



Shipments of Waste Enforcement Actions Project (LIFE SWEAP)

Results of the SWEAP project and international co-operation on inspections and enforcement
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Project Leader



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European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL)

IMPEL - Waste and TFS on Vimeo

The IMPEL LIFE SWEAP project (LIFE17 GIE/BE/000480) has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union

LIFE SWEAP

Shipments of Waste Enforcement Actions Project

EU Life-funded project
2018 to 2023

Follows on from projects
2003 to 2018

IMPEL is the Co-
ordinating Beneficiary

Associated Beneficiaries:

- Scotland (SEPA), England (EA), Ireland (NTFSO), Northern Ireland (NIEA), Slovenia (IRSOP) and Malta (ERA)

34 participating countries
(IMPEL members)

Project Executive: The
Netherlands (ILT)

H-LAB: Europol, Basel
Convention Secretariat,
ILT, WCO, OLAF

Work packages



Capacity building and training

150 customs officers
Inspection exchanges



45,000 co-ordinated inspections
throughout the waste management chain

Innovative enforcement tools

- Reporting app
- Inspection app
- GPS tracking
- Shipment mapping
- Online training



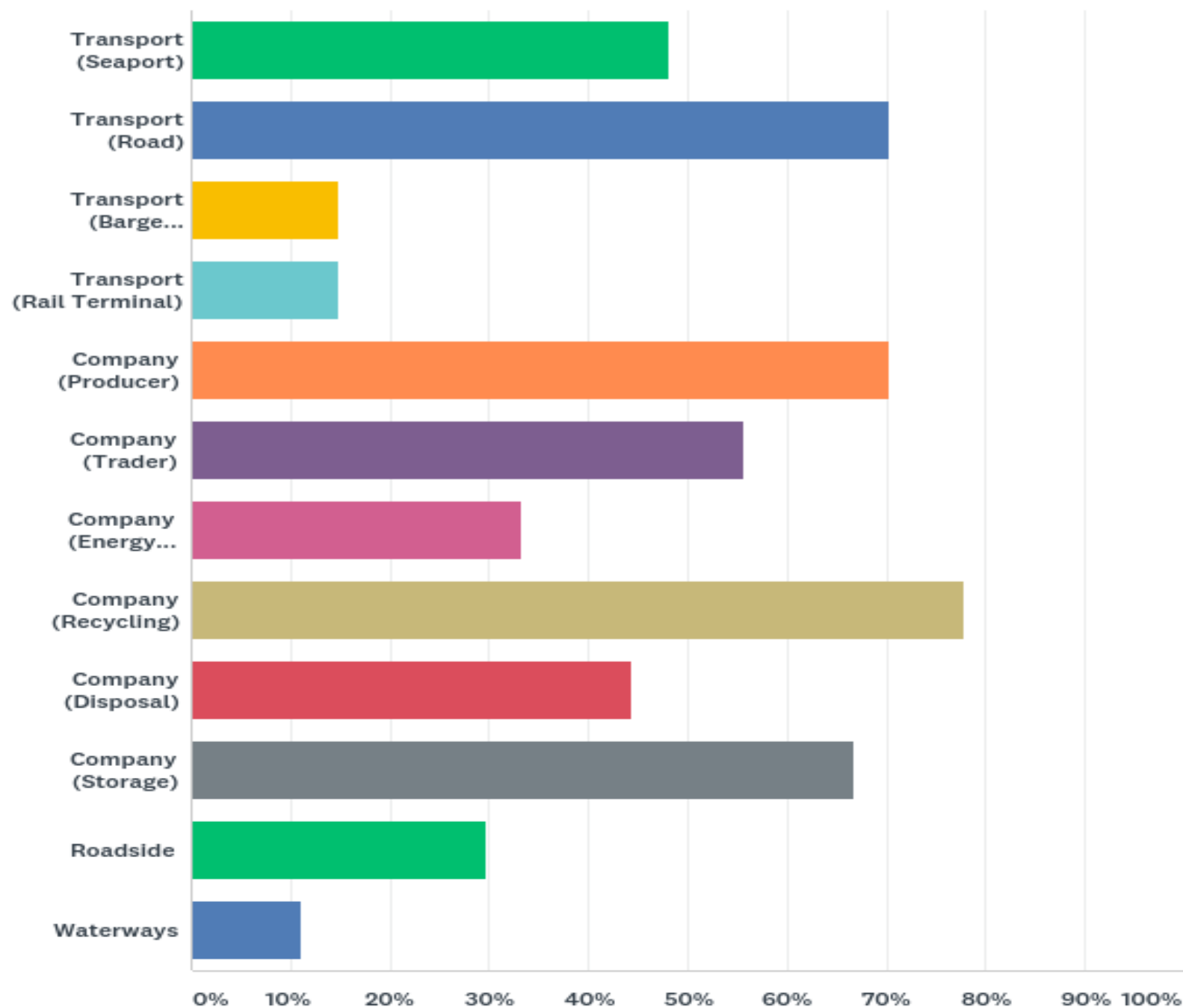
Intelligence gathering and sharing

- Intelligence products
- Nominal data exchange
- Working with Europol



International collaboration,
communication
and awareness-raising

Types of inspection



Co-operation between authorities

Co-operation with other regulators:

- 80% other Competent Authorities
- 90% with Police
- 80% with Customs
- 40% with Prosecutor
- 30% Port/train operator
- 20% Other

- 65% have intelligence capacity
- 80% use risk assessment

Customs:

- ▶ 65% work with customs to create inspections plans
- 44% say waste is high on customs priority list

International collaboration



Types of cases



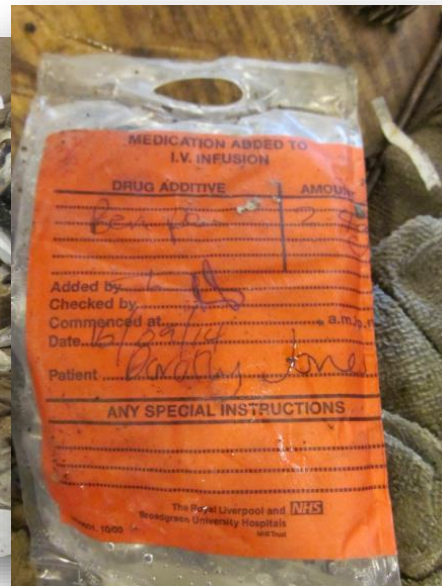
Press release

Convicted waste fraudster has more than 9 years added to jail time for failing to repay £1.3 million in ill-gotten gains

A convicted waste criminal has had an additional 9 years and 4 months added to his current 7 and a half year fraud sentence. The defendant will now serve a total of 16 years.



Shipped as waste paper



Abandoned imports pile up at City ports

Update: May, 30/2018 - 09:00



Cát Lái Port in HCM City's District 2. — VNA/VNS Photo Thế Anh

Viet Nam News HCM CITY — Following China's ban on import of plastic wastes, a lot of them are coming instead to Việt Nam, but with consignees failing to claim shipments, the wastes are piling up at ports including in HCM City.



MALAYSIA AND VIETNAM FOLLOW CHINA'S LEAD WITH WASTE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

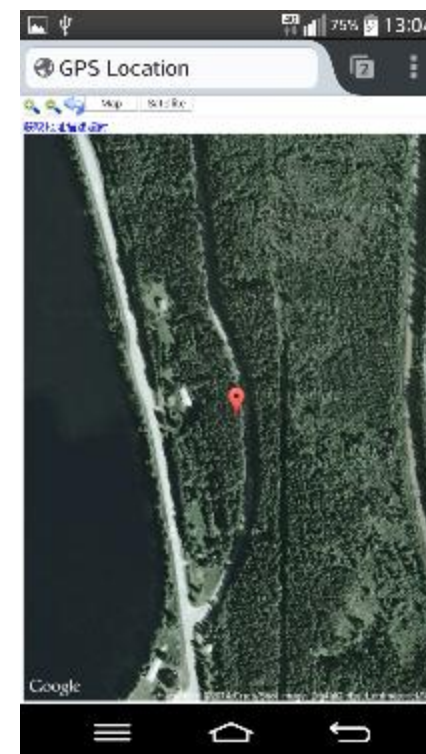
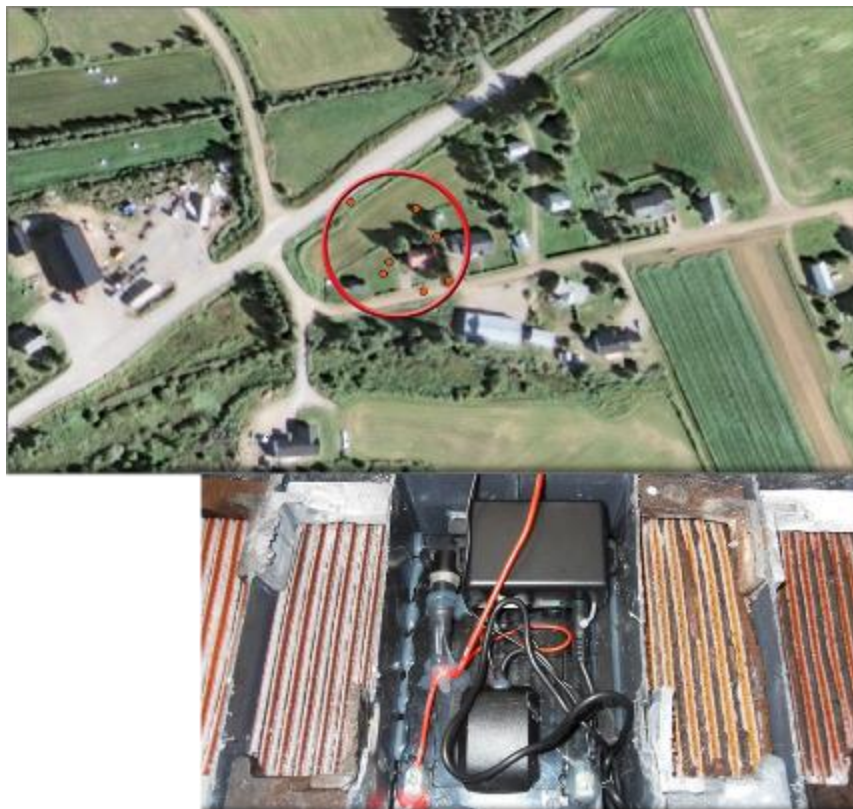
By Rob Cole | 6 August 2018 | [Add a Comment](#)

PRINT E-MAIL SHARE

Both Vietnam and Malaysia have introduced import restrictions in response to the increased volumes of waste entering the countries in the months since China's ban on 24 grades of solid waste – casting further doubt on the ability of other South-East Asian economies to absorb China's lost capacity.

Last week, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc announced that the country would not be issuing any new import licenses. Vietnam is set to follow up its new restrictions with a crackdown on smuggled waste as more than 6,000 containers of paper, plastic and metal scrap remain in limbo at Vietnamese customs points awaiting processing, according to reporting by *Reuters*.

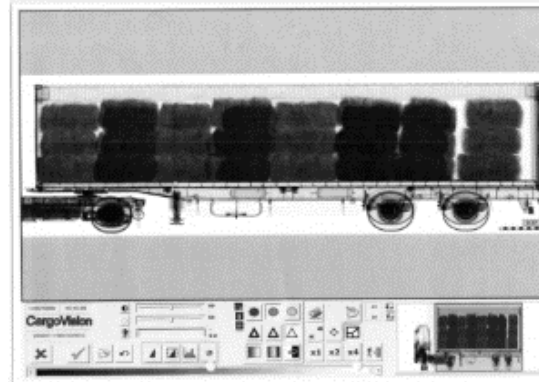
GPS tracking



Countries taking part so far: Ireland, Romania, Denmark, Sweden and UK

Officer exchanges

- ▶ 68 officers from 18 countries
- ▶ 2022 (so far): Austria/ Germany/ The Netherlands



Exchanges

Officers have learned how:

- to involve neighbouring countries and other national regulators in inspections
- different types of waste should be assessed
- enforcement can be structured
- to prioritise waste streams
- to inspect upstream waste sites and compare sampling procedures
- health and safety procedures: how to open containers safely and analyse for fumigants



Multi-country exchanges



2022 Plans: Austria,
The Netherlands
and Germany



COVID-19

- Exchanges and 'in person' training postponed
- Switch to 'incident mode' - waste streams affected
 - Rapid reporting to Governments, EU, inter-agency meetings
 - Enforcement positions adopted
- Closure of ports and offices
- Stockpiling
- Clinical waste increased (and transboundary movement becomes difficult)
- Prioritised clinical waste notifications
- 'Fake news' to make authorities loosen controls
- Potential for illegal operators to capitalise on a reduced enforcement presence
- Increase in illegal waste shipments due to a decrease in domestic waste capacity and disruption to global supply chains



Inspections

Missing:

Albania, Greece, Kosovo, *Iceland*,
FYR Macedonia, *Turkey*

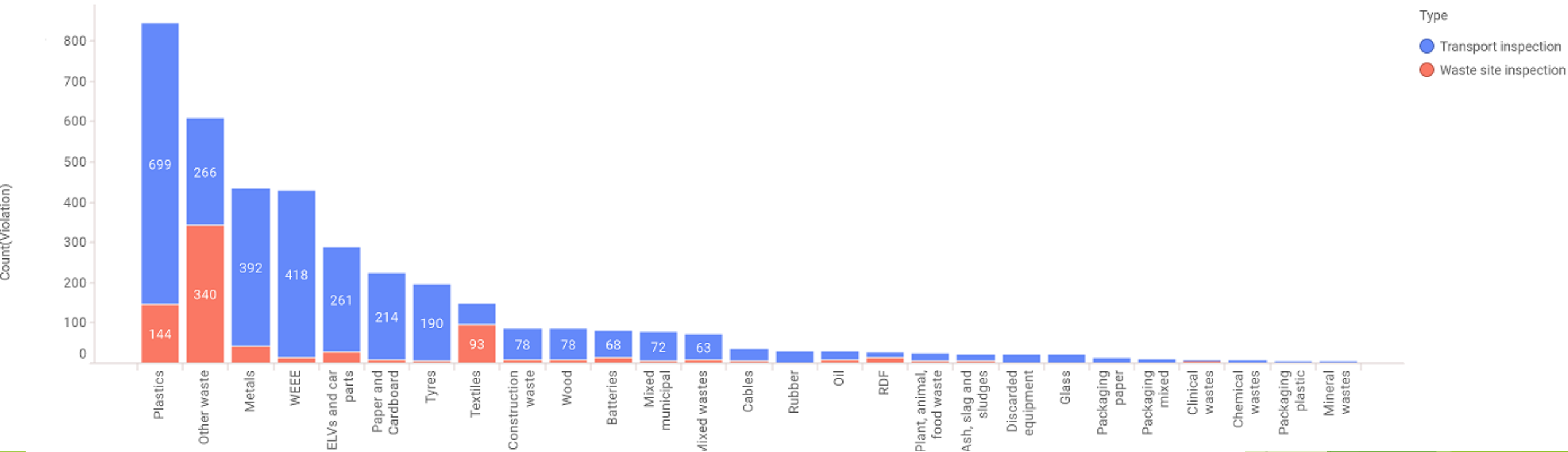
Project target: 45,000



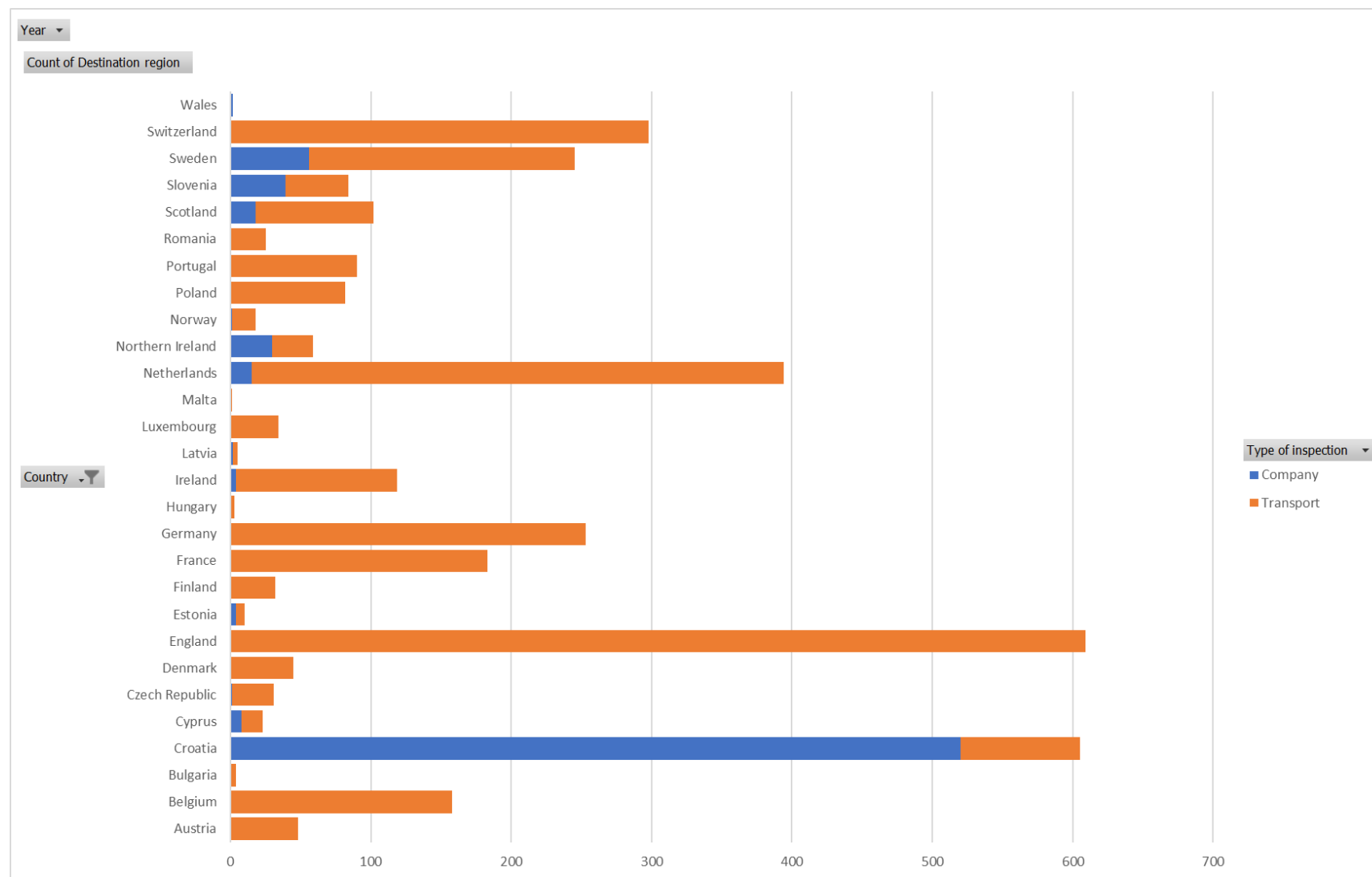
+ 6,430 results from Belgium,
Malta, Slovenia, Germany,
Portugal, Switzerland, England

Waste types

Violations per Waste Type



Violations found by country

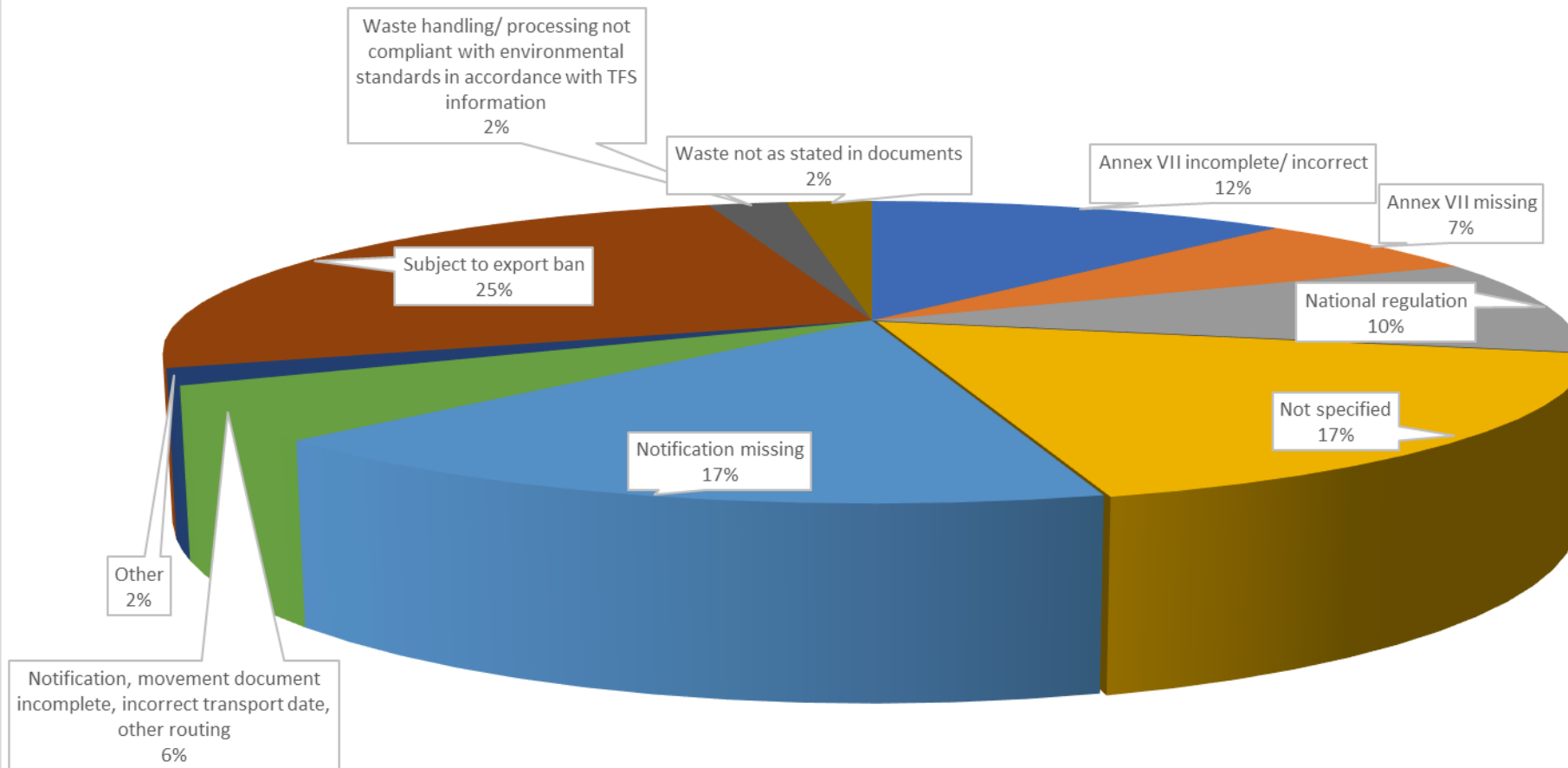


Destination countries



Sum of Year

Total



Effect of China's 2018 import restrictions on plastic shipments



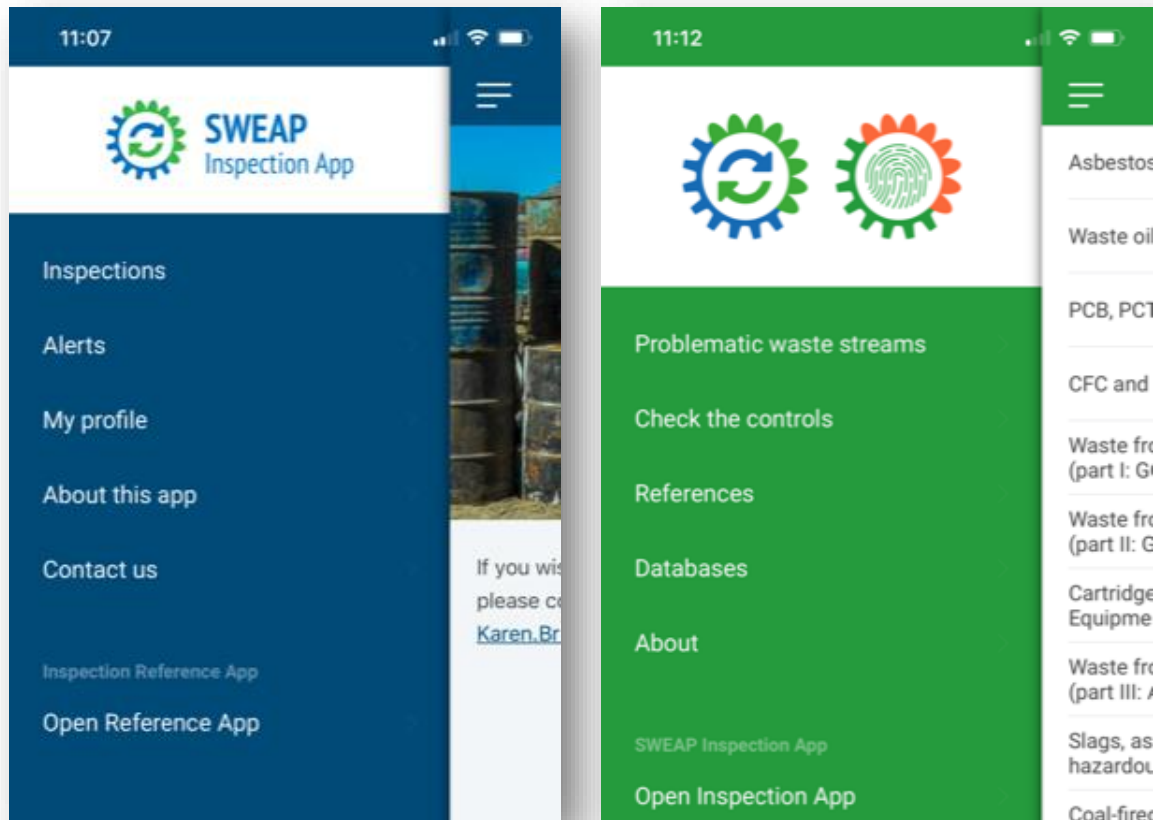


Current plastics movements



In field tools

‘Two in one’ app



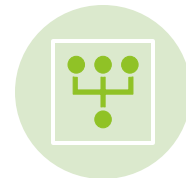
- ▶ Officers have access to both recording and reference tools
- ▶ Reference app available to all (‘check the controls’)
- ▶ Currently over 100 users
- ▶ Quicker and easier than current process
- ▶ <https://tfsinspections.app/>



Collect, report and store inspection data online either in field or office



Take photos and add them to inspection form



Can also bulk upload inspections



Flagging system to other authorities



Directly feeding certain data into other systems via API-file (e.g. Spotfire)



Available for intelligence analysis if authority agrees

Portal for Environmental Enforcers

The online toolkits are free to members of relevant Competent Authorities. Please [log in or register](#) and once we verify your information, we will forward you a password to access the content.



The PREVENT portal provides an online depository of training and capacity building materials. This portal is a collaborative work by projects coordinated by IMPEL and executed with various consortium partners.



The PREVENT portal is a joint activity by [the WasteForce project](#) (funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund – Police (SFP/2017/AG/ENV/821343)), [the LIFE SWEEP project](#) (funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union) and the SPIDERWEB Project (jointly financed by the European Union and the Federal Republic of Germany).

ABOUT

PARTNERS

DISCLAIMER

PRIVACY POLICY

COOKIE POLICY

Visualising data - new tool

- ▶ Live data (if authority chooses) from app via an API
- ▶ See port and road hopping
- ▶ Link to container destination
- ▶ Link to CENCOM possible
- ▶ Link to commodity prices
- ▶ Can use to provide customised reports





Map of Inspections

Data Selector

Select Data Type

IMPEL Historic D...

SWEAP App

Period:

01/01/2014 00... 17/09/2021 07...

☒ Include empty values

Main Filters

Violations

Waste Type

Export Details

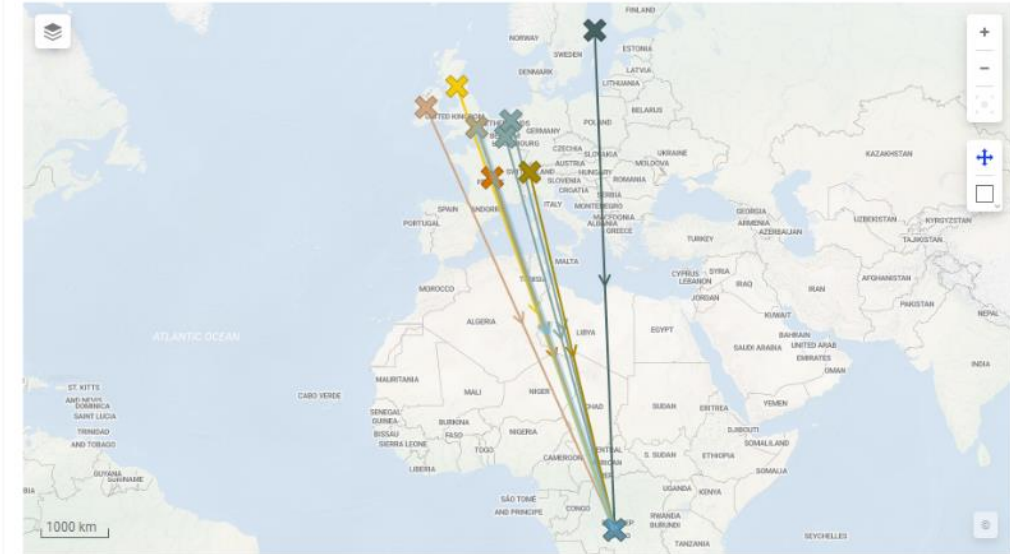
Site Details

Reset All Filters

End Destination - circle size by total inspections



Adjust filters to the required parameters to filter the table below
Mark a red dot or multiple dots to show the flow of material below
Transparent blue line below is the most common route of those selected



Inspection Summary

Reporting Country	Inspection Date	Inspection Type	Dispatch Country	Destination Country	Violation	Type of Violation	Waste Type	Inspector Description	Report available
England	01/01/2020	Transport inspect...	England	Congo	Yes	Not Specified	ELVs and car parts	ELV	
Switzerland	01/01/2020	Transport inspect...	Switzerland	Congo	Yes	National regulation (in...	Tyres	Tyres	
England	01/01/2019	Transport inspect...	England	Congo	Yes	Not Specified	ELVs and car parts	ELV	
England	01/01/2019	Transport inspect...	England	Congo	Yes	Not Specified	WEEE	WEEE	
Netherlands	01/01/2019	Transport inspect...	Netherlands	Congo	Yes	Not Specified	Metals	Iron or steel	
Sweden	01/01/2019	Transport inspect...	Sweden	Congo	Yes	Not Specified	WEEE	WEEE	

Mark a row in the table opposite, then click below to view the complete inspection report if available

[Go to the marked report](#)



Number of Inspections ▼

▼ Selectors

Select data type:

IMPEL Historic D...

SWEAP App



Select the display time period:

All Time ▼

► Location

► Violation

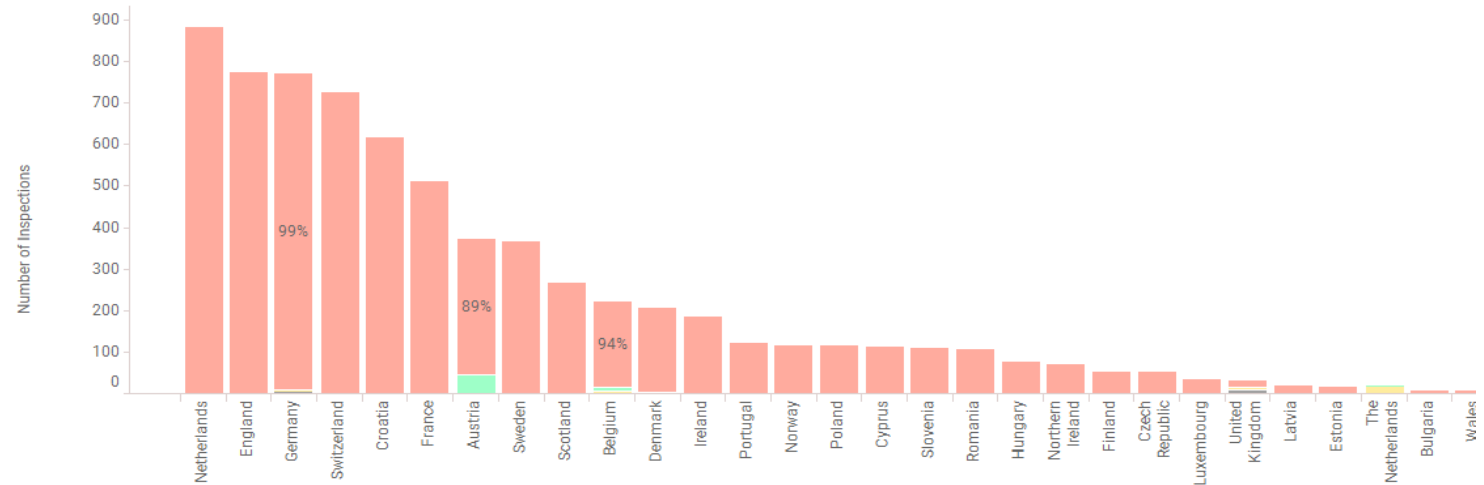
► Waste Type

[Reset All Filters](#)

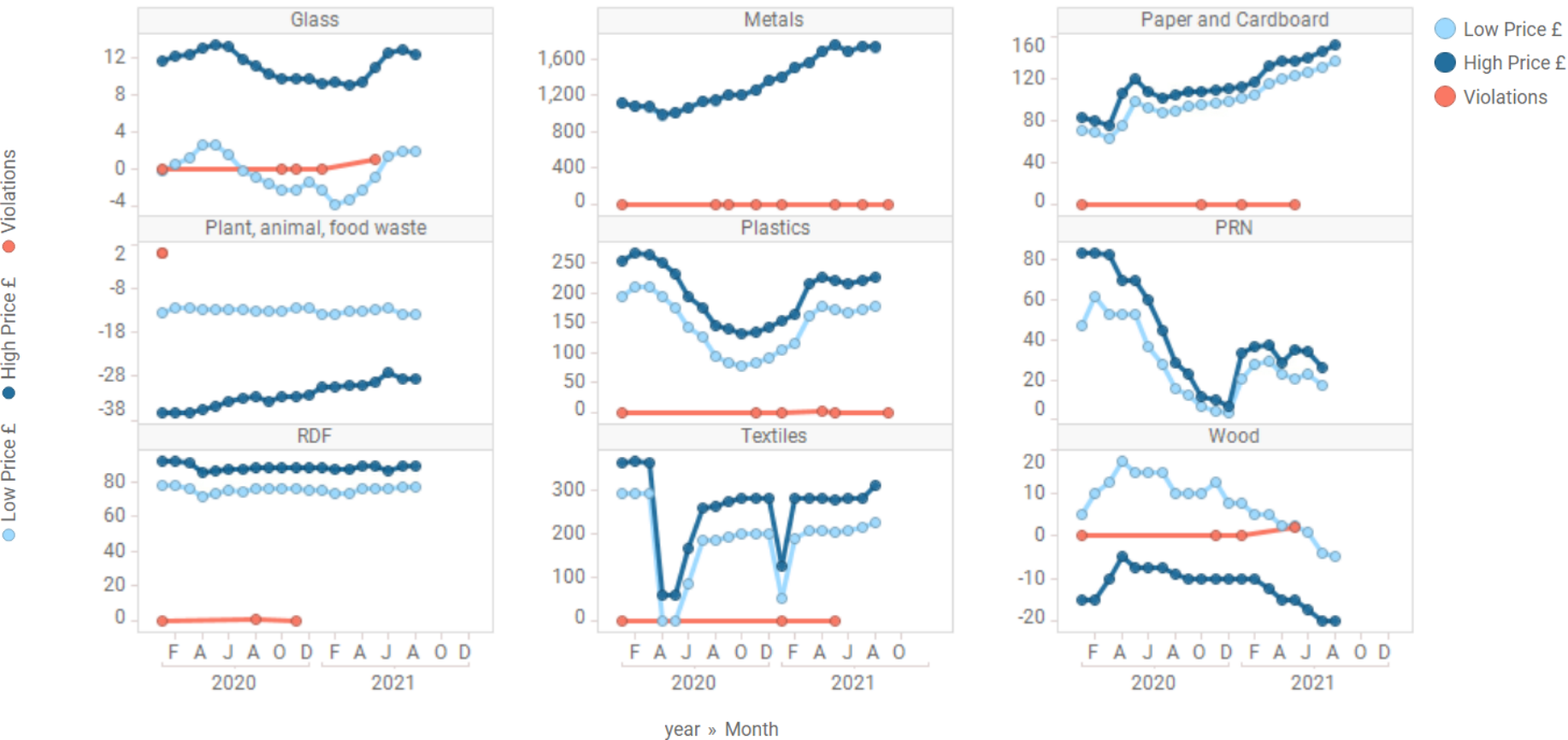
Number of Inspections per Reporting Country

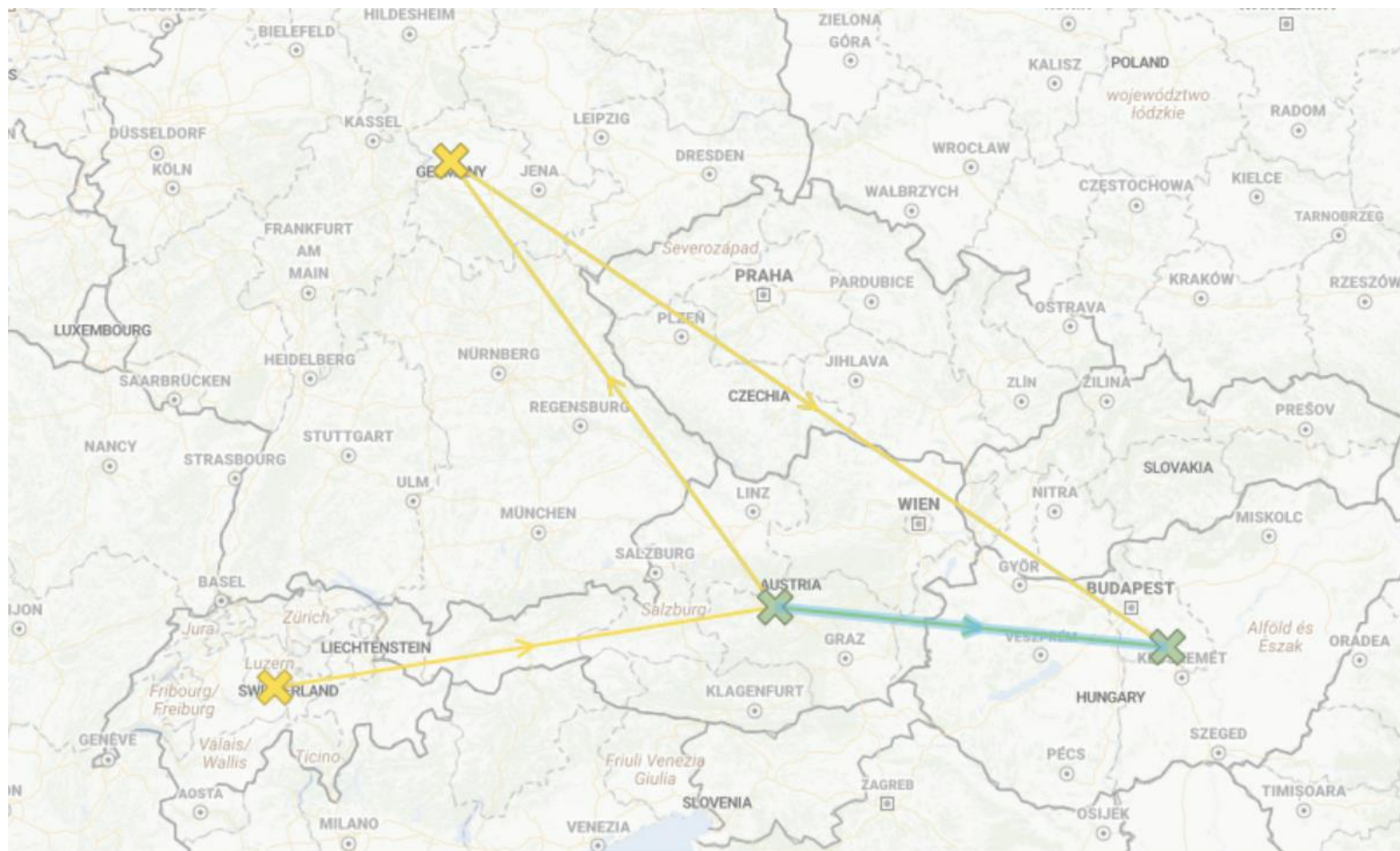
Reporting Country	Number of Inspections	Number of Violations	% of Inspections ...
Latvia	19	19	100%
Luxembourg	34	34	100%
Malta	5	5	100%
Netherlands	882	882	100%
Northern Ireland	69	69	100%
Norway	115	115	100%
Poland	115	115	100%
Portugal	121	121	100%
Romania	106	106	100%
Scotland	267	267	100%
Slovenia	108	108	100%
Spain	3	3	100%
Sweden	366	366	100%
Switzerland	725	725	100%
The Netherlands	15	0	0%
United Kingdom	29	17	59%
Wales	6	6	100%
Grand total	6948	6859	99%

Number of Inspections per Reporting Country



Reported violations by commodity price indicators





Participant survey



Inspection focus in 2020:

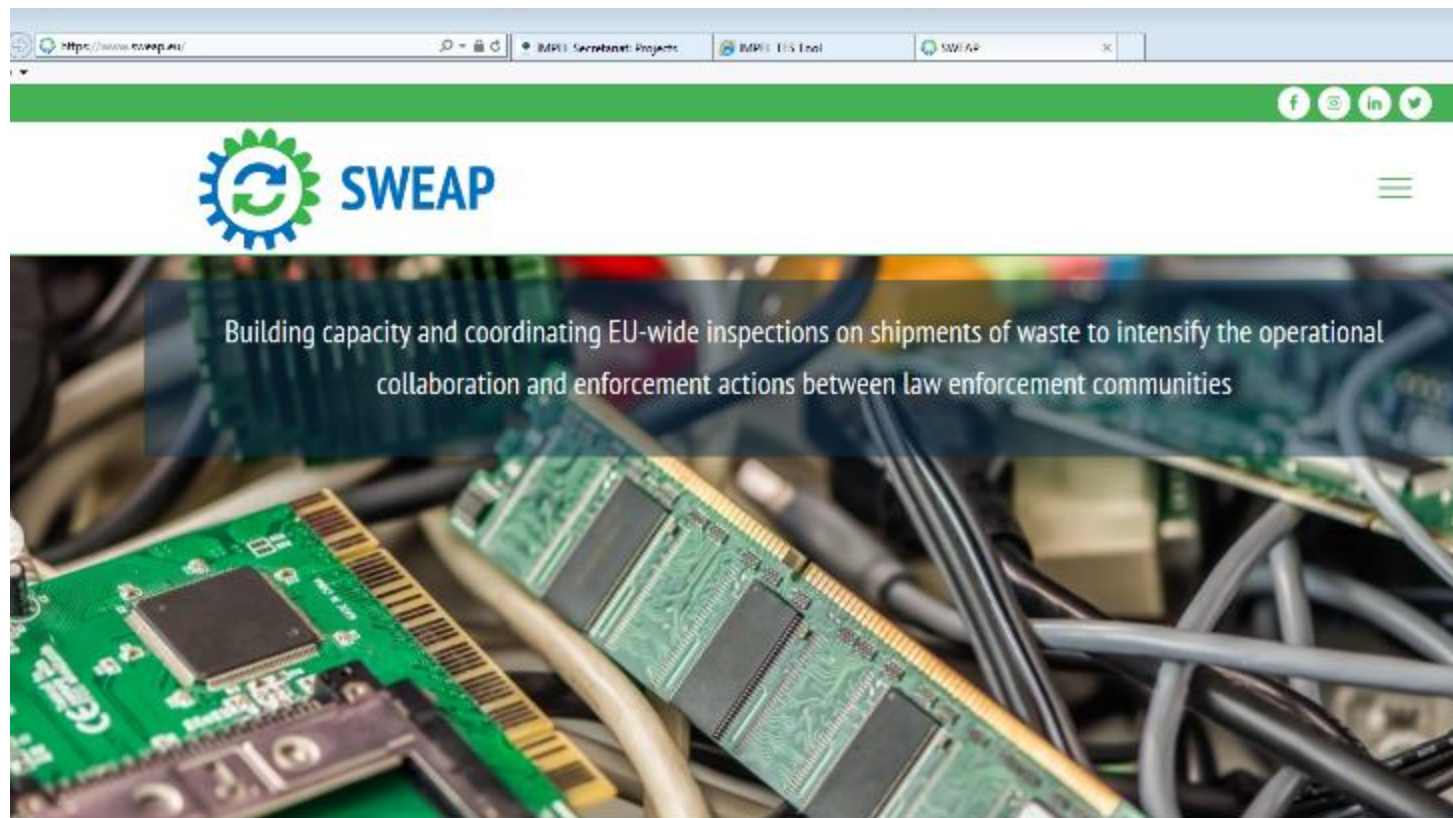
- 35% focused on plastics for inspections in 2020.
 - Medical waste (due to COVID), WEEE, batteries, tyres, mixed municipal waste
- Why focus on these issues? Intelligence, risk assessments, results from previous inspections

Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic:

- 65% said their inspections last year were impacted by COVID (most did fewer inspections, many didn't do inspections for months, some only performed desktop inspections)
- Points of interest from inspections in 2020: Mixed municipal waste declared as second-hand toys, plastic waste declared as product, fewer issues with cross-border dumping of construction waste due to COVID shutting down the industry
- Many court cases postponed

2021-22 Plans

- ▶ Training provided to judges and prosecutors
- ▶ Intel reports and Intelligence Collection Plan
- ▶ Policy paper with drafted legislative amendments to Waste Shipment Regulation submitted to Commission
 - ▶ Covers repatriation & receiving countries' controls
 - ▶ 'Under national jurisdiction'
- ▶ WCO Operation Demeter - 16 countries
- ▶ Data sharing arrangements & roll out of app
- ▶ Data visualisation
- ▶ Mid-term report and application for next funding tranche
- ▶ Infographics
- ▶ Industry guidance



THE LIFE SWEAP PROJECT

The Shipment of Waste Enforcement Actions Project (SWEAP) project is co-funded by the European Commission



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