



# International Environmental Governance



Online Course  
February-March 2017  
500 USD

[Click here to register](#)

For more info: [info.ilp@unitar.org](mailto:info.ilp@unitar.org)

# Background

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Multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) are the predominant legal method for addressing transboundary environmental problems. Nowadays States, particularly least developed countries and developing countries, face the challenge of implementing over 300 MEAs with limited technical, financial and human resource capabilities. Several countries need to develop their capacities for the better implementation of environmental obligations at the national level in order to ensure adequate application and compliance of MEAs. Thus, training and capacity development are key resources for effective international environmental governance (IEG).

## Overall Goal

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The overall goal of this course is to provide participants with a comprehensive knowledge of the role of the main actors involved in the development of international environmental law who formulate policy instruments and negotiate and conclude MEAs. This knowledge is necessary to identify the shortcomings of the current international environmental governance regime.

## Learning Objectives

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At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the concept of IEG and identify its main actors and elements; List the fundamental principles of good environmental governance;
- Identify the role of the UN bodies, agencies, programs, MEA bodies and Non-State actors in the development and implementation of international law and policy;
- List the main bodies for settling international environmental disputes; Provide examples of compliance mechanisms under MEAs;
- Recommend a specific legal instrument to deal with an international environmental problem and consider a more suitable forum to negotiate such a legal instrument;
- Analyze and propose shortcomings, strengths of the current IEG regime as well as recommendations for improvement.

## Content and Structure

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The course is composed of four interactive modules.

**Module 1:** General Introduction

**Module 2:** Elements of IEG

**Module 3:** Regional Environmental Governance

**Module 4:** Reform of IEG

Depending on the lesson, there is a slight variation of the amount of study time required. As an average, participants can expect to devote approximately 10 hours per week to review the course content and complete course activities.

## Methodology

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The course's modules have lessons that help participants acquire the knowledge needed for the tasks, discussion forums, and quizzes. Practical examples and case study analysis allow for the direct application of the acquired knowledge. At the end, participants must submit a final task tackling relevant issues based on the knowledge gained. They will actively interact with their peers and the facilitator, [Dr.iur. Lothar Guendling](#), expert and adviser specialized in international environmental policy and governance, will facilitate the learning process and guide participants. Additional resources are also available for participants to further consult.

## Targeted Audience

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This course is designed for government officials from ministries of the environment, agriculture, forests, water, tourism and foreign affairs. It also targets international civil servants, NGO representatives, judges, prosecutors and lawyers working in the fields of environmental law/management, international relations/politics and sustainable development. Additionally, it is directed at academics, private sector professionals and graduates interested in specializing in International Environmental Law.

## Certificates/Registration

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Participants who successfully complete the activities and assessments based on the established passing grade will receive a UNITAR Certificate of Completion.

**Fee:** 500 USD (bank transfer or credit card)

**Registration deadline:** February 2017

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