

# RUNNER - dRone UNit Network against Enviromental cRime



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Italy

*Environmental crimes are widely recognized among the most profitable forms of transnational crime, with a monetary value estimated at 18-25 billion EUR per year, most likely the fourth largest criminal area after drugs, counterfeits, and human trafficking. Typically conducted by large, organized crime groups that operate globally with the assistance of legal business structures and within an environment characterized by corruption and money laundering, Illicit waste trafficking (IWT) represents an increasingly threatening crime to citizens' well-being and the financial interests of the European Union alike.*

*In this context, the RUNNER project will promote networking and encourage the exchange of information between local and national LEAs in the effort to scale-up investigative methodologies against environmental offenders.*

*Benefitting from the production of operational guidelines, a practical testing session at Turin's local police drone unit training area (DORALab), the support of the dronEUnit network, as well as the EU-funded project OPFA-WASTE for tackling illicit waste trafficking, RUNNER will strive to promptly identify deposits and transport streams while making available a high-level platform for practitioners.*



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