

Preface

This research is part of a broader program on environmental governance in decentralized government systems, based in the Department of Economics at the University of Torino, which has been funded by the Compagnia di San Paolo of Torino. The editors would like to express their gratitude to the Compagnia for its sensitivity to the issues we proposed to address in the research program and for its generous financial help.

This volume is the end product of the first of a two-stage process. A few chapters were discussed at a Seminar held in Cogne in May 2003. The results of that Seminar served to define in a more precise way what we could expect from country studies. A first version of all the studies was then presented and discussed at a Symposium held in Alghero in March 2004.

We would also like to thank Silvio Funtowicz (Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen – IPSC, EC-JRC), Jeffrey Huntington (European Environmental Agency), Francesco La Camera (former Director for Sustainable Development at the Italian Ministry for the Environment), Alan Nymark (at the time Deputy Minister of Environment Canada) and Anthony Scott (University of British Columbia, Vancouver), who acted as discussants during the seminars and helped give direction to the debate, and Lopamudra Patnaik Saxena for careful copy-editing. We also thank the Department of Economics ‘Cognetti de Martiis’ of the University of Torino for a contribution to the publication cost of this volume.