

UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol

Response of the international community to climate change:

- 1970: The problem becomes known in scientific circles
- 1979: 1st World Climate Conference
- 1990: 2nd World Climate Conference
- 1992: Adoption of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- 1997: Adoption of the Kyoto Protocol (not in force)

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNFCCC Key Data

- Adoption: 1992 in New York, opened for signature at the Rio Conference on Environment and Development
- Entry into force: March 1994
- Current number of Parties: 189
- Australia signed and ratified in 1992

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNFCCC Key Provisions

- Objective: Stabilization of GHG emissions in the atmosphere
- Obligations of countries by category
 - **All countries**: National programmes and strategies, sustainable use of sinks, international cooperation
 - **Annex I countries (industrialized & economies in transition)**: Reduction measures with the objective of stabilizing emissions at a 1990 level by 2000

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

- **Annex II countries (industrialized):** Financial support of developing countries in implementing the Convention („new and additional resources“)
- Institutions
 - Financial mechanism: GEF (Art. 11)
 - Compliance monitoring (Art. 13)

Typical example of a framework convention

Kyoto Protocol

Kyoto Protocol Key Data

- Adoption: 1997 in Kyoto on the basis of the 1995 Berlin Mandate (concrete reduction obligations for Annex I countries, no new obligations for developing countries)
- Adoption of Marrakesh Accords (giving concrete content to the Flexible Mechanisms): 2001 at COP 7, in Marrakesh

Kyoto Protocol

Kyoto Protocol Key Data

- Not in force
- Current number of Parties: 122, including Annex I countries accounting for 44.2% of the 1990 GHG emissions from this group
- Australia signed in 1998 but has not ratified to date

Kyoto Protocol

Kyoto Protocol Key Provisions

- Quantified GHG emission limitation / reduction targets for Annex I countries (Article 3 / Annexes A and B)
 - Targets apply to the 6 main GHGs jointly („*Basket Approach*“)
 - Target period: 2008 to 2012
 - Base year: 1990
 - Individual targets for each Annex I country (Annex B)

Kyoto Protocol

- Flexibility for countries with economies in transition (Art. 3 para. 5-7)
- General obligations for non-Annex I countries (reaffirmation of UNFCCC obligations) (Art. 10)
- Financial mechanism: GEF (Art. 11)
- Compliance monitoring (modalities adopted 2001, on the basis of Art. 18)