

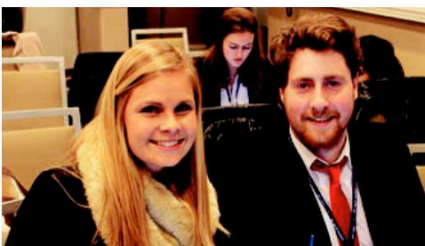
****Provided to Teton County Model United Nations with permission from the National Model United Nations Conference****

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND GUIDE 2017



Written by: Aiskell Román, Tyler Goudal, Danielle Erica Curtis,
and Mark Anthony Dizon



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



Table of Contents

Abbreviations.....	3
Committee Overview.....	4
Introduction	4
Governance, Structure, and Membership	5
Mandate, Functions, and Powers	5
Recent Sessions and Current Priorities.....	7
Conclusion	8
Annotated Bibliography	9
Bibliography	11
I. Combating Illegal Trade in Wildlife	13
Introduction	13
International and Regional Framework	14
Role of the International System	15
Effects of Illegal Trading in Wildlife	16
Governance and Enforcement	16
Supporting Local Communities.....	17
Conclusion	18
Further Research.....	18
Annotated Bibliography	19
Bibliography	23
II. Implementation of the Paris Agreement.....	28
Introduction	28
International and Regional Framework	28
Role of the International System	29
Development and Implementation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions	30
Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plan.....	31
Climate Finance.....	32
Capacity-Building and Technology Development	33
Conclusion	34
Further Research.....	34
Annotated Bibliography	35
Bibliography	39

Abbreviations

AC	Adaptation Committee
CITES	<i>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora</i>
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSO	Civil society organization
CTI-CFF	Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EMG	Environmental Management Group
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GDP	Gross domestic product
GHG	Greenhouse gas
IACSD	Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development
ICCWC	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
IIED	International Institute of Environment and Development
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
IOC-	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU	Illegal, unreported, and unregulated
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity Building
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIDS	Small island developing states
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
TEP	Technical Examination Process
TRAFFIC	Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCLOS	<i>United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea</i>
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	<i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</i>
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WCI	Wildlife Crime Initiative
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

The **United Nations Environment Assembly** (UNEA) is the governing body of the **United Nations Environment Programme** (UNEP), which is a programme and fund of the United Nations that reports to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

Committee Overview

Introduction

The United Nations (UN) Environment Programme (UNEP) is the “advocate, educator, catalyst, and facilitator” in promoting environmentally friendly practices and policies in the UN system.¹ It is a program and fund of the UN that ensures international, regional, and local coordination for environmental issues, and it also ensures that various other UN entities take environmental impacts into account when executing their missions.² UNEP reports to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).³

UNEP was created at the recommendation of the 1972 UN Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden.⁴ Six months later, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 1972 on “Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation,” which established UNEP as the official body concerned with environmental issues within the UN.⁵ Since that time, UNEP has played a significant role in coordinating environmental policy across various UN agencies.⁶ UNEP helped in the planning and execution of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992.⁷ UNCED led to the adoption of *Agenda 21*

(1992) and the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992).⁸ Chapter 38 of *Agenda 21* calls for the creation of an inter-agency task force that would research the best ways to identify and address environmental issues.⁹ This led to the creation of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD), of which UNEP is a key member.¹⁰ IACSD has a system of task managers, each in charge of specific thematic areas, with UNEP being the task manager concerned with the areas of the atmosphere, toxic chemicals, hazardous waste, desertification and drought, and biodiversity.¹¹ Twenty years after the adoption of the Rio Declaration, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) called for the creation of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to better execute the mandate of UNEP and place environmental issues in the same standing as health, security, and economics.¹²

To better promote friendly practices and the coordination of environmental issues, the General Assembly adopted resolution 67/251 of 2013 on “Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,” which formally established UNEA.¹³ Through its universal membership, UNEA aims to strengthen the role of UNEP in international affairs and increase the responsiveness and accountability of Member States in developing environmental policy.¹⁴ UNEA has held two universal sessions since its creation.¹⁵ The first

¹ UNEP, *What UNEP Does*.

² Ibid.

³ UN DPI, *The United Nations System*, 2015.

⁴ UNEP, *Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment*, 1972.

⁵ UN General Assembly, *Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation (A/RES/2997(XXVII))*, 1972.

⁶ UNEP, *What UNEP Does*.

⁷ UNEP, *UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ UNCED, *Agenda 21*, 1992.

¹⁰ UNEP, *UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² UN General Assembly, *The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288)*, 2012, p. 18.

¹³ UN General Assembly, *Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/RES/67/251)*, 2013.

¹⁴ UNEP, *About UNEA*, 2016; UN General Assembly, *Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled “Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development”, of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/RES/67/213)*, 2012, p. 3.

¹⁵ UNEP, *About UNEA*, 2016.

session of UNEA was held in June 2014 and a total of 17 resolutions and two decisions were adopted.¹⁶ The resolutions covered a wide range of topics, from marine plastic debris to environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.¹⁷ The second session of UNEA (UNEA-2) was held in May 2016 and focused on the environmental dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).¹⁸

Governance, Structure, and Membership

UNEP's structure includes the UNEA, Secretariat, Environment Fund, and Committee of Permanent Representatives.¹⁹ At its inception, a Governing Council of 58 members oversaw UNEP until UNEA took its place in 2013.²⁰ UNEA, comprised of all Member States, meets biennially to set the global environmental agenda and to discuss emerging challenges.²¹ The UNEP Secretariat is also responsible for supporting UNEA and consists of a rotating President, three Vice-Presidents, and a Rapporteur.²² The Environment Fund is UNEP's main source of funding.²³ Member States' financial contributions to the fund are based upon the Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions, which means Member States are not required to provide funding to UNEP, though they are highly encouraged to donate.²⁴ UNEP's Committee of Permanent Representatives consists of all Permanent Missions to the UN, and their purpose is to give advice to UNEA and create subsidiary organs that may be necessary to complete UNEP's functions.²⁵

UNEP has six regional offices throughout the world that undertake UNEP's projects on regional, sub-regional, and local levels.²⁶ Each office holds yearly Regional Consultation Meetings where representatives from various civil society organizations (CSOs) are invited to engage in an environmental policy dialogue.²⁷ The regional offices bring any concerns or ideas from these meetings to the next UNEA meeting for wider UNEP discussion and possible implementation.²⁸ The role of the regional offices was increased and enhanced to include the Regional Consultation Meetings and other projects in 2003, when the Governing Council approved decision 22/14 on the role of UNEP in strengthening regional activities.²⁹ This decision called for UNEP's regional offices to strengthen their partnerships with other UN agencies in their region, create financial institutions to fund environmental causes, and establish or enhance partnerships with relevant local groups to strengthen UNEP's mission in each region.³⁰

Mandate, Functions, and Powers

Upon the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 1972 on "Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation," UNEP was mandated to promote international and regional environmental cooperation; help in establishing environmental policy; highlight global and regional problems; facilitate the transfer of scientific knowledge; assist developing Member States in environmental matters; review reports of the Executive Director; and approve the annual program on the allocation of UNEP's main source

¹⁶ UNEP, *Resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session on 27 June 2014*, 2014.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ UNEP, *The path towards UNEA 2*.

¹⁹ UNEP, *UNEP Governance Structure*.

²⁰ UN General Assembly, *Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation (A/RES/2997(XXVII))*, 1972.

²¹ UNEP, *UNEP Governance Structure*.

²² UN General Assembly, *Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/67/784)*, 2013.

²³ UNEP, *UNEP Funding*.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ UNEP, *Committee of Permanent Representatives*.

²⁶ UNEP, *Major Groups and Stakeholders In The Regions*.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ UNEP, *Report of the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum*, 2003, pp. 61-62.

³⁰ Ibid, p. 9.

of funding, the Environment Fund.³¹ With the creation of UNEA and its universal membership, the mandate of UNEP has become more centered on the creation and promotion of environmental policy worldwide.³²

The first expansion of UNEP's mandate came in 1992 via *Agenda 21*, which led to UNEP's involvement with IACSD.³³ In 1995, the General Assembly held a special session to review the implementation of *Agenda 21* and amended UNEP's mandate by stating, "UNEP is to be the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda."³⁴ In 1997, the Secretary-General requested that the General Assembly create a Task Force to review and propose reforms for UN activities concerning the environment and human settlements.³⁵ In October 1998, per the guidance of the Task Force, the General Assembly put forth a set of recommendations that would further modify UNEP's mandate.³⁶ As a result, the Executive Director of UNEP was placed in charge of a new committee called the Environmental Management Group (EMG).³⁷ The key purpose of EMG is to coordinate and facilitate access to relevant information and findings concerning the environment and human settlements, in order to ensure the most efficient and cost-effective allocation of resources and information.³⁸

Upon the adoption of the *Nairobi Declaration* at the 19th session of the UNEP Governing Council in 1997, UNEP realigned its core mandate to ensure a more modern and technological approach to environmental issues.³⁹ The new core mandate made UNEP responsible for using the best available scientific methods and evidence to analyze global environmental trends; utilizing early warning systems; furthering the development of international environmental law and policy; monitoring and fostering Member State compliance with existing international environmental norms; strengthening its role in coordinating UN environmental activities; serving as a link between the scientific community and the UN; and providing key policy advice for UN bodies, governments, and other institutions.⁴⁰ In 2002, the *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development* called upon UNEP and its partners to cooperate more closely across sustainable development initiatives for the implementation of *Agenda 21*.⁴¹

Operating within the broad substantive priorities of UNEP, UNEA has a mandate to make major strategic decisions for UNEP, provide political guidance for state and regional programs, and promote scientifically-based environmental policies.⁴² UNEA has set a robust agenda for UNEP to address 12 specific thematic areas: coordinating the environmental dimension of the SDGs, implementing the *Paris Agreement*, promoting sustainable consumption and production, addressing food waste, safeguarding ecosystems, combating illegal trade in wildlife, advancing natural capital management, promoting biodiversity, monitoring and preserving air quality, protecting the environment in areas of conflict, preventing marine litter, and promoting waste management.⁴³ The new mandate of UNEA allows for better monitoring and fostering of Member State compliance within these 12 thematic areas while creating an atmosphere for collaboration between Member States, UN entities, and CSOs.⁴⁴

UNEP ensures the implementation of UNEA's agenda by promoting international cooperation on existing environmental policies, guides the creation of new environmental policies, and uses environmental awareness to help Member States and CSOs respond to environmental threats.⁴⁵ UNEP also monitors the state of the global environment on both an international and regional scale and shares that information with interested parties.⁴⁶ Under

³¹ UN General Assembly, *Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental co-operation (A/RES/2997(XXVII))*, 1972.

³² UN General Assembly, *The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288)*, 2012, p. 18.

³³ UNEP, *UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

³⁴ UN General Assembly, *Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (A/RES/S-19/2)*, 1997, par. 123.

³⁵ UNEP, *UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ UN General Assembly, *Environment and human settlements: Report of the Secretary-General (A/53/463)*, 1998.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ UNEP, *1997 - Nairobi Declaration redefines and strengthens UNEP's role and mandate; UNEP, UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

⁴⁰ New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2016-17*, 2016.

⁴¹ UNEP, *UNEP's Coordination Mandate*.

⁴² UNEP, *About UNEA*, 2016.

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ UN General Assembly, *The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288)*, 2012, pp. 17-18.

⁴⁵ UNEP, *What UNEP Does*.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

the direction of UNEA, UNEP works to develop international environmental law and ensure the proper use of environmental information and instruments.⁴⁷ To help achieve its mandate, UNEP has the ability to create task forces and subsidiaries to implement environmental policies.⁴⁸ However, the General Assembly or ECOSOC must approve any resolutions adopted by UNEP on environmental policy or creating new bodies.⁴⁹

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

UNEP currently operates under seven thematic priorities: climate change; disasters and conflicts; ecosystem management; environmental governance; chemicals and waste; resource efficiency; and environment under review.⁵⁰ A focus of these priorities is to decrease carbon emissions globally and promote the use of sustainable technologies in order to improve and maintain the state of the world's environment.⁵¹ These seven thematic priorities expire at the conclusion of the 2014-2017 Medium Term Strategy and have been renewed with minor alterations for the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021.⁵² Under the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021, "disasters and conflicts" will become "resilience to disasters and conflicts," "ecosystem management" will become "healthy and productive ecosystems," and "chemicals and waste" will become "chemicals, waste and air quality."⁵³ These seven areas were chosen because they represent the most pressing and emerging issues, allowing UNEP to operate flexibly at international, regional, and state levels.⁵⁴

The adoption of the SDGs has forever altered how the international community will develop sustainable development policy; the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 is a primary example of this.⁵⁵ Rather than focus on decreasing global carbon emissions as a component of climate change response, UNEA has directed UNEP to focus on climate change in relation to all three pillars of sustainable development.⁵⁶ By 2050, global demands for food are expected to increase by over 60% and global demands for water are expected to increase by over 55%.⁵⁷ In response to increasing resource demands and changing demographics, the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 focuses on improving utilization of natural resources that influence the social and economic dimensions of sustainable development.⁵⁸ UNEP also recognizes the crucial importance of implementing the *Paris Agreement* to address climate change.⁵⁹ As the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 has not yet come into action, performance measurements and indicators for how UNEA will hold Member States accountable under the *Paris Agreement* have not been fully developed.⁶⁰ However, during UNEA-2, the Assembly discussed various administrative and substantive issues that encompass the goal of the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 and how various targets will be measured.⁶¹

UNEA-2 was held 23-27 May 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya, with the theme "Delivering on the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."⁶² A total of 25 resolutions were adopted by the Assembly, ranging in coverage from administrative amendments and rules of procedure to substantive decisions on biodiversity and engaging with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁶³ In order to increase the participation of private sector and civil society stakeholders in UNEA-2, an online policy forum was used for disseminating information and

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ UN System Chief Executive Board of Coordination, *United Nations Environment Programme*.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ UNEP, *Medium Term Strategy 2014-2017*, 2015, p. 1.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid., p. 18.

⁵³ Ibid., p. 18.

⁵⁴ UNEP, *Policy Statement by Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary-General and UNEP Executive Director*, 2014.

⁵⁵ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

⁵⁶ UNEP, *Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021*, 2016, pp. 3-4.

⁵⁷ Ibid., p. 3.

⁵⁸ Ibid., pp. 2-4.

⁵⁹ Ibid., p. 4.

⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 54.

⁶¹ UNEP, *Documentation for UNEA 2*, 2016.

⁶² UNEP, *The path towards UNEA 2*.

⁶³ UNEP, *Documentation for UNEA 2*, 2016.



holding discussions on various topics of interest.⁶⁴ All adopted resolutions relate to one or more of the seven thematic priorities of UNEP and prepare for the implementation of the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021.⁶⁵

Conclusion

UNEP is the UN's official program concerned with the environment. Its expertise and knowledge is crucial for the implementation of a variety of established programs within the UN and Member States' governments. The creation of UNEA further accelerates UNEP's mission to ensure that the work of all UN entities, Member States, and CSOs are environmentally sustainable and in line with international laws and norms concerning the environment. The creation of an environmental entity with universal membership that oversees the world's environmental policy agenda reflects the growing importance of environmental issues and allows for a broader environmental agenda to be discussed and implemented to combat climate change as a whole.⁶⁶

Annotated Bibliography

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *UNEP's Coordination Mandate* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/newyork/UNEPsCoordinationMandate/tabid/56200/Default.aspx>

This webpage contains the entirety of UNEP's official mandate, including all amendments and updates. It gives dates, membership information, information about the Secretary-General Review requirements, and a multitude of other important facts that govern UNEP. This document is one of the most important sources of delegates participating in UNEP, because it gives detailed information about what can be done and/or suggested by the body. It contains links to programs, various UN entities, and other relevant links that delegates will find useful in further research for a variety of topics.

United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *What UNEP Does* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=493&>

This webpage gives the basic information concerning what UNEP does and how their responsibilities are executed. It gives a basic overview of what UNEP's mandate allows and how proposed programs and resolutions get put into action. Delegates should read over this page and follow the links to more detailed information in order to fully understand UNEP's powers and functions as a committee.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *About UNEA* [Website]. Retrieved 16 July 2016 from: <http://web.unep.org/unea/about-unea>

This website provides a basic understanding of UNEA and its role within UNEP, including its structure, mandate, and why it is important to the UN system. It is a critical location for delegates to begin their research as it provides brief summaries on the functions, recent and past sessions, and thematic issues of UNEA, while also providing links to detailed resolutions and reports on various topics. This website should help delegates to easily distinguish between UNEP and UNEA and understand how they are connected to each other.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Documentation for UNEA 2* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://web.unep.org/unea/documentation-unea-2>

As the official outcome document for UNEA-2 is not yet available, this website is critical for delegates to understand what took place at the second session of the UNEA. It includes links to all of the resolutions adopted and official working documents that include the provisional agenda and reports from various entities on thematic issues. These documents provide delegates with an

⁶⁴ UNEP, *The path towards UNEA 2*.

⁶⁵ UNEP, *Documentation for UNEA 2*, 2016.

⁶⁶ UN General Assembly, *Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/RES/67/213)*, 2012, p. 3.

understanding of the scope of issues UNEP addresses, as well as changes to the rules of procedure unique to UNEA as the governing body of UNEP.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021*. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from:

http://apps.unep.org/publications/index.php?option=com_pub&task=download&file=012120_en

This is the next medium term strategy for UNEP, which will take effect in 2018 when the current medium term strategy expires. This document is of particular importance for the delegates as it takes into consideration the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development while continuing to emphasize the seven priority areas. The document briefly outlines what has been achieved in the current medium strategy (more information is provided in the 2014-2015 Programme Performance Report) and uses a variety of statistics to illustrate the work and priorities of UNEP for the next five years.

Bibliography

- New Zealand, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2016). *United Nations Handbook 2016-17*. Retrieved 4 November 2016 from: https://mfat.govt.nz/assets/_securedfiles/Handbooks/United_Nations_Handbook-2016-2017.pdf
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). *Agenda 21* [Outcome Document]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf>
- United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2015). *The United Nations System* [Document]. Retrieved 25 September 2016 from: http://www.un.org/en/aboutun/structure/pdfs/UN_System_Chart_30June2015.pdf
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *1997 - Nairobi Declaration redefines and strengthens UNEP's role and mandate* [Website]. Retrieved 11 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/documents.multilingual/default.asp?DocumentID=287&ArticleID=1728&l=en>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Committee of Permanent Representatives* [Website]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/about/sgb/CommitteeofPermanentRepresentatives/tabid/129502/Default.aspx>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Major Groups and Stakeholders In The Regions* [Website]. Retrieved 11 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/civil-society/IntheRegions/RegionalConsultations/tabid/52196/Default.aspx>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *The path towards UNEA 2* [Website]. Retrieved 26 August 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/civil-society/civil-society/PathtowardsUNEA2/tabid/1060485/Default.aspx>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *UNEP's Coordination Mandate* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/newyork/UNEPsCoordinationMandate/tabid/56200/Default.aspx>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *UNEP Funding* [Website]. Retrieved 3 September 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/about/funding/>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *UNEP Governance Structure* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/about/sgb/UNEPGovernanceStructure/tabid/129494/Default.aspx>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *What UNEP Does* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=493&>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (1972). *Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment*. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?documentid=97&articleid=1503>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (2003). *Report of the Twenty-Second Session of the Governing Council/Global Environment Forum*. Retrieved 9 July 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/gc/gc22/REPORTS/K0360710English.pdf>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (2014, June 27). *Policy Statement by Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary-General and UNEP Executive Director* [News Article]. Retrieved 31 October 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/NewsCentre/default.aspx?DocumentID=2791&ArticleID=10930>
- United Nations Environment Programme. (2014). *Resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its first session on 27 June 2014*

[Outcome Document]. Retrieved 21 July 2016 from:
<http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Special%20Programme/UNEA%20Special%20Programme%20resolution%201-5%20and%20annex%20II.pdf>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2015). *Medium Term Strategy for 2014-2017*. Retrieved 9 July 2016 from: www.unep.org/pdf/MTS_2014-2017_Final.pdf

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *About UNEA* [Website]. Retrieved 16 July 2016 from: <http://web.unep.org/unea/about-unea>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Documentation for UNEA 2* [Website]. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from: <http://web.unep.org/unea/documentation-unea-2>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021*. Retrieved 18 July 2016 from:
http://apps.unep.org/publications/index.php?option=com_pub&task=download&file=012120_en

United Nations, General Assembly, Twenty-seventh session. (1972). *Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation (A/RES/2997(XXVII))* [Resolution]. Adopted on the report of the Second Committee. Retrieved 16 July 2016 from:
[http://undocs.org/A/RES/2997\(XXVII\)](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2997(XXVII))

United Nations, General Assembly, Nineteenth special session. (1997). *Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (A/RES/S-19/2)* [Resolution]. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/S-19/29). Retrieved 16 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/S-19/2>

United Nations, General Assembly, Fifty-third session. (1998). *Environment and human settlements. Report of the Secretary-General (A/53/463)*. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/53/463>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-sixth session. (2012). *The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288)* [Outcome Document]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/288>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-seventh session. (2012). *Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled “Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development”, of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/RES/67/213)* [Resolution]. Adopted on the report of the Second Committee (A/67/437/Add.7). Retrieved 18 July 2016 from:
<http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/213>

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-seventh session. (2013). *Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/RES/67/251)* [Resolution]. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/67/784). Retrieved 18 July 2016 from:
<http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/251>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 1 September 2016 from:
<http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations System Chief Executive Board of Coordination. (n.d.). *United Nations Environment Programme* [Website]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://www.unsceb.org/content/unep>

I. Combating Illegal Trade in Wildlife

“Time is running out to save some of the world’s most iconic species. Much more needs to be done by key actors on all continents and across sectors to combat poaching and address both the demand and the supply of wildlife products.”⁶⁷

Introduction

On World Wildlife Day, 3 March 2016, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reported that animal poaching increased by an astounding 8,000% in the past seven years.⁶⁸ Similarly, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) identified that the demand for animal and forestry products continues to drive the illegal wildlife trade.⁶⁹ The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) notes in their *Living Planet Report* that within the past 40 years over 58% of the world’s animal populations have decreased, with the status of vertebrate animals declining by 58% and freshwater species declining by an alarming 81%.⁷⁰ WWF recognizes illegal trade in wildlife as the second biggest threat to species after environmental damage.⁷¹ The ongoing poaching and hunting of these animals will lead to their eventual extinction, with elephants, rhinoceroses, and tigers representing three of the most endangered species that are killed annually in large numbers for their skins, bones, and ivory.⁷² Additionally, some species are used for traditional medicine, food, and décor products, or captured as prize animals for the pet trade.⁷³ In Cameroon, for instance, 450 elephants were reported killed in 2012 in Bouba Ndjida National Park by poachers.⁷⁴ Since 2010, UNODC has estimated that 7,500 elephants were poached for market purposes, with an annual gross income of \$100 million and an average price of \$2 million per elephant.⁷⁵ African states are increasingly under threat when it comes to the poaching of animals, with each region facing distinct problems.⁷⁶ UNODC reports that Central Africa struggles with elephant ivory poaching, while Southern Africa struggles with rhinoceros horn poaching.⁷⁷ South Africa over the past years has experienced a 30% rise in rhinoceros poaching with just over 600 in 2012 to over 1,000 rhinoceroses poached in 2013.⁷⁸ This also includes the black rhinoceros, which is recognized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as critically in danger, with approximately 4,000 remaining in the wild to date.⁷⁹ As a result, animal poaching causes significant economic damage to the economies of these regions due to environmental damage, corruption, and support of criminal networks.⁸⁰

UNEP notes that due to the increase animal poaching, biodiversity is threatened and could lead to the extinction of some of the most fragile species, which would negatively affect social and economic development.⁸¹ The second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) recognized the need to take a stance at a global level to combat the illegal trade in wildlife, but also the need for regional and international cooperation.⁸² UNEP recognizes that the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are intrinsically linked with the environment, given that sustainable development cannot be achieved if there is not a sustainable environment.⁸³ Illegal trading in wildlife not only affects the species and ecosystems in question,

⁶⁷ UNODC, *On World Wildlife Day UN Implores Urgent Action to End Poaching Crisis*, 2016

⁶⁸ Ibid.; UNEP, *The Rise of Environmental Crime*, 2016.

⁶⁹ UNEP, *Illegal Trade in Wildlife Fact Sheet*, 2016, p. 1.

⁷⁰ WWF et al., *Living Planet Report*, 2016, p. 3.

⁷¹ WWF, *Unsustainable and illegal wildlife trade*, 2016.

⁷² WWF, *Illegal Wildlife Trade*, 2016.

⁷³ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 4.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ UNEP, *Illegal Trade in Wildlife Fact Sheet*, 2016, pp. 1-2.

⁷⁶ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 5.

⁷⁷ Ibid., p. 4.

⁷⁸ WWF, *Black Rhino*, 2016.

⁷⁹ WWF, *Black Rhino*, 2016; Doak, *Polishing off the Ivory: Surveys of Thailand’s Ivory Market*, 2014.

⁸⁰ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 4.

⁸¹ UNEP, *Illegal Trade in Wildlife Fact Sheet*, 2016, p. 4.

⁸² TRAFFIC International, *UN adopts resolution on tackling wildlife trafficking*, 2015.

⁸³ World Bank, *United Nations System and International Organizations Applaud Sustainable Development Commitments Made by the World’s Governments to Battle Illegal Wildlife Trade*, 2015.

but it also affects the livelihoods and economies of local communities and undermines the efforts of the global community to achieve sustainable development.⁸⁴

International and Regional Framework

The *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES) was signed and recognized by over 80 countries in 1973.⁸⁵ Today, CITES acts as an information platform for endangered species and regulates international trade for over 35,000 species worldwide.⁸⁶ At each annual conference additional species are considered by members for CITES listing.⁸⁷ *Agenda 21*, adopted in 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, recognizes the importance of low-cost, community-managed systems for the collection and sharing of information relation to the status of wildlife, as well as it highlights the importance of ecotourism to local communities and the need to support and manage it.⁸⁸ Principle 4 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* states that “in order to achieve sustainable development, environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it.”⁸⁹

In 2015, the first United Nations (UN) resolution on wildlife trafficking was adopted; the resolution on “Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife” was referred to by UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner as a “historic step forward” and one in which he believes will “spark the firm and concerted international action needed to combat poaching and those who profit from it.”⁹⁰ This resolution led to the reexamination of practices surrounding the trade in wildlife.⁹¹ The resolution encourages all Member States “to develop sustainable and alternative livelihoods for communities affected by illicit trafficking” in wildlife, adopt effective measures to prevent wildlife crime by strengthening actions against both supply and demand, and strengthen enforcement and criminal justice responses to these crimes.⁹² Additionally, the UN Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2013/40 on “Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora.”⁹³ The resolution focused on ways in which Member States can utilize UN frameworks on organized transnational crime to combat illegal trading in wildlife while also strengthening their national legal and criminal regimes and law enforcement and judiciary capacity.⁹⁴

A number of the SDGs and underlying targets will contribute to fighting the illegal trade in wildlife including SDG

1, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17, which calls upon Member States to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, sea, and marine resources for sustainable development and protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems.”⁹⁵ Target 15 specifically sets out to “take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.”⁹⁶ Following the adoption of the SDGs, regional conferences were held in London, Kasane, and, Brazzaville to address the issue at large with all three recognizing the importance of engaging with local communities for the planning, management, and use of wildlife for sustainable development means.⁹⁷

⁸⁴ UN General Assembly, *Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife (A/RES/69/314)*, 2015.

⁸⁵ CITES, *What is CITES?*.

⁸⁶ CITES, *United Nations General Assembly Resolutions on Tackling Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife and the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2016.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ UNCED, *Agenda 21*, 1992.

⁸⁹ UNCED, *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, 1992.

⁹⁰ UNEP, *First UN Resolution on Wildlife Trafficking Historic Step Forward, Chief of UN Environment Programme Says*, 2015.

⁹¹ UN General Assembly, *Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife (A/RES/69/314)*, 2015.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ UN ECOSOC, *Crime Prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna (E/RES/2013/40)*, 2013.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ Kasane Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, *Statement*, 2015, pp. 3-6.

Role of the International System

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recognized the need to encourage international cooperation from all levels of society to incorporate environmental policy into development strategies.⁹⁸ The summit identified nine major groups including: business and industry, children and youth, farmers, indigenous people, local authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the scientific and technological community, women, and workers and trade unions.⁹⁹ In 2010, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) was established and its membership includes CITES, The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), UNODC, the World Bank, and the World Customs Organization.¹⁰⁰ The purpose of the consortium is to offer communities coordinated enforcement support by centralizing the efforts and resources available from its membership.¹⁰¹ INTERPOL works to dismantle the criminal networks and to gather information and intelligence for local communities to support law enforcement on all levels.¹⁰² Furthermore, INTERPOL works to heighten knowledge and the profile of environmental crime to motivate action by states and law enforcement.¹⁰³ UNODC took the lead in developing the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytical Toolkit.¹⁰⁴ The toolkit outlines the purpose, concepts, and objectives to countries who wish to combat illegal trade in wildlife.¹⁰⁵ In addition, it provides users with a guide to all areas pertaining to the illegal trade of wildlife such as legislation, enforcement, judiciary and prosecution, drivers, and data analysis.¹⁰⁶

Civil society plays a major role in addressing the lack of resources provided to combat the illegal trade in wildlife.¹⁰⁷ Many organizations such as the WWF, IUCN, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), The Thin Green Line Foundation, and others provide awareness and educational resources to the international community.¹⁰⁸ They do this through campaigning, as well providing much needed resources, including equipment, funding, and reports on the dangers facing wildlife, and the communities surrounding them.¹⁰⁹ In addition, civil society organizations work to alleviate the burden of wildlife trafficking on communities by empowering people to protect wildlife through education programs, training, and financial and non-financial incentives to discourage trafficking.¹¹⁰

IUCN is the world's largest and most diverse environmental organizations focusing on issues ranging from species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.¹¹¹ Another large organization, WWF, uses scientific research to recognize a number of endangered species worldwide and produces annual reports addressing this.¹¹² WWF has been a part of a number of wildlife recovery efforts such as Southern Africa's black rhinoceros where WWF worked by empowering local people to protect wildlife and work in coordination with The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (TRAFFIC) to stop wildlife crime.¹¹³ TRAFFIC, established in 1976 as a part of a strategic alliance of WWF and IUCN, is an NGO that works globally on combating trade in wild animals and plants.¹¹⁴ TRAFFIC focuses on combining research and

⁹⁸ Halle & Dodds, *UNEP and Civil Society: An Exchange*, 2016, p. 5.

⁹⁹ UN DESA, *About Major Groups and other stakeholders*.

¹⁰⁰ UNEP, *Illegal Trade in Wildlife Fact Sheet*, 2016, p. 2.

¹⁰¹ UNEP, *The Rise of Environmental Crime*, 2016, p. 4.

¹⁰² INTERPOL, *Vision and mission*, 2016.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ CITES, *Heads of global consortium to fight wildlife crime meet to discuss future strategies to combat transnational organized wildlife and forest crime*, 2013.

¹⁰⁵ UNODC, *Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit: Revised Edition*, 2012, p. 6; UNODC, *ICCWC*, 2016.

¹⁰⁶ UNODC, *Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit: Revised Edition*, 2012, p. 9.

¹⁰⁷ International Fund for Animal Welfare, *Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade*, 2011.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Halle & Dodds, *UNEP and Civil Society: An Exchange*, 2016, p. 5.

¹¹⁰ UNODC, *UNODC calls for support to beat the illegal trade in wildlife*, 2014; UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Illegal Wildlife and Timber*.

¹¹¹ IUCN, *About*, 2016.

¹¹² WWF, *Snow Leopard*, *WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*, 2016; WWF, *Polar Bear*, *WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*, 2016; WWF, *Mountain Gorilla*, *WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*, 2016; WWF, *Asian Elephant*, *WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*; WWF *African Elephant*, *WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*, 2016.

¹¹³ WWF, *What does WWF do?*, 2016.

¹¹⁴ TRAFFIC International, *What we do*, 2008.

analysis to produce guidance to local communities and organizations on a wide range of wildlife trade issues.¹¹⁵ The Wildlife Crime Initiative (WCI) is a collaborative initiative between WWF and TRAFFIC to support civil society.¹¹⁶ WCI acts as a vital link between international organizations, local governments, businesses, and consumers, and its overall aim is to create systematic change with all sectors through four core pillars.¹¹⁷ The four pillars are to stop the poaching, trafficking, and buying of wildlife and to implement international policy to ensure an enabling environment to achieve them all.¹¹⁸

Effects of Illegal Trading in Wildlife

Illegal trade of wildlife threatens local ecosystems and negatively impacts the economic stability of many developing states that depend on local tourism.¹¹⁹ The illicit ivory and rhinoceros horn trade within both China and Africa weakens macroeconomic and fiscal stability of developing regions.¹²⁰ It has a negative impact on ecotourism, deters investment in a region, contributes to income inequality, and hinders growth at all levels of the economy.¹²¹ The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) notes that an increase in wildlife crime can result in widespread inequality, poverty, and underfunding for ongoing conservation efforts.¹²² Tourism was recognized by General Assembly resolution 66/288 as being capable of making a significant contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as becoming a key sector in developing a green economy for sustainable development.¹²³ UNWTO notes that in 2013, the total international tourism receipts for Africa came to a total of \$34.2 billion, with numbers expected to double by 2020.¹²⁴ The illegal trade in wildlife leads to the exploitation of not only endangered species, but also local governments and people.¹²⁵ This exploitation occurs due to lack of protection over biodiverse lands, ineffective laws, weak judicial systems, and light sentences afforded to these criminal networks.¹²⁶ This leads to an industry of corruption, densely populated by organized crime groups.¹²⁷ UNODC reports that environmental crime has become more lucrative over the past years, leading to an increasing organized black market industry.¹²⁸

Governance and Enforcement

Since the early 1990s, community conservatories have become increasingly more effective in tackling wildlife trafficking than that of international action.¹²⁹ In Africa, local conservatories are now responsible for a vast majority of protected lands, but due to lack of regulations surrounding protected land, protected lands account for only 7% of land mass within the area, most of which is home to the African elephant.¹³⁰ The conservatories offer a unique attribute in that they can offer local support in remote areas that governments cannot usually monitor.¹³¹ Conservatories illustrate the link between environmental protection and development, as their presence generates financial and non-financial benefits for the local communities involved.¹³² As an example, in Zimbabwe, local organizations aid in protecting the interests of the local economy by supporting farmers and protecting wildlife.¹³³

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ WWF, *Wildlife Crime Initiative*, 2016.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁹ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 1.

¹²⁰ UNWTO, *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa*, 2015, pp. 5-22.

¹²¹ Ibid.

¹²² Ibid.

¹²³ Ibid., pp. 5-24.

¹²⁴ Ibid., pp. 5-24.

¹²⁵ UNODC, *Financial Flows from Wildlife Crime*.

¹²⁶ WWF, *Causes of Illegal Trafficking of Wildlife*, 2016.

¹²⁷ UNWTO, *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa*, 2015, p. 40.

¹²⁸ UNODC, *Financial Flows from Wildlife Crime*.

¹²⁹ IIED, *Conservation, crime and communities: case studies of efforts to engage local communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade*, 2015, p. 11.

¹³⁰ African Wildlife Foundation, *Tackling Poaching & Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Africa*, 2014.

¹³¹ IIED, *Conservation, crime and communities: case studies of efforts to engage local communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade*, 2015, p. 10.

¹³² Ibid., p. 13.

¹³³ Worldwatch Institute, *Wildlife Conservation Offers Economic Benefits to Zimbabwe Farmer*, 2013.

Rhino Conservation Trust notes farming communities benefit economically from being incorporated in efforts to save the rhinoceros population, which allows farmer to realize that protecting wildlife with sustainable farming methods can be to their own best interest.¹³⁴

Since 2008, INTERPOL has coordinated several operations targeting the illegal trade in wildlife; the most recent operation, Operation Worthy II, took place in 2015 and targeted ivory trafficking in Africa.¹³⁵ Operation Worthy II was supported by The Wildcat Foundation and IFAW through INTERPOL's Project Wisdom.¹³⁶ Project Wisdom was founded in 2008 to investigate and dismantle major environmental crime networks and infrastructure.¹³⁷ Since May 2016, INTERPOL has made significant development on targeting and arresting environmental criminals in East Africa.¹³⁸ The purpose of Project Wisdom is to cooperate and collaborate with local law enforcement, to support them and provide information exchange, whilst emphasizing deterrence.¹³⁹ Project Wisdom ensures that community voices are supported and strengthened by recognizing the importance of community and local enforcement participation in the decision-making process.¹⁴⁰

The need for stronger community enforcement was echoed by Member States at a symposium held by the Centre for Energy, Environment and Sustainability, Sustainable Livelihoods Specialist Group, and the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED).¹⁴¹ The symposium, which took place in late 2015, was organized to address the severe rise in wildlife trafficking in 2015.¹⁴² The symposium highlighted that wildlife trafficking is as much a development issue as it is a conservation and environmental one.¹⁴³ IIED recognizes community-based wildlife management as a vital tool to tackle the illegal trade of wildlife.¹⁴⁴ The IIED "Theory of Change" focuses on solutions coming from the bottom up, which are grounded in local context and owned and driven by local people.¹⁴⁵

The IIED suggests that a "Theory of Change" will have to occur in local communities to "strengthen disincentives for illegal behavior, increase incentives for protecting and managing local wildlife via financial and non-financial means, decreasing the costs of living with wildlife, and lastly by supporting alternative livelihoods not funded by criminal activities associated with the illegal trafficking of wildlife."¹⁴⁶

Supporting Local Communities

The extinction of species can have significant economic impacts on local communities' tourism industries.¹⁴⁷ UNWTO highlights that wildlife watching and wildlife tourism provide approximately 60% of the income of most African regions.¹⁴⁸ Wildlife poaching and the illegal trafficking of wildlife threaten the long-term sustainability of these areas, as well as development opportunities.¹⁴⁹ Wildlife tourism has direct economic benefits for the region through the creation of employment opportunities for the local community and offers indirect benefits linked to redistribution of protected area fees and community funds.¹⁵⁰

In 2014, approximately 200 rangers were killed while protecting endangered animals.¹⁵¹ WWF found that there is a severe lack of support for wildlife rangers.¹⁵² It surveyed 530 rangers, across 11 tiger range countries, and found that

¹³⁴ African Forestry and Wildlife Commission, *Long Term Impact of Illegal Hunting and Trade of Wildlife Products on Conservation Efforts in Africa*, 2016.

¹³⁵ INTERPOL, *Vision and mission*, 2016.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ INTERPOL, *Elephant ivory and rhino horn trafficking targeted across Africa in Operation Worthy II*, 2015.

¹³⁸ Ibid.

¹³⁹ INTERPOL, *Projects*, 2016.

¹⁴⁰ IUCN, *Beyond Enforcement: Communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combatting wildlife crime*, 2015.

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

¹⁴⁴ Biggs et. al., *Engaging local communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade, Can a 'theory of change' work?*, 2015, p. 1.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 4.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid., p. 11.

¹⁴⁷ IIED, *IIED launches new five-year strategy*, 2014.

¹⁴⁸ UNWTO, *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa*, 2015.

¹⁴⁹ WWF, *The Economic Value of Virunga National Park*, 2013.

¹⁵⁰ UNWTO, *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa*, 2015.

¹⁵¹ WWF, *Ranger Perceptions Africa*, 2016.

63% had faced a life threatening situation at least once in their time as a ranger.¹⁵³ Further issues faced by rangers are a lack of equipment and inadequate training.¹⁵⁴ Another issue identified in the WWF survey was the lack of work-life balance, with many reporting irregular incomes and lack of payment in some situations.¹⁵⁵ Rangers have become the first line of defense and means of protecting endangered species as animal poaching rises.¹⁵⁶ In May 2016, the 8th Annual Rangers Congress took place and noted that bravery is no longer enough and proper support is needed.¹⁵⁷ To address this, The Thin Green Line Foundation provides rangers with essential training and equipment to carry out their role as front line defenders and provides financial support to the widows and orphans of those who are killed.¹⁵⁸ The majority of their services are aimed at developing regions, with a number of projects ongoing in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Sumatra, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Thailand, and Vietnam.¹⁵⁹ The objectives of the projects vary from providing training and equipment, to the provision of shelter and infrastructure for the rangers, to more technological solutions such as anti-poaching drones, which have been tested in both Zimbabwe and Zambia.¹⁶⁰

Conclusion

Wildlife crime is no longer a distinct environmental issue as there is an intrinsic link between the environment and social and economic development.¹⁶¹ Illegal trafficking of wildlife hinders the achievement of SDGs 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17.¹⁶² Environmental crime has increased exponentially and unless strong intervention occurs on both a regional and international level, it will continue to rise.¹⁶³ Partnership and engagement with local communities will play a significant role in preventing these environmental crimes.¹⁶⁴ Wildlife crime has become a serious threat to the sovereignty of many Member States.¹⁶⁵ This threat has led to civil conflict, alongside the destruction of many biodiverse landscapes and species.¹⁶⁶

Further Research

As delegates proceed in research, there are multiple questions to keep in mind. How can the IIED's theory of change be effectively implemented? How can local governments provide better supports and infrastructures to park rangers? How well grounded is the prohibition of illegal trafficking of wildlife within the SDGs? Is there a need for more specific resolutions targeting key areas and issues surrounding the illegal trading of wildlife? In practice, how well have partnership programs worked in tackling the illegal trafficking of wildlife and can other areas be identified in which partnership programs can benefit? Can any other key stakeholders be addressed? How can local community engagement on the issue be effective?

Annotated Bibliography

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (n.d.). *CITES Strategic Vision 2008 – 2020*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from:

<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/res/16/E-Res-16-03.pdf>

This strategic plan provides an in-depth analysis of where the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species lies now, with 178 parties having signed it since its formation. The strategic vision will prove useful for delegates as it evaluates the place of CITES within the

¹⁵² Ibid.

¹⁵³ Ibid.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

¹⁵⁶ Halle & Dodds, *UNEP and Civil Society: An Exchange*, 2016, p. 2.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸ The Thin Green Line Foundation, *Our Story*, 2016.

¹⁵⁹ The Thin Green Line Foundation, *Our Projects*, 2016.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid.; Richardson Center for Global Engagement, *Protecting Threatened Wildlife with Technology and Training*, 2013.

¹⁶¹ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 4.

¹⁶² UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.

¹⁶³ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*, p. 4.

¹⁶⁴ TRAFFIC International, *UN adopts resolution on tackling wildlife trafficking*, 2015.

¹⁶⁵ UNEP, *The Rise of Environment Crime*, 2016.

¹⁶⁶ UNODC, *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*.

development agenda as well as the environmental one. The paper recognizes the conservation of wildlife as an integral part of the global ecosystem. The strategic vision also encourages the promotion and wider involvement of NGOs and civil society and recognizes that for the Convention to be effective, it requires equal commitment from all signatories across the board. The strategic vision is set out in three broad and simple goals; each with concise underlying objectives that demonstrate how they can be achieved that will be important for delegates to learn.

European Commission. (2016). *EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2016:87:FIN>

In this report, published in 2016, the European Commission examines the importance of coordinating efforts across Europe to combat illegal trade in wildlife. Europe acts as a key player in combating illegal trade in wildlife as it is currently a destination market for trafficking in transit to other regions. This report analyzes the importance of strengthening and coordinating the efforts of Member States and the international community. Overall, the document identifies many key themes within the debate of illegal trafficking of wildlife and acts as a good source for delegates as it makes reference to key international conventions and task forces which have been established to combat this issue.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2015). *Sustainable Wildlife Management and Human-Wildlife Conflict*. Retrieved 12 September 2016 from: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4893e.pdf>

The following briefing will provide delegates with a very concise look at both wildlife-human conflict and human-human conflict which is caused due to wildlife and the illegal trafficking of wildlife. The briefing identifies and explores the following issues: safety and security, food security and livelihoods, the causes of human-wildlife conflict and the consequences and opportunities surrounding it. This document will provide delegates with a good basis for further research in terms of initiatives which have evolved to combat human-wildlife conflicts. One key component of the paper to guide delegates in their research is the section dedicated to what is still to be learned which addresses key questions which are still yet to be addressed by the international community in terms of trafficking of wildlife.

Kasane Conference on The Illegal Wildlife Trade. (2015). *Statement*. Retrieved 19 July 2016 from: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417231/kasane-statement-150325.pdf

This statement provides a concise and in-depth analysis on the outcomes and discussions which took place in Kasane, Botswana on the 25th of March 2015 between representatives of government and regional economic integration organizations on the topic of illegal trafficking in wildlife. It also provides an update on the workings which have taken place since the London 2014 conference, hosted by David Cameron. The statement clearly outlines the actions needed to be taken by the international community in order to combat the illegal trading of wildlife.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-ninth session. (2015). *Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife (A/RES/69/314)* [Resolution]. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.80 and Add.1). Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/314>

On 30 July 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution on 'Tackling Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife,' which is cognizant of the discussions which took place at UNEA-2. The resolution not only expresses the concerns of the international community but also illustrates the rising political concern over this issue. The resolution calls for strengthened national measures, and an enhanced regional and global response at the issue. The resolution addresses both the issue of supply and demand, as well as the need for prosecution of offences relation to the illegal trafficking of wildlife, whilst also encouraging targeted strategies to help economies dependent on the trading of wildlife. The resolution recognizes that the development of comprehensive and cohesive

structures surrounding the illegal trafficking of wildlife is required for the future of sustainable development.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from:

<http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

In order for delegates to understand and fully appreciated the intrinsic link between the prohibition of illegal trafficking of wildlife and sustainable development, they will have to

undertake an assessment of the SDGs. There is an intrinsic link between the environment and the SDG's in over half of the SDGs and over 86 of the targets laid out under each goal. In particular the one of more importance will be goal 15 which makes a distinct reference to the illegal trafficking of wildlife. UNEP has recognized the substantial role that the environment will play in delivering on the SDG's, as the environment is noted as providing many of the key material resources which act as foundations in achieving the 17 SDG's. Examples of this are land, construction material, energy, food and substance.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber*

[Fact Sheet]. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from:

https://www.unodc.org/documents/toc/factsheets/TOC12_fs_environment_EN_HIRE_S.pdf

This fact sheet illustrates the intrinsic link between transnational organized crime and trading of wildlife and timber. The fact sheets centers its attention on two main areas: first, wildlife trafficking in Africa and South-East Asia, and second, trafficking in timber from South-East Asia to the European Union. This fact sheet provides delegates with a regional outlook on these issues, as well as the flows and prices of the different commodities and the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to combat these entering the market.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.) *Financial Flows from Wildlife Crime* [Report]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from:

https://www.unodc.org/documents/Wildlife/Financial_Flow_Wildlife_Crime.pdf

This report offers a good overview and synopsis for delegates on the financial flows from wildlife crime. It a concise digest which will expose delegates to the not only the financial flow from wildlife, but the idea that when identifying the financial flow one must target the operational costs that organized criminal gangs use to initiate illegal poaching of animals. The digest identifies UNODC as having a crucial role to play in this area. The aim of monitoring the financial flow is retrospective as well as proactive. This guide offers delegates a number of questions which will identify opportunities for delegates to provide solutions, as well as guiding them in further research.

United Nations World Tourism Organization. (2015). *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa* [Report]. Retrieved 9 September 2016 from:

<http://cf.cdn.unwto.org/sites/all/files/docpdf/unwtowildlifepaper.pdf>

This paper provides delegates with an excellent example of how the illegal poaching and trafficking of wildlife can have a detrimental effect on the economies of local communities. The briefing provides an overview as to how tourism enables sustainable development within these regions and how the act of illegal trafficking of wildlife could destabilize the economies beyond repair. It also evaluates the cost and economic value of wildlife watching tourism, as well as giving delegates an inside to living examples through the use of surveys and fact sheets throughout the briefing paper.

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Ranger Perceptions Africa*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from:
[http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/880/files/original/Ranger_Perception_Africa_\(FINAL\).pdf?1464013250 & ga=1.220906328.1121466110.1468455195](http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/880/files/original/Ranger_Perception_Africa_(FINAL).pdf?1464013250&ga=1.220906328.1121466110.1468455195)

This survey conducted by the WWF provides delegates with an excellent insight into the social dimension of the illegal trading in wildlife. The survey was done with a total of 570 responses from 65 sites, in 12 different African countries including Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Through the responses, which are clearly illustrated via diagrams, delegates get an insight into the threats facing rangers in Africa. From the results, there arose a number of recommendations which should be implemented to improve conditions for rangers in the areas of basic employment conditions, education, access to proper and critical equipment, and increased studies in how to best support the welfare of rangers.

Bibliography

- African Forestry and Wildlife Commission. (2016). *Long Term Impact of Illegal Hunting and Trade of Wildlife Products on Conservation Efforts in Africa*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mp571e.pdf>
- African Wildlife Foundation. (2014). *Tackling Poaching & Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Africa*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: [https://www.awf.org/sites/default/files/media/Resources/Facts%26amp%3B%20Brochures/Wildlife trafficking booklet_lower-res.pdf](https://www.awf.org/sites/default/files/media/Resources/Facts%26amp%3B%20Brochures/Wildlife%20trafficking%20booklet_lower-res.pdf)
- Biggs, D., et. al. (2015). *Engaging local communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade: Can a 'Theory of Change' help?*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/14656IIED.pdf>
- Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (n.d.). *CITES Strategic Vision 2008 – 2020*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/res/16/E-Res-16-03.pdf>
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (n.d.). *What is CITES?* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <https://www.cites.org/eng/disc/what.php>
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (2013, March 5). *Heads of global consortium to fight wildlife crime meet to discuss future strategies to combat transnational organized wildlife and forest crime*. Retrieved 30 September from: https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/2013/20130305_icwc.php
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (2016). *United Nations General Assembly Resolutions on Tackling Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife and the Sustainable Development Goals*. Retrieved 12 September 2016 from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/E-SC66-13.pdf>
- Doak, N. (2014). *Polishing off the Ivory: Surveys of Thailand's Ivory Market*. TRAFFIC International. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://www.trafficj.org/publication/14_Polishing_off_the_Ivory_Thailand.pdf
- European Commission. (2016). *EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2016:87:FIN>
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2015). *Sustainable Wildlife Management and Human-Wildlife Conflict*. Retrieved 12 September 2016 from: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4893e.pdf>
- Halle, M., & F. Dodds. (2016). *UNEP and Civil Society: An Exchange*. Perspectives. Retrieved 12 September from: http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/perspectives/PERSPECTIVE%2020_5.pdf
- International Criminal Police Organization. (2015, December 22). *Elephant ivory and rhino horn trafficking targeted across Africa in Operation Worthy II*. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2015/N2015-231>
- International Criminal Police Organization. (2016). *Operations* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/Operations>
- International Criminal Police Organization. (2016). *Projects* [Website]. Retrieved 1 November 2016 from: <https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/Projects/Project-Wisdom>

- International Criminal Police Organization. (2016). *Vision and mission* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <https://www.interpol.int/About-INTERPOL/Vision-and-mission>
- International Fund for Animal Welfare. (2011). *Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: [http://www.ifaw.org/sites/default/files/Wildlife Trade Fact Sheet.pdf](http://www.ifaw.org/sites/default/files/Wildlife%20Trade%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf)
- International Institute for Environment and Development. (2014). *IIED launches new five-year strategy* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <http://www.iied.org/iied-launches-new-five-year-strategy>
- International Institute for Environment and Development. (2015). *Beyond enforcement: Engaging communities in tackling wildlife crime*. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/17293IIED.pdf>
- International Institute for Environment and Development. (2015). *Conservation, crime and communities: case studies of efforts to engage local communities in tackling illegal wildlife trade*. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/14648IIED.pdf>
- International Union for Conservation of Nature. (2015). *Beyond Enforcement: Communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combating wildlife crime* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <https://www.iucn.org/content/beyond-enforcement-communities-governance-incentives-and-sustainable-use-combating-wildlife>
- International Union for Conservation of Nature. (2016). *About* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <https://www.iucn.org/about>
- Kasane Conference on The Illegal Wildlife Trade. (2015). *Statement*. Retrieved 19 July 2016 from: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417231/kasane-statement-150325.pdf
- Richardson Center for Global Engagement. (2013). *Protecting Threatened Wildlife in Africa with Technology and Training*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/654/files/original/PROCEEDINGS_WWF_RICHARDSON_A_P_FORUM_FINAL.pdf?1387832358&_ga=1.187763304.1121466110.1468455195
- The Thin Green Line Foundation. (2016). *Our Projects* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <https://www.thingreenline.org.au/our-projects/>
- The Thin Green Line Foundation. (2016). *Our Story* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <https://www.thingreenline.org.au/story/>
- TRAFFIC International. (2008). *What we do* [Website]. Retrieved 19 July 2016 from: <http://www.traffic.org/overview/>
- TRAFFIC International. (2015). *UN adopts resolution on tackling wildlife trafficking* [Website]. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://www.traffic.org/home/2015/7/30/un-adopts-resolution-on-tackling-wildlife-trafficking.html>
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). *Agenda 21* [Outcome Document]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf>
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. (1992). *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* [Outcome Document]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/documents.multilingual/default.asp?documentid=78&articleid=1163>

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). *About Major Groups and other stakeholders* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/aboutmajorgroups.html>

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. (2013). *Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora (E/RES/2013/40)* [Resolution]. Adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2013/30 and Corr.1). Retrieved 5 November 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/E/RES/2013/40>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Illegal Trade in Wildlife Fact Sheet*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://www.unep.org/documents/itw/ITW_fact_sheet.pdf

United Nations Environment Programme. (2015, July 31). *First UN Resolution on Wildlife Trafficking Historic Step Forward, Chief of UN Environment Programme Says*. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=26830&ArticleID=35312>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *The Rise of Environmental Crime* [Report]. Retrieved 19 July 2016 from: http://unep.org/documents/itw/environmental_crimes.pdf

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-ninth session. (2015). *Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife (A/RES/69/314)* [Resolution]. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.80 and Add.1). Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/314>

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). *Environmental Crime – The Trafficking of Wildlife and Timber* [Fact Sheet]. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: https://www.unodc.org/documents/toc/factsheets/TOC12_fs_environment_EN_HIRE_S.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.) *Financial Flows from Wildlife Crime* [Report]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: https://www.unodc.org/documents/Wildlife/Financial_Flow_Wildlife_Crime.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2014). *UNODC calls for support to beat the illegal trade in wildlife* [Website]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2014/February/unodc-calls-for-support-to-beat-the-illegal-trade-in-wildlife.html>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2015). *Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, Revised Edition*. [Report]. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://www.unodc.org/documents/Wildlife/Toolkit_e.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2016). *ICCWC* [Website] Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/wildlife-and-forest-crime/iccwc.html>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2016, March 3). *On World Wildlife Day UN Implores Urgent Action to End Poaching Crisis* [Press Release]. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2016/March/on-world-wildlife-day-un-implores-urgent-action-to-end-poaching-crisis.html>

United Nations World Tourism Organization. (2015). *Towards Measuring Economic Value of Wildlife Watching Tourism in Africa* [Report]. Retrieved 9 September 2016 from: <http://cf.cdn.unwto.org/sites/all/files/docpdf/unwtowildlifepaper.pdf>

World Bank. (2015, September 17). *United Nations System and International Organizations Applaud Sustainable Development Commitments Made by the World's Governments to Battle Illegal Wildlife Trade*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/09/28/united-nations-system-and-international-organizations-applaud-sustainable-development-commitments-made-by-the-worlds-governments-to-battle-illegal-wildlife-trade>

World Wildlife Fund. (2013). *The Economic Value of Virunga National Park*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/the_economic_value_of_virunga_national_park_lr_2.pdf

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *African Elephant: WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/730/files/original/African_elephant_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf?1435158979&_ga=1.221496152.1121466110.1468455195

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Asian Elephant, WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: https://c402277.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/publications/779/files/original/Asian_elephant_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Black Rhino* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: <http://www.worldwildlife.org/species/black-rhino>

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Illegal Wildlife Trade* [Website]. Retrieved 5 November 2016 from: <http://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/illegal-wildlife-trade>

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Monarch Butterfly, WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: https://c402277.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/publications/845/files/original/Monarch_butterfly_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Mountain Gorilla, WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/731/files/original/Mountain_gorilla_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf?1435159752&_ga=1.220915544.1121466110.1468455195

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Polar Bear, WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/835/files/original/WWF_CC_Polar_Bear_vs2b_04-07-16.pdf?1460644548&_ga=1.133827534.1121466110.1468455195

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Ranger Perceptions Africa*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: [http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/880/files/original/Ranger_Perception_Africa_\(FINAL\).pdf?1464013250&_ga=1.220906328.1121466110.1468455195](http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/880/files/original/Ranger_Perception_Africa_(FINAL).pdf?1464013250&_ga=1.220906328.1121466110.1468455195)

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Snow Leopard, WWF Wildlife and Climate Change Series*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/732/files/original/Snow_leopard_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf?1435159228&_ga=1.200984430.1121466110.1468455195

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Unsustainable and illegal wildlife trade* [Website]. Retrieved 5 November 2016 from: http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/species/problems/illegal_trade/

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *What does WWF do?* [Website]. Retrieved 30 September 2016 from: http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/

World Wildlife Fund. (2016). *Wildlife Crime Initiative* [Website]. Retrieved 12 August 2016 from: http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/our_global_goals/species_programme/wildlife_trade/wildlife_crime_initiative/

World Wildlife Fund et al. (2014). *Living Planet Report 2014: Species and Spaces, people and places*. Retrieved 12 July 2016 from: http://cdn1.footprintnetwork.org/Living_Planet_Report_2014.pdf

Worldwatch Institute. (2013). *Wildlife Conservation Offers Economic Benefits for Zimbabwe Farmers* [Website]. Retrieved 12 September from: <http://www.worldwatch.org/node/6416>

II. Implementation of the Paris Agreement

*"This is a pivotal moment for the future of your countries, your people and our common home. You can no longer delay. Let me be clear: The fate of a Paris agreement rests with you. We cannot afford indecision, half measures or merely gradual approaches. Our goal must be transformation."*¹⁶⁷

Introduction

The *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) is the core organ to promote negotiations and actions that recognize, prevent, and combat climate change.¹⁶⁸ The UNFCCC has helped to build awareness of the adverse effects climate change has and will have to our society, economic system, and environment.¹⁶⁹ Article 1 of UNFCCC defines climate change as the "change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods."¹⁷⁰ In November 2015, the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) to the UNFCCC took place in Paris, France, to discuss a universal agreement on climate change, which was solidified in its outcome document, the *Paris Agreement*.¹⁷¹

The objective of this global agreement is to combat the negative effects of climate change through adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building, climate-friendly finance, technology access, and transparent reporting of Member State commitments through Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).¹⁷² INDCs will become the Member States' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) once the Agreement comes into force.¹⁷³ Furthermore, the Agreement places the responsibility on all parties to fulfill their obligations in order to maintain "global temperature rise this century well below 2° Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to only 1.5° Celsius."¹⁷⁴ This target is a key element of international climate negotiations because allowing temperatures to rise above pre-industrial levels would cause the climate to go beyond the normal historical range to a catastrophic level that would further threaten the stability of our ecosystem, biodiversity, and communities.¹⁷⁵ The *Paris Agreement* entered into force on 4 November 2016 after at least 55 States parties representing 55% of total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions ratified the Agreement.¹⁷⁶ As of November 2016, 100 States parties of the 193 signatories have ratified the Agreement.¹⁷⁷

International and Regional Framework

Climate change became part of the international agenda in 1979 at the World Climate Conference where scientists highlighted that human activities contribute to climate change.¹⁷⁸ In 1988, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was created to assess climate change based on scientific knowledge.¹⁷⁹ However, greater emphasis was not given to climate change until 1992 when the UNFCCC was adopted during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to direct international cooperation efforts to limit the adverse effects of climate change.¹⁸⁰ To implement the measures taken by parties to the convention, the COP first met in Berlin, Germany, (COP 1) in 1995 and decided to continue meeting annually.¹⁸¹ To take greater action to combat climate change, COP 3 adopted the *Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC* (1997) as the first treaty to commit developed states to reduce GHG

¹⁶⁷ UNFCCC, *Speech by UN Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon on to COP21 Leaders Summit at the Paris Conference on 30 November 2015, in Paris*, 2015.

¹⁶⁸ UNFCCC, *Climate: Get the Big Picture*, 2016.

¹⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁷¹ UNFCCC, *The Paris Agreement*.

¹⁷² *Ibid.*

¹⁷³ UNFCCC, *Climate: Get The Big Picture*, 2016.

¹⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁵ Carbon Brief, *Two degrees: The history of climate change's speed limit*, 2014.

¹⁷⁶ UNFCCC, *Paris Agreement – Status of Ratification*, 2016.

¹⁷⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁸ UNFCCC, *The international response to climate change*.

¹⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ UNFCCC, *Background on the UNFCCC: The international response to climate change*.

¹⁸¹ UNFCCC, *Conference of the Parties*.

emission levels.¹⁸² As a result, a complex market system to promote climate friendly investment and to trade emissions was created for states to meet their commitments.¹⁸³ To further the efforts of the *Kyoto Protocol*, the *Nairobi Work Programme on Adaptation* was established in 2005 as a platform to promote best policies and knowledge for adaptation as suggested by the Convention and its subsidiary bodies, including future decisions such as those taken in the *Paris Agreement*.¹⁸⁴ In the years after, other important outcomes included *The Bali Road Map* (2007), the *Cancun Agreements* (2010), the *Durban Platform for Enhanced Action* (2011), and the *Doha Climate Gateway* (2012) that all continued parties' plans to combat climate change by expanding the scope of the negotiations to include long-term mitigation, adaptation, financing, technology, and monitoring plans.¹⁸⁵ Moreover, COP 19 in Warsaw, Poland, in 2013 continued to make progress as efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradations became key elements of the climate agenda.¹⁸⁶ Additionally, the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage was adopted to address the adverse effects of climate change,¹⁸⁷ and the Green Climate Fund was recognized and supported as a main financing source for developing states.¹⁸⁸ During COP 20 in Lima, Peru, in 2014, greater emphasis on adaptation for climate change was generated and its outcome document, *Lima Call for Climate Action*, encouraged all parties to submit INDCs ahead of the Paris Conference.¹⁸⁹

Building international awareness for climate change was further supported by the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets as established in General Assembly resolution 70/1, "Transforming our world: the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*."¹⁹⁰ The objective of these goals is to ensure social, economic, and environmental development while preserving and protecting our world for future generations.¹⁹¹ The SDGs are interrelated, but it is important to highlight that "about half of the SDGs are directly environmental in focus or address the sustainability of natural resources: poverty, health, food and agriculture, water and sanitation, human settlements, energy, climate change, sustainable consumption and production, oceans, and terrestrial ecosystems."¹⁹²

Goal 13 calls for urgent global action to combat climate change and its targets encourage mitigation, adaptation, capacity-building, continued support for financing by developed states, and participation of under-recognized groups such as women and indigenous people in climate change planning.¹⁹³

Role of the International System

Established by the *Paris Agreement*, the first session of (APA 1) took place in May 2016.¹⁹⁴ One of its most important objectives was to prepare for the agreement's entry into force as well as to provide guidance for mitigation, adaptation, and transparency sections and aid with the overall implementation of the agreement.¹⁹⁵ To provide parties with a technical approach for the implementation and compliance of the agreement, this session agreed to hold three future meetings to discuss these subjects to determine the course forward, to assess progress and lastly to evaluate the results.¹⁹⁶

The second session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2), held in May 2016, particularly focused on reviewing environmental progress of the SDGs to ensure global cooperation in the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.¹⁹⁷ Furthermore, UNEA-2 also directed the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to increase capacity-building efforts to carry out the *Paris Agreement* and to promote climate

¹⁸² Ibid.

¹⁸³ UNFCCC, *Making those first steps count: An Introduction to the Kyoto Protocol*.

¹⁸⁴ UNFCCC, *Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP)*.

¹⁸⁵ UNFCCC, *Background on the UNFCCC: The international response to climate change*.

¹⁸⁶ UNFCCC, *Warsaw Outcomes*.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸ UNFCCC, *Lima Call for Climate Action Puts World on Track to Paris 2015*.

¹⁸⁹ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015, p. 1.

¹⁹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁹¹ UNEA, *UNEA Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, 2016.

¹⁹² UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015, p. 23.

¹⁹³ UNFCCC, *Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on the first part of its first session, held in Bonn from 16 to 26 May 2016 (FCCC/APA/2016/2)*, 2016, p. 1.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid., pp. 2-5.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid., p. 4-6.

¹⁹⁶ UNEA, *UNEA in Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, 2016.

finance and technology.¹⁹⁷ As a way of supporting the implementation of the Agreement, UNEA-2 highlighted the key role of UNEP in streamlining cooperative efforts to increase public education and participation; support adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development policies and assist the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.¹⁹⁸ UNEP played a key role in the discussions ahead of COP 21 by achieving the support of financial investors to pledge to decarbonize \$600 billion of investments, assisting countries in the execution of their INDCs plans, and building partnerships to reduce GHG emissions and promote renewable sources of energy.¹⁹⁹ UNEP published the Adaptation Finance Gap report to build awareness about what is needed the action needed to limit global temperatures below the 2° Celsius target.²⁰⁰ The report recognizes the need for developing states to gain capacity in order to access and benefit from climate finance, technology, and knowledge to meet their social and environmental responsibilities.²⁰¹

The World Bank and International Monetary Fund launched the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition to bring together governments and the private sector to create support for carbon pricing as a way to reduce GHG emissions.²⁰² Furthermore, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is organizing regional discussions to help states determine, review, and implement their NDCs targets as required by the *Paris Agreement* and in anticipation of future COP sessions.²⁰³ At the regional level, even though Africa is one of the regions with the lowest levels of GHG emissions, the continent is determined to contribute to the implementation of the agreement.²⁰⁴ Given that Africa heavily depends on the agricultural sector for survival, the African Union Commission and UNEP established the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly as platform to promote sustainable agricultural practices that is based on climate adaptation and agricultural productivity.²⁰⁵

Development and Implementation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions

Member States were and encouraged to publish their individual climate action plans, commitments, and targets in the form of INDCs in preparation for COP 21.²⁰⁶ The main objective of INDCs is to fulfill the goals set forth in Article 2 of the *Paris Agreement*.²⁰⁷ The article calls for limiting the increase in global average temperatures to less than 2° Celsius and for promoting efforts to hold temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius.²⁰⁸ In addition, Article 2 recognizes that each state has common, but different, responsibilities in fostering climate resilience and adaptation capacity based on each country challenges and strengths.²⁰⁹ Thus, INDCs are independent commitments by each state party that recognizes the state party's future plans to integrate GHG emission reduction strategies as well as climate-related mitigation and adaptation plans into their national policy.²¹⁰

INDCs will not only enhance international accountability for keeping global temperatures from rising, but will open opportunities for financial investment to realize a country's mitigation potential.²¹¹ As of November 2016, 163 parties representing 190 countries submitted their INDCs to the Secretariat for publication in the UNFCCC website.²¹² Based on these submissions, most contributions include mitigation and adaptation plans on their INDCs and include a short-term plan for the implementation of their INDCs and a long-term objective for reducing GHG

¹⁹⁷ UNEP, *At UN Environment Assembly Convening in Nairobi: Governments Agree to 25 Landmark Resolutions to Drive Sustainability Agenda and Paris Climate Agreement*, 2016.

¹⁹⁸ UNEP, *Supporting the Paris Agreement (UNEP/EA.2/Res.6)*, 2016, p. 1-2.

¹⁹⁹ UNEP, *UNEP Annual Report 2015*, 2016, p. 4.

²⁰⁰ UNEP, *Adaptation Finance Gap Report*, 2016, p. xii.

²⁰¹ *Ibid.*, p. xvii.

²⁰² Carbon Pricing Leadership, *Home*.

²⁰³ UNDP, *UNDP Launches Global Discussions on Implementation of Paris Climate Agreement*, 2016.

²⁰⁴ UN DPI, *Africa Renewal*, 2016, p. 26.

²⁰⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 26-27.

²⁰⁶ UNFCCC, *Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*, 2016.

²⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁰⁸ COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015, p. 22.

²⁰⁹ *Ibid.*

²¹⁰ UNFCCC, *Climate: Get the Big Picture*, 2016.

²¹¹ Levin, et al., *Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*, 2016, pp. 14-15.

²¹² UNFCCC, *INDCs as communicated by Parties*.

emissions.²¹³ UNDP, in partnership with the World Resource Institute, published *Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)* as a guidance document to provide Member States with an overview on how to develop INDCs and what benefits can their implementation achieve.²¹⁴ In addition, the second part of the report goes over a set of options and policies available for Member States to use in their INDC plan.²¹⁵

Even though the Agreement does not have a specific submission format or provide a tracking mechanism to ensure accountability and progress of NDCs, it states that each “Party shall communicate its NDCs, in relation to mitigation efforts, every five years and each NDC should be increasingly more ambitious.”²¹⁶ Thus, INDC commitments are expected to set in motion a global climate action plan for a sustainable future.²¹⁷ As states need assistance to implement their NDC, it will be necessary to incorporate mechanisms to track, record, and manage NDC implementation and to mobilize financing resources.²¹⁸

Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plan

Mitigation of climate change aims to reduce or prevent GHG emissions by promoting efficiency in new and old technologies, fostering renewable sources of energy, and designing sustainable infrastructure.²¹⁹ On the other hand, to curb the negative effects of climate change, adaptation seeks to implement long-term socio-ecological and economic policies to build climate-resilient societies and environment.²²⁰ In Article 4 of the Agreement, states parties are encouraged to incorporate mitigation efforts in the implementation of their NDCs, and it draws attention to the relationship between mitigation and adaptation to improve economic and social development.²²¹ Furthermore, Article 7 highlights that while adaptation requires a national approach, inclusive global action is necessary to aid those states that are vulnerable or lack the capacity necessary to address climate change.²²²

International efforts to encourage mitigation efforts include developing Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), as established by the *Bali Action Plan* (2007), to incorporate a system to measure, report, and verify national mitigation policies to reduce greenhouse emissions below business as usual by 2020.²²³ Also, to further support mitigation policies, the Technical Examination Process (TEP) serves as a knowledge-building platform for sharing mitigation best practices and initiatives.²²⁴ To assist in the implementation of these practices, the Agreement assigned TEP to hold meeting to discuss the work of the Parties, enable access to mitigation technologies, and provide support for INDCs.²²⁵ In addition, the *Paris Agreement* has increased international cooperation to foster capacity-building efforts by bringing together regions and organizations to support and learn from each other.²²⁶ For example, the Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership and the Low Emission Capacity Building Programme in collaboration with the UNFCCC on Climate Change Regional Collaboration Centre came together in June 2016 to assist Caribbean governments and stakeholders in building climate mitigation actions that incorporate low-emission plans, develop their NAMAs, and take advantage of climate financing resources.²²⁷

Climate mitigation action must start now to be on track to reduce global emissions by 2020, which is essential to limit global temperature increase.²²⁸ To achieve this goal, a variety of global approaches can include promoting

²¹³ UNFCCC, *Synthesis Report By The Secretariat On Aggregate Effect Of The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions: An Update* (FCCC/CP/2016/2), 2016, pp. 4-6.

²¹⁴ Levin, et al., *Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*, 2016, p. 8.

²¹⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 47-49.

²¹⁶ UNFCCC, *More Clarity Needed on Adaptation to Effectively Implement Paris Outcomes of Adaptation Forum in Rotterdam*, 2016; UNFCCC, *Climate: Get The Big Picture*, 2016.

²¹⁷ Comstock, *Next Steps toward Implementing NDCs*, UNDP Geneva, 2016.

²¹⁸ *Ibid.*

²¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²²⁰ *Ibid.*

²²¹ COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015, pp. 22-23.

²²² *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

²²³ UNFCCC, *Pre-2020 Ambition*.

²²⁴ UNFCCC, *Policy Options*.

²²⁵ UNFCCC, *Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A)*.

²²⁶ UNDP, *UNDP and UNFCCC Initiates Training Seminars for Climate Mitigation Actions in the Caribbean*, 2016.

²²⁷ *Ibid.*

²²⁸ UNEP, *The Emissions Gap Report 2015*, 2015, p. 30.

renewable and efficient energy sources, improving land use and urban planning, fostering carbon capture technology, and reducing non-carbon dioxide gas emissions.²²⁹ To reduce GHG emissions, forest management strategies are essential to climate mitigation efforts by encouraging developing states to adopt sustainable policies.²³⁰ For instance, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) initiative includes conservation, protection, and sustainable management of forests; working with indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities to ensure effective use of land and forests; and developing national policies to seek to eliminate drivers of deforestation.²³¹ To take advantage of the commitments made at COP 21, UN-REDD presented its *2016-2020 Strategic Framework* to foster the implementation of the Agreement by providing Member States with to design and implement national climate mitigation policies to reduce deforestation and monitor REDD actions.²³²

According to a recent UNEP report, “the cost of adapting to climate change in developing states could rise to between \$280 and \$500 billion per year by 2050.”²³³ In order to support the global implementation of adaptation policies, the *Cancun Adaptation Framework* (CAF) (2010) was established to “expedite support for the least developed countries and other developing states for the formulation of national adaptation plans (NAPs),” and to ensure their execution.²³⁴ In addition, CAF established the Adaptation Committee (AC) to further adaptation efforts through recommendations and global collaboration.²³⁵ The role of AC for 2016–2018 is to support the decisions of the *Paris Agreement* by upholding the adaptation recommendations in Article 7 of the Agreement.²³⁶ These recommendations include encouraging global cooperation among regional and international organizations, groups and networks to promote technical and provisional support and by facilitating guidance, raising awareness and exchanging information on adaptation finance, technology and capacity-building.²³⁷ For instance, COP 21, with the support of AC, along with other partners, launched the Adaptation Knowledge Portal to increase access to experiences, resources, good practices, and lessons learned, especially by emphasizing regional participation.²³⁸ Furthermore, through AC, COP 21 established the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A) to ensure that measures are identified and put in place to reduce and manage adaptation policies.²³⁹ TEP-A is to meet annually to discuss these measures and their implementation, and the outcome is to be published in an annual technical paper.²⁴⁰

Climate Finance

One of the main objectives of the *Paris Agreement* is to mobilize investment for climate-resilient activities and to encourage developed states to provide financial resources to support adaptation and mitigation policies in developing states.²⁴¹ The provisions also urge Member States to jointly contribute to the Green Climate Fund and to continue to support the transition to low-carbon economies, particularly in developing states, by mobilizing \$100 billion per year by 2020 and to remain doing so until 2025.²⁴² For instance, multilateral development banks pledged to finance and invest in climate action efforts by working with the public and private sectors, encouraging innovation, knowledge sharing and cooperation with other resources such as the Green Climate Fund.²⁴³ Concrete actions have been taken in various developing states; for example, Bangladesh, in cooperation with the Bangladesh

²²⁹ Ibid., p. 30.

²³⁰ Ibid., p. 46.

²³¹ Ibid., pp. 46–49.

²³² UNDP, *Helen Clark: Speech at the REDD+ post-2015 COP21 side-event*, 2015.

²³³ UNEP, *Ahead of UN Environment Assembly UNEP Says Cost of Adapting to Climate Change Could Hit \$500 Billion per year by 2050*, 2016.

²³⁴ Green Climate Fund, *Adaptation planning processes*, 2016, pp. 1–2.

²³⁵ UNFCCC, *Adaptation Committee*, 2016.

²³⁶ UNFCCC, *Revised work plan of the Adaptation Committee for 2016–2018*.

²³⁷ Ibid.

²³⁸ UNFCCC, *Towards a Multilingual Adaptation Knowledge Portal*.

²³⁹ UNFCCC, *Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A)*, 2016.

²⁴⁰ Ibid.

²⁴¹ Thwaites, *What Does the Paris Agreement Do for Finance?*, 2016.

²⁴² Ibid.

²⁴³ World Bank, *Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks at Paris, COP21 Delivering Climate Change Action at Scale: Our Commitment to Implementation*.

Bank, developed the Environmental Risk Management Guideline policy to foster environmentally sustainable financing.²⁴⁴

Article 9 of the Agreement calls upon developed states to financially assist developing states in achieving adaptation and mitigation obligations by providing them with resources and tools to support them based on their states' unique characteristics and priorities.²⁴⁵ In addition, the Agreement commits developed states to increase, allocate, and track public funds every two years to developing states while developing states would also report on the finance received.²⁴⁶ Currently, the Agreement lacks specific details on how the reporting will be implemented, but provisions to decide such tracking and guidelines to meet climate finance goals will commence in 2017.²⁴⁷

To place emphasis on finance, UNEA directed UNEP to continue and expand efforts to promote financing for sustainable development through the UNEP Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System and the UNEP Finance Initiative.²⁴⁸ The UNEP Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System published a report title *The Financial System We Need*, which outlines a comprehensive set of approaches to enable environmental policies such as by streamlining sustainable development in national policies through structural changes in the financial system.²⁴⁹ Additionally, the report calls for governments to consider their own financing challenges and opportunities to be able to receive the help required to promote efficient financing based on sustainable development.²⁵⁰ The report also stresses the importance of international cooperation to support and advance national action and align investors and markets to maintain a sustainable financial system.²⁵¹

Capacity-Building and Technology Development

Capacity-building plays a crucial role in ensuring that developing states have access to the tools necessary to implement the provisions put forward in the *Paris Agreement*.²⁵² However, climate change initiatives must be streamlined to increase coordination to avoid duplicity and to monitor, evaluate and track efforts toward building long-term measurable and sustainable results.²⁵³ To assist developing states to enhance their capacity-building activities, the *Paris Agreement* established the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) as a way to address challenges in implementing the capacity-building framework by enhancing efforts and streamlining activities under the UNFCCC.²⁵⁴ As a result, the *Paris Agreement* established the Coalition on *Paris Agreement* Capacity Building to offer a platform for global experts to coordinate and provide strategic input on capacity-building activities.²⁵⁵ Moreover, the Durban Forum on Capacity-building held a meeting in May 20, 2016 titled *Enhancing Capacity to Implement the Paris Agreement*.²⁵⁶ The goal of the Forum is to support the implementation of the *Paris Agreement* by enhancing and sharing capacity-building measures and create opportunities for activity and knowledge collaboration between developing states, organizations and stakeholders.²⁵⁷

As a way to promote climate-resilient technology development and access for developing states, Article 10 of the Agreement created the Technology Mechanism to provide guidance and strengthen cooperation and ensure access to technology for developing states.²⁵⁸ Furthermore, established in COP 16, the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) aims to promote technology development and transfer; thus, it is required to extend its activities to aid the

²⁴⁴ UNEP, *Green Financing for Developing Countries Needs, Concerns and Innovations*, 2016, p. 26.

²⁴⁵ UNFCCC, *Climate Finance*, 2016.

²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁴⁷ Thwaites, *What Does the Paris Agreement Do for Finance?*, 2016.

²⁴⁸ UNEP News Centre, *At UN Environment Assembly Convening in Nairobi: Governments Agree to 25 Landmark Resolutions to Drive Sustainability Agenda and Paris Climate Agreement*, 2016.

²⁴⁹ UNEP, *The Financial System We Need*, 2015, pp. xiv-xvi.

²⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 59-62.

²⁵¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 59-62.

²⁵² WRI, *3 Reasons Why Capacity Building Is Critical for Implementing the Paris Agreement*, 2015.

²⁵³ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁴ COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015, p. 12.

²⁵⁵ Coalition on Paris Agreement Capacity Building, *About the Coalition*, 2016.

²⁵⁶ UNFCCC, *Durban Forum on Capacity-building - 5th Meeting "Enhancing Capacity to Implement the Paris Agreement,"* 2016.

²⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁵⁸ COP 21, *Paris Agreement*, 2015, p. 29.

implementation of the Agreement by increasing its efforts for the pre-2020 climate action.²⁵⁹ To achieve this objective, the TEC commits for the 2016 – 2018 period to work with the Technology Mechanism to: “(a) enhance clarity, coherence and continuity of activities undertaken by the TEC; (b) maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of its work; [and to] (c) provide flexibility for organizing and sequencing its activities.”²⁶⁰

Conclusion

The *Paris Agreement* made history by achieving strong political commitments to ensure our future generations do not face the adverse consequence of climate change.²⁶¹ To work toward the successful implementation the Agreement, global climate efforts must focus on providing Member States with the necessary guidance, approach and resources to carry out their NDCs and integrate climate policy and participation into their national agenda.²⁶² In addition, the *Paris Agreement* provides a platform to incorporate sustainable development with efforts to limit global temperatures to below 2° Celsius while promoting environmental sustainability.²⁶³ Based on these objectives,

UNEA’s work will need to focus on building strong international participation and collaboration to assist Member States’ ability to adopt mitigation and adaptation efforts.²⁶⁴ Furthermore, UNEA’s role will be essential for building the support necessary to capacity-building measures for Member States’ to be able to take full advantage of financing and technology opportunities.²⁶⁵

Further Research

In light of the remarkable political commitment achieved through the adoption of the *Paris Agreement*, it is now necessary to ensure that even greater effort is exercised by the international community to work collaboratively and efficiently in the implementation of the Agreement. For instance, how can Member States strengthen their commitments to reduce carbon emissions and take climate-resilient actions to reach the goals set in the Agreement? How can Member States ensure the implementation of their NDCs? How can the international community assist in ensuring monitoring and accountability in the implementation of NDCs? How can developing states take advantage of the economic benefits of climate finance to implement their NDCs? How can your country integrate adaptation and mitigation plans into their national climate action plan? What can developed states do to support developing states’ investment in environmental action and restructure investment for a low-carbon future? How can capacity-building assist to increase climate financing and support technology sharing? How can UNEA take a greater role in the future implementation of the *Paris Agreement*? How can underrepresented groups and non-governmental organizations be involved in the implementation of the Agreement?

Annotated Bibliography

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-first session. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from:

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

The Paris Agreement is the outcome document of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC. The outcome document sets long-term goals to take action against global warming, in particular by decreasing carbon consumption and keeping the increase of global temperatures to well below 2 degrees Celsius. Delegates should be fully familiar with the commitments put forth in the agreement and examine how these commitments can be achieved through national and international efforts alongside the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Delegates should consider how mitigation, adaptation and financial sections of the Agreement assist in the development and implementation of INDCs.

²⁵⁹ UNFCCC, *Twelfth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC/2016/12/13)*, 2016, pp. 7-8.

²⁶⁰ Ibid.

²⁶¹ UNFCCC, *Historic Paris Agreement on Climate Change 195 Nations Set Path to Keep Temperature Rise Well Below 2 Degrees Celsius*, 2015.

²⁶² Northrop, *After COP21: 7 Key Tasks to Implement the Paris Agreement*, *World Resource Institute*, 2016.

²⁶³ UNEA, *UNEA in Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, 2016.

²⁶⁴ UNEP, *Supporting the Paris Agreement (UNEP/EA.2/Res.6)*, 2016, p. 1-2.

²⁶⁵ Ibid.

Levin, K., et al. (2016). *Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*. Retrieved 28 September 2016 from: <http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/designing-preparing-indcs-report.pdf>

This source will provide delegates with an overview understanding of how to approach and implement INDCs as national policies to combat climate change. This source focuses on options and opportunities that could be incorporated into individual INDCs to identify challenges and take advantage of opportunities to adapt national strategies toward climate resilience and mitigation. This portal will give delegates access to other sources for understanding INDCs and guiding information on how to prepare and execute them. This website also provides the access portal to the list of INDCs already submitted to the UNFCCC.

United Nations Environment Assembly. (2016). *UNEA in Delivering on the 2030 Agenda* [Brochure]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://www.unep.org/docs/UNEA_2_Brochure.pdf

This source provides delegates with an overview of UNEA and UNEP's plan of action for the upcoming years. Delegates should familiarize themselves with the upcoming work of the committees and how their work provides guidance and support for the implementation of the Agreement. Given that SDG 13 on climate action is closely related with the efforts stated in the Paris Agreement, delegates should further look closely to the events and initiatives described in this document. This document highlights the environmental dimension of the SDGs and how can the work between UNEA and UNEP support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thus, delegates will be able to better understand the interrelation between achieving the SDGs as a tool to promote environmental efforts that in turn can help combat climate change.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2015). *The Emissions Gap Report 2015*. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: http://uneplive.unep.org/media/docs/theme/13/EGR_2015_301115_lores.pdf

This report provides delegates with an overview of available mitigation resources focused on financial, technical and capacity-building opportunities. In addition, this report discusses how international cooperation and mitigation activities for climate change can help to reduce GHG emissions. This is a great resource for delegates in order to better understand how mitigation can assist in closing the gap between already made commitments and the results that must happen to successfully achieve climate resilience. The report explores the importance of early action toward the implementation climate policies to halt global warming to below 2°C. Additionally, this source reports and analyzes the efforts and progress made by G20 based on their unique country situation, pledges and policy approaches. Lastly, this report will be useful for delegates as it details opportunities available for reducing the emission gap.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *UNEP Annual Report 2015*. Retrieved 28 September 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/annualreport/2015/en/UNEP-AnnualReport-2015-EN.pdf>

UNEP's annual report is a detailed summary of UNEP's leadership, achievements and collaboratively work done on the most current environmental issues needing our attention today.

The first chapter focuses on UNEP's work in combating climate change and it details UNEP's three major focus areas: climate resilience, low-emission growth and reducing greenhouse emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. In addition, the chapter on environmental governance will help delegates understand the importance increasing participation at all levels of society and ensuring coherence among programs and international instruments to ensure proper integration of environmental policies. Thus, it will be integral for delegates to understand how is UNEP dealing with climate change and how can those efforts be directed toward the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Green Financing for Developing Countries Needs, Concerns and Innovations* [Report]. Retrieved 26 August 2016 from: http://unepinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Green_Finance_for_Developing_Countries.pdf

This comprehensive report focuses on the efforts made by many developing states to work together with the private sector to incorporate climate finance as a strategic national policy. The report also highlights how green finance is used to promote sustainable development. This source recognizes the importance of financial mobilization, inclusion and innovation for sustainable financial practices to realize the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. This report will be useful for delegates as it outlines different national initiatives, policies, and international recommendations to enhance access and availability of green financing.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Background on the UNFCCC: The international response to climate change* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/essential_background/items/6031.php

This website will help delegates understand the international climate change framework by providing them with a historical overview of negotiations, conferences, decisions, and agreements. It is necessary that delegates familiarize themselves with the climate negotiation history in order to have a better understanding of the decisions made during the Paris Agreement. Delegates will find this overview helpful as they learn about the purpose and outcome of each international climate conference. This website will also allow delegates to have access to key outcome documents such as the Kyoto Protocol, Bali Road Map, Marrakesh Accords, Cancun Agreement, Doha Amendment, Warsaw Outcomes, and the Lima Call to Action.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Adaptation Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/6053.php

The work of the Committee focuses on mainstreaming adaptation policies at all levels of society through enhanced collaboration and mobilization of resources such as finance, technology and capacity-building to implement adaptation action. Thus, the work of the Adaptation Committee will become essential for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Delegates should be aware of the Adaptation Committee work plan for the 2015-2018 period. It will be essential to understand how can the Committee support developing states in the facilitating adaptation for climate change while providing technical support and monitoring. In addition, the Committee will be helpful to build awareness about good practices and lessons learned in national and local adaptation planning.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Climate: Get the Big Picture* [Website]. Retrieved 20 July 2016 from: <http://bigpicture.unfccc.int/>

This website outlines the big picture of the international climate change agenda by providing an overview of the UNFCCC's role in ensuring international cooperation to support global climate action and defining key terms in the climate discussions such as adaptation, mitigation, climate finance, technology transfer and development, and INDCs. Delegates will find this website useful given that it discusses these important issues in the context of the UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, and the Kyoto Protocol. Through this website, delegates will learn about subsidiary bodies, funds, and reporting and data mechanisms already established by the Convention, agreement, and protocol.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets forth international goals and expectations under 17 SDGs and 169 targets. It will be essential for delegates to examine the SDGs' correlation with the Paris Agreement and how Member States can

make progress toward implementing both commitments simultaneously. Delegates should consider SDG 13 on urgent action to combat climate change, as well as the importance of SDGs 7, 9, 11, 14, and 15 and how these goals relate to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Bibliography

- Carbon Brief (2014). *Two degrees: The history of climate change's speed limit* [Website]. Retrieved 25 September 2016 from: <https://www.carbonbrief.org/two-degrees-the-history-of-climate-changes-speed-limit>
- Carbon Pricing Leadership. (2016). *Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <http://www.carbonpricingleadership.org/>
- Coalition on Paris Agreement Capacity Building. (2016). *About the Coalition* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://capacitybuildingcoalition.org/who-we-are/>
- Comstock, M. (2016, April 20). Next Steps toward Implementing NDCs. *UNDP Geneva*. Retrieved 18 August 2016 from: <http://www.europe.undp.org/content/geneva/en/home/our-perspective/2016/4/20/Next-Steps-toward-Implementing-NDCs.html>
- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Twenty-first session. (2015). *Paris Agreement*. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf
- Green Climate Fund. (2016). *Adaptation planning processes*. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/226888/GCF_B.13_05_-_Adaptation_planning_processes.pdf/8833fcb7-d30a-4cb2-ad44-4051b8ec0256
- Levin, K., et al. (2016). *Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*. Retrieved 28 September 2016 from: <http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/designing-preparing-indcs-report.pdf>
- Northrop, E. (2016). *After COP21: 7 Key Tasks to Implement the Paris Agreement*. Retrieved 29 September 2016 from: <http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/designing-preparing-indcs-report.pdf>
- Thwaites, J. (2015). *What Does the Paris Agreement Do for Finance?* [Website]. World Resources Institute. Retrieved 22 August 2016 from: <http://www.wri.org/blog/2015/12/what-does-paris-agreement-do-finance>
- United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2016). *Africa Renewal* [Magazine]. Retrieved 28 August 2016 from: http://www.un.org/africarenewal/sites/www.un.org.africarenewal/files/Africa_Renewal_EN_April_2016.pdf
- United Nations Development Programme. (2015, December 8). *Helen Clark: Speech at the REDD+ post-2015 COP21 side-event* [News Article]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2015/12/08/looking-forward-redd-post-2015-cop21-side-event.html>
- United Nations Development Programme. (2016, July 19). *UNDP Launches Global Discussions on Implementation of Paris Climate Agreement* [Press Release]. Retrieved 28 August 2016 from: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/07/19/undp-launches-global-discussions-on-implementation-of-paris-climate-agreement.html>
- United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *UNDP and UNFCCC Initiates Training Seminars for Climate Mitigation Actions in the Caribbean* [Website]. Retrieved 23 August 2016 from: <http://www.bb.undp.org/content/barbados/en/home/presscenter/articles/2016/06/22/p-and-unfccc-initiates-training-seminars-for-climate-mitigation-actions-in-the-caribbean.html>

United Nations Environment Assembly. (2016). *UNEA in Delivering on the 2030 Agenda* [Brochure]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://www.unep.org/docs/UNEA_2_Brochure.pdf

United Nations Environment Assembly, Second session. (2016). *Supporting the Paris Agreement (UNEP/EA.2/Res.6)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/UNEP/EA.2/Res.6>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2015). *The Emissions Gap Report 2015*. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: http://uneplive.unep.org/media/docs/theme/13/EGR_2015_301115_lores.pdf

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Adaptation Finance Gap Report*. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <http://web.unep.org/adaptationgapreport/sites/unep.org.adaptationgapreport/files/documents/agr2016.pdf>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Climate Change Mitigation* [Website]. Retrieved 19 August 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/climatechange/mitigation/Home/tabid/104335/Default.aspx>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *Green Financing for Developing Countries: Needs, Concerns and Innovations* [Report]. Retrieved 26 August 2016 from: http://unepinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Green_Finance_for_Developing_Countries.pdf

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016). *UNEP Annual Report 2015*. Retrieved 28 September 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/annualreport/2015/en/UNEP-AnnualReport-2015-EN.pdf>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016, May 10). *Ahead of UN Environment Assembly UNEP Says Cost of Adapting to Climate Change Could Hit \$500 Billion per year by 2050* [News Article]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/newscentre/default.aspx?DocumentID=27074&ArticleID=36171>

United Nations Environment Programme. (2016, May 28). *At UN Environment Assembly Convening in Nairobi: Governments Agree to 25 Landmark Resolutions to Drive Sustainability Agenda and Paris Climate Agreement* [News Article]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from: <http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=27074&ArticleID=36197&l=en>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Background on the UNFCCC: The international response to climate change* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/essential_background/items/6031.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Conference of the Parties* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <http://unfccc.int/bodies/body/6383.php>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Lima Call for Climate Action Puts World on Track to Paris 2015* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:1:2312704757700033>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Making those first steps count: An Introduction to the Kyoto Protocol* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/essential_background/kyoto_protocol/items/6034.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP)* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:1:2312704757700033>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Policy Options* [Website]. Retrieved 23 August 2016 from: <http://climateaction2020.unfccc.int/tep/policy-options/>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Pre-2020 Ambition* [Website]. Retrieved 23 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/focus/mitigation/pre_2020_ambition/items/8165.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Revised work plan of the Adaptation Committee for 2016–2018*. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/20160308_w_p_revised.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A)* [Website]. Retrieved 25 September 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/technical_examination_process_on_adaptation/items/9542.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *The international response to climate change* [Website]. Retrieved 25 September 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/essential_background/background_publications_htmlpdf/climate_change_information_kit/items/300.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *The Paris Agreement* [Website]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Towards a Multilingual Adaptation Knowledge Portal* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/News/Pages/Towards-a-multilingual-Adaptation-knowledge-portal.aspx>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (n.d.). *Warsaw Outcomes* [Website]. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/key_steps/warsaw_outcomes/items/8006.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (1992). *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*. Retrieved 28 August 2016 from: https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/background_publications_htmlpdf/application/pdf/convention.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Adaptation* [Website]. Retrieved 19 August 2016 from: <http://unfccc.int/focus/adaptation/items/6999.php>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Adaptation Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/items/6053.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Capacity-building: Negotiations* [Website]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/7060.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Climate Finance* [Website]. Retrieved 22 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/items/2807.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Climate: Get the Big Picture* [Website]. Retrieved 20 July 2016 from: <http://bigpicture.unfccc.int/>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Durban Forum on Capacity-building - 5th Meeting "Enhancing Capacity to Implement the Paris Agreement"* [Website]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/9439.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *INDCs as communicated by Parties* [Website]. Retrieved 26 October 2016 from: <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/indc/Submission%20Pages/submissions.aspx>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)* [Website]. Retrieved 18 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/focus/indc_portal/items/8766.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Paris Agreement – Status of Ratification* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on the first part of its first session, held in Bonn from 16 to 26 May 2016 (FCCC/APA/2016/2)*. Retrieved 27 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/apa/eng/apa_1_provisional_agenda.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Reporting back from break-out group I: Providing financial, technology and capacity-building support*. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/files/focus/adaptation/technical_expert_meeting/application/pdf/20160524_bog1_reporting.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2015, November 30). *Speech by UN Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon on to COP21 Leaders Summit at the Paris Conference on 30 November 2015, in Paris*. Retrieved 18 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris_nov_2015/application/pdf/sg_statement_to_leaders_30_nov_2015.pdf

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Synthesis Report By The Secretariat On Aggregate Effect Of The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions: An Update (FCCC/CP/2016/2)*. Retrieved 28 September 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/FCCC/CP/2016/2>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (2016). *Technical Expert Meeting on Adaptation Enhancing the Implementation of Adaptation Action* [Website]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: http://unfccc.int/focus/adaptation/technical_expert_meeting/items/9537.php

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Newsroom. (2015, December 12). *Historic Paris Agreement on Climate Change 195 Nations Set Path to Keep Temperature Rise Well Below 2 Degrees Celsius* [Website]. Retrieved 26 September 2016 from: <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/finale-cop21/>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Newsroom. (2016, May 13). *More Clarity Needed on Adaptation to Effectively Implement Paris Outcomes of Adaptation Forum in Rotterdam* [News Article]. Retrieved 20 August 2016 from: <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/paris-agreement/more-clarity-needed-on-adaptation-to-effectively-implement-paris-agreement/>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Subsidiary Body for Implementation, Forty-fourth session. (2016). *Information and views on capacity-building matters (FCCC/SBI/2016/MISC.1)* [Background Notes]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/FCCC/SBI/2016/MISC.1>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Technology Executive Committee. (2016). *Twelfth meeting of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC/2016/12/13)* [Report]. Retrieved 25 August 2016 from:

http://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEM_TEC_meetings/b71c643bc54a4ff585211d103171b9c2/553a2fa57da94140a53a5330651bcad5.pdf

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 14 July 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Programme. (2015). *UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategic Framework*. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: http://www.unredd.net/index.php?view=document&alias=14096-un-redd-pb14-2015-strategic-framework&category_slug=session-3-strategic-and-policy-issues&layout=default&option=com_docman&Itemid=134

World Bank. (n.d.). *Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks at Paris, COP21 Delivering Climate Change Action at Scale: Our Commitment to Implementation*. Retrieved 22 August 2016 from: http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Climate/Joint%20MDB%20Statement%20Climate%20OV%2028_final.pdf

World Resources Institute. (2015). *3 Reasons Why Capacity Building Is Critical for Implementing the Paris Agreement* [Website]. Retrieved 24 August 2016 from: <http://www.wri.org/blog/2015/12/3-reasons-why-capacity-building-critical-implementing-paris-agreement>