

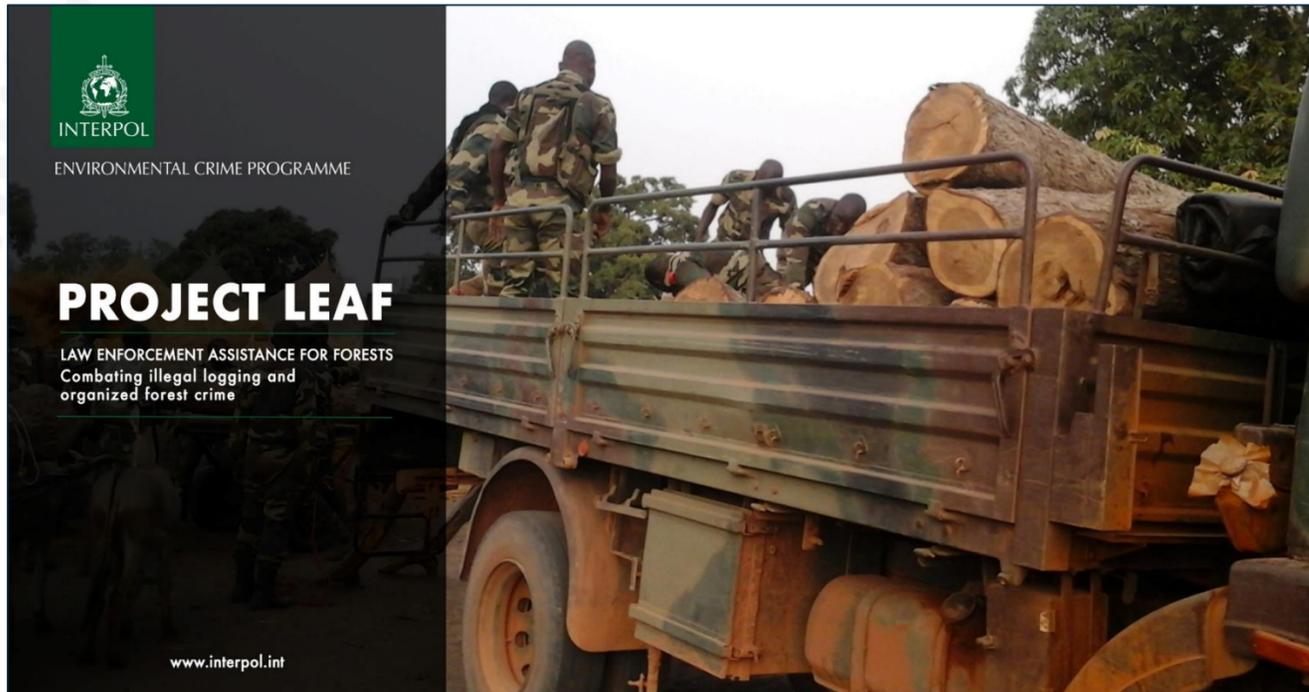


INTERPOL

Forestry Crime Working Group (FoCWG)

**INECE: Forestry Enforcement
March 21, 2019**

**Shelley Gardner
USDA Forest Service and US NCB**

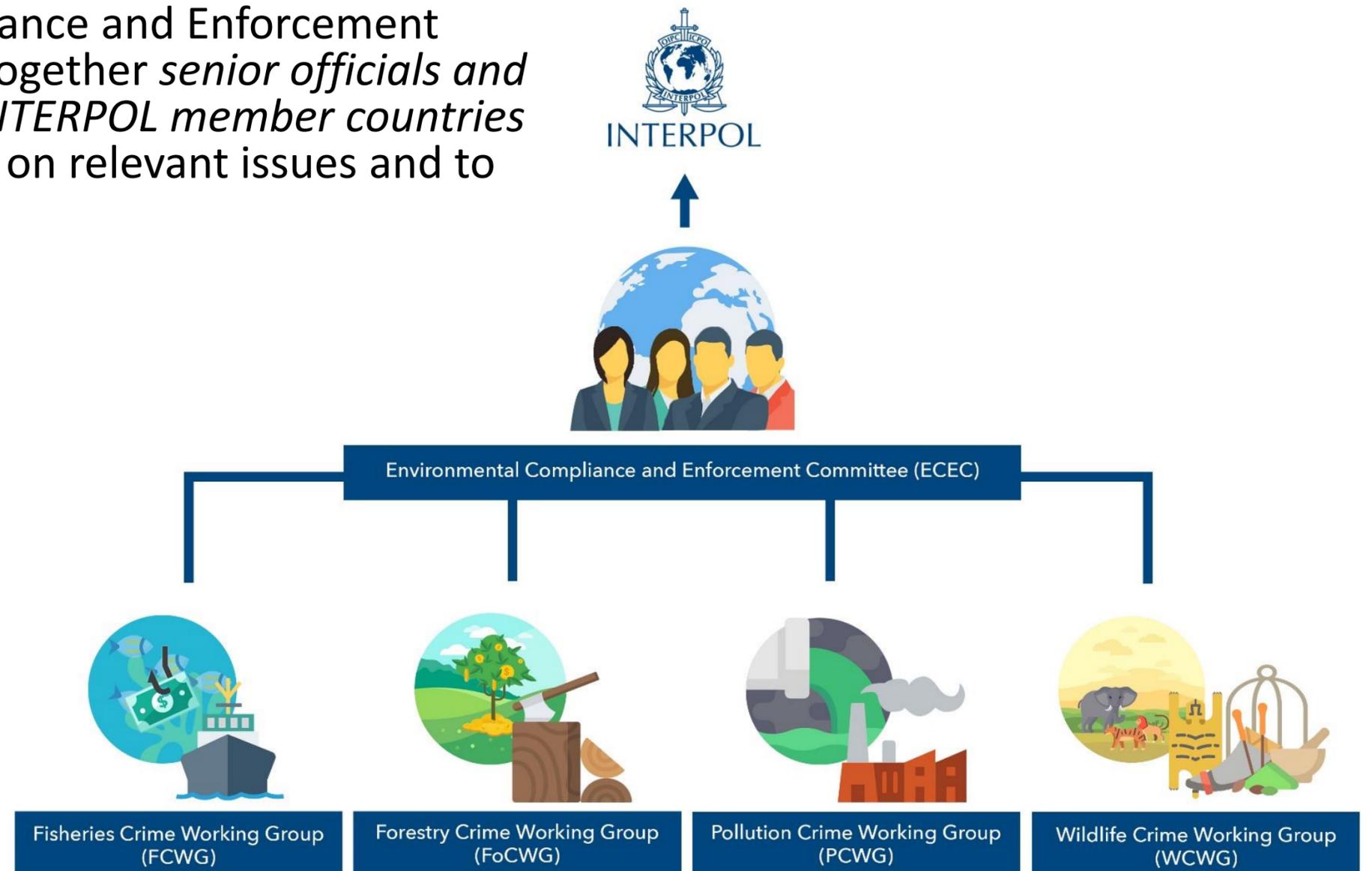


INTERPOL has several, interlinked forums to tackle environmental crimes, including illegal logging and forestry crime

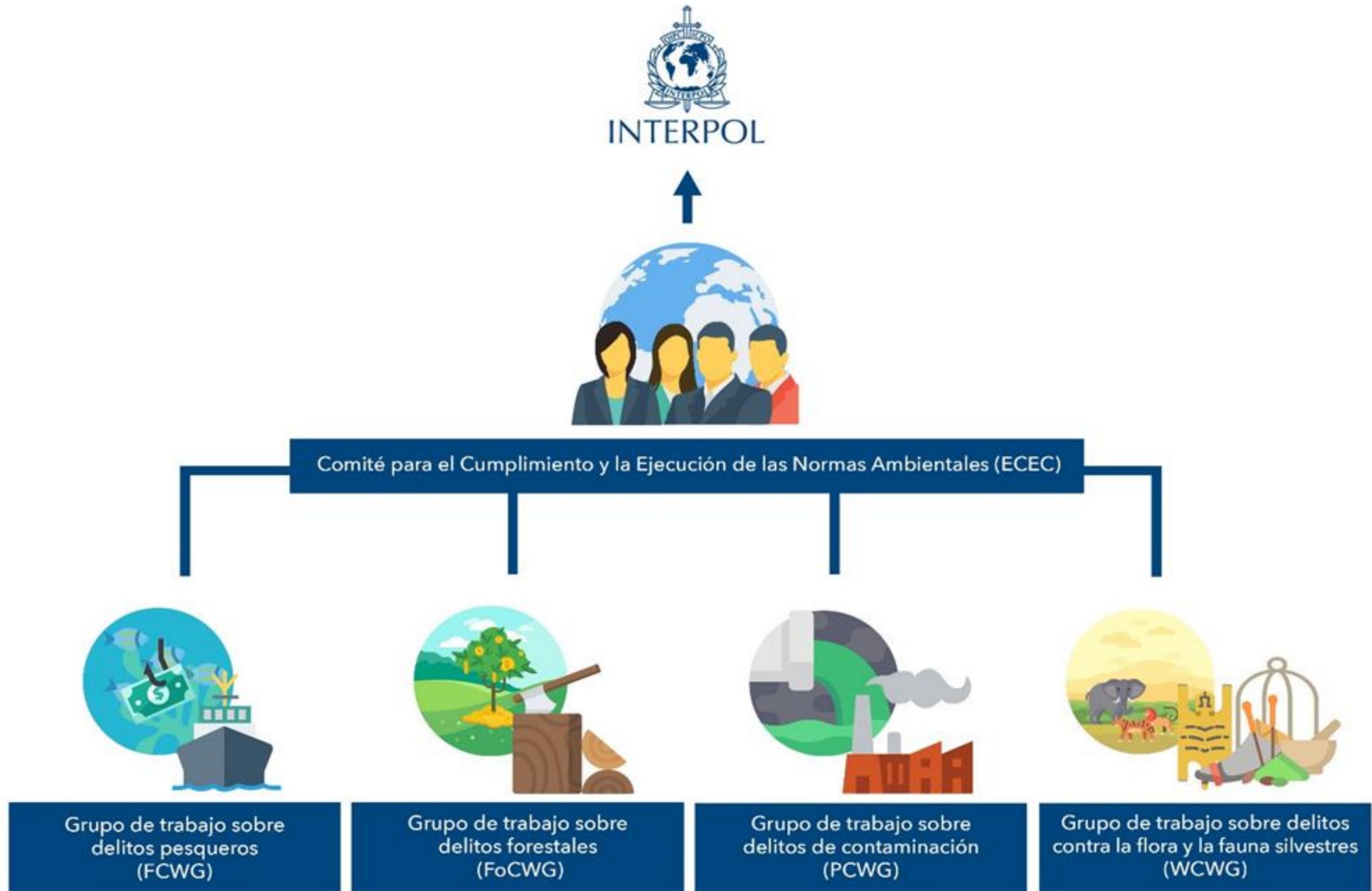
- ***Project LEAF***: Law enforcement assistance for combatting illegal logging and forestry crimes
- ***Forestry Crime Working Group (FoCWG)***: Member countries' working group to tackle illegalities in the forest sector under the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC)

Different, but interrelated platforms for member countries' efforts against environmental crimes

- Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee Advisory Board
 - The Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC) brings together *senior officials and decision makers from all INTERPOL member countries* to provide strategic advice on relevant issues and to harness global support.
- Four Working Groups
 - Wildlife Crime
 - Pollution Crime
 - Fisheries Crime
 - Forestry Crime (new)



Plataformas diferentes contra los crímenes medioambientales



Forestry Crime Working Group (FoCWG) established in November 2017

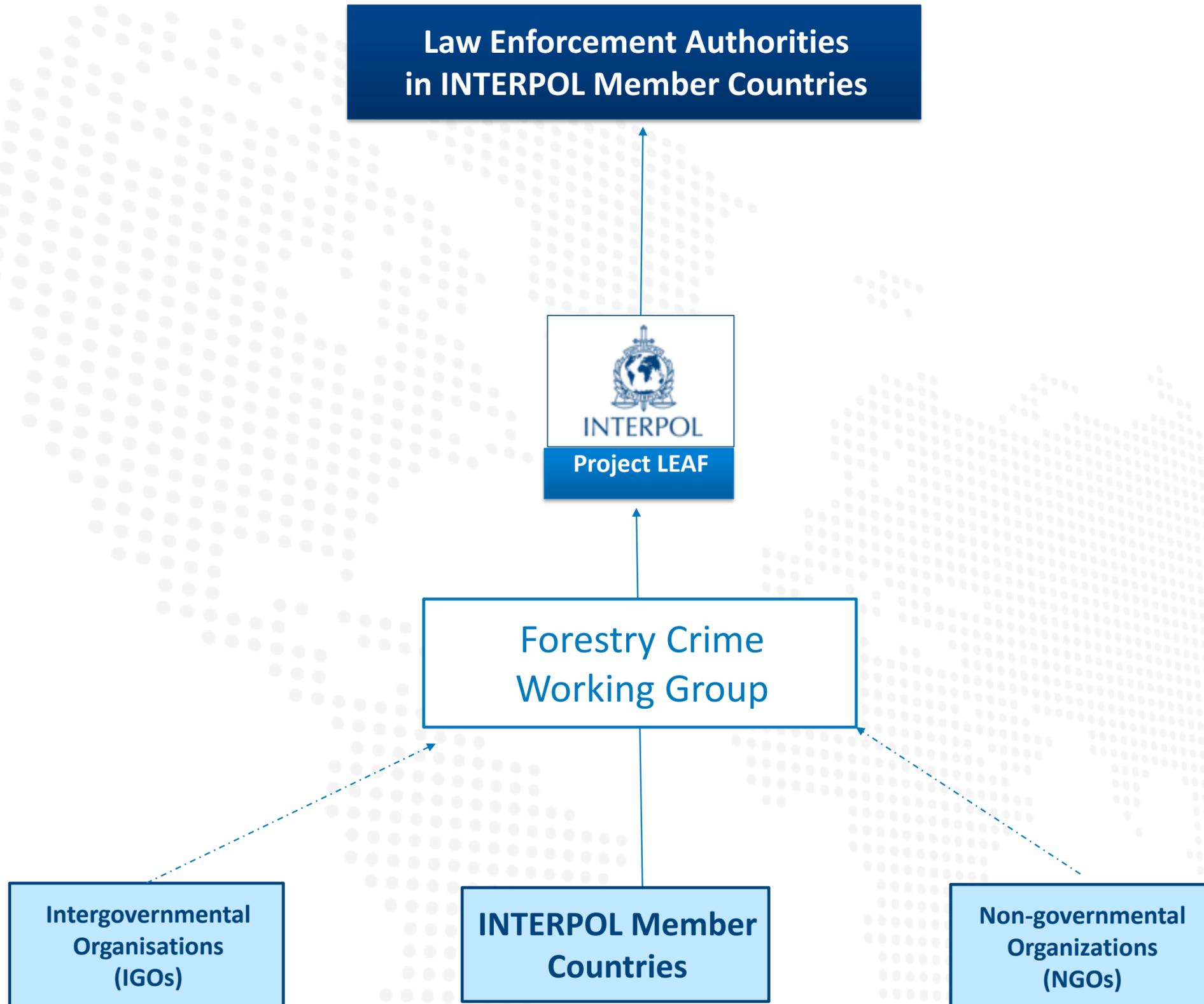
BACKGROUND

- The FoCWG was formally established at the meeting of the ECEC held in Edinburgh in November 2017.
- Prior to November 2017, the FoCWG operated as a Sub-Group under the Wildlife Crime Working Group (WCWG).
- US, Peru and Norway as intermediary board until September 2018

Overarching objective: **Efficient law enforcement against forestry crimes**

The Working Group supports the objectives of INTERPOL to:

- (a) Initiate and deliver country-led international and regional projects aiming to address forestry crime.
- (b) Serve as a forum for the exchange of information and good practices with a view to enhancing INTERPOL's prevention and suppression of forestry crime.
- (c) Provide support, guidance, and capacity for the implementation of ongoing INTERPOL-led projects focusing on forestry crime.
- (d) Promote the use of INTERPOL policing capabilities to tackle forestry crime



Membership in Forestry Crime Working Group

Government officials from INTERPOL member countries with appropriate qualifications and experience in prevention, detection and suppression of forestry and related crime.

- Law enforcement officers
- Judicial officers
- Decision-makers from relevant government agencies

The Working Group shall seek to ensure a broad representation of countries, geographical regions and required expertise.

Observers:

Inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations may be invited as observers at meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME



Environmental crime

Projects

Operations

Task forces

Ecomessage

Report an environmental crime

Committee and Working Groups

Events

International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime

Partnerships

Resources

[Back](#)

Committee and Working Groups

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC) and Working Groups

The Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC) brings together senior officials and decision makers from all INTERPOL member countries to provide strategic advice on relevant issues and to harness global support.

Created in 2012, the ECEC replaced the former Environmental Crime Committee and continues to assist INTERPOL in identifying emerging patterns and trends in the field of environmental crime enforcement.

The Committee acts as a forum in which law enforcement officials meet to discuss new strategies and practices, share experience and expertise, and build the bridges of international cooperation that are vital in the fight against international environmental crime.

The 1st Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee (ECEC) Meeting and Events were held in November 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya.

[Read the final report](#)

The 2nd ECEC Meeting and Events were held in November 2015 in Singapore.

[Read more](#)

The 3rd ECEC Meeting and Events will be held on 28 and 29 November 2017 in Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

[Read more](#)

To support the Committee in its function, four working groups lead projects in specific areas:

- 1 Fisheries Crime Working Group
- 2 Forestry Crime Working Group
- 3 Pollution Crime Working Group
- 4 Wildlife Crime Working Group

The Forestry Crime Working Group was formally established by the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee in November 2017. Prior to that, it operated as a sub-group of the Wildlife Crime Working Group.

The Working Group provides strategic advice to INTERPOL to improve the effectiveness of law enforcement operations targeting organized criminal networks engaged in illegal logging, international trade in illegal timber and related crimes.

Recent activities

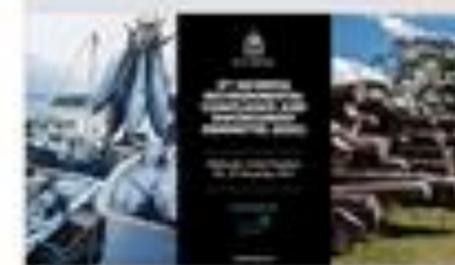
Operation Amazonian It (2015): Tackling the illegal trade of timber sourced in South and Central

[Show](#) [Print](#)

Photos : 6



ECEC



DOCUMENTS

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee Advisory Board - Impact Report 2015 - 2017



SEE ALSO

Message from the Chair

- [July 2015](#)
- [July 2014](#)
- [November 2014](#)

INTERPOL ECEC ADVISORY BOARD WORKING GROUPS' POINTS OF CONTACT

Working Group	Chair	AB Liaison	ENS Lead
Pollution	Joe Poux	Edwin Lakerveld	Federica Piovesana
Fisheries	Eve De Coning	Gunnar Stolsvik	Alistair McDonnell
Wildlife	Grant Miller	Isham Ibader	Henri Fournel
Forestry	Shelley Gardner/ Rannveig Formo/ Flor de Maria Vega	Deborah Harris	Davyth Stewart

What can the Forestry Crime Working Group be used for?

Recent Activities undertaken by the forestry crime sub-group

- ***Operation Amazonas III (2017)***
- ***Operation Log (2015)***
- ***Forest Trends Timber Regulation Enforcement Exchange (TREE) meetings***
- ***ICCWC Best Practice Guide for Forensic Timber Identification (2016)***
- ***Global Forestry Crime Conference, Lyon, France (2017)***
- ***ILEA regional training (2015-2017)***
- ***Sub-regional Forest Crime Training Workshops for ENPI-FLEG countries, Chisinau, Moldova (2016)***

Global Forestry Crime Conference Lyon, France, 12-14 June, 2017



Multi-billion dollar forestry crime to be treated as white collar crime – INTERPOL

LYON, France – An international gathering of experts convened by INTERPOL has recommended that law enforcement enhance strategies against corporate crime in the forestry sector.

The three-day (12 – 14 June) Global Forestry Crime Conference gathered some 100 representatives from the timber industry, financial institutions, investigative non-governmental organizations, and law enforcement agencies to shape a transnational response against the ‘business’ of forestry crime.

WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES IN 2018 – OPERATIONAL MEETINGS

- Regional Forestry Crime Working Group Meetings
 - Immediately prior to the Operational Planning meetings in Asia-Pacific and Central and South America, a regional meeting was held on forestry crime.
 - Regional representatives of the FoCWG attended, together with the lead investigators involved in the regional operations, as well as Inter-Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations.



WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES IN 2018 - OPERATIONS

The Forestry Crime Working Group assisted with identifying law enforcement and forestry experts to participate and engage in the following activities.

- Participation in INTERPOL Operations in the Asia-Pacific region and Central and South America
- Operation LEAD II Asia
- Operation Amazonas IV Latin America

WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES IN 2018 - CONFERENCE

- Organization of the annual Global Forestry Crime Conference
 - INTERPOL together with the FoCWG organized the second Global Forestry Crime Conference 4-6 September, 2018. The conference will focus on criminality within the forestry sector and financial flows that facilitate forestry crime. The conference will provide an opportunity to the private sector and civil society to present new technologies used to monitor illegalities within the timber supply chain and forest monitoring.
 - All 192 INTERPOL member countries were invited to participate in the conference.
 - At this Conference, the FoCWG will develop a work plan for 2018-2020, to strengthen continued cooperation and engagement with Project LEAF in future activities.
 - Election of FoCWG board

WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES IN 2018 – COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INITIATIVES ON FORESTRY CRIMES

- Support to the CITES Timber Task Force
 - During the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to CITES held from 24 September-4 October 2016 in Johannesburg, it was agreed to create a dedicated task force to fight the illegal timber trade, focusing mainly on CITES timber protected species.
 - INTERPOL together with the FoCWG will work closely with CITES Secretariat to support the creation of this task force.

Documents circulated relating to the Forestry Crime Working Group (FoCWG)

- Concept Note on the FoCWG
- Terms of Reference for the ECEC (historically, Interpol Environmental Crime Working Party)
- Current list of candidates for the FoCWG Executive Board
- Questionnaire for members of the FoCWG

QUESTIONNAIRE TO IDENTIFY MEMBER COUNTRIES' NEEDS

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION
ORGANIZACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE POLICÍA CRIMINAL



ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE POLICE CRIMINELLE

المنظمة الدولية للشرطة الجنائية

INTERPOL

QUESTIONNAIRE for members of the Forestry Crime Working Group

Contact details

First name:

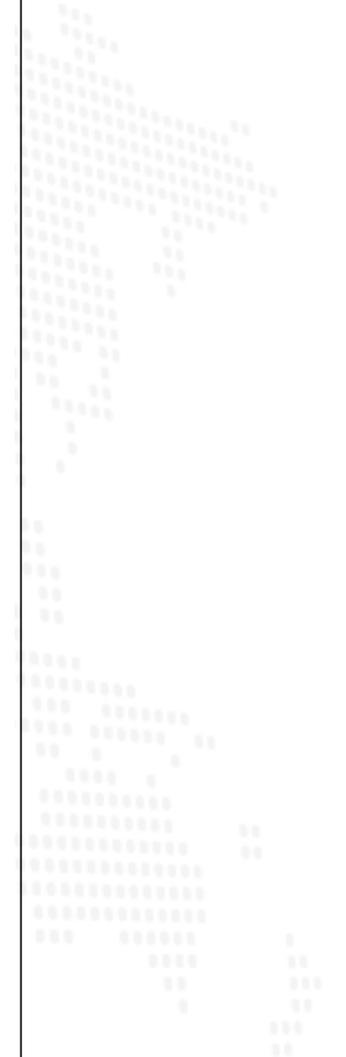
Last name(s):

Telephone:

Email:

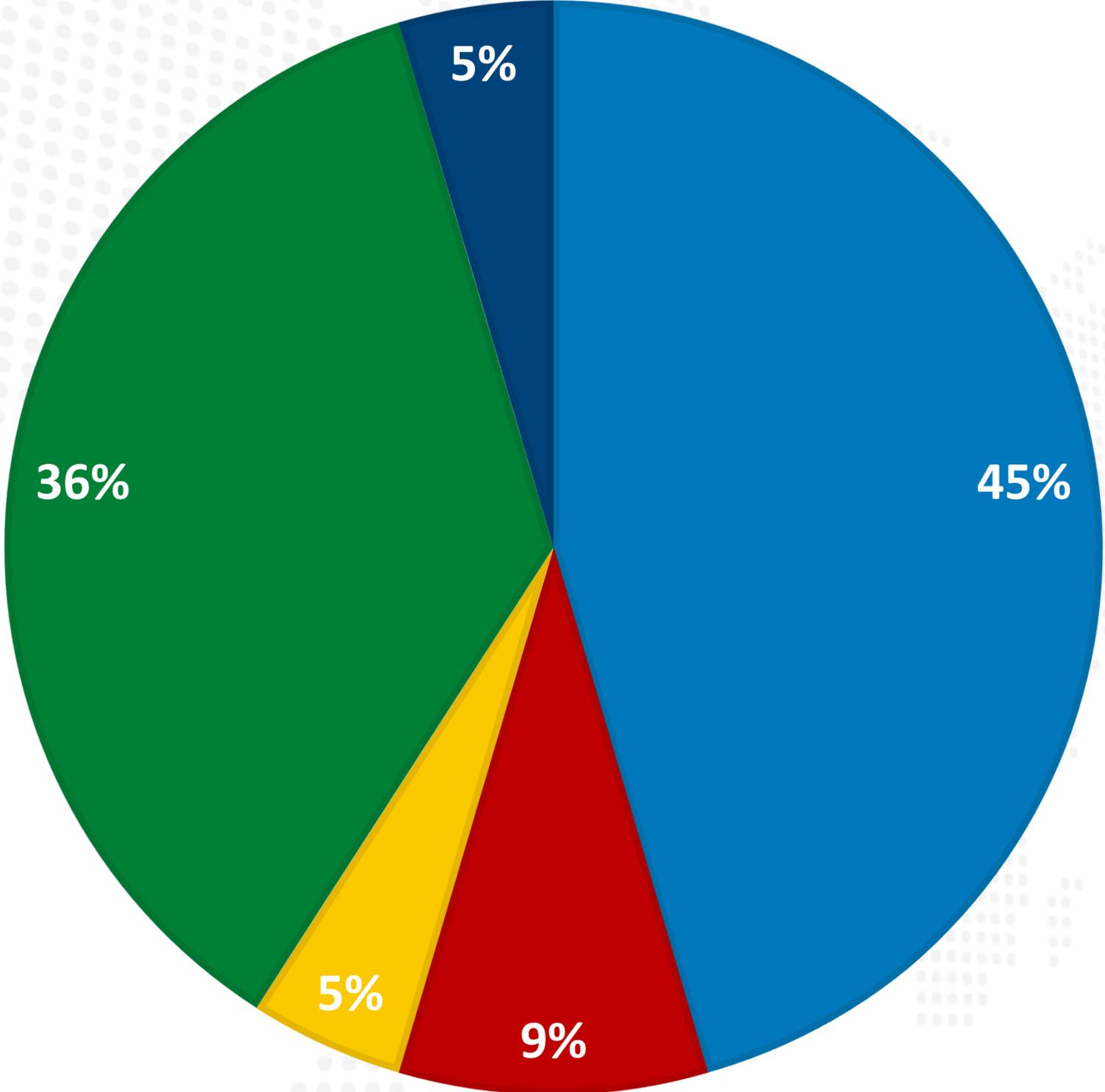
Are you representing:

- A member country? Please write name of your country:
- An international organization? Please write name of the organization:
- Other? Please identify:



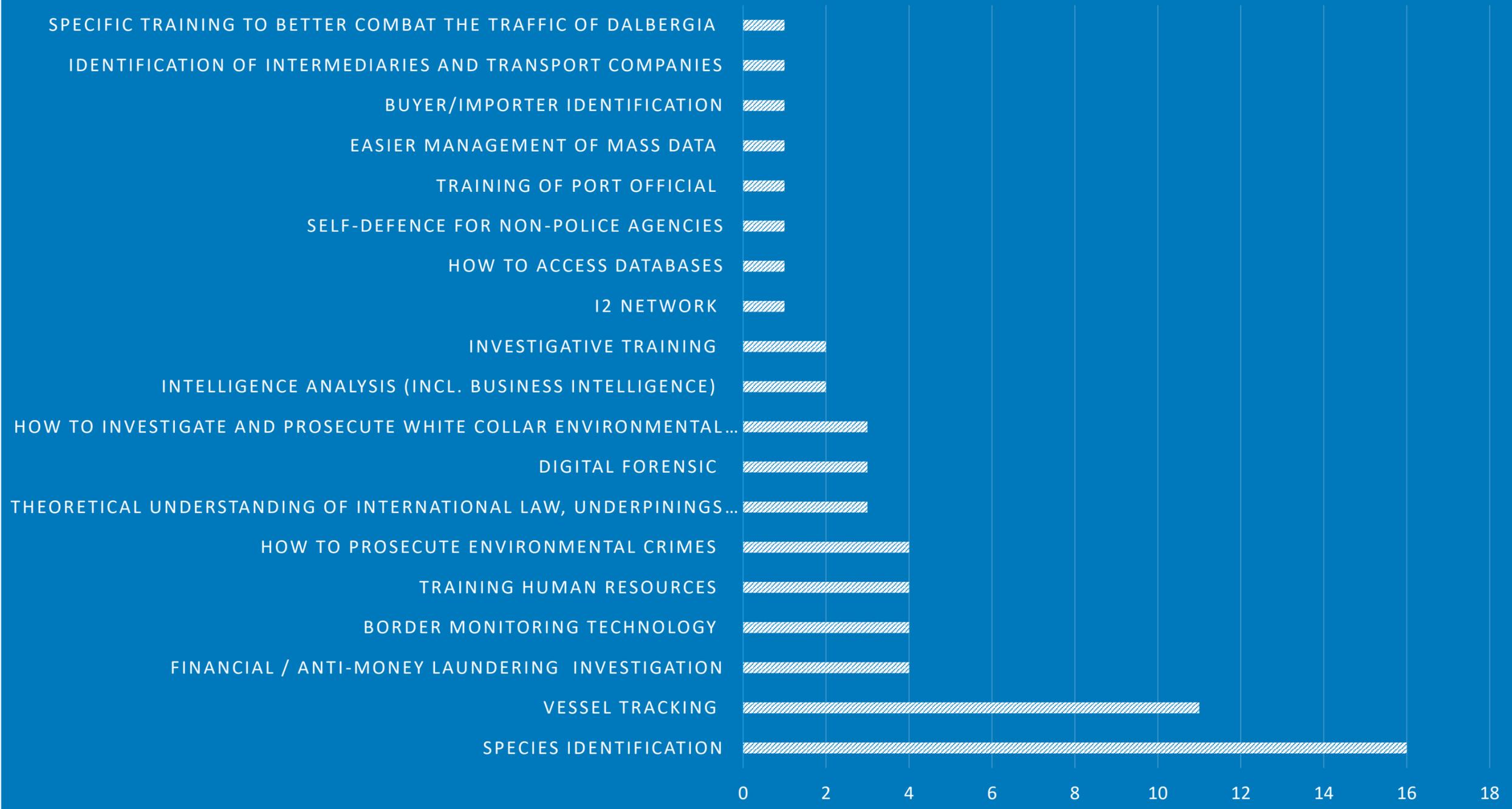
GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF COUNTRIES WHICH ANSWERED THE QUESTIONNAIRE

■ Asia, Pacific ■ Africa ■ Europe ■ Latin America ■ North America



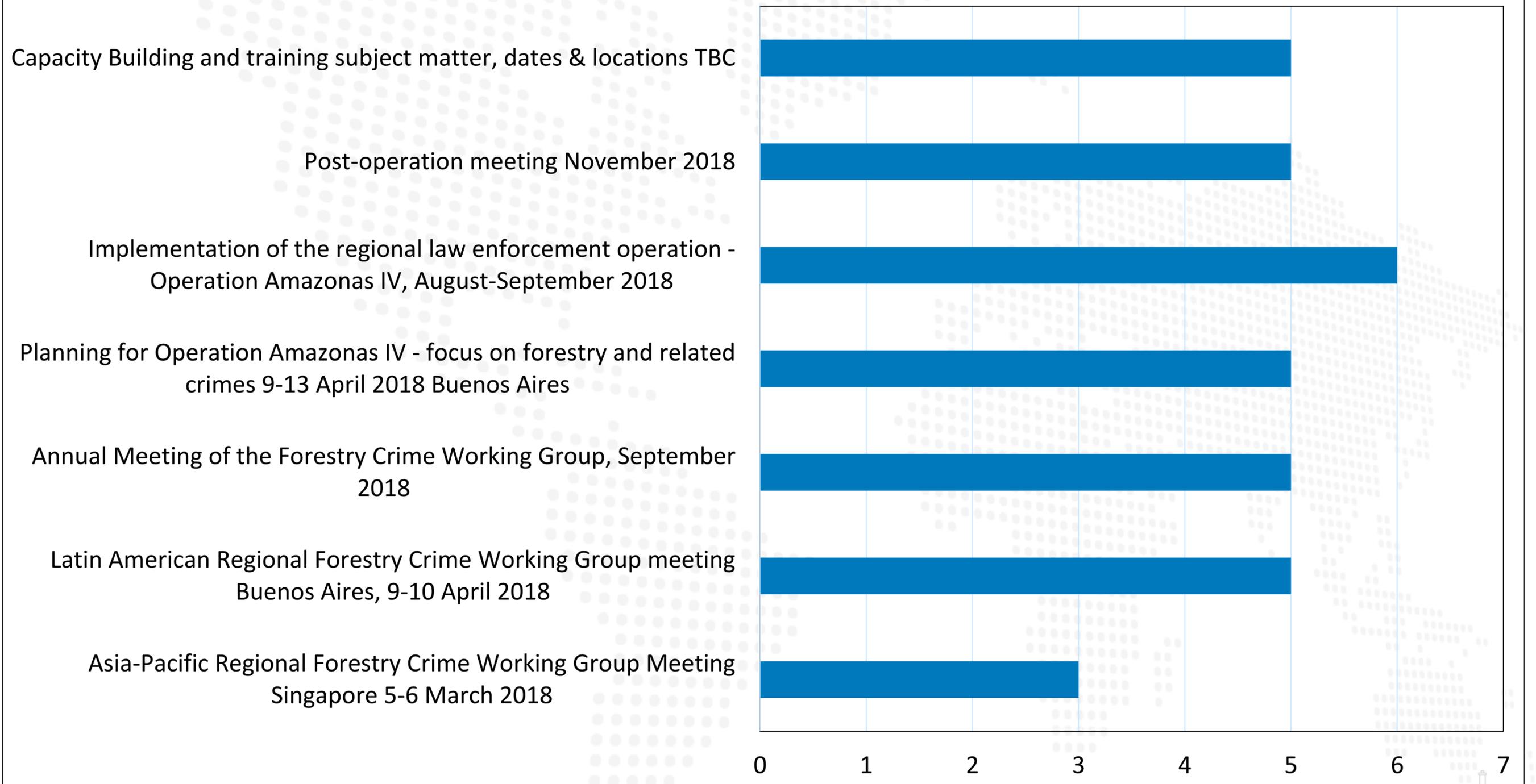
Preliminary feedback from member countries on FoCWG priorities:

CAPACITY TRAINING REQUESTED BY MEMBER STATES

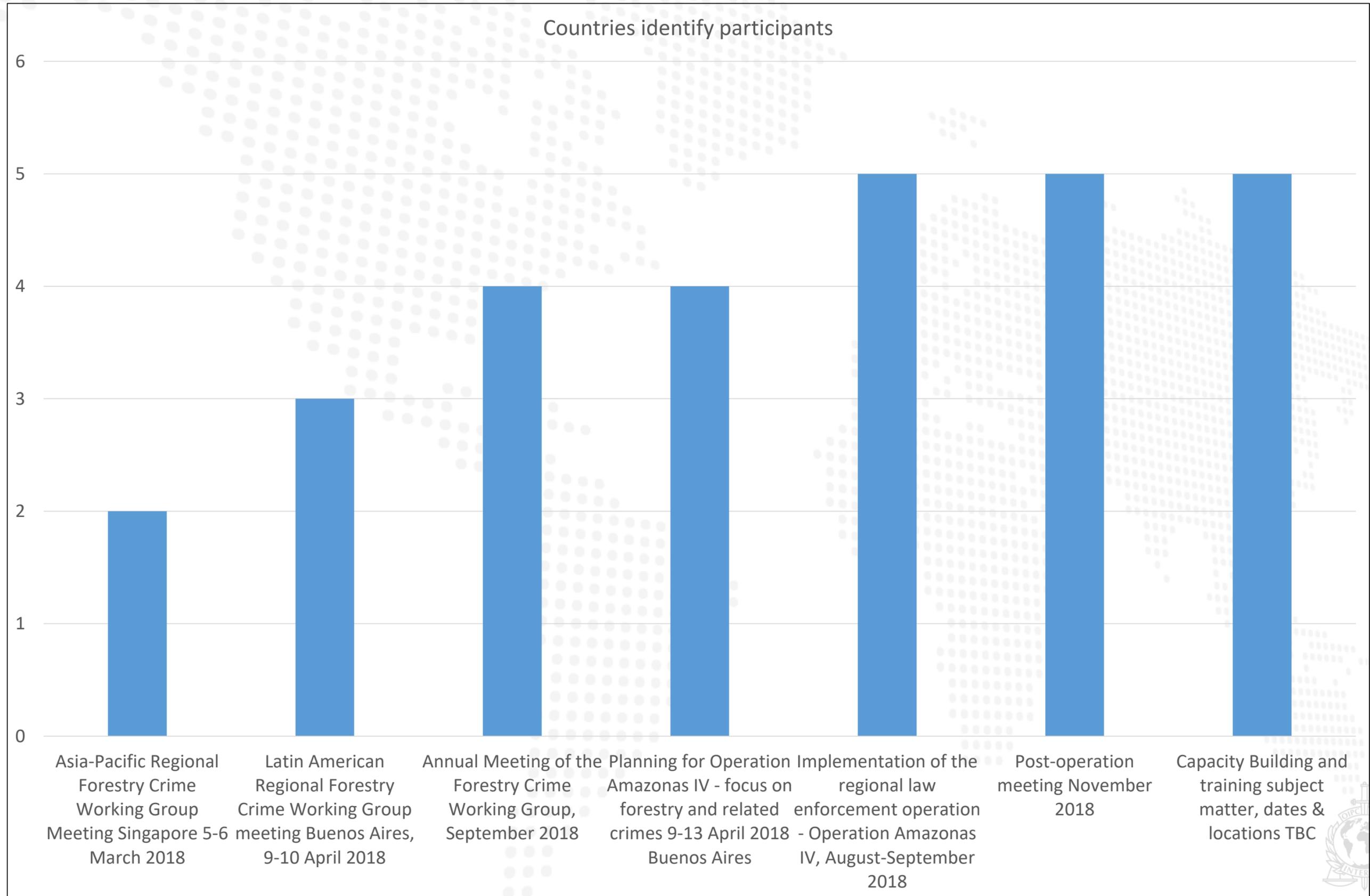


Preliminary feedback from member countries on FoCWG priorities:

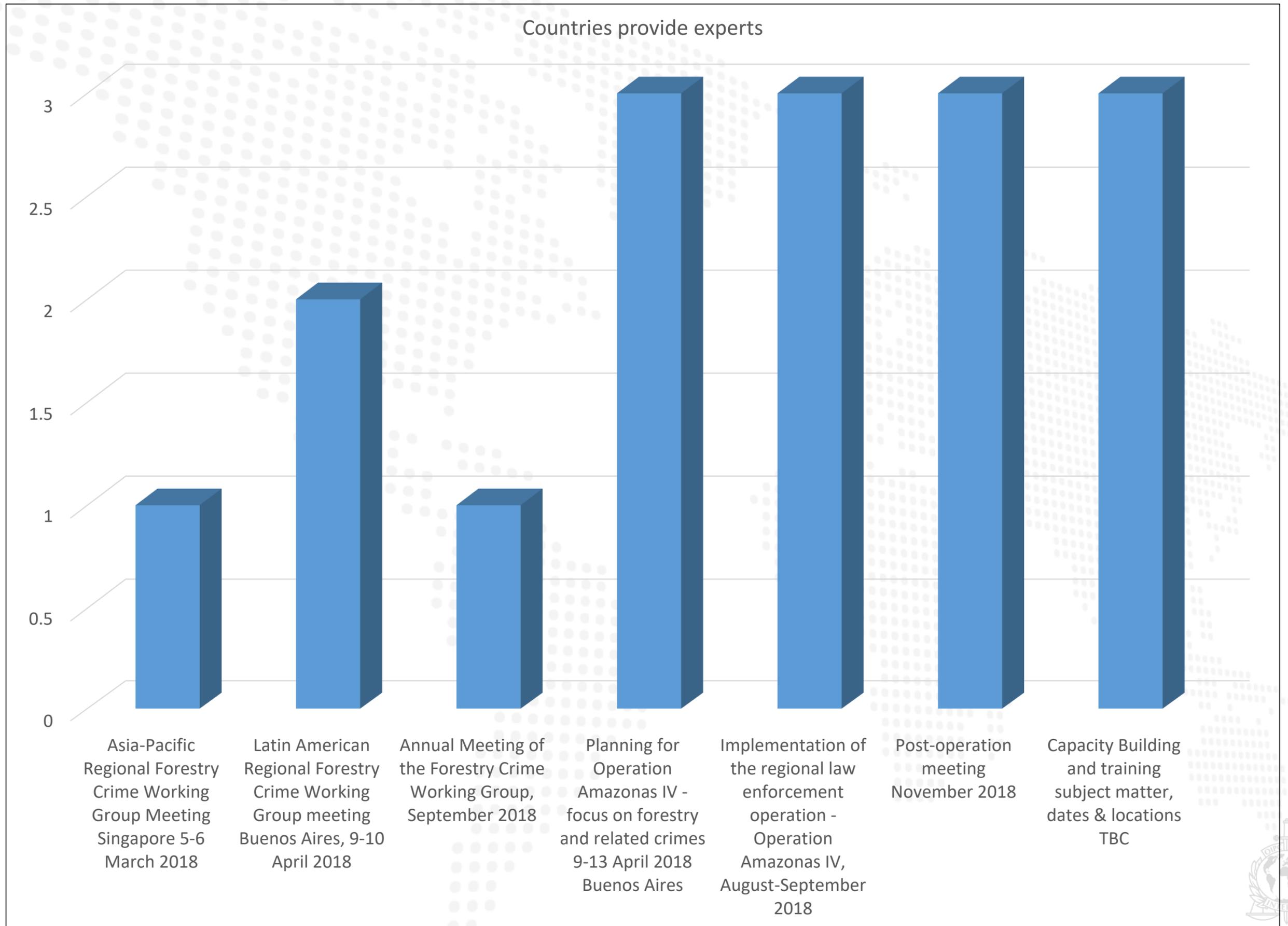
Countries that will get involved in the following events



Preliminary feedback from member countries on FoCWG priorities:



Preliminary feedback from member countries on FoCWG priorities:



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN FORESTRY CRIME AND WILDLIFE CRIME WORKING GROUP

The Wildlife Crime Working Group (WCWG) may support intersessional activities carried out under the lead of one or more member countries. This can be any kind of activity that fits in with the topic of wildlife crime. The activity should have an enforcement aspect and the type of crime/issue that is addressed should have a transnational element to it since this is where INTERPOL is active and can support the activities.

Any member country can make a suggestion for an intersessional activity by completing the template below. The suggestions will then be reviewed by the WCWG executive board members, and a few will be selected for presentation at the next WCWG meeting where other countries can be invited to. By handing in a proposal, a country agrees to be the lead country should this project be selected to be followed through. Therefore, please get approval from your home agency before submitting suggestions.

Interpol WCWG Intersessional Activity Proposal: 2017/18

1. Activity Title: Dalbergia Listing

2. Lead Country/Agency: UK Border Force

Contact details:

Name: Grant Miller / Guy Clarke

Title/rank: Senior Officer / Higher Officer

Telephone: 00 44 203-014-57

Email: grant.miller@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk guy.clarke@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

The contacts details should be the official that will be representing the country/presenting at the meeting.

UPCOMING WORKING GROUP OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

OPERATION THUNDERSTORM 2018

Tackling the illegal trade in wildlife and timber

92 countries



1400 suspects identified

1,947 seizures, worth millions of dollars, including:

8t pangolin scales



14 big cats



4,000 birds
27,000 reptiles



7 bears, including two polar bears



48 live primates

25t wild meat

(bear, elephant, crocodile, whale and zebra)



several tonnes of wood and timber





INTERPOL

Thank you!