

The Green Customs Initiative



November 20-23, Cebu Philippines



What is Green Customs?

- An unprecedented partnership of international organisations
- Its objective is to enhance the capacity of customs and other enforcement officers to:
 - Detect and prevent illegal trade
 - Facilitate the legal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities as ruled by the relevant conventions and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)
 - Contribute as a key partner to compliance management of MEAS
 - Protection to our common and shared natural resources and our environment
 - Protecting and conserving our fragile environment for our children



Genesis of GCI

Recognising illegal and legal trade of environmentally sensitive commodities should be considered in a more holistic way by making links, where appropriate, with other environmental conventions to provide integrated training.

Synergies and recognition of common ground between various treaties with trade-related elements was developed



The Green Customs Partners



CBD



Basel Convention

**Convention on Biological
Diversity**

CITES

Montreal Protocol

Rotterdam Convention

Stockholm Convention

Chemical Weapons Convention

Interpol

WCO

UNEP

UN Office of Drugs and Crime



STOCKHOLM
CONVENTION



UNEP



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Main GCI activities and materials

- **Workshops to train customs officers**
- **Green Customs Guide**
- **E-learning modules**
- **Green Customs website**
- **Other tools and materials**

GreenCustoms





GCI Workshops in 2011

- **Qatar** (sub regional) *February*
- **Antigua & Barbuda** (sub regional) *March*
- **Budapest** (sub regional) *March*
- **Fiji** (Pacific Islands countries) *May*
- **UAE** (National) *June*
- **Indonesia** (national) *June*
- **China** (national) *August*
- **Saudi Arabia** (sub-regional) *October*



GCI Workshops in 2012

- **Mexico City**, (National) *March*
- **Minsk, Belarus**, (Sub-regional) *May*
- **Dushanbe, Tajikistan** (Joint OSCE UNEP training) *May*
- **Astana, Kazakstan**, (National) *June*
- **Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe** (Sub-regional) *August*
- **Male, Maldives** (Sub-regional) *November*



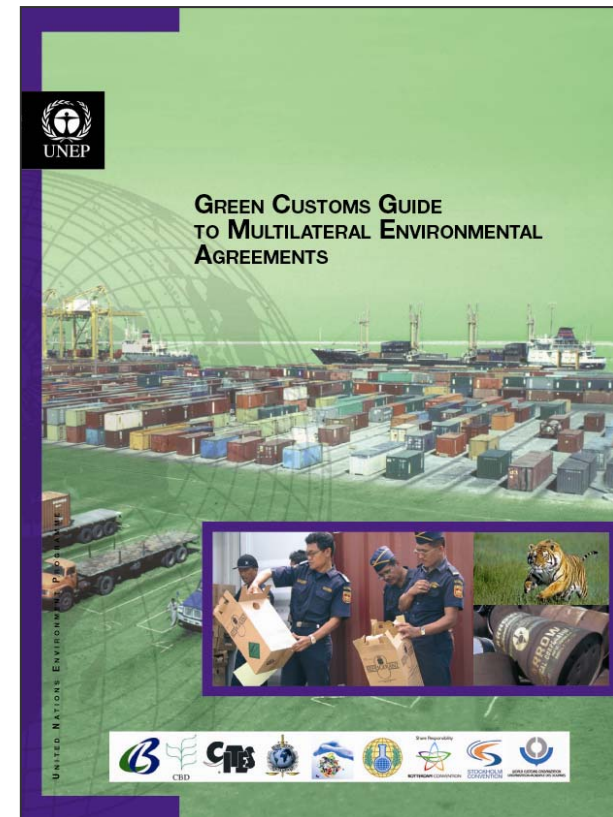
Green Customs Guide

Topics for each MEA or treaty

- Definitions
- Provisions for regulating trade
- The specific role of Customs in implementing the MEA/treaty
- Official materials to be aware of
- Knowing and Working with MEA national focal points.

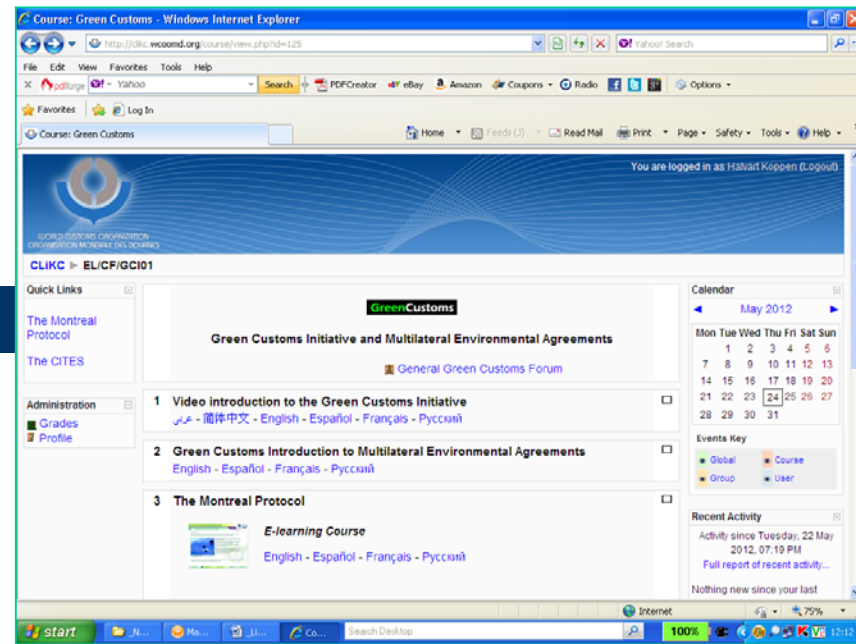
Practical considerations

- Health and safety
- Identification
- Seizures and
- Safe disposal management



E-learning modules

- Hosted on WCO training platform
- GCI Introduction, CITES and Montreal Protocol modules already available
- Modules in development:
 - Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm
 - CBD
 - OPCW



For More registration on WCO e-learning

Go to flyer on WCO Montreal Protocol elearning



GCI Website

www.greencustoms.org

GreenCustoms

The Green Customs Initiative - Customs Protecting the Environment

- Home
- About Green Customs
- Partner Organisations
- Reports & Documents
- Workshops & Meetings
- News
- Calendar of Events
- Contact
- Intranet

The **Green Customs** Initiative is an unprecedented partnership of international organisations cooperating to prevent the illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities and facilitation of the legal trade in these.

Its objective is to enhance the capacity of customs and other relevant enforcement personnel to monitor and facilitate the legal trade and to detect and prevent illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities covered by the relevant conventions and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). These include ozone depleting substances (ODS), toxic chemical products, hazardous



Green Customs achievements

- **Coordinated delivery through one umbrella partnership**
- **Addresses the need for coordinated training**
- **For some of the MEAs, Green Customs is the only structured interaction for enforcement training within the customs community**
- **Train-the-trainer approach and incorporation of the Initiative in the countries national customs training curricula**



Green Customs achievements

- **The membership is growing as the Initiative develops.**
- **Green Customs has, since 2004, delivered more than 30 regional, sub-regional and**
- **national training workshops enabling the Partners and other experts to build the capacity of more than 350 customs officers from almost 120 countries.**



The road ahead



- A need to establish sustainability of GCI
- Incorporation of GCI in National customs curricula
- Encouraging use of e-learning
- Promote communication & intelligence sharing platforms
- Train-the-trainer ▶ ▶ national ownership?
- Encouraging sharing of information and intelligence on environmental issues
- Resource mobilisation
- Sustainability (e-learning, etc)



Sustainability: Greening Customs operations

Many Customs operations are also establishing green operational procedures

1. Single window mechanisms (less paper, travel)
2. Energy efficiency, ozone and climate friendly management
3. End of life disposal management (paper, electronics etc.)
4. Tell is about other good environment practices!!!! We will be happy to share these



Thank you

www.greencustoms.org

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