

Policy and legal frameworks relating to national adaptation plans

International and national
frameworks and supporting tools

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The international framework

- **Cancun (December 2010)** - Establishment of a process to enable least developed country Parties to formulate national adaptation plans as a means of identifying long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs (Decision 1/CP.16)
- **Durban (November 2011)** - Adoption of initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans (Decision 5/CP.17)

The international framework (cont.)

Objective: To facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels (Decision 5/CP.17)

- Activities carried out as part of implementation strategies would take into consideration strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks to support adaptation

Importance of laws

- 'Lock-in' policy direction and help achieve national climate goals
- Create the institutional structures and mandates needed to achieve national climate goals
- Place clear duties on decision-makers to take climate change into account when making key policy and investment determinations
- Create enforcement mechanisms to ensure that policies are actually implemented
- Facilitate private sector investment, attracting and appropriately regulate investments into low-carbon and climate resilient development

Key elements and principles for a national legal framework

- Comprehensiveness of coverage both in terms of sectors and levels of governance
- Promotion of inter-agency collaboration
- Clarity of mandates and rights conferred
- Provision of sufficient budgetary and financial resources
- Well defined linkages with other relevant laws and regulations
- Recognition of the role of key stakeholders in the development, implementation and revision of the framework

Different types of climate laws

'Climate laws' can refer to both:

- **'framework' laws on climate change** (either nested in environmental laws or standalone): e.g. Dominica, Mexico, Philippines, Kenya, UK, Indonesia, Vietnam
- **climate related provisions in sectoral laws** (e.g. EIA, water, food, health, planning, building etc.)

Example: Mexico's *General Law on Climate Change 2012*

- Establishes national climate goals on emission reductions and renewable energy
- Creates a mandate for a National Strategy on Climate Change
- Creates a high-level inter-ministerial Commission on Climate Change
- Creates public participation rights
- Provisions on accountability and transparency to boost investor confidence

Law and Climate Change Toolkit

- A publicly available online platform to assist countries in assessing their legislation and institutional arrangements, and the needs relating to these, based on the nationally determined priorities and circumstances
- Envisaged to provide concrete models, examples and guidance for the review, reform and enactment of laws in a range of areas that intersect with climate change as well as provide information on available resources and assistance programs
- Demonstration available in this link: <http://bit.ly/2rFWOzF> (Minute 34:53)

Law and Climate Change Toolkit



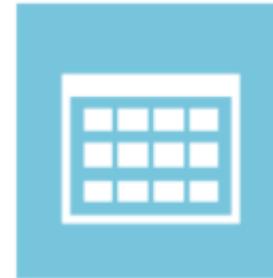
Comparative legislation platform



Methodology for climate legislation assessment



Lessons learned in climate legislation



Database of climate legislation projects and technical assistance contacts



UN
environment



For more information, contact:

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Thank you



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Additional Resources

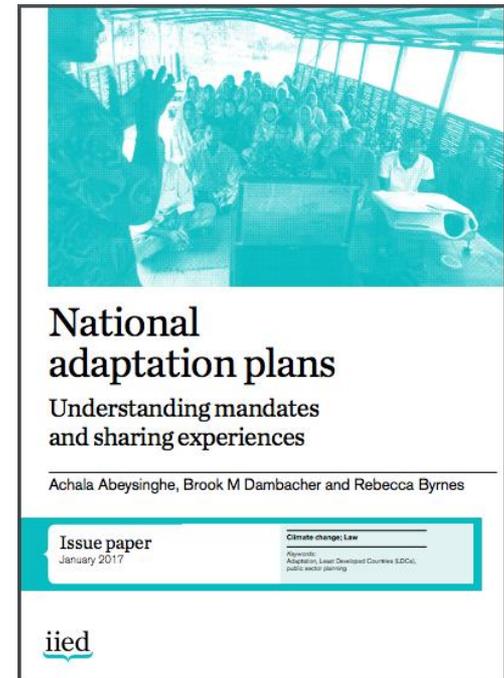
Climate Change Laws of the World Database

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and Sabin Center for Climate Change Law

Database covering national-level climate change legislation and policies (including adaptation) in 164 countries.

Available at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/Legislation/>



Available at:

[http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Documents%20NAP/Supplements/Understanding_mandates NAPs.pdf](http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Documents%20NAP/Supplements/Understanding_mandates_NAPs.pdf)