



INVITATION to IMPEL OPEN DAY (1-2 March 2023)

Dear Sir/Madam,

IMPEL, the **European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law** (www.impel.eu), is an independent non-profit Association registered in Brussels under Belgian Law and is recognised by the European Commission in having a significant role in implementation of environmental law.

The network is made up of more than 55 environmental authorities or association of Environmental Authorities from 36 member countries. IMPEL's structure consists of a General Assembly (national coordinators of the member countries), the Boards, a Secretariat and five thematic based Expert Teams: **i) Industry and Air, ii) Waste and Transfrontier Shipments (TFS), iii) Water and Land, iv) Nature Protection, v) Cross-cutting Tools and Approaches**. The network's members are primarily inspectorates, permitting authorities, Ministries of Environment, and enforcement bodies. It is IMPEL's intention to expand the network and we would be happy if you may consider if your Institution could join the network, if not already.

The core of the IMPEL activities concerns awareness raising, capacity building and exchange of information and experiences on implementation, enforcement and international enforcement collaboration as well as promoting and supporting the practicability and enforceability of European environmental legislation. Benefits of being involved in IMPEL are annexed to this invitation.

We would like to inform you about the IMPEL 2022-2024 Work Programme and invite you to consider possible collaboration in our projects (or to continue contributing) that also might benefit you in your work, and at the same, time contribute to the enhancement of the IMPEL products that aim to fill some of the important implementation gaps.

We would gladly welcome you or your delegate(s) to join this virtual event.

This is an

INVITATION TO IMPEL OPEN DAY

Compliance promotion through networking

1 March 2023, 13:30–16:45 CET / 2 March 2023, 09:00–12:35 CET

The aim of IMPEL OPEN DAY is to inform all related institutions and IMPEL members about IMPEL's activities and to present the work carried out by five Expert Teams and the IMPEL 2022-2024 Work Programme. There will be a session for each Expert Team to present their activities and projects.

Please find here the [link to register](#), as well as the [agenda](#), [work programme](#), and [link to connect](#). Registration is optional, but you are kindly requested to complete this registration form as soon as possible in order to receive any follow-up in a timely manner.

We are available for any additional information you may need via our secretariat at fotini.stamati@impel.eu.

IMPEL Board





SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF BEING INVOLVED IN IMPEL

IMPEL offers various benefits to its members. Working together, knowing and learning from each other are probably the most important ones. Our findings inform policy with practical experience and expertise feeding back to policy makers on practicability and enforceability of EU environmental law.



Guidance and tools. Members identify key implementation challenges/gaps and propose activities and projects to specifically address significant implementation problems. By carrying out studies and surveys, they find examples of successful enforcement strategies and case studies, develop methodologies, recommendations, and common guidelines, and produce technical guidance, manuals, practical tools, toolkits, web databases and applications, like risk-based approaches to target effort, that can be shared and used inside the European community.



Capacity building and training. Implementation and interpretation of available guidance and tools and dissemination of technical knowhow is facilitated with IMPEL targeted training via technical workshops/seminars that are held hybrid/physical and/or online and are available to IMPEL members;



Forums. Members use the expert team's/project's areas in Basecamp to share good practices and exchange (enforcement) information, documents, experience, and solutions concerning implementation problems. They can have quick feedback / overview on the approaches in different European countries in several matters, e.g. classification of a waste;



Joint activities. Members perform joint inspections & site visits on installations to test and improve guides, share experiences and explore and identify best solutions in facilities as well as inspection & enforcement actions with transboundary relevance (e.g. to tackle illegal trans-frontier shipments of waste) to further develop the intelligence-led systems and procedures for inspection and enforcement using new digital technologies and improve overall compliance and enforcement.



Joint learning, sharing best practices and peer reviews. With the IMPEL Review Initiatives (IRI¹ and NPRI²) capacity-building programmes, IMPEL member countries help each other to improve the implementation of EU environmental law, use effective tools and approaches, use their limited resources more effectively, find solutions and improve own performances, and ultimately get to compliance more quickly. The problems subject to peer review are important at National or Network level, and can be policy, permitting or inspection driven depending on the needs of the host; on themes such as industry, waste, nature or water. The host gets free advice for further improvement of their work and knowledge, skills and good practices are exchanged around the European community;

¹ The IMPEL Review Initiative (IRI) long running project supports host organisation(s) with a voluntary peer review (it's not an audit) where five experts from donor organisations, a team leader and rapporteur review a host organization on demand.

² IMPEL National Peer Review Initiative (NPRI) project supports National Networks of Environmental Authorities and Agencies to develop their own peer review scheme/protocol and organize and conduct an autonomous peer review.



Engagement with external partners / networks. IMPEL always seeking to improve communication and coordination between the different actors in the compliance and enforcement chain, uses key opportunities to engage with other European and international enforcement & environmental networks; bringing together (e.g. 4 Networks Days/Conferences) relevant communities of practitioners, like prosecutors, judges, police, ombudsmen, international networks; and identify implementation gaps and define consistent solutions for implementation problems.



Hybrid meetings and conferences. The use of hybrid and virtual participation allow a wide participation of IMPEL members in Expert Team Meetings and Conferences which aim to growth and strengthening networking among members. Practitioners with a variety of roles are brought together to exchange information, working methods, case studies and experiences, and to ensure that best practice, latest developments, and IMPEL project results are shared and disseminated in an efficient and effective way to enable regulatory agencies to be more effective.