

About INECE

The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE) is the only global network of independent experts dedicated to pursuing the rule of law, good governance, and sustainable development at all levels, local to global.

Practitioners from more than 150 countries participate in INECE activities.

The goals of INECE are to:

- Develop networks for enforcement and compliance cooperation;
- Strengthen capacity throughout the regulatory cycle to implement and secure compliance with environmental requirements; and
- Raise awareness of the importance of environmental compliance and enforcement.

Individuals, governments and organizations are encouraged to become involved in SESN. If interested, please contact:

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SEAPORT ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY NETWORK (SESN)

The Seaport Environmental Security Network works to strengthen the enforcement capacity of both developed and developing countries to detect and deter illegal hazardous waste shipments through ports.

www.inece.org/seaport

Fighting the Illegal International Trade in Hazardous Waste



The globalization of trade has raised concerns about the illegal and improper transboundary shipment of environmentally sensitive commodities, especially hazardous waste, through seaports. Port inspections are the first line of defense in preventing the improper disposal of hazardous wastes. Thus, improving enforcement at seaports is critical to protecting human health and the environment. There is a need to effectively perform inspections, track waste shipments, share information between government agencies, and collaborate internationally.

INECE Seaport Environmental Security Network (SESN)

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By creating a network specific to environmental security issues at seaports, the SESN can help respond to specific needs and issues of the network as well as support and inform existing governmental and institutional efforts.

SESN Goals

- Support increased international cooperation between enforcement authorities who have responsibilities in seaports.
- Provide opportunities for participants to learn new skills, share experience and strengthen their capacity to enforce domestic and international hazardous waste law.
- Increase awareness among the enforcement community and the public of the extent, nature and impacts of the illegal trade in hazardous wastes.

ACTIVITIES

In addition to offering a wide variety of online tools and resources aimed at improving enforcement capacity, the SESN convenes workshops for network members to strengthen their capacity to perform hazardous waste inspections at seaports and organizes exercises to promote informal cooperation amongst network members.



For example, in June and July 2010, the SESN organized an International Hazardous Waste Inspections Exercise at Seaports, a simultaneous environmental inspection initiative involving authorities from more than one dozen countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe.

Results indicated that, of the 72 total targeted inspections conducted during the inspection exercise, 54% were infringements. The illegal waste streams most often encountered during the event were: e-waste wrongly declared as second hand goods, waste batteries wrongly described as plastic or mixed metal scrap, and cathode ray tubes from television and computer monitors wrongly classified as metal scrap. In 19 of the reported cases of infraction, the illegal shipments of waste were returned to the country of origin. In 9 further cases, the detected waste was treated in the country of detection.

Who Should Participate

SESN participants are authorities involved in the monitoring and control of transboundary movements of waste shipped through seaports and include: officials from national and international, environmental and regulatory agencies, customs, police, port and maritime authorities.

How SESN Can Help

- Develop and share tools and training
- Devise targeted inspection protocols
- Facilitate cooperation on practical enforcement activities