



BITRACKER

ASSESSING AND TACKLING BIOLOGICAL THREATS AND INCIDENTS

The global law enforcement community is playing a crucial role in the response to threats and incidents involving biological materials and toxins, whether they occur naturally or deliberately. They need to be able to react to these threats in a timely manner and prevent malicious actors from acquiring, developing and using biological agents, toxins and weapons. In response to this challenge INTERPOL's Bioterrorism Prevention Unit has developed strategic and operational intelligence capabilities, including an early-warning system, tailored to the global law enforcement community.

PROJECT BIOTRACKER

Objectives

BioTracker aims to build and enhance the analytical and intelligence capabilities of the global law enforcement community on biological threats and incidents.

It will support INTERPOL member countries to:

- Increase data-sharing through the creation of a dedicated data repository focusing on biological threats and incidents, including personal data on individuals involved in deliberate threats and incidents and the smuggling of biological materials and equipment;
- Provide early warning notifications on unusual disease events,
 and new indications or turning point of the biological threat;
- Assess and tackle biological threats, and provide strategic and operational criminal intelligence analysis;
- Raise awareness on BioTracker and its functionalities.

Tools and activities

The BioTracker tools and activities are destined for law enforcement focusing on biological threats, including intelligence analysts and officers, and investigators.

Tools and activities include:

- An online reporting form to ease data contributions related to threats and incidents involving biological materials and toxins;
- An early-warning and data visualization interface on biological incidents, including the status of the biological threat;
- Introductory meetings to Heads of INTERPOL National Central Bureaus and points of contact in relevant law enforcement agencies;
- Information-sharing working group meetings.

Results

BioTracker will foster information-sharing on biological threats and incidents between INTERPOL member countries. With the information received from member countries and external sources, INTERPOL will be able to provide alerts on unusual biological events and any turning point concerning the threat through the publication of INTERPOL Notices and the data visualization interface. The information gathered will also serve as a basis for the production of INTERPOL strategic and operational analytical reports, to track the status of the threat and provide investigative leads.

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