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# PROJECT ALIOS

Fighting crime in the fisheries sector

## THE SITUATION

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing remains one of the greatest threats to marine ecosystems, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Such activity can seriously undermine national and regional efforts to manage fisheries sustainably as well as endeavors to conserve marine biodiversity.

IUU fishing occurs in high seas, exclusive, economic zone (EEZ) and within territorial waters. Organized crime groups target weakened administration systems as they take advantage of legal loopholes in fishing to hide their illegal activities.

The exploitation of this sector affects the development, peace and security of countries across the globe. International law enforcement cooperation is vital given the transnational nature of these violations.

Since 2014, INTERPOL has provided investigative and operational support to national authorities in all 195 member countries. Such support has helped law enforcement officers identify transnational criminal syndicates and tackle fisheries offences, including IUU fishing. INTERPOL has also helped member countries build capacity and resources for effective monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS).



# PROJECT ALIOS

## PROJECT AIMS

Project ALIOS will facilitate international cooperation towards sustainable ocean management, focusing on the three following objectives:

- Promoting international cooperation in the fight against IUU fishing;
- Strengthening the ability of INTERPOL member countries to address IUU fishing, management of fisheries resources and crimes occurring in the fisheries sector;
- Strengthening cooperation between INTERPOL and the European Commission Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE).

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Under this project, INTERPOL will carry out a range of activities such as:

- Providing investigative and analytical support to law enforcement agencies. This includes drafting and disseminating criminal intelligence analysis reports;
- National-level operational investigative support, with the deployment of INTERPOL officers in country upon request;
- Organizing Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs);
- Capacity building on enforcement against IUU fishing, including the use of shipborne information in support of investigations.

**Timeframe:** 2022 - 2023

**Budget:** EUR 418,950

### Donor:

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