



**ADB REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND THE ASIA PACIFIC  
DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CHAMPIONS PROGRAM**

## Cambodia Model Environmental and Natural Resources Law Curriculum

The Model Environmental Law Curriculum is provided to environmental law academics with three themes and 30 modules. The Curriculum is divided into international, ASEAN, and national themes, with many subjects in each theme. Lecturers can use these materials to create a new course or to supplement existing courses. This course would last over 38 hours. These teaching times for the modules must be adapted for the particular course and teaching style.

	<b>Short</b>
<b>International Environmental Law</b>	8 hours
<b>ASEAN Environmental Law</b>	10 hours
<b>National Environmental Law</b>	20 hours
	38 hours

### Model Environmental Law Curriculum for Cambodia

Below is a thirteen-week course with materials from all these themes and modules. The course is assumed to have three hours of class time per week and also includes a mid-semester break (or exam) and a final week for exams. The teaching methodology and assessment are not referenced in the course. These need to be developed by the lecturer as the content is being prepared. Prof. Amanda Kennedy has developed an online course in pedagogy for the ADB. This is available for free on the ADB [eLearn](#) platform.

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Introduction to Environmental Law</b>	<a href="#">Module 1.2</a> , <a href="#">Module 1.5</a>
<b>Week 2</b>	Overview of International Environmental Law	<a href="#">Module 1.3</a> , <a href="#">UNEP informea courses</a>
<b>Week 3</b>	Human rights and the Environment	<a href="#">Module 1.4</a> , see also <a href="#">Module 1.1</a>
<b>Week 4</b>	Environmental law in ASEAN	<a href="#">Module 2.1</a> , <a href="#">Module 2.2</a>
<b>Week 5</b>	Sources of Law in Cambodia	<a href="#">Module 3.1</a>
<b>Week 6</b>	Environmental Dispute Resolution	<a href="#">Module 1.6</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.2</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.4</a>
<b>Week 7</b>	Climate Change Frameworks	<a href="#">Module 1.7</a> , <a href="#">Module 2.8 ASEAN Climate Law and Litigation</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.5</a>
<b>Week 8</b>	Climate Change Litigation	<a href="#">Module 1.7</a>
<b>Week 9</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment	<a href="#">Module 2.7</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.3</a>



<b>Week 10</b>	Transboundary River Governance, Fisheries	<a href="#">Module 2.6</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.9</a>
<b>Week 11</b>	Biodiversity Protection, Forestry	<a href="#">Module 2.5</a> , <a href="#">Module 1.9.4</a> , <a href="#">Module 1.9.7</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.7</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.8</a>
<b>Week 12</b>	Plastics, Waste, Haze, Air Pollution	<a href="#">Module 1.9.1</a> , <a href="#">Module 1.9.2</a> , <a href="#">Module 2.3</a> , <a href="#">Module 2.4</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.6</a>
<b>Week 13</b>	Indigenous People	<a href="#">Module 1.9.5</a> , <a href="#">Module 3.10</a>



## International Environmental Law

These nine modules provide an overview of international environmental law's fundamental principles and topics. The first five modules introduce these topics and can be used as an introduction to the issue in conjunction with a course on ENR law. These modules identify essential elements in international environmental law. The following four modules can be integrated into national environmental law. These modules are designed to provide materials to teach these subjects as part of the ASEAN or national themes.

A recommended textbook on international environmental law is the *Routledge Handbook of International Environmental Law, Second Edition*, Edited by Erika Techera et al., Routledge, 2021. Other materials, including PowerPoint presentations and other materials, are referenced throughout the modules.

	<b>Short course (8 hours)</b>
<a href="#">Module 1.1</a> provides an overview of law and knowledge systems and looks at some critical issues for teaching environmental law, including environmental ethics, indigenous rights and knowledge, and the importance of interdisciplinary approaches in environmental law.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.2</a> deals with the core and emerging principles of environmental law. This module is related to the ADB E-Learn on the materials and teaching of the principles of environmental law by Professor Amanda Kennedy. This is a 10-hour course includes materials and resources for teaching the principles. <a href="https://elearn.adb.org/">https://elearn.adb.org/</a>	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.3</a> provides an overview to sources of international environmental law and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). It also references <a href="#">UNEP informea courses</a> – e.g. Introductory course on international environmental law and other specific courses on MEAs.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.4</a> addresses human rights and the environment.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.5</a> examines what is meant by the environmental rule of law, including environmental justice, intergenerational equity and CSR.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.6</a> introduces concepts in environmental dispute resolution. It is linked to modules on national environmental dispute resolution – see Cambodia <a href="#">Module 3.2</a>	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 1.7</a> is an overview of the key international frameworks on climate change. It refers to climate science, key terms and concepts and climate change litigation. It is connected to <a href="#">Module 2.8 ASEAN Climate Law and Litigation</a> and the national modules on climate law.	2 hours
Modules 1.8 and 1.9 cover a range of specific subjects. These modules are best used in conjunction with national environmental law topics. Each of the topics in Module 1.9 provide the international overview that can be applied in a national context.	

## ASEAN Environmental Law



In all, there are eight modules in the ASEAN Environmental Law Theme. These modules can be taught in a stand-alone course or connected with either international environmental law or as additional background for a national environmental law course. These eight modules provide about 17 hours (or eight weeks) of teaching materials. The ASEAN materials can also be incorporated into teaching national sectoral laws, which connect with ASEAN activities.

Alternatively, these modules could be expanded to provide a complete semester course on ASEAN environmental law. For example, air pollution, water governance, EIA and climate law, and litigation could be taught over eight weeks (2 weeks per module), with other modules being conducted, in conjunction with some principles of environmental law, over another eight weeks.

As with all of the modules, these are resources for teachers to develop lesson plans and assessments based on their courses' and students' requirements.

A good textbook for a course on ASEAN environmental law is Koh et al., *ASEAN Environmental Legal Integration Sustainable Goals*, Cambridge University Press, 2016.

	<b>Short course (10 hours)</b>
<a href="#">Module 2.1</a> provides details on the outline and structure of ASEAN, including the ASEAN Charter and ASEAN Vision 2025. It also provides information on the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.2</a> is about the role of ASEAN in environmental and national resources agreements. The objective of this module is that the students should understand that ASEAN has been active in regional and international agreements. It will provide an overview of some of these agreements in ASEAN. Other modules also deal with these agreements in the transboundary haze, plastics, biodiversity, and transboundary river governance. It can also be taught in connection with other sector-specific modules.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.3</a> is about the role of ASEAN in the management of transboundary haze and air pollution. It will look at some issues of air pollution and provide opportunities for discussion on ways to address these issues in south-east Asia. This module aims to provide an overview of air pollution issues in ASEAN and measures being taken to address these issues.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.4</a> is about the role of ASEAN engagement in plastics, chemicals, and marine pollution. The module will discuss the Bangkok Declaration for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2019) and the regional action plan.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.5</a> is about biodiversity protection in ASEAN. For cultural heritage and world heritage discussions see Module 1.9.7 World Heritage.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.6</a> provides an overview of transboundary river governance with a focus on the Mekong River. The objectives of this module are to provide an overview of the international principles of transboundary river governance and an understanding of the application of these principles in the Great Mekong Subregion.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 2.7</a> provides a comparative analysis of environmental impact assessment (EIA) in ASEAN. It will provide an overview of the principles of	2 hours



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EIA, the processes of EIA, and a comparative review of international and regional approaches to EIA.

[Module 2.8](#) is about climate change and litigation in ASEAN by reference to the ADB's publications [Climate Change Coming to a Court Near You, ADB \(2021\)](#). This Module is interconnected with Module 1.7 and the national modules on climate change law and litigation. 2 hours



## National Environmental Law – Cambodia

There are 13 modules in this section. These can also be used to assist in the development of other national environmental law curricula. Teachers will need to assess the time they have to teach and the core components required for students to gain a clear overview of ENR law and practice in Cambodia.

	<b>Short course (20 hours)</b>
<a href="#">Module 3.1</a> is on Cambodia's Sources on Environment and Natural Resources law. This module looks at the Constitution and the national laws. It also links to the MEA obligations. This Module also connects to <a href="#">Module 1.2 Principles of Environmental Law</a> , and <a href="#">Module 1.3 International Environmental Law</a> .	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.2</a> is about Environmental Dispute Resolution and the role of the courts. It also looks at EHRDs and public interest litigation.	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.3</a> is a deeper dive into environmental impact assessment law and practice. This can also link with <a href="#">Module 2.7</a> to provide a comparative analysis of environmental impact assessment (EIA) in ASEAN. It will provide an overview of the principles of EIA and the processes of EIA.	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.4</a> Environmental Crime and Compliance. This module focuses on elements of prosecutions for environmental offences.	1 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.5</a> Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and Litigation. This Module also links with <a href="#">Module 1.7 Climate Change Law and Litigation</a> and <a href="#">Module 2.8 Climate Change in ASEAN</a> .	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.6</a> is on pollution, plastics, chemicals, and waste. This also links with <a href="#">Module 2.4 ASEAN Plastics and Marine Pollution</a> .	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.7</a> is on Biodiversity Law and Protected Areas. This Module also links with <a href="#">Module 2.5 on Biodiversity protection in ASEAN</a> .	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.8</a> is about forestry law in Cambodia.	2 hours
<a href="#">Module 3.9</a> is about fisheries law in Cambodia.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 3.10</a> looks at the rights of indigenous peoples in Cambodia.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 3.11</a> is on Energy Law. This will look at general principles, energy resources, and energy regulation.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 3.12</a> refers to urban planning, land use, and town and city planning law. When completed this will look at the role and functions of local government authorities.	1 hour
<a href="#">Module 3.13</a> is on mining in Cambodia. This examines the law relating to mining and its impact on the environment and community.	1 hour