

EVALUATION OF INECE'S 7th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

1 INTRODUCTION

The 7th INECE Conference was attended by 188 participants from 63 countries and 124 organizations, representing all regions of the world. The Conference presented six plenary sessions with 25 speakers, and 24 workshops with 83 facilitators and rapporteurs. Participants represented national governments (55%), NGOs (9%), regional governments (6%), international organizations (15%), bank and development agencies (5%) and other organizations (10%).

strengthening the rule of law and good governance and, ultimately, achieving sustainable development objectives.

The Conference program achieved its best marks in encouraging ongoing international exchange and regional networking, fostering exchange of expertise and learning through active participation, number of participants, relevance of the conference to current work, and usefulness. Lowest marks (between Good and Very Good) were given to the number and types of countries represented and the site visits.

Geographic Regions Represented			Organization Types Represented		
	Participants			Participants	
	No.	%		No.	%
Africa	10	5.3	National Government	103	54.8
Asia & the Pacific	8	4.3	International Organizations	29	15.4
Central & Eastern Europe	19	10.1	Non-governmental Organization	16	8.5
Central America	2	1.1	State/Province/Regional Gov't	11	5.9
South America	8	4.3	Banks and Development Agencies	9	4.8
International	35	18.6	Municipal/Local Government	0	0.0
Middle East & North Africa	35	18.6	Unspecified	1	0.5
North America	39	20.7	Other	19	10.1
Western Europe	32	17.0			
Total	188	100	Total	188	100

2 SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION OUTCOMES

Of the 188 participants, 103 completed conference evaluations. Participants overwhelmingly provided high marks for the Conference. The average rating for most questions ranged between Excellent and Very Good.

They expressed high satisfaction with the conference. Participants expressed their greatest approval for the conference goal of developing and communicating a strong message on the critical role of environmental compliance and enforcement in

The three conference workshop sessions and six plenary sessions were very well received, with high approval ratings. Overall, the participants were enthusiastic about the substantive sessions, the opportunities for networking, and the Conference as a whole, as indicated by the narrative comments that participants shared on the evaluation, including:

- “An excellent forum for collective learning among compliance and enforcement professionals.”
- “A fine conference providing great substantive value.”

- “I think the success of this conference was based on the excellence of the speakers and facilitators.... Also, the origin of the participants from different regions of the world and the different moments to meet each other were very important.”
- “The conference has given me a clear picture of what needs to be done to achieve effective enforcement in South Africa.”
- “I learned a lot and feel motivated to fight for the defense of the environment. Besides that, I met many people with whom I had the opportunity to exchange experiences.”
- “An excellent conference. I have renewed contacts, made new contacts, and most importantly, feel energised to do more in the future for effective compliance and enforcement.”
- “On Sunday, I participated in the Principles of Environmental Enforcement Training course. This course stimulated me to organize training for inspectors in my country.”
- “I do not remember any other conference I attended where participants got so familiar with each other and had so many opportunities for discussion – in official and unofficial ways.”
- “It has been a pleasure to be part of the 7th INECE Conference, and I'm looking forward to putting some of lessons learnt into practice.”
- “I am very glad that I had the opportunity to meet so many experts from different countries and to share their experience and knowledge.”

3 RESULTS

Each Conference participant received a blank evaluation form and was asked to complete it prior to their departure from the Conference. Most questions on the evaluation could be answered by assigning a number between 1 and 5 as the response, where 1=Excellent, 2=Very Good, 3=Good, 4=Fair, and 5=Poor. This section presents the original evaluation questions and shows the average rating for each evaluation question.

SECTION 1: CONFERENCE GOALS		
1.1	How did you feel about the conference's goal of developing and communicating a strong message on the critical role of environmental compliance and enforcement in strengthening the rule of law and good governance and, ultimately, achieving sustainable development objectives?	1.51
1.2	How successful did you feel the conference was in achieving this goal?	1.81
1.3	How did you feel about the conference's goal of strengthening the capacity of governments, development banks, and other institutions to measure and manage the effectiveness of their compliance assurance and enforcement activities by launching new environmental compliance and enforcement indicator pilot projects that build upon the experiences of current initiatives?	1.97
1.4	How successful did you feel the conference was in achieving this goal?	1.97

1.5	How did you feel about the conference's goal of inspiring new enforcement cooperation projects on issues of pollution, natural resources, and biodiversity, and creating plans that set forth clearly defined goals, project partners, funding strategies, and implementation?	1.83
1.6	How successful did you feel the conference was in achieving this goal?	2.11
1.7	How did you feel about the conference's goal of facilitating professional development within the compliance community and discussing the best compliance and enforcement tools, techniques, and theories from around the world, identifying key research and data collection needs?	1.67
1.8	How successful did you feel the conference was in achieving this goal?	1.96

SECTION 2: ASSESSMENT OF THE CONFERENCE		
2.1 How successful do you feel the conference was in:		
	Shaping and confirming the role that INECE will play in the future?	1.82
	Forming effective partnerships among those working in compliance and enforcement?	1.74
	Increasing institutional capacity to enhance existing and develop new environmental compliance and enforcement programs?	2.13
	Serving all people involved in the design of environmental compliance and enforcement programs?	2.04
	Encouraging ongoing international exchange and regional networking?	1.45
	Fostering exchange of expertise and learning through active participation?	1.61
2.2 Concerning the participants at the conference, how do you feel about:		
	The number of individuals in attendance?	1.68
	The number and types of countries represented?	2.41
	The number and types of organizations represented?	2.13
	The mix of experience?	1.83
2.3 Concerning the structure of the conference, how do you feel about:		
	The optional pre-conference training workshop on <i>Principles of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement</i> ?	1.74
	The balance between Panels and Workshops?	1.79
	The site visits?	2.61
	The length of the conference?	1.99

2.4	Concerning the usefulness of the conference, how do you feel about:	
	The relevance of this conference to your current work or functions?	1.60
	The extent to which you have acquired information that is new or useful to you?	1.74
	The focus of this conference on what you specifically needed or wanted to learn?	1.91
	The overall usefulness of the conference?	1.60

SECTION 3: DAY ONE — SPECIFIC CONFERENCE PLENARY THEMES AND TOPICS — MONDAY MORNING

Opening Plenary Session: Building Blocks of Good Governance

3.1 Panel 1 – Relationship between Good Governance and Environmental Compliance and Enforcement

	Usefulness of material?	1.90
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	1.78
	Opportunity for discussion?	1.90

3.2 Panel 2 – The Compliance and Enforcement Message

	Usefulness of material?	1.87
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	1.84
	Opportunity for discussion?	2.03

End of Day Plenary (after workshops)

3.3 Report out of workshop sessions

	Usefulness of material?	2.16
	Opportunity for discussion?	2.45

SECTION 4: DAY ONE — WORKSHOPS — MONDAY AFTERNOON

Please evaluate the workshop that you attended in Session 1:

		Was the discussion valuable?	Were your expectations met?
1A	Economic Aspects of Compliance and Enforcement	1.86	2.25
1B	Compliance Incentives and Other Assistance	1.67	1.75
1C	Ecomessage/Interpol and the Police	1.58	1.92

1D	Compliance and Enforcement Theories and Design Principles	2.08	2.92
1E/F	Certification, Information Management, and Self-Monitoring	2.00	2.00
1G	Good Governance and the Rule of Law	1.55	1.60
1H	Communications Policy and Practice	1.50	1.75
1I	Citizen Participation in Environmental Enforcement	1.33	1.67

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

5.1 Panel 3 – Enforcement Initiatives: Stories of Success		
	Usefulness of material?	1.75
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	1.65
	Opportunity for discussion?	1.88
5.2 Panel 4 – Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Indicators: Measuring Performance, Managing Resources		
	Usefulness of material?	1.89
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	2.03
	Opportunity for discussion?	1.99
End of Day Plenary (after workshops)		
5.3 Roundtable discussion from Indicator Workshops		
	Usefulness of material?	2.07
	Opportunity for discussion?	2.28
5.4 Report out of workshop sessions 2E – 2I		
	Usefulness of material?	2.12
	Opportunity for discussion?	2.37

SECTION 6: DAY TWO — WORKSHOPS — TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Please evaluate the workshop that you attended in Session 2:		
	Was the discussion valuable?	Were your expectations met?
2A	ECE Indicators: Getting Started	
	Session A-1	2.00 2.40

	Session A-2	1.82	1.95
	Session A-3/4	1.69	1.64
2B	Criminal Law and Environment: Prosecutors, Inspectors, Police, and NGOs	1.62	1.85
2C	Role of the Courts, Non-governmental Organizations, and the Press: Climate Litigation Case Study	1.40	1.50
2D	Guidance and Manual on Compliance with and Enforcement of MEAs	1.70	1.80
2E	Wildlife Enforcement Network	2.00	2.13
2F	Negotiated Compliance Agreements	1.88	1.86

SECTION 7: DAY THREE — FIELD VISITS — WEDNESDAY

	Quality of case study?	Quality of presentation and tour?	Usefulness of field visit?
Village Des Potiers	2.76	3.14	2.94
Ciments du Maroc (CIMAR)	2.77	2.89	3.15
Sidi Kaoki (Wind Power)	3.31	3.64	3.50

SECTION 8: DAY FOUR — SPECIFIC CONFERENCE PLENARY THEMES AND TOPICS — THURSDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON
8.1 Panel 5 – Strengthening the Implementation of MEAs

	Usefulness of material?	1.95
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	1.87
	Opportunity for discussion?	2.05

SECTION 9: DAY FOUR WORKSHOPS — THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Please evaluate the workshop that you attended in Session 3:

	Was the discussion valuable?	Were your expectations met?
3A Water Resource Management: Governance to Eliminate Poverty	2.10	2.30
3B Vessel Pollution	1.17	1.00
3C Hazardous Waste at Ports	1.63	1.75
3D Analyzing the Compliance and Enforcement Mechanisms of the Montreal Protocol	1.71	1.50
3E Enforcement of Emissions Trading Programs	1.86	2.00
3F Illegal Logging: Regional Strategies for Enforcement Cooperation	1.00	1.33
3G Penalties and Other Remedies	1.25	1.25
3H Multilateral Environmental Agreements: Synergies for Compliance	1.65	1.88

SECTION 10: DAY FIVE — PLENARY SESSIONS — FRIDAY		
10.1 Panel 7 – Compliance and Enforcement in the Context of Multilateral Development Banks		
	Usefulness of material?	1.90
	Mix of topics covered on panel?	1.85
	Opportunity for discussion?	1.83
10.2 Video		
	Usefulness of video contents?	2.16
	Do you feel it provided a good overview of the conference?	2.23
10.3 Presentation of Conference Statement		
	Appropriateness of the statement?	1.71
	Do you feel this reflects the purpose and goals of INECE?	1.63
10.4 Closing Ceremony Session		
	How do you feel about the closing session?	1.74

SECTION 11: EXHIBITS				
	Were the topics of interest to you?	Productive exchange of information?	Quality of the exhibit material?	Availability of materials?
UNEP	2.16	2.16	2.04	2.19
VROM	1.84	1.93	1.61	1.68
USEPA	1.92	2.04	1.81	2.08

CEC	2.23	2.21	2.03	2.00
Environment Agency	2.00	2.08	1.95	1.95
OECD	1.91	2.03	1.81	1.96
World Bank Institute	2.42	2.28	2.13	2.21
IFAW	2.45	2.33	2.09	2.15
IMAZON	2.53	2.41	2.24	2.24
Others	2.00	2.00	1.94	1.96

SECTION 12: ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE		
	City Location	1.44
	Schedule (workshops, free time, other)	1.72
	Speakers	1.58
	Service desk	1.69
	Chez Ali cultural event	2.16
	Comptoir Restaurant outing	1.52
	Contact with Executive Planning Committee	1.82
	Availability of Conference Staff	1.40

4 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the participants expressed strong support for the organization and outcomes of the 7th International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement. Participants strongly supported the Conference goals and praised the Conference for providing many opportunities for networking between participants facing similar challenges in improving enforcement in their respective countries. Participants also complimented the organizers for bringing together an impressive group of speakers, all of whom are leading practitioners in the fields of environmental compliance and enforcement. The Executive Planning Committee will carefully study the numerical results and narrative comments from the evaluations. The lessons learned will be used to improve and shape future conferences and recommendations made by participants for INECE projects will be reviewed and incorporated into INECE's expanded Strategic Plan.