Enabling solutions: Advancing environmental law through the UNEP Montevideo Programme

Technical Workshop on Leveraging Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) for effective implementation of Sustainable Development Goals

5 March 2025

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Legal Officer, Montevideo Coordination and Delivery Unit
Law Division
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Fifth Montevideo Environmental Law Programme

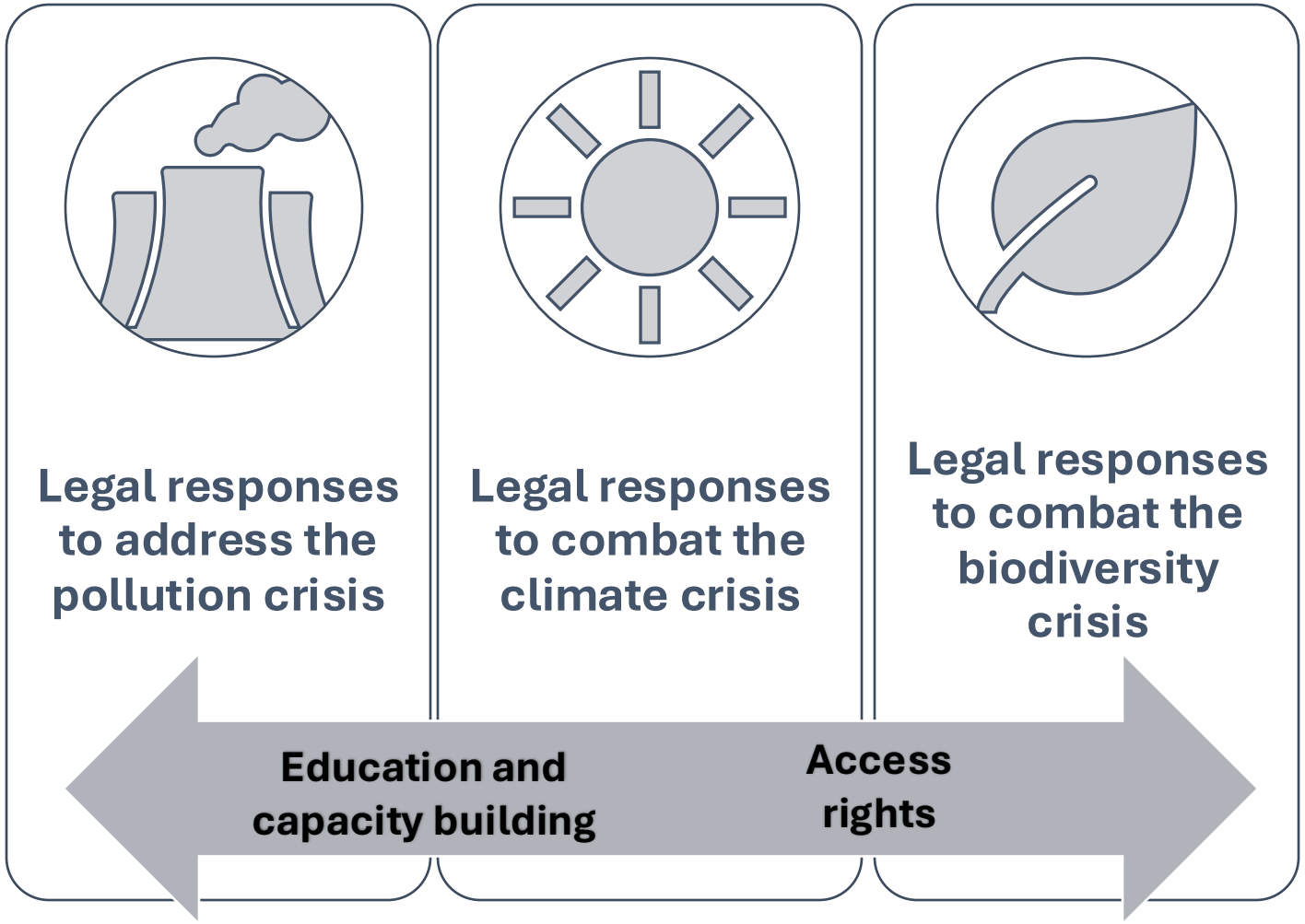
UN environment programme

VISION

Promote the development and implementation of **environmental rule of law**, strengthen the related capacity in countries and contribute to the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

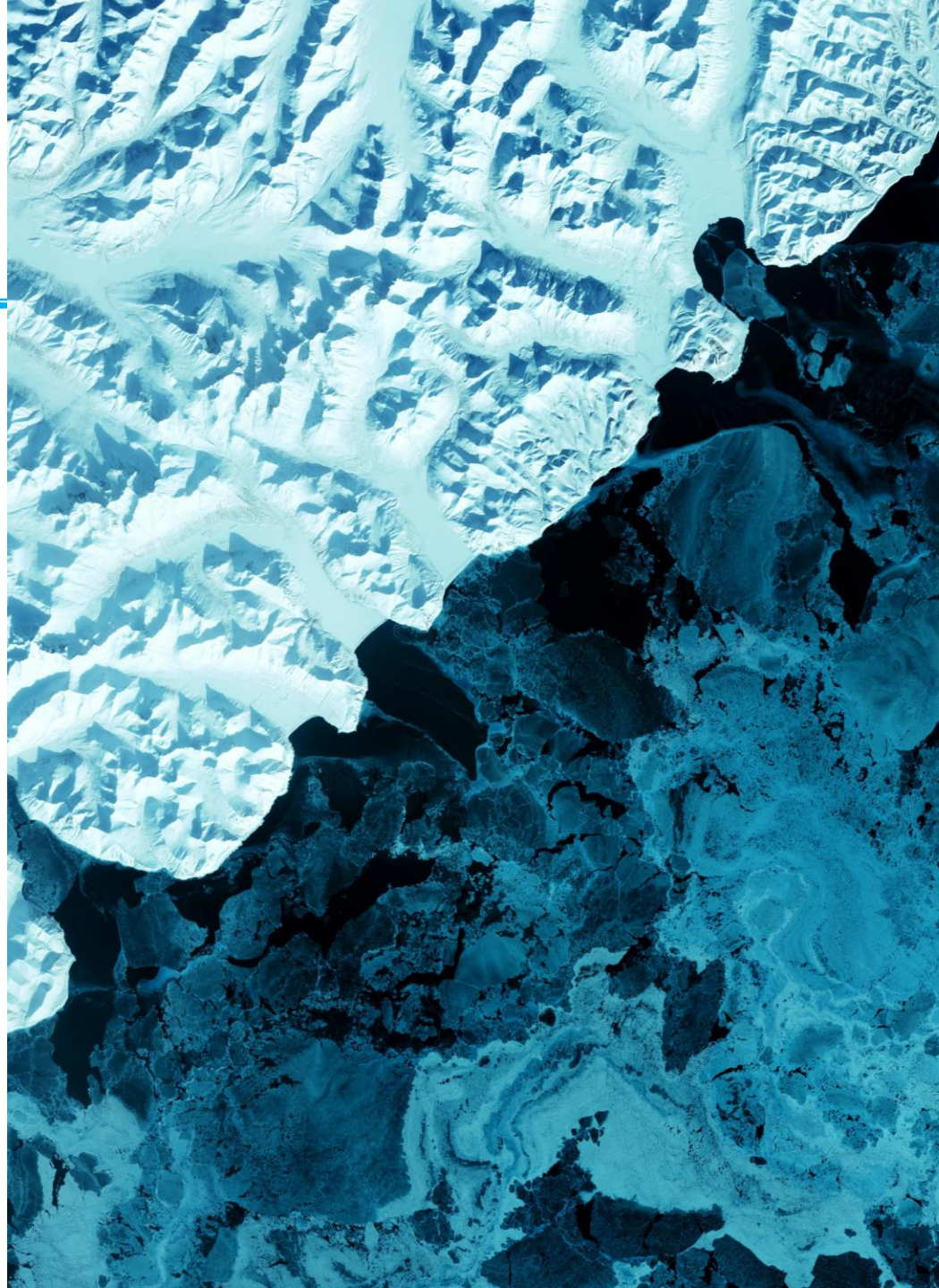
- Adopted by UNEA-4 resolution 4/20
- 10-year intergovernmental programme
- Country-owned and led via National Focal Points

Priority & Cross-Cutting Areas



Activities under the Montevideo Programme

- **Technical legal assistance**: legal support and tailored advice to countries in developing and strengthening national legislation and governance frameworks
- **Knowledge development & dissemination**: guidance materials, knowledge resources, tools, publications.
- **Capacity building and training** to lawmakers, policymakers, parliamentarians, enforcement officials, prosecutors, and judges



Technical Legal Assistance

- Development and review of **national legislative and institutional frameworks on waste management**, including measures for the better inclusion of informal structures and workers.
- Development and review of legislation on **ambient air quality**
- Development and review of **national framework laws** on climate change
- Development of regulations and **sectoral plans for climate mitigation and adaptation in key sectors** such as health, forestry, farming and livestock development, fishing, water resources, transport, infrastructure, housing, etc.
- Supporting Parties to the **Convention on Migratory Species** on reviewing national legislation to better integrate treaty obligations.

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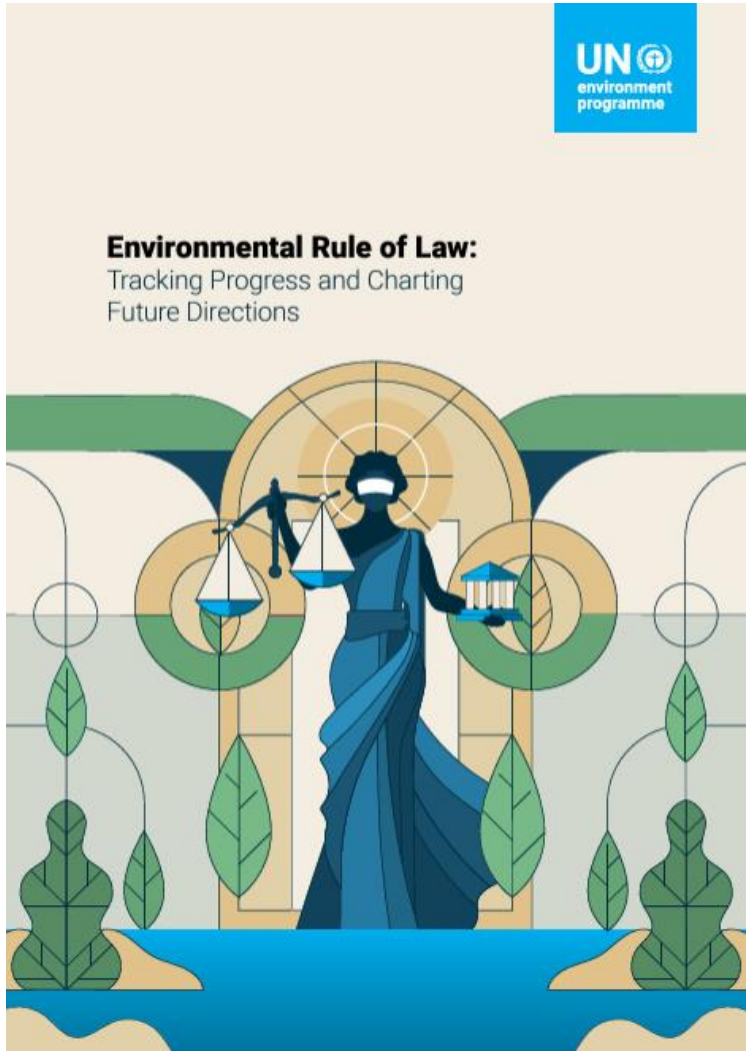
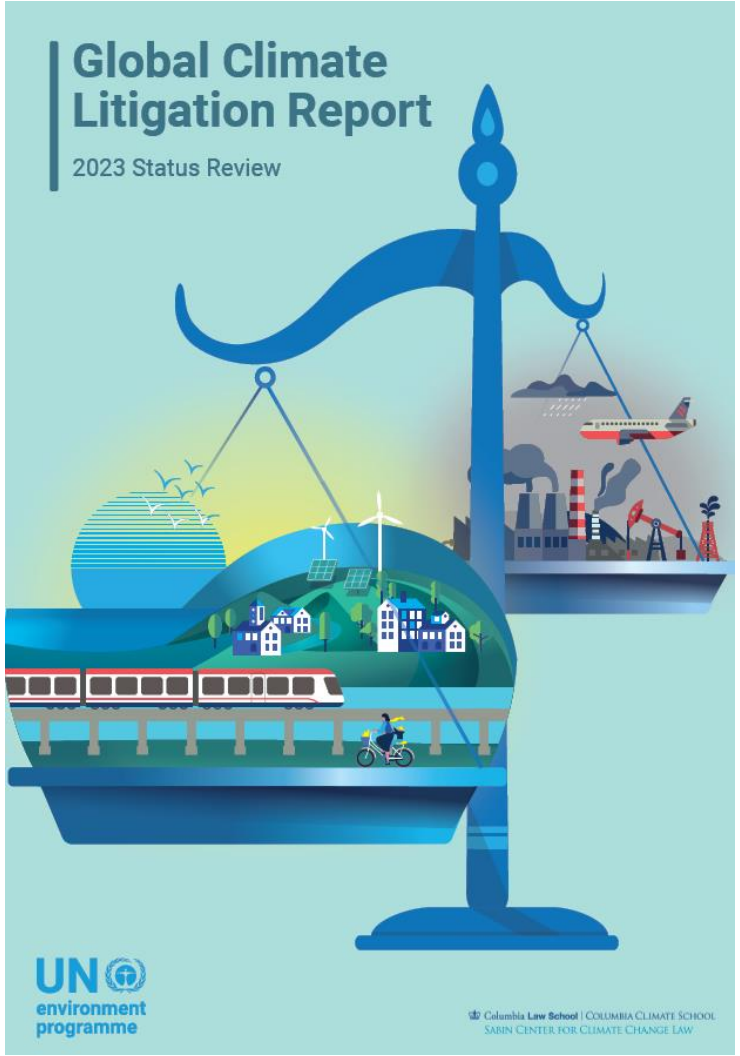
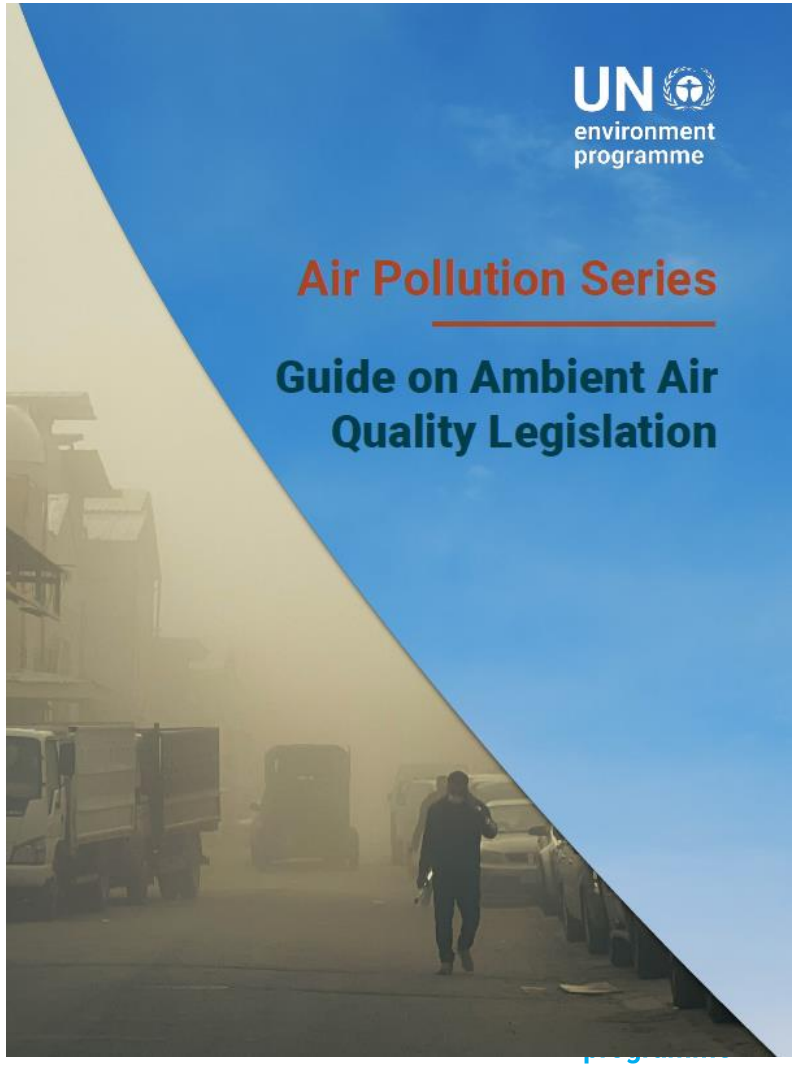
Knowledge development and dissemination







UN environment programme

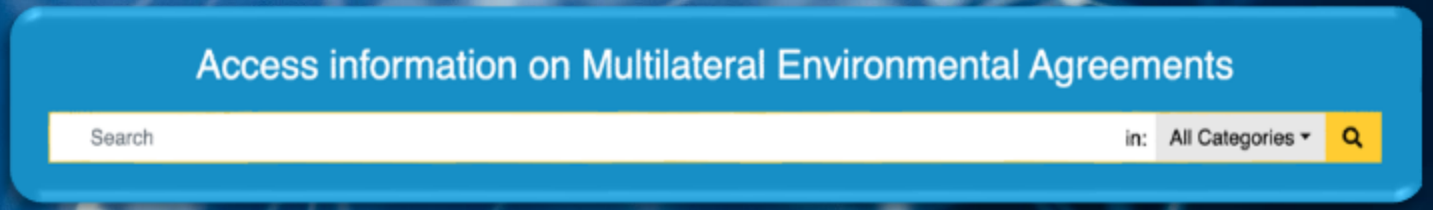
Enabling solutions: The UNEP InforMEA tool

Angela Kariuki
Wednesday, 5 March 2025

UN environment programme

https://www.informea.org/en

InforMEA



The one-stop portal for information on MEAs:

- **Ratification information**
- **COP decisions**
- **National Plans and Reports**
- **Laws**
- **Court decisions**

... and more

Pexels/Tara Winstead

InforMEA learning

United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Filter by All SDG Goals All Topics

Visit MEA dedicated section: Select MEA

Log in English Search

Home / Knowledge Bas

Law and C

A global resource to he

Legislati

Search legal provision
legislation from aro
overarching climate c
sectoral legislation. Fi
terms for enha

Search Global Climate Laws

Search within the full text of over 400 climate change laws...

Type of Legislation

☑ Climate Change Framework Laws

The Urban planning, Agriculture and Energy sections will be available soon. For now you can access this legislation on the previous version of this toolkit here.

Country

Return results that match any of the selected countries.

Select country

Promulgation Year

1998 2024

1998 2024

Climate Change Framework Laws Taxonomy

+ Narrative and principles (39)
+ Institutional arrangements (45)

Showing 1 - 10 of 76 results

ORDER BY: MOST RECENT FIRST

LEGISLATION | 2024 | SOUTH AFRICA Uncommenced

Climate Change Act, 2024

This Act sets out the strategic direction of travel for national climate change policy in South Africa and establishes the key institutional arrangements for climate governance at the national level. The recitals emphasise that responding to climate change raises unique challenges to effective governance and requires a nationally driven, coordinated and cooperative legal and administrative...

LEGISLATION | 2024 | UKRAINE

Law No. 3991-IX on the State Climate Policy

Law No. 3991-IX (the Law) establishes Ukraine's overarching response to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The Law is aimed at implementing the EU's Regulation (EU) No. 2018/1999 on the governance of the Energy Union and the mitigation of climate change and Regulation (EU) No. 2021/1119, establishing a framework for achieving climate neutrality (the "European Climate law"). The law establishes...

LEGISLATION | 2023 | BRAZIL

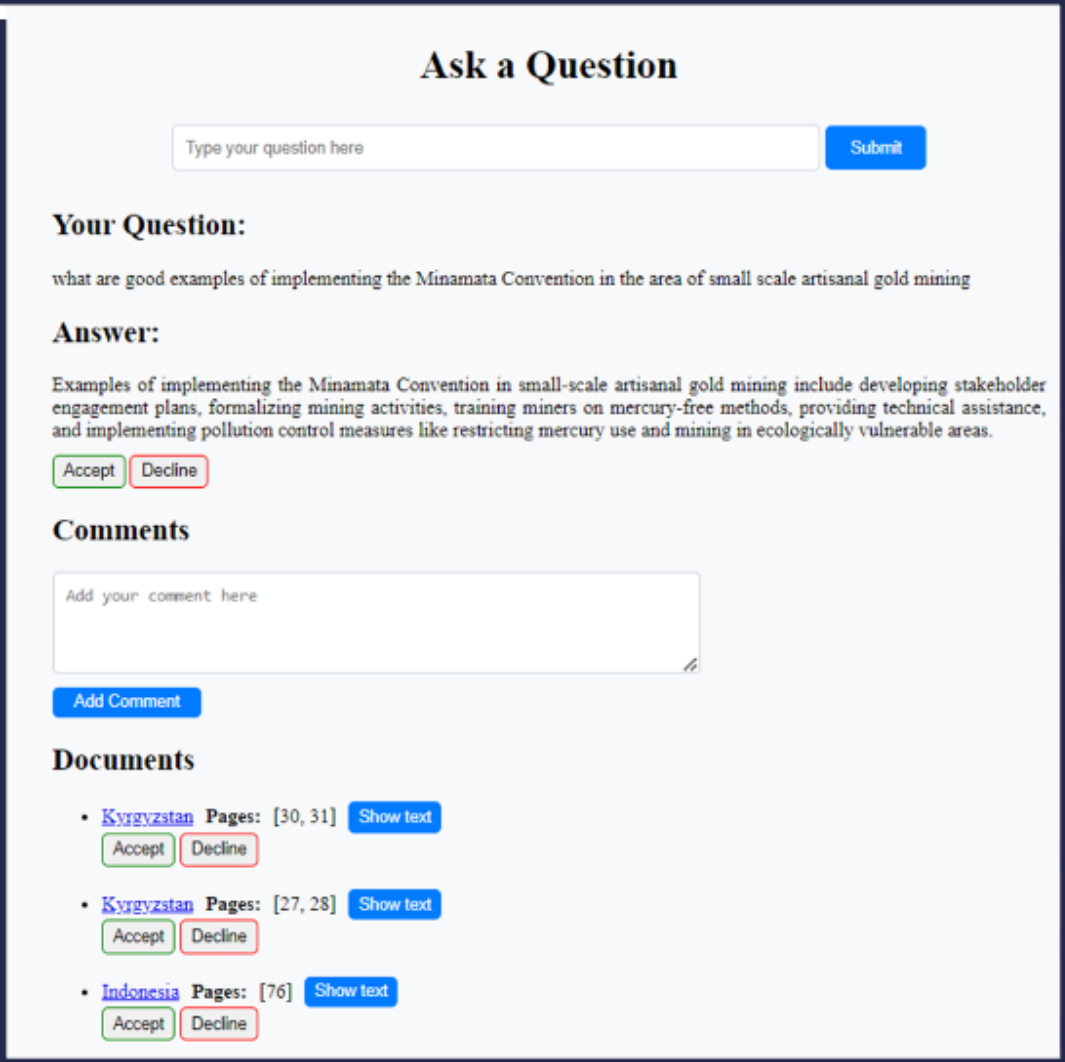
Decree 11.547

This decree established the Law Carbon Industry Technical Committee, an independent body established to provide advice on the transition of the country's industrial sector. The decree establishes the mandate and composition of the committee. It also revoked Decree No. 10,275 of March 13, 2020. The summary of this document was written by researchers at the Grantham Research Institute for

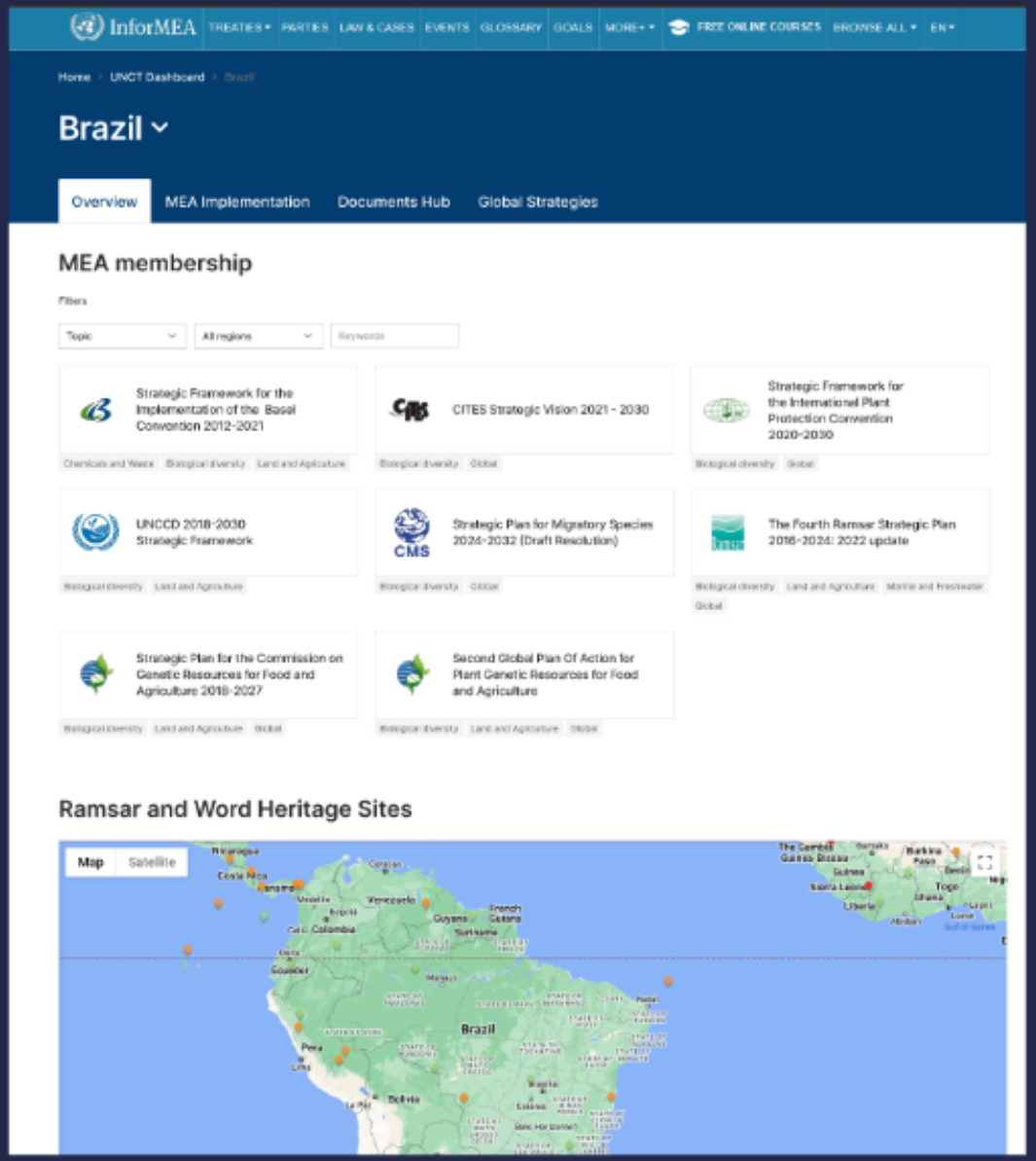
Open →

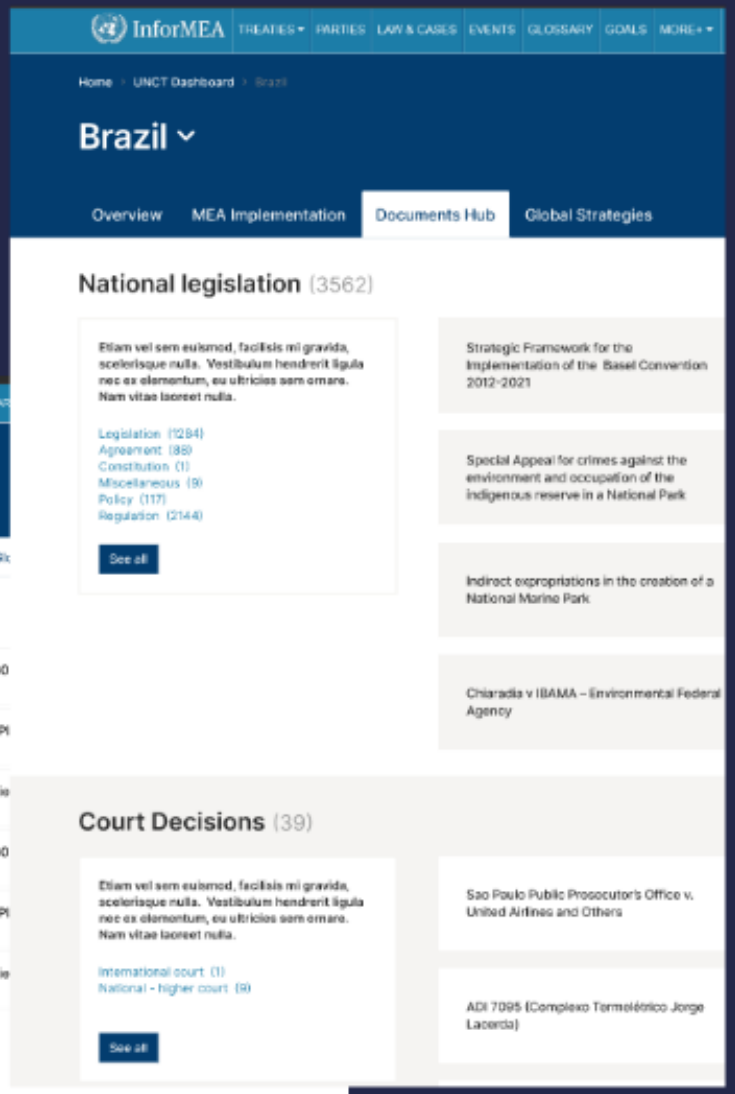
Putting MEAs on the Map - NEW: AI Tool

- A dedicated set of plans (initially in English) was used to model a GPT application that provided the source of its answer (which returned initially encouraging results).
- Cost efficiency and scaleability, time required for "education" yet to be verified.
- Vision: to ultimately obtain relatively accurate text summaries based on a set of documents - for use by a non expert audience on MEAs (such as for instance UNCTs)
- access: https://www.informea.org/llm/
  token: NH2tZxSVNx9bkjKgO2FGhAQpEryGiVrA



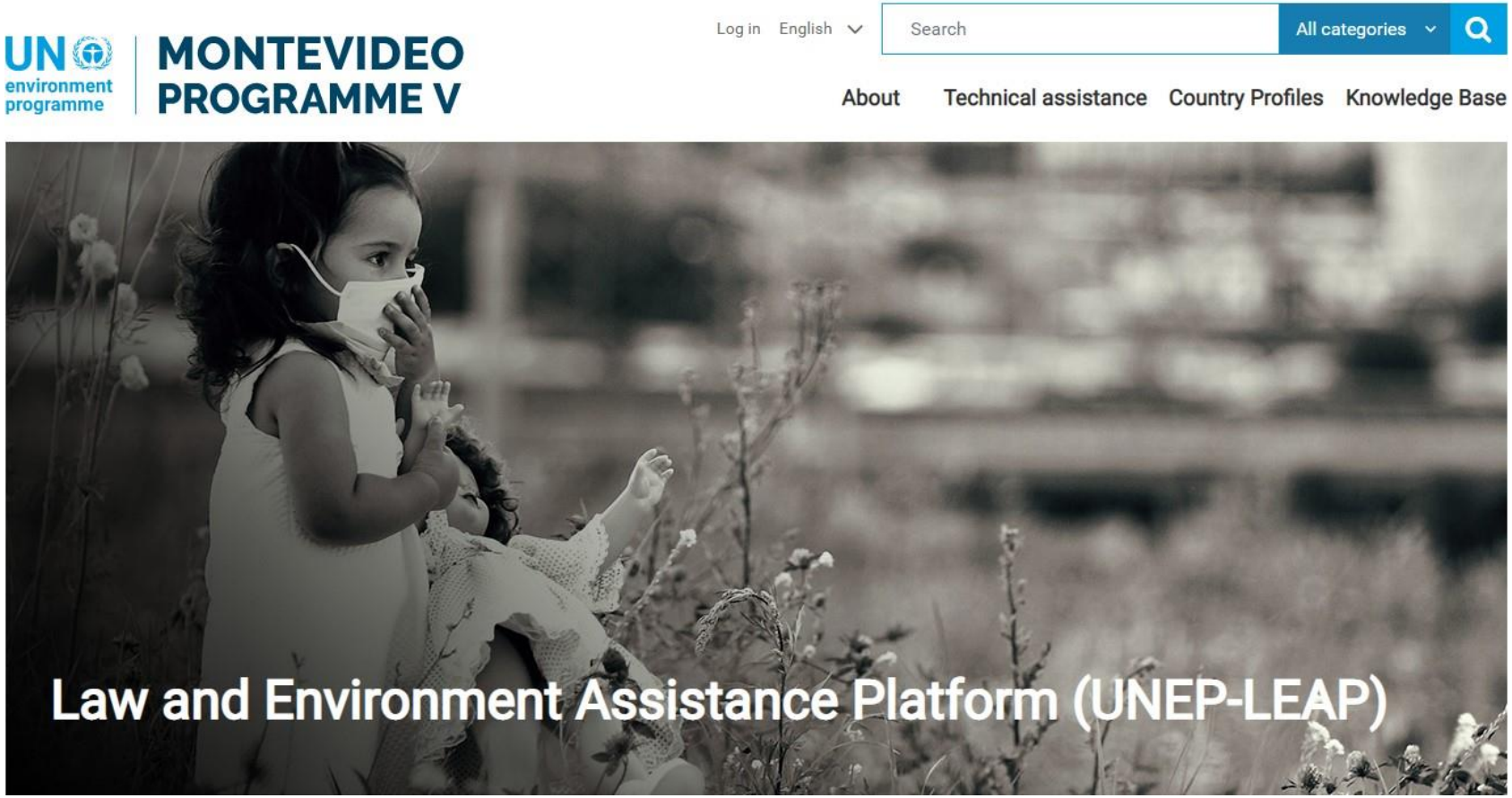
Mock Up for possible UNCT Application





UNEP-LEAP: digital backbone of the programme

UN environment programme



- Technical legal assistance: submission of requests through Online form or via e-mail to the Montevideo secretariat unep-montevideo@un.org
- Publications and other knowledge products
- Free online courses

https://leap.unep.org/en

LEAP MONTEVIDEO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAMME

Law and Environment Assistance Platform

Toolkits

Glossary
Legislation and Case-Law
Legal Toolkits
Guidance Products and Model Laws
Publications and Reports
E-Learning courses
Partners' Tools and Resources

Lead In Paint Toolkit

Law And Climate Change Toolkit

Law And Plastics Toolkit

Home / Knowledge Base / Legal Toolkits / Law and Climate Change Toolkit Home

Law and Climate Change Toolkit

A global resource to help countries develop legal frameworks for the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and their nationally determined contributions.

- Database of climate change legislation searchable according to legal area
- Aimed to support countries establish legal frameworks for **effective domestic implementation of the Paris Agreement** and their **Nationally Determined Contributions**.
- **4 modules**: climate framework laws, urban planning, energy and agriculture.

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Law and Climate Change Toolkit

A global resource to help countries develop legal frameworks for the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and their nationally determined contributions.

Legislation Explorer

Search legal provisions of climate change-related legislation from around the world, including overarching climate change framework laws and sectoral legislation. Filter by semantic taxonomy terms for more enhanced search results

Open →

Legislation Explorer

Search Global Climate Laws

Search within the full text of over 400 climate change laws...

Type of Legislation

- [x] Climate Change Framework Laws
- [ ] Urban planning
- [ ] Agriculture
- [ ] Energy

The Urban planning, Agriculture and Energy sections will be available soon. For now you can access this legislation on the previous version of this toolkit here.

Country

Return results that match any of the selected countries.

Select country

Promulgation Year

1998 2023

Showing 1 - 10 of 70 results

ORDER BY: AGGREGATED DAT...

AKN LEGISLATION | 2023 | KENYA

Climate Change Act, 2016

Kenya Climate Change Act, 2016 Act 11 of 2016 Assented to on 6 May 2016 Commenced on 27 May 2016 [This is the version of this document at 1 September 2023.] AN ACT of Parliament to provide for a regulatory framework for enhanced response to climate change; to provide for mechanism and measures to achieve low carbon climate development, and for connected purposes [Act No. 11 of 2016 ; Act No. 9 of...

AKN LEGISLATION | 2023

Climate Change Response Act

Taiwan 氣候變遷因應法 Assented to on 1 July 2015 Commenced [This is the version of this document at 15 February 2023.] 法規名稱：氣候變遷因應法 修正日期：民國112年02月15日 第1. 總則 第1 爲因應全球氣候變遷，制定氣候變遷調適策略，降低與管理溫室氣體排放，落實世代正 義、環境正義及公正轉型，善盡共同保護地球環境之責任，並確保國家永續發展，特制 定本法。 第2 1 本法所稱主管機關：在中央爲行政院環境保護署；在直轄市爲直轄市政府；在縣（市）爲縣（市）政府。 2 本法所定事項，涉及中央目的事業主管機關職掌者，由中央目的事業主管機關辦理。 第3 – 第3條 本法用詞，定義如下： 一、 溫室氣體：指二氧化碳（002）、甲烷（由4）、氧化亞氮 020）、氫氟碳化物 （史*）...

UN environment programme

Climate Change Framework Laws Taxonomy

- Accountability and enforcement (29)
  - Enforcement (10)
  - Oversight mechanisms (19)
  - Reporting obligations (25)
- Institutional arrangements (38)
  - Coordination (31)
  - Financing (21)
  - Integration and mainstreaming (21
  - Knowledge creation and capacity b (27)
  - Public participation (20)
- Narrative and principles (33)
  - Human rights and social welfare (1
  - International norms and obligation
  - Mitigation (21)
  - Resilience (20)
- Policy formulation (35)
  - Policy cycles (18)
  - Strategy setting and planning (27)
  - Target setting (21)
- Policy implementation (27)
  - Cooperative approaches (6)
  - Education/information (15)
  - Mandates and standards (15)

AKN LEGISLATION | 2023 | REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Carbon Neutral Green Growth Framework Act to tackle the Climate Crisis

South Korea 탄소중립기본법 Act 19439 of 2021 Commenced [This is the version of this document at 9 6월 2023.] 제1장 총칙 제1조 – (목적) 이 법으 기후위기의 심각한 영향을 예방하기 위하여 온실가스 감축 및 기후위기 적응대책을 강화하고 탄소 ; 립"人?회로의 이행 과정에서 발생할 수 있는 경제적 - 환경적 - 사회적 불평등을 해소하며 녹색기술과 녹색산업의 육;. 촉진. 활성화를 통하여 경제와 환경의 조화로운 발전을 도모함으로써, 현재 세대와 미래 세대의 삶의 질을 높 이고 생태계와 기후체계를 보호하며 국제사회의 지속가능발전에 이바지아는 것을 목적으로 안다. 제2조 – (정의) 이 법에서 사용하는 용어의 뜻은 다음과 같다 1. "기후변화"란...

AKN LEGISLATION | 2023 | MALTA

Climate Action Act, 2015

- Subsection (3)
- 13A. Power to make regulations with respect to exclusive econo...
- ▼ 14. Power to delegate
  - Subsection (1)
  - Subsection (2)
  - Subsection (3)
  - Subsection (4)
- ▼ 15. Power of Minister to make regulations in relation to offences...
  - ▼ Subsection (1)
    - Paragraph (a)
    - Paragraph (b)
  - Subsection (2)
- ▼ 16. Climate Action Fund
  - Subsection (1)
  - ▼ Subsection (2)
    - Paragraph (a)
    - Paragraph (b)
    - Paragraph (c)
    - Paragraph (d)
    - Paragraph (e)
  - ▼ Subsection (3)
    - Paragraph (a)
    - ▼ Paragraph (b)
      - Subparagraph (i)
      - Subparagraph (ii)
  - Subsection (4)
  - ▼ Subsection (5)
    - Paragraph (a)
    - Paragraph (b)
    - Paragraph (c)
  - Subsection (6)

(1) Without prejudice to any other provision of this Act the Minister may make regulations prescribing penalties for offences against any regulations made under this Act, and such regulations may:

(a) prescribe imprisonment not exceeding four years and different fines (*multi*) not exceeding one million euro (€1,000,000) for different offences;

(b) prescribe fines (multi) calculated in accordance with the duration of the commission of the offence, not exceeding fifty thousand euro (€50,000) for each day during which the offence continues.

(2) Without prejudice to any other provision of this Act, the Minister may make regulations allowing any person or any department, agency, corporation or authority to impose administrative fines not exceeding one million euro (€1,000,000) or other sanctions on any person, department, agency, corporation or authority who is in contravention of any provisions of this Act or of any regulations or directives made thereunder and provide for the procedure for the imposition and enforcement of such fines which procedures may include provisions to the effect that any such fines shall constitute an executive title for the effects and purposes of Title VII of Part I of Book Second of the Code of Organization and Civil Procedure.

[Cap. 12.]

16. Climate Action Fund

(1) The Minister, in consultation with the Minister responsible for Finance, shall by Order establish and maintain a Climate Action Fund.

(2) The Climate Action Fund shall be replenished from:

(a) revenues accruing to the Government from its participation in and implementation of market-based measures relating to climate action adopted pursuant to international treaties or European Union legislation, including, *inter alia*, from the auctioning of allowances pursuant to Directive 2003/87/EC as may be amended or replaced from time to time;

(b) revenues generated by the Government through the implementation of national measures relating to the reduction or limitation of greenhouse gas emissions;

(c) any donations or grants made to the Fund by individuals or institutions;

(d) any sums appropriated by Parliament for such purpose; and

(e) any sums or monies as may from time to time be provided by or under this Act or any other law.

(3) (a) The Climate Action Fund shall be administered by a board of governors that is chaired by the Chairperson of the Climate Action Board, or the vice chairperson of the Climate Action Board as his delegate, as appointed according to article 10(1)(n):

Provided that the member representing the Ministry responsible for Finance in article 10(l)(c) shall sit on the Board of Governors *ex*

Institutional arrangements
Financing

UN environment programme

The Law and Climate Change Toolkit

14A. Climate Finance Steering Committee

(1) The Board shall establish a Climate Finance Steering Committee with participants from relevant Government agencies and stakeholders to oversee coordination o redited climate finance entities are identified to facilitate the development c es.

(2) The Committe n of this Act.

(3) A Regulation s

(a) the appointment of the Climate Finance Steering Committee; and

(b) the composition of the Climate Finance Steering Committee; and

(c) the functions of the Climate Finance Steering Committee; and

(d) such other matters as may be appropriate.

[section 14A inserted by section 11 of Act 25 of 2021]

Climate Finance Steering Committee

"**Climate Finance Steering Committee**" is the Committee set up under Section 14A of this Act;

Institutional arrangements

Financing

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Select version

07 February, 2022 - English | Compare to 20 Nov, 2015 ✕ Key: deleted text added text

Show changes side-by-side side

Papua New Guinea

Climate Change (Management) Act 2015

Act 19 of 2015

Commenced on 20 November 2015

from 7

[This is the version of this document as it was from 20 November 2015 to 6 February 2022.]

[Amended by Climate Change (Management) (Amendment) Act 2021 (Act 25 of 2021) on 7 February 2022]

Being an Act to provide for a regulatory framework to—

(a) promote and manage climate compatible development through climate change mitigation and adaptation activities; and

(b) implement any relevant obligations of the State under applicable rules of international law and international agreements related to climate change including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement; andimplement any relevant obligations of the State under applicable rules of international law and international agreements related to climate change; and

[paragraph (b) amended by section 1(a) of Act 25 of 2021]

(c) establish Papua New Guinea's Designated National Authority or an equivalent entity for the purposes of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and any such other or subsequent arrangements or agreements made under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement,establish Papua New Guinea's Designated National Authority or an equivalent entity for the purposes of the Kyoto Protocol and any such other or subsequent arrangements or agreements made under the Kyoto Protocol,

Climate Change Framework Laws

NARRATIVE AND PRINCIPLES

- Before you start
- Mitigation
- Resilience
- Human rights and social welfare
- International norms and obligations

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- Before you start
- Coordination
- Financing
- Integration and mainstreaming
- Knowledge creation and capacity building
- Public participation

POLICY FORMULATION

- Before you start
- Target setting
- Strategy setting
- Policy cycles and planning

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- Before you start
- Market-based instruments
- Mandates and standards
- Nature-based solutions
- Education/information
- Cooperative approaches

ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT

- Before you start
- Monitoring, reporting and verification obligations
- Accountability mechanisms
- Enforcement provisions

UN environment programme

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- Before you start
- Coordination
- Financing

ns. To date such bodies have be groups.

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Papua New Guinea's Clir
(No. 19 of 2015) and 202
27A

Section 20 of the Amend
that contains summaries of decisions made by the National Climate Change Board containing facts and resolutions, maps relating to climate change projects and climate change project agreements, all to made accessible for public consultation.

- Embedding gender representation in climate institutions in the Philippines

ders

other deliberative
dedicated to
consider

s and inclusive policy processes. In some instances, this may

for stakeholders where access is withheld.

Example Law Case Study

UN environment programme

Case Studies

Good practice examples of existing climate laws from different countries around the world as well as experience gained and lessons learned

Search

Country

Select country

Climate Change Framework Laws Taxonomy

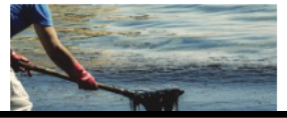
- Narrative and principles (13)
- Institutional arrangements (16)
- Policy formulation (12)
- Policy implementation (8)
- Accountability and enforcement (4)

Showing 1 - 10 of 22 results

ORDER BY: MOST RECENT FIRST

CASE STUDY | 2022

Greece's National Climate Law, Article 11



This section ('Prohibition of electricity production from solid fossil fuels') of Greece's National Climate Law establishes a
onwards.

Country: Greece

CASE STUDY | 202

Australia's Cli

This section of A
change statemen
national greenhou
effectiveness of p
assessments.

Country: Australia

Learning Resources

Reports and e-learning materials on law and climate change.

Search

Resource type

Return results that match any of the selected types.

- [ ] E-learning course
- [ ] Report

Keywords

- Narrative and principles (2)
- Institutional arrangements (5)
- Policy formulation (1)
- Policy implementation (2)
- Accountability and enforcement (1)

Showing 1 - 9 of 9 results

ORDER BY: MOST RECENT FIRST

REPORT | 2018

Environmental Law Making and Oversight for Sustainable Development: A guide for Legislators

How are these important functions of parliaments being reshaped in the post-2015 era of sustainable developme nt? How can legislators and parliamentarians do their part to ensure that the SDGs and other post-2015 commitm ents are achieved by 2030 and beyond? The overarching purpose of this Guide is to provide formative answers to these questions that are practically useful in the daily work of...

REPORT | 2017

The Status of Climate Change Litigation: A Global Review

Over the last decade, laws codifying national and international responses to climate change have grown in numbe r, specificity, and importance. As these laws have recognized new rights and created new duties, litigation seeking to challenge either their facial validity or their particular application has followed. So too has litigation aimed at pr essing legislators and policymakers to be more...

UN environment programme

Thank you

Renée Gift Renee.gift@un.org
Legal Officer, Law Division United Nations Environment Programme
And
Angela Kariuki

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PO Box 30552 – 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

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