

Global trends in environmental crime, including water crime

**Lisbon Water and Land
Conference
11-12 October 2022**

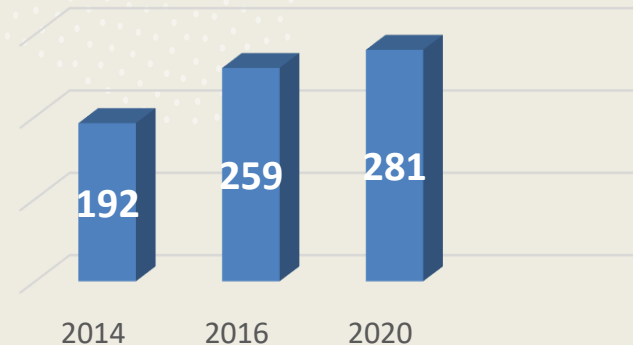
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Content

- **Environmental and water-related crime**
- **Key types of water related crime**
- **Main challenges**
- **Environmental Defenders**
- **The role of European frameworks**

Environmental crime as a growing trend

Growth in illegal revenue from environmental crime (upper range of the estimate in billion USD/year)

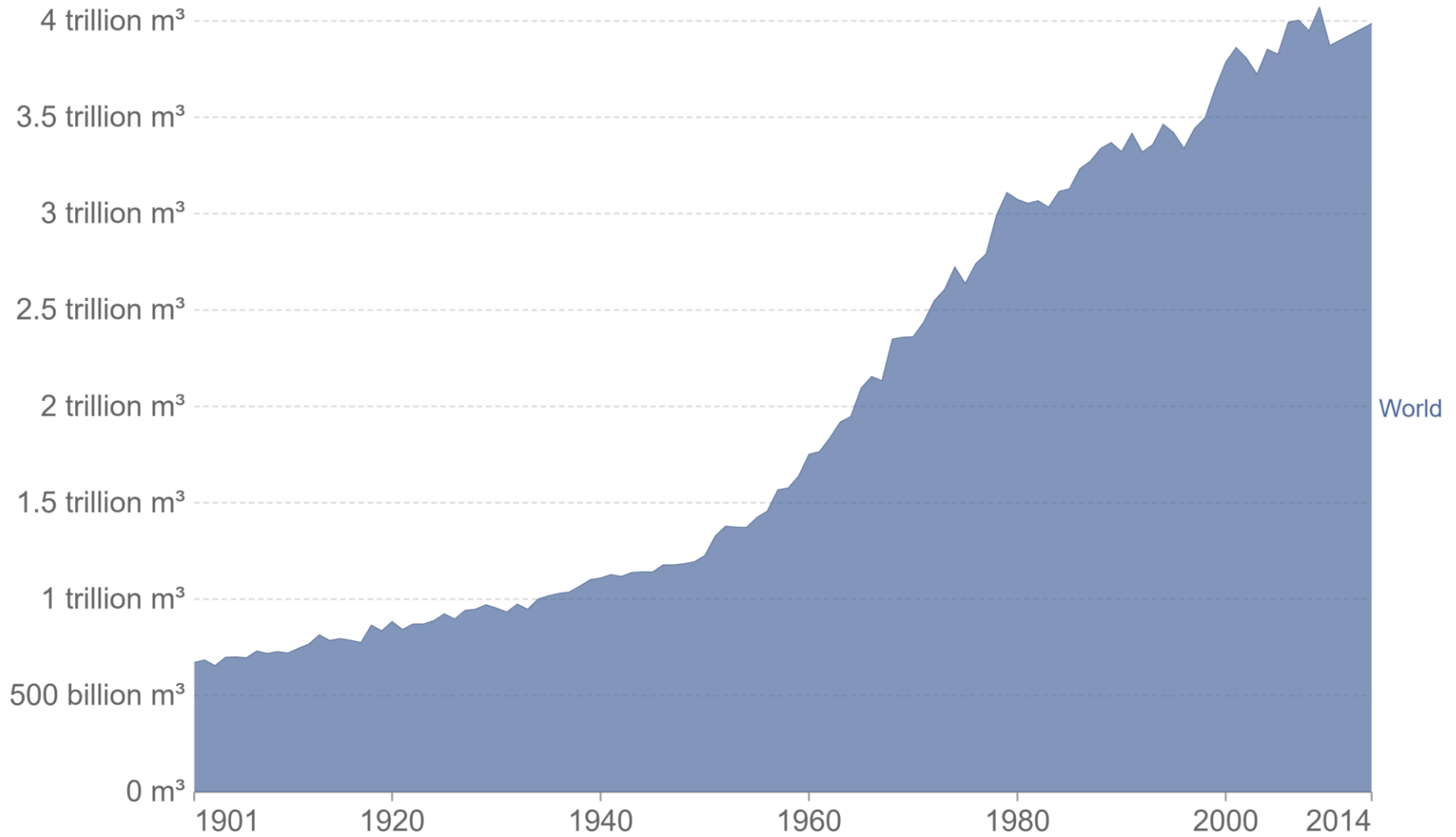


Sources: UNEP, FATF

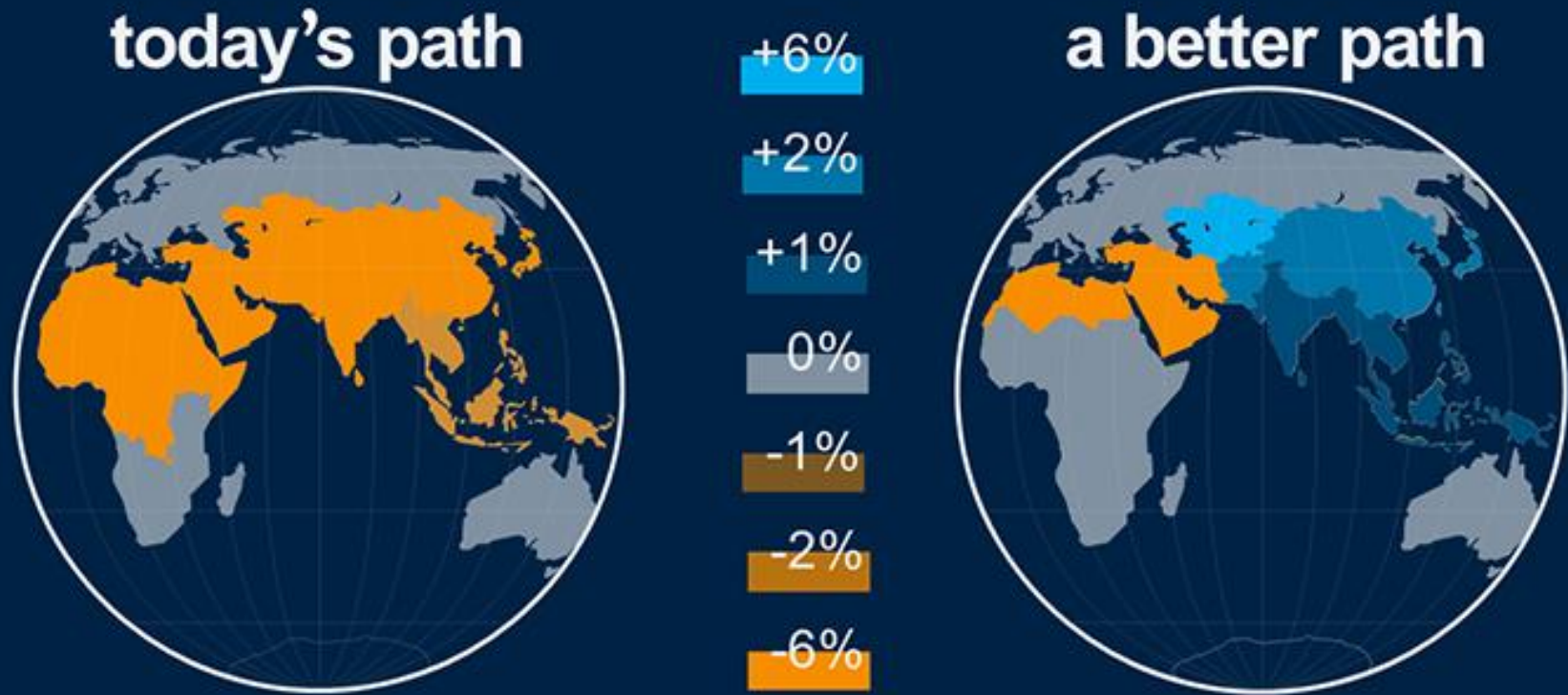
4th largest area of transnational crime (after drugs, counterfeit and human trafficking)

Global freshwater use over the long-run

Global freshwater withdrawals for agriculture, industry and domestic uses since 1900, measured in cubic metres (m³) per year.



The Impact of Water Scarcity on GDP



Source: World Bank

Water related crimes

Illegal water abstraction

Pollution

Illegal discharges from ships

Organized Crime

Corruption

Terrorism

Cyber crime

Water-related violence

Illegal water abstraction





Water Pollution criminal offences growth

India: Crimes under the Air and Water Prevention and Pollution Control act

2019 – 160 cases

2020 – 589 cases

286% growth

Interpol Operation 30 Days at Sea (2021) – 1600 marine pollution offences detected in 1 month



Illegal discharges from ships

Low penalties

Difficult to monitor



Source: OECD

~50% of inspected vessels violate the rules on oil disposal

Water and organized crime



Corruption

Terrorism

Water related violence and conflicts

Cyber-crime

The scale of the water security and fragility challenge



2 billion people

live in countries where development outcomes are affected by fragility



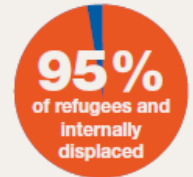
in global economic losses from inadequate water supply and sanitation services



are projected to be living in fragile contexts by 2030



from expected annual property damage due to flooding

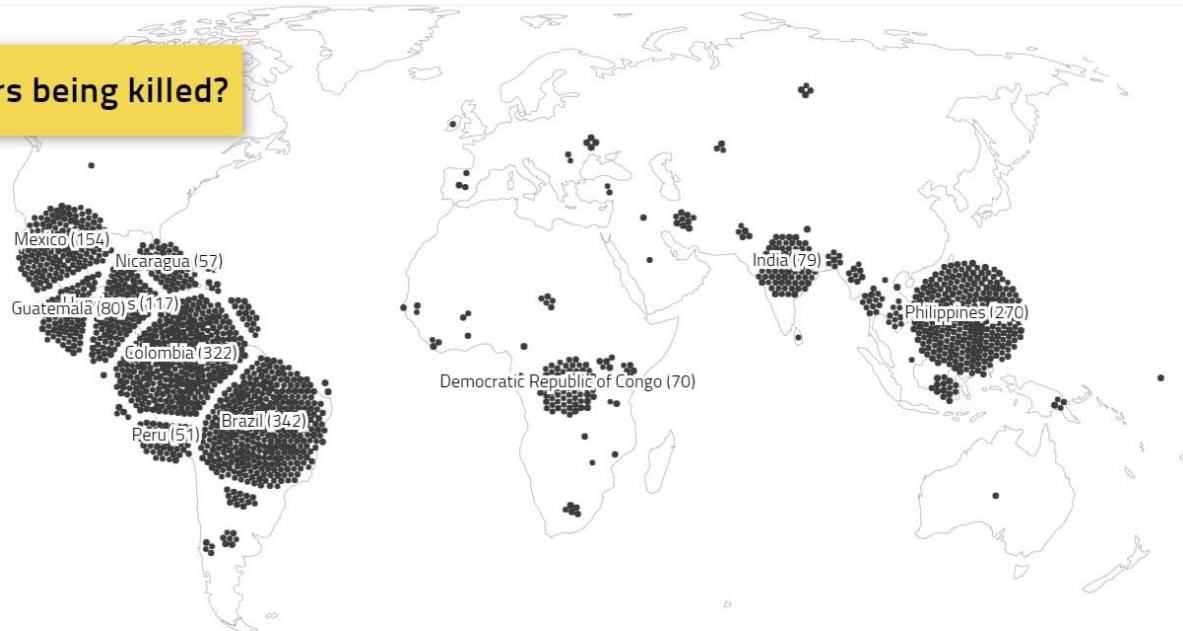


live in developing countries, originating from the same 10 conflicts since 1991

Source: World Bank

Environmental defenders

Where are defenders being killed?



Challenges

Some of the challenges in addressing water related crime

- No single definition
- Very varied national legislation
- Lack of statistics and water offences being recorded under other offence categories
- Reluctance to prosecute and lack of knowledge and culture of enforcement
- Addressing most offences under administrative law
- Lack of monitoring and enforcement capacity
- De-prioritization due to collectivity and anonymity of victims
- Difficulties in establishing causation links
- Complex “significance” tests
- Insufficiently deterring penalties

Cooperation and networks

Specialized

IMPEL

European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE)

Network of Prosecutors on Environmental Crimes (Baltics)

International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE) and the informal Global Network of Environmental Prosecutors

General

European Judicial Network

COE Committee of Experts on the Operation of European Conventions on co-Operation in Criminal Matters

Camden Assets Recovery Interagency Network

OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia...

Regional

South-East European Prosecutors Advisory Group

Commonwealth Network of Contact Persons (CNCPP) (MLA)

The Great Lakes Judicial Cooperation Network

South East Asia Justice Network

Hemispheric Information Exchange Network for MLA

Judicial Cooperation network for CA and South Caucasus

West Africa Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime...

Organizations / arrangements

Interpol

Europol

EUROJUST

Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

UNODC

UNEP

Thank you



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