

Key accomplishments and challenges

North American Working Group on Environmental
Enforcement and Compliance Cooperation

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Introduction

Since 1996, the North American Working Group on Environmental Enforcement and Compliance Cooperation (EWG) has supported cooperative action to address enforcement and compliance challenges in our shared region.

- Despite different capacities, we work together and share responsibility to enforce environmental laws to protect our shared environment and resources
- The EWG is a successful model for trilateral cooperation in law enforcement

EWG success based upon:

- 1) Targeted capacity building**
- 2) Exchange of information and best practices**
- 3) Enhanced compliance and enforcement at borders**
- 4) Intelligence-led enforcement**
- 5) Partnerships with key enforcement stakeholders**

Project results:

- Delivery of wildlife enforcement and inspection training to Mexican institutions
- Development of training resources on ozone depleting substances (ODS) and Hazardous Waste for environmental and customs inspectors
- Strengthening judicial capabilities through exchange of best practices
- A trilateral approach to non-compliant imports entering North America
- Engaging other law enforcement agencies and a global recognition of the EWG model for cooperation

Benefit to the North American environment

Our countries are developing a common approach to the protection of our shared environment and natural resources

There is more work to be done:

The dynamics of globalization and the current economic situation will continue to pose a challenge for our agencies.

Further collaboration is needed to:

- Fully engage customs and other enforcement agencies in environmental protection;
- Identify areas where harmonized norms and standards are possible (e.g., small engines) at a North American level.



Three countries. One environment.