

ENVIRONMENTAL

TAL

CRIMES

CRIME

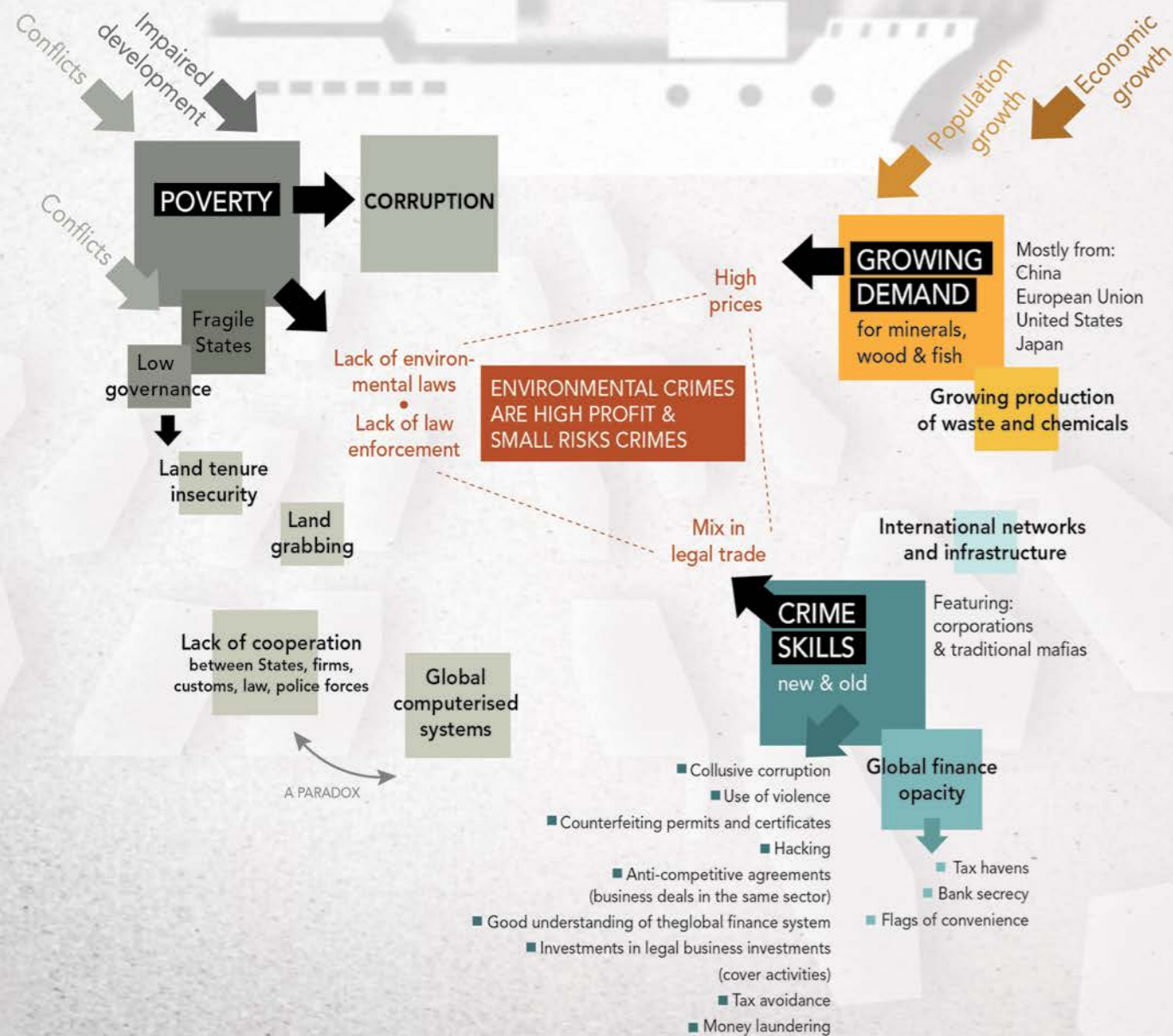


« The financial volume of Environmental Crimes is estimated at more than \$100 billion a year. »

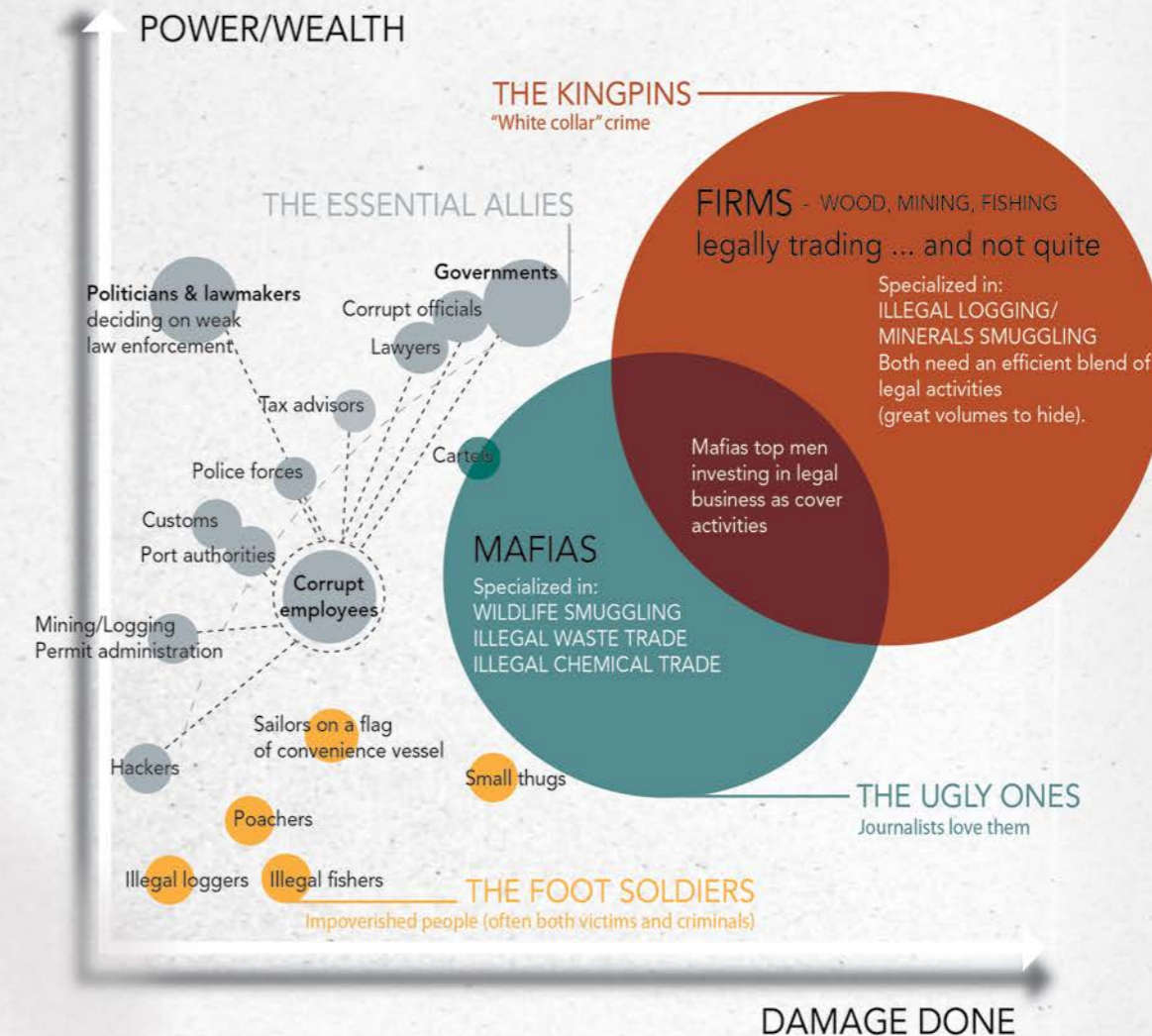
ECO-CRIME DRIVERS

Today, environmental crimes amount to more than \$100 billion a year. Those high-profit, low-risk crimes are destroying ecosystems, dramatically impacting on climate change and devastating local economies. Nevertheless, they are extremely hard to fight as they are constantly hidden within legal

trade, take advantage of tax havens and are mostly controlled by huge criminal organizations such as mafias or illegitimate firms. This brochure provides an overview of the situation, identifies some of the most important points and suggests ways to fight against this global threat.



WHO ARE THE MAJOR OFFENDERS?



« Environmental crimes are not soft crimes. »

Environmental crimes are not soft crimes. They often occur in countries with a high rate of corruption involving violence and impacting directly on the poorest population. Environmental crimes take full advantage of the financial opacity (tax havens, e.g.) and the weakness of the worldwide transportation system

(flags of convenience, e.g.). Controlled by mafias and corporations, illegal trade can "wear a tie" and be easily seen as harmless, clean and legal, whereas it involves a wide range of actors and criminal skills and can sometimes even be related to conflicts (diamonds, e.g.).

High estimate ----- \$100 Billion

Low estimate ----- \$30 Billion

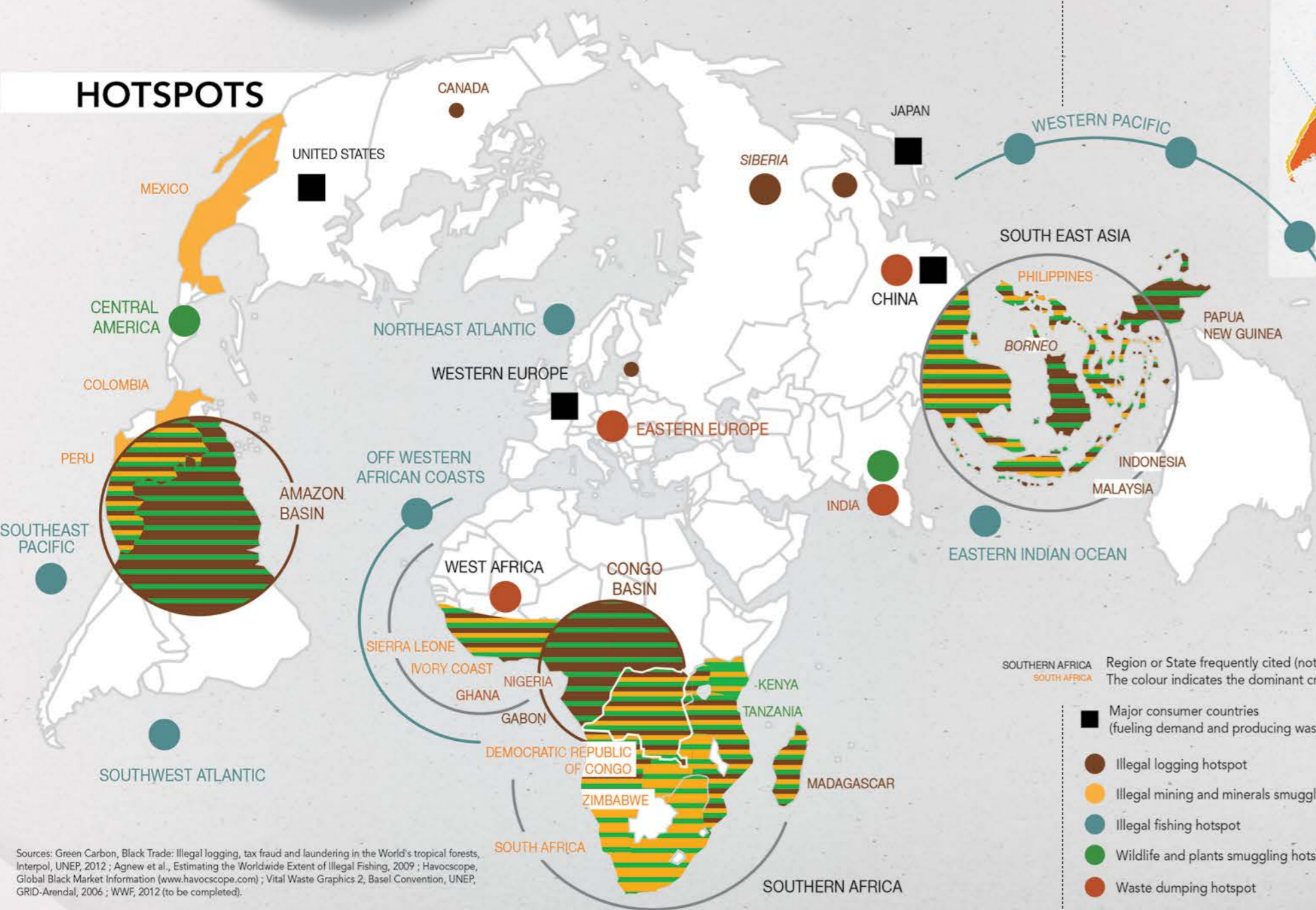
**ILLEGAL
TIMBER**

\$30 Billion

**ILLEGAL
FISHING**

\$11 Billion

HOTSPOTS



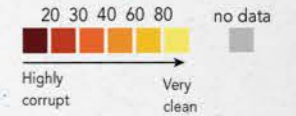
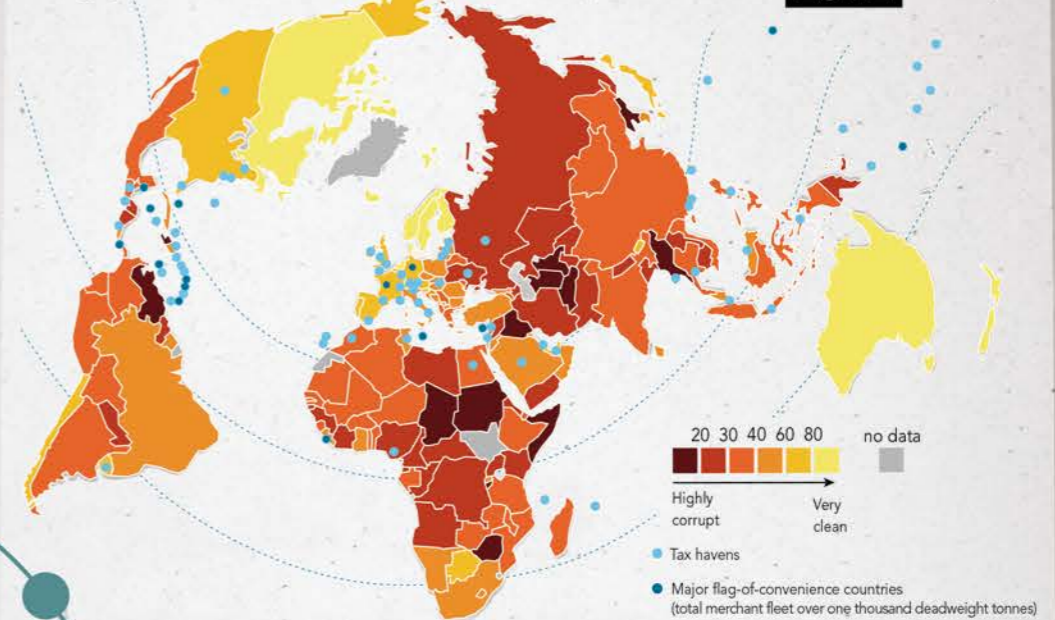
SOUTHERN AFRICA SOUTH AFRICA Region or State frequently cited (not an exhaustive list). The colour indicates the dominant crime group.

- Major consumer countries (fueling demand and producing waste)
- Illegal logging hotspot
- Illegal mining and minerals smuggling hotspot
- Illegal fishing hotspot
- Wildlife and plants smuggling hotspot
- Waste dumping hotspot

PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION

**INDEX
2012**

This index measures the perceived level of corruption in the public sector. It is an aggregated index, based on different data sources that capture business and expert views.



Sources : Transparency International, 2012 ; International Transport Workers' Federation, 2012; World Federation of Exchanges, 2012.
* A flag-of-convenience ship is one that flies the flag of a country other than the country of ownership (cheap registration, cheap labour, tax avoidance, etc.). French and German International Ship Registers are included.

**ILLEGAL EXTRACTION
AND TRADE OF MINERALS**

High estimate ----- \$48 Billion

Low estimate ----- \$12 Billion

\$23 Billion

\$7 Billion

**POACHING AND
WILDLIFE SMUGGLING**

\$12 Billion
hazardous waste only

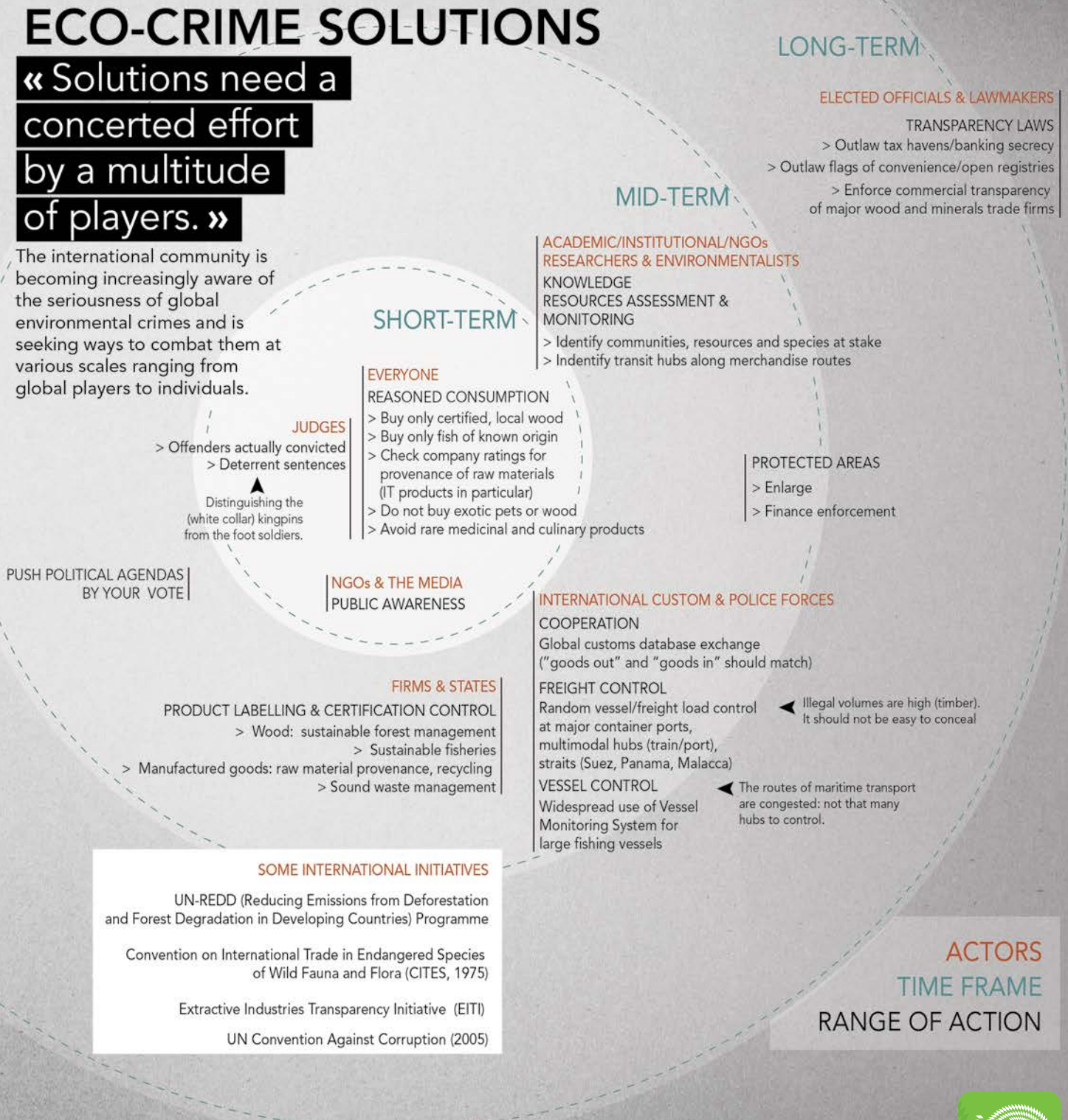
**ILLEGAL WASTE
AND CHEMICALS
TRADE AND DUMPING**

Sources: Green Carbon, Black Trade: Illegal logging, tax fraud and laundering in the World's tropical forests, Interpol, UNEP, 2012; Agnew et al., Estimating the Worldwide Extent of Illegal Fishing, 2009; Havocscope, Global Black Market Information (www.havocscope.com); Vital Waste Graphics 2, Basel Convention, UNEP, GRID-Arendal, 2006; WWF, 2012 (to be completed).

ECO-CRIME SOLUTIONS

« Solutions need a concerted effort by a multitude of players. »

The international community is becoming increasingly aware of the seriousness of global environmental crimes and is seeking ways to combat them at various scales ranging from global players to individuals.



Zoï Environment Network and GRID-Arendal are supporting the international efforts to combat environmental crimes with the following activities:

- Analysis and assessment of the various facets of global environmental crimes
- Communication of the headlines to decision-makers and the general public in easily understandable maps, graphics and texts
- Training and support in environmental crimes investigations, assessment and communication to organizations and individuals from "hot spot regions"



A Centre Collaborating with UNEP