



# DOTCOM Waste News



## It has been another busy few months for DOTCOM Waste as we head into the final stages of the project.

As part of our objective to help those directly involved in the fight against waste crime, we have just completed our first face-to-face training session in Rome, with our next event scheduled for mid-October in China.

During May and June we ran a successful e-learning series, covering hot topics identified during our research phase. (See page 2 for more)

## Out and About

As well as working on the Project's deliverables, our team has also been busy promoting our activities at key events. We hosted a successful side event at this year's COPS in Geneva entitled, "Get the Tools You Need to Make a Difference".

The opening address was given by Carlos Martin-Novella, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm Conventions, followed by Federico Magalini of United Nations University (UNU), who gave an insight into the activities of



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DOTCOM Waste. Attendees then got an introduction to the project's online training toolkit on enforcing transboundary movements of waste regulations by Vittoria Luda Di Cortemiglia of UNU. There was also a demo of the inspection app for waste and chemicals called WATCH-IT which was presented by Nancy Isarin, Environmental Consultant at Ambiadura.

In addition, the DOTCOM Waste project was presented to INTERPOL's Pollution Crime Working Group during their 22nd meeting in Rome, with both Vittoria Luda Di Cortemiglia and Nancy Isarin speaking.

## Conference

Planning has begun in earnest for our final conference and we're delighted to jointly host the event with BLOCKWASTE. Entitled '[NO TIME TO WASTE! Synergies and strategies to tackle waste crime](#)', the event promises to be packed full of useful information and will take place on November 23rd in Brussels.

## DOTCOM Waste Online Training Toolkit

**Coming soon!** If you haven't signed up already, register your interest now to access our online training toolkit and learn how to better fight illegal waste trafficking.

**[Join our mailing list to stay updated!](#)**

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## e-Learning Series Proves Huge Success

As part of DOTCOM Waste's objective to improve capacity building for those involved directly in the fight against waste crime, we organised a series of e-learning webinars on hot, important topics. At the beginning of the project, we carried out extensive research including a comprehensive needs assessment looking at the gap between current training programmes and what's needed by target audiences. This information was then used to shape the topics for the webinar series.

The webinars were delivered by a number of international experts who had both practical hands-on experience and were known for their best practice approach. Participants across all our key stakeholder targets were well represented, covering a wide geographic area including all over Europe, the Nordics, Africa and the Asia. Professions across all our key stakeholder targets were well represented including judges in Greece and Croatia, the Finnish and Slovak police, the State Environmental Inspectorate-Republic of Macedonia, Swedish Customs, barristers from the Irish EPA and many, many more.

To guarantee the longer-term use for the content, the webinar recordings will be included in the online training toolkit launching in late 2017.

**If you missed out on any of the webinars and would like a link to the recording,**  
please email [info@dotcomwaste.eu](mailto:info@dotcomwaste.eu).

WEBINAR	PRESENTERS
<b>Introduction into the legislation on transfrontier shipments of waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Huib van Westen, Coordinator Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste, Law Division, Asia and Pacific Office, UN Environment</li><li>• Francesca Cenni, Programme Officer with Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat</li></ul>
<b>Inspection plans / Next Gen Compliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Katharina Aiblinger-Madersbacher, Engineer, Government of Lower Bavaria, Germany</li><li>• Frank Peen, Coordinating Advisor, National Inspectorate for Environment and Transport, Netherlands</li><li>• Pádraig O'Shea, Environment Protection Officer, Scottish Environment Protection Agency</li></ul>
<b>Intelligence in Fighting Waste Crime: Use of Open and Closed Sources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ieva Rucevska, Project Manager (Environmental Crime)</li><li>• Levi Westerveld, Project Assistant, GRID-Arendal</li><li>• Christopher Smith, Intelligence Manager, UK Environment Agency</li></ul>
<b>Using Remote Sensing Technologies When Fighting Illegal Waste Crime</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ray Purdy, CEO of Air and Space Evidence Ltd</li><li>• Jon Carver, Technical Director, Air and Space Evidence Ltd</li></ul>
<b>Collaboration on Illegal Waste Crime: National and International Joint Investigations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Amélie Frey, Head of the International Relations Group, OCLAESP (French Gendarmerie Nationale)</li><li>• Dominik Kozary, Senior Advisor, Customs, Croatia</li></ul>
<b>Pro-active Financial Investigation in Tackling Waste Crime</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• George Hope, Unit Manager – LIFE SMART Waste Team, Scottish Environment Protection Agency</li></ul>

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Marino Martellotta, Official (Lieutenant Colonel) of Arma dei Carabinieri, Department of Environmental and Forest Police'



### **What do you feel are the biggest challenges when it comes to tackling cross boarder waste crime?**

From my experience, which is mainly operational, the first obstacle is dealing with the detection and identification of waste. If we limit the checks to what is officially declared as 'waste' during the shipment phase, we hardly find any irregularities. In fact, those organising an illicit shipment of waste will never include 'waste' in the customs declaration. The investigator should never limit his/her focus of analysis on formal documents; instead he/she should put in place broader controls, with the main objective of detecting the trade flows where general goods are declared, in order to discover the illicit trade of waste.

In addition, another challenge consists in understanding whether an object, or a material/substance is classified as waste by law. This is even more difficult if we consider that customs controls only cover 2 – 3 % of all shipments. These flows are also subject to continuous changes, often taking advantage of triangulation systems, which make the traceability of shipments even more difficult.

Last, but not least, we need to take into consideration that States, which are both geographically and culturally different from each other, also usually apply different legal and regulatory frameworks. They do not share the same definitions of waste, recovery, and recycling, and neither have they a common understanding of the main characteristics, for instance, of a recovery site.

### **What would you like to see coming out of the DOTCOM Waste project?**

DOTCOM Waste has in itself great potential. As one of the main results, I hope for the creation of a common level of awareness among EU member states on the importance of increasing the controls on what is shipped as 'non-waste'. Nowadays the

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interpretation of 'what is waste/non-waste?' by member states is still quite different.

Based on my experience, in Italy there is a stronger capacity to investigate and prosecute environmental crimes, as well as on the illegal transboundary shipment of waste, compared with many other countries. Investigations, in fact, have revealed how some Italian subjects involved in this kind of illicit trafficking, decided to move their activities to other countries, where Customs are less stringent.

Another desirable outcome of DOTCOM Waste would be the creation of a common platform with countries from North-West Africa and China, to facilitate the prompt examination of the validity of the destination sites as well as their appropriateness.

One of the results already achieved by the project, is the creation of a network of contact points in different countries, who can provide prompt answers to ongoing and future requests for assistance.

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### **New LIFE SMART Waste Digital Brochure Published**

The LIFE SMART Waste project has published its digital brochure, including updates on the launch of the project's communications Hub, intelligence-gathering activities and progress in the development of a range of innovative tools, approaches and techniques to understand, tackle and reduce waste-related crime.

[Download here](#)

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### **DOTCOM Waste Library**

A collection of information on good practices and lessons learned in supporting the detection, investigation and prosecution of the illicit management and illegal trade of waste.

[Visit Now!](#)

# No Time To Waste!

## Synergies and strategies to tackle waste crime

**Date : 23 November 2017**

**Conference Venue:** Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia Rue Montoyer /  
Montoyerstraat 47, Brussels, Belgium

**Participants:** Professionals and decision makers involved in targeting waste crime such as regulators including EC representatives and European Parliament members, environmental authorities, law enforcement agencies, other stakeholders and researchers.

TIMES	PRESENTERS
<b>8.30 – 9.30</b>	REGISTRATION AND WELCOME
<b>9.30 – 9.45</b>	Opening – Federico Magalini DOTCOM Waste and Terhi Kankaanranta, BlockWaste
<b>9.45 – 10.15</b>	KEYNOTE ADDRESS – Marina de Gier, Chair of the IMPEL Working Group, TFS and David Ellero, Business Manager, O2-B Operations Economic Property and Crime unit, EUROPOL
<b>10.15 – 11.15</b>	HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE: RECENT EU COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS Panelists: Anne Brosnan, ENPE, Prof. Luc Lavrysen, EUFJE, Marina de Gier, IMPEL, Ioana Botezatu, INTERPOL, David Ellero, EUROPOL, Roux Raath, WCO
<b>11.30 – 12.30</b>	UNDERSTANDING ILLEGAL WASTE TRADE: TODAY'S REALITY AND TOMORROW'S PERSPECTIVES Moderator: Anne Brosnan, President of ENPE and Ieva Rucevska, GRID Arendal
<b>13.30 – 14.30</b>	PRACTICAL TOOLS TO COUNTER ILLEGAL WASTE TRADE
<b>14.50 – 16.30</b>	FUTURE ACTIONS: PROPOSALS TO POLICY MAKERS ON PREVENTION AND DETECTION, AND THE NEED FOR FUTURE RESEARCH Moderator: Professor Ernesto Savona, BlockWaste, and DG Home
<b>16.30 – 16.45</b>	CLOSING REMARKS
<b>17.00 – 18.30</b>	COCKTAILS

**REGISTER NOW!**

### About



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