



European Union Network for the  
Implementation and Enforcement  
of Environmental Law



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## **IMPEL Project VI WG 9**

### **National Peer Review Initiative – NPRI**

*organized with the participation and collaboration of*



**Omgevingsdienst NL**

### **National Peer Reviews**

*A powerful tool for moving  
from “good to better”*

**24 and 25 June 2024**

*Venue:*

**DCMR Environmental Protection Agency, Schiedam (NL)**

Parallelweg 1

3112 NA Schiedam

<https://www.dcmr.nl/dcmr-environmental-protection-agency>

THE LINK FOR THE CONNECTION WILL BE SUPPLIED TO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

*Agenda version 20 June 2024*



## About IMPEL

The European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) is an international non-profit association of the environmental authorities of the Member States of the European Union, the acceding and candidate countries to the EU, the EEA and EFTA countries, and the potential candidates for accession to the European Community.

Its mission is to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of European environmental law by promoting professional co-operation, information and exchange of best practices among environmental regulators.

The expertise and experience of IMPEL's participants make the network uniquely qualified to work on both technical and regulatory aspects of EU environmental legislation.

## The National Peer Review Initiative (NPRI) IMPEL Project

The NPRI project is developed by IMPEL with the aim of providing its members with a tool that can be used in a flexible and adaptable way to support organizations in improving their performance. The tool provides a methodological framework for designing and conducting peer reviews based on an open dialogue within an organization and/or between different organizations working on the same issue or environmental process in a country.

There is now extensive and successful experience of using a NPRI in different organizations and countries and aims. The NPRI is proving to be a very useful and powerful tool to prioritize the approach to a problem in a complex context of environmental issues, related organizations and objectives to be achieved, and to support the further initiation of cooperation among key stakeholders involved in the issue, leading in practice to a more efficient and effective implementation of assigned tasks and responsibilities.

## The NPRI seminar, scope and target, perspectives

The purpose of the seminar is to share with the IMPEL community the experience gained by several organizations in different European countries (the Netherlands, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Portugal, Serbia, North Macedonia etc.) in the practical application of the NPRI methodology in the last three years. In addition to providing information on the NPRI methodology, the main purpose of the seminar is to allow countries and organizations that have experience with the NPRI approach to share their experiences with their IMPEL colleagues, giving them the opportunity to connect with the reality of the project to plan the implementation of NPRI in their countries.

Looking in perspective at fields for NPRI implementation, an important area is represented by the new **Environmental Crimes Directive 2024/1203 "ECD"**. NPRI is an instrument of high value to pursue the objectives of its article 19 regarding the coordination and cooperation between competent authorities within a Member State, as demonstrated by the experience gathered in Countries that have already adopted the NPRI project.

The discussion on this topic will be very useful to set the basis for the development of this application of NPRI at IMPEL members, with high benefits in the implementation of the new ECD.

## Agenda

### Day One – June 24, 2024

#### Link for the online participation

[NPRI Project and Methodological result Day 1](#)  
[vimeo.com](#)

#### ***Introduction to the Seminar, the implementation of the NPRI methodology: National ongoing experiences (I)***

Chaired by the Project Leaders: *Fabio Carella, Giuseppe Sgorbati, Marc du Maine*

- h. 13:00 – 13:20** Welcome address - ***Daan Molenaar, Director DCMR***
- h. 13:20 – 13:30** Opening address: ***Ruben Vlaander, Chair of the Dutch society of REPA's***
- h. 13:30 – 13:45** Opening address – Perspective in the Environment protection, the role of IMPEL and of the other EU professional networks addressing issues of environmental compliance assurance and governance: ***Mr. Miroslav Angelov - EU Commission, DG Env.***
- h. 13:45 – 14:00** Welcome address: ***Ms Florije Kqiku, Vice Chair of IMPEL***
- h. 14:00 – 14:15** A brief introduction to the seminar. A few words of welcome from the three project coordinators and a presentation of the agenda for the two days.  
***Fabio Carella, Giuseppe Sgorbati, Marc du Maine, NPRI Project Team Leaders***
- h. 14:15 – 15:15** **Update from countries implementing or preparing for the implementation of an NPRI and sharing information on their progress**
- Slovakia - Slovak Environmental Inspectorate
  - Portugal, Comissão de Coordenação de Desenvolvimento Regional do Alentejo, I.P (CCDR-A)
  - Romania - National Environmental Guard
- h. 15:15 – 15:30** **Break - networking**

- h. 15:30 – 17:00 Update from countries implementing an NPRI and sharing information on their progress (continued)**
- Kosovo - Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (MESPI)
  - Serbia - Ministry of Environmental Protection
  - North Macedonia - State Environmental Inspectorate
  - Greece - Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy
- h. 17:00 – 17:15 Q&A and comments on the afternoon's session - All**
- h. 17:15 – 17:30 Recap, observations and closing of the first seminar day**

### **Day Two – June 25, 2024**

#### **Link for the online participation**

[The implementation of the NPRI Methodology Day 2](#)  
[vimeo.com](#)

#### ***The implementation of the NPRI methodology: National ongoing experiences (II) and further developments***

Chaired by the Project Leaders: *Marc du Maine, Fabio Carella, Giuseppe Sgorbati,*

- h. 09:30 – 09:40 Opening of the day (*Marc du Maine, Fabio Carella, Giuseppe Sgorbati*)**  
Content: Brief reflection on the previous day and explanation of the day's program.
- h. 09:40 – 10:20 Exchange of information and discussion on the NPRI carried out by the Regional Protection Agencies (REPAs) in the Netherlands (*Astrid Poppelaars – DCMR*)**
- h. 10:20 – 11:00 Exchange of information and discussion on an NPRI on 'End of waste' carried out in Italy (*Adele Lo Monaco - Arpae Emilia-Romagna*)**
- h. 11.00 – 11:20 Break – networking**
- h. 11:20 – 12:00 The added value of applying the NPRI approach and a new field for its implementation: the new Environmental Crimes directive (*Giuseppe Sgorbati, Fabio Carella*)**
- This session will include a presentation followed by a discussion on the value added of a NPRI, based on the experience of its application so far. Topics such as interaction with stakeholders, stakeholder analysis, contribution to a level playing

field, etc. will be discussed. It will be also presented how NPRI can support the implementation of the article 19 of the new ECD.

**h. 12:00 – 12:30 Q&A and comments on the morning session – All**

**h. 12:30 – 14:30 Lunch and networking**

**h. 14:30 – 15:30 NPRI Training (*Chris Dijkens and Gabriëlle Kühn*)**

During this session, the outline of an NPRI training will be presented and a discussion on the need, form and implementation of an NPRI training by IMPEL will be initiated. The presentation will be followed by a discussion where participants will be invited to share their views on an NPRI training.

**h. 15:30 – 16:15 Discussion on the possibility to develop new NPRI**

During this session, countries will have the opportunity to discuss the opportunity to develop NPRI, followed by an open discussion.

**h. 16:15 – 16:30 Q&A, comments and final discussion on the afternoon's session – All**

**h. 16:30 – 16:45 The seminar outcomes and next steps: observations from a methodological and practical point of view (*Giuseppe Sgorbati and Chris Dijkens*)**

**h. 16:45 – 17:00 Final recap and closing of the Seminar (*Fabio Carella, Giuseppe Sgorbati, Marc du Maine*)**

**Note:**

*In case of need, please get in touch with:*

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