



Life +
SATEC



ENVICRIMENET

*A network of experts in environmental
criminal investigations*

**'FIGHT AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME
AT A STRATEGIC LEVEL THROUGH THE
STRENGTHENING OF ENVICRIMENET'**

LAYMAN'S REPORT



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Presentation

EnviCrimeNet

EnviCrimeNet is a network of European law enforcement agencies, where police officers and other crime fighters cooperate against environmental crime. It is fully 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 a network that goes beyond the borders of the EU. Their successful model is exported to other regions, such as Africa or Latin America, promoting the exchange of information and the generation of synergies in the fight against environmental crime.

The network is widely known as the 'European Law Enforcement Centre of Excellence on Environmental Crime'. The main purpose is to develop relevant activities to involve the participants in the prosecution of these kinds of crimes and set up a group to exchange best practices and lessons learned from previous experiences.



*EnviCrimeNet General Assembly
November 2023, Madrid*

Project aim

There is common knowledge that environmental crime is a serious issue, but we still count on weak structures to combat this hazard efficiently at a global level. Out of this global need, EnviCrimeNet was born. EnviCrimeNet (ECN) is a network based on an EU Council Resolution dated May 20th, 2011.

After joint efforts, EnviCrimeNet members successfully incorporated environmental crime among the priorities of EMPACT. For this, it was necessary to redefine the role of EnviCrimeNet to align the objectives of member states within EMPACT. This primarily involved focusing on the strategic level and swiftly responding to new threats.



Life+ Satec is a project co-financed by the European Commission through the Life Programme

Project duration	Total budget	EU contribution
01/01/2021 31/12/2023	726.225 €	435.735 €

Partners:

 <p>TRAGSATEC</p>	 <p>SEPRONA</p>	 <p>CARABINIERI</p>	 <p>ILT-IOD</p>	 <p>ZKA</p>
 <p>BKA</p>	 <p>BFP</p>	 <p>MOI-SK</p>	 <p>CIS-AT</p>	 <p>SECRETARIAT OF ENVICRIMENTET</p>



EnviCrimeNet

is a network of European Law Enforcement Agencies, where police officers and other crime fighters cooperate against environmental crime.

In the LIFE Satec Project, EnviCrimeNet is being supported by the following key Agencies and Networks, specialized in tackling environmental crime:



EUROPOL

(Secretariat functions since EnviCrimeNet origins)

Europol, which has been handling the Secretariat functions since the establishment of EnviCrimeNet, plays a crucial role in facilitating various networking activities with both EU and non-EU entities. With a notable dedication to the Life Satec Project, Europol actively contributes to the preparation of EnviCrimeNet's Terms of Reference (ToRs). Additionally, Europol takes charge of formal communication activities directed towards the existing and prospective members of EnviCrimeNet.

CEPOL

Cepol is a key training resource, able to deliver the training result of the Life Satec Project among a wide range of LEAs in Europe.

Until now this entity is involved in the review of training materials and their assessment to be integrated as part of their programs.



JAGUAR-NETWORK

EnviCrimeNet extends its reach beyond the borders of the EU and actively collaborates and supports networks like the Latin American 'Jaguar Network'.

ENPE, IMPEL, EUFJE and EnviCrimeNet

The LIFE Project has contributed to strengthening the collaboration between all the networks, giving support to the '4 Networks Conference' events.



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

Project activities

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

- Evaluation on the Directive 2008/99/EC
- EU Strategy on tackling Organized Crime 2021-2025
- Evaluation Proposals Policy Cycle 2022-2025
- Sustainability (referring to the nonfinancial disclosure aspects)
- ETS-Emission Trading Scheme (especially referring to the voluntary credits for CO₂)

A2 Consolidation of EnviCrimeNet as a NPO and registration

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

- Comparative analysis of the approach to environmental crimes:
 - How national legislation addresses forest fires
- Analysis of the approach from the criminal and procedural point of view:
 - Activities that threaten flora and fauna

A4 Basic manual containing common procedures to conduct a criminal investigation

- Sanitary waste
- Online investigation of crimes against the environment
- Illegal use of poisoned baits
- Exotic pet trafficking
- Transboundary shipments of plastic waste

A5 Training activities related to the procedures previously drafted and coordinated with CEPOL

A6 EnviCrimeNet General Assemblies

B Networking and coordination with other projects and networks 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 Southeast Asia
- Africa: EnviCrimeNet, in collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Ecological Transition to create the African Network
- I2LEC: International Initiative of Law Enforcement for Climate



Madrid, November 2022



Project's Impact

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

- Closer cooperation and collaboration between law enforcement agencies across borders
- Increased global networking: Latin American, Asian, African networks links

REPLICABILITY & TRANSFERABILITY:

- Harmonised understanding of key environmental concepts across member states
- Greater knowledge of the barriers that prevent efficient prosecution of environmental crime

BEST PRACTICE LESSONS:

- Better-trained law enforcement agents
- Harmonised understanding environmental crime across the EU

SOCIAL BENEFITS:

- More effective and successful law enforcement agencies
- Increased awareness of crime impact on the environment
- Networking among law enforcement officers and establishing trust among them
- Facilitation of international cooperation



'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.'

Ondrej Koporec
Chair of EnviCrimeNet

'The Life Satec project has meant a total change in the network – the path to strengthen the network is done and it is easy to follow.'

J. Antonio Alfaro
Europol

'In Latin America we still have many forests, the wisdom of Europe can contribute to the protection of these. We must all be in this together. Hopefully we will be able to create a global network of environmental protection.'

Felipe Cruz
Jaguar Network



Ondrej Koporec,
Chair of EnviCrimeNet



What's next?

- Consolidation of EnviCrimeNet as a Non-Profit Organisation
 - Establishment of a Permanent Secretariat body
- Networking and coordination with other entities and initiatives
 - Increase of international relations
- Active participation of ECN members via working groups and involvement in projects



