



European Union Network for the  
Implementation and Enforcement  
of Environmental Law

## Financial Provision - Protecting the Environment and the Public Purse



### Introduction

**In 2014, the European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies (EPA Network) recognised that the cost of dealing with environmental liabilities arising from industrial operations too often fell to the public purse as a result of the failure of financial provisions. An IMPEL project was set up to look at the extent of this problem across Europe, and to identify what forms of financial provision are most likely to deliver secure and sufficient cover which is available to the regulator when needed.**

The project aim is defined as the generation of a better understanding of the availability and suitability of financial tools. This should result in improved protection of the environment and the public purse, whilst ensuring compliance with the Polluter Pays Principle, and encouraging operator investment in pollution prevention.

The project report presents the results of the first year of the project, and provides recommendations for the second year of the work.

A core drafting team including experienced practitioners and academics covering the relevant law, insurance and technical fields, as well as practicing regulators led the evidence gathering and reporting.

The evidence gathering comprised three main components:

- A questionnaire-based survey, which generated 150 responses;
- A workshop of technical experts in the field, which was attended by about 40 delegates; and
- Follow-up interviews and interaction with a range of specialists with knowledge of the subject.

### TARGET GROUP

- Environmental Regulators
- Operators

### EU LEGISLATION

- [Industrial Emissions Directive](#)
- [Seveso III Directive](#)
- [Mining Waste Directive](#)
- [Environmental Liability Directive](#)
- [Landfill Directive](#)
- [Transfrontier Shipment of Waste](#)
- [HVLf Recommendation](#)

### PUBLICATION DATE

2016

### REPORT NUMBER(S)

2016/20

