



**World Customs
Organization**

Green Customs Implementation of MEAs

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Green Customs



- Customs administrations perform functions relating to the protection of environment at the borders.
- Customs role in implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), fighting against environmental crime as well as Customs responses in addressing present and future environmental challenges can be grouped into a general concept of “Green Customs”.

Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)



Main MEAs with international trade-related provisions:

- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

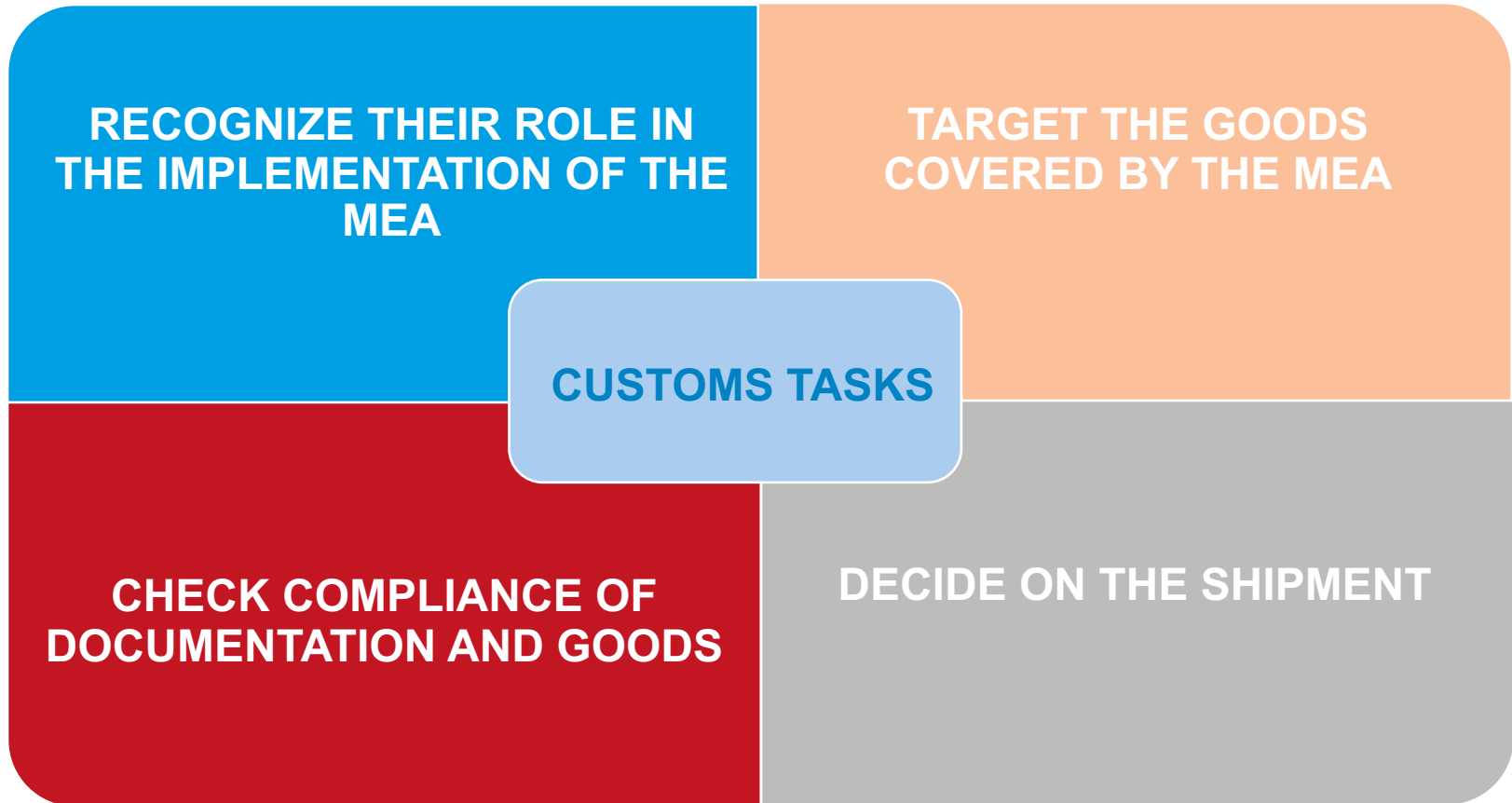


- MEAs either ban certain commodities from trade, which makes their trafficking highly profitable, or allow their legal – though restricted – trade, which criminals often exploit to launder illegally acquired products and profits.
- Customs role is to detect and intercept shipments of restricted or prohibited goods and check:
 - if transboundary movement is allowed
 - if the importers/exporters fulfilled the necessary obligations
 - the validity of the accompanying documents and compliance of goods.

- [Green Customs Guide to MEAs](#)



Role of Customs



WCO Global Enforcement Operations



- Customs operations are a means of enhancing the efficiency of Customs enforcement
- Operation DEMETER series (waste, substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol)
- Operation THUNDER series (wildlife trafficking)

Green Customs



- WCO Illicit Trade reports including sections related to the environment:
<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/enforcement-and-compliance/resources/publications.aspx>
- WCO Green Customs Global Conference:
<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/events/event-history/2022/green-customs-global-conference.aspx>
- WCO ENVIRONMENT Programme
<http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/enforcement-and-compliance/activities-and-programmes/environment-programme.aspx>



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Thank you !

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