

The logo for the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in white serif font on a dark blue square background.

ADB

***STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE LAW IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
Colombo, Sri Lanka, 26 May – 1 June 2018***

**SESSION 10 : ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINICS**

Presented by Professor Carmen Gonzalez, Seattle  
University School of Law, USA



# THE PURPOSE OF LEGAL CLINICS

problem-solving

why establish a clinic?

decision-making



advance advocacy on social justice issues

## TYPES OF LAW CLINICS

**2 main types**

**litigation clinics**

**take on litigation**

**assist with litigation**

**policy clinics**

**inform policy**

**advocate for legal reform**



## TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

**interview clients**



**develop strategies**



**make presentations**



**supervision**



**undertake research**

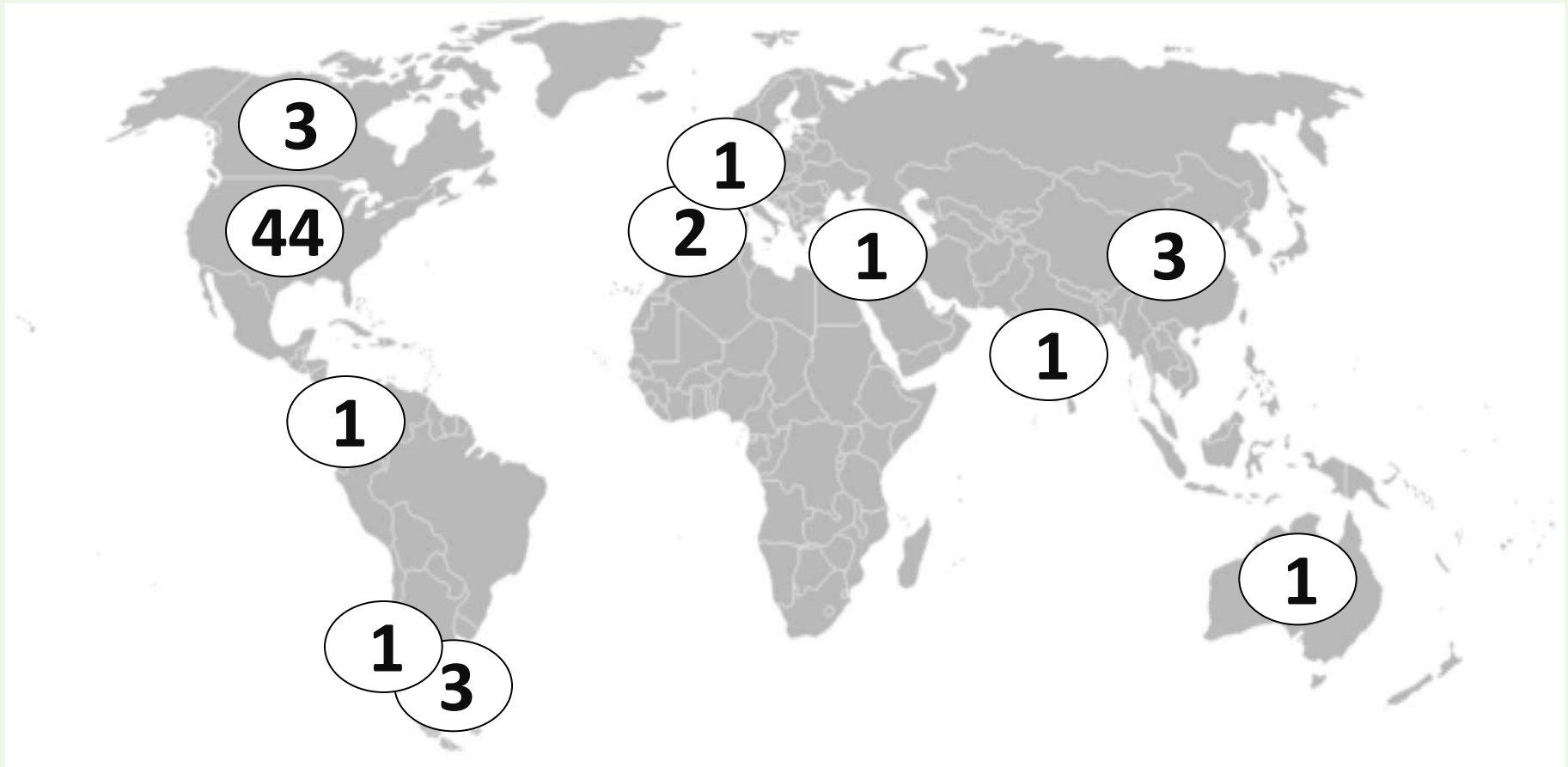


**draft documents**



**represent clients**

# GROWTH OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINICS



# MODELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINICS IN USA

in university

litigation

law firm model

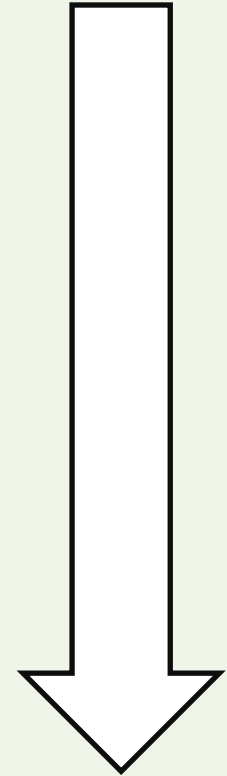
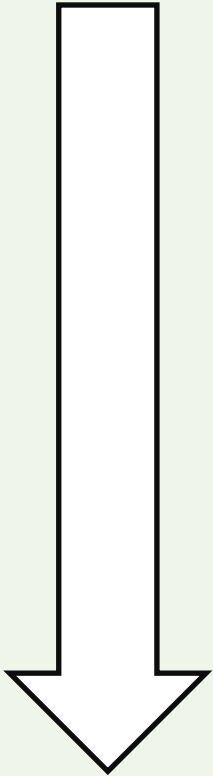
co-counsel model

think tank model

in-house counsel model

outside university

policy



# **SCOPING THE VIABILITY/FORM OF A LAW CLINIC**

- **Type & Model**
- **Resources**
- **Location**
- **Funding**
- **Management Structure**
- **Compulsory/voluntary program**
- **Associated coursework**
- **Managing partners**
- **Choosing matters/issues/cases/clients**

# Example: Environmental Law Clinics in China

- Centre for Legal Assistance for Pollution Victims, Chinese University of Politics and Law

[http://www.clapv.org/english\\_lvshi/](http://www.clapv.org/english_lvshi/)

- The Environmental and Biodiversity Law Clinic at The Southwest Forestry University In 2012 to undertake legal action to protect the environment and their natural heritage
- Wuhan University Environmental Law Clinic; established 2018.





# Question

- What are possibilities for environmental law assistance clinics as part of legal education in Sri Lanka and India?

