



European Union Network for the  
Implementation and Enforcement  
of Environmental Law

## International Killing of Birds (IKB): ESIX



### Background

International Killing of Birds (IKB) crimes are, in many cases, a cross-border problem and enforcement is scattered (even in Member States). 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, NGOs 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 the EU Timber Regulation.

In 2016, a controlled mailing list was established based on protocols and agreements with authorities and an umbrella organisation (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, the website [www.IMPEL-ESIX.eu](http://www.IMPEL-ESIX.eu) was built. In 2017 and 2018 the development of the website continued and it was filled with relevant content. In addition, a way to share and exchange information and intelligence on IKB an EU Timber Regulation was established. After a meeting with the Commission, a CMS/MIKT meeting in Malta and a four-network conference in Oxford, more attention was drawn for IMPEL-ESIX.

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### TARGET GROUP

- Competent authorities
- Enforcement bodies/officers
- NGOs

### EU LEGISLATION

- Bird directive 2007/149/EC
- Habitat directive 92/43/EEC
- National Flora and Fauna legislation in each MS
- EU Timber Regulation.

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### Content

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

- December 2016: 76
- December 2017: 179
- August 2018: 206

The background of the users of the mailing list is:

- 45% enforcement officers
- 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, North Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Belarus and Ukraine representing enforcement authorities and stakeholders.

During the period of September 2016 until the end of 2016 IMPEL-ESIX shared 76 newsletters with the mailing list. In 2017 200 newsletters were shared and in 2018 (January to August) 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% was shared by enforcement bodies.

### Results

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

In 2016, 2017 and 2018 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 information is shared and exchanged between EU Member States, enforcement teams and NGO's working in the field of IKB and EU Timber Regulation.

### LINKS

- <https://www.impel-esix.eu>
- <https://www.impel.eu/topics/nature-protection/>

### KEY WORDS

- International Killing of Birds
- IMPEL-ESIX
- IKB crimes
- Information sharing
- Timber Regulation