IMPEL Expert Team

Nature Protection

John Visbeen - expert team leader
“To contribute to protecting the environment and nature by promoting the effective implementation and enforcement of EU environmental law.”
Projects green expert team
First “green” IRI/peer review
Execution of IRI is based on the ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION CYCLE

1. Planning
   - 1a. Describing the context
   - 1b. Setting priorities
   - 1c. Defining objectives and strategies
   - 1d. Planning and review

2. Execution Framework (incl. collaboration authorities-NGO’s)

3. Execution and Reporting

4. Performance monitoring
- Review team; experts form Malta, Italy, Macedonia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Netherlands, Scotland,
- Good practises – Opportunities for development (report)

- Main conclusion Romania:
  - Improve effectiveness in whole process of inspection and enforcement – prosecution - verdict,
Follow Up IRI Romania

Changes in legislative framework & Inspection Planning

- legislation on movement of ships and boats,
- amendment on regime of protection of wild flora and fauna,
- amendment on law on hunting in the Danube Delta,
- improvement of the planning of ‘green inspections’,
- increasing of available capacities for inspection (boats & fuel)
IRI Italy 2016
Corpo Forerstale
May 16-19
Messina Street

- **Review team:**

- Experts from Malta, Croatia, Romania, Netherlands, England
Impressions from report: (www.Impel.eu)

Impressive results given the tools they have at their disposal,

Unique way of collaboration and interaction with NGO’s, (in operation, in prevention)
Focus area:
- legislation,
- monitoring,
- forestry; moratorium
- hunting; moratorium
- execution framework (collaboration with NGOs),
- protected areas
Hunting Tourism
Romanian Case

- Head of S.F.G.H.C.A. Constanta
- PERSON X

- 4 Italian citizens – 2 lieutenants of Sgobba Luigi and 2 ammunition suppliers

- 6 Romanian citizens – guards on the hunting funds
Hunting Tourism Joint inspection in Slovenia, January 2017
(taking patterns, wildlife forensics, DNA analysis final results and follow up)
- During our joint inspection in Slovenia in January 2017 we have checked the categorization in Savinjsko Kozjansko Hunting Management area in Kozje hunting club headquarters with Slovenian Hunting Inspection.

- The commission has at that day checked the material proofs for five hunting clubs.

- In one hunting club, we decided to take a pattern of all 2+ roe deer females (older than 2 years). We took all 22 „2+ female“ jawbones by standard procedure. (DNA test)

  every jawbone is marked with hunting club data (nr of specimen in evidence, so we can immediately find the data of the date animal was taken out of nature and which hunter shot/find it). We also put a special Inspection marker (a plumb) on it with unrepeatable number, so the pattern can not be changed during the DNA test
The hunting club wrote wrong sex data for 4 animals:

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<td>Gorenje</td>
<td>S0H2</td>
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<td>MIHAEL</td>
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<td>S0H1</td>
<td>BABIČ</td>
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<td>Kristan vrh</td>
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<td>MIHAEL</td>
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<td>Lisjakova jama</td>
<td>R7H1</td>
<td>45880</td>
<td>VLAIŠAV</td>
<td>LJEVIČ</td>
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Follow-up- measures
- The hunting club gets a penalty of 4.200 € (1st Time, later it can go up to 125.000) for not writing down the correct data
- The president of the hunting club, as a responsible person, gets a penalty of 420 € (also 1st time, later it can go up to 1.200)

Conclusions
- DNA analyses are very useful tool for such control
- Very good developed and financially achievable technology
- Can also be used as „mobile control stations“ on borders in future - discussion
Project 2019: Workshop Closed foot rings – captive bred
Project ideas 2019 – 2020 Wildlife forensics - determination - DNA - tracking systems
IMPEL-ESIX tool

IMPEL-ESIX is a real-time communication tool for information exchange and cooperation in the area of nature conservation issues between enforcement officials, national authorities and (inter)national and regional organisations of stakeholders. It focuses on protected birds species as mentioned in the EU’s Habitat & Bird Directives.

Objectives of the tool

Who can register?

Enforcement officials as well as other stakeholders on the IKB issue can register for the information exchange system. Enforcement officials can also apply for login details for the secured part of the website.
CONTENT:

- Why IMPEL-ESIX
- IMPEL-ESIX Goals
- What is IMPEL-ESIX
- Current amount of users
- How to register
Why IMPEL-ESIX

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\[ 1 + 1 > 2 \]
Cooperation, Communications and Teamwork are the key to Success.

The combination of expertise and knowledge of Stakeholders and knowledge of Law and Legislation and investigation of Enforcement Officers can (will) lead to more success 1+1>2.
IMPEL-ESIX goals:

- Share best practices, relevant in the enforcement chain and provide training materials, ID guides and other useful information for stakeholders and enforcement;
- Exchange information on trends, seizures and on-going poaching activities regarding birds
- Facilitate assistance from experts from (inter)national organizations, national authorities and experienced enforcement officials
- Facilitate cooperation between enforcement, National authorities and (inter)national organizations and other stakeholders.
- The collection of seizure data of EU Bird directive species, in order to give a better view on the nature and extent of this type of crime.
What is IMPEL – ESIX

Specific for IKB, and possibly other “Green Issues” in future, such as Natura 2000, HD and EU TR
2 complementary parts
- Information exchange system (newsletters)
- Website
2 groups for messages and secured enforcement part on website

Stakeholders
Enforcement
With a moderator in between

IMPEL
European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law
Newsletter archive

• Sticky Death Traps at Cyprus
• IMPEL Green IRI in Albania 2018
• A SECOND SHIPMENT OF DEAD BIRDS DISCOVERED IN SLOVENIA THIS YEAR
• The life of Dutch birds is not always an success story.
• Bird hunting in Europe. An analysis of bag figures and their effect on the conservation of threatened species
• A greater flamingo and a white spoonbill shot illegally in the Camargue (FR).
• IKB in Croatia: United Against Bird Crime
• Flamingo’s shot while flying out of Ghadira Nature Reserve at MT
• Poachers caught in Brescia IT
• CABS Operation in Spain
A SECOND SHIPMENT OF DEAD BIRDS DISCOVERED IN SLOVENIA THIS YEAR

Another alarming discovery of a huge shipment of illegally killed birds discovered in Slovenia by Slovenia custom officers. On Saturday 20th of October, the second shipment was seized this year, near a Fernetiči border crossing with Italy. Shipment of two boxes was discovered in a cargo part of a truck coming from Romania. A detailed inspection of boxes has shown that they contain 800 dead birds belonging to one protected species Eurasian Skylark. Birds were intended for the Italian black market, where they would be sold for food in the luxurious and prestigious restaurants. DOPPS – BirdLife Slovenia and EURONATUR, within the project "Safe Flyways – stop illegal bird killing in the Mediterranean", are working on an issue of illegal trafficking of dead birds through Slovenia. The extent of the illegal trafficking through Slovenia is not known in recent years, but the seized shipment like this one on 20th of October is a good sign that it did not significantly decrease. Slovenia remains a transit country for birds caught in the Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.
Mapping seizures
- Username and Password secured part for Enforcement
- Use of official Email address only
- Password and Username will be provided after checking status of the user who can apply for access during registration procedure
Rescue stations

Zoologicka zahrada Bojnice (Slovakia)
Zoo de Montredon la Bessonnié (France)
Wildlife Rehabilitation Center (Bulgaria)
Wild Animal Care and Treatment Regional Centre (CZITAS) (Romania)
Udraga Sokolarski Centar (Croatia)
South Lakes Wild Animal Park (Cumbria) (United Kingdom)
Skansen (Stockholm Zoo) (Sweden)
Rīgas Nacionālais Zoologiskais Darzs (Riga zoo) (Latvia)
Rescue Center Bartosovice (Czech Republic)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Experts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jansman Hugh</strong> (Netherlands)</td>
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<td>+31-3174 85779 / +31 6 233 81 071</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rodrigues-Munoz Rolando</strong> (United Kingdom)</td>
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<td>+44 132637183</td>
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**Vogrin Milan**

**Contact**

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- Slovenia

Expertise in European birds

**Enforcement only**

IUCN SSC Specialist Group
Current amount of Users

217 in total

96 Enforcement
111 Stakeholders
Subscribers in all EU 28 MS and 8 neighbouring countries

Yes I did get the newsletter! And I always spread these newsletters to other enforcement officers in Sweden, and also to other concerned authorities. At least 30 people gets it.
1. October 2016 information of NGO about location of mist nets lead to arrest of suspect (Italian national) in Romania

2. April 2017 information of picking Hellebores plants in the wild by Japanese nationals in Croatia en Serbia shared with Authorities and NGO’s. Result: cooperation between Balkan countries regarding Green Projects

3. April 2017 Sharing information about poaching geese in NL by FR nationals lead to contact between Enforcement official in these countries, Poachers will be inspected inFR also

4. November 2018 Alert after several seizures during transports of birds from RO to IT
How to Register

www.impel-esix.eu
Contact IMPEL-ESIX
moderator@impel-esix.eu

Grazie
Merci
Gracias
Thank you
ありがとうございます
Danke