



EnviCrimeNet

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European Network for Environmental Crime (EnviCrimeNet)

Who:

- Environmental crime investigation services / competent authorities in Europe (33 jurisdictions)

What:

- Developing a vibrant network of experts enhancing effectiveness in the fight against organised environmental crime

How:

- Exchange of information and experiences related to exchanging best practices in dealing with environmental crime

Based on:

- EU Council Resolution 10291/11 d.d. 09-10 June 2011

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Environmental Crime



Intelligence Project Environmental Crime

European scan environmental crime to identify:

- Types
- Extend
- Threats
- Recommendations

Project Team: EnviCrimeNet and Europol



Typically OCG involvement

reported for cases of:

- Illegal trade in endangered species /related products also on the Internet;
- Illegal collection, (cross-border) transport and storage including dumping of (hazardous and electronic) waste and recycling;
- Illegal shipping of (hazardous and electronic) waste;
- Illegal logging;
- Illegal hunting/poaching;
- Trade in counterfeit pesticides;
- Illegal activities in relation to fuel oil;
- Illegal fishing activities;
- Forest fires.



Impact and Damages

- (Un) polluted Environment; climate
- Disruption of economical balances , creation of black markets
- Extinction of species; biodiversity; spreading of diseases
- Public health; poisoned citizens, diseases; reduced life expectancy
- Society and security of citizens; food chain
- Reputation of the EU



Conclusions

- Environmental crime: broad area of criminality
- Primarily undertaken to gain (illicit) profits
- Statistics are not productive
- Number of registered crime correlates with number of controls
- Only efficient controls can uncover criminal cases
- No investigations if management authority's work is inhibited or inefficient, or the interface for transferring cases to law enforcement is ineffective - This is the case in most of Europe and that is why it is impossible to make an analysis.
- Many criminal cases are dismissed and only a few result in a sentence
- Limited financial and human resources
- Lack of national, international and inter-departmental cooperation
- Environmental crimes are on the rise
- Attractive to organised crime structures and networks
- High profit, low detection risk and low or no sanction at all
- Most attractive areas are: waste, endangered species and dangerous chemicals/pesticides

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Recommendations

(wish list)

- Target the profit
- Prioritise certain areas
- Training of staff
- Work internationally, more cooperation
- Achieve cooperation also with management agencies
- Revision of Directive(s)
- Central unit/agencies (multi-agency or NEST)
- Intelligence-led law enforcement

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Environmental crime is not an emerging threat:
The crimes are happening already!

Emerging, though, is the damage caused by
these crimes.

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Thank you

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