



INTERPOL

FACT SHEET

Chemical and explosives terrorism

The Improvised Explosive Device, or IED, has become the weapon of choice used by criminals and terrorists to kill and injure tens of thousands of people each year. The indiscriminate use of toxic chemicals as weapons designed to kill, maim and cause widespread fear is also a growing concern

At INTERPOL, we support the efforts of member countries to deter, detect and disrupt the use of chemicals and explosives in terrorist incidents. The increasing use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) is an issue of global concern, one which INTERPOL is working to address by building the capacity of its member countries. INTERPOL provides operational and investigative support, facilitates the exchange of information and intelligence and offers prevention programmes in a number of areas.

► OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

- **The INTERPOL Chemical Anti-Smuggling Enforcement (Chase) Programme** is a global effort to counter the international smuggling of chemicals used in the manufacture of weapons designed to kill and injure indiscriminately. Chase increases the capacity of police, customs, immigration, and chemical and border security agencies to work collaboratively against the illegal movement of chemical warfare agents, toxic industrial chemicals and explosive precursor chemicals, through training sessions and a multinational operation.
- **The Chemical Risk Identification and Mitigation Programme (Crimp)** supports member countries in developing a chemical countermeasures programme to prioritize their most significant chemicals of concern, then conduct targeted law enforcement activities to prevent unauthorized access to these high-risk chemicals.
- **Operation Conduit** is an integrated initiative to combat not only the illicit trafficking of explosives and their precursors, but also of nuclear and other radioactive materials. It targets international border crossings, airports and seaports, and also the criminal use of passports and other travel documents by individuals involved in this illicit trafficking.

► INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE

INTERPOL continues to encourage member countries to exchange chemical and explosive-related information and intelligence via the Organization's secure channels. Involving external partner networks such as the European EOD Network, the International Bomb Data Center Working Group, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the World Customs Organization is crucial to expanding the range of information exchanged.

At the request of a member country or partner organization, INTERPOL can provide threat intelligence assessments and technical expertise to support investigations.

INTERPOL is creating a global inventory of each country's capability to respond to a chemical or explosives incident, in order to best facilitate a coordinated response in the event of a large-scale incident.

Chemical and explosives terrorism

- **Project Watchmaker** assists member countries in identifying and tracking known or suspected individuals involved in the illicit manufacture or use of explosives through a dedicated database and the exchange of biometric data and document records, allowing detection of these individuals if they cross international borders.

► PREVENTION

- **Project Litmus** seeks to reduce the global chemical threat by strengthening the ability of member countries to prevent non-state actors from developing a chemical attack capability. It will enable law enforcement, first responders, health and environmental authorities to identify, investigate and successfully prosecute the criminal use of chemical agents by developing an early warning capability.
- **The Chemical Awareness Scene Management (Chasm) Course** educates crime scene investigators across various agencies on how to adopt a systematic approach when confronted with crime scenes which may be contaminated by chemical materials. The aim is to strengthen cooperation between agencies and enhance their abilities to identify, prevent, investigate and respond to chemical attacks.
- **The Chemical Countermeasures Course** provides senior policy-makers, government officials, industry representatives and law enforcement officials with a framework to implement a chemical awareness, security and countermeasures programme within a member country.

► RESPONSE TEAMS

An expert in chemical and explosives terrorism from INTERPOL or one of its member countries can support INTERPOL Incident Response Teams (deployed following disasters or crime incidents) or Major Event Support Teams (support to security for major international events) if needed.



INTERPOL

► CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contact us via our web site. For matters relating to specific crime cases, please contact your local police or the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in your country.

► **Twitter:** @INTERPOL_HQ

► **YouTube:** INTERPOLHQ

► **WWW.INTERPOL.INT**

