



A participant guide of the UN Climate Change process

Course Syllabus

Context

In 1992, countries agreed on an international treaty, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as a framework for international cooperation to combat climate change by limiting average global temperature increases and the resulting climate change and coping with impacts. There are 198 countries that have ratified the Convention, called *Parties to the Convention*, and every year, they hold a Conference of the Parties (COP).

Learning Objectives

This course introduces the international climate change regime, its three key instruments (The UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement), and the institutional arrangements for the climate change intergovernmental process. This course focuses on UNFCCC rules of procedure regarding the negotiation process as well as the mechanism for convening the Parties through various forums and working groups, including the presidency and bureau, observers and elections, and the decision making and reporting processes.

By completing this course, you will:

1. understand the international climate change regime:
 - a. the three instruments of the UN climate change regime – the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement.
 - b. how the UNFCCC operates through the COP process and major COP accomplishments.
 - c. the organization and administration of the annual COPs.
 - d. The institutional arrangements for the climate change intergovernmental process.

2. understand the draft Rules of Procedure of the Conference on the Parties, including:
 - a. responsibilities and operating procedures of governing, subsidiary, and other decision-making bodies.
 - b. the process for Parties to come to a consensus on the issues under negotiations.

Content & Duration

This online course includes two learning modules followed by a summary and a final assessment. It will take approximately one hour and half to complete this course. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You do not have to complete the entire course at once. Your progress is recorded where you pause, so you can restart from this point.

Completion Certificate

Take the final assessment at the end of the course to assess your learning progress. You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly to earn a course certificate.

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

Course Outline & Content

Module 1: Overview of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Process

Module 2: The Negotiations and Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Climate Change Process

Module 3: Summary

Module 4: Knowledge assessment

Take the free and self-paced course [HERE](#) (login required)