WP4 Workshop

Making the Case Against Environmental Crime

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Overview and objectives of the EFFACE project

The overall aim of EFFACE is to propose and assess effective and feasible policy options and recommendations for the European Union to combat environmental crime.

EFFACE also pursues the following main objectives:
- analyze the main causes and impacts of environmental crime in the EU, including those linked to EU, but occurring outside its territory;
- analyze the role of the EU in fighting environmental crime internally and externally.
Overview and objectives of the EFFACE project

To achieve these overall and main objectives, EFFACE pursues several more specific objectives, such as, for instance:

- clarify the meaning of environmental crime;
- analyze the main instruments, actors and institutions for a Europe-wide fight against environmental crime
- assess the cost of environmental crime in terms of economic, social and ecological impacts
- analyze the link between environmental crime and organised crime;
- analyze the strengths and weaknesses of current actors, instruments and institutions
Overview and objectives of the EFFACE project

The project is organised in nine work packages:

WP1: Establishing the analytical framework: to set the scene and define the overall approach for the research

WP2: Instruments, actors and institutions: to analyze the main legal instruments, actors and Institutions relevant for the efforts of the EU to combat env. crime

WP3: Costs and impacts of environmental crime: to provide a quantitative and economic analysis of the costs of environmental crime

WP4: Case studies: to discuss components and aspects of different environmental crimes

WP5: Interactive policy analysis: to involve stakeholders in an interactive policy analysis to generate input, feedback and mutual learning with and among stakeholders
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WP6: Evaluation and SWOT analysis: evaluation of the strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities associated with EU efforts to combat environmental crime

WP7: Options and policy recommendations: to develop policy options and recommendations on effective instruments, instrument mixes and the governance of such mixes

WP8: Stakeholder involvement and dissemination: manage knowledge generated by the project and effectively disseminate the project’s research results in the policy, scientific and wider stakeholder community

WP9: Project management: to accomplish efficient management and implementation of the project in a timely and efficient manner
WP4: case studies

In the context of WP4, 12 case studies have been carried out:

1. Victims in the "Land of Fires": A case study on the consequences of burnt and buried waste in Campania, Italy
2. Illegal shipment of e-waste from the EU: A case study on the illegal export of e-waste from the EU to China
3. EUTR CITES and money laundering: A case study on the challenges to coordinated enforcement in tackling illegal logging
4. A case study on the EU's promotion of environmental protection through criminal law in Kosovo
5. The Aznalcollar and Kolontar mining accidents: A case study on the criminal responsibility of operators and administrators
6. Environmental crime in Armenia: A case study on mining
WP4: case studies

7. Illegal wildlife trade: A case study on illegal wildlife trade in the United Kingdom, Norway, Colombia and Brazil
8. Environmental crime through corporate mis-compliance. The case of the ILVA steel plant in Italy
9. Illegal fishing and the role of rights based fisheries management in improving compliance
10. A case study on illegal localised pollution incidents within the EU
11. Mining gold and mercury pollution in the Guiana Shield: A case study on the role of the EU in fighting environmental crime
12. Can Cocaine Production in Colombia be linked to Environmental Crime?: A case study on the effect of EU legislation on the trade
WP4: case studies

The analytical framework grouped the research questions in five thematic areas that each case study has tried to address:

1. Definition and understanding of what is “environmental crime”
2. Motivations and drivers to commit environmental crime
3. Link between environmental crime and organised crime
4. Effectiveness of enforcement procedures
5. Information and data on environmental crime
6. Coherence of EU framework

However, different methodological approaches (qualitative/quantitative empirical analysis) have been used...