

National Peer Review Initiative (NPRI) Project

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Cross-Cutting Tools & Approaches Expert Team

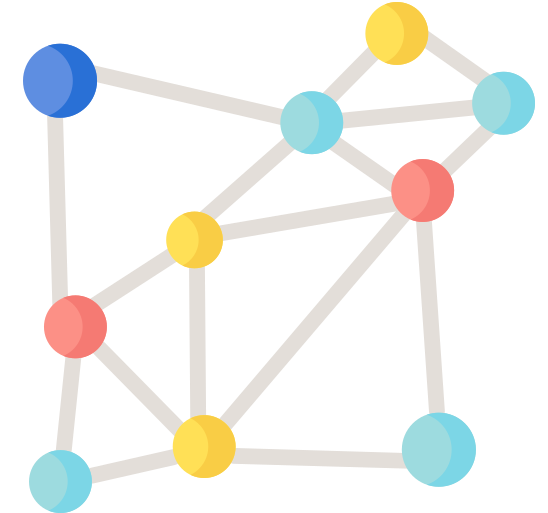
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The purpose of the NPRI project is to **promote cooperation and coordination** within organizations and between different organizations operating in the Environmental Compliance Assurance supply chain within the countries belonging to the IMPEL Network.

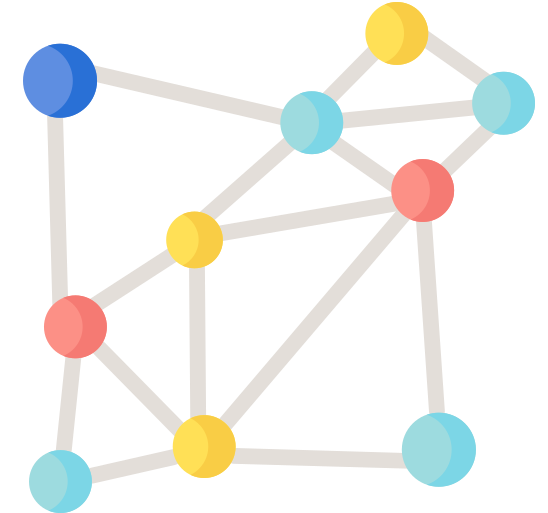
The decision to propose a national model for development and coordination derives from the fact that, often, **one of the major problems of implementation of the European environmental acquis in organizations and at national level derives from the absence of adequate forms of coordination and cooperation**, without which even the best technical indications give partial results.



“What citizens expect is the functioning of an entire organization and the whole system of environmental protection, not of a single office or a single authority”
(NPRI Seminar, December 2024, Athens (GR))

The method used to promote these forms of coordination and cooperation is that of **peer review**, in which the stakeholders involved in the management of a problem confront each other in the search for **common solutions in which each one is recognized in its role, potentials and issues, in view of the realistically optimal functioning of the entire group of subjects involved**

The project stems from the experiences developed in the **Netherlands and Italy**, which aimed to transpose the positive experience of **IMPEL IRI** on a national scale



“What citizens expect is the functioning of an entire organization and the whole system of environmental protection, not of a single office or a single authority”

(NPRI Seminar, December 2024, Athens (GR))

Many experiences has been carried out in NPRI Project since 2022, and many Countries are looking at NPRI as instrument to face important Coordination and Cooperation issues, **in many different fields.**

Some examples of many:

NATIONAL PEER REVIEW IN ROMANIA

on border controls at border crossing points related to the shipment of wastes and of good at risk to be smuggled wastes - **2022 - ongoing**



NATIONAL PEER REVIEW IN PORTUGAL

On the implementation of Natura2000 sites surveillance and homogeization at national level – 2023 - ongoing



NATIONAL PEER REVIEW IN SLOVAKIA

On the organization of a new Departement of Innovative Tecnologies 2023 - ongoing



Other countries in the project and with ongoing experiences



Kosovo*



Greece



The Netherlands *



Italy *



Serbia *



North Macedonia *



Albania ****



Croatia



Finland



Latvia



Montenegro

IMPEL NPRI Project Team Support

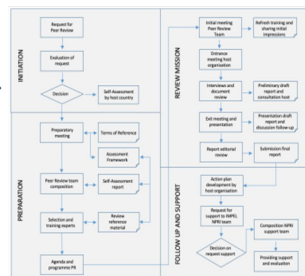
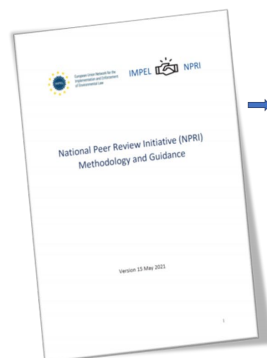


NPRI *Tailor made* clear written and accessible documents with full detailed explanation of the procedural activities and examples

Direct NPRI Project team support in national activities: suggestions, support, drafting of specific documents, follow-up in each phase

Practical experience witnessing, attending ongoing works in other involved Countries, seminars: ***people in a community of practices***

Methodology



7 Annexes: the 'NPRI Toolbox'

- 1) Guidance on implementation of a NPRI scheme through a National NPRI Network
- 2) Guidance on Request for a National Peer Review
- 3) Guidance on Terms of Reference
- 4) Guidance to design an Assessment Framework
- 5) Guidance for experts/reviewers in writing reports of a Peer Review
- 6) Guidance on designing and 'End of Mission' (EOM) agenda
- 7) Outline and content Training Curriculum



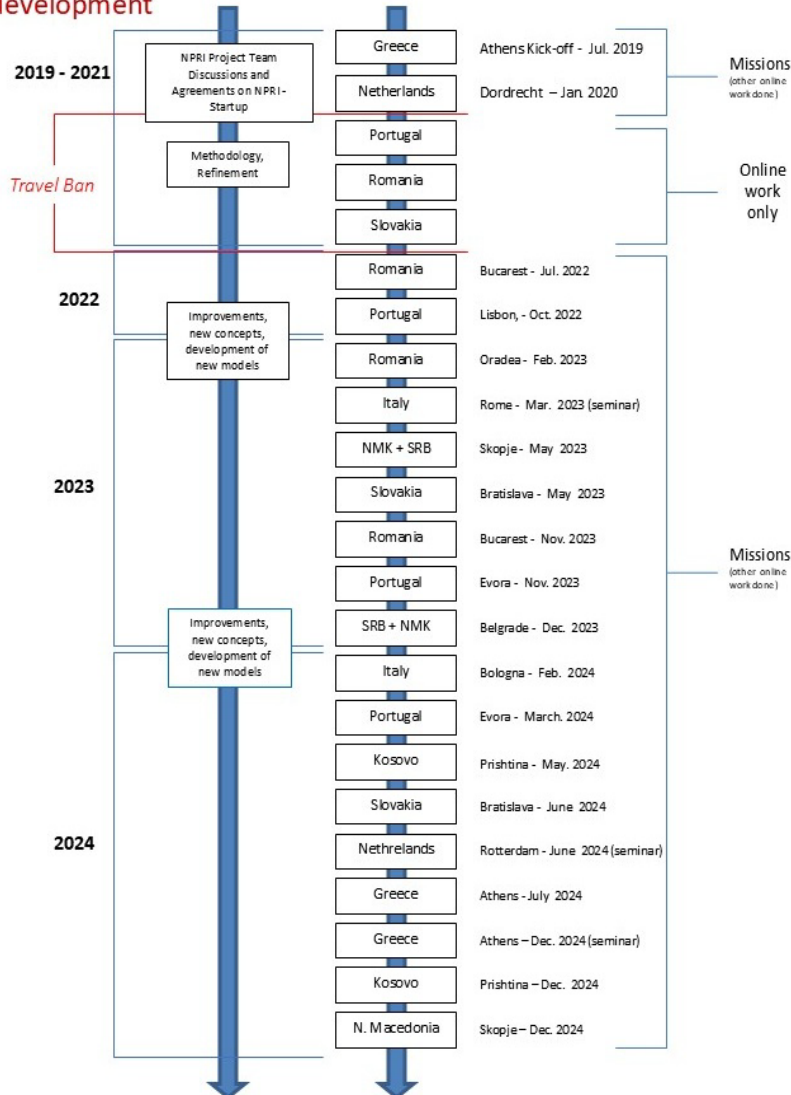
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NPRI 2022 – 2024 activity statistics



The NPRI project development

Timeline of the activities from the beginning



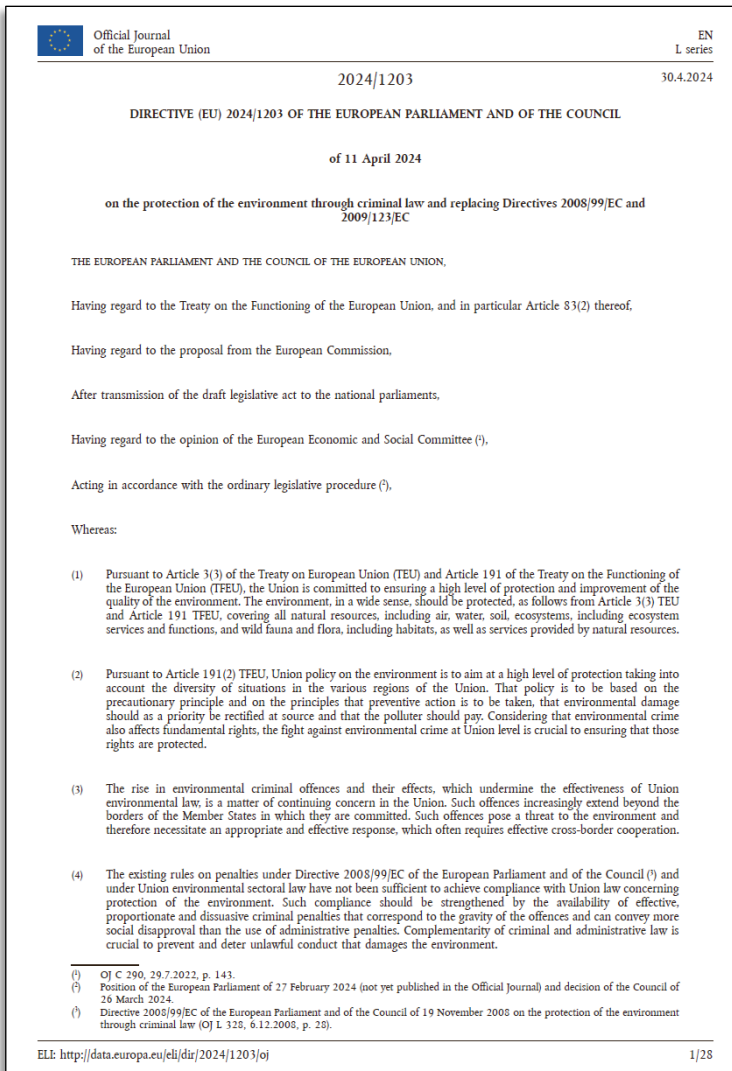
Number of operational country visits carried out	15
Number of seminars	3
Total number of events	18
Number of countries visited	8
Number of attendances at events (country visits + seminars)	393
Number of participants (people who attended at least one event)	233
Average number of event participations per project participant	1,7
Number of countries of origin of event participants	14
Number of organisations involved	49
Typology of organizations that took part in the work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspectors 2. Environmental police 3. Judges 4. Prosecutors 5. Ministries of the Environment 6. Local governments 7. Environmental and nature conservation agencies 8. Customs 9. Consumer Protection Association 10. Organisations for cooperation 11. NGO 12. Other

Number presences in country visits (hosts + guests)	305
Total hosts in country visits	192
Total guests in country visits	132
Average number of guests per host	0,6
Number of seminar participations	88
Number of people who attended at least one seminar	62
Number of Communications of European Commission in Seminars	3 out of 3

Main added value of the project:

Connection and dialogue between national stakeholders never happened in the past, thanks to the recognition of the usefulness of the initiative for the solution of practical problems of common interest

New perspective and potential of NPRI: The new **Environmental Crime Directive (ECD)**



ECD Whereas # 62

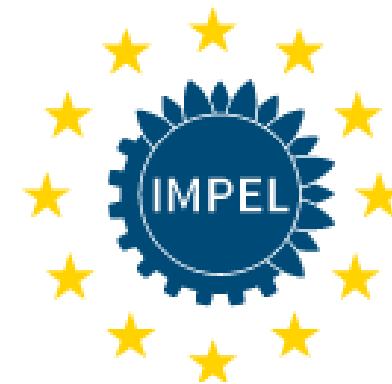
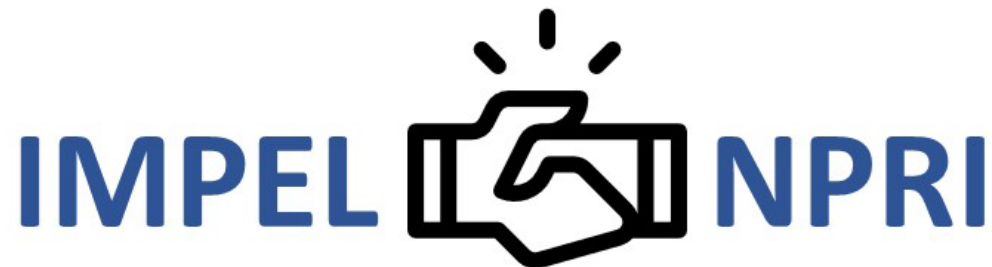
To ensure an effective, integrated and coherent enforcement system that includes administrative, civil and criminal law measures, **Member States should organise internal cooperation and communication between all their competent authorities involved in administrative and criminal enforcement**, including all authorities exercising preventive, penal and remedial functions (62).

ECD Article 19 (1)

Coordination and cooperation between competent authorities within a Member State

Member States shall take the necessary measures to establish **appropriate mechanisms for coordination and cooperation at strategic and operational levels among all their competent authorities involved in the prevention of and the fight against environmental criminal offences.**

Et Cetera..... (art. 21 and so on....)



Contact information:

- ✓ **For joining this project:** If you work for an IMPEL member organisation and would like to join the project or receive further information, **please contact the National Coordinator of your country and the Project Managers at g.sgorbati@arpalombardia.it, f.carella@arpalombardia.it, marc.du.maine@rws.nl**
- ✓ **For becoming a member of IMPEL:** If you are from an Environmental Authority or association of authorities that is based in a member state of the EU, a candidate country or another country applying Community law and would be interested in becoming a member of IMPEL, **please contact IMPEL Secretariat at info@impel.eu** for more information.
- ✓ **For all other interested parties:** please check out our new website for further information!
www.impel.eu



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