

Annual Report

20
23

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About C4ADS

We are C4ADS.

C4ADS is a nonpartisan nonprofit committed to supporting global efforts to disrupt and dismantle transnational illicit networks that threaten open, pluralistic societies.

Here’s how we see it:

Where traditional international security institutions see a collection of states, we see an interconnected set of systems. We focus on the underlying threats to global security: the illicit (criminal and malign) networks that operate across borders to destabilize communities, prevent development, and devastate the environment.

Illicit networks are not neatly bounded to any single activity or place. To track them, we combine the brainpower of a think tank, the innovation of a tech startup, and the reach of investigative journalism. Our hybrid nature enables us to disrupt the status quo, push the boundaries of what is possible outside government, and build a community of innovation and action.

Here’s how we do it:

Illicit networks use the same legal systems of transportation, communication, and finance that power prosperity and legitimate competition around the world. We excel at finding the important data buried in mountains of continually increasing publicly available information (PAI).

Using our data science expertise, we integrate and refine thousands of different data sources, ranging from satellite imagery to corporate registries, and have built one of the largest repositories of PAI in existence. This data fuels our continued development of cutting-edge software that can illuminate entire transnational illicit systems—and empower our partners to target them.

Our Partners



Letter from Executive Director



“It is the one most adaptable
to change.”

Attributed to Darwin

Our work has real impact. The world may seem chaotic on the surface. The conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere are global in nature. With pandemics, pollution, and climate change, human security and environmental security are beyond the capability of any government to manage. Our whole-of-society perspective strikes at the roots of conflict. Leveraging emerging technology, talented analysts, the new information environment, and incredible partners, we have created arrests, indictments, sanctions, seizures, frozen assets, and blacklisted or de-risked corporations and individuals around the world. Our teams target the globalized bad actors that poison the legitimate systems of trade, transportation, communications, and finance that power prosperity for billions. We know this is working because the bad guys react.

In the past year, we have seen sanctions evaders and traffickers forced to use newer, more elaborate, and expensive

ways to avoid detection and disruption-increasing the cost of doing business. Governments captured by autocratic and criminal networks are seeking to control information and repress civil society organizations. The People’s Republic of China announced the sanction of one of our former analysts for our work on the abuse of the Uyghur population in Xinjiang. These responses are good news. However, they are not enough.

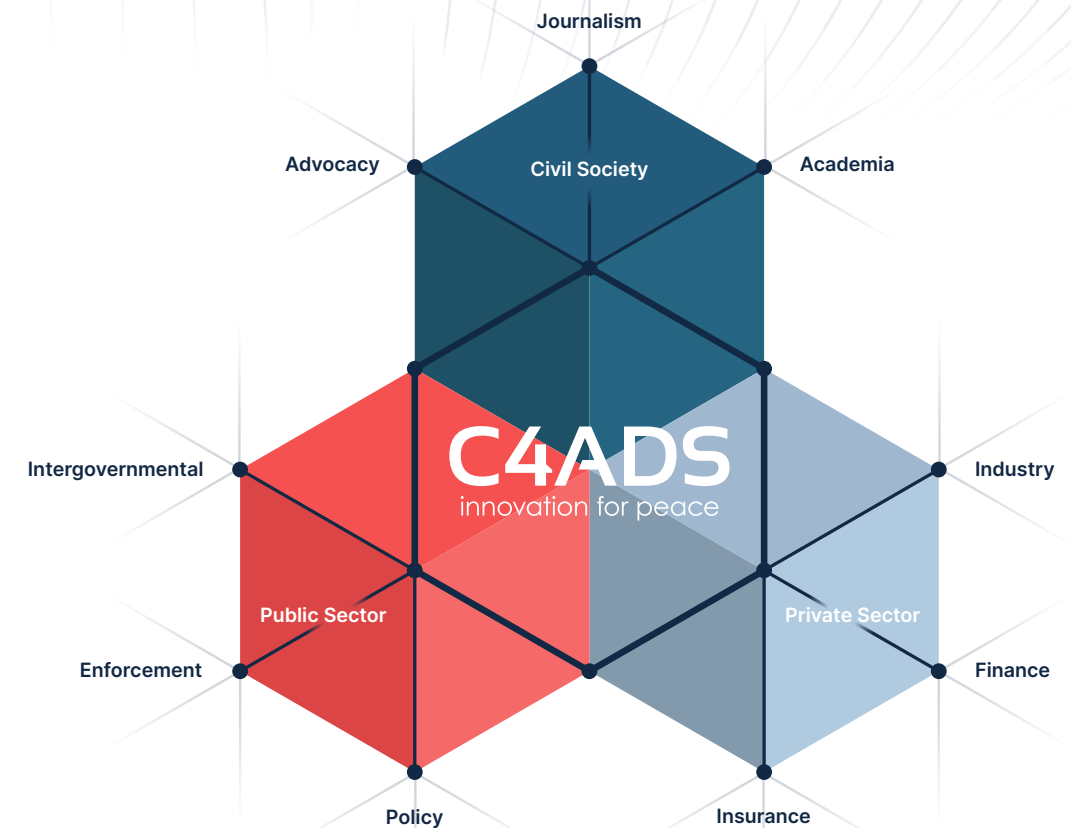
As we seek to shape the environment in permanent ways, we must continue to refine our ability to discover and disrupt those who would prey upon the security and prosperity of an open, pluralistic society. The good guys can win this arms race without empowering intrusive government action. We can build civil society, private, and public sector coalitions to shape an eco-system that discourages resurgence of illicit and malign activity. We can help create an eco-system that encourages prosperity and opportunity for all. However,

we cannot do this without your support. Specific project grants from various government, corporate, and private foundation organizations can only do so much. To create campaigns that have the global security outcome we seek, we need unrestricted donor funding. Join our mission and shape your own legacy in the world. Please spread the word and consider making C4ADS your charity of choice.

Sincerely,

David Johnson
Executive Director

Our Impact Network



At C4ADS, we know that we can't change the world alone. In 2023, we worked with our network of key allies and supporters to achieve more than ever before, expanding our reach and growing our impact on some of the most critical security issues of our time. From training Uyghur rights advocates in forced labor investigations to helping local partners in Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, and Namibia to better target trafficking threats to wildlife populations, our partnerships fortified frontline defenses against illicit activities around the world.

We also harnessed our unique data access and capabilities in support of several other, diverse initiatives. We supported investigative

journalism in hotspots across continents, joining with leading partners in the counter-IUU fishing movement to scale our impact on the seafood industry. We stepped into geopolitical realms, analyzing the influence of private military companies like Russia’s Wagner Group, collaborating with local leaders and NGOs across conflict zones like Sudan to expose the facilitators of violence, and more.

Beyond analysis, we invested in our Learning Lab to better equip private and public partners with the advanced tools they need to effectively combat illicit networks worldwide. Through analytical platforms tracking North Korean sanctions evasion and interactive conflict maps visualizing the

dimensions of humanitarian crises in Afghanistan, Sudan, and Ukraine, we empowered stakeholders to navigate complex security landscapes with precision.

As we reflect on the remarkable milestones of 2023, we recognize the pivotal role of our allies and partners in realizing our collective vision. This year stands as a testament to our shared commitment to progress, and we remain steadfast in our dedication to advancing our mission on a global scale. Thank you for embarking on this transformative journey alongside us.

Our Work

And Regions of Impact

AFRICA

Tracking and Disrupting Illicit Russian Private Military Companies

Cameroon, Sudan, CAR

Enhancing Partner Investigations into Corruption and Illicit Activity in Natural Resource Supply Chains

Cameroon, Chad, CAR

Building Data-Driven Decision-Making in At-Risk Protected Areas

Cameroon, Nigeria, Benin, Senegal

Supporting Journalist Investigations into Connections between Foreign-Owned Mines and Wildlife Trafficking Routes

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Atrocity Monitoring, Arms Tracking, and Asset Recovery

Sudan

Investigating PLA-Naval Escort Taskforce missions and its Potential Overlap with Vessels Conducting IUU Fishing Activities

Djibouti

Fostering Transnational Coordination on Wildlife Cases

Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, DRC, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania

Grey Zone

Seychelles

OCEANIA

Grey Zone

Australia, Fiji, Samoa

US & CANADA

Assets of Corrupt Haitians

US, Canada, Haiti

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Mapping Small Arms Transfers to Criminals in Guatemala

Guatemala

Investigating the Network of On-and Offshore Enablers Supporting IUU Fishing

Uruguay, Ecuador, Peru, Chile

Enhance Civil Society's Ability to Investigate Corruption and Promote Transparency

Panama

Grey Zone

British Virgin Islands

EUROPE

Illicit Arms Trading to Russia

Germany, Switzerland, Poland

Grey Zone

The Netherlands, Switzerland

MIDDLE EAST

Monitoring Human Rights Abuses, Violence Against Civilians, and Acts of Corruption in Afghanistan

Afghanistan

CENTRAL ASIA

Mapping, Tracking, and Disrupting the Transshipment of Weapons and Illicit Dual-Use Goods from Third Parties via Turkey and Central Asia to Russia

Turkey

Illicit Arms Trade; Mapping, Tracking, and Disrupting Weapons and Sensitive Dual-Use Goods In Support of the Russian Military

Russia, Ukraine

Conducting War Crimes Investigations and Tracking Private Military Companies

Ukraine

Grey Zone

Russia, Turkey

SOUTH ASIA

Illicit Arms Trading to Russia

India

Grey Zone

Bangladesh

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Myanmar's Junta Procurement Networks

Myanmar

Diminishing Freedom of Expression and Rising Illicit Activity

Hong Kong

Forced Labor and Human Rights Violations in the Uyghur Region

China

Investigating Transcontinental Wildlife Trafficking Networks

Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia

Grey Zone

North Korea, South Korea, People's Republic of China, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Vietnam, Malaysia, Laos, Singapore, Indonesia, East Timor, Cambodia, Thailand

Our Reach

C4ADS was cited 27 times per day, on average, in 2023.



41 Collaborative investigations with journalists

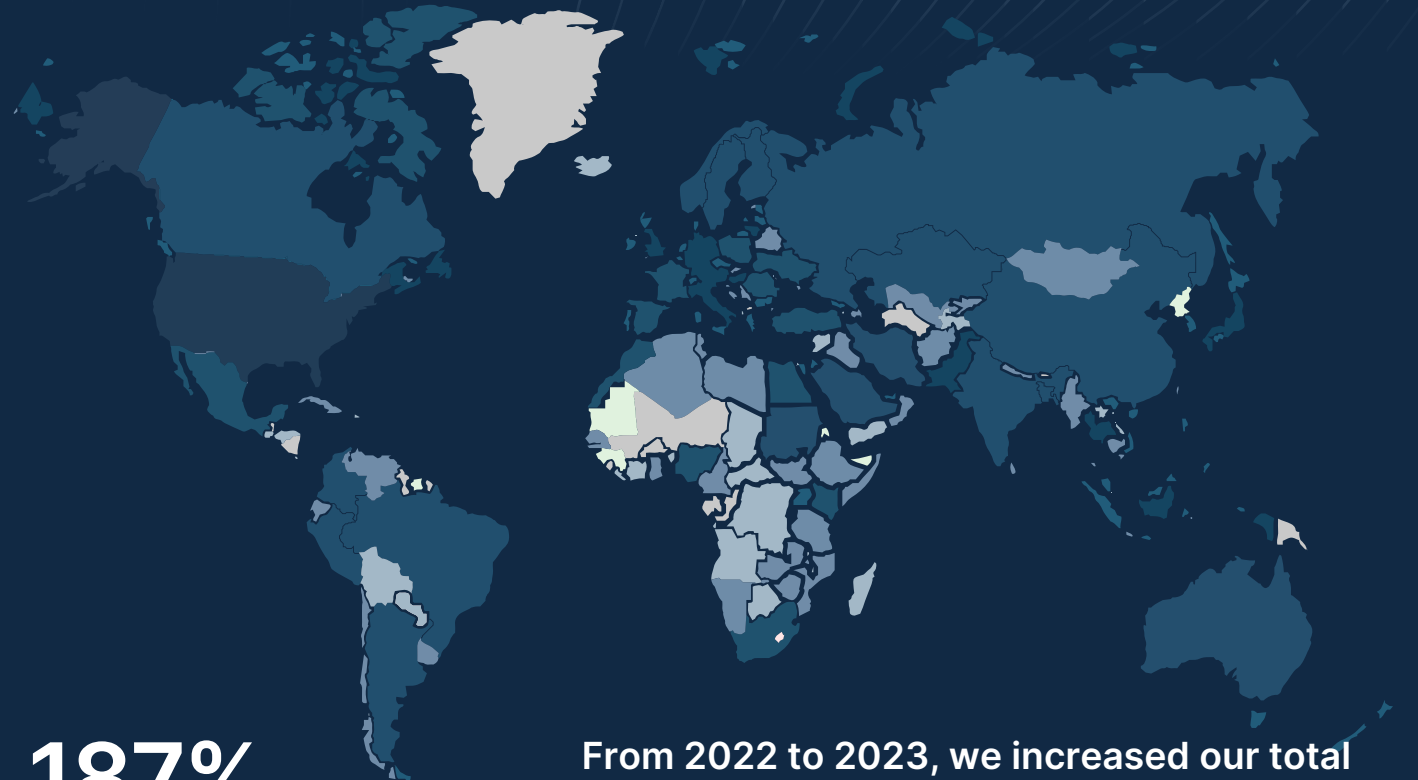
Traditional media is crucial for accountability and justice, but newsrooms often struggle to keep up with the fast-paced PAI environment. C4ADS helps bridge this gap by collaborating with talented investigative journalists worldwide, sharing analysis, data, and guidance. In 2023, C4ADS contributed to dozens of the year's top investigative stories and documentaries.



Media Spotlights



Visitors to c4ads.org came from over 208 jurisdictions.



187%
Increase in unique visitors to
our website in 2023

From 2022 to 2023, we increased our total follower count across all social platforms by 14%. Our email open and click-through rates were both over 2x the industry standard.

Get Connected

Join our thousands of connected insiders who receive our newsletter and social media updates.



Sign up for *Inside Innovation*, our monthly newsletter at www.c4ads.org/contact, and get regular updates on our work

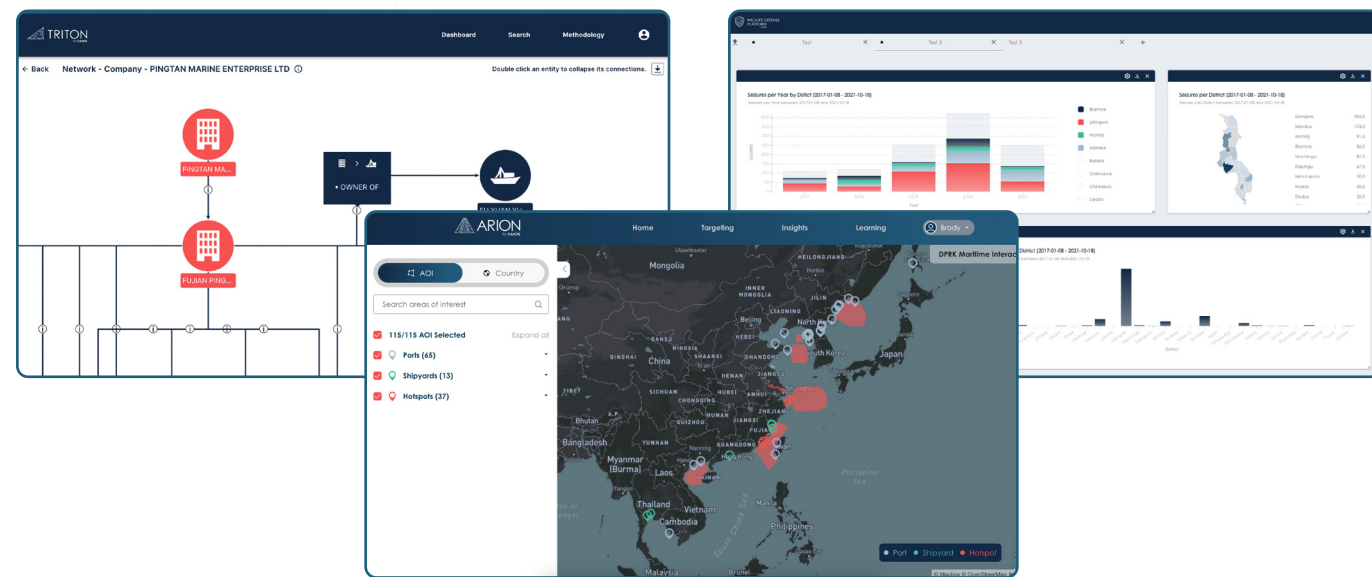
Data and Tech

C4ADS' Data and Technology team provides the resources and technical capabilities that enable our analysis.



In 2023, C4ADS data engineers harmonized 162 new datasets from 152 jurisdictions in 55 languages, enabling investigators to find links among upwards of 266 million entities.

266m
potential entity links



SEAMLESS HORIZONS

We continuously optimize Seamless Horizons, our OSINT search and analysis platform that houses billions of records from corporate, property, and other data registries around the globe.

"I've used it numerous times during the past weeks, and with great success. Through Seamless Horizon I've learned that a Danish investor in renewables in Africa has registered a number of their companies in Mauritius, a well known tax haven for investing in Africa."

"Please know that Seamless Horizons and C4ADS have been a godsend to this investigation. It has definitely delivered on the horsepower we need to get through the mountain of data."

-Partner responses to Seamless Horizons

Custom-Built Solutions for Partners and the Public

C4ADS Data and Tech creations allow specific stakeholders to dig deeper into their problem sets.



Powered by a one-of-a-kind vessel ownership database, Triton fuses registries from around the world to illuminate linkages between industrial fishing vessels and the companies who profit from their activities.



Built upon data from years of cutting-edge maritime monitoring, Arion is a central repository of knowledge on DPRK maritime sanctions that gives partners a headstart on investigations and sanctions compliance.



The Wildlife Defense Platform makes it possible for frontline counter-wildlife trafficking partners to effortlessly sift through, illustrate, and analyze data on seizures and court cases.

Software for Conflict and Atrocity Monitoring

In collaboration with our partners at the Centre for Information Resilience, we have built interactive maps that allow the public to review and submit video, photos, satellite imagery, and other documentation of atrocities in conflict zones.

Eyes on Russia



To provide journalists, NGOs, and policymakers access to current, verified, and trustworthy reporting.

Sudan Shahid



To raise the voices of those working to protect human rights and restore peace in Sudan.

Afghan Witness



To help activists, policymakers, and researchers to visualize the extent of human rights violations in Afghanistan.

Over 19,000 conflict incidents tracked and monitored

Conflict-Affected States



Analysis from the Conflict-Affected States team contributed to at least 33 enforcement actions in 2023, including:

33
enforcement actions

The Conflict-Affected States Program aims to promote democratization, transparency, and justice by exposing the financial and material drivers of conflict, as well as the ways external actors perpetuate violence.

Our current projects include mapping and disrupting Russia's illicit acquisition of defense-applicable technology; tracking atrocities related to the Sudan conflict; and tracking the flow of small arms from Europe into Guatemala.

✓ The arrests of 5 New-York based sanctions evaders that were illicitly supporting the Russian Government with weapons and high-tech goods.

✓ A Global Magnitsky designation of a corrupt senior Afghan official.

✓ At least 23 sanctions of Sudanese entities linked to thousands of deaths and tens of millions of dollars in diverted public funds.

Keeping Pace

In 2023, faced with Russia's data source shutdowns and circuitous trade routes, Conflict-Affected States and its data teammates implemented collection and verification strategies to better track the country's data footprint.

Meanwhile, in Sudan, escalating conflict compelled our shift to weapons tracking and atrocity monitoring, including through the visual platform Sudan Shahid.



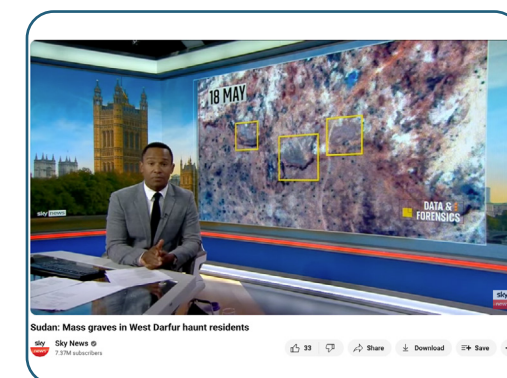
"Your session was the highlight of Day Two for me, and for many of the participants."

-Attendee from C4ADS investigative training on malign influence networks

Our Analysts...



... did groundbreaking research to identify a private U.K. firm affiliated with the Sudanese Rapid Security Forces (RSF) that was providing security to a range of Western institutions.



...geolocated one of the first documented mass graves in Sudan, providing the information and imagery to a reporter at SKY NEWS who brought awareness to ongoing atrocities.

Human Security



In 2023, Human Security analysts supported at least 10 journalistic investigations, engaged with more than 432 companies on Uyghur forced labor and supply chains, and trained at least 182 civil-society partners on investigative workflows.

182
trainings provided

The Human Security Program raises the cost of forced labor and human rights abuse by targeting perpetrators' financial and trade networks.

We collaborate with affected communities and the media to reveal these network links, and then engage with both public and private sectors to hinder human rights abusers from continuing their crimes. Our current work includes exposing global ties to Uyghur forced labor and oppression; generating accountability for the Burmese junta's war crimes; and fighting for freedom of expression and transparency in Hong Kong.

Keeping Pace

As data environments in countries of focus shifted in response to heightened international scrutiny and regulations in 2023, C4ADS adopted innovative approaches to maintain data visibility and a stable investigative environment for itself and its community partners.



"This is the best training I have ever received. Many journalists start out with theoretical aspects of news reporting and writing but rarely get introduced to these fundamental research tools and techniques covered in this training. I doubt many media development professionals in the journalism schools have developed experience in these tools."

-Participant, C4ADS Human Security investigative training

After publishing "Do as I Say, not as I Do," a commentary on foreign procurement networks supplying the repressive Hong Kong Police Force,

✓ We supported 3 U.S. government publications on human rights, 3 congressional testimonies, and at least 5 law enforcement efforts.

✓ European parliamentarians wrote a letter to the EU and French Presidents calling for an audit of companies supplying the Hong Kong Police Force.

Thanks to the momentum of our Uyghur Rights work since 2021, including our 2023 report "Fractured Veins,"

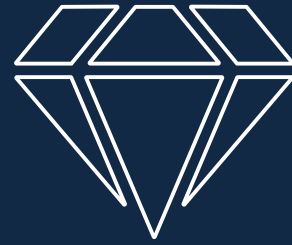
✓ Our analysis on supply chains served as a key source of truth in 2023, cited by authorities such as Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Department of Labor, and Congressional committees.



Ukraine Human Trafficking Panel

C4ADS hosted a panel (featured in Business Wire and Yahoo Finance) on the risk of human trafficking amid Russia's war in Ukraine. Panelists discussed how lessons learned from other crises may be applied to their organizations' work in this field.

Natural Resources



Natural Resources provided at least 31 instances of investigative support to journalists, government officials, and civil society organizations all over the world in 2023.

31
instances of investigative support provided

The Natural Resource Security Program promotes the sustainable use of the world's natural resources by exposing where illicit activity touches the supply chain and the policies, financial flows, and ownership networks that enable it.

Our current projects include investigating illegal fishing in Latin America; supporting litigation efforts to ensure critical minerals are sustainably sourced and benefitting the communities where they originate; and supporting journalists in Sub-Saharan Africa with data-driven investigations on natural resource corruption.

Keeping Pace

Despite being sanctioned and delisted by Nasdaq in 2023, Pingtan Marine Enterprise Ltd.'s vessels continue to operate in Latin America with support from a global network of logistics companies. C4ADS has since recalibrated its approach: targeting the larger network of on and offshore actors who enable illicit fishing to continue.



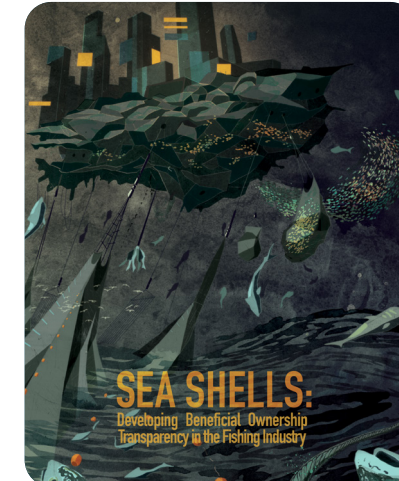
Our Analysts...

✓ Strengthened the investigative skills of journalists from the Congo Basin through training and year-long mentorship, resulting in two widely cited multi-country investigations.

✓ Enhanced citizen-led investigations on illegal artisanal fishing in Baja, Mexico through long-term capacity building on data management and illicit network mapping.

✓ Were recognized on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly for the Joint Analytical Cell, a coalition of organizations, including C4ADS, that supports fisheries authorities with analysis and capacity building.

C4ADS' ongoing shaping of the counter-IUU ecosystem, stemming from "Strings Attached" (2019), was extended via the 2023 publication of "Sea Shells" and through expanding partnerships.

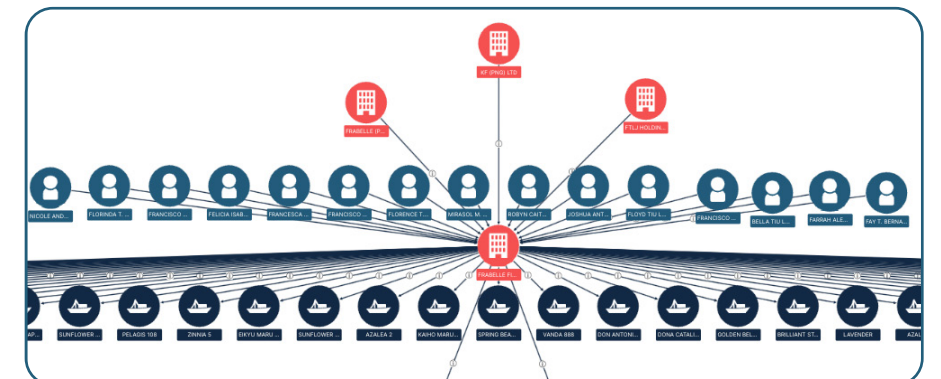


Natural Resources published a joint report on identity spoofing with the JAC that led to the recall of a fishing boat, while producing analysis that will hopefully lead to further investigations into confirming the identities of these vessels.

JOINT ANALYTICAL CELL	
C4ADS	SKYLIGHT
Fisheries Intelligence Report	
2 October 2023	
Vessel Report - 150 vessels overview analysis	
Report number	JAC-210
Report type	Research
Report subject	A group of Chinese-linked distant-water fishing vessels displaying high risk identity-change behaviour using MMSIs in the unofficial 150 series
Issue date	2 October 2023
Security notes	No confidential information
Table of Contents	
Summary	2
Analysis	5
High risk pattern of behaviour identified in previous analysis	6
Case study: 15040455	7
Scale and distribution	9
Distribution	10
Vessel identities	13
Known Chinese-flagged vessels	14



C4ADS' custom fisheries transparency platform, Triton, now provides information on more than 140,000 entities, a more than fourfold increase since 2022



State-Sponsored Threats



15
enforcement actions

Analysts from the State-Sponsored Threats team supported 15 enforcement actions against high-risk Iranian, Russian, and Chinese entities in 2023.

The State-Sponsored Threats Program seeks to disrupt and degrade the ability of hostile states to evade sanctions, procure lethal technology, and threaten the rules-based international order. Current analysis covers gray-zone activity and malign influence networks spanning Russia, East Asia, and the Middle East.

Keeping Pace

Prior to 2023, North Korea historically procured refined petroleum through ship-to-ship transfers by foreign-flagged or “stateless” vessels. In mid-2023, North Korean tankers started sailing into the Taiwan Strait to load oil directly, potentially using difficult-to-trace small vessels to ferry oil from foreign-flagged ships. C4ADS responded by developing new techniques to monitor the activities of high-risk vessels at sea, including increased Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) access, fixed optical satellite imagery taskings, social media analysis, and ground-based partner networks.



COMMON SANCTIONS EVASION TACTICS:

1. Dark Activity
2. AIS Tampering
3. Vessel Identity Tampering
4. Vessel Identity Laundering
5. Shell Companies
6. Obscuring Ownership
7. Flag Hopping
8. Transshipment



To help partners stay on top of North Korean maritime oil smuggling, we launched the Arion platform, placing it in the hands of government, regulatory, and private-sector agents fighting illicit activity at sea.

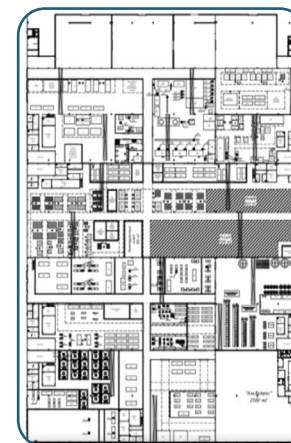
Arion allowed partners to pursue **800 investigations** across 11 jurisdictions in 2023.

“The interface and functionality of this platform is one of the best out there, including all of our paid services.”

- Commonwealth Bank of Australia

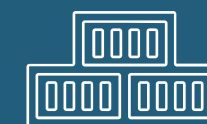
“This is exactly what is needed.”

-Member of UN Panel of Experts



The proactive data foraging of State-Sponsored Threats analysts in 2023 led them to leaked documents revealing the inner operations of an Iranian company, Sahara Thunder, that provides strategic technology and training to Russia.

Left: floor plan, contained in the leak, of an Iran-backed drone production facility in Russia



We worked with partners to trace the obscure supply chain of Iranian drones in Russia, enabling regulatory and enforcement actions against this network.



Faced with regional data barriers, we developed relationships with over a dozen national flag registries to make it harder for high-risk vessels to go undetected.

Wildlife Crimes



5
enforcement actions

Wildlife crimes analysis helped to bring 5 major enforcement actions against large-scale elephant, rhino, and pangolin trafficking networks in 2023.

The C4ADS Wildlife Crimes Program builds on-the-ground capacity of counter-trafficking and counter-poaching stakeholders to disrupt and dismantle the networks perpetrating the illicit trade. Our current projects include monitoring global wildlife seizure trends, building the analytic capacity of foreign non-profit and government partners, and developing data-driven decision-making mechanisms for protected areas.

Keeping Pace

As 2023 saw the end to pandemic restrictions, C4ADS' Wildlife Crimes Program combined seizure data and network-specific investigations to keep a pulse on how trafficking networks would respond, developing new partnerships along the way in emerging jurisdictions of concern.

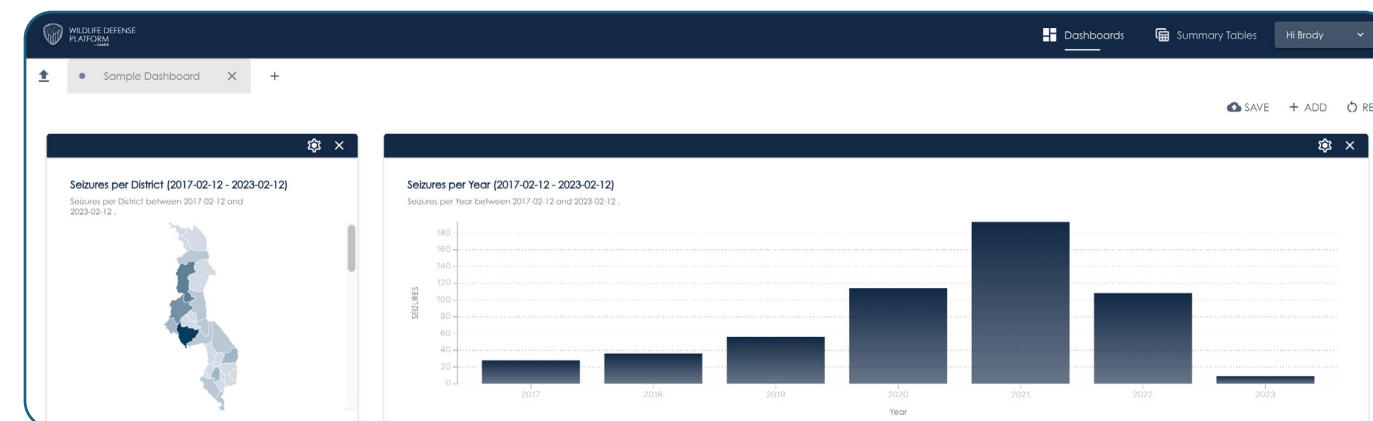


"Both the speed and the quality of the outputs are impressive beyond words. The fact that the activities of and connectivity between [persons of interest] can now be identified, summarised, and visually displayed in charts, diagrams and highly-detailed time-series maps in a matter of seconds is a real game-changer. [...] I am sure that this technology will revolutionise both investigations and prosecutions."

-Recipient of a custom data tool from the Wildlife Crimes team

Our Analysts...

- ✓ Spent 140 days engaging partners in-person in some of the areas fighting hardest against wildlife trafficking, providing
-
- ✓ 12 of our custom data tools, 83 custom training sessions, and collaborating on 97 investigations.



C4ADS' Wildlife Defense Platform empowers partner organizations like Lilongwe Wildlife Trust — and their partners in the Malawi government — to translate disparate data into more effective resourcing and enforcement efforts.



We hosted a two-week intensive training engagement in Washington, DC, equipping Southern African participants with new tools to support active investigations.



Through hands-on training sessions and ongoing mentorship from the Wildlife Crimes team, analysts from Southern African jurisdictions learned to build databases, conduct queries, and create data visualizations in their ongoing efforts to reinforce protected area operations.

Organized Crime and Corruption



Organized Crime and Corruption analysts provided Dubai property ownership data to a consortium of over 200 journalists in 2023, empowering civil society to cast light into unregulated tax havens.

200
journalist partnerships

The Organized Crime and Corruption Program focuses on exposing the networks at the heart of state corruption and transnational crime.

Our work provides tactical information to the government and financial sector on how these networks move beyond national borders, weaken societies, and undermine rule of law. Our projects include exposing corruption in Europe and the Balkans; exposing the North American nexuses of money laundering networks; and supporting civil society in combating corruption in Latin America.

Keeping Pace

As the Organized Crime and Corruption Program moves into 2024, we will be diving into some of the earlier precursors and downstream impacts of corruption, like public attitudes and human rights.



“[This project] is the missing puzzle piece in anti-corruption work we have been waiting for for a long time.”

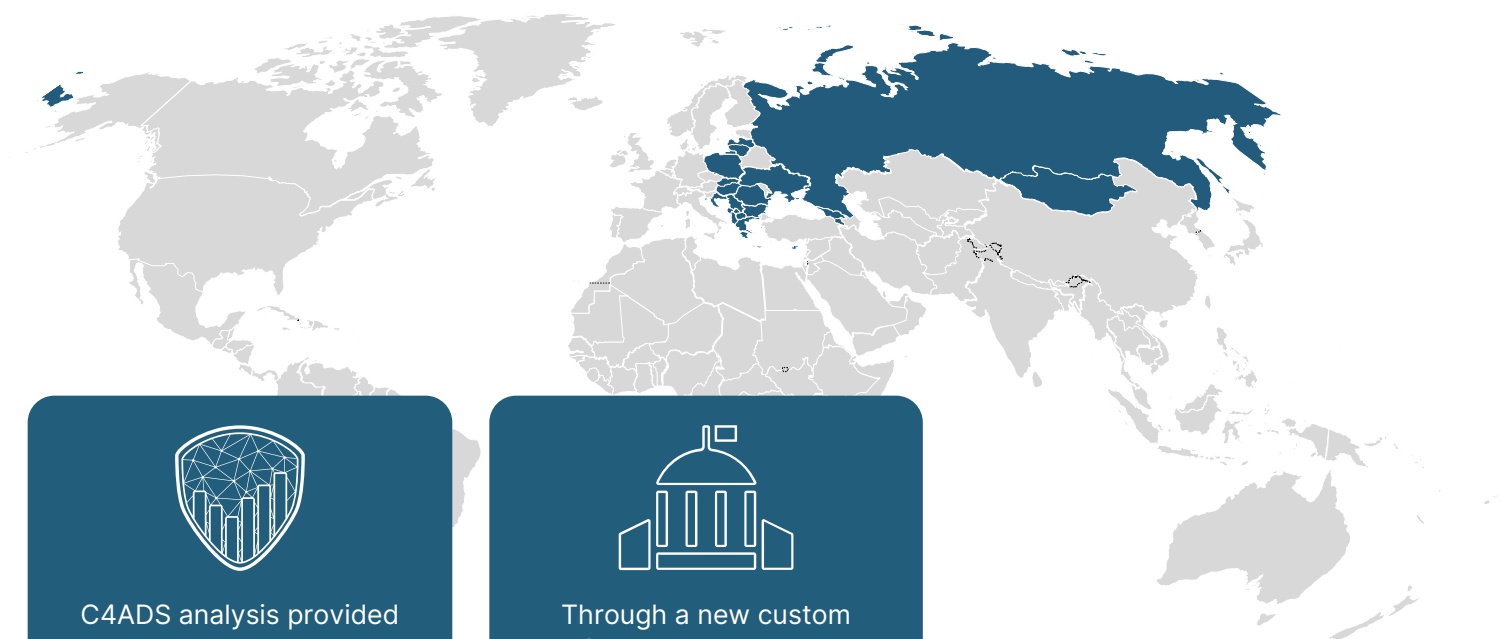
- Participant, Organized Crime and Corruption Seamless Horizons demo

Our Analysts...

✓ Provided investigative support in the indictment of a European prosecutor involved in grand corruption.

✓ Shared actionable data with a growing pool of enforcement and media partners fighting corruption in Latin America.

✓ Resourced hundreds of journalists investigating offshored assets in the Middle East.



C4ADS analysis provided data-driven evidence of Caribbean corruption networks involving US- and Canada-sanctioned individuals.



Through a new custom feature in Seamless Horizons, Organized Crime and Corruption is enabling partners to look across more than 20 jurisdictions to investigate the unexplained wealth of politically exposed persons in Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans.

Learning Lab



10
training sessions led

The C4ADS Learning Lab led 10 training sessions in 2023, supporting partners across 6 countries and 10+ professional sectors.

The Learning Lab is the institutional training arm for external partners at C4ADS. The team focuses on building the capabilities of analytical teams across diverse organizations, from civil society and law enforcement groups to private-sector partners that fight sanctions evasion.

250+%

Increase in demand for training modules from 2022 to 2023

99%

of anonymous survey respondents indicated that they would recommend Learning Lab training to a colleague

3x

Increase in training modules since 2022



"Absolutely an awesome training, a veritable firehose of tools, tricks, datasets, and search tips."



"One of the best training courses I've attended in this role."



"Thank you so much for being so inspiring and open to dialogue. I learnt a lot and got motivated to focus more on data journalism and share my ideas with you on my journey."

-Partner responses to Learning Lab trainings

Training partners in what they need to know



Regional Modules

Tailored to navigating the challenging data environments of Iran, Russia, and China.



Core Modules

Equipping participants to lead state-of-the-art investigations using publicly-available information.



Special Topics

Deeper dives into topical areas and analytical tools like wildlife trafficking or geospatial data.

On a road show across Turkey, the Learning Lab provided training to partners at the Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF), helping attendees in Istanbul, Izmir, Mersin, and Samsun to trace sanctions evasion activities carried out for the Russian government.



Our Culture

By embracing diversity and empowering individuals, C4ADS is able to harness the collective expertise and perspectives needed to effectively tackle the complex challenges of disrupting and defeating illicit networks on a global scale.

Culture At The Cutting Edge

How we're working to advance **diversity, equity, and inclusion** in the national security space.



Queery

An employee resource and social group dedicated to fostering a supportive community for LGBTQ+ employees. Through initiatives like Pride Month Surge Day and collaboration with LGBTQ organizations, we aim to create a workplace where camaraderie and relationships thrive, especially as the company grows.



BERG

A voluntary association that began formally on Juneteenth in 2023, committed to supporting and empowering Black employees and their allies by addressing unique challenges faced by Black employees. By celebrating diversity, tackling systemic inequalities, and providing a safe space, BERG contributes to C4ADS's journey towards transparency and inclusivity.



LAG

A way for staff-level team members to get face time with leadership, representing their teammates and maintaining a channel to give feedback and to provide input on the direction of the company.

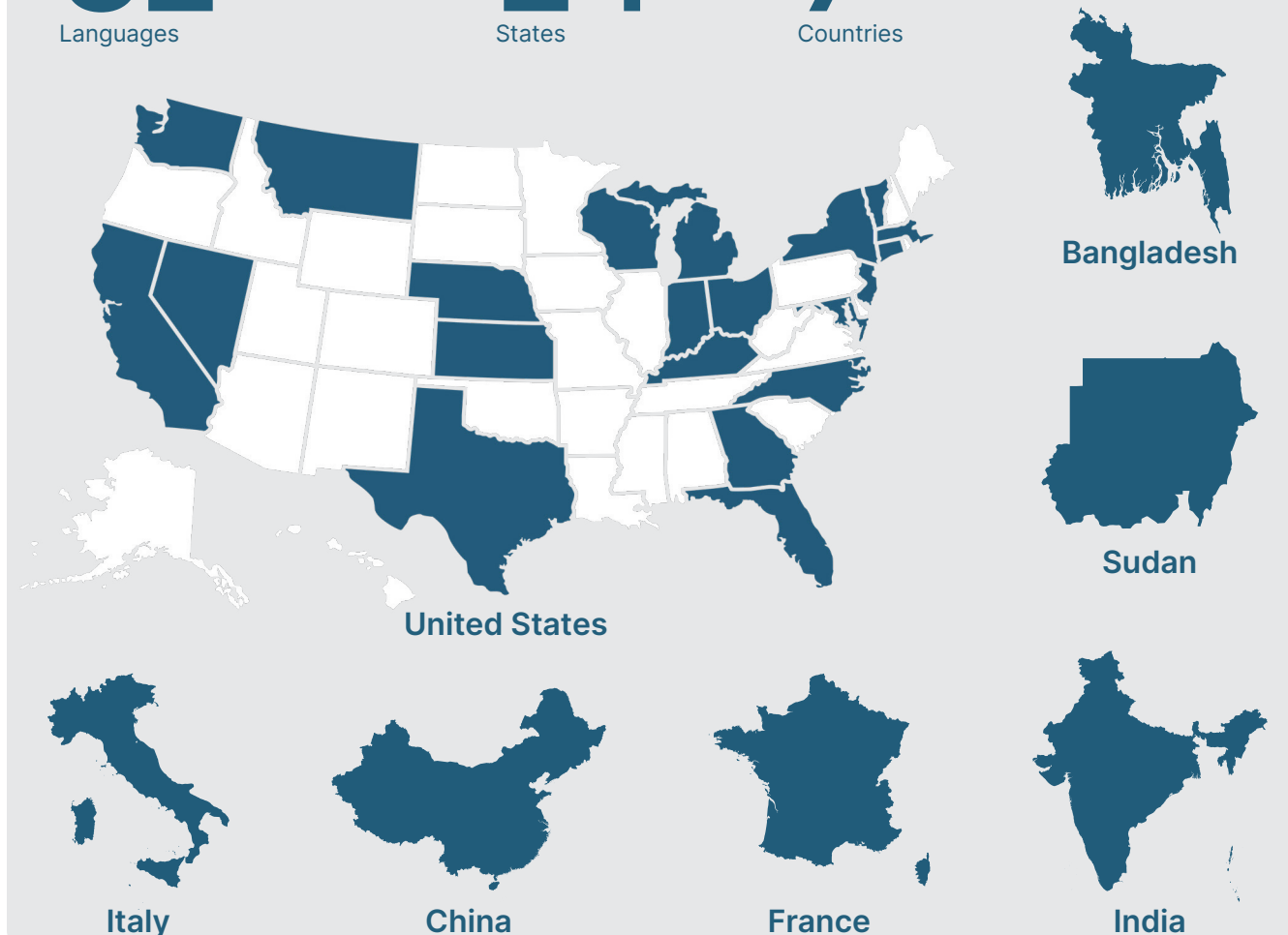
In 2024, our recruitment efforts will focus on expanding outreach to underrepresented communities by targeting smaller schools, increasing engagement with state institutions, and strategically reaching out to schools in specific regions.



We strive to diversify cultural perspectives in our recruitment initiatives.

Current C4ADS staff bring life experience from:

32 Languages
24 States
7 Countries



Our Internship Program

The C4ADS internship program offers unparalleled access to cutting-edge technology combined with the freedom to innovate. Emphasizing autonomy, our program allows interns to deploy advanced analytical tools, shape program strategies, and take on significant individual analytical responsibilities. We seek out applicants who display creativity and initiative.

2205

Total applicants

6%

Acceptance rate

16

Languages spoken

"I learned to take a more structured approach to research and got practice designing a methodology that would allow me to use a specific case to identify trends that help us understand how the broader network of illicit actors function. Getting to work with Palantir products was also a great experience, and something that will absolutely be useful down the road."

-Hunter Sosby, intern,
Organized Crime and
Corruption Program, 2023



Where We Go Next

C4 alums move on to do great things at companies and schools like the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, Premise, HSBC, and Georgetown Law.



GEORGETOWN LAW



"C4ADS taught me how to conduct rigorous open source research drawing from a multitude of data sources and types, which has allowed me to contribute to long-form investigative journalism into topics ranging from illegal fishing at sea to state-imposed forced labor programs at processing facilities in my current role."

-Austin Brush, journalist at the Outlaw Ocean project and former C4ADS analyst.

"C4ADS interns directly advance the organization's mission to defeat illicit networks. Assignments are rigorous, yet rewarding, especially as you see your work's positive, real world impact. Whether writing a report on illicit wildlife trafficking networks or drawing actionable insights from data, you are truly an asset to your team and the partners you support. Knowing your work directly impacts the organization and beyond is by far the most rewarding part of the internship and the very reason why I highly recommend the C4ADS internship for any young professional."

-Nicholas Lancia, former intern

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors provides essential guidance and oversight to C4ADS in support of our mission. Our Board of Directors is committed to the long-term sustainment of C4ADS, our mission, and our culture. Their leadership ensures that we remain mission focused. Under their oversight, C4ADS is professionally, ethically, and transparently governed.

The Board of Directors is comprised of twelve voting members and a non-voting Executive Director who is responsible to them for the strategic direction, leadership, and daily management of C4ADS. These Board members selflessly donate their time, money, advice, and connections to support “Innovation for Peace.”



HON. APRIL FOLEY
Chair of the Board

April H. Foley is a former US Ambassador to Hungary and former First Vice President of the Export Import Bank of the United States. She served as an executive for PepsiCo for 17 years.



JOHN CALLERY, SSA
Member of the Board

John Callery is a Special Agent in Charge (SES) with the US Department of Justice with over 30 years of law enforcement field experience.



JOE D'CRUZ
Member of the Board

Joe D'Cruz is the Founder and Managing Director of Catalyze Dallas, a business incubator that helps companies unleash the potential of their investments in innovation. A committed and ethical leader, with a strong background in technology and business management, Joe will be instrumental in growing C4ADS' influence and further work.



SERGEY KANAREYKIN
Member of the Board

Sergey Kanareykin is an entrepreneur and technologist, and the former Chief Technical Officer of C4ADS. Sergey has over 15 years of experience in software development, early stage technology investments, and startup management.



TIBOR NAGY
Member of the Board

Ambassador Nagy was most recently US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa. Prior to that, he served as Vice Provost for International Affairs at Texas Tech University for 15 years, following a 32-year diplomatic career and his 22 years at eight African postings.



EILEEN PARISE
Member of the Board

Dr. Eileen Parise is a Senior Vice President and Chief Growth Officer at Nathan Associates, Inc. Dr. Parise spent 8 years working as a contractor to the Pentagon for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, J-3, Deputy Directorate for Information Operations (DDIO), and she was a presidential appointee during the Clinton Administration and the Bush Administration.



LTG DAVID FRIDOVICH
Member of the Board

Lieutenant General David P. Fridovich is a former Deputy Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command and senior Green Beret with more than 37 years of service in the U.S. Army.



NEWTON HOWARD, PHD
Member of the Board

Dr. Newton Howard was the founder and first chairman of C4ADS and is currently CEO of Ni2o, a leader in the field of brain-computer interface. He is director of the Computational Neurosciences Lab at Oxford, the Synthetic Intelligence Lab at MIT, and a professor at Georgetown University.



CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
Member of the Board

Christopher Johnson is the Chief of Staff at Guggenheim Partners, a global investment and advisory firm, with over \$325 billion in assets under management. Christopher is an accomplished executive with expertise in leadership, operations, and strategic planning.



JOHN PEARCE
Member of the Board

John Pearce is VP of Cyber Operations at SOC, LLC with over 30 years of experience within the defense and intelligence communities.



ARCHIE RAVISHANKAR
Member of the Board

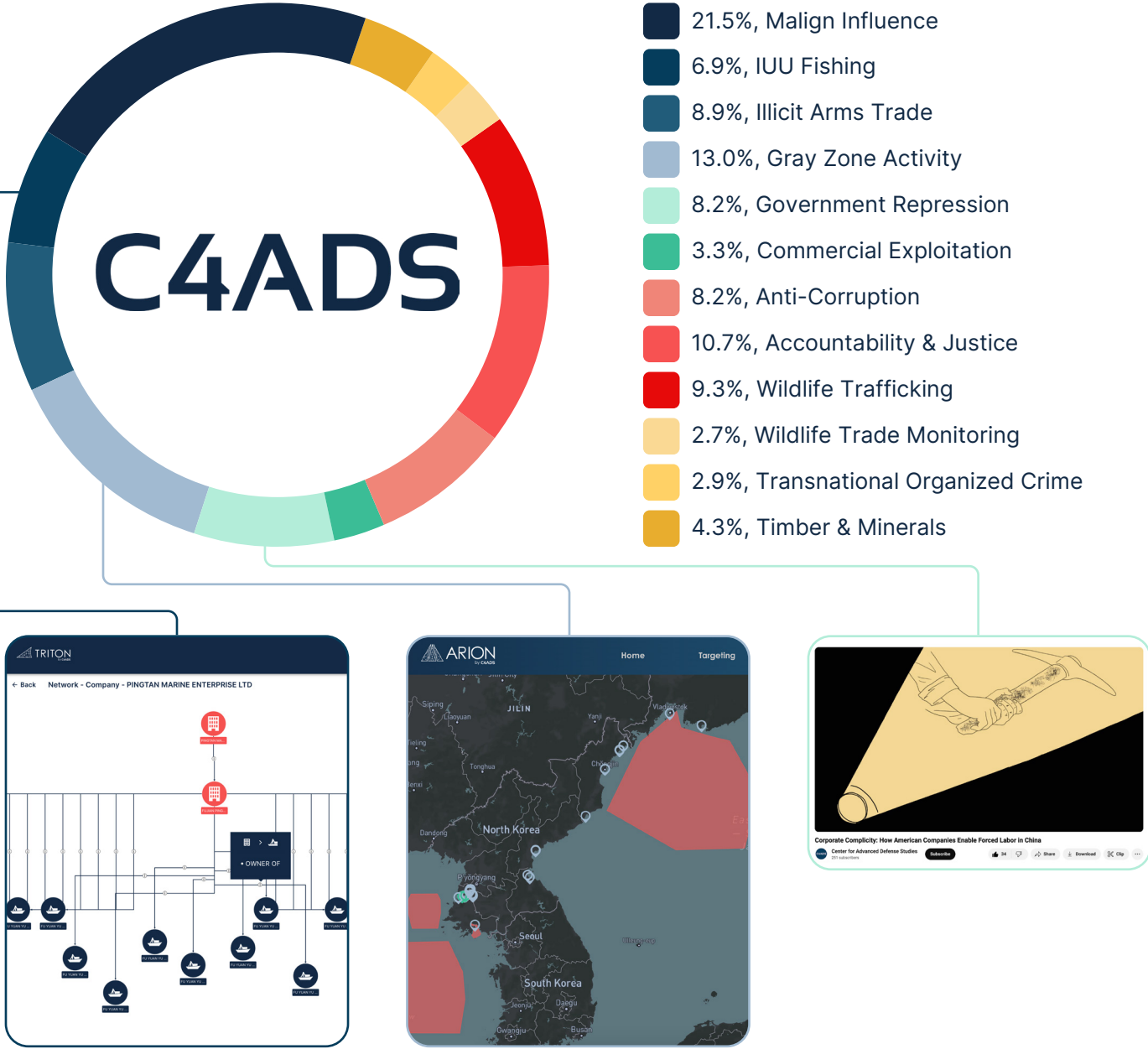
Archie Ravishankar is the Founder and CEO of Cogni, a cutting-edge digital banking platform. As a young entrepreneur and leader in digital banking, Archie brings a dynamic approach to problem solving and deep understanding of how illicit actors exploit licit vectors. He will be valuable as C4ADS works to expand support to an evolving financial sector.

Financials

Our funds are directed towards mission impact, with billions of dollars of impact to date against illicit criminal and malign networks.

C4ADS is audited annually and regularly achieves the highest rating available for financial management. As a result of this performance, we are classified by U.S. Government standards as a low-risk grantee. We focus our funds towards mission impact across all the domains we cover.

Revenue by Issue Area



Donate

Structural funding is critical to fueling innovation and staying ahead of criminal actors as they evolve.

TOP 1%
of nonprofits

C4ADS has been recognized for the highest standards in non-profit financial transparency and performance. We have a 99% 4-star rating on Charity Navigator and a Platinum rating on Guidestar, putting us in the top 1% of nonprofits.



Become Part of the Action

C4ADS is a 501(c)(3) public charity, tax ID number: 73-1681366. If you would like to support our work, there are several ways you can contribute to C4ADS. Donations to C4ADS are tax deductible.

Online

Donations can be made by credit card on our website at <https://c4ads.org/take-action>

Securities

C4ADS accepts donation of stock or other securities. Please ensure you notify your C4ADS point of contact, or donate@c4ads.org in advance of your securities donation. Donations may be made via electronic transfer to:

Charles Schwab
 Account Name: **Center for Advanced Defense Studies, Inc**
 Account Number: **1985-8127**
 Account Type: **CORP**
 DTC Number: **0164**
 Code: **40**

For support, please contact Charles Schwab Asset Transfer Services at 877-284-9830

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Please make a check payable to The Center for Advanced Defense Studies, Inc. and mail to C4ADS at:
1201 Eye St NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005

ACH & Wire

Account Name: **Center for Advanced Defense Studies**
 Account Number: **15241866**
 ABA Number: **254070116**
 Bank Name: **CitiBank, N.A.**
 Bank Address: **1717 K Street NW Washington, DC 20036**



C4ADS is a digital-age think tank dedicated to providing data-driven analysis and evidence-based reporting on global conflict and transnational security issues.

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