, in turn, results in better quality of life, drives trade, investment and industrialization, and thereby creates jobs, security and overall economic prosperity.

Conversely, illegal agri-food trade globally undermines farming and global food trade systems, destabilizes rural economies and jeopardizes production and delivery of fair, safe and sustainable food supplies.”

INTERPOL's STRATEGY to FIGHT ILLICIT TRADE

Raising awareness

Capacity Building

Operations

Raising Awareness

All news + Share Print Photos : 11

30 March 2016

Largest-ever seizures of fake food and drink in INTERPOL-Europol operation

More than 10,000 operations across the world to ensure food and drink safety.

Operation Opsi contaminated v olives which ha

Involving police checks were ce November 201:

A number of ar continuing. Am behind the traff and regulatory

In Greece, offic equipment use more than 7,40

In the UK, auth whisky and voc Kalashnikov nifi operation.

After police in 1 meat illegally in operating across and buffalo me

In a number of Customs office and in France,

Police in South as a natural pr products are es

False labelling Australia, testir of peanuts had sufferers.

EL MUNDO 30 MAR 2016 - 8:47 AM

Incautan 10.000 toneladas de alimentos falsificados

En una operación que se extendió a lo largo de 57 países, fuer chocolates falsos, alcohol adulterado y suplementos dietético

Por: Agencia EFE

COMENTARIOS

0

Twitter Facebook

RESEÑA

Foto: Archivo EFE/ Referencia

Una operación coordinada por **Interpol y Europol** ha concluido con la intervención de **10.000 toneladas de comidas y bebidas falsificadas y peligrosas** por la agencia policial europea.

El dispositivo, bautizado como "**Opson V**", tuvo **detenciones en todo el mundo** por delitos relacionados con productos alimentarios falsificados, muchas veces cometidos por redes de crimen organizado, según explicó **Europol**.

La operación ha intervenido desde **9 toneladas de azúcar contaminadas con fertilizantes en Sudán** a **85 toneladas de aceitunas en Italia** que habían sido pintadas con sulfato de cobre para mejorar su apariencia, pasando por bebidas alcohólicas falsas en Grecia o Reino Unido.

The Largest Food Sting Ever S Fake Booze

RIA MISRA 1 APRIL 2016 3:30 PM

f FACEBOOK t TWITTER u REDDIT



Whisky, Wine, Vodka, Coffee, Olives, Sugar, Milk, Parmesan drinks to be wary of is long — and growing.

A four-month food sting operation, called Operation Opsi countries, has finally wrapped up. The sum total of the various fake food and a million litres of counterfeit drinks largest food sting ever conducted. Though the size of the part is just how many different types of foods and drinks counterfeiters have found to forge them.

We previously covered Italy's olive sting (which was part of tonnes of olives that were painted green in an effort to un investigators also found sugar cut with fertilisers, peanuts huge numbers of fake labels.

Drinks had as many problems as food, and Interpol pulled in a tens of thousands of litres each of fake whiskies, wines and other kinds of booze. It's not just the familiar issues of mislabelling or watering down with plain tap water or some other cheaper liquor, either. DIY distilleries are also popping up to make

Interpol decomisa 10 mil toneladas de comida adulterada

Miércoles, 30 de marzo de 2016 - 2:52 pm

Desde aceitunas pintadas hasta carne de mono encubierta para consumo humano, la Interpol advierte sobre el peligro del tráfico de productos alimentarios falsificados

La operación coordinada por Interpol y Europol en 57 países ha concluido con la intervención de 10 mil toneladas y mil litros de comidas y bebidas falsificadas y peligrosas, informó hoy la agencia policial europea.

El dispositivo, bautizado como "Opson V", también ha conllevado varias detenciones en todo el mundo por delitos relacionados con el tráfico de productos alimentarios falsificados, muchas veces cometidos por redes de crimen organizado, según explicó Europol.

La operación ha intervenido desde 9 toneladas de azúcar contaminadas con fertilizantes en Sudán a 85 toneladas de aceitunas en Italia que habían sido pintadas con sulfato de cobre para mejorar su apariencia, pasando por bebidas alcohólicas falsas en Grecia o Reino Unido.

En Indonesia, por ejemplo, se detectaron 70 kilos de intestinos de pollo que habían sido conservados en formol, que está prohibido como aditivo alimentario.

Por su parte, en Hungría, Italia, Lituania y Rumania las autoridades aduaneras y policíacas intervinieron chocolates falsificados y vino sin alcohol para niños que iban destinados a países de África occidental.

Muchos de estos fraudes se detectan de hecho en los controles aduaneros en los aeropuertos internacionales, como pasó en el de Zaventem (Bruselas), donde los funcionarios de aduanas incautaron varios kilos de carne de mono destinadas a su consumo.

La policía tailandesa, por otro lado, desmanteló una red criminal y destruyó más de 30



Raising Awareness

11th IP Crime Conference,
28 – 29 August 2017,
New York, USA

12th IP Crime Conference,
25 – 26 September 2018,
Dubai, UAE

13th IP Crime Conference,
22 – 23 October 2018,
Cape Town, South Africa



المؤتمر الدولي 12 لمكافحة جرائم الملكية الفكرية
12th IP Crime Conference



INTERPOL's STRATEGY to FIGHT ILLICIT TRADE

Raising awareness

Capacity Building

Operations

Capacity Building



**USPTO-INTERPOL Training seminar on combating illicit goods”
Tashkent - Uzbekistan 16-18 July 2019**

Around 50 Police, Custom's, Judiciary, International Institutions, Regulatory Authorities representatives from Central West Asia countries attended the meeting and shared experiences with private sector stakeholders operating in the area.



Capacity Building



International IP Crime Investigators College

Online training tool

20,000+ enrolled users from 160 countries

IIPCIC is a fully interactive **online** IP crime training facility, developed by **INTERPOL** in partnership with **Underwriters Laboratories (UL)**, which benefits **IP crime investigators** from law enforcement, regulatory authorities & private-sector

Capacity Building

Public Sector
Free Access



Police



Customs



Regulatory
Authorities

Private Sector
Inscription
Fee*



Capacity Building

International IP Crime Investigators College

Resource optimization

Consistency for IP Crime Training

Centralized Global Platform

Accessible and Relevant Materials

Law Enforcement Training Required

International Cooperation & Action

Bringing stakeholders together

INTERPOL's STRATEGY to FIGHT ILLICIT TRADE

Raising awareness

Capacity Building

Operations

Operations

What is an INTERPOL operation?



Operations

Operations coordinated by INTERPOL target a wide range of goods, including food, drink, fuel, vehicle parts, waste, toys, cosmetics, electrical products...

Activities are carried out in all regions of the world in order to enhance:

- **Investigative support**
- **Training and capacity building**
- **Strategic collaboration**



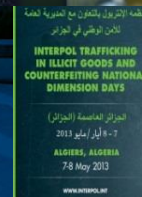
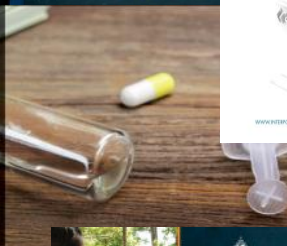
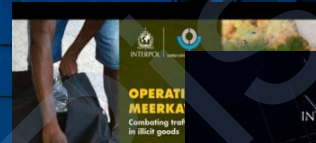
Regional:

- Heera
- Jupiter
- Rainfall

Global:

- Pangea
- Opson

Regional operations



Regional operations

OPERATION HEERA II

West Africa

- Units seized: 95,783
- Kilograms seized: 111,152
- Cases opened: 20
- Suspects identified: 41
- Estimated value (USD): 3,817,124



OPERATION QANOON

Middle East and North Africa

- Units seized: 1,468,837
- Cases opened: 770
- Suspects identified: 39
- Estimated value (USD): 1,542,702



OPERATION JUPITER IX

South America

- Units seized: 5,287,249
- Kilograms seized: 9,540
- Litres seized: 49,721
- Cases opened: 484
- Suspects identified: 465
- Estimated value (USD): 18,870,240



OPERATION AFYA

Southern Africa

- Units seized: 74,864
- Kilograms seized: 1,365
- Litres seized: 41,243
- Cases opened: 88
- Suspects identified: 91
- Estimated value (USD): 807,457



OPERATION RAINFALL

Southeast Asia

- Units seized: 294,881
- Cases opened: 23
- Suspects identified: 15
- Estimated value (USD): 122,440



INTERPOL

Worldwide operations



“Launched in 2011, Operation Opson keeps on expanding every year with the participation of more than 75 countries in the last operational phase, confirming the scope of the threat. Counterfeit and substandard food and beverages are increasingly on sale in shopping centers as well as on internet websites exacerbating the menace that food crime poses to the public. INTERPOL calls for further efforts and better coordination at domestic and international level in order to stem this tide which attempts the health of consumers all around the globe.”

Worldwide operation

In April 2010, INTERPOL Rome, in cooperation with the Italian Corpo Forestale dello Stato, hosted the First International Meeting on Counterfeit and Protected Food Products in Sabaudia (Italy), which was designed to explore the willingness of countries to implement enforcement activities against the falsification of agricultural and food products in partnership with the Italian authorities.

As well as law enforcement agencies from the host country, law enforcement officials from Egypt, France, Portugal and Spain attended the meeting. The intention is to focus on single or groups of counterfeit foods in Europe and convert the existing partnership between food regulatory bodies, police and customs into concrete action. Operation OPSON is expected to be the first international deployment with the aim of developing a collective and wider partnership to combat illicit trade and production and sales of counterfeit food products.



EUROPOL

Operation OPSON¹

Draft Operational Plan

An International Week of Action (IWA) targeting the illegal supply of counterfeit foodstuffs in the European Region involving INTERPOL, European Law Enforcement Agencies, Food Regulatory and Private Sector representatives.



OPERATION OPSON VII



JORDAN
tonnes of 90
flour infested
with weevils due
to poor storage
were seized



BULGARIA
Seizure of
pork meat
contaminated
with a parasitic
disease caused
by roundworms
which had
infected 12
people.



VIETNAM
10,000 kg
of noodles
containing borax
and 6.7 tonnes of
bamboo shoots
and roots soaked
in unidentified
chemicals.



**RWANDA,
SUDAN,
TANZANIA**
Thousands of
counterfeit
or expired
medicines, which
pose a significant
risk to public
health, were
seized.



BURUNDI
24 criminal
groups connected
to the production
or distribution
of fake alcohol
dismantled.
Kalashnikov rifle,
ammunition and
a hand grenade
also seized.



SUDAN
5.5 tonnes of fake
food and drink
including yoghurt,
tomato sauce
and cooking oil
recovered.



RUSSIA
48 underground
factories shut
down. 1.6 million
litres of illegally
produced
alcohol seized
and criminal
proceedings
launched against
282 people.



SOUTH AFRICA
Dismantlement
of an illicit factory
manufacturing
counterfeit spices
and the arrest of
10 people.



Worldwide operations

78 countries

67,681 Checks

50,000 Tons seized (alcohol, cereals, condiments)

117 million worth seizures

3,313 Arrests

335 livestock seized

(86 meat contamination abusive therapeutic treatments)

Operation OPSON VIII



OPSON IX PRE-OPERATIONAL MEETING

“OPSON IX – A WAY FORWARD”

STRATEGIC LEVEL

Nîmes (France) - 30 January 2020

A WAY FORWARD

“In 2016 agrimafia has registered a 30% increase in business volume, up to 21,8 billions €» «We have to fight agrimafia on agricultural land, in the secret rooms where prices are agreed, in bureaucracy opacity, in the delivery phase but first of all with transparency and with the appropriate information to the citizens, enabling them to know the history of the product in their plate”. “We have to monitor underselling and low cost stuff over which creep modified receipts, substandard ingredients, alternative methods/lines of production or, worse, illegality and exploitation”.
(Coldiretti Observatory on agricultural crime 2017, press release).

*“Other foodstuff and beverage infringements: In 2016, **EUR 1.3 billion of revenue** and taxes were directly lost annually to the MS through such IPR infringements, along with **EUR 3 billion of lost sales** to the EU economy, and job losses of about 23.400. This type of IPR infringements continues to pose a threat. The methods are increasingly diverse, and range from the abuse of geographical indications to more traditional counterfeiting, such as refilling high-end bottles from recognized producers or the use of fake labels and packaging”.*
(EUROPOL and EUIPO 2017 Situation Report on Counterfeiting and Piracy in EU).

A WAY FORWARD



Illegal waste



Rhino horns

Are the figures presented
describing a

VICTORIOUS BATTLE or a BITTER DEFEAT?

The phenomenon has got an economic dimension which goes far beyond the value of the counterfeit goods seized



Counterfeit pharmaceuticals

Do you think...? I can't read the label.



WXMG Magic 106.3 with Cindy Williams and 7 others

Food available in China...yes, that is a human foot. Missy B

Fake food

A WAY FORWARD

DON'T WE NEED MORE EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURES?



to **THE
ILLICIT
TRAFFICK**

from
THE SINGLE CRIMINAL CASE

A WAY FORWARD

OC is implicated in counterfeiting due to its high profitability and limited risk

OC involvement in the sector has determined its evolution:

- Global fake business
- Logistic support
- Relevance of traditional criminal syndicates
- OCGs also benefit of traditional routes of illicit goods as well as of criminal relations enabling the optimization of results and the identification of the most suitable places for production and sales.
- Proceeds of crime are systematically re-invested in illegal activities. Counterfeiting represents a possible source of financing other serious criminal organized activities, not excluding terrorism (Op Tuareg in Italy).

THE CHALLENGES

A. Policing perspective

Very experienced and highly specialized criminals

Fragmentation and complexity of the illicit goods supply chain

Difficult identification of all the individuals involved in the criminal activity

Inadequate national legal frameworks

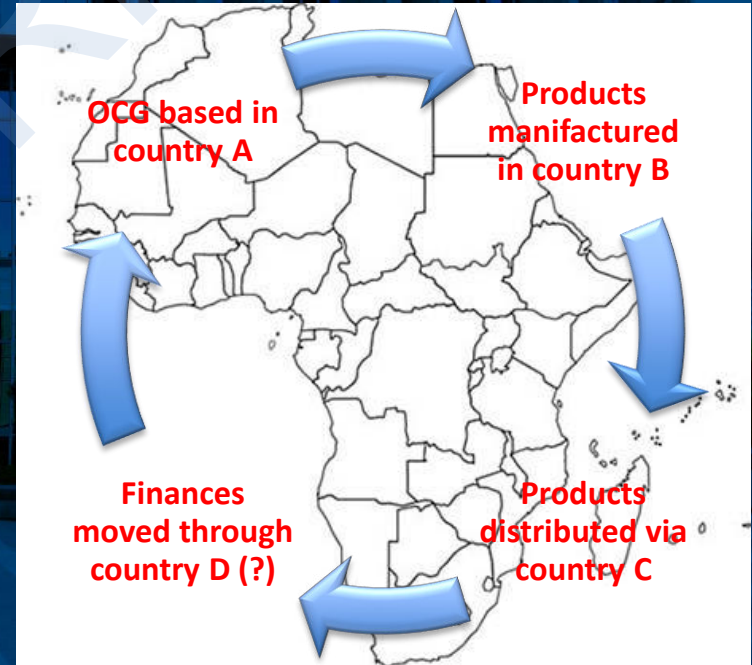
Insufficient focus on related financial investigations

Lack of support from citizens/authorities

THE CHALLENGES

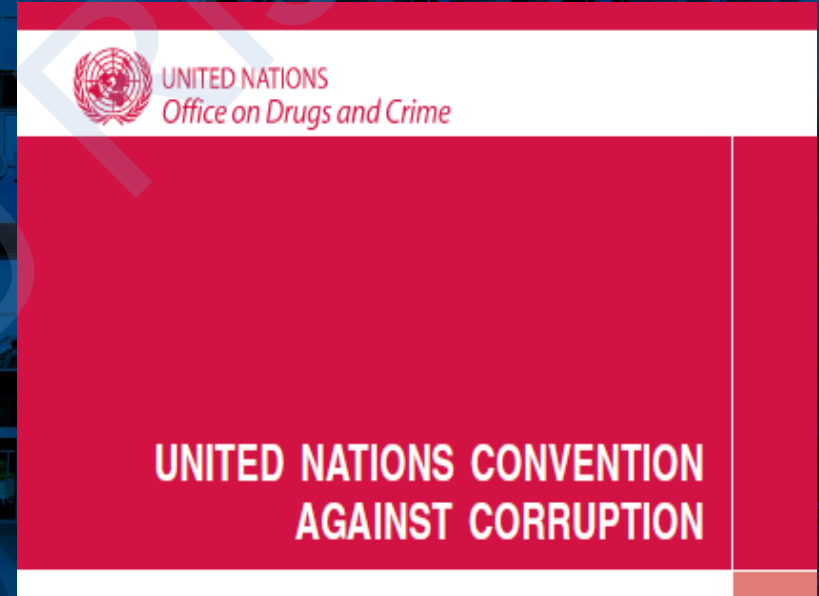
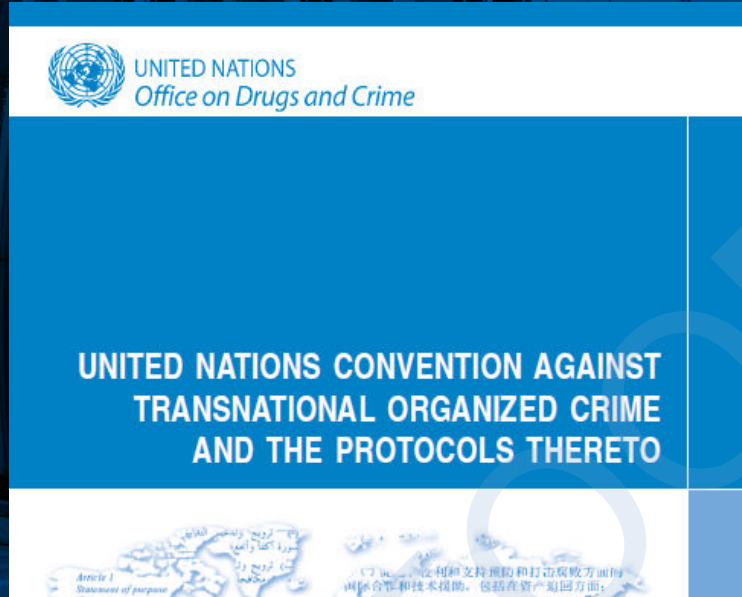
A. Policing perspective

A **fake alcohol** traffic
Managed by a **OCG** whose high level
members are based in **country A**
With a **production plant** located in a
FTZ in **country B**
Shipping alcoholic beverages in **containers**
to **country C**
Further transit to **country "X"**
Illicit Earning in **country "?"**



THE CHALLENGES

A. Policing perspective



STATES THAT RATIFY THESE INSTRUMENT COMMIT THEMSELVES TO TAKING A SERIES OF MEASURES
DUAL CRIMINALITY SHALL BE DEEMED FULFILLED IRRESPECTIVE OF CATEGORY OR DENOMINATION OF THE OFFENCE

THE CHALLENGES

A. Policing perspective

The 2000 UNTOC (art. 12) as well as 2003 UNCAC (art. 31)

REQUIRED

that signatories Parties should adopt, to the greatest extent possible within their domestic legal systems, necessary measures to enable confiscation of the proceeds of crime derived from offenses covered by the Convention (generally crimes punishable with up to four years imprisonment) or property of equivalent value; and property, equipment, or other materials used in/destined for use in offenses covered by the Convention.



THE CHALLENGES

A. Policing perspective

Proceeds of crime laws / Asset recovery

“The benefit of confiscating the assets from the criminals is that it undermines the “commercial” motive of the crime, reducing profits and preventing them from being reinvested.

In this way, confiscation prevents the criminal organization from further fueling its illegal activities and from laundering the proceeds of such criminal activities into legitimate businesses”.

(UNICRI-ICC Confiscation of the Proceeds of IP Crime pag. 18)

THE CHALLENGES

B. Inter-Agency Cooperation

Protect
public
health

Fight
against
OCGs

Enhance
international cooperation

Inter-agency
cooperation

Cooperation
between public
sector and industry

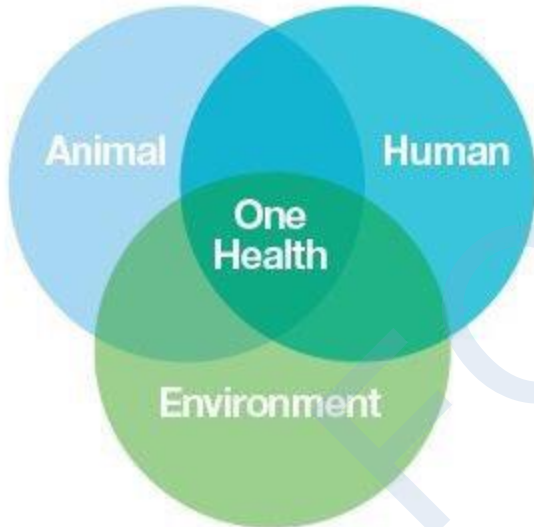
Intelligence-led and investigative-oriented approach

THE CHALLENGES

B. Inter-Agency Cooperation

ONE HEALTH APPROACH

The “One Health” concept (introduced early 2000s): human health and animal health are interdependent and bound to the health of the ecosystems in which they exist.



CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

“420.000 people die every year from food safety lapses, one-third of which are children under five”
(Werner Obermeyer, Deputy Executive Director of WHO)



THE CHALLENGES

B. Inter-Agency Cooperation

The mandate of the Codex is to:

- **Develop harmonized international food standards, which protect consumer health (FAO-WHO)**
- **Promote fair practices in food trade to facilitate international trade (WTO).**

THE CHALLENGES

B. Inter-Agency Cooperation

-The CODEX ALIMENTARIUS INITIATIVE -

- The Codex Alimentarius standards (FAO, WHO and WTO) could provide INTERPOL members with SOUND, UPDATED, OBJECTIVE, TECHNICAL and SCIENTIFIC tools and gives INTERPOL's various initiatives a COHERENT AND VALUABLE FRAMEWORK which must be taken into consideration and guarantees A COHERENT APPROACH AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, essential for transnational criminal investigations.
- The standards updating procedure guarantees also a SCIENTIFIC and DEMOCRATIC basis.
- INTERPOL could help in identifying and adopting an efficient and effective enforcement of those criteria in the perspective of the One Health approach and through this, sustain and take an active role in the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Both can benefit of already existing tools (INFOSAN, ENPRES, CFSAM, I24/7... for an early identification of hotspots)

THE CHALLENGES

B. Inter-Agency Cooperation



- But even more alarming phenomena like:
- The diffusion of pathogens, formerly unknown in different regions
(New Castle Disease – *Xylella Fastidiosa*)
 - The sale of contaminated products

These events arise suspicion for the possibility of:

- biological aggressions against national productions
- chemical aggressions



THE CHALLENGES

C. Technological Advancement

Blockchain

Nanotechnology

AI AND INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

ALL POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS HAVE TO BE INTEGRATED AT SOME POINT WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS
INTERPOL

- Keeps track of the developments
- Assesses possible interoperability with law enforcement platforms
- Analyzes information
- Extracts modus operandi, trends, which are communicated to the NCBs

THE CHALLENGES

D. Build trust

Formal and Informal Assistance

Availability of information/evidence/judicial/provisional measures varies and depends on the framework of international agreements and domestic laws adopted by each jurisdiction.

PERSONAL CONNECTIONS ARE KEY AT ANY STAGE OF INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION

THE CHALLENGES

D. Build trust

What's in it for each of us?

- **Wider networks**
- **Better knowledge/analysis of the phenomenon**
- **Mutual assistance through formal and informal channels**
- **Concrete results**
- **Increased flows of information about transnational crime**
- **Follow up activities**

نشكركم جزيل الشكر على انتباهكم
Thank You – Merci – Gracias
谢谢

Francesco de ANGELIS
Criminal Intelligence Officer
Illicit Goods and Global Health Programme
Illicit Markets Sub-Directorate

F.DEANGELIS@INTERPOL.INT