Unit 24 International Environmental Law

Steps to global environmental protection
What is international law?

• What is law?
  – Consent of governed
  – Enforcement of compliance

• Does international law fit this definition?
Types of International Law

• By parties governed
  – Public: nation to nation
  – Private: individuals, companies, etc.

• By method of creation
  – Conventional laws
  – Customary laws
New Actors

- Intergovernmental organizations
- Non-governmental organizations
- Multinational corporations
- Ethnic and religious groups
- Sub-units of national governments
- Local non-governmental organizations
- Illicit actors
- Ad hoc transnational organizations
Development of law by the private sector

- International Standards Organization
  - ISO 14000
  - http://iisd1.iisd.ca/trade/iso.htm
  - http://www.iso.ch/welcome.html
Development of law by the private sector

• Rain Forest Alliance
  – http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/
  – Alternative to ISO 14000
• Non-binding and voluntary guidelines
• Environmental equity/justice
• Technological advances
  – Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicator
    • http://sedac.ciesin.org/entri/
Conclusion

• Over 900 instruments that address the environment

• Water
  – http://terra.geo.orst.edu/users/tfdd/