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BRIDGING THE DIVIDE: ADDRESSING THE GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

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I. ABSTRACT

This study explores the systematic legal and financial imbalance that hinders equitable participation in international environmental law. International environmental law allows nations to work together to address issues such as pollution, climate change, and loss of biodiversity. The Stockholm Conference of 1972, the Rio Conference of 1992, and the Paris Agreement of 2015 are examples of treaties that have made provisions for sustainable development and the protection of the environment.

Owing to differences in the monetary and non-monetary resources, developed and developing countries are still not on par. Developed countries tend to invest in renewable sources of energy, the latest technologies on waste management, and tech innovations, but developing markets have limited range in some of these areas, as they rely on traditional energy, and have poorer infrastructure and economic resources.

The study highlights the role of funding innovation, sharing, and institutional partnerships in bridging the gap. Closing this gap requires sustainable coalitions such as financial support, technology transfer, and infrastructure provision. The Green Climate Fund and other development approaches, such as public-private partnerships, can assist the underdeveloped economy to acquire the required resources to foster ecologically sustainable practices. Debt-for-nature swaps and taxation incentives can also bolster investments in ecology.

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II. KEYWORDS

International environmental law, sustainable development, climate justice, technology transfer, global cooperation, equity, UNEP.

III. INTRODUCTION

International environmental law² is a set of certain rules and etiquette that different nations tend to follow as a collective effort for the protection of our Earth. It represents a collective framework among nations where they agree to protect the Earth and conserve its natural resources, ensuring sustainable development. It is a subset of ³Public international law where international cooperation for dealing with issues like pollution, climate change, forest and wildlife protection, ozone depletion, ocean and marine protection, and the promotion of sustainable development. International environmental law helps nations work together as a team to solve the vast number of environmental issues that a single country cannot tackle alone.

One of the first environmental concerns was raised during the 20th century, where the primary focus was related to pollution and regional natural resource depletion. The Stockholm Conference⁴, which was held in 1972, is considered the first major conference raising concerns about environmental protection. After this conference, only a set of principles was set globally for the protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development. Followed by the Rio Conference of 1992,⁵ which was based on the Stockholm Conference, focusing on a framework for dealing with global issues like climate change and the promotion of long-term sustainable development. In the 21st century, international environmental law has focused on new emerging issues like greenhouse gas emissions, marine protection, deforestation, etc.

² Environment U, “Environmental Law and Governance” (UNEP - UN Environment Programme) <https://www.unep.org/topics/environmental-law-and-governance>

³ SSRN, 'Law, Institutions & Development eJournal' (Social Science Research Network) https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/PIP_Journal.cfm?pip_jrnl=1481449 accessed 15 June 2025.

⁴ 'Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment' (Stockholm, 16 June 1972) UN Doc A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1.

⁵ United Nations, “United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 3-14 June 1992 | United Nations” (United Nations) <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/environment/rio1992>

The Paris Agreement of 2015⁶ is a landmark treaty that aims to keep global temperature well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. International environmental law is a significant law with global cooperation, but at the same time, it faces many challenges between the developed nations and the underdeveloped or developing nations in the context of technology, infrastructure, and financial aspects.

IV. SOURCES AND LEGAL FOUNDATION OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

International environmental law is derived from various sources.⁷ Which has laid its foundation and global implementation. These sources are categorized as legal and non-legal sources.

When we talk about ⁸Primary sources treaties and conventions play a vital role in the foundation of international environmental law as they provide a global presence framework for environment protection these treaties do provide a set and clear guide for the nation on what they need to do and also put a liability on the signatory nations for the protection of environment and promotion of sustainable development. For example, the Montreal Protocol⁹ It was held in 1987, where the focus was to exclude hazardous Chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs) to protect the ozone layer. Followed by the Paris Agreement of 2015, which focuses on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and limiting global warming to below 2 degrees temperature. The Paris Agreement is a great example of where almost all nations came together against global warming.

Customary international law is another source where countries believe in general practice and global principles that are unwritten, but it is accepted universally by the nations. Nations believe it is their legal duty towards the environment to combat

⁶ “Adoption of Paris Agreement” https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004322714_ccllc_2015-0075-001

⁷ Rai D, “Sources of International Environmental Law” (*iPleaders*, June 30, 2020) <https://blog.ipleaders.in/sources-of-international-environmental-law/>

⁸ “Bridging the Divide between Environmental Sustainability and Economic Growth” (*Policy Center*) <https://www.policycenter.ma/publications/bridging-divide-between-environmental-sustainability-and-economic-growth>

⁹ “The Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer - United States Department of State” (*United States Department of State*, February 3, 2025) <<https://www.state.gov/the-montreal-protocol-on-substances-that-deplete-the-ozone-layer>>

emerging environmental issues. Some famous examples of international customary laws include the “No harm.¹⁰” Principle which states that a country shall not cause any sort of environmental damage to any other country, and if such harm is causing or caused to any other nation, they have to take further, to prevent it.

Treaties and customs can sometimes be vague and uncertain, and here the courts come into the picture, where they interpret the laws and make it simpler and easier for the nations to adopt and apply. Such interpretation by courts makes it easier to handle the forthcoming cases. Some examples of judicial decisions include the Trail Smelter arbitration of 1941, where a dispute arose when a smelter in Canada caused air pollution in the USA. The tribunal in 1941 held that “no state has the right to use or permit the use of its territory in such a manner as to cause injury by fumes in or to the territory of another”, establishing the widely recognised *no harm* principle in international environmental law.

In the case of Whaling in the Antarctic, 2014¹¹ where Australia argued that Japan's conduct of the scientific research program on whaling in the Antarctic region is violative of international environmental law and international agreements, resulting in better enforcement of wildlife conservation policies and laws. The Court found that Japan's JARPA II program was “not for purposes of scientific research” and ordered Japan to “revoke any extant authorization, permit or licence to kill, or take or treat whales”.

Alongside binding treaties and judicial rulings, soft law instruments, including United Nations General Assembly resolutions¹² Declarations and recommendations significantly influence state conduct and international standards. For instance, although they are not legally enforceable, the Stockholm Declaration (1972) and the World Charter for Nature (1982)¹³ Have made substantial contributions to the development of environmental ideals.

¹⁰ Trail Smelter Arbitration (United States v. Canada), 3 R.I.A.A. 1905 (1941).

¹¹ Whaling in the Antarctic (Australia v Japan: New Zealand intervening) [2014] ICJ Rep 226.

¹² United Nations. Dag Hammarskjöld Library, “Research Guides: UN General Assembly Resolutions Tables: 79th Session (2024-2025)” <https://research.un.org/en/docs/ga/quick/regular/79>

¹³ United Nations, “World Charter for Nature” (1982) <https://ejc.orfaleacenter.ucsb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/1982.-UN-World-Charter-for-Nature-1982.pdf>

All these sources helped in laying the foundation of landmark global principles like the “polluter pays” principle, the precautionary principle, and global promotion of sustainable development. Despite such significant development in international environmental law, the gap between developed and developing nations remains in the fields of infrastructure, technology, and finance.

V. International environmental law legal principles

The fundamental legal precepts that underpin international cooperation and Mold treaty obligations form the foundation of international environmental law. These values serve as the moral cornerstone of environmental governance and aid in distributing duties among states.¹⁴

- The principle of precaution: Even in the absence of complete scientific certainty, this principle calls for action to prevent environmental harm. It encourages preventative actions to prevent significant or irreparable harm.
- The principle of polluter pays: The cost of managing the environment should fall on those who harm it. This idea guarantees responsibility and deters actions that endanger the environment.
- No harm principle: This principle, which has its roots in international case law such as the Trail Smelter Arbitration, mandates that states refrain from causing environmental harm outside of their borders. To ensure equitable responsibility-sharing between developed and developing countries, these principles are essential to international treaties and frameworks for cooperation.
- The principle of cooperation: This principle, which is acknowledged in documents such as the Rio Declaration and the UN Charter, emphasizes the need for states to work together in good faith to protect the environment and address transboundary environmental issues. To ensure equitable responsibility-sharing between developed and developing countries, these

¹⁴ Team C, “Principle of International Environmental Law” (*De Facto Law*, February 24, 2024) <https://www.defactolaw.in/post/principle-of-international-environmental-law>

principles are essential to international treaties and frameworks for cooperation.

- The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR): According to the principle, all nations have a shared obligation to protect the environment, but they carry out this duty in different ways depending on their unique historical contributions and capacities. Acknowledged in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration (1992), it serves as the foundation for equity in climate agreements such as the Paris Agreement and Kyoto Protocol, guaranteeing that developed countries lead the way in tackling environmental issues.

VI. DISPARITIES IN ENVIRONMENTAL CAPACITY BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS

When we talk about developing nations, they are in a position to invest in environmental protection, like investing in renewable energy and technology advancement, because of strong financial stability. Such developed nations can manage and afford to impose such regulations where they are in a position to bear the costs.

However, in contrast to developed nations, developing or underdeveloped nations often navigate hardships for economic and financial stability, where the main focus is on economic development and financial stability rather than the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development. Such shortcomings and competency of these nations restrain them from investing in renewable energy, technological advancement, and imposing strong environmental laws and policies. For example, developed nations like the USA and Europe invest immensely in renewable energy projects, including solar, hydro, and wind projects.¹⁵

These nations provide subsidized rates and taxation benefits for their consumption growth in comparison to traditional sources of energy. But when we talk about developing or underdeveloped nations like Afghanistan and African nations do have

¹⁵ “Renewables in Energy Supply: Global Trends | Investment and Finance” https://www.ren21.net/gsr-2024/modules/energy_supply/01_global_trends/03_investment_and_finance/

potential due to their location for the promotion of renewable energy, but due to the high cost of renewable energy production and consumption.¹⁶ Such nations have to rely upon traditional sources of energy like coal and petroleum, and if these nations invest in renewable energy, their government cannot provide a subsidized mechanism.¹⁷

For the promotion and consumption due to unstable financial conditions. When it comes to forest conservation policies and the promotion of afforestation nations like Brazil, Norway, etc. do initiate separate funds for the protection of forests and the promotion of sustainable development whereas nations like the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda which are land of heavy tropical forests faces extreme deforestation due lack of law enforcement and inadequate investments by their governments. These nations do not have sufficient finances due to their unstable economy and government, and have to rely upon international financial aid for their basic needs.

Developed nations do have a strong and stable economy, where they can focus on research and development of their traditional practices to focus more on the sustainable pattern of environmental protection and development.¹⁸ They heavily invest in well-structured infrastructure and strict environmental policies, such as infrastructural development. In contrast, underdeveloped nations, due to their poor financial stability and economic growth, face problems like poverty, unemployment, etc., which prevent them from smoothly implementing environmental initiatives.

For example, nations like France, Japan, and Taiwan hugely invest in climate finance for renewable energy infrastructure like windmills and solar power plants with up-to-date technology. Such infrastructure includes less carbon emission technology and greener solutions for environmental challenges. Whereas if we talk about such

¹⁶ “Renewable Energy Roadmap for Afghanistan (RER2032) | ESCAP Policy Documents Managment” <https://policy.asiapacificenergy.org/node/3453>

¹⁷ “Poor and Vulnerable Countries Need Support to Adapt to Climate Change” (*IMF*, March 23, 2022) <https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2022/03/23/blog032322-poor-and-vulnerable-countris-need-support-to-adapt-to-climate-change>

¹⁸ “Technology Mechanism Enhancing Climate Technology Development and Transfer” report https://unfccc.int/ttlear/misc/_StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEM/0e7cc25f3f9843ccb98399df4d47e219/174ad939936746b6bfad76e30a324e78.pdf

infrastructure in developing nations like Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Ghana, due to their limited financial resources and economic and financial instability, they rely upon the old traditional, outdated coal power plants and are not competent enough to invest in renewable energy infrastructure and environmental protection.

According to the Global Waste Management Index, 2025,¹⁹ countries like Denmark and Switzerland have well-established waste management systems, including dumping and environment-friendly recycling processes. Whereas countries like India and Pakistan encounter difficulties with the collection of waste and its proper disposal, which eventually results in open and spread-out disposal and burning, these practices often result in health risks and environmental pollution. One of the main concerns of climate justice is acknowledging the unequal burdens that developing countries bear, which is another requirement for closing the environmental divide.

Developed nations with a stable economy, adequate financial resources, and adequate²⁰infrastructural establishment tend to focus on research and development (R&D) for technological advancement to have a more effective and practical approach towards environmental protection and sustainable development. On the other hand, underdeveloped nations face issues regarding stability in the economy, affecting their financial resources resulting in their outdated infrastructural growth for the protection of the environment which keeps them away from research and development (R&D) for technological advancement²¹ to have a more systematic approach towards environmental protection and promotion of sustainable development.

Countries like Canada, France, and Japan have made their way in advanced ways for renewable energy, like wind turbine systems and carbon capture mechanisms. These developed nations invest heavily in technological advancement to make their move for environmental conservation more efficient. Modern steps by the European Union

¹⁹ Sensoneo, “Global Waste Index 2025 | SENSONEO” (*Sensoneo*, June 6, 2025) <https://sensoneo.com/global-waste-index/>

²⁰ <https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/bridging-divide-between-developed-and-developing-countries>

²¹ “TESS - Addressing the Climate Technology Gap in Developing Countries through Effective Technology Transfer” (*TESS*) <https://tessforum.org/latest/addressing-the-climate-technology-gap-in-developing-countries-through-effective-technology-transfer?>

regarding the use of green hydrogen energy and the use of electric vehicles (EVs) are significant examples of technological advancement in the promotion of sustainable development and reduction of carbon footprints. On the other hand, countries in northern Africa and South Asia lack the technology and have to rely on outdated coal-related energy production and usage, harming the environment.

But developing nations like India and China have made steps in the development of solar energy; however, the technological obstacles remain for the majority of developing countries. Research and Development by developing countries for the use of Artificial intelligence-driven mechanisms²² in monitoring the systems, surveillance, etc, for betterment in environmental protection, whereas the developing nations even struggle for basic waste management systems.

For example, nations like Finland and Norway are testing AI-driven advanced sensor systems for the monitoring of ocean pollution, whereas some North African nations even struggle with basic waste disposal management systems. Developed nations like Portugal and the UK use advanced climate surveillance systems, which include flood and drought defence mechanisms and early warning systems, whereas nations like Bangladesh and Vietnam use outdated systems for climate surveillance, which often fail to protect from natural disasters. These are some examples of the technological divide between nations, where developing countries incur losses due to global inequality. There is a serious need for global collaboration and togetherness to bridge the gap between countries in combating environmental challenges and providing sustainable environmental solutions.

VII. BRIDGING THE GAP: STRATEGIES AND KEY SOLUTIONS

For the protection of the environment globally, a serious need for global sustainability is required with the global support of all the nations to each other for the protection of the environment and their protection from natural disasters. Global sustainability is mainly about a smooth balance between the protection of the environment, a growing economy, and societal welfare. But there is a huge gap between the

²² "8 Ways AI Can Contribute to Environmental Conservation" (2030 Builders, 2023) <https://2030.builders/8-ways-ai-can-contribute-to-environmental-conservation/> accessed 15 May 2025.

developed nations and developing or underdeveloped nations in tackling environmental issues, which is one of the major reasons and a challenge in attaining global sustainability.

Developed nations like the USA, Canada, and Europe nations have strong economies where they can have adequate financial resources, an established infrastructure, and advanced technology for strategically tackling environmental issues, but developing or underdeveloped nations like Iran, Bangladesh, north African nations, etc. with weak and unstable economy often lack the financial resources, inadequate infrastructure and outdated technology in battling the environmental issues. For bridging such gaps between the nations and global support, the strategy and solutions are²³ Focus on the collaboration between the countries, financial assistance to underdeveloped and technology sharing between the nations.

Some key solutions that focus on financial assistance may include financial support for sustainable development, mitigation funds, green funds, etc., to developing countries. The Green Climate Fund (GCF)²⁴ is one of the best examples of funding from developed nations to developing nations for the development of renewable energy infrastructure, forest and marine conservation, and promotion of sustainable development in developing countries. To enable inclusive environmental governance²⁵, international organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are essential in providing developing countries with financial aid, policy frameworks, and technical support.

With more new projects and assistance from developed nations, the financial issues can be resolved for environmental protection and conservation. Another solution can be swapping debt.²⁶ With nature conservation, international organizations and

²³ Atapattu S and Gonzalez CG, "The North–South Divide in International Environmental Law: Framing the Issues," *Cambridge University Press eBooks* (2015) <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/abs/international-environmental-law-and-the-global-south/northsouth-divide-in-international-environmental-law-framing-the-issues/63B93BD7388E5413B7888F56A5F64909>

²⁴ Green Climate Fund, 'About GCF' (Green Climate Fund, 2023) <https://www.greenclimate.fund/about> accessed 15 May 2025.

²⁵ Climate Funds Update, "Green Climate Fund - Climate Funds Update" (*Climate Funds Update* -, May 9, 2025) <https://climatefundsupdate.org/the-funds/green-climate-fund/>

²⁶ Fund GC, "Debt for Climate Swaps: Exploring Avenues and Opportunities" (*Green Climate Fund*) <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/debt-climate-swaps-exploring-avenues-and-opportunities>

nations can help convert the debt into environmental protection incentives. Imposing heavy taxes on industries that operate with deterioration of the environment funds will help the underdeveloped nations conserve the environment, and is a great step towards sustainable development. For example, US\$ 21.6 million was transferred to marine conservation as part of the Seychelles' 2015 sovereign debt swap, and the legally created Secant trust was established to administer the money.²⁷

Some key solutions that focus on infrastructure support may include clean and green infrastructural programs like public-private partnerships (PPP)²⁸ Where government and private organizations can come together for infrastructural growth like renewable energy, waste disposal, and management systems, and sustainable urban planning from developed nations in terms of natural calamities protection systems, training and development of the workforce, etc. neighbouring countries can come together forming a regional alliance for larger green projects in comparison where it is limited to one nation – for example common renewable energy grid systems and common standards between nations for bigger and durable infrastructure.

Some key solutions²⁹ that focus on technology play an important role in developing greater and better solutions for the new environmental issues. Developed nations through public-private partnerships (PPP),³⁰ international conventions and agreements, collaborations under the United Nations, etc. For example, the clean development mechanism (CDM)³¹ held under the KYOTO Protocol³² helps the nations in the facilitation of technology transfer to developing nations from developed

²⁷ “Case Study: Innovative Financing – Debt for Conservation Swap, Seychelles’ Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust and the Blue Bonds Plan, Seychelles (on-Going)” (*Commonwealth*) <https://thecommonwealth.org/case-study/case-study-innovative-financing-debt-conservation-swap-seychelles-conservation-and>

²⁸ Team I, “Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs): Definition, How They Work, and Examples” (*Investopedia*, June 6, 2024) <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/public-private-partnerships.asp>

²⁹ “——” (*TESS*) <https://tessforum.org/latest/addressing-the-climate-technology-gap-in-developing-countries-through-effective-technology-transfer>

³⁰ “PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PARTNERSHIP LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER” (*PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PARTNERSHIP LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER*) <https://ppp.worldbank.org/public-private-partnership/energy-and-power/climate-smart-ppps-further-reading-and-resources>

³¹ UNFCCC, ‘The Clean Development Mechanism’ (UNFCCC, 2024) <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-kyoto-protocol/mechanisms-under-the-kyoto-protocol/the-clean-development-mechanism> accessed 15 June 2025.

³² Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (adopted 11 December 1997, entered into force 16 February 2005) 2303 UNTS 162.

nations. This mechanism enables wealthy nations to fund emission reduction initiatives in developing nations in exchange for certified emission reduction (CER) credits.³³

Developing nations to put efforts into Research and Development (R&D) for sustainable development and environmental protection through direct funding to developing nations regarding tech innovation and advancement. Governments to give taxation incentives and subsidies for R&D in clean and green technological advancements. The research and development must happen with global collaborations of countries where research centres are established in developing nations with maximum support of developed nations, and the same collaborations can be done with top universities to come out with more innovative solutions.

It is not only the duty of the government but also the private organisations to give support for technological advancement, by giving incentives and taxation benefits³⁴ to companies that are involved in environmental technology, like the renewable energy sector, for development at a greater scale. Tax initiatives have proven effective in promoting renewable energy in nations like India and Germany. Germany's Renewable Energy Act³⁵ offers feed-in tariffs and green energy tax credits, while India offers tax breaks and accelerated depreciation for wind and solar projects.³⁶ Companies in both the government and private sectors, through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies, can implement sustainable development projects.

The most important point for technological benefit is the global legal and governance framework, where binding agreements and compliance mechanisms regarding technological advancement and transfer are included in global environmental protection and promotion of sustainable development. Although public-private

³³ “United Nations Online Platform for Voluntary Cancellation of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs)” <https://offset.climateneutralnow.org/UNCertification>

³⁴ Qayum A and others, “Environmental Taxation Based Integrated Modeling towards Sustainable Environmental Conservation Approach” (2016) 5 ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40068-016-0074-1>

³⁵ [bmwi.bund.de, “Renewable Energy Sources Act \(EEG 2017\)” \(2017\) https://www.bmwi.bund.de/Redaktion/EN/Downloads/renewable-energy-sources-act-2017.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=3](https://www.bmwi.bund.de/Redaktion/EN/Downloads/renewable-energy-sources-act-2017.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=3)

³⁶ Sharma A, “Environment and Tax in India” *Juris Hour* (April 19, 2025) <https://www.jurishour.in/columns/environment-and-tax-in-india/>

partnerships (PPPs), the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have been instrumental in bolstering environmental projects in developing countries, their efficacy has been uneven.

For the developing nations to embrace green technology and climate-resilient infrastructure, international financial organizations like the World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and African Development Bank offer vital funding and policy support. For example, the ADB's Green Financing Platform and the World Bank's Climate Investment Funds (CIF) have helped nations in Asia and Africa make the transition to clean energy.³⁷ Concerns have been raised by problems like slow fund disbursement, difficult application processes, restricted accessibility for least-developed nations, and a lack of transparency. These difficulties underscore the necessity of financial reforms that increase the efficiency, inclusivity, and responsiveness of such mechanisms to the unique requirements of economies that are at risk.³⁸

When countries collaborate across borders, real progress becomes possible. Like Germany helped fund solar initiatives in India by boosting clean energy through Indo-German Energy Program. Norway's financial assistance to Brazil's Amazon Fund helped to preserve millions of acres of the Amazon rainforest ecosystem.

Collaborations between developed nations and developing or underdeveloped nations through financial support, technological transfer, and infrastructural establishment can be fruitful in coming out with effective and better solutions in combating environmental issues. These global partnerships and tech innovation will ensure that the nation's contributions are necessary for environmental protection and development of sustainable development.

³⁷ Fund GC, "Asian Development Bank (ADB)" (*Green Climate Fund*) <https://www.greenclimate.fund/ae/adb>

³⁸ Mikolajczyk S and others, "Linking the Clean Development Mechanism with the Green Climate Fund" (2016) report https://climatefocus.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Linking-the-Clean-Development-Mechanism-with-the-Green-Climate-Fund-v3_0.pdf

VIII. CONCLUSION

International environmental law represents an avenue that allows countries to work collectively against the degradation of the environment on issues of global concern; however, this avenue will remain unexploited by developing countries. One of the developed countries, such as the United States, can build the infrastructure facilities necessary to harness renewable energy resources, which many developing countries do not have because they are economically depressed. This paper has highlighted how the imbalance in access to resources, infrastructure, and technology continues to widen the divide between developed and developing nations.

The only way to solve the problem is to form global alliances and develop a strategy that encompasses financial support, building capability, and fostering technology development. These tools not only assist in funding but also promote inclusive participation in climate action. Mitigation funds, PPP, and R&D are critical for economic sustainability as an approach. Only through meaningful cooperation and shared accountability can the global community ensure sustainable development for both people and the planet. As the world gets increasingly interdependent and interconnected, it is increasingly necessary for the international community to unite in efforts to better protect the environment and promote development for the benefit of people and the planet.

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