

JOB OPENING

The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime

Consultant – Mapping sea routes connecting Africa and Asia

Start Date: ASAP

Duration: Up to five months

Place of work: Remote

Compensation: To be discussed

The Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) is a network of prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners who are dedicated to seeking new and innovative strategies and responses to organized crime. Over the past decade, the GI-TOC has sought to enhance analysis of, encourage action against, and support resilience to organized crime in order to reduce its negative impact on people, the environment, businesses and states. For more information, please see our website at <http://www.globalinitiative.net>.

Project overview

GI-TOC's Asia Pacific Observatory is currently running a programme on *Anticipating and Disrupting Environmental Crime in the Globalised Economy*. This work concentrates on three geographical regions: South East Asia, the Swahili Coast and the Congo Basin.

Within this framework, we have developed a series of reports under the banner of *Waterways of Criminality* intended to understand the role that geography and natural infrastructure can play in facilitating illicit markets of environmental commodities such as timber, wildlife, gemstones and waste. GI-TOC is currently seeking a consultant to produce one such report with the working title of *Mapping sea routes connecting Africa and Asia*.

Scope of work

The study aims to identify and analyse the maritime connections between South East Asia and the Swahili Coast and the Horn of Africa, focusing on the main routes for illicit trade connecting selected ports in, possibly, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique to Myanmar, Indonesia and others in the Bay of Bengal, often via Sri Lanka. In doing so, it will build on previous GI-TOC's work¹ on illicit flows across the Indian Ocean Region and will

¹ For instance: Lucia Bird, Julia Stanyard, Vel Moonien, Riana Raymonde Randrianarisoa, 'Changing tides. The evolving illicit drug trade in the western Indian Ocean', Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, 2021, <https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/GITOC-Changing-Tides-The-evolving-illicit-drug-trade-in-the-western-Indian-Ocean.pdf>; Simone Haysom, Peter Gastrow and Mark Shaw, 'The heroin coast.

identify convergence between environmental commodities and other illicit commodities such as narcotics.

This project has a large geographical scope and the inception phase will be crucial to narrow down the ports and commodities on which it will concentrate.

The consultant, drawing on his/her experience and contacts in at least one of the relevant regions, will be expected to:

- Produce a report containing:
 - o a short historical literature review
 - o data collected through field research (this will constitute the bulk of the report)
 - o a heat-spot mapping of places and geographies that enable trafficking and illicit trade in environmental commodities
 - o social network analyses of the key criminal actors relevant to those geographies
 - o an analysis of any changes to these systems and networks as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Conduct field research (locations to be agreed with GI-TOC)
- Identify and task additional local researchers to help with data collection/interviews.
- Identify civil society contacts in the relevant regions.

Requirements

- Previous experience working on illicit trade/crime, ideally on illicit environmental commodities.
- Track record of producing written analysis on these topics.
- Having an established contact network in at least one of the regions at the core of the project.
- Experience with coordinating researchers on the ground.
- Near native written and spoken English is essential.
- A working knowledge of at least another relevant language is desirable.
- A university degree in a relevant discipline (e.g. criminology, international relations, law, political or social science) is desirable.
- Candidates who are already based in the regions are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application

To apply, please send the following documents to Virginia Comolli, Research Manager, GI-TOC virginia.comolli@globalinitiative.net :

- CV
- Cover letter highlighting experience delivering similar projects



- Writing sample
- A work plan detailing how the candidate would approach the assignment, proposed schedule and budget (to note: the budget should include all travel costs and provisions for engaging local researchers as appropriate).

Deadline: 17 October 2021.