

## 7. Annex I: Additional Resources

### 7.1 Training courses and materials

---

A variety of training courses and training materials about climate action is available online. The following training portals include material related to climate change.

- [One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership \(UN CC:Learn\)](#)

The UN CC:Learn knowledge-sharing platform provides a ‘one-stop-shop’ for accessing climate change learning resources and services offered by the UN system.<sup>1</sup> The One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership behind it is a joint initiative of more than 30 multilateral organizations aimed at helping countries to achieve climate change action both through general climate literacy and applied skills development. UN CC:Learn provides strategic advice and quality learning resources to help people, governments and businesses to understand, adapt, and build resilience to climate change.

Among the courses offered by UN CC:Learn is *An Introduction to Climate Change and Human Rights*, developed by PCCB, UNFCCC and OHCHR.<sup>2</sup> This general course is intended for everyone with an interest in learning more about climate change and human rights; including policy-makers, students, experts, activists and academics. The course provides tools to better understand, discuss, participate, and act on climate change as well as human rights challenges and opportunities.

- [The United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements \(InforMEA learning\)](#)

This portal offers a variety of course on environmental protection.<sup>3</sup> Among the courses offered is one on *National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Environmental Rights* which was developed out of a collaboration between the Asia Pacific Forum for National Human Rights Institutions and the United Nations Environment Program.<sup>4</sup> Other courses on InforMEA learning include an

---

<sup>1</sup><https://unccelearn.org/?lang=en>; <https://unccelearn.org/?lang=es>; <https://unccelearn.org/?lang=fr>

<sup>2</sup> <https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=136&page=overview>

<sup>3</sup> <https://elearning.informea.org/?lang=en>

<sup>4</sup> <https://elearning.informea.org/course/view.php?id=73>. The course is based on a Learning Needs Assessment of National Human Rights Institutions on Environmental Rights: Enhancing the Role of National Human Rights Institutions to Advance Environmental Rights in Asia and the Pacific. National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Environmental Rights: Course Syllabus [https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme\\_info/syllabus/73/NHRIs%20and%20Environmental%20Rights\\_Course%20Syllabus.pdf](https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme_info/syllabus/73/NHRIs%20and%20Environmental%20Rights_Course%20Syllabus.pdf)

Asia Pacific Forum & UNEP, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Environmental Rights: Course Handbook

[https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/85261/mod\\_resource/content/4/NHRIs%20and%20Environmental%20Rights\\_Course%20Workbook.pdf](https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/85261/mod_resource/content/4/NHRIs%20and%20Environmental%20Rights_Course%20Workbook.pdf)

*Introduction to Human Rights and the Environment*,<sup>5</sup> and one on the *Climate Change International Legal Regime*.<sup>6</sup>

- [UNEP Law and Environmental Assistance Platform](#)

UNEP's Law and Environment Assistance Platform (UNEP-LEAP) is the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme's digital backbone. Member States can directly request support from UNEP and partners via the Clearing House Mechanism within the technical assistance section.<sup>7</sup> Likewise, they can use the knowledge base and country profile sections to access relevant environmental news, legislation, jurisprudence, model laws, legislative toolkits, and other environmental law guidance products and resources.

- [UN SDG:Learn](#)

UN SDG:Learn is a United Nations initiative that aims to bring relevant and curated learning solutions on sustainable development topics to individuals and organizations. It is described as a unique gateway to a wealth of SDG-related learning products and services that are currently available. The course offering is searchable by Sustainable Development Goal, which allows for the easy identification of offerings related to climate action (SDG13).<sup>8</sup>

- [The UN Food and Agriculture Organization Climate Change Knowledge Hub](#)

The Climate Change Knowledge Hub (CC-Hub) gathers existing knowledge and resources on climate change in the agricultural and land use sectors. Its interactive features allow users to connect with peers, experts and capacity building providers. It also provides data, learning materials and activities, guidelines, policy advice and tools. The CC-Hub's overall aim is to enhance countries' knowledge and capacity to deliver on their climate and sustainable development goals.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to these general portals, there is a variety of other training material available online. These include:

- [UNDP Environmental Governance Programme \(EGP\) Human Rights Institutions & the Environment Webinar Series, 25-27 November 2019](#)

Insights from a webinar series for national human rights institutions focused on the role of NHRIs in implementing international law and norms and protecting and promoting human rights related to the environment at the national level.<sup>10</sup> This series

---

<sup>5</sup>[https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme\\_info/syllabus/36/Introduction%20to%20Human%20Rights%20and%20the%20Environment.pdf](https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme_info/syllabus/36/Introduction%20to%20Human%20Rights%20and%20the%20Environment.pdf)

<sup>6</sup>[https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme\\_info/syllabus/37/Climate%20Change%20International%20Legal%20Regime.pdf](https://elearning.informea.org/pluginfile.php/1/theme_info/syllabus/37/Climate%20Change%20International%20Legal%20Regime.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <https://leap.unep.org/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.unsdglearn.org/courses>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.fao.org/climate-change/knowledge-hub/learning-corner/en/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.environmentalgovernanceprogramme.org/human-rights-institutions-the-environment>

Webinar Series Report: The Right to a Healthy Environment and the Role of National Human Rights Institutions

was done in partnership with GANHRI and the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment.

- [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat](#)

*Climate Get the Big Picture: A Guide to the UNFCCC and its Processes* seeks to provide a starting point to see the ‘big picture’ of the United Nations climate change regime, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It guides the newcomer through the various issues covered by the regime, such as mitigation, adaptation and support. The guide also explains the negotiation processes where governments consider climate action and take further steps to enhance it.<sup>11</sup>

- [Council of Europe HELP course on The Environment and Human Rights](#)

This free online course addresses the legal frameworks and practical approaches to support legal practitioners and others in understanding the connections between human rights and the environment, in particular how to apply a human rights-based approach to environmental protection.<sup>12</sup>

- [Norwegian National Human Rights Institution](#)

In 2021 the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) hosted a webinar on climate change and human rights. It included a presentation regarding States’ human rights obligations to mitigate climate change based on reports of the Norwegian NHRI and the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions and included a panel discussion with leading experts in human rights law, environmental law and climate litigation.<sup>13</sup>

- [Danish Institute for Human Rights](#)

The Danish Institute for Human Rights offers an *Introduction to a human-rights-based approach*, which provides a general introduction to the key elements of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to development.<sup>14</sup>

- [Australian Human Rights Commission](#)

The Australian Human Rights Commission made an early contribution to discussion of human rights and climate change with a 2008 background paper *Human Rights & Climate Change*.<sup>15</sup>

---

<https://learningfornature.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Webinar-Report-Right-to-a-Healthy-Environment-compressed.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <https://unfccc.int/resource/bigpicture/>

<sup>12</sup> The course can be accessed by visiting the HELP e-learning platform at <http://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/>. It is necessary to open a HELP account and then access the online course at: <http://help.elearning.ext.coe.int/course/view.php?id=4237>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.nhri.no/en/2021/webinar-on-states-human-rights-obligations-to-mitigate-climate-change/> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0B04wRhCx7M>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.humanrights.dk/learning-hub/introduction-human-rights-based-approach>

<sup>15</sup> <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/commission-general/publications/human-rights-climate-change-2008>

- [Asia Pacific Forum for National Human Rights Institutions \(APF\)](#)

The APF has published a variety of general training materials. These include a *Manual on National Human Rights Institutions*<sup>16</sup> and a guide on *Undertaking Effective Investigations*.<sup>17</sup>

- [Amnesty International](#)

Amnesty International offers an online course on climate change and human rights, which it describes as a starting place for learning more about the complex relationship between human rights and climate change.<sup>18</sup> The course aims to teach about the key human rights implications of climate change and how human rights can contribute to finding better solutions to climate change.

## 7.2 General Information

---

Information and data about climate change is widely available from many national and international sources. A challenge is to find credible information and data to meet specific needs for particular activities such as investigations, reports, and impact assessments. NHRI experience suggests that partnerships with persons and organisations with the necessary technical knowledge and expertise will be an important way of meeting that challenge.

In addition to sources mentioned elsewhere in this *Practical Guidance*, general information about climate change and climate action is available from the following sources.

- [The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has a wealth of information about human rights and climate change,<sup>19</sup> including a [Frequently Asked Questions on Human Rights and Climate Change](#) available in the six UN languages.<sup>20</sup> Examples of the work of the Office, as well as that of UN human rights mechanisms, is described in greater detail in Section 2 of this document. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, has spoken regularly about climate change, and most of her statements can be found on the OHCHR website.<sup>21</sup>

---

<sup>16</sup> Updated October 2018 and available in English, Arabic and Russian.

<https://www.asiapacificforum.net/resources/manual-on-nhris/>

<sup>17</sup> *Undertaking Effective Investigations: A Guide For National Human Rights Institutions*, 2013

<https://www.investigationstraining.com/manual-on-conducting-effective-investigations-for-the-asia-pacific-forum-of-national-human-rights-institutions/>

[https://www.investigationstraining.com/wp-content/uploads/Undertaking\\_effective\\_investigations\\_guide.pdf](https://www.investigationstraining.com/wp-content/uploads/Undertaking_effective_investigations_guide.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> <https://amnestyinternational.docebosaas.com/learn/catalog>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/climate-change-and-environment>

<sup>20</sup> OHCHR, *Frequently Asked Questions on Human Rights and Climate Change*, 2021 at

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/publications/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-no-38-frequently-asked-questions-human-rights-and-climate>.

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/en/latest>

- [Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#)

The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change<sup>22</sup> is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was created to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments on climate change, its implications and potential future risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation options. The IPCC prepares comprehensive Assessment Reports about the state of scientific, technical and socio-economic knowledge on climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for reducing the rate at which climate change is taking place. It also produces Special Reports on topics agreed to by its member governments, as well as Methodology Reports that provide guidelines for the preparation of greenhouse gas inventories. The next comprehensive Assessment Report (AR6) is due to be published in September 2022. The first part of the AR6, *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*,<sup>23</sup> was published in August 2021. The second part, *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*,<sup>24</sup> was published on 28 February 2022. In it the IPCC notes that rights-based approaches, participation and inclusion can contribute to reducing structural vulnerabilities to climate change and advance climate resilient development.<sup>25</sup> The third part, *Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change*,<sup>26</sup> was published on 4 April 2022. It also includes information related to many socio-economic issues with human rights implications.

- [The Uninhabitable Earth: A Story of the Future](#)

The IPCC reports should be more than sufficient to understand the urgency and magnitude of the threat to human rights posed by climate change. If something more graphic and less technical is required to seize the gravity of the situation, one could look to David Wallace-Wells, *The Uninhabitable Earth: A Story of the Future*, Allen Lane, 2019.<sup>27</sup>

- [Climate Action Tracker](#)

The Climate Action Tracker<sup>28</sup> is an independent scientific analysis that tracks government climate action and measures it against the globally agreed Paris Agreement aim of "holding warming well below 2°C, and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C." A collaboration of two organisations, Climate Analytics and New Climate Institute, the CAT has been providing this independent analysis to policymakers since 2009. The CAT tracks 39 countries and the EU covering around

---

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/> and <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/resources/press/press-release>.

<sup>25</sup> Climate Change 2022, Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: Summary for Policymakers, IPCC WGII Sixth Assessment Report, PMM.D.2.1, p. 32 at [https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGII\\_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf](https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf).

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/> and <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/resources/press/press-release>. See also: See also: Five takeaways from the IPCC's report on limiting dangerous global heating, Climate Home News, 4 April 2022 at <https://climatechangenews.com/2022/04/04/five-takeaways-from-the-ipccs-report-on-limiting-dangerous-global-heating/>.

<sup>27</sup> [https://www.academia.edu/39776594/David\\_Wallace\\_Wells\\_2019\\_The\\_Uninhabitable\\_Earth](https://www.academia.edu/39776594/David_Wallace_Wells_2019_The_Uninhabitable_Earth)

<sup>28</sup> <https://climateactiontracker.org/> and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4H\\_D1bcboJ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4H_D1bcboJ4)

80% of global emissions.<sup>29</sup> Together these countries and the EU cover about 80% of global emissions and approximately 70% of global population.

- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

In 2015 UNEP in collaboration with the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law published an overview of the relationship between human rights and climate change that provides a good introduction to the topic.<sup>30</sup> UNEP's *Emissions Gap Report 2021: The Heat Is On* is the 12th edition in a series of annual reports that provides an overview of the difference between where greenhouse emissions are predicted to be in 2030 and where they should be to avert the worst impacts of climate change.<sup>31</sup> In 2019 UNEP also published the *Environmental Rule of Law: First Global Report*, which addresses multiple factors contributing to poor enforcement of environmental rule of law, including poor coordination across government agencies, weak institutional capacity, lack of access to information, corruption and stifled civic engagement.<sup>32</sup> UNEP also publishes the *Adaptation Gap Report*. The sixth edition, published in 2021, provides an update on current actions and the emerging results of regional-level to national-level adaptation planning, finance and implementation worldwide.<sup>33</sup>

- **United Nations**

The United Nations has a website devoted climate change.<sup>34</sup> While it provides access to a wide range of general information about climate change, it has little material that addresses links between human rights and climate change.

The UN Issue Management Group on Human Rights and the Environment (IMG) was established in 2020 and is led by OHCHR, UNDP and UNEP with the aim of integrating the human right to a healthy environment into the work of the UN to ensure a coherent and rights-based approach to environmental action throughout the UN system.<sup>35</sup> In the lead-up to COP26, the IMG members agreed to work together to advance rights-based climate action.<sup>36</sup>

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of the UN development activities at country level in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

---

<sup>29</sup> Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, EU, Ethiopia, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, Thailand, The Gambia, Turkey, UAE, USA, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

<sup>30</sup> UNEP and Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, *Climate Change and Human Rights*, December 2015 at [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/9530/-Climate Change and Human Rights-climate-change.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/9530/-Climate%20Change%20and%20Human%20Rights-climate-change.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=1)

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.unep.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2021> and its executive summary at [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/36991/EGR21\\_ESEN.pdf](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/36991/EGR21_ESEN.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.unep.org/resources/assessment/environmental-rule-law-first-global-report>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.unep.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report-2021>

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange>

<sup>35</sup> <https://unemg.org/human-rights-and-environment/>

<sup>36</sup> [https://unemg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/EMGSOM.27\\_INF\\_5-IMG-HR-and-Environment-Strategy-for-UNFCCC-COP26.pdf](https://unemg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/EMGSOM.27_INF_5-IMG-HR-and-Environment-Strategy-for-UNFCCC-COP26.pdf)

Development. It guides the entire programme cycle, driving planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of collective UN support for achieving the 2030 Agenda.<sup>37</sup> It determines and reflects the UN development system's contributions in-country and shapes the configuration of UN assets required inside and outside the country. The common country analysis is the UN system's independent, impartial and collective assessment and analysis of a country situation for its internal use in developing the Cooperation Framework. An increasing number of Common Country Analyses and Cooperation Frameworks refer to climate change, the environment and human rights as well as situation of environmental human rights defenders.

In March 2022, the UN Secretary-General António Guterres launched an Expert Group to develop stronger and clearer standards for net-zero emissions pledges by non-State entities – including businesses, investors, cities and regions – and speed up their implementation.<sup>38</sup>

- [International Energy Agency](#)

The International Energy Agency's (IEA) special report *Net Zero by 2050 A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector* is a comprehensive study of how to transition to a net zero energy system by 2050 while ensuring stable and affordable energy supplies, providing universal energy access, and enabling robust economic growth.<sup>39</sup>

- [World Resources Institute \(WRI\)](#)

The Climate Program at the World Resources Institute focuses on four main areas: stepping up national climate action, advancing international climate action, tracking progress toward climate goals and supporting equity and development goals in the transition to a zero-carbon economy. It is a rich source of information about climate action. Its *Just Transition and Equitable Climate Action Resource Center* showcases initiatives by governments, communities and companies that provide lessons for how workers and communities can benefit from the transition to a zero-carbon economy.<sup>40</sup> Its publication *Navigating the Paris Agreement Rulebook* helps to understand the numerous UNFCCC bodies and processes established to implement the Paris Agreement.<sup>41</sup> WRI is one of the lead authors of the *State of Climate Action 2021: Systems Transformations Required to Limit Global Warming to 1.5°C*.<sup>42</sup> The report authored by the UN High-Level Climate Champions<sup>43</sup>, Climate Action Tracker, ClimateWorks Foundation, Bezos Earth Fund and World Resources Institute translates the required transitions into 40 targets for 2030 and 2050, with measurable indicators. Chapter 11 on *Equity and Just Transition* discusses the importance of a just transition for fossil fuel workers and communities and the wider equity implications

---

<sup>37</sup> UN Sustainable Development Group, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, 2019 at <https://unsdg.un.org/download/1512/687>.

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/high-level-expert-group>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050>

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.wri.org/just-transitions>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.wri.org/paris-rulebook>

<sup>42</sup> [https://www.wri.org/research/state-climate-action-2021?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=here\\_are\\_three\\_business\\_people\\_and\\_planet\\_updates\\_for\\_you&utm\\_term=2021-10-29](https://www.wri.org/research/state-climate-action-2021?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=here_are_three_business_people_and_planet_updates_for_you&utm_term=2021-10-29)

<sup>43</sup> <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/marrakech-partnership/actors/meet-the-champions>

of low-carbon systems transformations. While it does not refer to human rights, the relevance of procedural and substantive rights to just transition is obvious.

- [Climate Change Laws of the World](#)

Climate Change Laws of the World covers national-level climate change legislation and policies globally.<sup>44</sup> The database covers climate and climate-related laws, as well as laws and policies promoting low carbon transitions, which reflects the relevance of climate policy in areas including energy, transport, land use, and climate resilience. Climate Change Laws of the World is a collaboration of the Grantham Research Institute at LSE and the Sabin Center at Columbia Law School.

- [Climate Change Litigation Databases](#)

This website provides two databases of climate change litigation: (1) a U.S. Climate Change Litigation database and (2) a Global Climate Change Litigation database, which includes all cases except those in the U.S. The U.S. Climate Change Litigation database is a joint project of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia Law School and Arnold & Porter. The U.S. Climate Litigation Chart was created in 2007 and was relaunched as an interactive and searchable database in 2017. The U.S. database is updated monthly, and as of March 2022 included nearly 1400 cases with links to nearly 9000 case documents. The Global Climate Change Litigation database was created in 2011 and is updated regularly. In March 2022 it included over 500 cases, with links to nearly 1000 case documents. This represented cases from over 40 countries. The Global database includes climate litigation cases brought before international or regional courts or tribunals.<sup>45</sup>

- [Climate Social Sciences Network](#)

The Climate Social Sciences Network (CSSN) is an international network of scholars headquartered at the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, launched in October 2020.<sup>46</sup> Scholars in the network are social scientists producing peer-reviewed research focused on understanding political conflict over climate change. One of the issues that members of the Network examine is the practice of greenwashing, which is “[a]n umbrella term for a variety of misleading communications and practices that intentionally or not, induce false positive perceptions of an organization's environmental performance.”<sup>47</sup>

- [Center for International Environmental Law \(CIEL\)](#)

The Center for International Environmental Law<sup>48</sup> is a non-governmental organisation that describes itself as using the power of law to protect the environment, promote

---

<sup>44</sup> <https://climate-laws.org/>

<sup>45</sup> <http://climatecasechart.com/climate-change-litigation/about/>

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.cssn.org/>

<sup>47</sup> Nemes, N., Stabinsky, D., Scanlan, S.J., Smith, P., Smith, T., Aronczyk, M., Lewis, S.L., Montgomery, A.W. and Tubiello, F.N., 2021. An Integrated Framework to Assess Greenwashing. CSSN Working Paper 2021:1, page 5 at <https://www.cssn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/CSSN-Working-Paper-2021-on-Assessing-Greenwashing-1.pdf>.

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.ciel.org/>

human rights, and ensure a just and sustainable society. It works on a broad range of issues at the interface of international environmental law and human rights, and has a program devoted to climate and energy. CIEL has published many briefings and reports related to human rights and climate change, some of which are mentioned in footnotes of this Practical Guidance. It has a history of working with NHRIs.<sup>49</sup>

- **Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)**

In addition to those already mentioned in this Practical Guidance, there are many other international and national NGOs that work on the relationship of human rights and climate change. They often make valuable contributions to climate action out of the public eye. Some of international NGOs include:

- **Climate Action Network (CAN)**

Climate Action Network<sup>50</sup> is a global network of more than 1500 civil society organisations in over 130 countries driving collective and sustainable action to fight the climate crisis and to achieve social and racial justice. It convenes and coordinates civil society at the UN climate talks and other international fora. CAN is organised into regional and national nodes.<sup>51</sup> Through its attention to the broad range of issues covered by climate action and its focus on related justice issues, CAN addresses human rights issues.<sup>52</sup>

- **Amnesty International**

Amnesty International's work on climate change includes advocating for human rights in the Paris Agreement, contributing to stronger human rights standards on climate change, and supporting environmental groups as they put forward human rights arguments. Amnesty International works with a variety of groups to mount pressure against governments and corporations that are obstructing progress. It supports young people, Indigenous peoples, trade unions and affected communities to demand a rapid and just transition to a zero-carbon economy that leaves no one behind. It also supports environmental defenders and defends civic space for information, participation and mobilization, which contributes towards promoting more progressive climate policies.<sup>53</sup>

---

<sup>49</sup> For example, see: The German Institute for Human Rights and the Center for International Environmental Law, *Climate Change and Human Rights - The Contributions of National Human Rights Institutions: A Handbook*, 2020 <https://www.ciel.org/reports/climate-change-and-human-rights-the-contributions-of-national-human-rights-institutions/> and <https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/publikationen/detail/climate-change-and-human-rights> National Human Rights Institutions and the 2018 UN Climate Conference (Aug 2018) <https://www.ciel.org/reports/national-human-rights-institutions-2018-un-climate-conference/> and National Human Rights Institutions and the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue (Aug 2018) at <https://www.ciel.org/reports/national-human-rights-institutions-2018-talanoa-dialogue/>

<sup>50</sup> <https://climatenetwork.org/>

<sup>51</sup> <https://climatenetwork.org/overview/members/>

<sup>52</sup> An illustration of this is the CAN Submission for the First Input Phase of the Global Stocktake, February 2022 at <https://climatenetwork.org/resource/can-submission-for-the-first-input-phase-of-the-global-stocktake/>.

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/climate-change/>. Amnesty International has prepared detailed overview of human rights standards and issues relevant to human rights in its report, *Stop Burning Our Rights! What Governments and Corporations Must Do to Protect Humanity from the*

- *Global Witness*

Global Witness works to hold companies and governments to account for destruction of the environment, disregard for the planet and failure to protect human rights through a variety of campaigns.<sup>54</sup> Global Witness conducts investigations, brings issues to the attention of worldwide audiences and endeavours to shape and secure laws, sanctions and changes in business practice to ensure transition to a just and sustainable future.

- *Greenpeace*

Greenpeace gives significant attention to both the human rights consequences of climate change and the role of human rights in climate action.<sup>55</sup> It has published a People's Guide<sup>56</sup> to climate justice that provides ideas for community members, NGOs and public interest lawyers on how to build legal cases that address the impacts of climate change from a human rights perspective. The Guide explores how to develop a rights-based climate case and an accompanying rights-based campaign strategy.

- *Human Rights Watch*

Human Rights Watch's addresses climate change in the context of its work on Environment and Human Rights.<sup>57</sup> In addition to having published numerous publications addressing climate change, Human Rights watch assesses the climate policies of twenty-two countries in its World Report 2022.<sup>58</sup>

- *Human Rights and Climate Change Working Group*

The Human Rights and Climate Change Working Group<sup>59</sup> based in Geneva brings together civil society advocates and experts seeking to strengthen the recognition of the human rights dimension of climate change and to secure adequate legal remedies for those impacted. The Working Group is an informal coalition with close to 400 individual members who include civil society advocates, indigenous peoples' representatives, scholars and allies in intergovernmental organizations and NHRIs. The Working Group seeks to operate across traditional constituencies. It engages in the following ways:

---

*Climate Crisis.* <sup>53</sup> Index: POL/30/3476/2021, 2021 at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/POL3034762021ENGLISH.pdf>. Also available in French, *Nos Droits Brûlent ! Les Gouvernements et les Entreprises Doivent Agir Pour Protéger l'Humanité Face à la Crise Climatique*, Index : POL 30/3476/2021 French, 2021 at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/11/POL3034762021FRENCH.pdf>.

<sup>54</sup> <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/about-us/> and <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/about-us/annual-report-2020-time-climate-revolution/#CEO>

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/story/19885/what-does-climate-change-have-to-do-with-human-rights/>

<sup>56</sup> Holding your Government Accountable for Climate Change: A People's Guide, 2018 at <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/publication/19818/holding-your-government-accountable-for-climate-change-a-peoples-guide/>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/topic/climate-change>

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/video-photos/interactive/2022/01/13/human-rights-watch-country-profiles-climate-change-policy> and <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2022>

<sup>59</sup> <https://climaterights.org/about/>

Within the UNFCCC, its members advocate for human rights in the development, implementation and monitoring of the climate policies, institutions and mechanisms established under the UNFCCC.

Within other international processes, including the post-2015 agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Human Rights Council, its members advance the linkages between human rights and climate change.

At the national and regional levels, its members provide technical support with respect to the implementation of rights-based policies and actions on the ground.

At the community level, its members help to build capacity and provide support to peoples and communities seeking to hold state and corporate actors accountable for the adverse impacts of climate policies and actions.

- **Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment**

The Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment is network of thinkers, researchers, policy-makers, opinion-formers and community activists whose diversity forges new conversations and relationships. It produces, exchanges and learns from world-leading scholarship and insights drawn from community-embedded experience and praxis at the interface between human rights and the environment all over the world.<sup>60</sup> One of its projects is the Climate Litigation in the Global South Project which is utilizing human rights to push for greater ambition in adaptation and mitigation efforts, especially where governments' responses to the causes and myriad impacts of climate change have been inadequate or inconsistent with applicable laws and policies.<sup>61</sup>

---

<sup>60</sup> <https://gnhre.org/>

<sup>61</sup> <https://gnhre.org/climate-litigation-in-the-global-south/>