

Introductory Course to the International Legal Framework on Freshwater Resources

Course Syllabus



InforMEA
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

Learning objectives

The emergence of environmental protection obligations and of the principle of sustainable development, as well as the increased awareness that water resources have to be managed in a holistic approach, have highlighted the need to integrate existing water regulation regimes with rules and principles concerning the environmental aspects of freshwater resources, and to regulate the quantitative and qualitative aspects in an integrated manner.

This course introduces you to the international legal framework on freshwater resources, which covers global and regional agreements.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe global and regional agreements addressing freshwater resources
2. Recall major trends and lessons learned in national legislation regulating freshwater resources

Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 4 lessons, which provide links to the relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organised in books, which can be downloaded in pdf from the left-hand navigation menu.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 90 minutes approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

Assessment and certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
Unit 1 – Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 2. Regulation 3. The Hydrological Cycle 4. Water Scarcity 5. Water Pollution 6. Water Uses 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the threats to and uses of freshwater
Unit 2 – Regulation at the International Level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Major Developments in the Field of Cooperation on Freshwater 2. Regulation at the International Level 3. UN Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List the milestones and developments in the field of cooperation on freshwater 2. Describe key provisions of the International Watercourses Convention
Unit 3 – Regulation at the Regional and Sub-regional levels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 1992 UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes 2. Protocol on Shared Watercourse Systems in the Southern African Development Community 3. Agreements concerning specific watercourses 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe several legal instrument addressing the governance of freshwater resources at the regional and subregional level
Unit 4 – National Implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 2. Major trends in national legislation 3. Lessons learned 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recall major trends and lessons learned in national legislation regulating freshwater resources



InforMEA

UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

*"This course has been developed by UNEP and it is based on UNEP's
Training Manual on International Environmental Law.*

*In case of any discrepancy with the content of the Convention, its Protocol
and UNECE guiding materials, the original text of the documents shall
prevail and can be found [here](#)"*

www.informea.org

<http://e-learning.informea.org/>