

# 2019 MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SCHOLARS' CONFERENCE

**Theme:** Law–Climate Change–Middle East and North Africa

**November 4 – 5, 2019**

**Venue:** University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco

Sponsored by



Partnered by



Association of Environmental Law Lecturers  
in Middle East and North African Universities  
جمعية محاضري القانون البيئي في جامعات الشرق الأوسط وشمال إفريقيا

Organized by

جامعة حمد بن خليفة  
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY  
كلية القانون  
College of Law



## TEACHING CLIMATE CHANGE LAW IN THE MENA REGION

### DAY 1: NOVEMBER 4, 2019

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am – 9:05 am	Workshop Opening by Dr. Riyad Fakhri, Host and Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee, Professor of Law, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco
9:05 am – 9:30 am	<b>Welcome Remarks:</b>  <b>Dr. Khadija Essafi</b> , President, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco  <b>Aphrodite Smagadi</b> , Legal Officer, Law Division, United Nations Environment Programme  <b>Najib Elhajioui</b> , Dean, Faculty of Law, Economic and Social Sciences, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco  <b>Susan L. Karamanian</b> , Dean, College of Law, Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU)  <b>Dr. Damilola S. Olawuyi</b> , Associate Professor, College of Law, HBKU; and Chair, Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North Africa Universities (ASELLMU)
9:30 am – 10:00 am	<b>Keynote Lecture 1:</b> Climate Change and Human Rights in the MENA Region <b>Keynote Speaker:</b> <b>Dr. Mahjoub El Haiba</b> (Morocco), Expert on Transitional Justice and Environmental Law, and Member of the National Council for Human Rights <b>Session Chair:</b> <b>Omar Khataibeh</b> , Faculty of Law, University of Jordan
10:00 am – 10:15 am	<b>Discussions and Questions</b>
10:15 am – 11:30 am	<b>Workshop 1:</b>  Spearheading Environmental Legal Education in the MENA Region: Role and Future of ASELLMU  <b>Co-Chairs:</b>  <b>Aphrodite Smagadi</b> , Legal Officer, Law Division, United Nations Environment Programme  <b>Dr. Damilola S. Olawuyi</b> , Associate Professor, College of Law, HBKU; and Chair of ASELLMU  <b>Professor Patricia Mbote</b> , University of Nairobi; and Chair, Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in African Universities (ASELLAU)  <b>Dr. Riyad Fakhri</b> , Professor of Law, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco
<p>In this session, participants (law lecturers/professors/academics from the region) will discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ The strategic vision and role of ASELLMU in spearheading environmental legal education in the MENA region.</li><li>▶ Membership of ASELLMU and relationships with ASELLAU.</li><li>▶ Consultative documents of ASELLMU: Charter, Advisory Board, Officers, Secretariat and Meetings.</li><li>▶ Mechanisms for Sustainability of ASELLMU: Financing; plans for recruiting more members; ensuring parity in representation between West Asia and North Africa; diversifying membership and participation to include women and early career environmental law scholars.</li><li>▶ Plans for next events: regional moot court competition in environmental law; and the next ASELLMU meeting/conference.</li></ul>	
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Coffee Break

# TEACHING CLIMATE CHANGE LAW IN THE MENA REGION

DAY 1: NOVEMBER 4, 2019

11:45 am – 12:15 pm

## Workshop 2:

Teaching Climate and Environmental Law in the MENA Region:  
Current Issues and Future Direction

### Chair:

**Professor Arrach Abdeljabbar**, Department of Public Law/Faculty of Law,  
Economics and Social Sciences, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco

### Panelists:

**Bouhania Goui**, Dean, Faculty of Law and Political Science,  
University of Ouargia, Algeria

**Susan L. Karamanian**, Dean, College of Law, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar

**Dr. Mohsen Abdollahi**, Head of Department, Environmental Law,  
Shahid Beheshti University, Iran

**Dr. Ibrahim Ghomghar**, Professor, Public Law and Environmental Law,  
and Vice Dean for Scientific Research, Faculty of Law, Ait Melloul Agadir, Morocco

**Col. Dr. Hussain Alajmi**, Head, Kuwait Environment Police (KEP), Kuwait

**In this session, participants (law lecturers/professors/academics from the region) will discuss:**

- ▶ Updates on progress made in incorporating environmental law teaching in the MENA region.
- ▶ Whether climate change law should be taught as a separate course, or as part of environmental law.
- ▶ What is the state of play of climate change law curriculum in their faculties, for example: how many courses and at which level are they offered and is climate change law obligatory or optional subject?
- ▶ The needs and challenges in teaching climate change law in law schools in the region.
- ▶ What are the existing areas of collaboration between the different law schools in the MENA region?
- ▶ Their vision for the future – what do the law professors/lecturers wish to change in the teaching of climate change and environmental law in their faculties?

12:15 pm – 12:30 pm

## Discussions and Questions

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

## Lunch Break

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

## Workshop 3:

How to Better Prepare Climate Change Law Practitioners with a Knowledge Base

### Chair:

**Dr. Mohsen Abdollahi**, Head of Department, Environmental Law,  
Shahid Beheshti University, Iran

### Speakers:

**Dr. Aziza Moneer**, Environmental Researcher, Research Institute for a Sustainable  
Environment, The American University in Cairo, Egypt

**Dr. Mohsine El Ahmadi**, Professor of Public Law, Cadi Ayyad University  
of Marrakech, Morocco

**Mohamed Ftouhi**, Professor of Law at Mohammed V University and Vice President  
of the Arab Network for Environment and Development, Morocco

**Dr. Kejji Hasna**, University Professor of Environmental Law and Political Science,  
Hassan II University, Morocco

# TEACHING CLIMATE CHANGE LAW IN THE MENA REGION

DAY 1: NOVEMBER 4, 2019

## In this session, participants will discuss:

- ▶ The scope and content of a climate law course: What should climate law teaching include and how should it be linked to core subjects (civil, penal, constitutional, administrative law)?
- ▶ Knowledge gaps in the government and non-governmental sectors with respect to implementing international and regional instruments on climate change.
- ▶ Practical opportunities for collaborating with stakeholders outside academia to meet capacity development needs.
- ▶ Meeting regional and national priorities and needs in terms of teaching, research, and policy development.

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm      **Discussions and Questions**

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm      **Workshop 4:**

Effective Instruction for Climate Change Law

### **Chair:**

**Dr. Ardit Memeti**, Associate Professor of Law,  
Kuwait International Law School, Kuwait

### **Speakers:**

**Dr. Riyad Fakhri**, Professor, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco

**Dr. Lofti Chedly**, Professor of Law, Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Sciences, Tunisia

**Dr. Hala Shat**, Associate Professor of Law, Al Ghurair University, United Arab Emirates

**Abdelaziz Adidi**, Professor, National Institute of Spatial Planning and Urbanism,  
Rabat, Morocco

**Fahimeh M. Kashkooli**, Attorney at Law, and International Law Researcher,  
Shahid Beheshti University, Iran

**Participants will look at how to make climate change law teaching more effective. They will discuss different teaching methodologies, their effectiveness, and how to best combine them, such as:**

- ▶ Traditional lectures in the auditorium.
- ▶ Teaching by presenting legislation (from general to more specific or as historically developed) as opposed to working on a case study in the course of a semester, to give students an opportunity to study the related legislation.
- ▶ Up to 15 students practice in groups/clinics to develop skills in identifying legal issues and solve problems.
- ▶ Is it better to teach one topic from every perspective (for instance, air pollution legislation in international and national law) or separately?
- ▶ Interdisciplinary exposure of environmental law students: how to train law students to work together with professionals in other fields closely relating to the environment, such as engineering, chemistry, physics, meteorology, or biology?
- ▶ Participation in international student events, such as moot court competitions.
- ▶ Exchange of environmental law students and researchers among the universities in the MENA region.

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm      **Discussions and Questions**

4:00 pm      **Group Photo**

7:00 pm      **Conference Dinner**

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION IN THE MENA REGION

## DAY 2: NOVEMBER 5, 2019

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Plenary Address: <b>Aisa Mustafa Hammadeen</b> (Jordan) Regional Vice-Chair for West Asia, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy
9:30 am – 10:00 am	<p><b>Keynote Lecture 2:</b></p> <p>Climate Change and the Voiceless: Protecting Future Generations, Wildlife, and Natural Resources</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker:</b></p> <p><b>Professor Randall S. Abate</b>, Professor of Law and Rechnitz Family/Urban Coast Institute Endowed Chair in Marine and Environmental Law and Policy, Monmouth University, United States</p> <p><b>Session Chair:</b></p> <p><b>Professor Arrach Abdeljabbar</b>, Department of Public Law/Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences, University Hassan the First, Settat, Morocco</p>
10:00 am – 10:30 am	<b>Discussions and Questions</b>
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Coffee Break
11:00 am – 11:45 am	<p><b>Climate Resilience in the Arab Region: Finance and Infrastructural Considerations</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b></p> <p><b>Ayman Cherkaoui</b>, Coordinator, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Ardit Memeti</b>, Associate Professor of Law, Kuwait International Law School, Kuwait</p> <p><b>Riadh Abadli and Chokri kooli</b>, Oum Al Bouaghi University, Alger, Algeria</p> <p><b>Khalid Ahmed Al-Ansari</b>, PhD Candidate, HBKU</p> <p><b>Cristina Abi Haidar</b>, Attorney at Law and Environmental Law Expert, Lebanon</p> <p><b>Dr. Dalal Aassouli</b>, Assistant Professor, Islamic Finance, HBKU</p>
<p><b>In this session, participants will explore:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The legal aspects of improving climate resilience in the MENA region through infrastructure development, resilience planning, climate financing and Islamic financing approaches.</li> <li>▶ What is the state of research on climate resilience and infrastructure development in the MENA region?</li> <li>▶ What is the role of public-private partnerships in improving climate resilience in the MENA region?</li> <li>▶ How, and whether, climate change law curriculum and scholarship emphasize new thinking on climate resilience and infrastructure financing.</li> </ul>	
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Discussions and Questions</b>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Break

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION IN THE MENA REGION

DAY 2: NOVEMBER 5, 2019

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm	<p><b>Workshop 5:</b></p> <p>Clean Technology and Climate Entrepreneurship</p> <p><b>Chair:</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Dalal Aassouli</b>, Assistant Professor, Islamic Finance, College of Islamic Studies, HBKU</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Omar Khataibeh</b>, Faculty of Law, University of Jordan</p> <p><b>Dr. Mohsen Abdollahi</b>, Head of Department, Environmental Law, Shahid Beheshti University, Iran</p> <p><b>Dr. Jaafar Theeb Al-Maani</b>, Al-Salt First Instance Court Judge, Jordanian Judicial Council, Ministry of Justice, Jordan</p> <p><b>Samira Idlilalene</b>, Faculty of Law, Universite Cadi Ayyad, Morocco</p> <p><b>Dr. N. Venkateshwarlu</b>, Sr. Asst. Professor of Corporate Laws and UGC - Research Awardee; University College of Law, Osmania University, Hyderabad, India</p>
<p><b>In this session, participants will discuss:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Emerging legal solutions on clean and low carbon technologies in the region and how such innovative legal approaches and support low carbon transition and a green economy in fossil-fuel intensive countries in the MENA region.</li><li>▶ What are the barriers, opportunities and legal aspects of promoting clean technology entrepreneurship amongst young populations in the region?</li><li>▶ What are the innovative law courses that emphasize clean technology ventures in the MENA region?</li><li>▶ What are the current gaps in current environmental/climate change curriculum with respect to clean technology entrepreneurship and how can those gaps be addressed?</li></ul>	
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	<b>Discussions and Questions</b>
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Coffee Break
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<p><b>Way Forward for ASSELLMU: Climate Change Curricula and Next Conference</b></p> <p><b>Co-Chairs:</b></p> <p><b>Aphrodite Smagadi</b>, Legal Officer, Law Division, United Nations, Environment Programme</p> <p><b>Dr. Damilola S. Olawuyi</b>, Associate Professor of Law, HBKU and Chair of ASSELLMU</p> <p><b>Dr. Riyad Fakhri</b>, Professor of Law, University Hassan the First, Settati, Morocco</p> <p><b>Professor Patricia Mbote</b>, University of Nairobi School of Law, and Chair of ASSELLAU</p> <p><b>Dr. Ardit Memeti</b>, Associate Professor of Law, Kuwait International Law School, Kuwait</p>
<p><b>In this session, participants (law lecturers/professors/academics from the region) will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Review and adopt a draft climate change law curriculum.</li><li>▶ Vote on the adoption of the Draft Constitution of ASSELLMU.</li><li>▶ Elect officers of ASSELLMU.</li><li>▶ Discuss plans for the next ASSELLMU conference.</li><li>▶ Appoint the host and chair of the planning committee for the next conference.</li><li>▶ Discuss any other business relating to the future of ASSELLMU.</li></ul>	
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<p><b>Declaration of Conference Recommendations and End of Conference,</b></p> <p><b>by Najib Elhajioui</b>, Dean, Faculty of Law, Economic and Social Sciences, University Hassan the First, Settati, Morocco</p>