

Name of Project: IMPEL-ESIX 2022-24	
ToR Reference No.: 2022-VII/03	
Version: <input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted	Date: 05-Nov-21
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORK UNDER THE AUSPICES OF IMPEL	

1. Work type and title

1.1 Identify which Expert Team this needs to go to for initial consideration	
Industry and air	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste and TFS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water and land	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cross-cutting tools and approaches	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Type of work you need funding for	
Exchange visits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peer reviews (e.g. IRI)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Development of tools/guidance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comparison studies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessing legislation (checklist)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, (please describe):	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Full name of work	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and recommendation of the best way to exchange information, including intelligence, about Illegal Killing and Catching Birds (project IKB) and infringements according to EU Timber Regulation between authorities and NGO's plus other nature protection subdomains. • Implementation of this best choose in order to improve information exchange between authorities IMPEL members and NGO's in these cross-border crimes. 	
1.4 Abbreviated name of work or project	
Project IKB exchange of intelligence between authorities and NGO's.	

2. Outline business case (why this piece of work?)

2.1 Name the legislative driver(s) where they exist	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird directive 2007/149/EC. 	



- Habitat directive 92/43/EEC.
- National Flora and Fauna legislation in each MS.
- EU Timber Regulation.
- EU CITES Regulation.
- Invasive species Regulation

2.2 Link to IMPEL MASP priority work areas

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Assist members to implement new legislation. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Build capacity in member organisations through the IMPEL Review Initiatives. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Work on 'problem areas' of implementation identified by IMPEL and the European Commission. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Other, (please specify): | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2.3 Why is this work needed?

IKB crimes are, in many cases, a cross-border problem and enforcement is scattered (even in MS). Information and intelligence are drivers for a good enforcement. There is a need to gather and exchange information and intelligence. In the field of combatting Illegal Killing of Birds, NGO's also provide information. It is important that there is a platform where this information can be shared between competent authorities and NGO's. This platform can also be used to share information about infringements according to timber regulation.

In 2016 it was established a controlled mailing list based on protocols and appointments with authorities and an umbrella organisation (e.g. Birdlife Europe) for the exchange of information on criminal activities, seizures, etc., regarding the Illegal Killing of Birds and the EU Timber Regulation. In 2016 were developed protocols and appointments, develop and launch of mailing list, communication strategy. It is based on the success of existing tools, such as EU TWIX mailing list.

In 2016 it was also built the website www.IMPEL-ESIX.eu.

In 2017 and 2018 the development of the website continued, and it was filled with relevant content. It was also established a way to share and exchange information and intelligence on IKB and EU Timber Regulation. After a meeting with the Commission, a CMS/MIKT meeting in Malta and a four-network conference in Oxford, we were able to draw more attention for IMPEL-ESIX.

Some statistics on the results of IMPEL-ESIX information exchange are the number of users that have subscribed the mailing list:

- December 2016: **76**
- December 2017: **179**
- August 2018: **206**
- December 2019: **230**

The background of the users of the mailing list is 45% enforcement officers and 55% stakeholders (e.g. NGO's, policy officers, national government focal points, European Commission, etc.).



People from all 28 EU Member States are represented, plus colleagues from Switzerland, Norway, Bosnia-Herzegovina, FYI Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Belarus and Ukraine are representing enforcement authorities and stakeholders.

During the period of September 2016 until the end of 2016 the IMPEL-ESIX shared 76 newsletters on the mailing list. In 2017, were shared 200 newsletters and in 2018 (January to August) were shared 123 newsletters. The content of the newsletters covered:

- IKB issues in the EU: 92%.
- IKB issues outside the EU: 5%.
- General environmental issues related to bird populations: 3%.

All newsletters are screened and edited by the IMPEL-ESIX team. The biggest source of information was Birdlife International (32%) and CABS (42%). About 12% came from other NGO's and about 8% were shared by enforcement bodies.

The newsletters have triggered several investigations and made an important contribution to the cooperation between enforcement teams and stakeholders.

In 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 information about infringements was presented on the website and there were already cases where the moderator was able to bring information about crime cases that was received from NGO's to authorities / enforcement bodies in other countries.

The aim of this project is to improve the way (method) information is shared and exchanged between EU Member States, enforcement teams and NGO's working in the field of IKB and EU Timber Regulation.

2.4 Desired outcome of the work

A better exchange of the information and intelligence will certainly improve enforcement in this field. For 2020 the challenge is to establish IMPEL-ESIX by increasing the overall number of participants, including an increase of participants from NGO's and competent authorities.

Structural funding of IMPEL-ESIX by other financial means other than the IMPEL project budget will also be explored in 2020.

The use of IMPEL-ESIX regarding infringements according to EU Timber Regulation, with a special focus on the countries with the possession of virgin woods will be initiated and further explored, as well as other areas related to Nature Protection. This will happen in close collaboration with traffic / EU TWIX who has experience at a global level.

2.5 Does this project link to any previous or current IMPEL projects?

- IMPEL Management team on Nature Protection.
- Project IKB.

3. Structure of the proposed activity

3.1 Describe the activities of the proposal

1. Integrate the IMPEL ESIX to IMPEL website (2022).



2. Manage the controlled mailing list based on protocols and appointments with authorities and umbrella organisations (e.g. Birdlife Europe) for the exchange of information on criminal activities, seizures, etc., under the scope of the Illegal Killing of Birds and the EU Timber Regulation (2022).
3. Manage the website with information related to wildlife crime with a focus on Illegal Killing of Birds. Addition of the following topics : CITES related crimes, Protected Areas, Poaching and EUTR/illegal logging within EU (2022-2024).
4. Boost and control the access-list, populate the website with relevant content and further administration (2022).
5. Engage with external stakeholder organisations (e.g. BirdLife) to explore synergies in information exchange specific regarding database-related issues and events (2022-2024).
6. Add information about developments related to Nature Protection (News section with articles from IMPEL, The Commission and even add some technological developments on nature protection.) (2022-2024)
7. Create and disseminate an evaluation questionnaire to current subscribers (230) to collect information on how to make IMPEL-ESIX more useful to enforcement and stakeholders (2022).
8. Follow-up; explore funding possibilities; decision making; establish this tool within IMPEL / Member States / other authorities.

Milestones:

1. Contract a consultant.
2. Communication to extend the number of participants of the mailing list.
3. Boost the participants list.
4. Conduct the evaluation questionnaire.

3.2 Describe the products of the proposal

Tool to improve Information exchange on IKB and possibility to create a way to exchange intelligence between authorities and NGO's within the possibilities of the Law.

