

# **ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SUMMARY**



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Sample

## Part 1: Sources of law

### Topic 1: The broad framework of environmental law

Environmental law is founded upon traditional philosophies and legal principles that do not necessarily value environmental protection as an end point. It is important to note from the outset that environmental law does not necessarily cater for 'environmental' values such as ecologically sustainable development. Rather, environmental law is principally concerned with development and other such activities and the procedures for their approval. The international and domestic sources of environmental law have largely developed in response to liberalism and private property rights.

#### 1.1 International sources

Given that the environment is not bound by political borders, by necessity, the character of environmental law is global. As such, the role of conventions and treaties is fundamental in developing international standards of environmental protection. For example, the *Convention on Biological Diversity, 1993* has aims for the international sphere to cooperate in biological diversity conservation and to promote ecological sustainability. The *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, 1991* promotes international cooperation in the conservation of animals, especially endangered species, migrating across nation States. The *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1997* ('*World Heritage Convention*') is important in promoting international cooperation to protect all forms of heritage, natural and cultural, that are of universal significance.



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