

 InforMEA

## Introductory Course to Gender & the Environment



UN  
environment  
programme



## Course Syllabus

### Learning Objectives

Environmental change affects the lives of men and women in different ways due to existing gender dynamics and inequalities. There is increasing understanding of the interactions between gender and the environment, including between efforts to ensure gender equality and environmental protection, and of the close links between gender equality and sustainable development.

This course provides a general introduction to gender and the environment including in relation to issues such as access to land, natural resources, biodiversity, food, energy and sanitation, and the exacerbation of gender inequalities caused by climate change and biodiversity loss. The course focuses particularly on the way gender has been addressed under multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), including in relation to access to resources; participation in relevant decisions; mainstreaming; and access to support.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe how gender equality and environmental protection has been addressed under international environmental and human rights law.
2. Identify to what extent gender has been addressed under MEAs and international instruments on Terrestrial Biodiversity, Freshwater, Atmosphere, Chemicals and Wastes and the Marine Environment.

### Content & Duration

This online course is composed of 6 lessons which are organized in interactive modules and combine the course theory with exercises and interactions to facilitate the learning process. The core content of the lessons is

complemented with numerous references to primary sources and additional resources on external websites.

It will take you approximately 2 hours to complete the full course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

## Completion Certificate

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

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

## Course Outline & Content

### **Lesson 1: Introduction to Gender and the Environment**

Exploring what gender is, and why gender equality and gender mainstreaming have been increasingly recognized as a necessity under international environmental law and policy.

### **Lesson 2: Gender and Terrestrial Biodiversity**

Exploring to what extent gender has been addressed under international instruments on the protection and sustainable use of terrestrial biodiversity.

### **Lesson 3: Gender and Freshwater**

Describing the barriers to gender equality in the context of freshwater management and to what extent this has been addressed under freshwater-related MEAs.

### **Lesson 4: Gender and Atmosphere**

Describing how climate change and the health effects of exposure to ozone depleting substances are not gender neutral and identifying in what ways the atmosphere-related MEAs have addressed this.

### **Lesson 5: Gender and Chemicals and Wastes**

Exploring the gender dimensions of chemicals and wastes and how under the relevant MEAs, gender issues have been mainly addressed with regard to participation in relevant decision-making and in the analysis of impacts on women.

### **Lesson 6: Gender and the Marine Environment**

Explaining to what extent gender has been addressed under international instruments on the protection of the marine environment, in particular sustainable fisheries.

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