

# Introductory Course to the Paris Agreement

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

## Learning objectives

This course introduces you to the Paris Agreement, which is a Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Agreement's objective is to strengthen the global response to climate change in general, including by:

- committing to a long-term temperature goal;
- enhancing adaptive capacity and climate resilience; and
- making finance flows consistent with low-emission development pathways.

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

1. Describe the building blocks and main provisions of the Paris Agreement
2. Describe relevant provisions of the decision adopting the Paris Agreement
3. Identify the first steps to be taken after the entry into force of the Agreement

## Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 5 lessons, which provide links to the relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organised in books, which can be downloaded in pdf from the left-hand navigation menu.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 2 hours approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

## Assessment and certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress. There are 10 questions in the course, which will change if you take a second attempt to pass the quiz.

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 course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

| Unit  | Content   | Learning objectives   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Unit 1 - Introduction to the Paris Agreement</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Entry in force of the Agreement</li> <li>2. Principles and themes found at the preamble</li> <li>3. Purpose and goals</li> <li>4. Nationally determined contributions</li> </ol>              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recall when the Paris Agreement was adopted and when and how it entered into force</li> <li>2. Outline the preamble of the Paris Agreement</li> <li>3. Describe the purpose and long-term temperature goal of the Agreement</li> <li>4. Explain what Nationally Determined Contributions are</li> <li>5. Provide examples on how equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDRRC) are interpreted and operationalized in the Agreement</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Unit 2 - Substantive provisions</b>              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mitigation</li> <li>2. Greenhouse gas sinks and reservoirs</li> <li>3. Cooperative market-based and non-market based approaches</li> <li>4. Adaptation</li> <li>5. Loss and damage</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the mitigation aim of the Agreement</li> <li>2. Explain the main elements of the Nationally Determined Contributions</li> <li>3. Describe Low Emission Development Strategies and Response Measures</li> <li>4. Identify the requirements regarding greenhouse gas sinks, reservoirs and REDD+</li> <li>5. Identify the market-based approaches and non-market based approaches included in the Agreement</li> <li>6. Describe the adaptation goal, requirements and support of the Agreement</li> <li>7. Describe the role of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts in the Paris Agreement</li> </ol> |
| <b>Unit 3 - Supporting implementation</b>           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Finance</li> <li>2. Technology development and transfer</li> <li>3. Capacity Building</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain how the provision, reporting and management of climate finance is addressed in the Agreement</li> <li>2. Describe the role of the Technology Mechanism in the Paris Agreement</li> <li>3. Explain how the Agreement emphasizes the capacity building needs of developing country Parties and establishes a Paris Committee on Capacity-Building</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Unit 4 - Reporting, review and compliance</b>    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transparency</li> <li>2. Global Stocktake</li> <li>3. Facilitating Implementation and Compliance</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tell the purpose of the enhanced transparency framework</li> <li>2. Explain the purpose of the Global Stocktake</li> <li>3. Describe the characteristics the mechanism to facilitate implementation of, and promote compliance with, the provisions of the Paris Agreement and the composition of the Committee</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Unit 5 - Institutional arrangements</b>          | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Governing body</li> <li>2. Secretariat</li> <li>3. Subsidiary bodies</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the institutional arrangements under the Paris Agreement and their links to the existing frameworks under the UNFCCC.</li> </ol>  |



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