

CONFERENCE EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

The INECE Secretariat conducts an evaluation to provide information to educate the Conference sponsors and planners about the participants' perceptions, in order to improve the effectiveness of future events and to help shape the INECE Strategic Plan.

At the conclusion of the Conference, participants were requested to complete a comprehensive questionnaire on the Conference program, materials, and organization and to provide narrative remarks. The questions addressed general issues such as the value of the Conference in "meeting its purpose and goals," "effectiveness of structure" and "usefulness of program to the participant's work." It also addressed specific panels and workshops. For example, "was the discussion in the workshop on Development of Sustainable Regional Networks valuable, or what was the quality of the case study for the Ecotourism Site Visit?"

The questionnaire consisted of 102 questions that asked participants to assign a rating of 1 through 5: 1=Excellent, 2=Very Good, 3=Good, 4=Fair, and 5=Poor. Of the 170 participants at the 6th INECE Conference, 117 persons completed questionnaires. The average rating for most questions ranged between Excellent and Very Good, and no question was rated below Good.

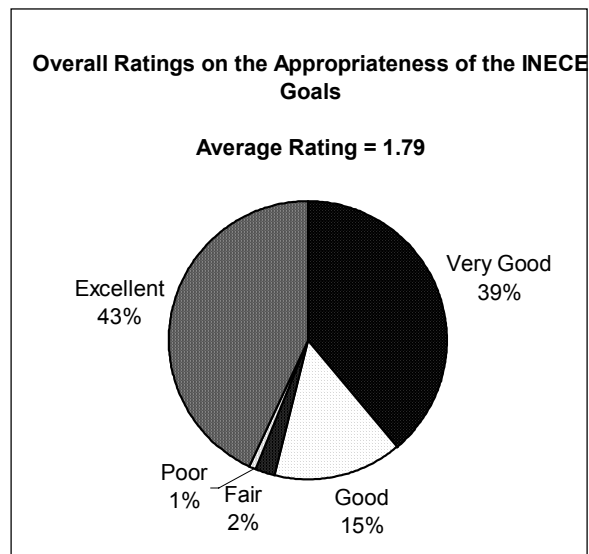
Additionally, the Secretariat received a significant number of written comments, which provided further support that the participants considered the 6th International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement well organized, productive and worth their time and energy. These written comments were carefully considered in formulating the recommendations and conclusions presented at the conclusion of this report.

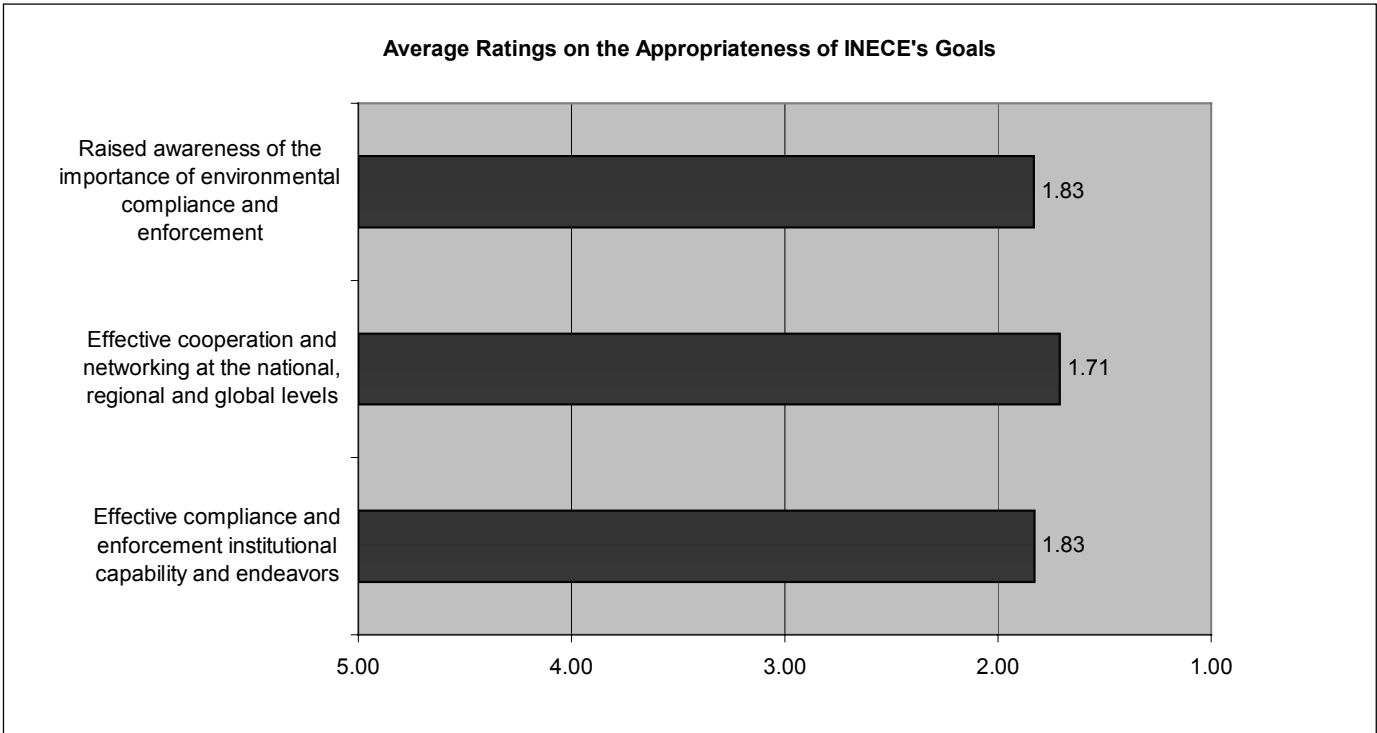
Overall, the participants were enthusiastic about the substantive sessions both in terms of the quality of the discussions and the value to their work. Several innovations offered at this Conference were well received by the participants, including the development of a Conference Statement, the on-site Internet Café, and the day devoted to the six Site Visits. On average, participants rated the Site Visits, the Conference Organization and the Conference Staff the highest.

Participants were asked to evaluate the "appropriateness of INECE's [three] goals" -- the effectiveness of INECE's institutional capability and endeavors; the effective cooperation and networking at the national, regional and global levels; and the ability to raise awareness around environmental compliance and enforcement. Their high evaluations - - 97% rated the goals from Excellent to Good - - demonstrate strong support for INECE to focus its strategic planning on these objectives.

2 VALUE OF THE PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE CONFERENCE TO THE PARTICIPANTS

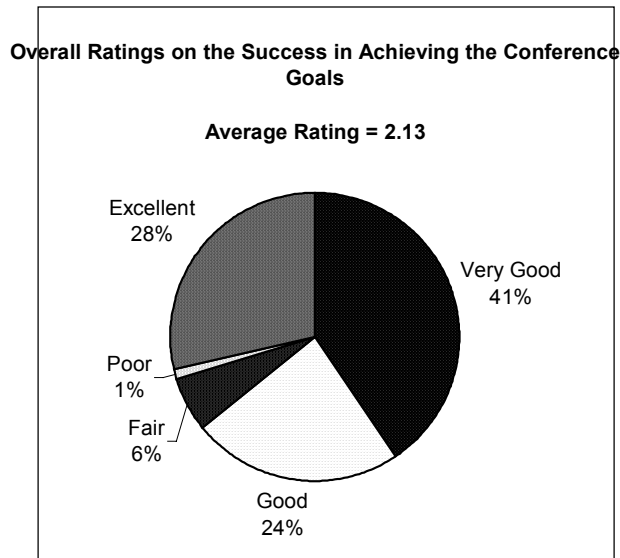
2.1 Appropriateness of the INECE Goals



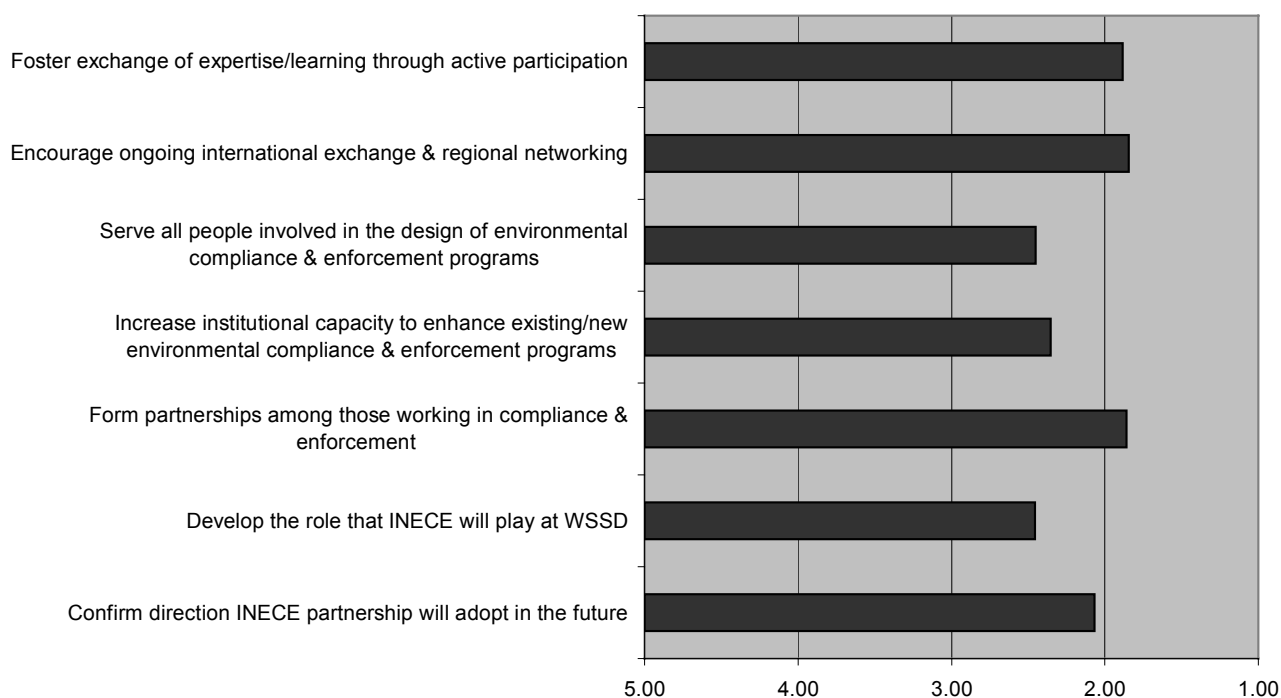


POOR (5)
FAIR (4)
GOOD (3)
VERY GOOD (2)
EXCELLENT (1)

2.2 Success in Achieving Conference Purposes



Average Ratings by Respondents on the Success of Achieving the Conference Goals



POOR (5)
FAIR (4)
GOOD (3)
VERY GOOD (2)
EXCELLENT (1)

2.3 Participants

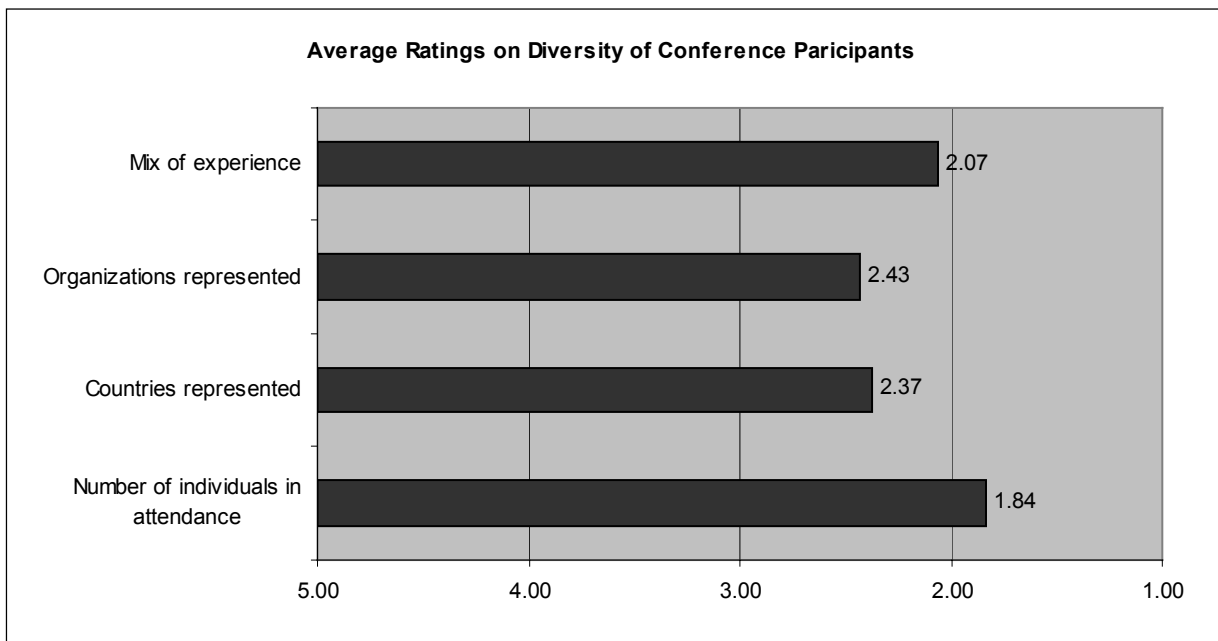
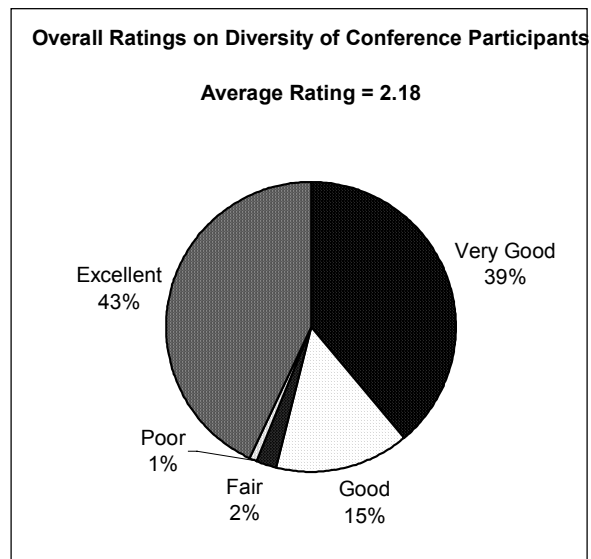
The 6th INECE Conference was attended by 170 environmental enforcement and compliance officials from over 80 countries and organizations. Table 1 shows the number of participants by geographic region and the number who responded to the questionnaire by region. Table 2 shows the number of participants who responded to the questionnaire according to the type of organization they represented.

Table 1. Geographic Regions Represented

REGIONS	Participants		Respondents	
	No.	%	No.	%
Africa	7	4.1%	6	5.1%
Asia & Pacific	6	3.5%	5	4.3%
Caribbean	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
Central & Eastern Europe	14	8.2%	12	10.3%
Central America	37	21.8%	17	14.5%
International	21	12.4%	5	4.3%
North America	34	20.0%	27	23.1%
South America	11	6.5%	8	6.8%
South Asia	6	3.5%	5	4.3%
West Asia/Middle East	3	1.8%	3	2.6%
Western Europe	30	17.6%	21	17.9%
Unspecified	0	0.0%	8	6.8%
TOTAL:	170	100%	117	100%

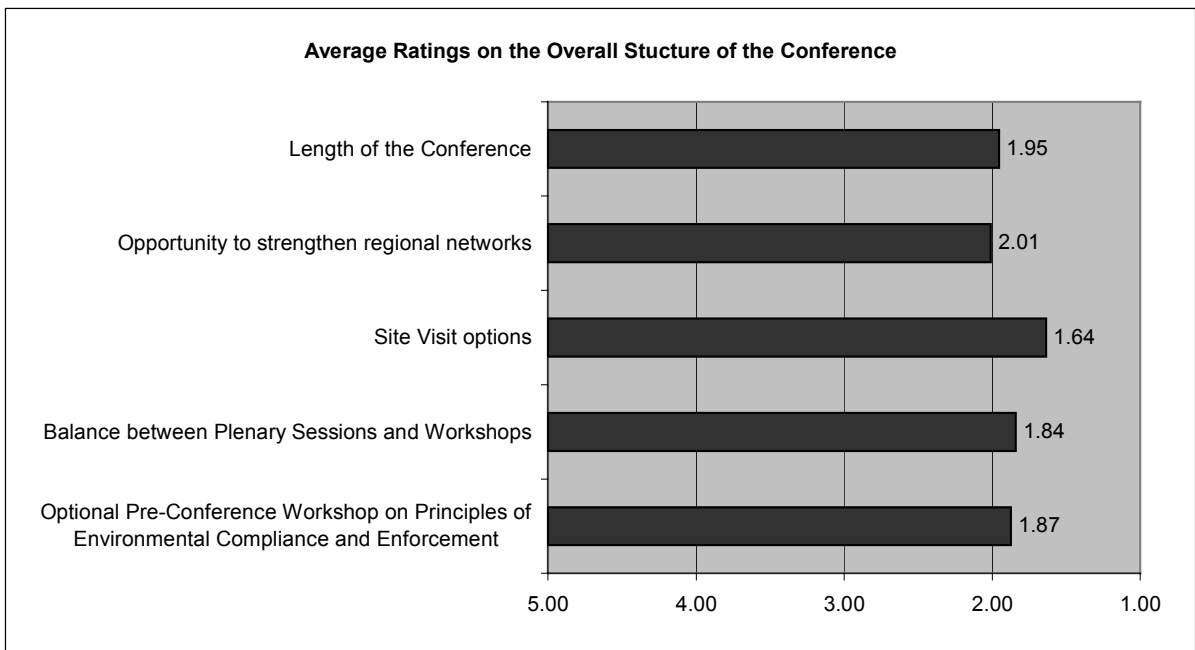
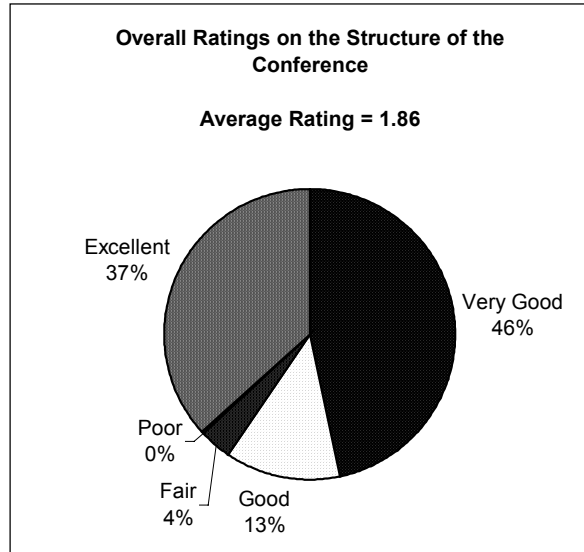
Table 2. Organization Type

Type	No.	%
International NGO	8	6.8%
National Government	62	53.0%
State/Province/Region	4	3.4%
Municipal/Local Government	1	0.9%
Nongovernmental	10	8.5%
Other	9	7.7%
Unspecified	23	19.7%
TOTAL	117	100.0%



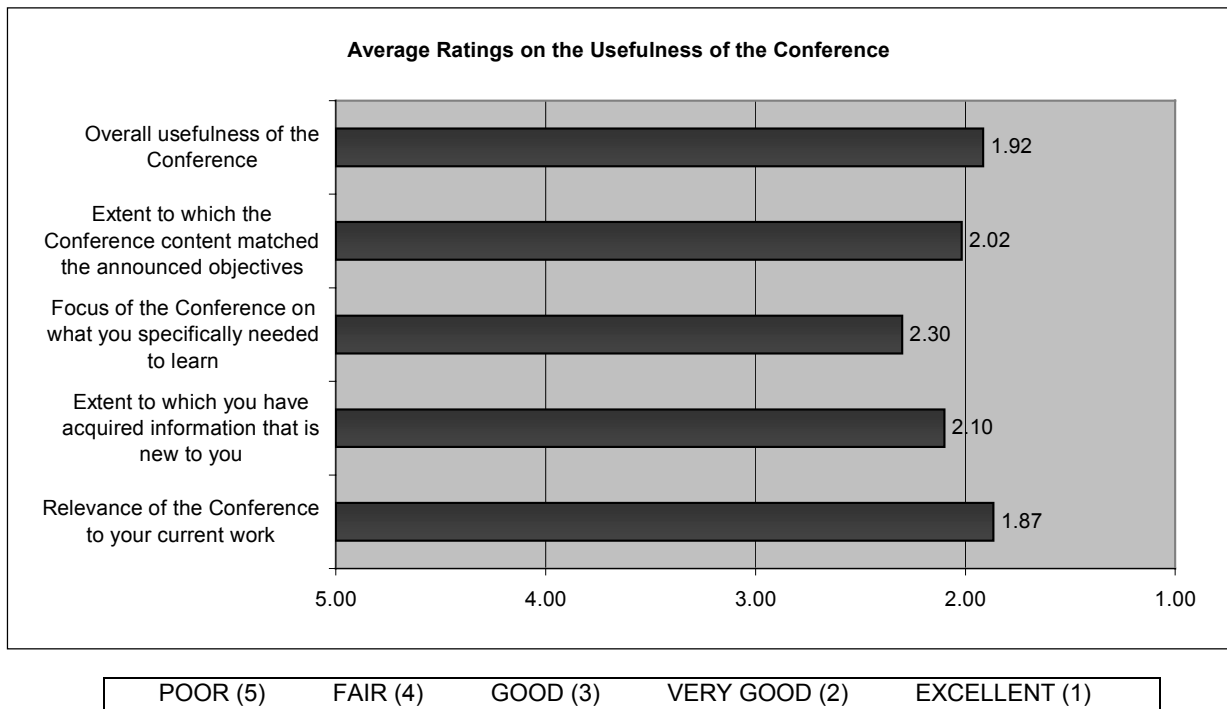
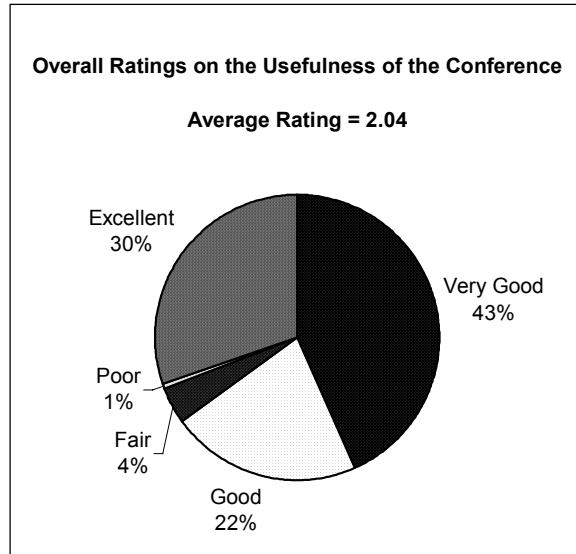
POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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2.4 Structure of Conference



POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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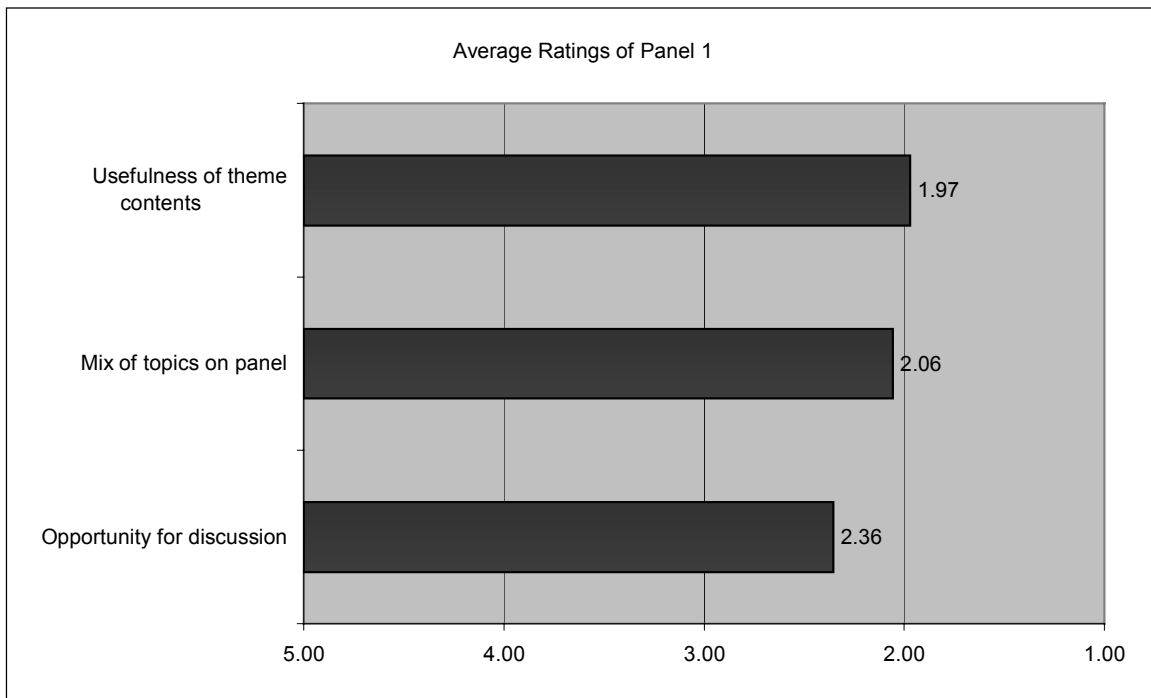
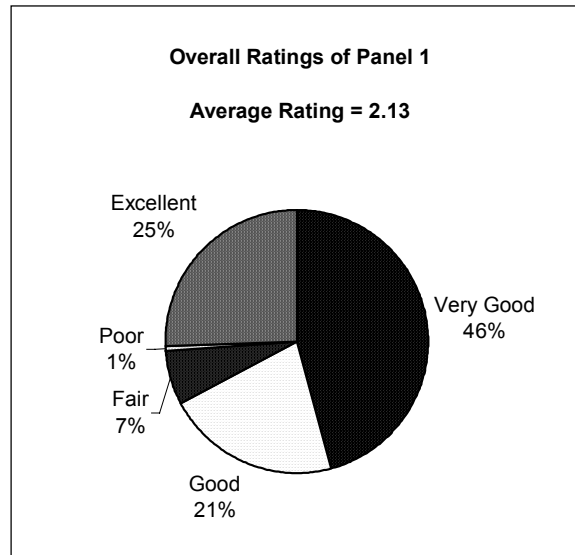
2.5 Usefulness of Conference



3 SPECIFIC CONFERENCE PLENARY THEMES AND TOPICS –MONDAY MORNING

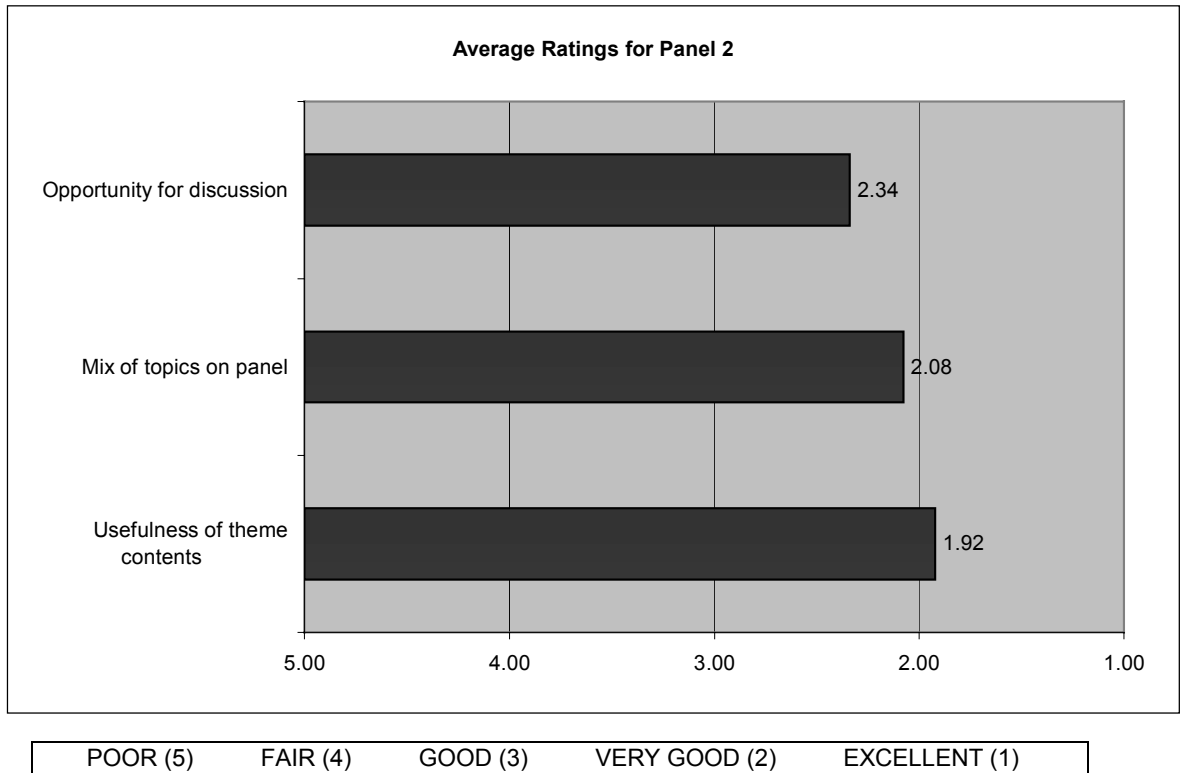
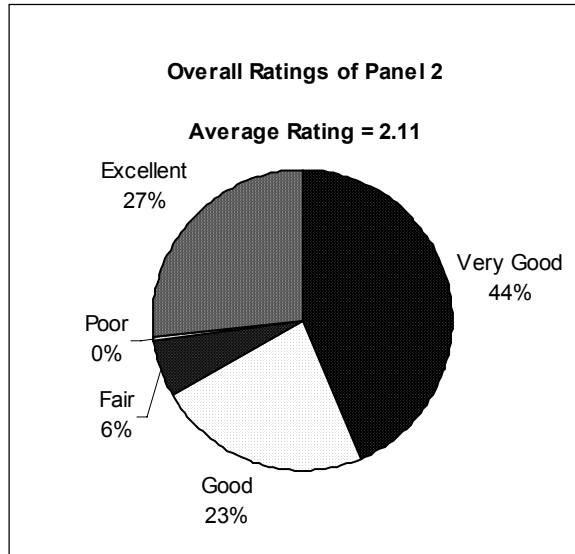
INECE hosted ten plenary sessions during the conference, each having two to four speakers and a moderator. Each speaker provided a presentation of 15-20 minutes, followed by discussion among all the Conference participants.

3.1 Panel 1 – The Role of Institutions and Networks in Environmental Enforcement

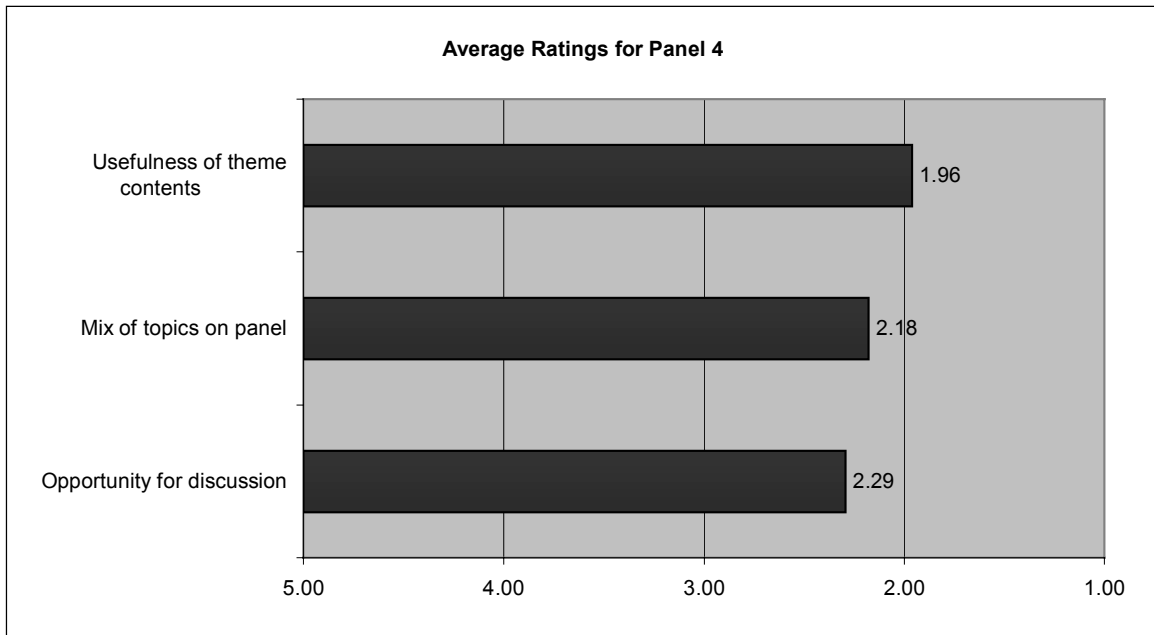
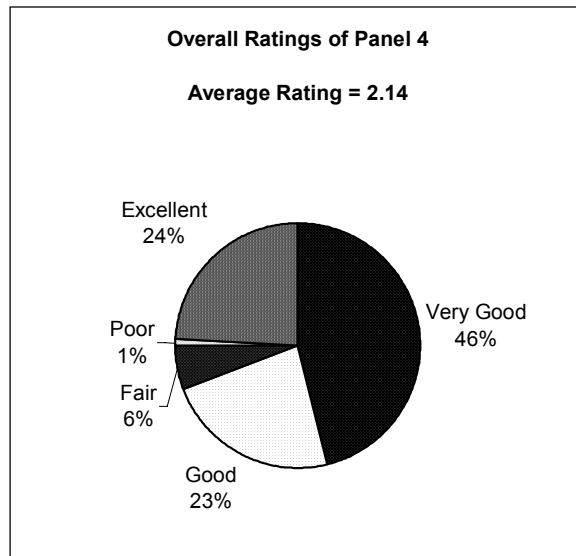


POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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3.2 Panel 2 – The Regional Network Experience



3.3 Panel 4 – Raising Awareness and Measuring Results

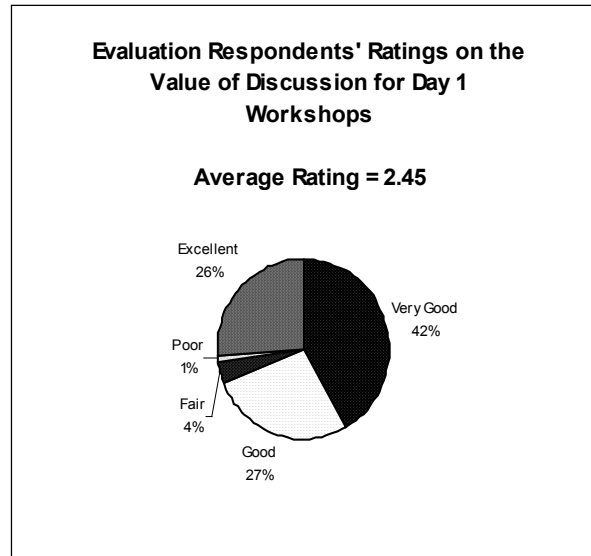
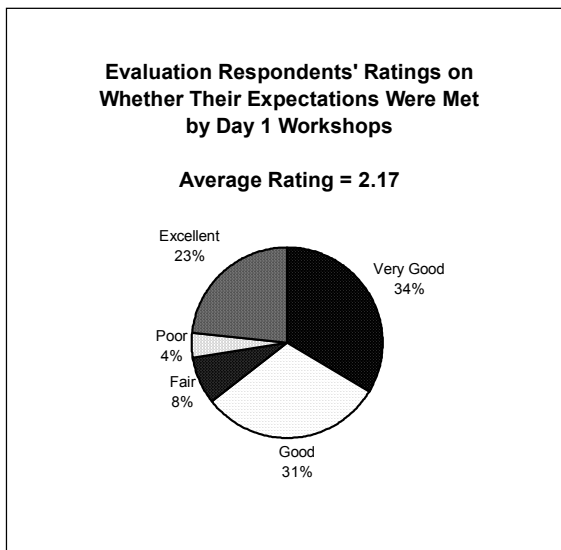


POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

4 DAY ONE —WORKSHOPS – MONDAY AFTERNOON

Three groups of workshops were held on three separate days, the first group being held on Monday under Plenary Theme 2: *Ensuring Effective Environmental Enforcement Through Institutional Capability and Performance Assessment*. The second group of workshops was held on Tuesday under Plenary Theme 3: *Raising Awareness: The Importance of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement* (see Section 6). The third group of workshops was held on Thursday under Plenary Theme 5: *Constructing Effective Interlocking Networks at the Country, Region and Global Levels* (see Section 9). Each workshop had two facilitators to guide the discussion among Conference participants, and a rapporteur to record their progress.

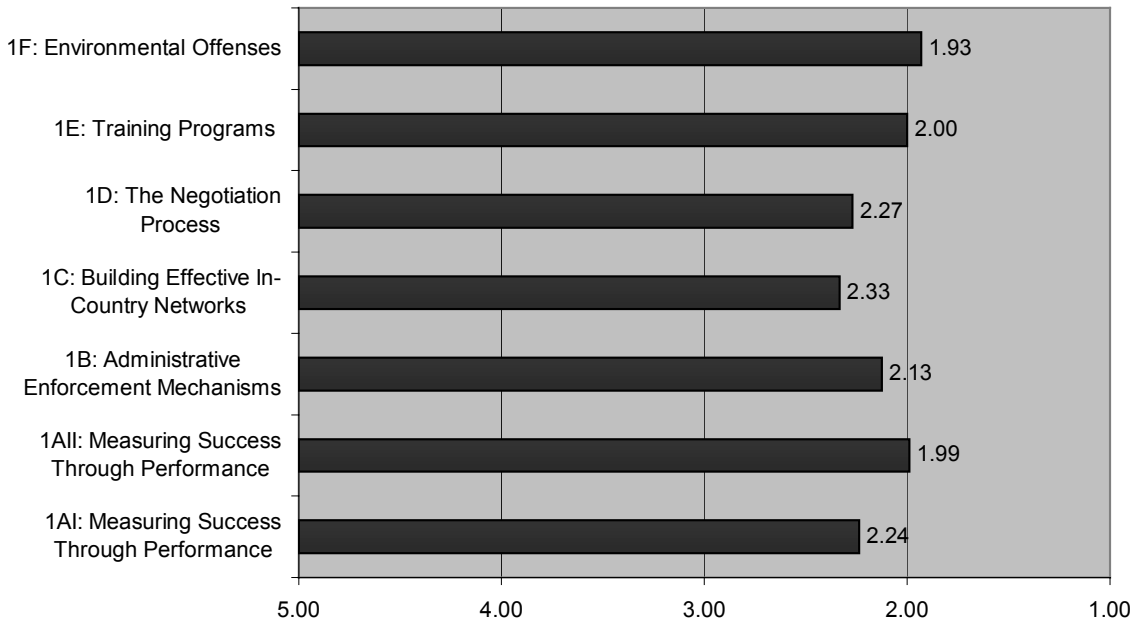
Participants gave very high ratings to the “value of the discussions” following Tuesday morning workshops: *Encouraging the Public’s Role in Compliance Monitoring; Government Programs to Encourage and Respond to Public Involvement in Enforcement; Promoting Voluntary Compliance; Self-Monitoring Data; Environmental Information Systems; and Information Management at the Working Level.*



4.1 Under Day One, six workshops were held:

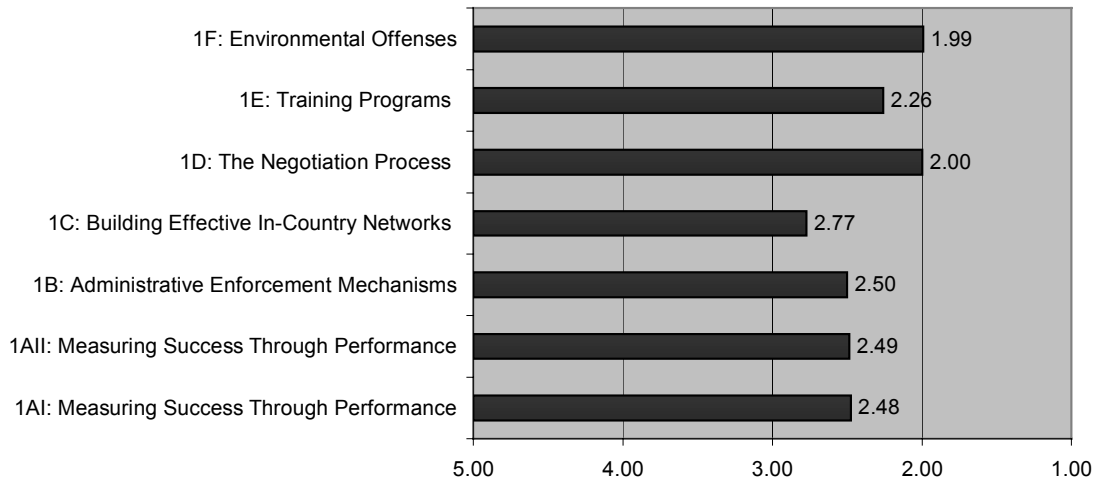
- 1F: Environmental Offenses
- 1E: Training Programs for Compliance Inspectors, Investigators and Legal Personnel
- 1D: The Negotiation Process Leading to Compliance
- 1C: Building Effective In-Country Networks for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
- 1B: Administrative Enforcement Mechanisms: Getting Authority and Making It Work
- 1A: Measuring Success Through Performance: How to Define Enforcement Indicators?

Average Ratings on Whether the Discussion for Day One Workshops was Valuable



POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

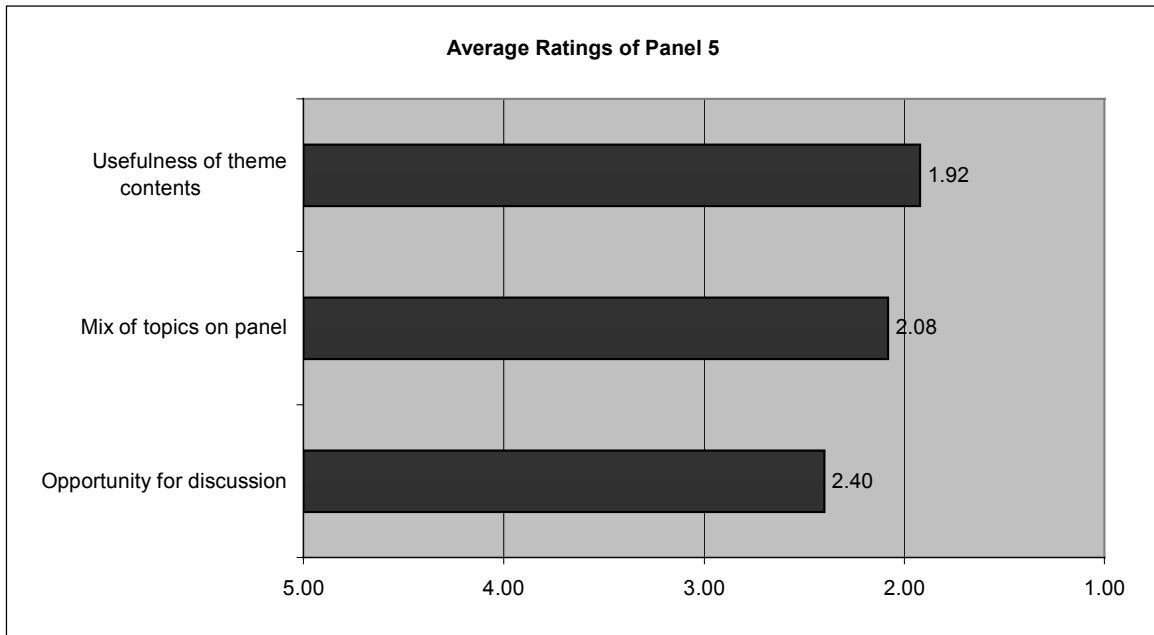
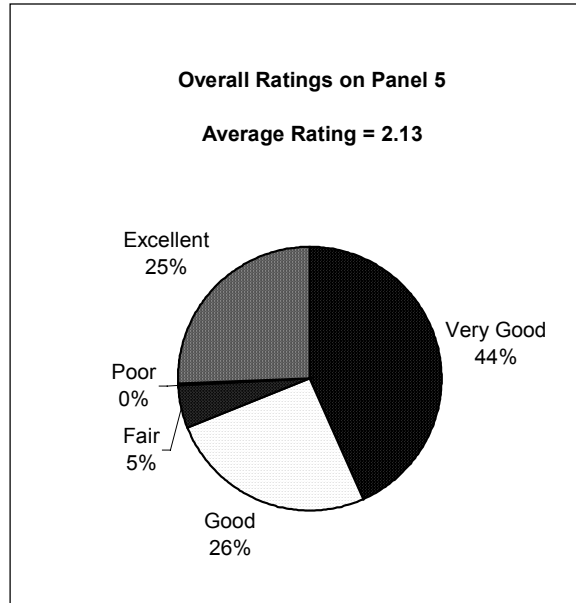
Average Ratings on Whether Participants' Expectations Were Met During Day One Workshops



POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

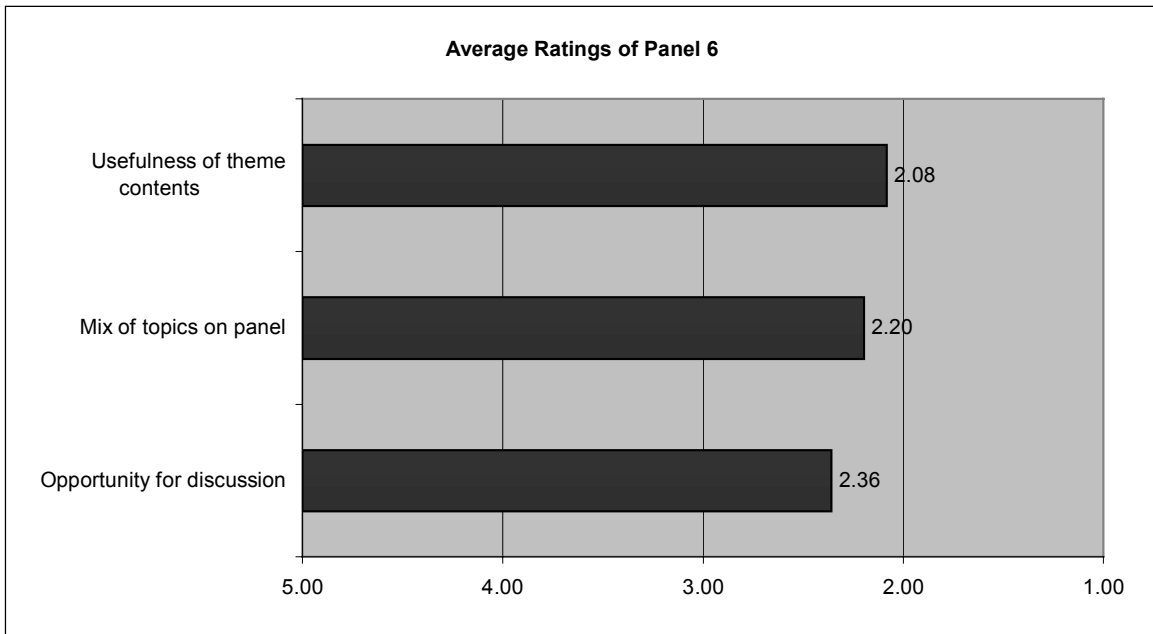
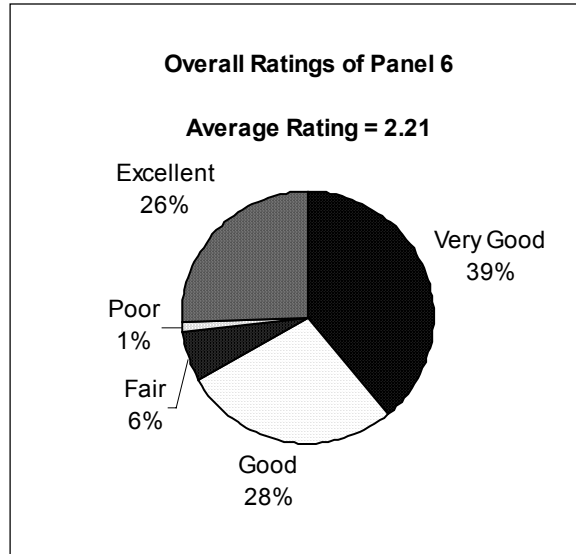
5 DAY TWO—SPECIFIC CONFERENCE PLENARY THEMES AND TOPICS – TUESDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON

5.1 Panel 5 – Economic Instruments and Voluntary Measures



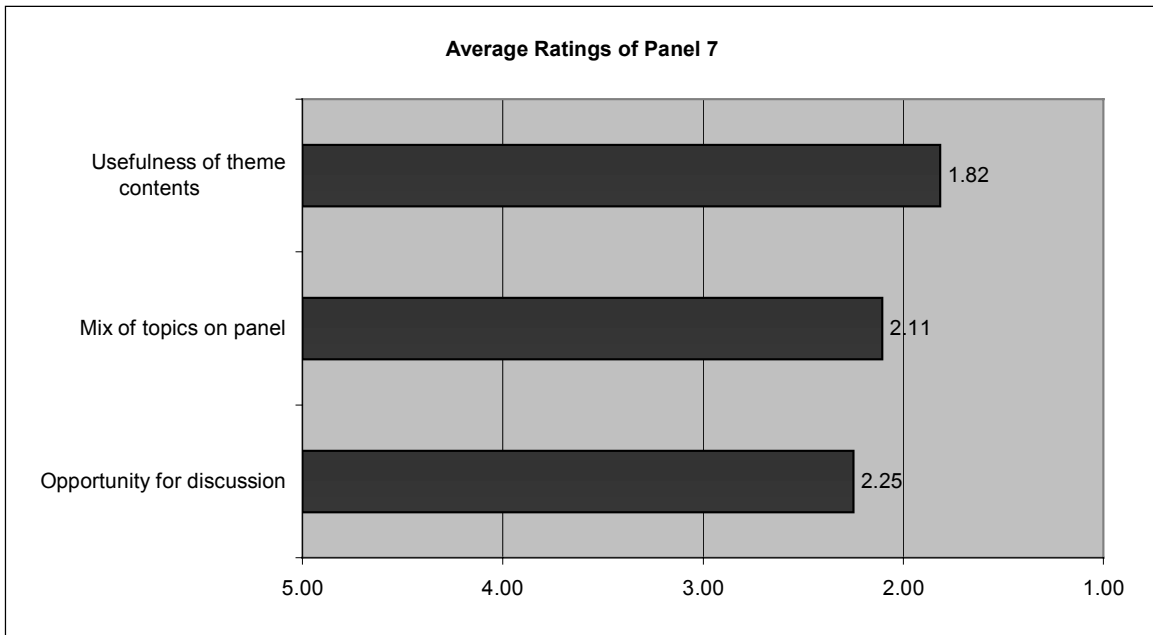
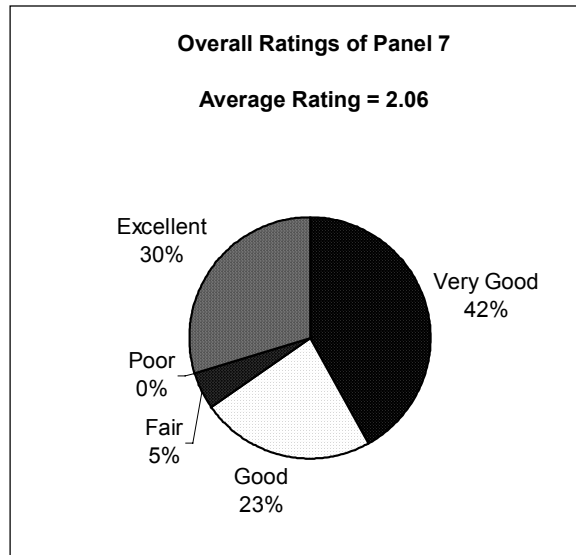
POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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5.2 Panel 6 – Information: Collection, Standards, Sharing, Access, Credibility and Use



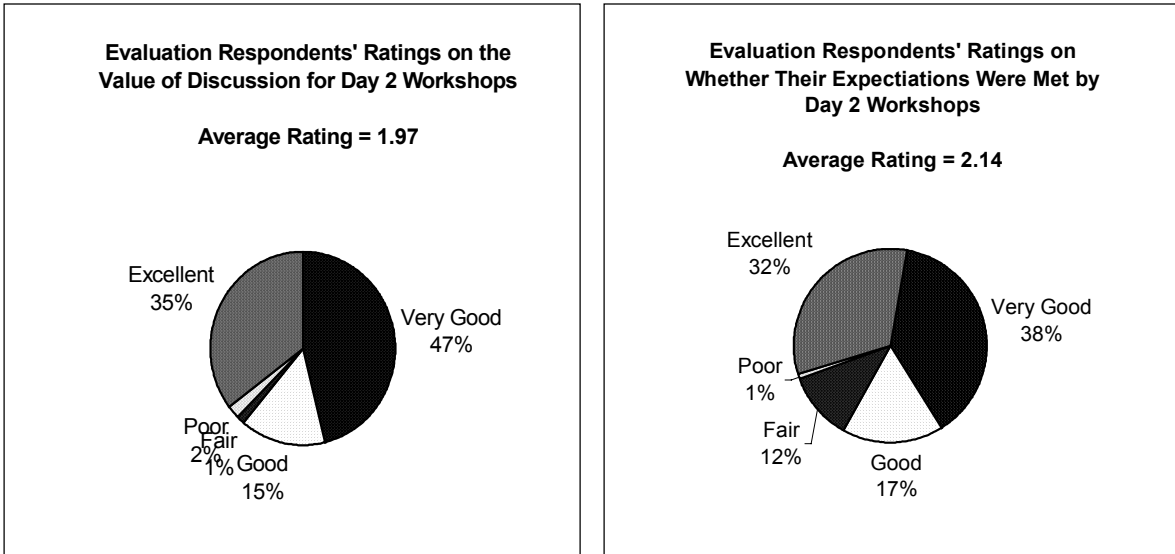
POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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5.3 Panel 7 – The Evolving Role of the Judiciary in Environmental Compliance and Enforcement



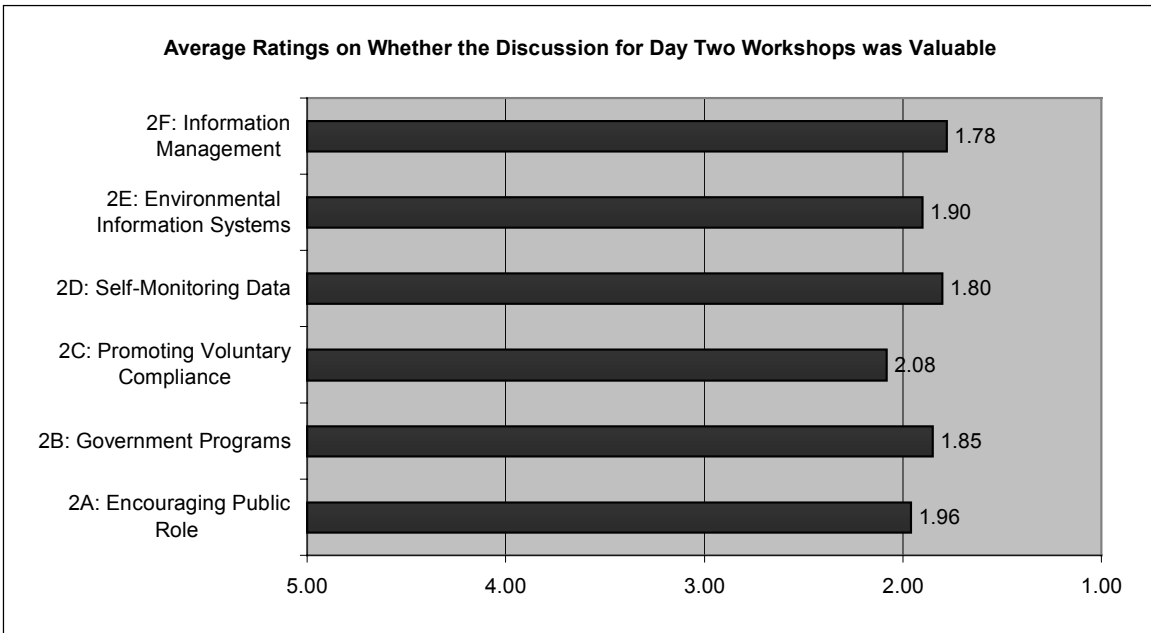
POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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6 DAY TWO —WORKSHOPS – TUESDAY MORNING

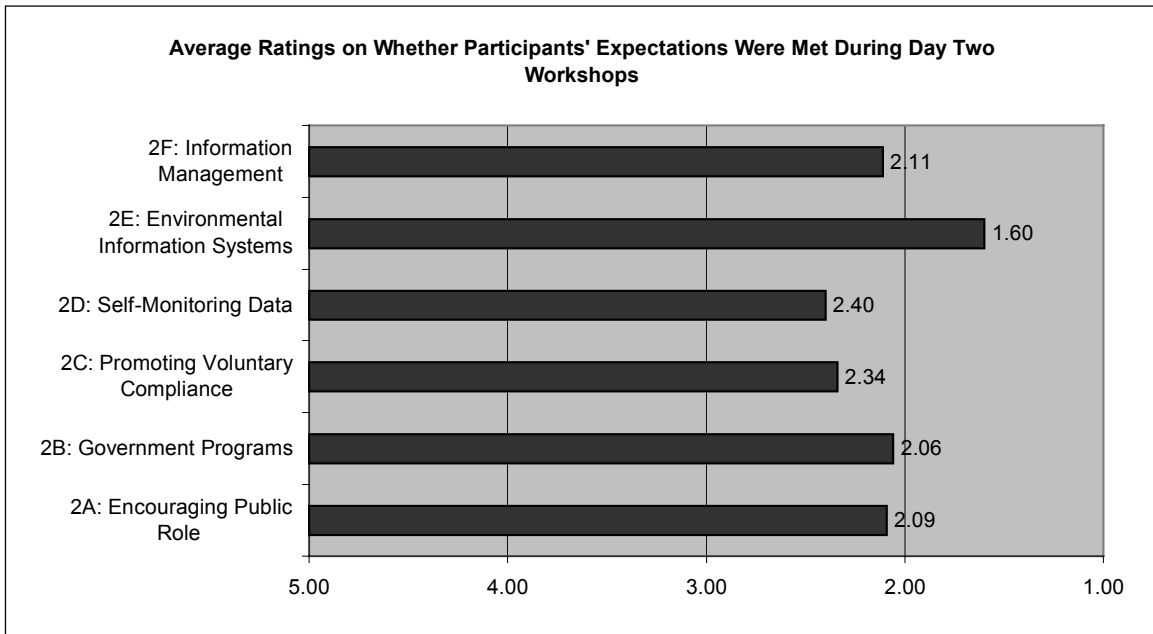


6.1 Under Day Two, six workshops were held:

- 2F: Information Management
- 2E: Environmental Information Systems
- 2D: Self-Monitoring Data: How to Ensure Accuracy and Integrity
- 2C: Promoting Voluntary Compliance: Environmental Auditing and Outreach and Incentives for Private Sector Compliance
- 2B: Government Programs to Encourage and Respond to Public Involvement in Enforcement
- 2A: Encouraging Public Role in Compliance Monitoring



POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

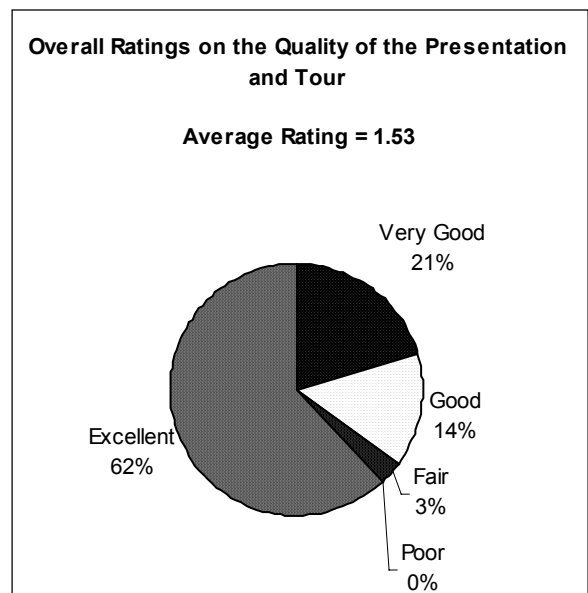
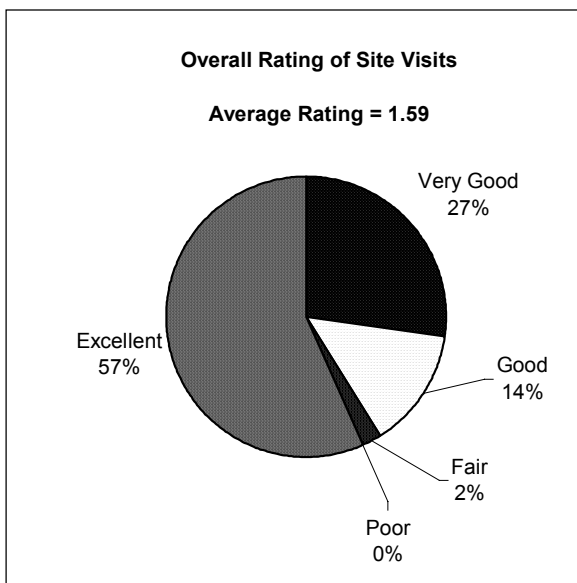


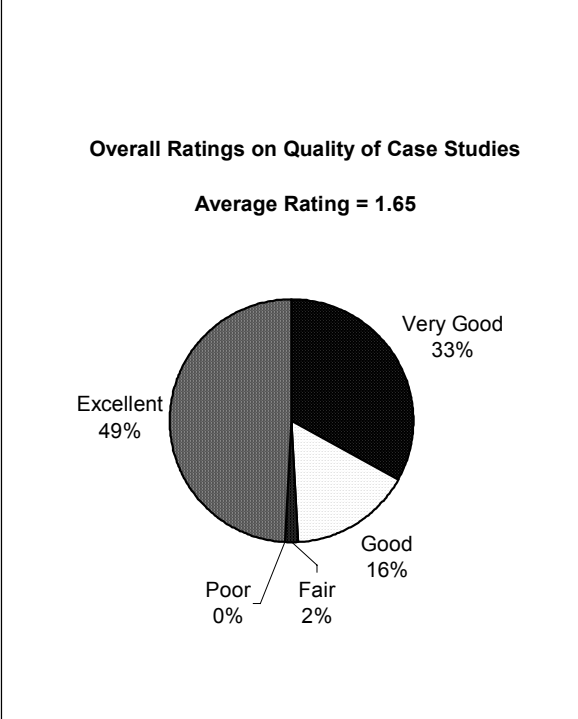
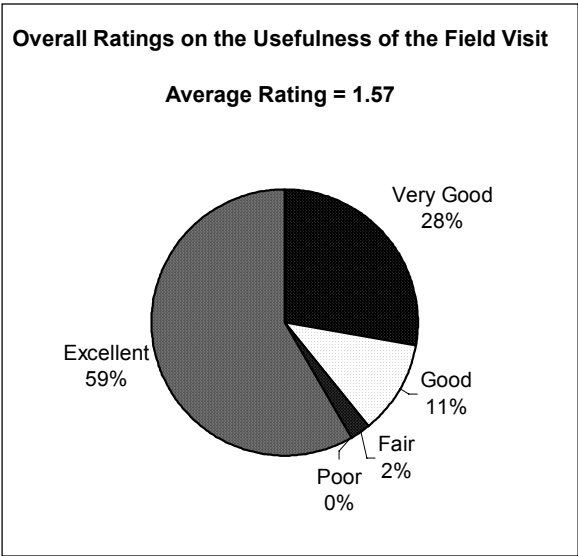
POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

Additionally, the following workshops received especially high ratings for their value and meeting participant's expectations, ranking consistently in every aspect between Excellent and Very Good: Environmental Information Systems; Government Programs to Encourage and Respond to Public Involvement in Enforcement; and Information Management.

7 DAY THREE —SITE VISITS -- WEDNESDAY

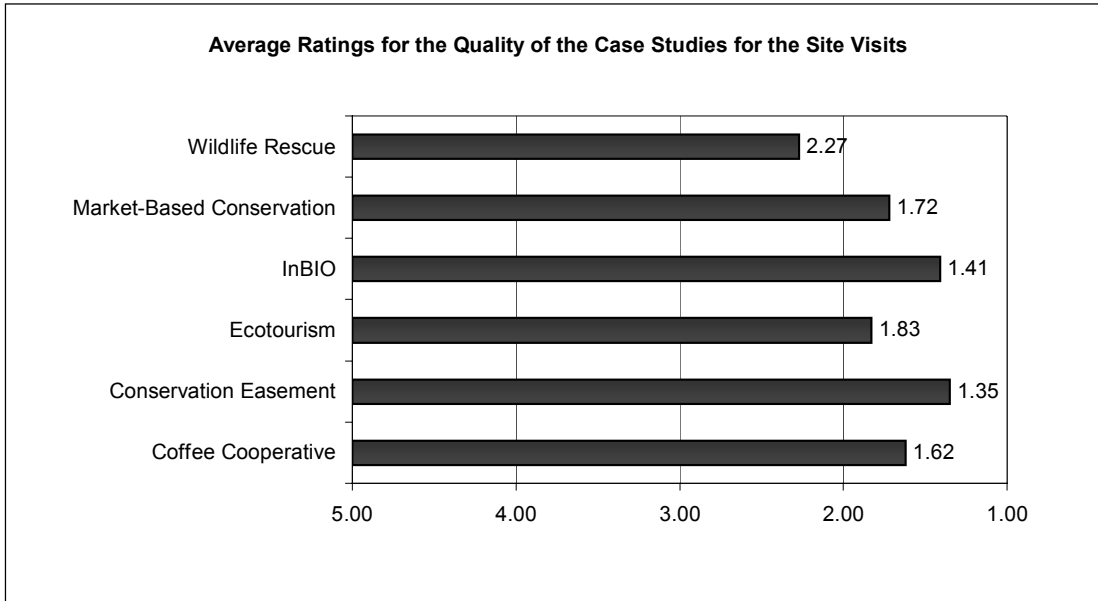
For the first time, INECE offered participants the opportunity to spend a full day in the field learning about different enforcement related projects of the host country. The Site Visits were all well received (average rating=1.59), as were the case studies. The highest ranked Site Visit was the Conservation Easement (1.35), followed by the Coffee Cooperative (1.56), the National Biodiversity Institute (1.51), the Ecotourism site (1.63), and the Market-Based Conservation Project (1.70).



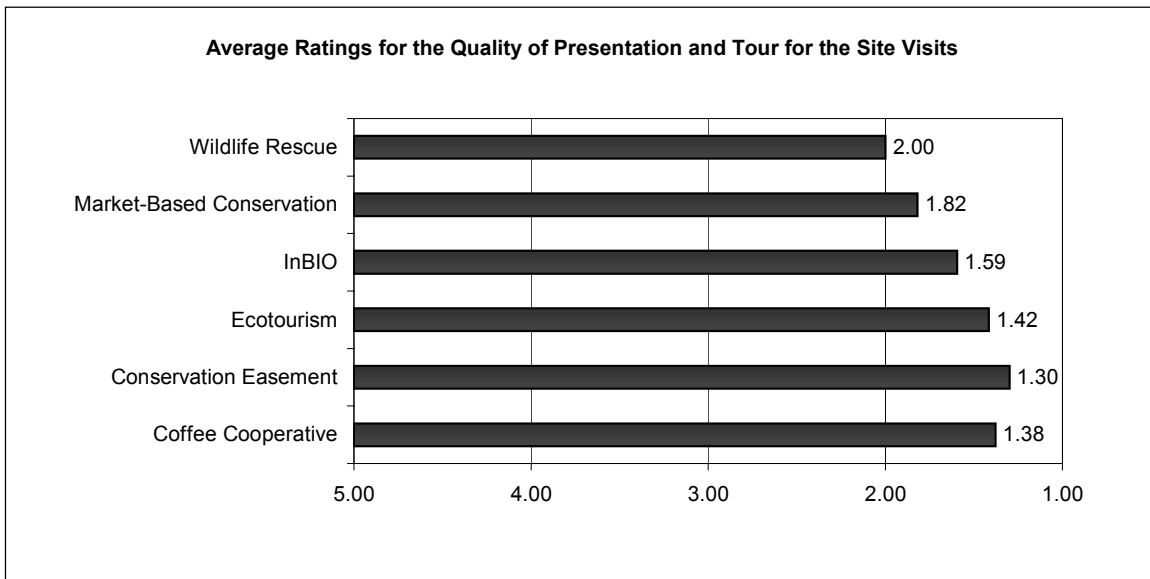


7.1 Under Day Three, participants were given the opportunity to go on one of six field visits:

- Wildlife Rescue Center
- Market-based Conservation
- National Biodiversity Institute
- Ecotourism
- Conservation Easements
- Coffee Cooperative in San Ramon

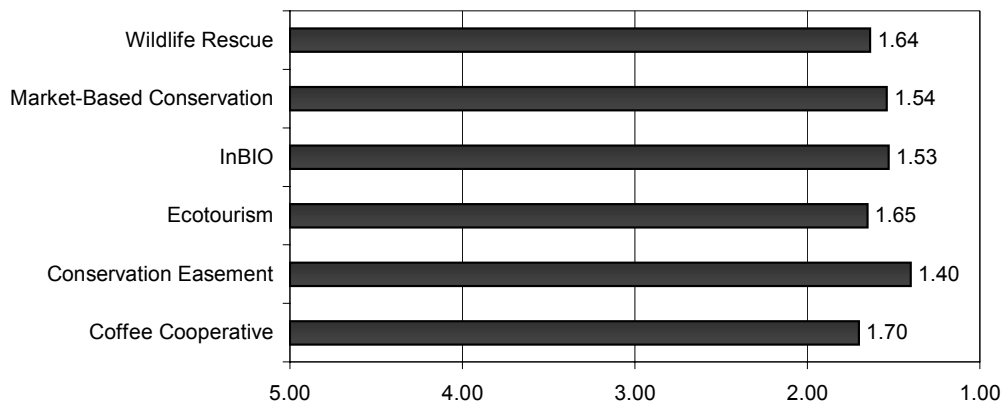


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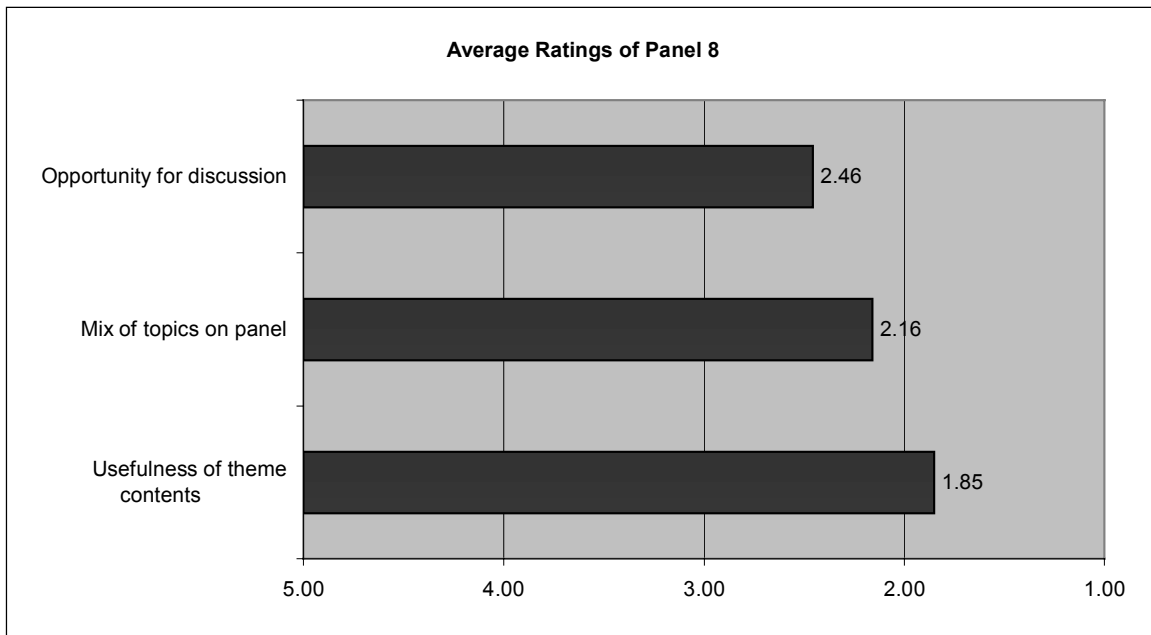
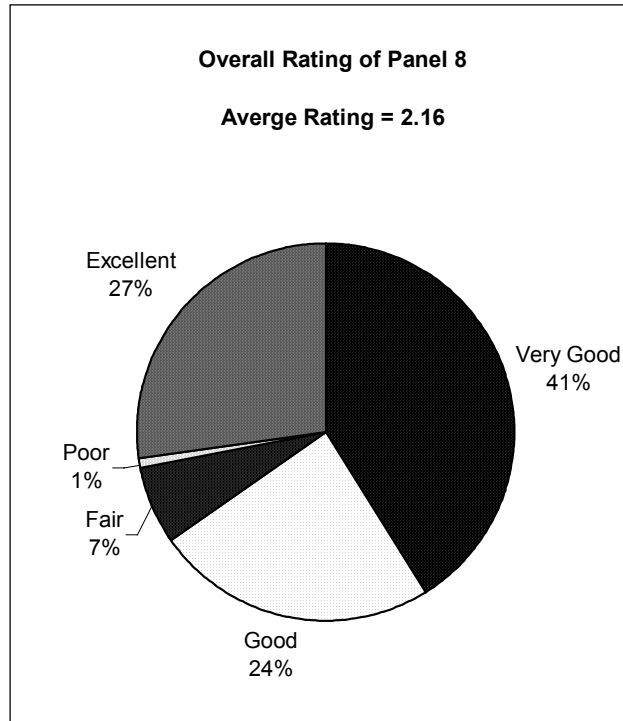
Average Ratings for the Usefulness of the Site Visits



POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

8 DAY FOUR --SPECIFIC CONFERENCE PLENARY THEMES AND TOPICS -- THURSDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON

8.1 Panel 8 - Implementation of International Environmental Agreements

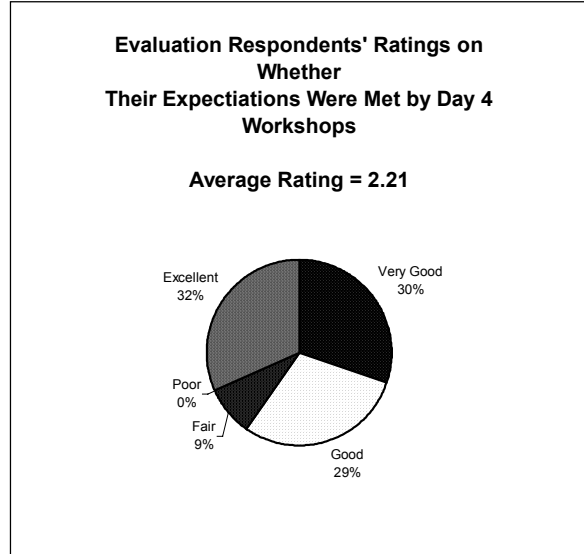
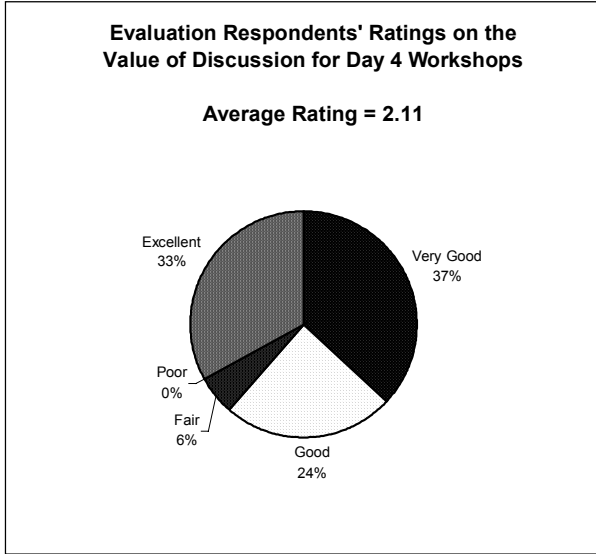


POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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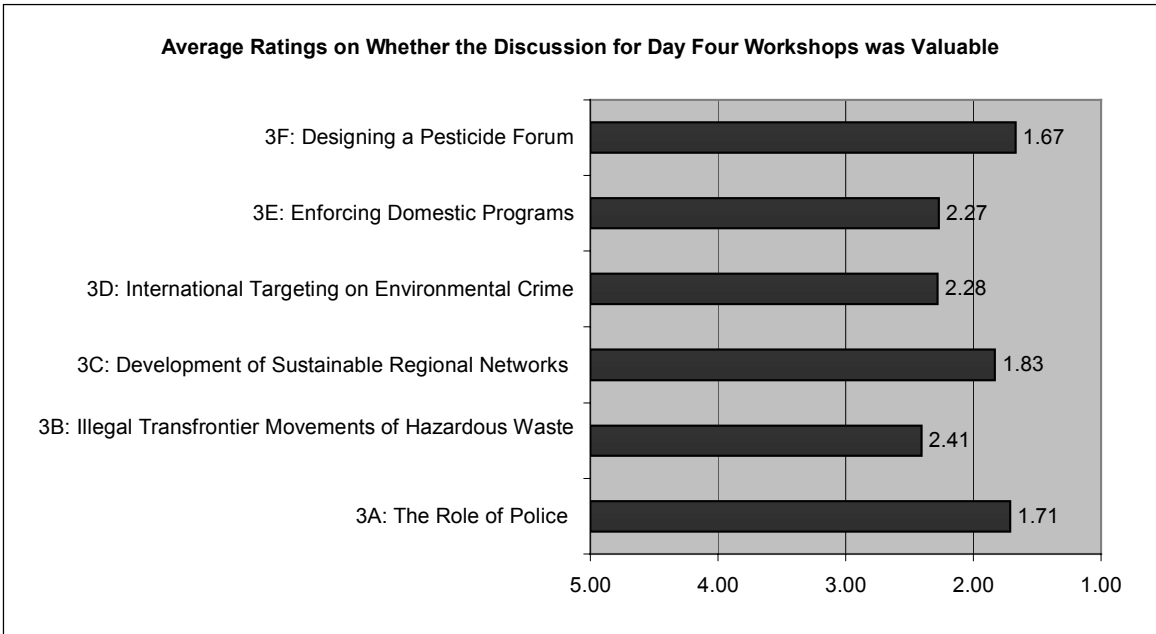
9 DAY FOUR WORKSHOPS – THURSDAY MORNING

During the Thursday mid-day workshops, participants gave high marks to “the value of the discussion” and “whether the participant’s expectations were met.” The following workshops in particular stood out: *The Role of Police as Environmental Enforcers; Development of Sustainable Regional Networks; and Designing a Pesticide Forum*. One Conference participant went on to say that he has “almost never been in such a well-moderated workshop” as the *Role of Police as Enforcers*.

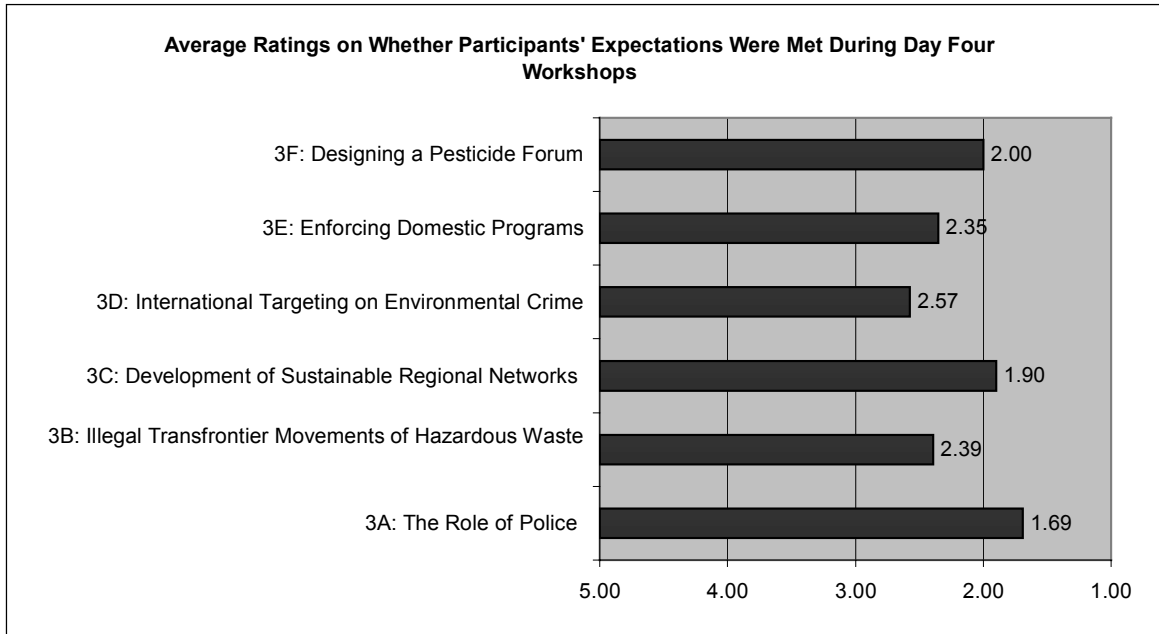
The following Workshops received especially high ratings for their value and meeting participants expectations, ranking consistently in every aspect between Excellent and Very Good: *The Role of Police as Environmental Enforcers; Development of Sustainable Regional Networks; and Designing a Pesticide Forum*.



- 9.1 Under Day Four, six workshops were held:
- 3F: Designing a Pesticide Forum
 - 3E: Enforcing Domestic Programs
 - 3D: International Targeting on Environmental Crime
 - 3C: Development of Sustainable Regional Networks
 - 3B; Illegal Transfrontier Movements of Hazardous Waste
 - 3A: The Role of Police as Environmental Enforcers



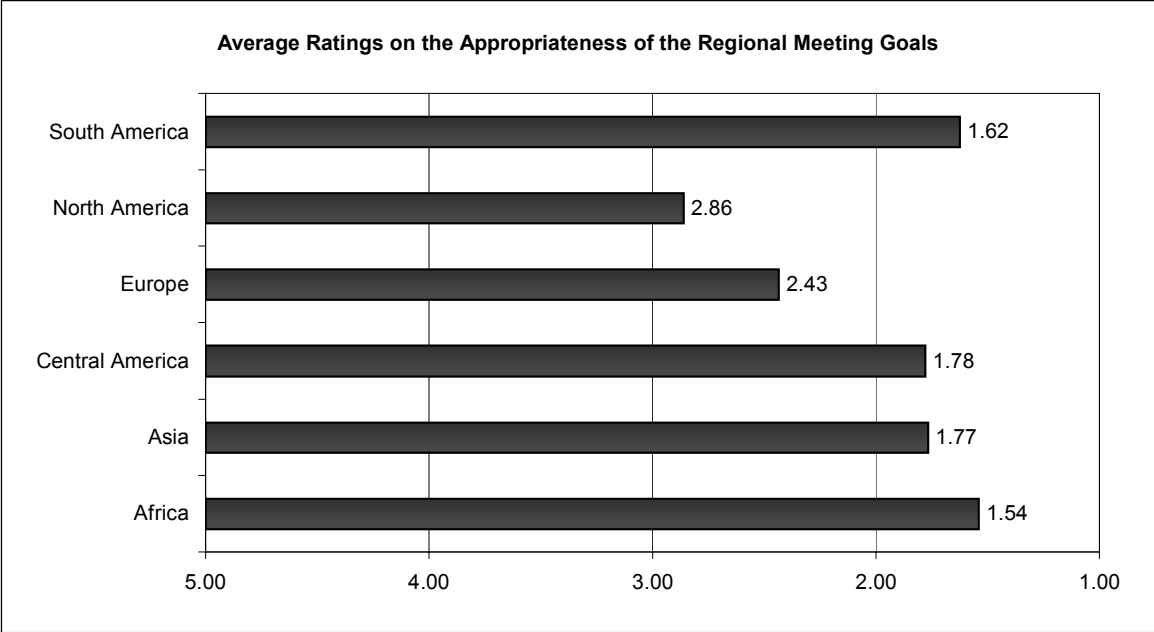
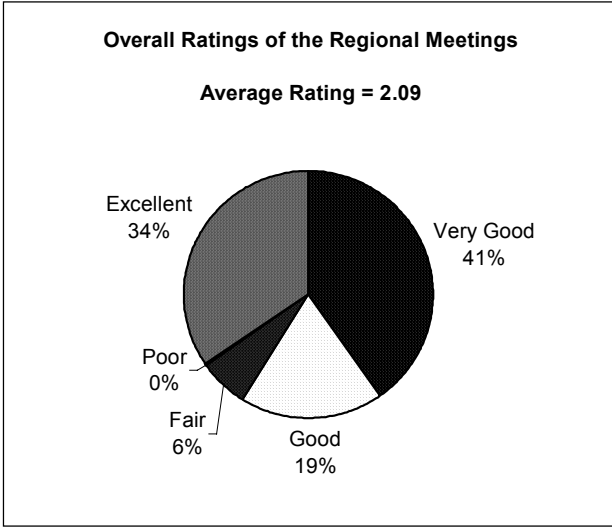
POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)



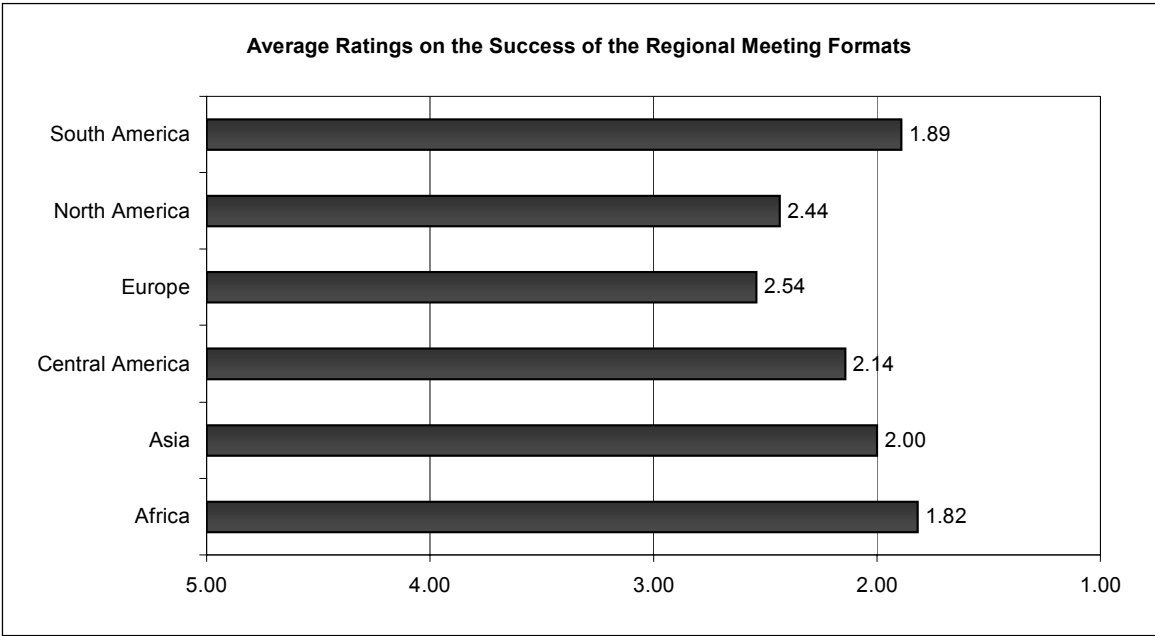
POOR (5) FAIR (4) GOOD (3) VERY GOOD (2) EXCELLENT (1)

10 REGIONAL MEETINGS – THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND FRIDAY MORNING

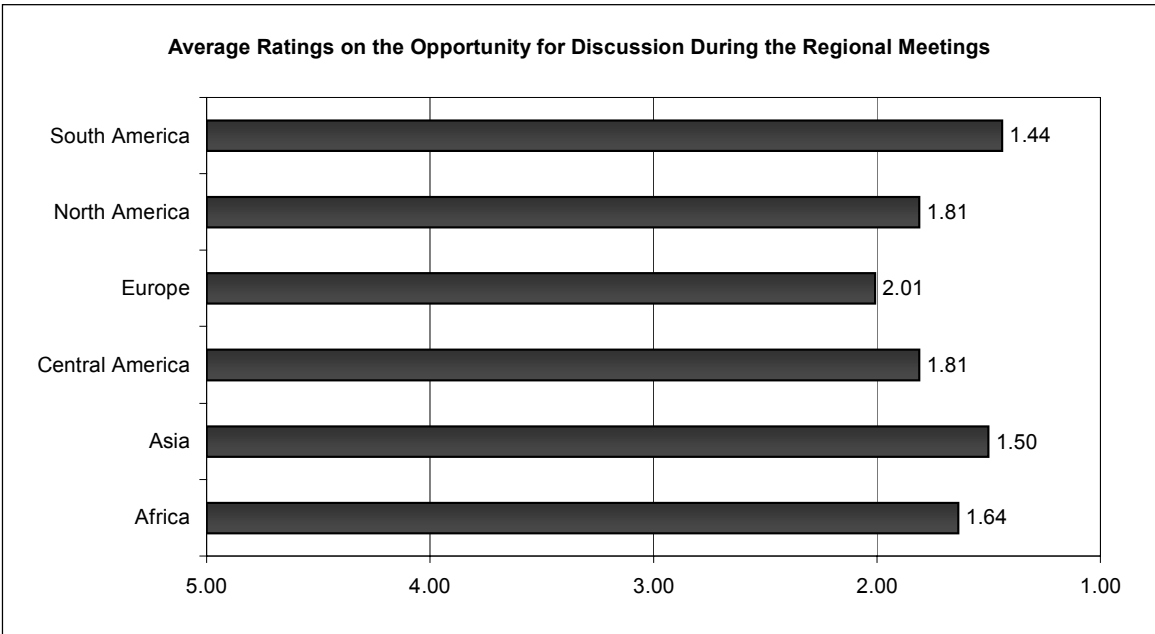
The Regional Networks are an area in which many Conference participants feel INECE can and should be involved: "I think supporting development of regional networks should be an INECE priority." Another participant said, "Very important is the focus on regional networks/activities and on developing country needs."



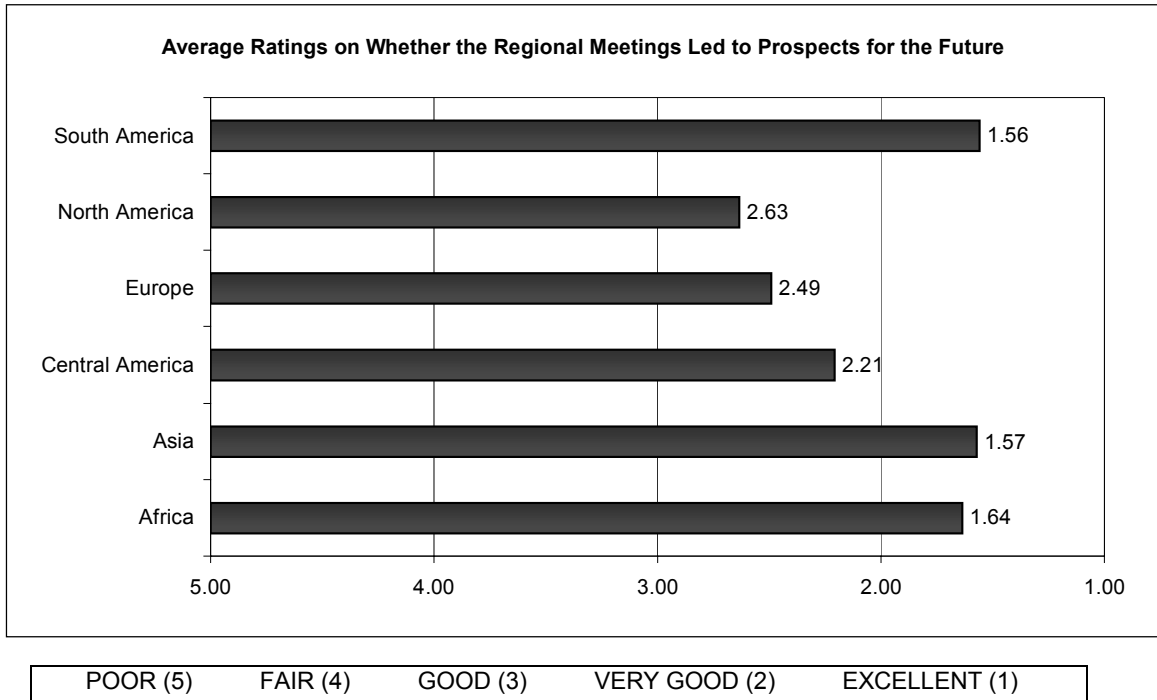
POOR (5)
FAIR (4)
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POOR (5)
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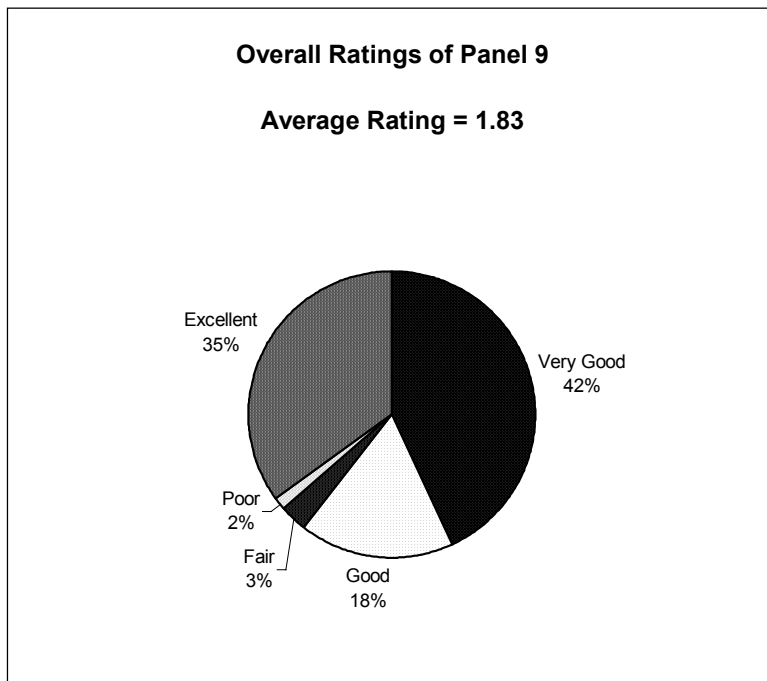


POOR (5)
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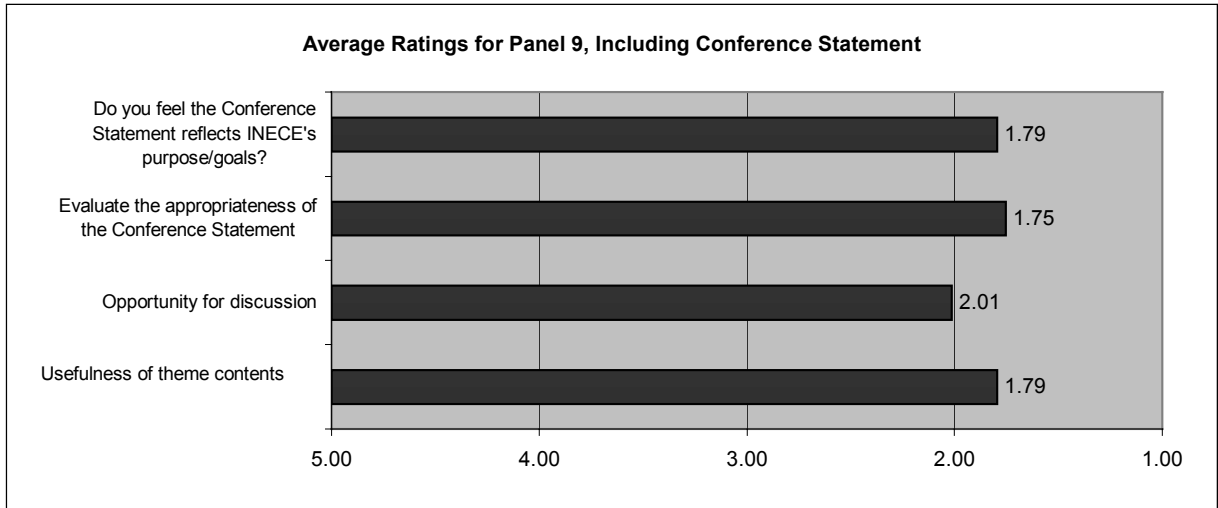


11 DAY FIVE -- PLENARY SESSIONS-- FRIDAY

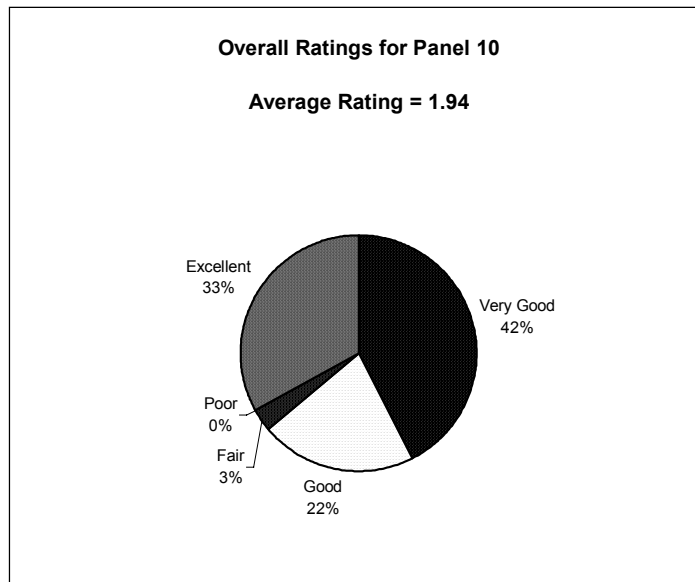
11.1 Reports of Regional Meetings and Workshops, and Presentation of Conference Statement
 The day plenary sessions covering the reports of Regional Meetings and the presentation of the Conference Statement, were commended for: the usefulness of the Meeting & Workshop Reports; the opportunity available for discussion; the appropriateness of the Conference Statement, and the consistency with which the Conference Statement reflected the purpose and goals of INECE.

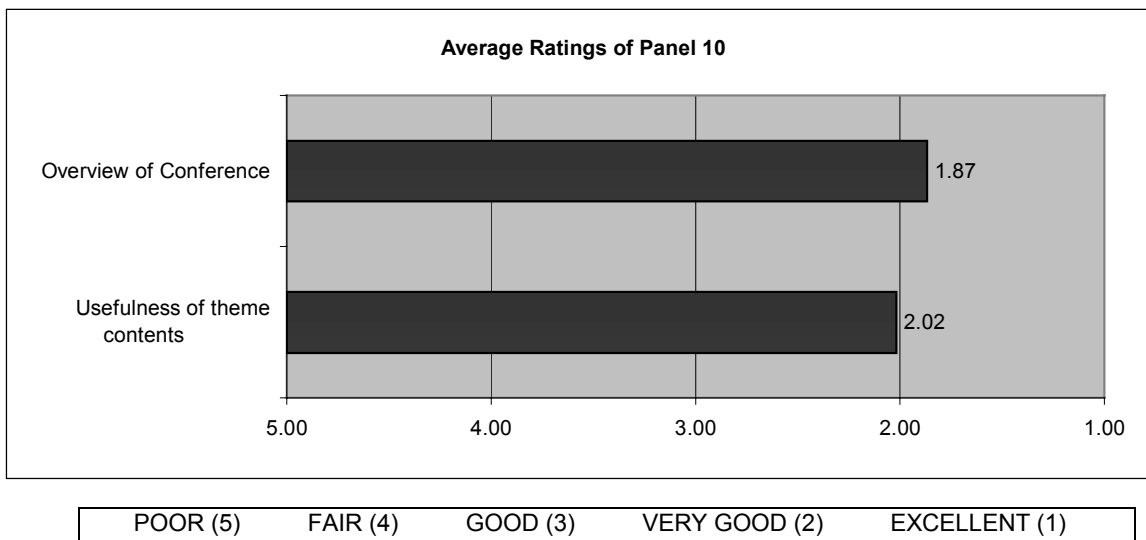


11.2 Closing Plenary Session



POOR (5)	FAIR (4)	GOOD (3)	VERY GOOD (2)	EXCELLENT (1)
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12 EXHIBITS

VROM and the USEPA were given high marks for their exhibits, in terms of the value of topics displayed, whether the exchange of information was useful, the quality of the exhibit material, and the availability of those materials.

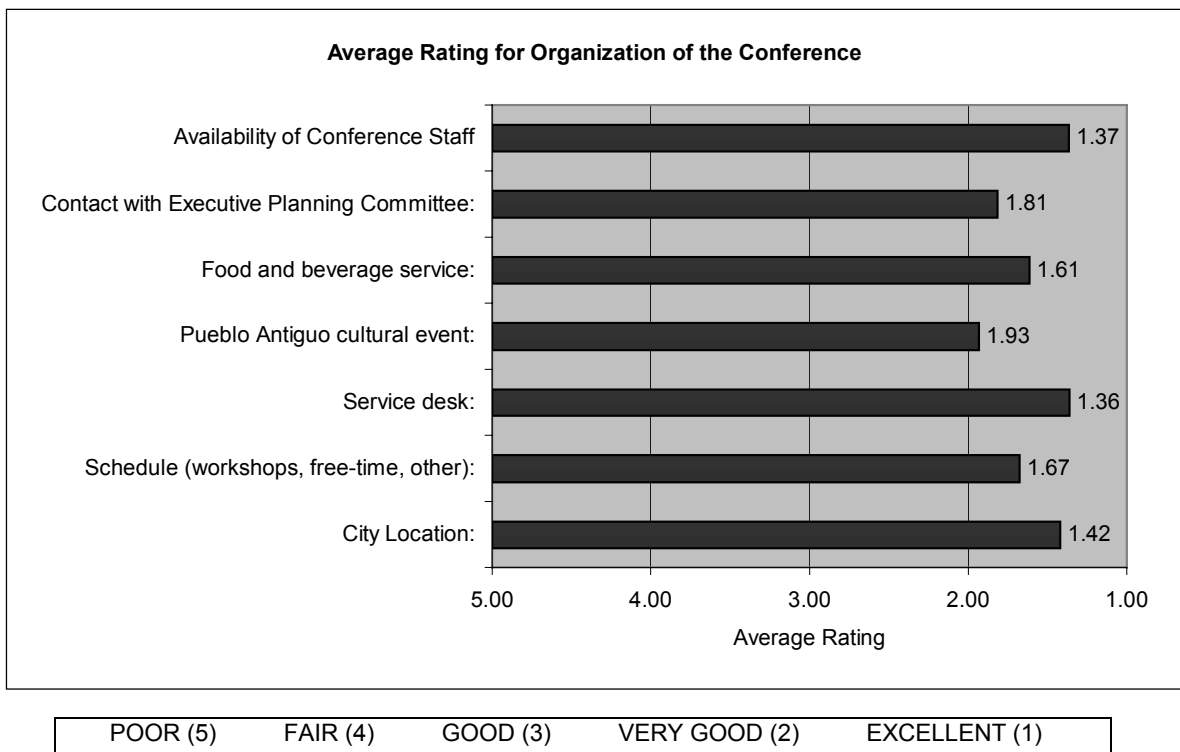
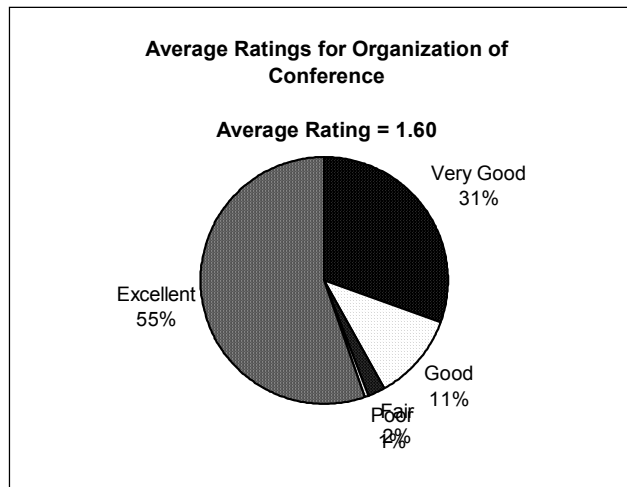
Table 3: Average Ratings in four categories for the exhibits provided by various organizations

	Were the topics of interest to you	Productive exchange of information	Quality of the exhibit material	Availability of materials
UNEP	2.05	2.12	2.06	2.15
CEC	2.17	2.36	1.94	2.15
IFAW	2.27	2.19	2.09	2.12
VROM	1.95	1.92	1.76	1.80
USEPA	1.72	1.82	1.69	1.84
World Resources Institute	2.02	2.16	1.92	2.20
Regional Tables	2.24	2.40	2.27	2.28

13 ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

In terms of Conference logistics and organization, participants gave great marks to the Conference site in San Jose, Costa Rica (1.44), the schedule (1.70), the Conference staff availability and service (1.40), the cultural event (1.96), the food (1.64), and having contact with the EPC (1.83). In particular, participants remarked that the Conference was a “triumph organizationally” and “very well managed.” Others described the Secretariat staff as “super,” “outstanding,” “excellent and kind.” One participant commented, “In general it was warm and welcoming, serious and hardworking without being humorless or cranky.”

The Internet Cafe offered computers with Internet access and helped participants to stay in touch with their home countries. One person commented, “Having a room full of terminals was absolutely critical to my comfort and ease here.”



14 SECRETARIAT RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants showed their optimism and support for INECE through their detailed comments on how to make the next Conference even better. Based on the results from the questionnaires and the narrative comments, the Secretariat makes the following recommendations.

14.1 Greater Representation from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Regional diversity is critically important to the success of a truly international conference. INECE has learned from the participants that there is room to improve the number of countries represented and how INECE can better service "all people" involved in the design of environmental compliance and enforcement programs. Various participants commented on the need to have more participants from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. In general, there was substantial support in the comments section for increasing the focus on developing countries:

"Fill in what the developing countries need. Do not present 'best practice' but 'good practice' or minimum criteria."

"It is important for INECE to understand the REAL limitations of 3rd world countries and share information on instruments and enforcement tools that are affordable and sustainable in smaller, poor countries."

One recommendation for increasing diversity in future events is to provide a separate budget for travel funds and seek donor funding earlier in the planning process and to coordinate VISA issues in advance with the host country. While the visa issues were very challenging for Costa Rica, every participant ultimately succeeded in reaching the Conference. Furthermore, the Secretariat suggests revising the participant nominations selection process to rely more heavily on the Regional Networks.

14.2 Tailor Regional Meetings Toward Level of Network Development.

The format of the European regional meeting received a 2.69 rating, and the appropriateness of the goals and the prospects for future collaboration of the North American regional meeting received a 2.88 and 2.63 rating respectively. These lower ratings for these meetings may have resulted from trying to impose a similar format over all the regional meetings, without adequate consideration to the current level of development of an enforcement network within the regions. The secretariat suggests having each region plan its own meeting for the next Conference.

14.3 Consider Regional and Topical Conferences in the Future.

Many participants commented in favor of greater emphasis on regional and topical conferences in the future. Specifically, regional meetings could focus on items of specific interest, could emphasize alternative or region-specific modes of compliance, and would allow greater participation from others in the region. Similarly, topical conferences could serve to network enforcement practitioners and build capacity among persons allied by a specific enforcement component such as prosecution or a subject matter such as wildlife enforcement.

14.4 Next International Conference in Two Years.

Most participants favored having another International Conference in two years rather than four. One participant recommended holding the regional meetings earlier in the Conference to allow for more regional networking. Of the participants who provided comment on the subject, 67% prefer another Conference in two years, whereas 23% suggested the next Conference be held in four years and 1% suggested three years.

14.5 Limit Number of Participants to Fewer than 200.

Several persons remarked that they felt the size of this year's conference (approximately 170) created a more intimate atmosphere that allowed for meaningful networking and knowledge sharing.

14.6 Include More Time and Clearer Guidelines for Discussion.

Many participants requested more time for discussion. Some participants remarked that establishing clearer guidelines for discussion could lead to stronger conclusions and recommendations in the workshops. Others requested that the Conference offer more in terms of practical experiences, case studies, and "what works vs. what does not" scenarios.

14.7 Greater Involvement of NGOs and Civil Society.

Numerous participants also suggested broader participation by NGOs and civil society groups.

15 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the participants expressed strong support for the organization and outcomes of the 6th International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement. The meetings were useful, well conducted and relevant to real work. Participants expressed optimism that the relationships formed and strengthened in San Jose will lead to significant enforcement and compliance results through enforcement cooperation, such as the Prosecutor's Network, Asian Regional Network and the Indicators working group that were formed. These evaluations demonstrate a strong interest in expanding the INECE network and continuing to reinforce the broad spectrum of participants. Notably, the participants strongly supported the INECE goals and the experience led most participants to request additional conferences with regional and thematic focus. These and other recommendations are being incorporated into the INECE Strategic Planning process.