

# The EarthTrends Information Guide for Multilateral Environmental Agreements



## EarthTrends

Environmental Information

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Coordinated international action is essential to protecting the Earth's climate, preserving its biodiversity, and managing its marine and other common resources. Environmental governance at the global scale is difficult due to the lack of a central institution with sufficient authority to craft strong environmental legislation and to insist on compliance. In its absence, a looser system of global environmental governance has emerged, a component of this being the framework of international environmental law.

Part of this framework takes the form of international treaties, known as Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). These are legally binding agreements among countries to take joint action on different environmental problems, with each nation responsible for activities within its own territory. Past and present efforts have produced hundreds of internationally-focused environmental agreements, such as the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Find the following **Multilateral Environmental Agreements Information** and much more on **EarthTrends**.

### SEARCHABLE DATABASE

[[http://earthtrends.wri.org/searchable\\_db/index.php?theme=10](http://earthtrends.wri.org/searchable_db/index.php?theme=10)]

Multilateral Agreements Status: CITES (species trade treaty)  
Convention on Biodiversity  
Kyoto Protocol (CO2 emissions)  
Ramsar Convention (wetlands)  
Stockholm Convention on POPs  
UNCLOS (law of the sea)  
UNFCCC (climate change)  
Vienna Convention (ozone)  
World Heritage Convention (national landmarks)  
World Trade Organization (WTO) membership

### MAPS

[[http://earthtrends.wri.org/maps\\_spatial/index.php?theme=10](http://earthtrends.wri.org/maps_spatial/index.php?theme=10)]

Agenda 21 National Reporting Status in 2002

Signatories to the Kyoto Protocol

### FEATURE ARTICLES

[<http://earthtrends.wri.org/features/index.php?theme=10>]

Implementing the "Access Principles": Measuring Nine Countries' Progress in Strengthening Environmental Governance

More Democracy, Better Environment?

The World Summit on Sustainable Development: A Story of Many Summits

Undue Influence: Corruption and Natural Resources

### DATA TABLES

[<http://earthtrends.wri.org/datatables/index.php?theme=10>]

Multilateral Environmental Agreements

### LINKS

Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicators

[<http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/entri/index.jsp>]

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [<http://www.unep.org>]