

AI-Assisted Timber-Fraud Detection on Romania's SUMAL 2.0 Wood-Tracking System

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Romania

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Romania's Environment Ministry piloted Google Vertex AI on its SUMAL 2.0 timber-permit system, scanning 400,000 monthly permits and 1.6M photos in three days, triggering 7 criminal probes and \$930,000+ in fines — though it still misses subtler photo fraud, OCCRP found.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests \(Romania\), with Google Cloud and Zitec](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[OCCRP investigation](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Romania Insider](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[EU CAP Network — SUMAL 2.0](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

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