THE CLIMATE CLASSROOM @ COP23

PARIS AGREEMENT WORKBOOK

BONN, GERMANY | NOVEMBER 2017
THE CLIMATE CLASSROOM @COP23

The Climate Classroom @ COP23 is an innovative learning experience, designed for anyone interested in getting up to speed on selected climate change topics through 45-minute lessons and open particularly to delegates of countries facing special challenges (African countries, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and Landlocked Developing Countries). This is an initiative of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and The One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership (UN CC:Learn), in collaboration with UN partners.

ABOUT THE SWISS AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland’s international cooperation agency within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). In operating with other federal offices concerned, SDC is responsible for the overall coordination of development activities and cooperation with Eastern Europe, as well as for the humanitarian aid delivered by the Swiss Confederation.

ABOUT UN CC:LEARN

UN CC:Learn is a partnership of more than 30 multilateral organizations supporting countries to design and implement systematic, recurrent and results-oriented climate change learning. UN CC:Learn contributes to the implementation of Article 6 of the UNFCCC on training, education and public awareness-raising, and the 2012-2020 Doha Work Programme. The Secretariat for UN CC:Learn is provided by UNITAR. Funding for UN CC:Learn is provided by the Swiss Government and UN partners.
GET STARTED!

Place the headset comfortably on your head. If you wear glasses or earrings, fix the headset so that you do not feel any discomfort.

Make sure that the microphone does not touch your face or clothes and that it is on the level of your mouth.

To turn on the headset controller press button for 3-4 seconds. You should be able to see the following on the display: speaker icon, headset icon, text “GUEST” and group “12”.

You can control the volume level by pressing the ‘+’ and ‘-’ signs. It is possible that the sound levels may change during the classroom.

If you need any assistance with the equipment, please contact one of the classroom assistants.

If you would like to speak to the instructor and colleagues, please raise your hand and talk by pressing the talk button as long as you need to speak.
ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

**Dr. Yulia Yamineva** is a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Climate, Energy and Environmental Law of the Law School, University of Eastern Finland. Her research has mainly been in the field of international climate law, and the science-policy interface.

Dr. Yamineva has followed the UN climate change negotiations for the last ten years as: a writer for the Earth Negotiations Bulletin of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (2007-2009), part of the UNFCCC Secretariat’s team on climate finance (2010-2013) and an academic (2014-2017). She has conducted many consulting assignments for the UN mainly in the field of capacity building for climate change negotiations. She holds a PhD in International Studies and an MPhil in Environmental Policy, both from the University of Cambridge.
SUMMARY OF THE CLASS

ABOUT THE PARIS AGREEMENT

The Paris Agreement is a multilateral treaty designed to advance international action to address global climate change. The Agreement captures national pledges on mitigation and adaptation actions, a support system for developing countries through finance, technology and capacity building, a framework for transparency of action and support, and other elements. The operationalisation of the rules of the Agreement is still ongoing but it has already inspired action beyond world’s governments among subnational entities, cities, the private sector, civil society and communities.

KEY TOPICS

- Significance of the Paris Agreement and brief history of the negotiations
- Legal nature and entry into force
- General characteristics and goals of the Agreement
- Mitigation and Nationally Determined Contributions
- Adaptation; loss and damage
- Means of implementation: financing, technology, and capacity building
- Transparency framework, global stocktake, implementation and compliance
- Pre-2020 action
- Current issues under negotiation
# Reflection

- What are the key strengths of the Paris Agreement? What are the key weaknesses?
- What, in your opinion, is the most important piece of the Paris Agreement?
- How might the Paris Agreement directly impact your country and/or your life?

**Find the corresponding definition**

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1. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement which prepares the entry of the Agreement into force and develops further rules and guidance
2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement is the main governing body of the Paris Agreement
3. Nationally Determined Contribution, an official document representing domestic measures on climate change mitigation and adaptation
REFERENCES FOR FURTHER LEARNING

PUBLICATIONS
– The Paris Agreement (available in all UN languages)

USEFUL WEBSITES
– The Paris Agreement (UNFCCC website)
– TED Talk by Christiana Figueres “The inside story of the Paris climate agreement” (UNFCCC website)
– UN reflection on link between sustainable development and climate change (UN website)

E-LEARNING
UN CC:Learn offers free online courses on climate change. If you want to learn more about the Paris Agreement and the international legal and policy framework to address climate change, check out Module 2 of the Introductory e-course on Climate Change. To access this course and explore other e-learning resources on climate change and related topics, go to: www.unccelearn.org

UNITAR offers twice a year the online course The Climate Change Diplomacy: Negotiating Effectively Under the UNFCCC, aimed at developing participants’ understanding of the climate change policy framework. Find more information about this as well as a wide variety of other UNITAR e-learning and face to face trainings at: www.unitar.org/event

To access all resources and more visit http://www.uncclearn.org/climate-classroom-cop23-paris-agreement or scan the QR CODE.
If you want to take other classes, please check the complete schedule of climate classroom sessions on our website.

www.uncclearn.org/climate-classroom
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