



**World Customs
Organization**

Understanding the size and shape of illicit trade

UNCTAD Illicit Trade Forum

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD



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A multilateral perspective from the WCO

How is state of play and what challenges for Customs to face?

2018 Illicit Trade Report



- Based on Members voluntary CEN data input.
- Six areas of Enforcement – Cultural Heritage; Drugs; Environment; IPR, Health & Safety; Revenue; Security.
- Drugs, Environment and IPR show *mail* as one of the top three conveyance method for smuggling.
- For Drugs (NPS) and IPR seizures, *mail* is the top conveyance method :
 - NPS seizures discovered in mail in 2017 represented over 55% of the total number of seizures.
 - IPR seizures by mail represented over 50% of the total number of seizures in 2016 and 2017.
 - In 2018, this number increased to over 70% of the total number of seizures.

Global commodity trends – a draft picture



- Drugs
- Environment
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Excise goods
- Cultural Heritage

Global and regional operational challenges – make your choice



- Global / interregional consensus on priority areas
- New or changing geo-economic routings
- New and disruptive technologies – intangible goods
- Risk management tools and technologies
- International cooperation and data / intelligence sharing

The global e-commerce – Customs business and challenge



- Volume and speed of small consignments
- All kinds of commodities – all kinds of risks
- Lack of pre arrival data
- The Revenue challenge
- The IPR challenge
- The NPS challenge

The WCO response



- Fighting illicit trade and protection of society are priority strategic goals of WCO
- Annual implementation plan and comprehensive CEP
- WCO Tools and Instruments
- Monitoring through WCO Member's and donors

The WCO operational activities



- The WCO COLIBRI Project – Cocaine
- The WCO LYNX Project - Tobacco
- The INAMA and ICCWC Project - IWT
- The WCO Plastic Waste Project
- The WCO new IPR Programme
- The WCO TENTACLE Project – TBML
- The WCO Global Shield - IED Precursor

The WCO operational activities



....and so much more....



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Thank you!

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