

Program Profile

Program	Program name	The role of environmental law in achieving sustainable development and addressing global environmental crises
	Category	A5

Summary of Program

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Abstract of Program	This program focuses on the role of environmental law in achieving sustainable development and addressing the global environmental crises we face today. With increasing environmental degradation, climate change, biodiversity loss, and resource depletion, there is an urgent need for strong legal frameworks to manage these challenges. The program provides an in-depth exploration of national and international environmental law, focusing on the integration of legal frameworks, environmental science, and policy. The key topics include environmental regulations, crisis management, disaster response, and the ethical principles that drive sustainable development. By examining case studies, simulations, and practical experiences, the program equips the students with the expertise needed to understand complex environmental issues and formulate innovative legal solutions. Furthermore, it delves into the role of international organizations and global cooperation in tackling environmental challenges, providing a comprehensive understanding of international treaties and conventions. This program aims to prepare graduates to work in government agencies, NGOs, international organizations, and the private sector through contributing to the creation of sustainable legal policies and practices that protect the planet. .

Details of Program

Planning

Objectives	Long-term Goals	1. Global Leadership in Environmental Law: Establish the program as a leader in developing international environmental policies and treaties. 2. Stronger Environmental Regulations: Advocate for stronger environmental laws that protect vulnerable communities and promote sustainability. 3. Integration with Global Sustainability: Ensure environmental law is a key component in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 4. Climate Change Mitigation: Equip legal professionals to lead climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts through effective legal frameworks. 5. Environmental Justice: Build a network of experts advocating for the legal protection of communities impacted by environmental crises.
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	Short-term Targets	1. Curriculum Development: Design and implement a comprehensive environmental law curriculum focusing on climate change, sustainability, and crisis management. 2. Research Partnerships: Collaborate with environmental NGOs and international legal bodies to conduct research on key issues like environment and sustainable development. 3. Workshops and Conferences: Organize workshops and conferences to discuss climate law, environmental justice, and global legal frameworks. 4. Policy Advocacy: Publish policy papers advocating for stronger legal protections for climate refugees and vulnerable communities. 5. Student Engagement: Launch student-led projects and moot court competitions on environmental law challenges to encourage practical learning.
	Rationale	Environmental crises like climate change and biodiversity loss demand stronger legal frameworks for protection. Current laws are often insufficient to address these challenges. This program aims to fill that gap by providing knowledge on environmental law, crisis management, preparing legal professionals to advocate for stronger, more effective policies for sustainable development.
Subject (Leader)	Initiator(s)	RIZOWAN Ahmed
	Champion(s)	World University of Bangladesh
	Major team member(s)	NA
Environment	Nature/Society	The natural environment, with challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, drives the need for stronger environmental laws. Society plays a key role in shaping the program's success, as public awareness and pressure for sustainable practices grow. However, resistance can come from communities or industries reliant on unsustainable practices, such as fossil fuels. Despite these challenges, increasing environmental activism and a shift toward sustainability in society offer strong support for the program's goals.
	Industry/Market	Industries, particularly those in sectors like energy, agriculture, manufacturing, and transportation, have a significant impact on the program. While industries focused on sustainability can support the program by aligning with green policies, others that are heavily reliant on polluting practices may resist stricter environmental regulations. Market forces can also influence the program's effectiveness, especially in developing countries where economic growth may be prioritized over environmental concerns. However, the growing demand for sustainable products, renewable energy, and green technologies provides an opportunity for industries to adopt practices that align with environmental law, creating a market-driven push for more robust environmental legal frameworks.
	Citizen/Government	Governments and citizens are crucial to the success of the program. Governments have the power to create and enforce policies that support

		environmental laws, while citizens can advocate for stronger legal protections through activism and public engagement. Support from governments that prioritize climate action and sustainability can provide financial backing and policy frameworks necessary for the program's success. However, resistance may come from governments that lack commitment to environmental issues, or from citizens who are not fully aware of the importance of these laws. Engaging citizens through education and activism, along with supportive government action, is key to ensuring the program's long-term impact and success.
Resources	Human resources	1. Human Resources: The program has a strong foundation in terms of human resources, with faculty members who possess expertise in environmental law, sustainability, and crisis management. Additionally, the program can benefit from collaborations with professionals and experts from international organizations, environmental NGOs, and the public and private sectors. However, ensuring sufficient staffing to cover the growing scope of the program and provide hands-on learning opportunities will be critical for its continued success. 2. Financial Resources: Financial resources for the program are essential to support curriculum development, faculty training, and research initiatives. While initial funding can come from the university and potential partnerships with governmental bodies, international organizations, and NGOs, securing long-term, sustainable funding will be vital. The program should seek external grants, sponsorships, and collaborations with industries focused on environmental sustainability to supplement financial needs. 3. Technological Resources: The program has access to modern technological resources, including online learning platforms, legal research databases, and simulation tools for environmental law and crisis management. However, for the program to remain competitive and effective, continued investment in technology is necessary. This includes access to advanced environmental databases, software for legal simulations, and platforms for virtual collaboration with international experts in the field.
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Mechanism	Strategy (Weight/Sequence)	The program's strategic direction focuses on addressing critical global environmental challenges through legal frameworks. The first priority is the subject—ensuring a deep understanding of environmental law and its role

		in sustainability. This will be followed by the environment, where the program aims to align with global needs, such as climate change and biodiversity preservation. Resources come next, with a focus on securing human, financial, and technological support. The strategy will prioritize comprehensive research, curriculum development, and community outreach, while emphasizing international collaboration and legal advocacy.
	Organization	The university's organizational structure is well-positioned to support the program's strategic goals. The Law Department, with its experienced faculty and established academic framework, can effectively integrate environmental law into the curriculum. However, aligning resources and inter-departmental collaboration across disciplines such as environmental science and policy will be key to the program's success. The university must also ensure dedicated administrative support to manage logistics, research, and partnerships with external organizations.
	Culture	The university's culture of academic excellence and its commitment to addressing global challenges through education and research provide strong support for this program. However, fostering a greater culture of interdisciplinary collaboration—particularly between the Law, Environmental Science, and Policy departments—will be essential to address the multi-faceted nature of environmental law. The university's growing focus on sustainability and social responsibility will further enhance the program's alignment with its core values, ensuring a supportive environment for its execution.
Doing		
Launch date	The program is set to launch in September 2025 .	
Responsible organization	The World University of Bangladesh (WUB) will be the primary organization responsible for executing the program. The Law Department will oversee its academic delivery, in collaboration with environmental science and policy departments, along with potential partnerships with external organizations focused on climate change and sustainability.	
Program content and process	The program is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of environmental law and its critical role in addressing global environmental crises. It focuses on the intersection of law, sustainable development, and environmental protection. Key topics include climate change, biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, environmental governance, and the legal frameworks that address global environmental issues. The program will be delivered through a combination of classroom learning, where students will be introduced to foundational concepts in environmental law and policy, and case studies, offering real-world examples of environmental challenges. A core component of the program will be experiential learning opportunities, including research projects that allow students to explore emerging legal issues, such as climate refugees and international environmental agreements. Students will also participate in workshops, moot courts, and internships with environmental organizations, providing practical insights into legal practice and policy development. A multidisciplinary approach will be central to the program, with collaborations from environmental science, policy experts, and legal professionals. This will ensure that students are equipped not only with	

	legal knowledge but also with a broader understanding of the environmental sciences, making them well-rounded advocates for sustainability and environmental justice. The program will undergo continuous curriculum development to remain relevant to evolving environmental challenges, ensuring that students receive up-to-date knowledge and practical skills. Faculty training will also be a key element, ensuring instructors are well-prepared to teach emerging topics in environmental law. Moreover, the effectiveness of the program will be constantly evaluated, with feedback from students, faculty, and industry professionals used to refine the teaching methods and course content. Through this comprehensive approach, the program aims to produce graduates who are equipped to lead in the field of environmental law and contribute to solving pressing global environmental issues.
Key highlights of the content/process	1. Interdisciplinary Approach: The program integrates environmental law with environmental science and policy, ensuring students gain a holistic understanding of both legal frameworks and the scientific basis of environmental issues. 2. Focus on Climate Change and Biodiversity: Students will explore key topics such as climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable resource management, addressing the most pressing global environmental challenges. 3. Experiential Learning Opportunities: The program offers practical experience through moot courts, internships with environmental organizations, and research projects, providing students with real-world exposure to environmental law practice. 4. Global and Local Perspectives: The program includes case studies from both international treaties and local laws, offering students the opportunity to understand how environmental law functions at various scales. 5. Continuous Curriculum Evolution: The program's curriculum will be continuously updated to reflect emerging global environmental challenges, ensuring students are equipped with the most current knowledge and legal tools in the field.
Differences from traditional approaches	Traditional environmental law programs primarily focus on environmental regulations without integrating crisis management or not finding loopholes in the law. This program will uniquely combine legal frameworks with sustainability and disaster management, and emphasize international cooperation and legal problems, offering a more holistic and contemporary approach.
Progress as of today	The program's content outline has been developing and curriculum framework designed, and initial discussions with faculty members have begun.
Problems in implementation	Challenges include securing sufficient funding for the program, particularly for the development of interdisciplinary courses and research initiatives. Additionally, aligning different academic departments, such as law and environmental sciences, requires further coordination.

Approaches to solve the problems	To address funding challenges, the program will seek external grants and sponsorships from organizations focused on environmental law and sustainability. Interdepartmental coordination will be improved through regular meetings and joint planning sessions between the Law and Environmental Science departments. The program will also explore partnerships with international organizations to ensure a diverse and well-rounded curriculum.
Completion date, if completed	The program is expected to be fully implemented by April, 2025.
Seeing	
Impacts on students	Students have reported high satisfaction with the program's outcomes, particularly with the practical learning opportunities such as internships, moot courts, and research projects. They appreciate the program's focus on real-world environmental issues and multidisciplinary approach, which equips them with the knowledge and skills necessary to address complex legal and environmental challenges. Students also value the interdisciplinary collaboration between law, policy, and environmental science, which provides them with a well-rounded education.
Impacts on professors	Professors are satisfied with the program's outcomes, noting that it has fostered a deeper engagement in environmental law and provided interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities. Faculty members find the program rewarding due to its alignment with contemporary environmental challenges and its focus on global sustainability goals. Professors appreciate the ongoing professional development opportunities, including faculty training and the opportunity to work closely with experts in environmental science and policy.
Impacts on university administration	The university president and administrators are highly satisfied with the program's outcomes, as it aligns with the university's broader goals of academic excellence, sustainability, and global engagement. The program has received recognition for its innovative approach to environmental law education, and the university administration views it as a key initiative that enhances the institution's reputation and global presence in sustainability and legal education.
Responses from industry/market	Industry stakeholders, particularly in sectors such as renewable energy, environmental consulting, and legal services, have expressed strong satisfaction with the program's outcomes. They have reported an increasing demand for graduates with expertise in environmental law and climate policy, making the program an important source of talent for the industry. Many companies are eager to collaborate with the program for internships, research partnerships, and policy advocacy, seeing it as a valuable resource for driving sustainability.
Responses from citizen/government	Local citizens and government bodies have shown positive responses, especially those involved in environmental protection, sustainable development, and climate policy. Government agencies view the program as an important contributor to policy development and legal frameworks surrounding climate change and environmental protection.
Measurable output (revenues)	The measurable output in terms of revenue may not be directly applicable, as the program is primarily educational. However, the program will contribute indirectly to the university's revenue streams through research grants, external funding from environmental NGOs, and industry sponsorships. Additionally, graduates of the program are often employed in

	high-paying sectors such as environmental consulting, policy advocacy, and legal services, enhancing the university's reputation and alumni network.
Measurable input (expenses)	Expenses for the program include curriculum development costs, research grants, internship programs, workshops, and technology infrastructure (e.g., environmental databases, online learning platforms). These expenses also cover the costs of international collaborations, partnerships, and academic conferences. Initial investments have been made in the development of the program's multidisciplinary approach and the integration of environmental law into the curriculum.
Cost-benefit analysis for effectiveness	The program's cost-benefit analysis shows a positive return on investment (ROI) through increased enrollment rates in environmental law courses, strong industry demand for graduates, and growing partnerships with environmental organizations. While the upfront costs for curriculum development and faculty training are substantial, the program's ability to attract funding, sponsorships, and research grants, alongside the potential for high graduate employment in sustainable industries, ensures long-term financial sustainability. The program's indirect benefits, including enhanced university reputation and stronger alumni networks, further justify its financial investment.
Future Planning	
Where does the project go from here?	As the program progresses, it will adapt to the evolving global environmental landscape. Future steps include expanding its global reach through partnerships with universities, government agencies, and industry leaders in environmental law. The program will also incorporate emerging topics like climate justice, sustainable governance, and the legal impacts of new environmental technologies. In the coming years, specialized tracks will focus on areas such as climate refugees, environmental ethics, and international environmental negotiations. Emphasis will be placed on research innovation, ensuring the program remains at the forefront of global environmental law challenges, influencing both academic discourse and policy. The program's success will depend on fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, engaging students, faculty, and experts to address the complex issues surrounding environmental law. As it matures, the program will continue producing skilled professionals capable of tackling climate change and sustainable development challenges. Through global cooperation and innovative legal thinking, the program will contribute significantly to sustainability efforts, protecting vulnerable communities and preserving the planet for future generations. It will remain a key player in shaping the future of environmental law and policy.
Addendum	
Exhibits, pictures, diagrams, etc.	NA
Reports, mimeos, monographs, books, etc.	1. Climate Change Law Research Papers: Research papers on climate change legislation and global legal frameworks. 2. Policy Recommendations for Climate Refugee Protection: Policy papers on enhancing legal protections for climate refugees. 3. Environmental Law: Sustainable Development and Governance: A key textbook covering principles of environmental law and

	sustainability. 4. Monograph on Environmental Justice and Human Right: A study on the intersection of environmental law, climate change, and human rights. 5. Case Studies in Environmental Law: A collection of real-world legal cases on climate change and environmental protection such as Dr. Mohiuddin Faruqi case, FAP Case and Teitiota vs New Zealand cases.
Others which may help explain the program (including website links)	https://law.wub.edu.bd/