



ENVIRONMENTAL
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Making Law Work for People, Places, and the Planet



ELI Vision 2021

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) envisions a future—both domestically and abroad—in which we build upon our constructive platform for bridging differences across economic interest and policy divides and finding meaningful solutions that allow environmental law to evolve and be leveraged. Fundamental to our success is a rock-solid commitment to the highest standards of fiscal stewardship and membership service. ELI Vision 2021, described in full at www.eli.org/strategic-vision, refreshes:

Our Goal – A healthy environment, prosperous economies, and vibrant communities founded on rule of law.

Our Niche – ELI is a non-partisan think-and-do tank, effecting change through its work as a premier environmental law educator, convener, publisher, and research engine.

Our Priorities

- Build skills and capacity of the leaders and institutions of today and tomorrow;
- Research and analyze complex and pressing environmental challenges;
- Disseminate best thinking through print and electronic media; and
- Convene people with diverse perspectives to build understanding through robust debate.

Our Focus – Position ELI for the issues of tomorrow.

ELI of Today: A Unique Enterprise

Combining the strengths of a membership organization with the mission of a philanthropy, ELI enjoys the stability and practical insights of the former and the passion and cooperative relationships of the latter. And these roles are synergistic: bringing to the membership cutting-edge information on domestic legal issues positions ELI to enhance its peer-to-peer assistance across the globe; and this philanthropic outreach in turn enriches ELI's thought leadership for its members.

ELI is a one-of-a kind environmental law think-and-do tank. ELI offers a non-partisan, objective forum; convening capacity and in-house technical strength; and first-rate research, educational programs and publications. ELI's recent assumption of the role of Secretariat of the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, together with ELI's long-standing and groundbreaking work with all elements of the governance chain, (from communities, to implementing agencies, to prosecutors and judges), cements ELI's reputation as the world's premier institute for building effective environmental governance and rule of law.

ELI of Tomorrow: A Key Contributor

We face a future that is full of both challenges and opportunities. We see a world contending with new challenges on a grand scale, while much of the implementation work of the past remains unfinished; a world linked by common needs but often sorely divided in the response to those needs. Strengthening the effectiveness of law and law-based systems will be key to conquering the world's environmental problems, and this has been ELI's core area of strength and contribution for nearly 50 years. The imperative for this work will be even stronger in the years ahead. We need to focus our work for maximum effect, join with others in partnership to extend our reach, and modernize our programs and products for maximum uptake.



ELI Vision 2021 outlines the following four thematic areas of focus:

- ➔ Building Effective Environmental Protection Systems: From Law Development to Implementation
- ➔ Protecting the Global Commons and Global Resources: Climate, Oceans, and Other Shared Resources
- ➔ Leading and Facilitating Sustainability as a Foundation for a Healthy Environment, Prosperous Economies, and Vibrant Communities
- ➔ Preventing Pollution of Air, Water, and Land Resources

Under these areas of focus, a number of **key priorities** emerge:

- ★ **Governance and Rule of Law** – An intensified commitment to supporting development and improvement of effective governance and rule of law globally as key to meeting all environmental challenges;
- ★ **Climate** – An invigorated emphasis on the governance dimensions of climate change, with particular focus on the environmental/energy law interface; the integration of climate adaptation, resilience, and water resource sensitivity considerations into environmental decisionmaking; law development and enforcement in emerging economies; and climate literacy training throughout the governance chain;
- ★ **Oceans** – An enlarged emphasis on oceans and on building effective, transferable ocean protection laws and governance approaches, addressing such areas as marine resource planning, management of ocean fisheries, permitting and regulation of energy development, and marine natural resource damages;
- ★ **Technology** – A new emphasis on technology as an enabler and driver of environmental compliance and performance;
- ★ **Private Environmental Governance and Regulatory Certainty** – An increased emphasis on private-sector partnership, focusing on facilitating effective private environmental governance practices and on a shared long-term interest in building rule of law in foreign settings; and
- ★ **Sustainability** – An increased emphasis on law and governance as a means of advancing sustainability objectives and addressing natural resource conflict.



Join With Us

Never has the world been more in need of the promise of environmental law and effective governance. Working with you, whether as a member, partner, supporter, or collaborator, we look forward to being part of delivering that promise.

For the full text of ELI Vision 2021, go to: www.eli.org/strategic-vision.



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