



# WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT MARITIME ILLICIT TRADES

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**SAFE SEAS**

# WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT MARITIME ILLICIT TRADES

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Cover Image: Sri Lankan police personnel stand next to packages containing drugs seized by the Sri Lanka's Navy at sea, in the Colombo suburb of Dikkowita on March 5, 2020. (Photo by STR/AFP via Getty Images)

# FOREWORD

***What We Know About Maritime Illicit Trades*** is the outcome of a collaboration between the [SafeSeas Network](#), based at the Universities of Bristol (UK) and Copenhagen (Denmark) and the [Stable Seas program](#) of the One Earth Future Foundation. The report provides an overview of the data available on maritime illicit trades, drawing on desk-based research conducted between August 2020 and February 2021. It is the second of three reports, and was preceded by a similar data overview on piracy, and will be followed by another on maritime environmental crimes.

The research forms part of the research project Transnational Organised Crime at Sea: New Evidence for Better Responses, funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) as part of UK Research and Innovation's (UKRI) Partnership for Conflict, Crime and Security Research (PaCCS) (Award Number: ES/S008810/1). Additional funding for the work was provided by the One Earth Future Foundation. Further information on the project is available at [www.safeseas.net](http://www.safeseas.net).

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# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ARQ	Annual Report Questionnaire	IBIN	INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network
ATGW	Anti-tank guided weapon	ICCWC	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
CBRN	Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear	IFCs	Information Fusion Centres
CBRNE	Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive	IFC-IOR	Information Fusion Centre–Indian Ocean Region
CCLEC	Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council	IHM	Irregular human migration
CCP	Container Control Programme	IMO	International Maritime Organization
CEN	Customs Enforcement Network	IMPEL	European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
CRFIM	Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre in Madagascar	IOM	International Organization for Migration
CTDC	Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative	JIO	Joint Intelligence Office
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration (US)	MANPADS	Man-portable air-defense systems
DOS	Department of State (US)	MASE	Regional Maritime Security Programme
EMCDDA	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction	ONI	Office of Naval Intelligence
ESA-IO	Eastern and Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	PSI	Proliferation and Security Initiative
ETIS	Elephant Trade Information System	RILO	Regional Intelligence Liaison Office
EUROPOL	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation	SAS	Small Arms Survey
e-waste	Electronic waste	SHERLOC	Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime
Frontex	European Border and Coast Guard Agency	TEU	Twenty-foot equivalent units
GISIS	Global Integrated Shipping Information System	TIP	Trafficking in persons
GLOTIP	Global Report on Trafficking in Persons	UN-CTS	United Nations Crime Trends Survey
iARMS	Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System	UN-IAFQ	UN Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire
		UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
		WCO	World Customs Organization
		WMD	Weapons of mass destruction
		WWF-UK	World Wildlife Fund United Kingdom

# I. INTRODUCTION

This paper examines what we know about maritime illicit trades. These are crimes in which the sea is used primarily as a conduit for criminal enterprise rather than being the main site of that enterprise. Crimes in this category are associated with criminal flows, or what are sometimes called “transit crimes”: that is, they concern the illegal movement of people or the movement of illicit commodities from their source locations to their destinations or markets while avoiding detection, entry controls, customs inspections, taxation, or other forms of regulation.<sup>1</sup>

The seas are conducive to such movements because they connect different regions of the world without the intercession of hard borders, customs posts, checkpoints, and so on. Their vast size makes them difficult to survey effectively, particularly when illicit flows can be hidden within or alongside legitimate maritime traffic such as that of fishing boats or cargo ships. The high seas are also subject to looser and more ambiguous systems of legal regulation than many territories under the control of individual states are, which lowers the risk of being captured and prosecuted for trafficking activities.<sup>2</sup>

This paper provides researchers and practitioners with an overview of the network of intergovernmental agencies, civil society organizations, and state bureaucracies that are tasked with monitoring and reporting on the transnational movement of goods in the maritime

domain. The paper focuses specifically on a series of emblematic maritime criminal flows: the illicit movement of smuggled and trafficked persons, small arms and light weapons, weapons of mass destruction, narcotics, wildlife, and illicit waste. However, we also recognize that innumerable other types of goods can be moved illicitly across maritime routes, many of which have their own dedicated control regimes.<sup>3</sup>

The list of organizations and sources described here is by no means exhaustive. Many intergovernmental organizations, governments, nongovernmental organizations, and even individuals collect and distribute data on some aspects of illicit trade at sea. The scope of the issue is exceptionally broad, and most sources focus on only one kind of illicit trade or do not focus solely on maritime activities. Some organizations have a global perspective, yet most focus narrowly on specific regions or countries. Many of these efforts attempt to address the gaps left by the larger data-collection and reporting initiatives. Some will be mentioned in this paper’s discussion of these knowledge gaps.

*The paper focuses specifically on a series of emblematic maritime criminal flows: the illicit movement of smuggled and trafficked persons, small arms and light weapons, weapons of mass destruction, narcotics, wildlife, and illicit waste.*



U.S. Coast Guard works with Gambian navy to treat a simulated wound while conducting a simulated drug smuggling and human trafficking scenario. Photo: US Coast Guard



## KEY MESSAGES

- Transnational criminal flows encompass an expansive process—in principle, meaning that they include an interception point, a point of origin, transit countries, and a destination. As most trafficking data reflect trafficking attempts that failed, the scope of the issue requires inventive and holistic ways to identify origin, transit points on the route, and destination. This is complicated by the fact that trafficked products often enter the illicit market from the legal market.
- Transnational criminal flows encompass a broad array of differing commodities and cargos. There are significant differences in the knowledge base for these different forms of maritime illicit trades. For example, numerous organizations collect information on the illicit trades in narcotics and wildlife, while data on waste smuggling is more limited. As a result, data can be biased towards certain crimes, and linkages between different forms of crime can be difficult to identify.
- Some organizations with a global focus, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Small Arms Survey, share data on open platforms, while datasets from organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) remain privileged to the law enforcement officers of member states. Some data, therefore, are not publicly available.
- When data are collected and available, there can still be significant gaps. A major obstacle, and one of the most common limitations we find in data from sources ranging from the UNODC to the Information Fusion Centres, is the unwillingness of some countries to share incident information or data with reporting organizations, leading to data gaps in datasets even when they are available.
- Collaborative initiatives and the use of supplementary data from other organizations have the potential to overcome data gaps. One example is the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, which is a collaboration between the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), INTERPOL, the UNODC, the World Bank, and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Datasets from different organizations can contribute to a more holistic understanding of smuggling activity at sea. While organizations such as UNODC have a broad spectrum of data over several fields, three regional information fusion centers work from incident data and compile datasets and statistics from this data. In many ways, datasets from these different organizations are more complementary than competitive.



Cutter Alert record drug seizure of 3.3 tons of cocaine ISO of Operation Martillo. Photo: Coast Guard by CGC Alert



A blue-tinted photograph of a fisherman in a white t-shirt and dark pants, bent over and looking into the hold of a wooden fishing boat. The boat has a white cabin with several windows and a wooden deck. A large metal barrel is visible on the deck. The boat is anchored in a body of water, with other boats and a shoreline visible in the background.

# MARITIME ILLICIT TRADES: AN OVERVIEW

*An Indonesian fisherman looks into the hold of a wooden fishing boat used by a human trafficking syndicate to transport nearly 600 mostly Rohingya migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh anchored at Lhokseumawe fishing port located in Indonesia's Aceh province on May 13, 2015. Photo: CHAIDEER MAHYUDDIN/AFP via Getty Images*



## II. MARITIME ILLICIT TRADES: AN OVERVIEW

The following sections provide an overview of each illicit trade and discuss which organizations collect data and how, the kinds of information contained in each dataset, the accessibility of this data, and the limitations of existing datasets. The final section provides a broader evaluation of the quality and availability of data, as well as the limitations on this data and strategies that researchers might use to close the many gaps that require closer attention.

### People Smuggling

People smuggling involves the illegal crossing of a border via land or sea with the consent of the migrant or refugee.<sup>4</sup> Though smugglers are motivated by financial or material gain, smugglers do not always exploit, traffic, or abuse migrants intentionally. The relationship between smuggler and migrant normally ends when the fee is paid and illegal entry into the destination country is achieved. Fatalities can occur during smuggling due to drowning, accidents, harsh conditions, illness, and homicide.<sup>5</sup> The key distinction between smuggling and trafficking in persons is that smuggled people are transported voluntarily and typically pay for the service, whereas trafficked people are moved or exploited against their will.

Quantifying the number of humans smuggled is problematic because, as with other illegal activities, smugglers intentionally work to evade the authorities. Still, many kinds of organizations use qualitative fieldwork and country-level questionnaires to obtain estimates. Organizations such as the UNODC, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL) collect data on human smuggling and publish annual reports. The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) maintains an inter-agency database on migrant smuggling by sea. The Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative's (CTDC) Migration Data Portal integrates different data sources from several organizations such as UNODC in an interactive world map in an effort to share data between different stakeholders and the public. Some datasets, statistics, and interactive maps derived

from questionnaires from various organizations are made available to researchers. Others remain privileged to law enforcement agencies.

The "Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018" report focuses on smuggling routes connecting origin, transit, and destination points; modi operandi of smugglers; the risks to migrants and refugees on the route; and the profiles of smugglers and migrants. Statistics from both the United Nations "Crime Trends Survey" (UNCTS) and the "Global Report on Trafficking in Persons" (GLOTIP) from 2003 to 2016 are used in the report.<sup>6</sup> Global trends in the detections of trafficking victims and convictions of traffickers are analyzed. UNODC recorded an improvement in data collected for the 2018 report compared to the first UNODC report in 2012, with data collected from 142 countries, representing 94 percent of the global population, in the 2018 report compared to 132 countries in the 2012 report. Data collection from parts of Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and islands in the Pacific and Caribbean is lacking or incomplete. In some of these countries, victims of trafficking, offenders, trafficking patterns, and flows are not well detected, or data is not collected. As a result, cross-country comparisons on trafficking in persons are not possible because the same standards of data are not available from each country. Data combined with qualitative information from court cases and literature is used to analyze trafficking patterns and flows.

*The key distinction between smuggling and trafficking in persons is that smuggled people are transported voluntarily and typically pay for the service, whereas trafficked people are moved or exploited against their will.*

The UNODC also maintains a Smuggling of Migrants Knowledge Portal that consists of three databases contained in the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) portal. SHERLOC is an initiative to facilitate the dissemination of information with regard to the implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols (the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air;

and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition). SHERLOC provides bibliographic abstracts and information on laws, jurisprudence, and policies, with the aim of regulating the collection and use of

electronic evidence in legal proceedings. All resources displayed in this section can also be accessed directly within their respective databases from SHERLOC's front page.<sup>7</sup>

### FIGURE 1: PEOPLE SMUGGLING—SOURCES, DATASETS, TOOLS, AND REPORTS:

Data obtained from questionnaires such as the annual UN-CTS forms the basis of datasets which are used by organizations to compile annual reports. We find a great deal of cross-use of data between organizations to fill data gaps, as illustrated below.

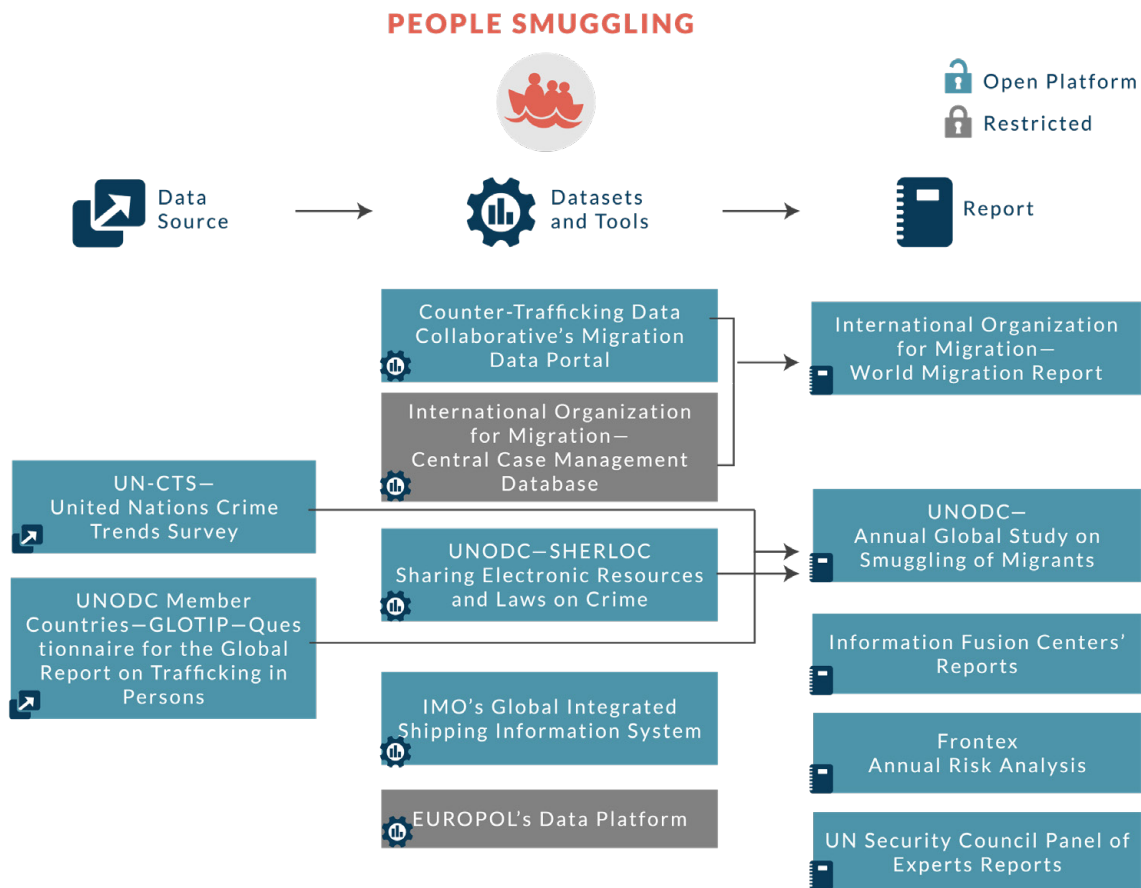


Figure 1 shows how information on smuggling in persons is collected, amalgamated, and eventually formatted into reports for the general public. The raw sources of data vary by country, but the most important, the UN-CTS and GLOTIP, are based on surveys that have been sent to national governments since 2012.

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is transnational in some cases. Victims are trafficked over land, by sea, or by plane. When human trafficking is transnational, the entry into another country may be legal or illegal. The relationship between the trafficker and the victim of trafficking is one of intent to exploit the victim without consent, using means such as deception, fraud, abuse, or coercion. The victim is not in a position to end the relationship.<sup>8</sup>

The scarcity of data on people smuggling and human trafficking is a major problem. Much of this data is collected through apprehension efforts in destination

countries. Some areas, such as the Caribbean, have a low capacity for data collection and the data is often included in data from the wider region.<sup>9</sup> In other areas, such as various islands in the Pacific region, human trafficking data is based on hearsay or is not collected at all. Many organizations collect information through country-level questionnaires, in-country law enforcement, embassies, and official government documents to populate datasets and interactive world maps. Organizations such as UNODC, the IOM, EUROPOL, and the US Department of State (DOS) collect data on human trafficking and publish annual reports. The CTDC integrates different data sources from 15 providers such as UNODC in one centralized database shared through an interactive world map.

FIGURE 2: HUMAN TRAFFICKING—SOURCES, DATASETS, TOOLS, AND REPORTS

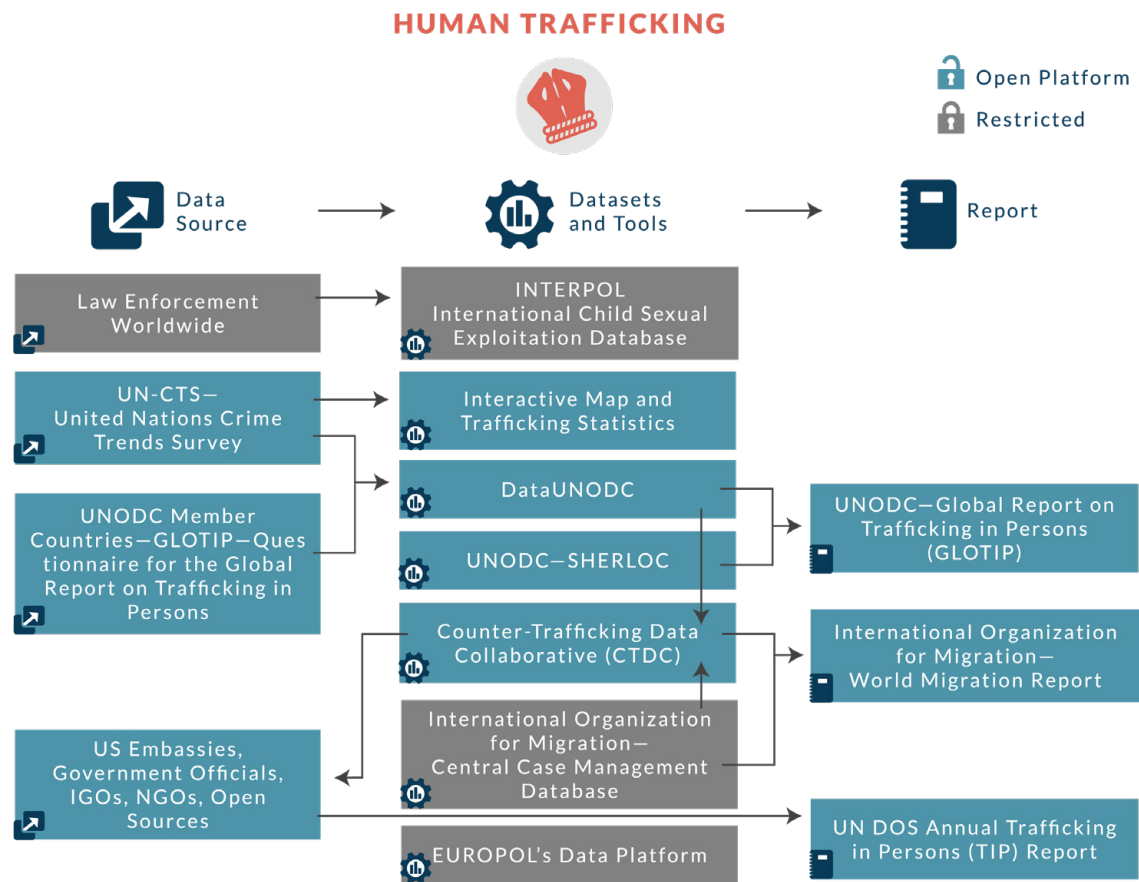


Figure 2 illustrates how information about smuggling in persons is collected and built into datasets with annual reports on human trafficking as the end product. Three major reports are the UNODC’s GLOTIP, the IOM’s “World Migration Report,” and the US DOS’s annual “Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.” Data can also be viewed in an interactive map.

## Small Arms and Light Weapons

Small arms and light weapons are generally manufactured legally and then transferred before being diverted to the illicit global arms market. Weapons stolen, converted, recycled, sold by members of the armed forces, diverted from ex-military supplies, captured from government forces, or diverted from their original destination enter the illicit market and often end up in conflict zones.<sup>10</sup> Legal weapons are also exported in violation of United Nations Security Council embargoes or international agreements. These weapons reach destination countries over land, by air, and by sea. Vessels ranging from large ro-ro vehicle carriers to container ships and small dhows transfer arms to their intended destinations in consignments ranging from a few weapons to shipments containing hundreds or thousands of weapons.

While UNODC collects information on the total number of weapons seized by country, the UN Security Council Panel of Experts collects data on incidents of weapons intercepted in violation of arms embargoes and the Information Fusion Centres (IFCs) collect information on incidents of interdiction at sea and confiscation of weapons at ports. As many countries do not submit seizure data to organizations that collect data on weapons seizures, these data are often partial. As confiscation data also represent failed smuggling operations, the actual figures of weapons smuggled are not always evident. The gap can be filled by identifying which weapons are present in countries and comparing that to available trade information for specific weapons. The Small Arms Survey

(SAS) provides tools to identify weapons throughout the small-arms life cycle. Moreover, not all interceptions of such weapons result from smuggling: some are due to administrative issues such as license expiration or illegal modifications made to individual weapons, which can obscure the specific problem of smuggling from some datasets.

Information on trafficking in small arms and light weapons is collected through country-level questionnaires, law enforcement agencies, UN bodies, regional organizations, government officials, customs officials, and open sources. INTERPOL maintains several databases relevant to small arms and light weapons trafficking, such as the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS), the Firearms Reference Table, and the Ballistic Information Network (IBIN) database. All of these databases are privileged to law enforcement officers in participating countries. The UNODC Container Control Programme (CCP) and Customs Enforcement Network (CEN) share information between authorized customs officers in participating countries through secure internet-based applications. UNODC shares information with shareholders and the public through open datasets. Several organizations publish annual reports on weapons smuggling, such as UNODC's "Global Study on Firearms Trafficking," the World Customs Organization's "Illicit Trade Report," and the UN Security Council Panel of Experts reports. Others share monthly or weekly reports which will include small arms and light weapons trafficking; these include the IFCs and the US Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI).



Security Council Meets to Discuss the Issues of Small Arms Photo: UN/Eskinder Debebe



FIGURE 3: TRAFFICKING IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS—  
SOURCES, DATASETS, TOOLS, AND REPORTS

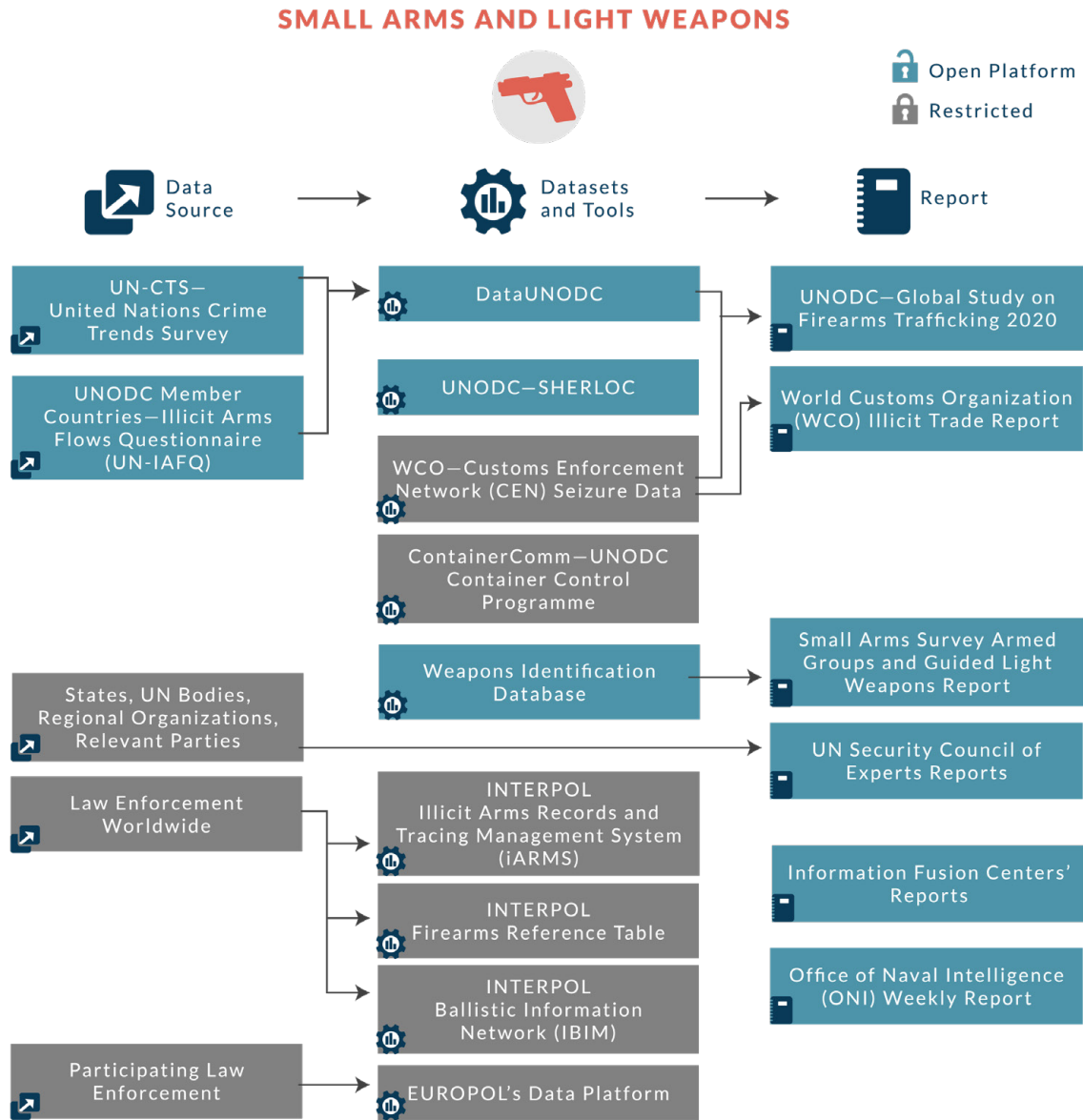


Figure 3 explains how information on smuggling in small arms and light weapons collected from participating law enforcement organizations, UN bodies, states, regional organizations, and questionnaires is integrated into databases which form the basis for numerous reports such as the Small Arms Survey.

## Weapons of Mass Destruction

Weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) are chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons capable of a high level of destruction or of causing mass casualties.<sup>11</sup> Due to the fear that these weapons or their precursor materials may fall into the hands of terrorists and other violent non-state actors who operate transnationally, the framework to limit and control CBRN weapons is among the most successful arms-control efforts ever.<sup>12</sup> At least 18 incidents where regulated nuclear material usable in weapons has been intercepted have been reported since the early 1990s.<sup>13</sup> Incidents where nuclear materials are interdicted are only discussed or reported in a very few instances.<sup>14</sup> New developments in weapons systems, such as drones, raise the question of whether drone swarms and other future weapons systems should be added to this category.<sup>15</sup>

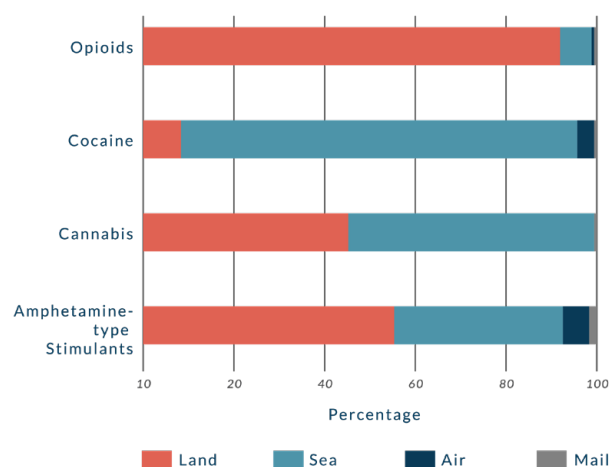
Very few organizations collect data on trafficking of WMDs and WMD precursors; when they do, it is usually a by-product of data collection on terrorism and not on trafficking, per se. Data on biological, chemical, and radiological trafficking can be found where relevant to terrorist attacks in the Global Terrorism Database, but not all will be transnational in nature. One of the organizations that does collect data is the UNODC Container Control Programme. The CCP prepares for threats and trains in confronting CBRN goods in containers, but it is not clear how often these goods are intercepted. In March 2018, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution concerning the movement of illicit trade items within the global supply chain connected to the Democratic Republic of North Korea's nuclear-related program after a Panel of Experts report indicated that North Korea is evading sanctions through trading in illicit goods and doing so with increasingly sophisticated techniques.<sup>16</sup>

*Very few organizations collect data on trafficking of WMDs and WMD precursors; when they do, it is usually a by-product of data collection on terrorism and not on trafficking, per se.*

## Narcotics

According to the UNODC's "World Drug Report," 210 million people used drugs in 2017, leading to more than half a million deaths in that year. This is a 30 percent increase in use from 2009. Drug trafficking is a global illicit trade involving the cultivation, manufacturing, transnational smuggling, and distribution of drugs and sale of substances which are subject to drug prohibition laws.<sup>17</sup> Organized crime groups and business models are constantly changing and exploiting new networks and technologies such as the dark net.

FIGURE 4: MODES OF DRUG TRANSPORTATION IN SIGNIFICANT SEIZURES, BY SUBSTANCE, JANUARY 2017 TO APRIL 2020



Source: UNODC, Drugs Monitoring Platform

More than 80 percent of cocaine and significant percentages of cannabis and amphetamine-type stimulants are smuggled by sea.<sup>18</sup> It is posited that the COVID-19 pandemic may have led to a further increase in maritime trafficking in drugs due to restrictions on air and land traffic and a reduced risk of interception at sea. An increased number of direct shipments of cocaine by sea from South America to Europe were reported in 2020.

A number of different organizations collect data on narcotics smuggling. A large—though disparate—volume of interdiction incident data is also available, especially in the media. An abundance of data on narcotics smuggling is available from international organizations and law enforcement agencies. Information is collected

from participating law enforcement agencies and governments, civil society organizations, and open sources, and through country-level questionnaires by international organizations such as INTERPOL, EUROPOL, UNODC, the WCO, and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). INTERPOL's Drugs Analysis File is a database on drug trafficking and transnational criminal networks and their locations, operations, and money-laundering techniques. The

INTERPOL Relief database stores information on tablet logos, the chemical compositions of drugs, and the markings left by metal devices used in the packaging of drugs. The drug interdiction and trafficking data collected by UNODC in their questionnaires is available to researchers in the DataUNODC portal. Reports on the illicit trade in narcotics are annually available from UNODC, the WCO, the Department of State, the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the IFCs. Weekly

FIGURE 5: TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS—SOURCES, DATASETS, TOOLS, AND REPORTS

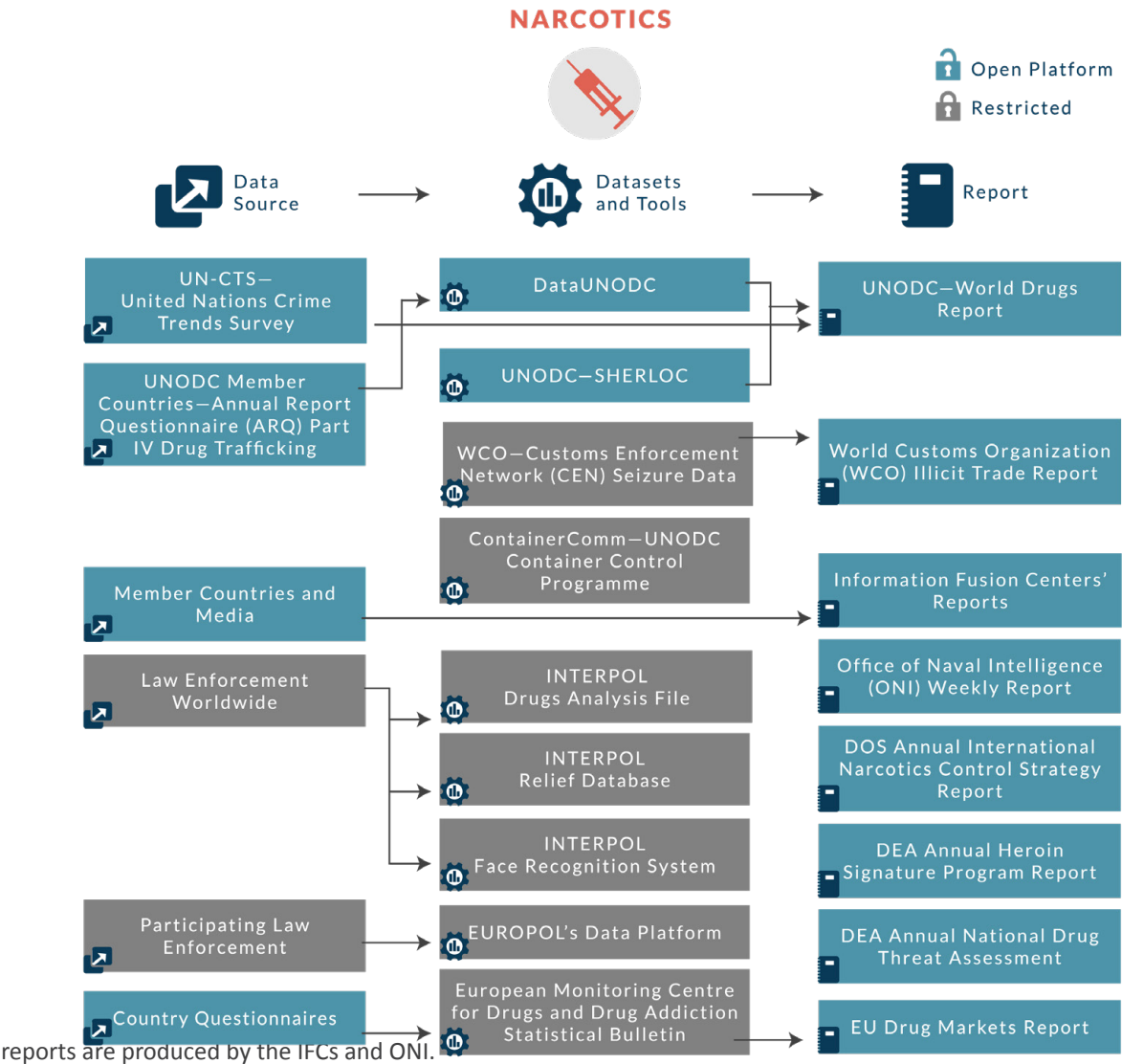


Figure 5 shows how databases on narcotics smuggling, seizures, and analysis are compiled from information from participating law enforcement officials and questionnaires and how the final product will be used in reports such as the DEA's annual Heroin Signature Program report and the UNODC's "World Drug Report."

## Wildlife

Wildlife trafficking—including the poaching and illegal gathering of protected and managed species<sup>19</sup> and their related parts and products and the transnational transportation and distribution of these animals and their derivatives as exotic pets, food, medicine, potions, clothing, or jewelry—is a significant criminal enterprise. Large quantities of animal products are often trafficked by sea. The illicit wildlife trade includes both poached animal products or illegally harvested plant life and also products legally acquired by trophy hunters and then sold to markets elsewhere, often in Asia. While much of the focus has traditionally been on animal species, there is growing recognition of the scale of damage to other forms of wildlife such as flora. This includes their derivatives, including timber such as rosewood, for example. The illegal trade in flora is estimated to be worth between \$7 billion and \$23 billion<sup>20</sup> a year, while fauna is worth between \$30 billion and \$100 billion.<sup>21</sup>

There is more information available on wildlife trafficking than on some other maritime illicit trades. UNODC's World Wildlife Seizures (World WISE) database currently contains data on more than 180,000 seizures of wildlife and wildlife products. The new CITES illegal trade requirements applicable to CITES parties contributed to this growth. Not all seizure data are, however, of

equal quality. CITES excludes wildlife types that are not listed as protected species.<sup>22</sup> Many of the international organizations such as CITES collect data on all forms of protected wildlife, including both fauna and flora, as do organizations involved in conservation in specific areas and those focusing on a single species in individual countries.

In 2017, 17,881 seizures were recorded in UNODC's World WISE database. In the last almost 20 years, seizures of 6,000 species were recorded. Statistics on wildlife trafficking are available to researchers but incident-level information is not available in the dataset; neither are the geo-locations of incidents. The Robin des Bois quarterly publication, "On the Trail," contains information on incidents of wildlife product confiscations based on media reports. The IFCs publish reports noting maritime-related interdictions and confiscations of wildlife products. Not all incidents are reflected in country reports to international organizations. Their reports on confiscations of wildlife products, however, will often indicate the country of origin. Often countries will be reported as the country of origin or destination while they are in fact a transit country. As an example, many sources list Mozambique as the country of origin for rhino products while the products actually originated in South Africa. Mozambique only has a small remaining rhino population.



*Confiscated illegal wildlife products on display at the WildAid, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Kickoff Launch National Campaign Against Wildlife Trafficking. Photo: US Fish and Wildlife Service*



FIGURE 6: TRAFFICKING IN WILDLIFE—SOURCES, DATASETS, TOOLS, AND REPORTS

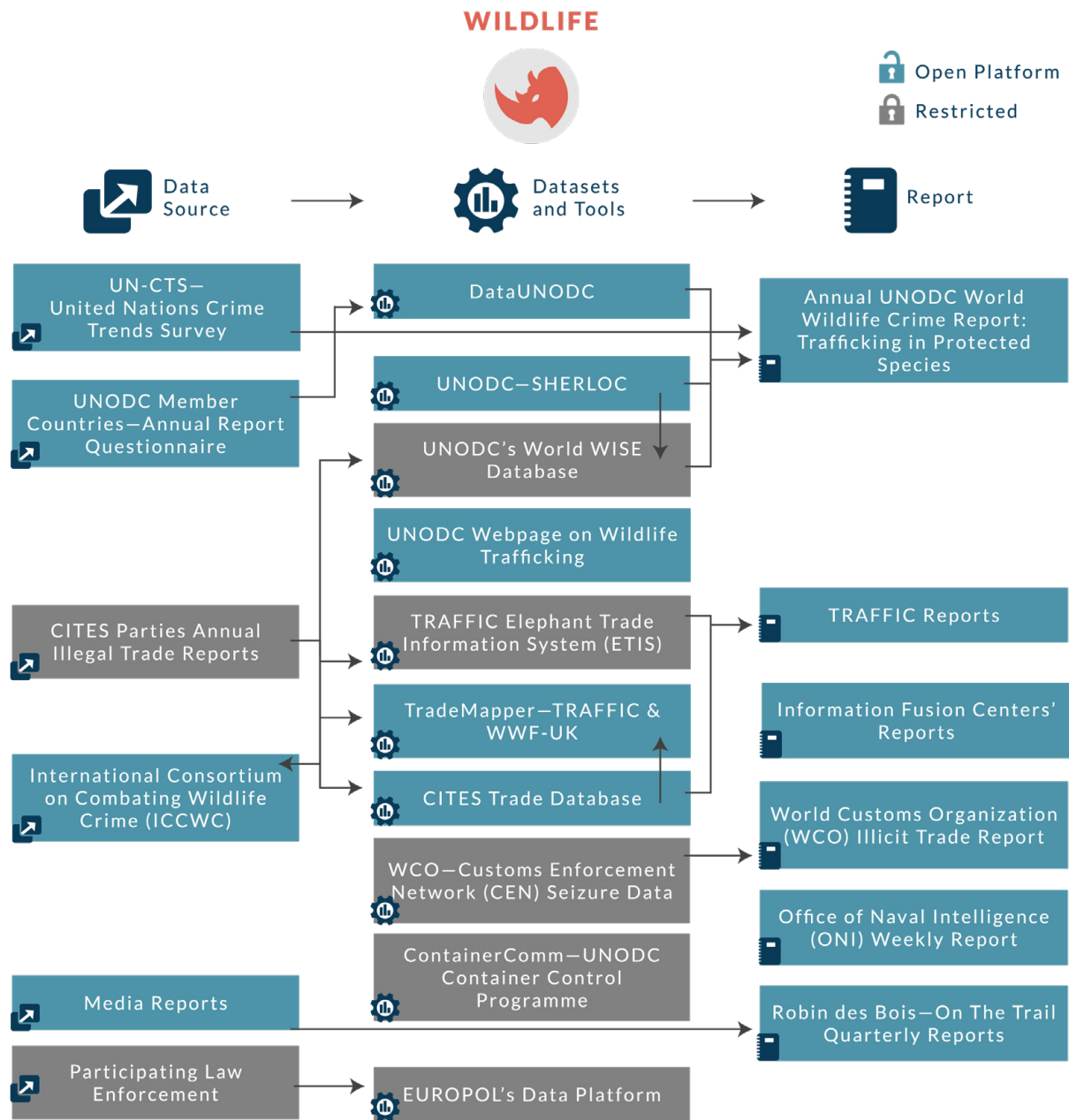


Figure 6 demonstrates how information about wildlife trafficking will flow from member countries and law enforcement agencies to databases compiled by organizations such as INTERPOL, UNODC, EUROPOL, and CITES and then be compiled into the WCO “Illicit Trade Report,” TRAFFIC reports, and monthly reports by the IFCs.

## Illicit Waste

Deep-ocean dumping of industrial, military, nuclear, and other hazardous waste was a widespread global practice in the twentieth century, with an estimated 50–97 million tons of waste having been dumped at sea. While the full magnitude of waste-dumping at sea—both historical and contemporary—is still undetermined, the contamination from this waste remains in many parts of the ocean today.<sup>23</sup>

Waste, including plastics and electronic waste (e-waste), is also smuggled between countries that have different waste-disposal regimes, often moving from those in the Global North to those in the Global South. There, the waste may be abandoned, disposed of in a landfill, or informally recycled, often by hand. Such work exposes workers, sometimes children, to hazardous and carcinogenic substances including mercury, lead, and cadmium, while unregulated waste dumping can pollute soil and groundwater and put food-supply systems and water sources at risk. Best estimates suggest that between 20<sup>24</sup> and 50<sup>25</sup> million metric tons of e-waste are produced each year.<sup>26</sup> Much of this moves from richer countries to poorer countries, and up to 51 percent of waste flowing to non-Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries is thought to be illegal, with the majority being e-waste.<sup>27, 28, 29</sup>

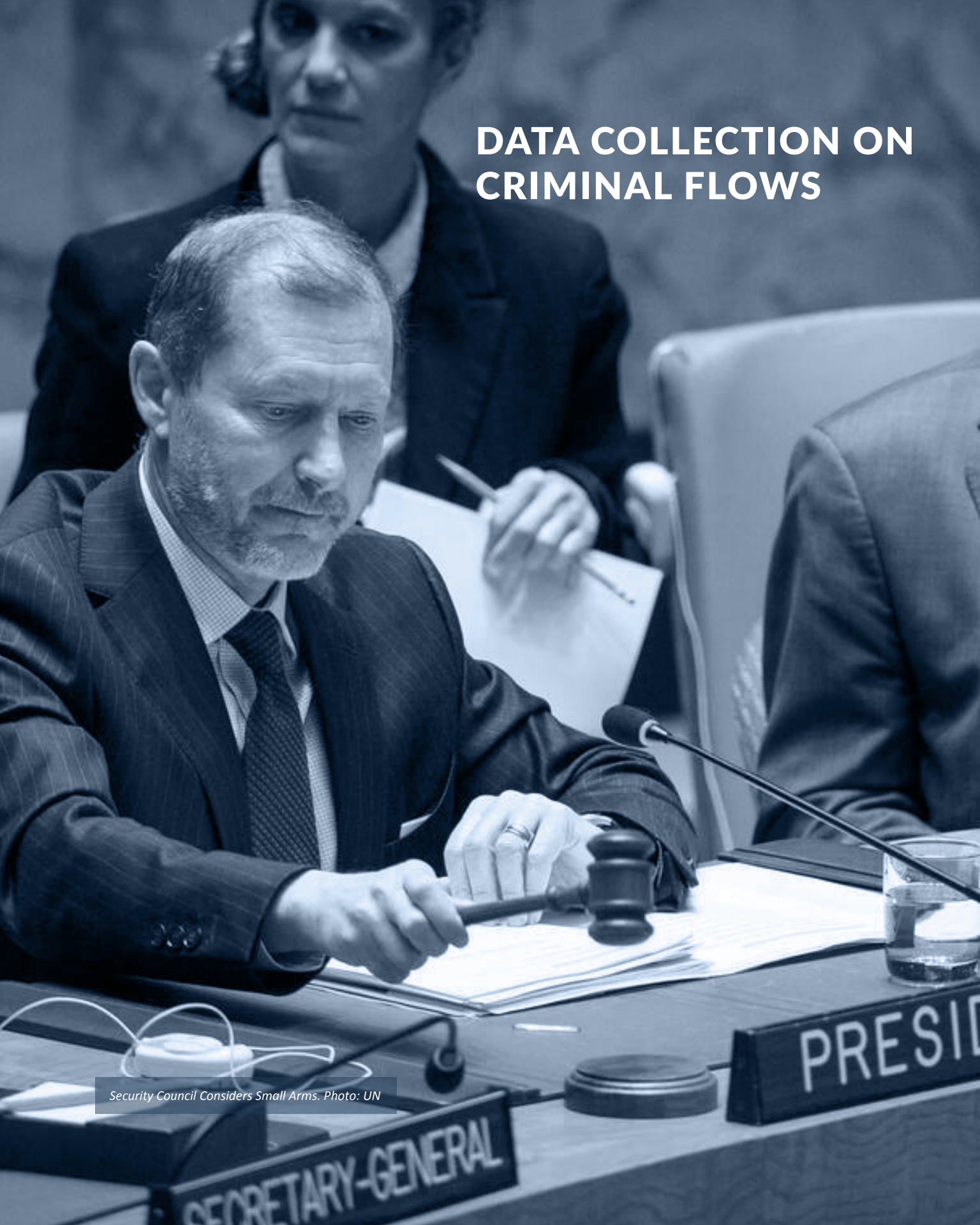
The transnational movement of waste is regulated by the United Nations Basel Convention, which restricts the

trade of hazardous waste between countries. Numerous organizations collect information on waste smuggling, including INTERPOL, the Basel Action Network, the European Commission's European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL), the Seaport Environmental Security Network, the UN Environmental Programme, the UNODC's UN-CTS, and national law enforcement and customs agencies. The Operational Facility Fighting Illicit Waste Trafficking is an EU initiative promoting international police cooperation against environmental crime, strengthening joint investigations on illicit waste trafficking and sharing information through EUROPOL channels.<sup>30</sup>

*Deep-ocean dumping of industrial, military, nuclear, and other hazardous waste was a widespread global practice in the twentieth century.*

Even so, data on waste smuggling remains patchy and partial. Not all seizures of illegal waste are reported under the Basel Convention or other regimes (such as IMPEL), and even where they are, data is skewed towards instances of successful detection and enforcement. Illicit waste—such as hazardous materials—can also be disguised or mixed in with legitimately documented waste shipments. Consequently, significant knowledge gaps remain, particularly in relation to the organized networks thought to be behind these activities and the appropriate responses to them.

# DATA COLLECTION ON CRIMINAL FLOWS



Security Council Considers Small Arms. Photo: UN

### III. DATA COLLECTION ON CRIMINAL FLOWS

There are numerous organizations that collect data over the whole spectrum of transnational trafficking, such as INTERPOL, UNODC, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), and the IFCs. Some only specialize in one category while others focus on specific topics such as rhino-horn smuggling.

#### Entities with a Global Focus

Several organizations and entities collect data on transnational crime across all regions and compile reports based on this dataset. Some focus on a single type of transnational crime while others include the whole spectrum. Some entities do not collect their own data, but compile reports on existing datasets. While datasets by organizations such as UNODC are open-source material, others, such as INTERPOL databases, are only available to law enforcement officers in participating countries.

##### *The International Criminal Police Organization*

INTERPOL manages 18 databases of criminal information to facilitate international police investigations by providing instant, up-to-date global data which allows law enforcement worldwide to connect related pieces of information and enhance transnational investigations.<sup>31</sup> INTERPOL does not collect crime statistics.<sup>32</sup> These databases contain millions of records on fingerprints, DNA, firearms, and lost and stolen documents, to name a few. The information is restricted to law enforcement officers, and all but the database containing images of child sexual exploitation can be accessed by law enforcement through a restricted-access internet portal.

The INTERPOL iARMS database holds 1.4 million records from 87 countries. Information on lost, stolen, trafficked, or smuggled firearms can be uploaded and queried by law enforcement. The INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table contains more than 164,000 firearms references and 51,500 images to assist law enforcement agencies in identifying firearms.<sup>33</sup> The IBIN database is used to share data on guns and casings recovered in crime incidents within 80 kilometers of international borders or from

suspected traffickers of any type of contraband (drugs, documents, guns, etc.), items found in groups of three or more firearms, and firearms recovered from persons with a residence in another country.<sup>34</sup> The database holds more than 1.3 million records from 29 participating countries.

INTERPOL also manages a Drugs Analysis File, which is a repository of intelligence shared by 114 countries on illicit regional and international drug trafficking, transnational criminal networks and traffickers and their locations, and their *modi operandi* and methods used to launder money. Data from international organizations, civil society, and open sources are also included in the analysis file. When drug smugglers transport large volumes of drugs, they compress their drug packages with metal devices which leave traces on the packages and tablets; the INTERPOL Relief database stores information about these markings. With this data it can be determined whether the same device has been used to compress another seized drug package in another case anywhere in the world. The database also stores information on tablet logos and the chemical compositions of drugs.<sup>35</sup>

##### *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*

UNODC is probably the organization that has the largest range of data and reports across the spectrum of transnational trafficking crimes. They publish reports on global trafficking as well as region-specific reports. Data collected in the annual UN-CTS<sup>36</sup> from contributing states and their corresponding agencies cover several transnational crimes. The total number of acts of drug trafficking, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in weapons and explosives, acts involving the movement and dumping of waste, and trade or possession of protected species of fauna and flora are recorded in UN-CTS. Trafficking-related country profiles can also be found.<sup>37</sup>

UNODC collects and analyzes data on drug trafficking arrests, seizures, trends, prices, and the purity of illicit drugs. The data is collected through the annual UN-CTS<sup>38</sup> survey and Annual Report Questionnaires<sup>39</sup> (see Annex 1, Section 1) that have been submitted by member states since 2012. In the trafficking questionnaire, data such as class (i.e., illicit opioids, cocaine, cannabis, amphetamine, etc.) and type of drug (such as heroin, opium, illicit morphine, etc.), quantity or unit, total quantity of drugs



seized in a country in a specific year, total number of cases of drug seizures in a reporting year, and definitions of cases of drug seizures are recorded. The questionnaire also gathers data on the price and purity of drugs, the number of persons brought into formal contact with the police and/or the criminal justice system in connection with personal drug-related offenses or drug trafficking in the reporting year, and descriptions of drug trafficking groups in the given country and an illicit drug market overview, as well as information on cultivation and illicit manufacturing laboratories in a country and information on the diversion of drugs from illicit channels.

In the Individual Drug Seizures questionnaire, states are requested to fill out data on specific seizure cases, such as information on the place where the drugs were seized (for example, building, car, beach, maritime zone, airport); the place where the drugs were hidden (baggage, on person, swallowed); the method of transportation (commercial air, private road, rail, etc.); the countries listed in a trafficking route; and details of traffickers.<sup>40</sup>

The datasets acquired from states about drug demand as well as drug supply, seizures, and trends in seizures can be found on the UNODC's interactive data portal.<sup>41</sup> Useful country profiles are also available with a data range from

2007 to 2019.<sup>42</sup> Statistics on annual drug seizures by drug type are also located on this page.

The data from the different questionnaires are presented in the annual “World Drug Report” in a series of different booklets. Booklet 1 of the six books in the 2020 annual report provides a summary of the subsequent booklets, key findings, and policy implications; booklet 2 focuses on drug demand; booklet 3 on drug supply; 4 on cross-cutting issues, concerns related to the rapidly evolving drug market, and drug seizure statistics; booklet 5 on the influence on and related disorders in population groups; and 6 on drug policy.<sup>43</sup>

The Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)<sup>44</sup> (see Annex 1, Section 2) is also distributed to member countries annually. The questionnaire is divided into data sheets for arms seizures, criminal context, geographical information, found and surrendered items, tracing results, significant seizures, total parts and components and ammunition seized, trafficking context, and glossary and types of items.

The data from this questionnaire collected for 2016 and 2017 are available online.<sup>45</sup> Data in an Excel format for each category by each country for the years 2016 and



Art Exhibition "Crush the Illicit Trade in Small Arms" Photo: UN/Eskinder Debebe

2017 can be downloaded. An infographic map with country and sub-region filters is available as well. The arms seized by location indicate that weapons were seized from vessels and harbours; the result, however, is disappointing, with only 11 countries reporting any seizures from vessels and harbours.<sup>46</sup>

Data collected in the 2018 UN-IAFQ for 2016 and 2017 as well as additional sources were used in the UNODC report “Global Study on Firearms Trafficking 2020,” which builds on the UNODC “Study on Firearms 2015.”<sup>47</sup> A total of 80 countries responded to the questionnaire. National reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the International Tracing Instrument by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and seizure data from the WCO were also used in the report to generate quantitative data, mostly for the years 2016 and 2017. This resulted in data for a total of 107 countries and territories, although not always for both years.

Data on the global trafficking in persons is collected in the UNODC Questionnaire for the GLOTIP. (See Annex 1, Section 3) Interactive maps are available, as well as statistics on trafficking victims and convicted persons from 2003 to 2017 taken from data provided by national authorities through UN-CTS as well as questionnaires.<sup>48</sup>

The UNODC webpage on wildlife trafficking contains infographics on seizures, trends (quantity and number), and origins and destinations of seized products for elephant tusks, rhino horns, pangolins, tigers, European eels, live reptiles, and rosewood from the year 2005 to partial data for 2018.<sup>49</sup> The annual UNODC “World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in Protected Species” draws heavily on seizure data from UNODC’s World WISE database. Data submitted by CITES parties in an annual illegal trade report are incorporated in the database. The database contains data from 180,000 seizures from 149 countries or territories between 1999 and the first part of 2018.<sup>50</sup>

The UN Comtrade database gives users free access to global trade data in the form of statistics and analytical tables.<sup>51</sup> Downloadable datasets are also available<sup>52</sup> and can be used with the data tool TradeMapper. By using the valid harmonized system (HS) commodity code for specific wildlife products, legal trade in products can be

identified. Wildlife products are often exported legally from the country of origin to the US, Europe, or Asia, but from there are transported to a third country and enter the illegal wildlife market.

### *UNODC Container Control Programme*

The UNODC-WCO CCP was established in 2004 to counter the trafficking activity in the containerized supply chain by building capacity in customs and law enforcement agencies in order to improve supply chain security. Every year, 750 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEU) are recorded in the supply chain, with the majority transported in the maritime sector. These kinds of containers can be used to smuggle drugs, wildlife, or weapons, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) materials, and other illicit goods, yet it is estimated that only 2 percent are inspected. It is therefore important to identify high-risk containers using profiling techniques and human intelligence. These inter-agency profiling units exchange information using ContainerComm, a secure internet-based application for authorized users in participating countries which includes alert notices for high-risk containers. Container number, destination, type of cargo, routing, freight payment methods, and other information that can be used to profile high-risk containers can be obtained in the app.<sup>53</sup>

### *Office of Naval Intelligence*

ONI updates a weekly “Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report” that includes trafficking incidents. Although the report’s main focus is on incidents of piracy and armed robbery of ships, it contains a few trafficking incidents, although fewer than in past versions of the reports. The information from the report comprises mostly open-source incidents from international and regional organizations as well as media sources. In the report, the date and place of the incident, the name of the vessel, and details of the incident are given.<sup>54</sup> Archived reports dating from 1999 can be found on the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency webpage.<sup>55</sup>

### *International Organization for Migration*

IOM, the leading intergovernmental organization working with migration, was established in 1951 by European countries as the Provisional Intergovernmental

Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe to identify resettlement countries for the estimated 11 million people displaced by the Second World War. Today, IOM is working in 150 countries and has 173 member states with 9 states holding observer status.<sup>56</sup>

IOM published the first “World Migration Report” in the year 2000. In the IOM 2020 report, smuggling routes in different areas of the world are discussed. The exact number of people smuggled is, however, not known. IOM has helped over 100,000 trafficking victims since the mid-1990s and has developed a central case-management database with information on more than 55,000 individuals since 2002. Not only does this data include information on victims of trafficking and demographics, it also includes information on the trafficking experiences of victims.

In an effort to share this data with important stakeholders and the public, the Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative was launched in 2017 in partnership with Polaris and Liberty Shared. The result of CTDC was one centralized dataset on human trafficking with information on over 90,000 cases. For program years 2016 and 2017, victims were from 147 countries and were exploited in 107 countries. Statistics are also available on type of exploitation, divided into forced labour, sexual exploitation, and other forms of exploitation which include forced marriage, organ removal, and slavery.<sup>57</sup>

The Migration Data Portal aims to integrate different sources of information from 15 providers using 70 indicators of international migration in an interactive world map. The data can be broken down to region, sub-region, and country level. There is also a section that explains what the data can tell us and where it is lacking. Experts also discuss strengths and weaknesses of migration data. The vulnerability link displays data on women and children trafficked from country of origin as well as country of exploitation. Information on victims of human trafficking for 2015 and ratifications of human rights instruments can also be found.<sup>58</sup>

### *International Maritime Organization*

On March 4 and 5, 2015, IMO Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu convened an inter-agency High-Level Meeting to address the issue of unsafe migration by sea, which

often takes place in unseaworthy boats. The meeting was attended by representatives from the International Labour Organization, IMO, UNODC, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme, UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and IOM. The result was a joint database on migrant incidents and vessels to get a better understanding of the issue. The inter-agency platform was set up by the IOM, UNODC, and IMO.

The IMO updates the inter-agency database on migrant smuggling by sea on their GISIS platform.<sup>59</sup> It is accessible to researchers once they register on the platform. Almost 2,000 incidents recorded since 1999 can be found.

The database incorporates data points on reporting state, source, date of incident, time, position of incident, coordinates, ship name, IMO number, call sign, boat description, last port of call, date and time of departure from last port of call, next port of call, date and time of departure from next port of call, number of crew, nationalities of crew, number of migrants and other persons on board (male/female, male minors/female minors), nationalities of migrants, number of fatalities, number of people missing, name of rescue unit, type of rescue unit, description of incident and measures taken, details of smuggling of migrants by sea, and comments.

### *World Customs Organization*

The Customs Enforcement Network is a central depository of enforcement-related information from data provided by WCO members as reported by customs, joint customs and police units, and other law enforcement agencies. It contains data on seizures and offenses along with pictures to assist in analysis of illicit trafficking. A watch list can be created for specific targeting.<sup>60</sup> A customs officer can request access to CEN, and customs administrators or international organizations can request information for specific operations.<sup>61</sup>

In addition, the WCO publishes an annual “Illicit Trade Report.” The report contains sections on weapons and ammunition, drugs, and environmental trafficking. Although researchers do not have access to CEN analysis, analysis of the data and the processed data can be viewed in the form of graphics in the report. In terms of trends

in the report, the conclusions are only valid with regard to the seizure data that has been submitted by WCO members, which creates knowledge gaps and a skewed picture. Statistics on confiscations in the top 15 countries, number of seizures, quantity of products, and detection method are given.

The report also contains case studies of trafficking activities which include photographs where components of weapons are marked to illustrate and explain the case studies. Flows of trafficking are indicated in graphics illustrating movements to and within regions as well as the quantity of flows. A heat map illustrates weapons and ammunition trafficking by country in terms of origin, destination, or transit point. Similarly, routes and instances by location are also illustrated on a map. City-level data where the point sizes increase with the number of recorded cases are indicated.

The trafficking of firearm components is also included. The trafficking of firearms by disassembling them into parts creates challenges for enforcement as these can be harder to detect. Currently, seizures of parts are relatively rare, at around 5 percent of the total.<sup>62</sup> However, due to data being dependent on seizures, it is unclear whether this is due to their low prevalence relative to whole firearms, or a low rate of detection due to the difficulty of detecting components.

This process is replicated for drug and environmental trafficking. For drugs, the number of seizures in terms of mode of transport is indicated in a graphic. Subcategories are vehicle, mail, air, pedestrian, vessel, train, other, and unknown. The statistics show different patterns for different drug types. The 2019 statistics indicate that vessels or the sea are the fourth-highest mode of transport of cocaine (9.6 percent) relative to interdictions, after mail, air, and vehicle, but that cocaine represents 83.1 percent of the overall quantity of drugs seized. A very small percentage of cannabis interdiction incidents are made on vessels (the third-lowest of the categories), while in terms of overall quantity seized on vessels, cannabis is the second-highest, indicating that it is possible to transport large quantities of drugs at a time by vessel.

The 15 most-seized categories of fauna in 2019 are classified. Vessels are the fourth-highest category of

transport and have the highest volume in terms of quantity of CITES seizures confiscated on ships.<sup>63</sup>

### *US Department of State*

The US Department of State collects and disseminates information from US embassies, government officials, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, reports and academic studies, media, fact-finding trips, and information received via their email at [tipreport@state.gov](mailto:tipreport@state.gov).

The DOS's 2020 annual "Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report" has collected anti-trafficking law enforcement data from governments since 2005, allowing it to provide trends over time. Reports from 2017 onwards can also be found on the US Department of State website. The report has evolved considerably since the US Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000 mandating its publication. Information on human trafficking has become more readily available and the methodology and content have also evolved through the years.

The Department of State's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs publishes the annual "International Narcotics Control Strategy Report: Volume I—Drug and Chemical Control."<sup>64</sup> The report identifies major drug-transit countries and major illicit drug-producing countries and gives an overview of the situation in each country. Where available, information such as seizures, country of origin, and destination are mentioned in the country section.

### *Small Arms Survey*

Weapons trafficking data, like all trafficking data, mostly reflects trafficking attempts that have failed. For this reason, inventive ways need to be found to provide a full picture of weapons trafficking. If it can be determined what weapons have been legally transferred and what weapons are found in conflict locations and in the hands of armed and criminal groups, it can be deduced what weapons were trafficked. SAS provides tools for a comprehensive approach throughout the small-arms life cycle.

The top manufacturing countries in the industrial production of small arms are also the top exporting



countries. The top 15 arms-exporting countries and top manufacturers are listed. Small-arms identification cards<sup>65</sup> and a weapons identification database<sup>66</sup> are available. The database has various interactive filters such as type of weapon, caliber, geographical distribution, and features (such as country of manufacture and distinguishing features on the weapon).

Sophisticated guided light weapons such as man-portable air-defense systems (MANPADS) and anti-tank guided weapons (ATGWs) are in the hands of armed groups. SAS provided data on guided light weapons in armed groups' possession from 1998 to 2014. In their "Armed Groups and Guided Light Weapons"<sup>67</sup> 2014 update with a Middle East and North Africa focus, weapons newly held by armed groups since the previous report update are indicated. According to the website, a consolidated database with data since 1998 will be available soon.

SAS has several publications mapping cross-border arms trafficking in Africa, Ukraine, and Honduras, among others.<sup>68</sup> North Korea's embargo evasion techniques used in acquiring nuclear-related items through diplomatic channels and the internet are mentioned in the paper "Supporting Effective Implementation of United Nations Sanctions on North Korea: How-To Guides."<sup>69</sup>

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC is a global nongovernmental organization focusing on wildlife trade monitoring, conservation, and sustainable wildlife management. They carry out research, investigations, and analysis around the world to compile evidence on the wildlife trade.<sup>70</sup>

In partnership with the World Wildlife Fund-United Kingdom (WWF-UK), TRAFFIC has developed a TradeMapper<sup>71</sup> tool to visualize wildlife trade data for species such as tigers, pangolins, reptiles, and rhino products.<sup>72</sup> Data from the CITES Trade Database can also be visualized.

TRAFFIC manages the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) on behalf of CITES parties. ETIS establishes trends in the trade in illicit elephant products and changes in the trends over time. Seizure data beginning in 1989 is part of the database.<sup>73</sup> Their database contains 30,000 records from 104 countries or territories. CITES parties have

the obligation to submit an annual report on all trade in species listed in CITES.<sup>74</sup> The minimum requirements for a seizure to be included in ETIS are year of seizure; country where seizure was made; agency or authority that made the seizure; quantity in weight, pieces, or both; and type of ivory (raw, semi-worked, worked). ETIS data on ivory trade, seizures, and arrests is used in TRAFFIC publications. The seizures database is reinforced by subsidiary database modules such as law enforcement effort, rates of reporting, and domestic ivory markets.

## *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*

All parties of CITES have to submit an annual illegal trade report (see Annex 1, Section 4) covering the previous year by October 31 each year. This data is shared with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), and is used in ICWC global research as well as incorporated in UNODC's World WISE database and contributes to analysis on wildlife crime by both parties.

The nature of the CITES data source affects the scope of the UNODC's annual "World Wildlife Crime Report" as CITES focuses on rules governing the trade of protected species, but wildlife crimes affect other species as well and could fall outside of the mandate. Unlisted species could be illegally harvested and traded, and poached protected species are not recorded if they are not transported internationally.<sup>75</sup>

CITES also has a Trade Database with data on wildlife products legally exported and imported from 1975 to 2020. A csv file can be downloaded, and the trade routes or flow can be visualized using TradeMapper.<sup>76</sup>

## *Robin des Bois*

Robin des Bois (i.e., Robin Hood), an environmental protection NGO, was founded in France in 1985. Their quarterly publication "On the Trail" is available in French and English and is a valuable source of open-source information on incidents of wildlife poaching and smuggling. The date, place, country where the incident occurred, and species, as well as additional information about the incident can be found in the description.<sup>77</sup> Reports since June 30, 2013, are available on their website.



A rescued India pangolin. Photo: Vickey Chauhan

### TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network

TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network, established in 2006, is an NGO that promotes the use of forensic science to support law enforcement in the investigation of wildlife crime, legal actions, and surveys. TRACE is also a central source of information for wildlife forensics practitioners and other wildlife crime stakeholders.<sup>78</sup>

## Entities with a Regional Focus

Some international organizations such as the UNODC have both an international and a regional focus. UNODC holds workshops and produces region-specific reports on transnational crime flows. Other organizations, such as EUROPOL, Frontex, and the three regional IFCs, have a regional focus on illicit crime flow prevention, data collection, and reporting. Some of the most important real-time information on maritime trafficking cases can be found in reports by the IFCs. Currently there are three centers in operation, namely the IFC–Singapore, IFC–Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), and the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre in Madagascar (CRFIM). Many of the IFC reports are open-source and available online, as will be discussed below.

### EUROPOL

EUROPOL addresses areas such as trafficking in human beings, facilitation of illegal immigration, drug trafficking, child sexual exploitation, illicit firearm trafficking, environmental crime, illicit trafficking in endangered animal species, crime connected with nuclear and radioactive substances, kidnapping, illegal restraint and hostage-taking, and trade in human organs.<sup>79</sup> EUROPOL's data platform connects more than 500 law enforcement agencies in Europe and the rest of the world. Data analytics is centered at EUROPOL headquarters.

EUROPOL, in collaboration with EMCDDA, produces a yearly overview of the EU illicit drug market.<sup>80</sup> This report includes transnational drug trafficking routes and flow in map format. Statistics on global trafficking of drugs in the European market, methods of trafficking, relationships with other transnational crimes and terrorism, and drug seizures can be found in the report.

EMCDDA, established in 1993, is a European Union agency located in Lisbon. It offers data for informed drug laws, policies, and strategies. EMCDDA's "Statistical Bulletin 2020" has a drug-seizures data table with all seizures made in all European countries by all law enforcement agencies. The data are broken down by drug type and seizures by country between 2002 and 2018 and can be downloaded in an Excel file. There are also datasets with drug law offenses, price, and purity, and a section for searches by country, among other datasets. Selected

data visualizations can also be found.<sup>81</sup> They also publish an annual “European Drug Report.”<sup>82</sup>

EMCDDA collects data annually using its reporting tools via its network of 30 national focal points in 28 EU Member countries. It also includes open-source material, data from the EMCDDA database of individual seizures identified through its monitoring program, UNODC data, and data from the International Narcotics Control Board. Inconsistencies exist between data points from different sources, and for some countries data may represent minimum estimates. Key gaps in data exist, but where estimates are given, amputations and assumptions are noted. If data was insufficient, no estimates were given.

### *Frontex*

Frontex has some statistics on illegal border crossings on their webpage. In their annual risk analysis, detailed analyses of people-smuggling routes, crossings by nationality, total people, arrests of people-smugglers, border type (sea and land), sex of immigrant, and age group are indicated. Around 76 percent of migrants reach Europe by sea, according to this analysis. A detailed breakdown of immigrants entering from each sea border from 2015 to 2018 and the detections by sea route for the three top nationalities for each route from 2014 to 2017 are given. Clandestine entries by sea from 2015 to 2018 are also available; so are statistics by sea of facilitator.<sup>83</sup>

### *Information Fusion Centre–Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)*

IFC-IOR is a center operated by the government of India, and was launched in December 2018 in Gurugram, India. The center is jointly run by the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. Their aim is to collate, fuse, and disseminate intelligence on maritime crime and threats from the Gulf of Guinea to Southeast Asia.<sup>84</sup> Contraband smuggling and irregular human migration (IHM) are two of the categories covered in their reports. Contraband smuggling is divided into the subcategories drug smuggling, wildlife smuggling, weapons smuggling, cigarette smuggling, fuel smuggling, natural resources smuggling, domestic product smuggling, and liquor smuggling.<sup>85</sup> Incidents are collected in four sectors: Sector A—Gulf of Guinea, Sector B—Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea, Sector C—Bay of Bengal, and Sector D—South East Asia. Monthly maritime

security reports are available on the IFC-IOR website. The reports include a map containing contraband smuggling incidents, statistics of incidents by region and type, and details of the incidents with analysis.

IFC-IOR signed information-exchange agreements with 22 countries and aims to base liaison officers from partner countries at the center to strengthen collaboration between nations and the center in order to enhance safety and security in maritime regions. France has placed an international liaison officer at the center and a US liaison officer joined the center in March 2020.<sup>86</sup>

### *Information Fusion Centre–Singapore*

The IFC–Singapore was established on April 27, 2009. International liaison officers from 24 countries as well as Republic of Singapore Navy personnel are currently represented at the center. The center also collaborates with 97 agencies in 41 countries. The IFC collects and fuses actionable information and data on all maritime security–related incidents in the Southeast Asia region.<sup>87</sup>

The IFC distributes a monthly maritime security incident map, an annual report, weekly reports, daily reports, and spot commentaries for the region. The IFC relies on open-source data from the focal points reported to local or flag-state countries. In the IFC’s monthly map, statistics on contraband smuggling and IHM are given. Incidents are also presented on a map. Under contraband smuggling, types of contraband are classified under drugs, wildlife, domestic products, tobacco, fuel, and natural resources. Under IHM, statistics on the nationalities or ethnicities of migrants, the number of incidents, and numbers of migrants are provided. A description of each incident is given, and the location of each incident is depicted on a map.

In the annual report, terms are defined and comparisons between incidents in the report year and the preceding year are indicated on maps. Incidents by month for the last five years, their category, location, and type of vessel, and whether they involved drugs, weapons, and wildlife are indicated. IHM activities are divided into three key areas—Area I (in the vicinity of Sri Lanka), II (in the vicinity of Pengerang), and III (in the Sulu and Celebes Seas). IHM incidents are indicated on a map and statistics on incidents for the last three years and the nationalities or

the ethnicities of migrants are given. Incidents of human smuggling, human trafficking, and human exploitation are combined in the statistics. An analysis and trends are given in the report.<sup>88</sup>

### *Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre*

In 2013 the Regional Maritime Security Programme (MASE), a collaborative effort between the Indian Ocean Commission and the European Union, which financed the project, was established in the eastern and southern Africa and Indian Ocean (ESA-IO) region. In April 2018, five states from the ESA-IO region signed the Agreement for the Setting Up of a Regional Maritime Information Exchange and Sharing Mechanism in the Western Indian Ocean with the objective of improving regional maritime situational awareness. The CRFIM was established to monitor maritime activities and crimes and to promote the exchange of maritime information between the center and international, regional, and national shareholders.

CRFIM has weekly activity reports and monthly and annual reports. CRFIM reports focus on incidents in the ESA-IO region. Trafficking categories in the weekly activity reports are smuggling and contraband at sea, the weapons Proliferation and Security Initiative (PSI), and human trafficking at sea. Details of incidents are provided, and incidents can be located on a map.

In the annual report, all incidents can be located on a map and trends are analyzed. Quantities of drug seizures are given in volume and in number of seizures. A list of seizures as well as seizures by location, vessel involved, and season are given. Weapons and explosives seizures are indicated on the PSI map and a list of the incidents is given. Human trafficking at sea has the subcategories of irregular migration, stowaways, and human trafficking. Migrant flows are analyzed and statistics on flow between different countries are available and listed under the different routes. Stowaway cases and cases of human trafficking are also listed. Registration is required to receive reports, but news on interdictions is available on the website.<sup>89</sup>

Information in the reports is obtained from operation centers, maritime stakeholders, and human sources. Country liaison officers are also placed at the center. The

center assesses open-source information online and has access to satellite Automatic Identification System (AIS) of ships and satellite imagery.<sup>90</sup>

### *UN Security Council Panel of Experts*

When imposing sanctions on a country, the UN Security Council institutes a committee and panel of experts to examine the violations. The panel supports the committee in carrying out its mandate.<sup>91</sup> Panels of Experts on Libya, Mali, Yemen, and Somalia, among others, have been appointed in recent years. They gather and analyze information from states, UN bodies, regional organizations, and relevant parties regarding the implementation of sanctions. They provide the Council with interim, annual, and periodic reports which include violations of the arms embargo. These reports are open-source documents containing a wealth of information related to maritime supply of weapons and ammunition. This often includes the country of origin as well as the group that the consignment was intended for. Trafficking in drugs and migrants will also often be reported in these documents, especially when smuggling networks finance armed groups.

### *Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council*

The Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC) was established in the 1970s as an association of customs administrations within the Caribbean region with the objective of exchanging information on smuggling and assisting regional administrations in countering the new threat of organized drug-trafficking through the region.<sup>92</sup> The CCLEC Joint Intelligence Office (JIO) situated in St. Lucia is responsible for gathering and disseminating intelligence and functions as a WCO Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (RILO).<sup>93</sup> The RILO network is a global intelligence network of 11 customs offices in support of customs intelligence exchange among regional stakeholders.<sup>94</sup> CLEC JIO and WCO RILO publish a monthly intelligence briefing highlighting the activities of organized groups and trafficking events in the Caribbean region. The report is restricted, although the majority of the incidents are sourced from media articles. The reports contain data on drug seizures, migrant smuggling, and firearm and drug trafficking.<sup>95</sup>









### Entities with a National Focus

Most national governments collect data on trafficking interdictions. Countries report this information to international bodies such as UNODC in annual questionnaires. Some will publish statistics from time to time. At the national level, several national authorities are regularly publishing information on trafficking in persons, but they are the exception. One example is the Dutch “National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings” that was first published in 2002. The report included data about victims, their profiles, and offenders prosecuted and convicted for trafficking in persons.<sup>96</sup>

Organizations use several data sources to create a rich data environment, such as human, technical, or signal data. Some sources are more suitable for specific needs. An example of this is geospatial analysis, which is essential to analyzing illicit trade routes. It is not suited, however, to tracking financial flows or gaining in-depth information about the experiences of the victims of crime. Some data-gathering techniques are used by all collecting entities while others are very tailored to specific needs, such as animal DNA Index Systems in the illicit wildlife trade. Table 1 illustrates different data sources and corresponding data-gathering techniques.

TABLE 1: DATA SOURCES ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME\*

 <b>HUMAN</b>	Interviews of those captured/arrested Interviews of victims of crime Patrols Communication with fishers and locals	 <b>OPEN SOURCE</b>	Media reports Crowdsourcing Legal transcripts Research publications Social Media Databases
 <b>SIGNALS</b>	Automatic Identification System (AIS) CCTV		
 <b>GEOSPATIAL</b>	Data analysis	 <b>TECHNICAL</b>	Bibliographic data such as fingerprints, photos, and DNA Crime scene evidence Image and video comparison and enhancing software Facial recognition Ballistics Animal DNA Index Systems
 <b>FINANCIAL</b>	Tracking Financial Flows		

\*Some of the data sources listed in Table 1 are privileged.

# ANALYSIS



*Cargo ship. Photo: Pixabay*

## IV. ANALYSIS

### Analysis and summary

While many of the issues identified in the preceding analysis are cross-cutting, four main categories of problem can be identified: data availability, diversification and disaggregation of data, compliance and reporting, and the balance between quantitative and qualitative reporting and analysis. We conclude our discussion with a short reflection on the importance of strengthening efforts to collect data on maritime trafficking crimes and consider what future steps might be taken to do so.

### Data Availability

Data availability continues to be a major issue for the analysis of many forms of maritime trafficking. The only open-source database with detailed incident-level data that is similar to the IMO piracy database is the IMO inter-agency platform for sharing information on migrant smuggling by sea, which includes data from other organizations. No other such platform exists for any of the other types of maritime trafficking discussed in this document. Moreover, while the IFCs play an important role in incident reporting in Asian and African regions, their coverage is regionally specific, and comparable organizations do not exist in other parts of the world, such as the Americas.

There are a number of reasons for this general lack of open-source data. The trafficking of some illicit goods (such as nuclear materials, for example) may be perceived as a security issue or be politically charged, so data about these activities may be kept secret. Elsewhere, data are not collected comprehensively because a particular issue is not prioritized relative to other issues. The dumping or trafficking of illicit waste has been a low political and law enforcement priority for many countries, for example, and there is relatively little data on these activities for this reason.

Data may also be limited because the information is difficult to marketize. Piracy data, for example, is prioritized by private maritime entities due to its direct importance to day-to-day security, operations, and risk assessments. Marketizing trafficking data for most

transnational smuggling and trafficking crimes is less common. While data does exist to a lesser extent for wildlife trafficking as NGOs usually seek funding for anti-poaching programs and statistics to support these efforts, there is a shortage of privately sourced data for other forms of smuggling.

### Diversity and Disaggregation of Data

The diversity of potential data across different forms of maritime trafficking also complicates collection and aggregation. Organizations tend to compartmentalize different forms of trafficking, which ignores convergences and synergies across different trafficking forms. For some forms of trafficking, statistics and datasets are abundant, creating a significant volume of information for some crimes but very little for others. The number of incidents related to maritime trafficking are quite overwhelmingly biased towards drug trafficking, for example. The abundance of data in some areas, its relative scarcity in others, and the diversity and variety of data across different forms of crime mean that it is a significant challenge to construct a comprehensive database.

*Organizations tend to compartmentalize different forms of trafficking, which ignores convergences and synergies across different trafficking forms.*

Moreover, much of the available data are not maritime-specific, making it difficult to separate out the role of the maritime sector in trafficking. While some organizations, such as the Container Security Initiative, have a strong maritime dimension, the maritime dimension is often neglected in other datasets. While large volumes of data are available for wildlife trafficking, data which include open-source incidents, for example, less is specifically maritime-related. It is not always possible to distill the flow by sea from datasets or reports. This is an important absence because of the centrality of maritime routes to many trafficking crimes. These entail distinct transnational patterns of interconnection and networks of organization and present particular interdiction and countermeasure demands which can only be understood if the specifically maritime aspects of such activities are apparent.



## Compliance and Reporting

Several of the datasets from international organizations rely on contributing states and their corresponding agencies completing and submitting detailed questionnaires on transnational crimes. Some are reluctant to comply and annual reports by organizations are often completed by filling information data gaps from several other organizations' datasets.

The reluctance of some states to report creates an imbalance in datasets and can skew statistics to the disadvantage of reporting countries. This is probably the biggest shortcoming in trafficking data. Several countries have not reported trafficking data for years. For example, many drug interdictions in the Caribbean were reported in the media but were not indicated in the UNODC drug database. In other cases, questionnaires will be submitted by countries for one crime type but not another, or for some years but not others. This indicates a problem with reporting by specific agencies in countries. In the Caribbean, drug incidents are reported in CCLEC monthly reports, but this data is not available for public use.

## Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis

Quantitative analysis of trafficking incidents is helpful in identifying patterns, trends, and geographic hotspots. However, such analysis also has limitations. Because much of the data collected derives from failed attempts, recorded interdictions often reflect the effectiveness of law enforcement rather than trafficking activity, per se. Moreover, some issues are also harder to quantify than others. Human smuggling data often cannot be accurately quantified, for example, and so mostly relies on estimates.

Qualitative data collection can be important in facilitating a deeper understanding of trafficking activities and help to address these gaps. For example, qualitative analysis of the transnational criminal networks involved in trafficking can provide insights into issues not easily captured in quantitative data, such as the intersections between different forms of crime. As a result of qualitative fieldwork and research, information and data are available on different routes, money paid to smuggling networks, duration of journeys, and money paid to corrupt officials.<sup>97</sup> This does not, however, allow

for quantifying the overall volume of smuggling, in which case such approaches can be usefully qualified by what quantitative data there may be available.

## Looking Forward

A clearer picture of transnational crime as a whole will be beneficial to law enforcement efforts to address these crimes, identify weaknesses in countermeasures, and address their root causes and intersections. In particular :

- Data gaps should be identified and acknowledged to help guide future data collection to overcome the current imbalance towards reporting of certain forms of maritime crime.
- Collaboration between organizations collecting data should also be encouraged. Existing examples of successful collaborative practices—such as the ICCWC, for example—could be relevant to other forms of crime, too.
- The collation of incident-driven datasets based on open-source media reports and other sources (such as the IFC reports, where available) may have the potential to ameliorate some data availability problems, including under- or non-reporting by individual states.
- The IFCs have the potential to contribute significantly to these datasets, especially given that they already incorporate incidents in their monthly reports. Generally speaking, the IFC model seems to work well and there may be considerable benefit to expanding to those parts of the world where coverage is more fragmented.

*While we should not just concentrate on either the land-based or maritime dimensions of these crimes, there does need to be more understanding of the maritime sector's role in trafficking. This could be achieved by creating datasets focused on maritime routes, or by having a clearer delineation in existing datasets between land-based trafficking and maritime trafficking.*



## DATABASES

### Human Trafficking

[DataUNODC](#) (UNODC)

[Migration Data Portal](#) (International Organization for Migration)

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

### Illicit Waste

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)

### Narcotics

[Country Profiles](#) (UNODC) \_

[Databases: Global Information Sharing](#) (INTERPOL, December 31, 2019) \_

[DataUNODC: Drug Demand & Drug Supply](#) (UNODC)

[Drugs Analysis and Intelligence](#) (INTERPOL)\_

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)

### People Smuggling

[GISIS: Inter-Agency Platform for Information Sharing on Migrant Smuggling by Sea](#) (International Maritime Organization)

[Migration Data Portal](#) (International Organization for Migration)

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

[SHERLOC portal](#) (UNODC)

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)

## Small Arms and Light Weapons

[Databases: Global Information Sharing](#) (INTERPOL, December 31, 2019) \_

[DataUNODC](#) (UNODC)

[INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network](#) (INTERPOL)

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

[The Weapons ID Database](#) (Small Arms Survey)

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)\_

## Wildlife

[CITES Trade Database](#) (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) \_

[DataUNODC](#) (UNODC)

[Elephant Trade Information System](#) (TRAFFIC)

[The 2018 United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems](#) (2018 UN-CTS) (UNODC) \_

[TradeMapper](#) (TRAFFIC) \_

[UN Comtrade Database](#) (United Nations)\_

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)

## WMD

[UNODC-WCO Global Container Control Programme](#) (UNODC)

# ANNEX: DATA QUESTIONNAIRES—ILLCIT TRADES

## 1. UNODC Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ), Part IV—Drug Trafficking

UNODC collects and analyzes data on drug trafficking arrests, seizures, trends, prices, and purity of illicit drugs through the Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ).<sup>98</sup>

### UNODC ANNUAL REPORT QUESTIONNAIRE (ARQ), PART IV—DRUG TRAFFICKING<sup>99</sup>

CLASS AND TYPE OF DRUGS					
CANNABIS					
Marijuana (herb)	Hashish (resin)	Plant	Oil	Seeds	Other
ILLCIT OPIOIDS					
Heroin	Opium (raw and prepared)	Illicit morphine	Diverted/counterfeit pharmaceutical drugs containing opioids under international control	Other illicit opioids	
COCAINE					
Cocaine (cocaine HCl, powder cocaine)		Crack	Coca leaf	Other	
AMPHETAMINE-TYPE STIMULANTS (TOTAL)					
Amphetamine	Methamphetamine		Ecstasy	Diverted/counterfeit prescription amphetamine-type stimulants (specify)	
OTHER STIMULANTS (SPECIFY)					
SEDATIVES AND TRANQUILIZERS (TOTAL)					
Diverted/counterfeit prescription drugs containing benzodiazepines	Diverted/counterfeit prescription drugs containing barbiturates	Methaqualone	GHB	Other sedatives and tranquillizers (specify)	
HALLUCINOGENS (TOTAL)					
LSD			Other hallucinogens (specify)		
DRUGS UNDER NATIONAL BUT NOT INTERNATIONAL CONTROL (SPECIFY)					
OTHER (SPECIFY)					
ALL DRUGS (GRAND TOTAL)					
METADATA: WHAT SOURCES OF INFORMATION (PUBLISHED AND UNPUBLISHED) WERE REFERRED TO IN ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS?					

QUANTITY AND TOTAL CASES					
TOTAL QUANTITY OF DRUGS SEIZED IN YOUR COUNTRY IN THE REPORTING YEAR? (FOR EACH DRUG TYPE)					
Quantity	Preferred unit (kilograms, etc.)	Number of units	Type of unit (tablets, etc.)	Total number of cases of drug seizures in reporting year?	What definition of "cases of drug seizures" were used

TRAFFICKING ROUTES		
ORIGIN FOR EACH DRUG TYPE		
Producing/ manufacturing country–main countries	Producing/ manufacturing country–Percentage	Country of departure–main countries
TRANSIT		
List the country from which the drug entered the country–main countries	List the country from which the drug entered the country–percentage	
FINAL DESTINATION		
List the country from which the drug entered the country–main countries	List the country from which the drug entered the country–percentage	

SEIZURES BY METHOD				
INBOUND–WHAT PERCENTAGE OF SEIZURES (BY WEIGHT) THAT CAME INTO YOUR COUNTRY IN THE REPORTING YEAR WAS TRANSPORTED BY EACH METHOD?				
Air	Land	Sea	Mail	Percentage of units
OUTBOUND–WHAT PERCENTAGE OF SEIZURES (BY WEIGHT) THAT LEFT YOUR COUNTRY IN THE REPORTING YEAR WAS TRANSPORTED BY EACH METHOD?				
Air	Land	Sea	Mail	Percentage of units
WHAT HAS BEEN THE TREND IN TRAFFICKING OF EACH DRUG OVER THE REPORTING YEAR?				

TRENDS AND TRAFFICKING GROUPS		
IN CASES FOR WHICH THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN TRAFFICKING TREND OR SEIZURES PROVIDE DETAIL AND SUSPECTED REASONS.		
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION OR THE ORIGIN, ROUTES, OR FINAL DESTINATIONS		
DESCRIBE THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH REGARD TO DRUG TRAFFICKING GROUPS OPERATING IN YOUR COUNTRY.		
Nationalities	Structure	Type of drugs involved

In the Individual Drug Seizures questionnaire, states are requested to fill out data on specific seizure cases such as the place where the drugs were seized, the place where the drug was hidden, method of transportation, countries listed in trafficking route, and details of traffickers.<sup>100</sup>



## 2. UNODC Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)

The Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)<sup>101</sup> is divided into data sheets for arms seizures, criminal context, geographical information, arms found and surrendered, tracing results, significant seizures, total parts and components and ammunition seized, trafficking context, glossary, and types of items.

### UNODC ILLICIT ARMS FLOWS QUESTIONNAIRE (UN-IAFQ)

ARMS SEIZURES							
TOTAL WEAPONS SEIZED BY TYPE OF WEAPON							
Revolver	Pistol	Rifle (including carbine)	Shotgun (including short shotgun)	Machine Gun	Submachine Gun	Other weapons, specify	Unknown
ARMS SEIZED BY CONDITION OF ARMS							
Industrially manufactured arms with no signs of alteration or deactivation	Converted arms	Assembled arms	Reactivated arms	Modified arms	Arms otherwise illicitly manufactured, including artisanal production	Unknown	
TOTAL ARMS SEIZED BY MARKING							
Uniquely marked		No Marking		Altered Marking		Unknown	
TOTAL ARMS SEIZED BY COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE, TOP TEN COUNTRIES							
CRIMINAL CONTEXT							
SEIZED BY LEGAL JUSTIFICATION							
Illicit possession	Illicit use	Illicit trafficking	Illicit Manufacture	Altered markings	Unknown	Other, specify	
SEIZED IN CONNECTION WITH SUSPECTED OFFENCES							
Arms offences– Illicit trafficking	Arms offences– other	Forms of trafficking– Drugs	Forms of trafficking– Other	Other forms of organized crime	Acts of terrorism	Violent crime	Other, specify
GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION							
TYPE OF LOCATION							
Planes and airports	Vessels and harbours	Land borders	Within national territory	Other, specify		Unknown	
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA							
State, region, department, or province				Unknown			
RANK TEN MOST FREQUENT ROUTES OBSERVED IN SEIZURES							
Country of departure		Transit country		Country of intended destination		Total arms seized in this route	

FOUND AND SURRENDERED							
TOTAL BY TYPE OF ARMS							
Revolver	Pistol	Rifle (including carbine)	Shotgun (including short shotgun)	Machine Gun	Submachine Gun	Other weapons, specify	Unknown
TOTAL ARMS FOUND AND SURRENDERED BY MARKING							
Uniquely marked		No Marking		Altered Marking		Unknown	
TOTAL ARMS FOUND AND SURRENDERED BY COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE							
CONTEXT OF SURRENDERS							
DID YOU HAVE VOLUNTARY ARMS COLLECTION CAMPAIGNS DURING REPORTING YEAR?							
DID YOU HAVE A DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND REINTEGRATION PROCESS IN PLACE DURING THE REPORTING YEAR?							
DETAILS AS TO HOW THE SURRENDERED ARMS WERE DISPOSED OF							

TRACING RESULTS							
TRACING RESULTS OF ARMS SEIZED, FOUND, AND SURRENDERED	UNIQUELY IDENTIFIABLE THROUGH MARKING						
	Weapon seized from its legitimate owner and weapon found in national registry	Weapon seized from illegitimate owner and weapon found in national registry	Point of diversion of the weapon (last legal record) identified through tracing and weapon found in foreign registry (international tracing)	Point of diversion otherwise established	Tracing attempted, but not enough information to identify point of diversion	Tracing procedure pending	No tracing procedure initiated
	NOT UNIQUELY IDENTIFIABLE THROUGH MARKING						
	Illicitly manufactured		Erased or altered marking		No further information		
	UNKNOWN STATUS WITH RESPECT TO MARKING						
TRACING REQUESTS SENT BY COUNTRY TO OTHER COUNTRIES OR REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS							
Requested country/organization	Number of requests sent		Number of arms involved		Number of answers received		Total number of arms involved
TRACING REQUESTS RECEIVED BY COUNTRY FROM OTHER COUNTRIES OR REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS							
Requesting country/organization	Number of requests received		Number of arms involved		Number of answers provided		Number of arms involved

SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUAL ARMS SEIZURES			
GENERAL			
Case No.	Date	Location of seizure (City/Municipality)	
ARMS			
Type of weapon	Country of manufacture	Make	Total Arms
OTHER ITEMS SEIZED WITH ARMS			
Type of items	Quantity	Unit of measurement	
INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED			
Number of individuals brought into formal contact with the police (suspects arrested) in relation to seizure			
TRAFFICKING ROUTE, IF APPLICABLE			
Is this a case of illicit trafficking in arms?	Country from which seized arms entered national territory	Type of routing	Location of seizure

The data collected for 2016 and 2017 from this questionnaire are available online<sup>102</sup> and can be downloaded.<sup>103</sup>

### 3. UNODC Questionnaire for the “Global Report on Trafficking In Persons” (GLOTIP)

Data on the global trafficking in persons is collected in the UNODC Questionnaire for GLOTIP.

#### UNODC QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE GLOBAL REPORT ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (GLOTIP)<sup>104</sup>

OFFENCES					
OFFENCES OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS RECORDED IN YOUR COUNTRY					
Total number of offences of trafficking in persons	Indicate the article(s) of the criminal code you refer to			Source(s) of the data provided in this table	

OFFENDERS					
PERSONS BROUGHT INTO FORMAL CONTACT WITH THE POLICE AND/OR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN SUSPECTED OF, ARRESTED FOR, OR CAUTIONED FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS					
Total number of persons brought into formal contact	Males—Adult/children	Females—Adult/children	Indicate the article(s) of the criminal code you refer to	Source(s) of the data provided in this table	Please specify whether the data correspond to suspected, arrested, cautioned, or other
PERSONS AGAINST WHOM PROSECUTION WAS COMMENCED FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS					
Total number of persons prosecuted	Males—Adult/children	Females—Adult/children	Indicate the article(s) of the criminal code you refer to		Source(s) of the data provided in this table
PERSONS CONVICTED OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (PREFERABLY CONVICTED IN THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE)					
Total number of persons convicted	Males—Adult/children	Females—Adult/children	Indicate the article(s) of the criminal code you refer to	Source(s) of the data provided in this table	Indicate at which stage of the criminal proceeding (i.e., conviction at first instance, or second or third instance) you are referring to
Please list any other crimes for which a conviction was secured/sought concurrently with the crime of trafficking in persons					
PERSONS CONVICTED OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS BY FORMS OF EXPLOITATION					
Total number of persons convicted of trafficking for sexual exploitation	Total number of persons convicted of trafficking for forced labour	Total number of persons convicted of trafficking for removal of organs	Total number of persons convicted of trafficking for other purposes	Source(s) of the data provided in this table	
LIST THE CITIZENSHIPS AND NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS					



VICTIMS				
PERSONS IDENTIFIED BY STATE AUTHORITIES AS VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS				
Total number of victims of trafficking	Males—Adult/children	Females—Adult/children	Source(s) of the data provided in this table	“Children”: As defined under article 3 (d) of the Protocol, “children” shall mean any person under 18 years of age. Do the data comply with this definition?
VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS BY FORMS OF EXPLOITATION				
Total number of victims trafficked for sexual exploitation	Total number of victims trafficked for forced labour	Total number of victims trafficked for removal of organs	Total number of victims trafficked for other purposes	All categories specify male/female, adult/children
LIST THE CITIZENSHIPS AND NUMBER OF PERSONS IDENTIFIED AS VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS BY STATE AUTHORITIES				
HOW MANY OF THE VICTIMS OF YOUR OWN COUNTRY WERE TRAFFICKED WITHIN THE BORDER OF YOUR COUNTRY? AND HOW MANY WERE REPATRIATED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES?				
IN REFERENCE TO THOSE IDENTIFIED VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPATRIATED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, LIST THE COUNTRIES FROM WHERE THE IDENTIFIED VICTIMS WERE REPATRIATED				

COURT CASES	
COURT CASE #	
Conviction date	Court

## 4. Standard format for the CITES annual illegal trade report

All parties of CITES have to submit an annual illegal trade report. This data is shared with the ICCWC and is also incorporated in UNODC's World WISE database.

### STANDARD FORMAT FOR THE CITES ANNUAL ILLEGAL TRADE REPORT<sup>105</sup>

CATEGORY	OPTIONS					
NATIONAL REFERENCE NUMBER						
DATE OF SEIZURE						
SPECIES						
DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMEN						
QUANTITY						
UNIT						
LOCATION OF INCIDENT						
DETECTING AGENCY	Police	Customs	Wildlife Agency	Other		
METHOD OF DETECTING	Scanning images	Random check	Third-party information	Other		
	Risk assessment	Sniffer dog	Physical inspection			
REASON FOR SEIZURE	No CITES permit	Mis-declared	Illegal crossing	Other		
MODE OF TRANSPORT	Maritime	Rail	Road	Air	Mail	
METHOD OF CONCEALMENT						
ALLEGED COUNTRY OF ORIGIN						
COUNTRY(IES) OF TRANSIT						
ALLEGED FINAL DESTINATION						
ESTIMATED VALUE IN COUNTRY* (AMOUNT AND CURRENCY)						
NATIONALITY(IES) OF OFFENDERS						
LAW UNDER WHICH CHARGES WERE BROUGHT (DESIRABLE)						
SANCTION (DESIRABLE)						
DISPOSAL OF CONFISCATED SPECIMENS (DESIRABLE)	Returned to country of export	Designated rescue centres	Euthanasia/ destruction	Sale/ transformation		
	Public zoos or botanical gardens	Approved, private facilities	Storage/ safekeeping	Educational purposes		
				Other		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION						

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## SAFE SEAS

*[safeseas.net](http://safeseas.net)*



SafeSeas is a network of research organisations that investigate maritime security. The focus is on maritime threats and 'blue crimes', and responses in the form of law enforcement & policing, capacity building, or environmental and sustainable development.

## STABLE SEAS

*[stableseas.org](http://stableseas.org)*



Stable Seas, a program of One Earth Future, engages the international security community with novel research on illicit maritime activities such as piracy and armed robbery, trafficking and smuggling in persons, IUU (illegal/unregulated/unreported) fishing, and illicit trades in weapons, drugs, and other contraband. These activities perpetuate organized political violence and reinforce each other to threaten economic development and the welfare of coastal populations.

## ONE EARTH FUTURE

*[oneearthfuture.org](http://oneearthfuture.org)*



One Earth Future Foundation (OEF) is an incubator of innovative peacebuilding programs that designs, tests, and partners to scale programs that work hand-in-hand with those most affected by conflict to eliminate the root causes of war. We believe in a world beyond war, where sustainable peace is truly possible.