



# 4 Networks Conference 2023

Cooperation in strengthening environmental enforcement

28-29 September 2023

Carabinieri School, Rome

Network presentations



European Union Network for the Implementation  
and Enforcement of Environmental Law



Funded by the  
European Union

# IMPEL



- International non-profit organisation of **environmental authorities**
- Founded in **1992**. Legal seat in Brussels; website: [https://  
www.impel.eu](https://www.impel.eu)
- **59 members authorities** from **38 European countries**
- **Framework Partnership Agreement** with **European Commission**

*Email: [info@impel.eu](mailto:info@impel.eu)*



## IMPEL's objectives in line with those of EU

- EU 8th Environment Action Programme (EAP);
- EU “Green Deal” with an ambitious “zero pollution” aim (Zero Pollution Action Plan, Flagship 5);
- EU Action Plan on Environmental Compliance Assurance and Governance

## Environmental Compliance Assurance



***EAP (article 3a):*** ensuring effective, swift and full implementation of Union legislation and strategies on the environment and the climate and striving for excellence in environmental performance at Union, national, regional and local levels, including by providing sufficient administrative and compliance assurance capacity, as laid out in the regular Environmental Implementation Review, **supporting and cooperating with networks of practitioners, such as the European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law, the European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment, the European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment and the European Network for Environmental Crime**



# IMPEL Multiannual Strategic Work Programme (2022- 2027)



- Understanding the implementation challenges and facilitate actions to close the gaps
  - Build strategic relationships between agencies and authorities at national, regional and local level, across thematic areas and the compliance chain
  - Develop and build capacity
  - Coordinating and carrying out Inspection & enforcement actions with transboundary relevance
- Improving outcomes and dissemination (feedback loop)

# Develop and build capacity in agencies and authorities (Tools/Guidances, just some examples)



**FIVE**  
THEMATIC  
AREAS



How can IMPEL help? More at <https://player.vimeo.com/video/172708248?h=145e2672c5>

# ENVICRIMENET



Ondrej Koporec, Chair of EnviCrimeNet

4 Networks Conference 2023

SEPTEMBER, 28-29

ROME, ITALY

Strategic  
Approach for  
Tackling  
Environmental  
Crime



Life+  
**SATEC**



@EnviCrimeNet



[www.envicrimenet.eu](http://www.envicrimenet.eu)



# EnviCrimeNet

*A Network of experts in environmental criminal investigations*



- ❑ EnviCrimeNet is a network of European Law Enforcement Agencies, where police officers and other crime fighters cooperate against environmental crime.
- ❑ EnviCrimeNet is committed to promoting awareness and working towards a sustainable future, by collaborating with other networks and advocating for environmental protection at all levels.
- ❑ EnviCrimeNet is also called to be a European Centre of Excellence on criminal matters related to environmental illegal activity. The main purpose in this sense, is to develop relevant activities in order to involve the participants in the prosecution of these kind of crimes and set up a group for exchange best practices and lessons learned from previous experiences.
- ❑ EnviCrimeNet is a network with projection beyond the borders of the EU. The experience accumulated in working in the Network, is used to export this successful model to other regions with high impact in the fight against environmental crime, such as Africa or Latin America, promoting exchange and the generation of synergies.

## Background

- ❑ EnviCrimeNet (ECN), today, is a network based on an EU Council Resolution dated May 20th, 2011. After the appearance of environmental crime on the European scene as a new threat to internal security, it became important to define the role of ECN, since the environmental priority introduces the 'EMPACT-environmental crime' in the current Political Cycle, within the framework of which objectives and activities fit within the tasks of ECN.



**Main countries  
involved:**



# Life Satec Project

Fight against environmental crime at a strategic level through the strengthening of EnviCrimeNet;  
A Network of experts in environmental criminal investigations

Project duration	Total budget	EU contribution
01/01/2021 30/06/2023	726.225 €	435.735 €

## A1 Advice on the regulatory projects from the point of view of criminal investigation

- ❑ Evaluation on the Directive 2008/99/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law
- ❑ EU Strategy on tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025
- ❑ Evaluation-Proposals Policy Cycle 2022-2025
- ❑ Sustainability (referring to the Non-Financial Disclosure aspects)
- ❑ ETS-Emission Trading Scheme (especially referring to the Voluntary Credits of CO2)

## A4 Basic manual containing common procedure to conduct criminal investigation

- ❑ Guidelines about police measures to control the treatment of sanitary waste as a control measure for the prevention of epidemics, and criminal investigations derived from the irregular treatment of this waste
- ❑ Basic manual on the procedure for on-line investigation of crimes against the environment. OSINT
- ❑ Basic manual about investigation procedure against the illegal use of poisoned baits
- ❑ Research manual on exotic pet trafficking
- ❑ Technical guide for inspections and investigations in the matter of transboundary shipments of plastic wastes

## A2 Consolidation of EnviCrimeNet as a non-profit association

## A3 Basic principles of legislative harmonization regarding environmental crime, from the criminal investigation point of view

FOREST FIRES  
WILDLIFE

## A5 Training activities related the procedures previously drafted coordinated with CEPOL



## A6 EnviCrimeNet General Assemblies

## B2 Networking and coordination with other projects



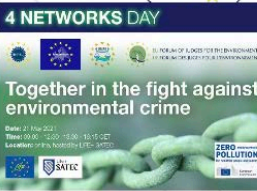
The SWiPE project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union.

PARTNERS



## B3 Networking and coordination with Network outside Europe tackling environmental crime

- ❑ Latin America: Jaguar Network
- ❑ Asia: In collaboration with the AMBITUS project, contacts have been established to create a network with South East Asia
- ❑ Africa: EnviCrimeNet, is collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Ecological Transition to create the African Network.
- ❑ I2lec: International Initiative of Law Enforcement for Climate





# MAIN FIGURES:



TECNOLOGÍAS Y SERVICIOS AGRARIOS  
TRAGSATEC  
SPAIN



GUARDIA CIVIL - SERVICIO DE PROTECCIÓN  
DE LA NATURALEZA  
SEPRONA  
SPAIN



ARMA DEI CARABINIERI  
CARABINIERI  
ITALY



INSPECTIE LEEFOMGEVING EN TRANSPORT,  
INLICHTINGEN EN OPSPORINGSDIENST  
ILT-IOD  
THE NETHERLANDS



ZOLLKRIMINALAMTN - CENTRAL CUSTOMS  
INVESTIGATION OFFICE  
ZKA  
GERMANY



FEDERAL CRIMINAL POLICE OFFICE -  
INTERPOL WIESBADEN  
BKA  
GERMANY



BELGIAN FEDERAL POLICE  
BFP  
BELGIUM



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR  
MoI-SK  
SLOVAK REPUBLIC



BUNDESKRIMINALAMT ÖSTERREICH - CRIMINAL  
INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AUSTRIA  
CIS-AT  
AUSTRIA



# OTHER STAKEHOLDERS:



EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR LAW  
ENFORCEMENT TRAINING



EUROPEAN UNION NETWORK FOR  
THE IMPLEMENTATION AND  
ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
LAW



EU FORUM FOR JUDGES FOR THE  
ENVIRONMENT



EUROPEAN NETWORK OF  
PROSECUTORS FOR THE  
ENVIRONMENT





EU FORUM OF JUDGES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
UE FORUM DES JUGES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

EU Forum of judges for the environment:

- not-for-profit organization created in 2004 under Belgian law
- mainly funded by IMPEL, with grants from the Norwegian and Belgian governments
- To contribute to a better implementation and enforcement of national, European and international environmental law:
  - ✓ Foster knowledge of environmental law among judges
  - ✓ Exchange of experiences in area of training of the judiciary in environmental law
  - ✓ Share environmental case law
- Network of over 200 judges and courts / 43 different countries
  - Administrative, criminal, civil judges at all levels of the judiciary, experienced or interested in handling environmental cases

More information on [www.eufje.org](http://www.eufje.org)

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# EUFJE'S MAIN ACTIVITIES 2023

- **Active member of the 4 Networks:**

- Conferences in 2016 (Utrecht), 2017 (Oxford), 2021 (online), 2022 (Paris)
- 2023: presentation of project BIOVAL (EUFJE, IMPEL, ENPE)
  - = non-binding, practical instrument to value ecological damages in court
  - > *Plenary session 6 + Breakout session 1 Theme 4*

- **EUFJE's Annual Conference on “Water Law”, 26-27 October, Barcelona** (Escuela Judicial del Consejo General del Poder Judicial):

- Speakers: European Commission, UNECE, EEA, UCWOSL, judges from ECJ, Peru, Spain, Belgium, France, Finland, Brazil

- **Aarhus Convention and access to justice:**

- Geneva, April 2023:
  - ✓ Task force on access to justice: Access to justice in cases related to climate change and biodiversity protection
  - ✓ Judicial Colloquium: Judicial protection of human rights and public interests against environmental pollution from chemicals and wastes
- Kirghizstan, 14-16 Sept. 2023: International Judges Conference on Access to Environmental Justice: *“Access to justice in climate and air quality cases”*

- **Lund Conference on “Climate Emergency: Law, Policy, and Adjudication in the EU”, May 2023, University of Lund** (co-organised by EUFJE and Lund University)

# PARTICIPATION IN KEY FORA

- Conference at Rio de Janeiro's State School of Judges (EMERJ), Feb. 2023, in order to build relations between the judiciaries of Brazil, the UK, and the EU, and share experiences and best practices on environmental legal cases
- 1st Showcase Event of the EMERITUS project "Strategies and Synergies to Strengthen EU Capabilities against Environmental Crimes", Verona, Italy, March 2023
- Sabin Center of Columbia University, New York, March 2023: "The Climate Docket at the European Court of Human Rights"
- Auckland University "Conference on Climate Litigation in Comparative Context", Auckland, NZ (online), May 2023
- High-level Conference on "The Right to a Clean, Healthy, and Sustainable Environment in Practice", Council of Europe, Strasbourg, May 2023
- ELTE- Aarhus Workshop on Future Generations Litigation, Budapest, June 2023
- Expert Meeting on "Strengthening environmental rule of law through effective fight against environmental crime" , EU Green Week, Brussels, June 2023
- Model Forest Act Initiative (MFAI) & 1st Meeting of the MFAI Drafting Committee, New York, July 2023 (an initiative of GJIE in co-operation with ADB and IUCN WCEL)
- GJIE Board Meeting, July 2023
- Preparatory sessions and the New York World Law Congress, in particular the Energy Transition & Climate Forum, July 2023
- Lectures in Rio and Brasilia, at the invitation of the Judicial School, Aug. 2023
  
- Ongoing cooperation with the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN) > EJTN Contact Point meeting, Jan. 2023



# ENPE

Est. 2012 Brussels

AISBL

59 members

35 countries

2<sup>nd</sup> LIFE project – ENPE II

## ENPE - The European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment Anne Brosnan, President

### Mission Statement:

*“to improve Compliance with EU Environmental Law by addressing uneven and incomplete implementation across Member States through improvements to the efficiency and effectiveness of prosecutors and judges in combating environmental crime.”*



Co-funded by the  
European Union



EN

*Our purpose is to promote the enforcement of environmental criminal law by supporting the operational work of environmental prosecutors...*

by collaborating with many organisations, programmes and projects:

- In 2022 at the European Conference of Prosecutors in Palermo
- Delivering training at 11 events across Europe including Spain, Germany, Poland and Romania on Waste and Water pollution crimes in partnership with the European Academy of Law (ERA)



Co-funded by the European Union



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- April 2023 ENPE co-organised **“The Sea: The world’s largest crime scene”** international conference on maritime environmental crime in **La Rochelle, France** for 150 delegates

- Assisting our Ukrainian ENPE member in prosecuting environmental crime

- 4N conference is always a highlight for us and we are delighted to be here

