

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME PROGRAMME**

# INTERPOL's response to the illegal transboundary movements of WEEE in Europe and Africa

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#### INTERPOL - a global organization

- **Created in 1923**, INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organization, with 190 member countries,
- INTERPOL aims to facilitate international police co-operation
- General Secretariat in Lyon, France, seven Regional Bureaus, one Liaison Office, and Special Representatives of INTERPOL to the United Nations and to the European Union in Brussels.
- Four official languages: Arabic, English, French and Spanish
- A National Central Bureau (NCB) in each member country

# History of INTERPOL Involvement in Pollution Crime

- 2006: INTERPOL Pollution Crime Working Group initiates global research to identify the highest risks for pollution crime and the involvement of organized crime groups;
  - **Results**: 35 case studies were collated proving examples on illegal traffic of HW, ODS.
- 2009: Establishment of the INTERPOL Global E-Waste Crime Group, focuses specifically on waste electrical and electronic equipment;
  - **Results**: revealing of informal networks or criminals that make profit from illegal traffic of e-wastes to developing countries.

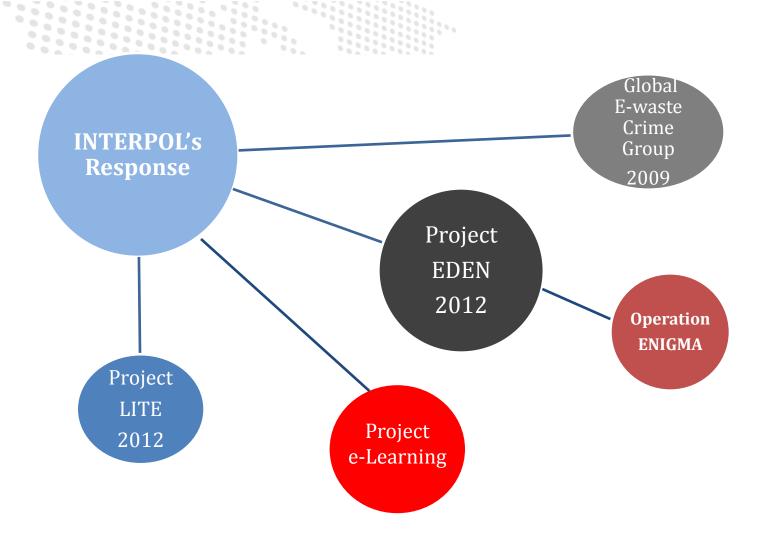
### **Intelligence Gathering/Sharing:**

To assess the criminal activity behind illicit smuggling of hazardous waste through coordinated international efforts, using INTERPOL's secure communications network:

- I 24/7
- Ecomessage



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## **Project EDEN**

An initiative to combat illicit trans-boundary trafficking of hazardous waste



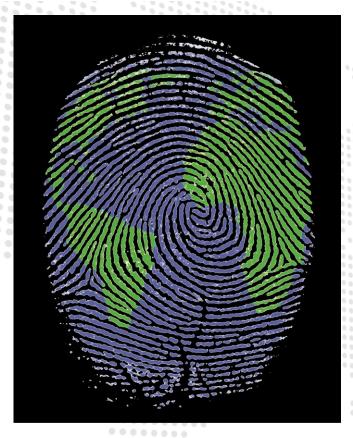
### **Operation ENIGMA**

- From August to December 2012
- Involved **Europe** and **Africa**:
  - ✓ Belgium, United Kingdom, Netherlands and Germany (producing countries)
  - ✓ Ghana, Nigeria, and Guinea (destination countries)



- 100 Tonnes of e-waste seized by Belgian Authorities during the Operation
  - ✓ Returned to the Netherlands for analysis

**RESULTS**: Law enforcement officers still face difficulties in distinguishing between EEE and WEEE, the necessity to establish a guide on the regulation of each participant country;



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