

FOREWORD

The continuing deterioration of the global environment has led to a demand for more global rules, stronger rule of law at the national level, and better compliance at all levels. Yet there are concerns about centralizing power and about losing local accountability of those who govern. One response to this dilemma is the rise of transnational networks such as the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE). With more than 4,000 participants from over 120 countries, INECE is dedicated to building cooperation, strengthening capacity, and raising awareness to respond to shared challenges in environmental compliance.

To further its mission, INECE has identified a selection of the best literature on environmental compliance and enforcement, including several articles from the proceedings of INECE's seven international conferences. We are pleased to present this collection, entitled *MAKING*

LAW WORK: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. The book is an early step in bringing together the research and the practitioner communities represented by INECE. These communities have much to learn from each other, and efforts such as *MAKING LAW WORK* will help with this process.

INECE is an informal global network dedicated to strengthening both cross-border and internal domestic cooperation among professionals who work on environmental compliance and enforcement – investigators, prosecutors, regulators, parliamentarians, judges, and NGOs. In partnership with national governments and regional and international organizations, INECE is working to build the stronger and more global rule of law that the world needs – through a decentralized network of accountable enforcement officials and with the participation of interested representatives from civil society.

One of INECE's central projects is the development of indicators to measure environmental compliance and enforcement. The INECE "ECE Indicator" project is designed to provide reliable, harmonized, and easily understandable information to help public agencies manage performance – by monitoring their activities and measuring the results – to determine which strategies are most effective and most efficient. INECE currently is assisting several pilot countries to develop an initial set of ECE

indicators. INECE also is working with the United Nations Environment Programme to develop ECE indicators for key sets of environmental treaties. Ultimately, the INECE ECE indicators will provide decision-makers with important empirical data about the impact of their compliance assistance tools and enforcement mechanisms.

INECE also offers a course on *The Principles of Environmental Enforcement* and maintains extensive Web resources for practitioners to share ideas and learn from topic-specific forums, news, digital libraries, interactive discussions, and fully searchable databases. Through its International Conferences, INECE presents practitioners from around the world with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and to build the long-term relationships needed to tackle the challenges of environmental compliance and enforcement.

I encourage the reader to participate in the INECE network and to learn more about our mission and activities by visiting our Web site at www.inece.org. We hope that the information presented in this book will help educate a new audience about the importance of compliance and enforcement and inspire further innovation among those who are already knowledgeable to improve compliance with environmental and sustainable development laws.

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