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Introduction to the Sustainable Law Institute



making law work for peoples, places, and the planet

The Sustainable Law Institute is a network of lawyers specializing in assisting countries to develop and implement laws that support democracy, good governance, human rights and sustainable development.

Our mission

To provide training for international, national, regional and local levels of government in preparing effective and sustainable policy, laws and regulations.

To provide tools and techniques for the design of regulatory frameworks that support clean, fair, participatory and responsive institutions.

To provide technical assistance to developing and transitioning countries in needs assessment, public and private sector reforms, integration into the global economy, and anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and organised crime prevention.

To support the design and implementation of regulatory systems that contribute to peace and prosperity by expressing and complying with international principles and standards of good governance, economic governance, human rights, justice, and security.

Our Values

- Listen, learn, connect, and be creative
- Honor diversity
- Build from strengths

Activities

- Training concepts, tools and techniques for drafting sustainable laws and regulations
- Training and assistance in regulatory impact assessment
- Consultation and negotiation with stakeholders
- Conflict resolution and reconciliation in post-conflict regions
- Assisting national compliance with international law, technical standards and practices, and international trade and commercial agreements
- Adapting international or foreign norms and standards to the conditions and culture of the country
- Approximation of national laws and administrations with the European Union
- International harmonization of laws, integration of national economies to the global economy
- Action planning, implementation, monitoring and assessment
- Implementation and enforcement
- International cooperation in criminal law
- Organization of conferences, workshops, seminars, multi-language publications

Work areas

- Access to justice legislation
- Administrative procedure
- Anti-corruption, money-laundering and organized crime
- Climate change
- Commercial law
- Communication of laws, rights and procedures
- Environment law
- Humanitarian and human rights law
- Intellectual property rights
- International arbitration and mediation
- International trade and commercial transactions
- Land use and regional planning
- Minerals and mining
- Natural resources management
- Public information, transparency, participation and accountability
- Rule of law and strengthening of judicial and justice institutions

Partners

Cynthia Whitehead, Director, has more than 30 years experience in drafting and negotiating legislation in more than 35 countries. Since 1987, she has advised governments, international organizations, industry and the public on the preparation and revision of laws and, in particular, regulatory structures to meet the requirements of the European Union and international law. She has been an in-house legal consultant to the Commission of the European Communities, working on chemicals control, waste management, air and water quality, and the control of genetically-modified organisms. She specializes in environment, natural resources and administrative law at international, national and local levels of government. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Reed College and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Oregon. A Fulbright-Hays scholar, she has held research positions at the University of Cologne and the University of Munster, Germany. She is the author of numerous training courses on legislation and the rule of law, and editor of the first comprehensive, nine-language publication of European Union environmental law. She is a member of the International Association of Legislation, INPROL, and the Oregon State Bar.

Judge Zafar Gondal has 20 years of experience in judicial administration, law reform, commercial and trade law, organized and economic crimes, and drafting laws and regulations in developing and post-conflict countries. He has worked in countries with common law, civil law and Islamic law systems and cultures. Most recently, he worked in Afghanistan as Project Legal Officer and component manager where he trained state prosecutors working on economic and organized crimes, judges in commercial law and procedure, national ministries in international trade law and the Ministry of Commerce and Industries in commercial law, procedure, commercial arbitration, principles of contracts, and drafting laws and regulations. Previously, he has been as Judicial Magistrate, Senior Civil Judge, and Section Officer for Law Reform in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs of Pakistan. He was Additional Director of the project to prepare Pakistan's National Anti-Corruption Strategy, 2001. He holds an LL.M. degree in Legislative Studies from the School of Advanced Studies, University of London and an LL.M. degree in Transnational Commercial Laws, International Economic Law and Economic Crimes from King's College. He is a member of the International Association of Legislation, the Commonwealth Association of Legislative Counsels, the Sir William Dales Centre for Legislative Studies, the Lahore High Court Bar Association, the International Association of Prosecutors, INPROL and the UN Asia and Far East Institute, and Fellow of the International Bar Association.

CVs of our associates are available upon request. Please contact info@sustainablelaw.net.

Countries and Regions Served

Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Danube River Basin, Estonia, European Union, Hungary, Kazakhstan/Central Asia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Serbia, Serbia/Kosovo, Serbia/Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Russian Federation, Turkey, USA, Pakistan, Kuwait and the UK.

Projects

Afghanistan

Training course on Mining Law for the Ministry of Mines, IDLO project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Training course on legislative drafting of implementing regulations for the Ministry of Mines, IDLO project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On-the-job training and mentoring of legislative drafters for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, IDLO project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Assistance to Ministry of

Commerce and Industry in drafting the Consumer Law and implementing regulations under Arbitration Law and Company law. Assistance in the drafting of the Arbitration Law, Mediation Law, Partnership Law, Law of Patent and Law of Secured transactions, IDLO project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Training of prosecutors, judges, staff of Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IDLO project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Training course on international legal and institutional framework against Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances for the Counter-Narcotics Police of Afghanistan (CNPA), IDLO project funded by the British and Commonwealth Office.

Albania

Legal/institutional assistance in the preparation of the National Water Management Strategy, funded by the European Union.

Legal and institutional strengthening activities regarding implementation of environmental legislation, funded by the European Union.

Preparation of revisions to the Law on Waste and implementing regulations, funded by the European Union.

Assistance to the City of Korça in the implementation of solid waste management regulations and programs, ***funded by the European Union.***

Bhutan

Assistance to the National Environment Commission (NEC) in implementation of environmental impact assessment,

Training and direction of the NEC legal unit in the analysis of regulatory needs and the preparation of the Environmental Assessment Act, adopted in 2000 and implementing regulations laws and regulations, funded by DANIDA.

Training of government officials, industry and NGOs in implementation and enforcement of the new law, funded by DANIDA.

Preparation of Law establishing the Royal Audit Authority as an independent body, funded by UNDP.

Bulgaria

Analysis of legislation, drafting of laws and regulations in the environment sector, training, funded by the European Union.

Central and Eastern Europe

Training courses for government officials, industry and NGOs in international and national law and implementation of water management laws and programs in the Danube River Basin, funded by the European Union.

Preparation of training courses on the approximation of environmental law for government, industry & NGOs, funded by the European Union.

Croatia

Review and modification of the National Action Plan to bring Croatian laws and policies into compliance with the European Union environmental laws and policies; preparation of proposals for reform of institutions and procedures for EU accession, for the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, funded by the European Union.

Cyprus

Analysis of compliance of Greek Cypriot environmental laws, institutions and procedures with the requirements of the European Union; Preparation of a Action Plan for the approximation of law, funded by the European Union.

Czechoslovakia

Analysis of compliance of Czech environmental laws, institutions and procedures with the requirements of the European Union; Preparation of a Action Plan for the approximation of law, funded by the European Union.

Support in the preparation of background papers, organisation and implementation of the first 'Environment for Europe' Conference of Ministers of Environment, for the Ministry of Environment.

European Union

Preparation of draft Directives on the contained use and deliberate release of genetically-modified organisms for the Commission of the European Communities.

Support in policy and project development of the European Union technical assistance programs for central and eastern Europe and for the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Preparation of terms of reference for multi-country technical assistance projects in the environment sector.

Assistance in the definition of priorities and projects for the restoration of the Caspian Sea.

Policy analysis and assistance in the implementation of programmes of technical assistance to central and eastern Europe.

Assistance in the preparation of the Fifth Environmental Action Programme of the European Community.

Publication of monthly information on European Union environmental laws and policies for the governments of Central and Eastern Europe.

Assistance in the development of a distance-learning package on European Union water law, funded by the Commission of the European Communities.

Preparation of training courses on environmental law and implementation, access to information and public participation for governments, industry and NGOs in central and eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union, funded by the Commission of the European Communities.

Hungary

Monitoring of implementation of ten European Union projects supporting legal and institutional reform in the environment sector, funded by the European Union.

Twinning project of environmental enforcement authorities to strengthen Hungarian institutions and procedures, funded by The Netherlands.

Kazakhstan

Preparation of amendments to the Water Code, regulations and by-laws; Assistance in the preparation of river basin management plan, funded by DFID, UK.

Kosovo

Preparation of new Environmental Protection Law in collaboration with concerned ministries, institutes, parliamentary committees, NGOs; Review of environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment, integrated pollution control laws and programs; Review of implementation of laws on regional planning and nature protection; Drafting of Law on integrated pollution prevention and control, funded by the European Union.

Kuwait

Training of prosecutors and judges from Kuwait, Bahrain and Morocco on Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights and Organised Crime, funded by US Patent and Trade Office.

Russian Federation

Advice on water management law, institutions and procedures in the Lower Don River basin, funded by the World Bank.

Slovakia

Analysis of compliance of Slovak environmental laws, institutions and procedures with the requirements of the European Union; Preparation of a Action Plan for the approximation of law, funded by the European Union.

Turkey

Comparison of Turkish environmental laws and institutional structures and capacities with European Union legislation, funded by the European Union.

Development of an Action Program in environmental sector to comply with EU laws and policies, funded by the European Union.

Pakistan

Study on the causes, nature, location and cost of corruption in Pakistan, a project funded by DFID.

Comparative study of laws and procedures of integrity pillars and anti-corruption agencies of Pakistan and other success models against corruption, funded by DFID and National Accountability Bureau of Pakistan.

Preparation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy for Pakistan-2000, funded by DFID and published by the Government of Pakistan.

Review and preparation of proposals for amendment of copyrights law of Pakistan, funded by Ministry of Law and Justice of Pakistan.

Participation in the Task Force on drafting of Law on Fictitious Transactions, for the Ministry of Finance of Pakistan.

Poland

Analysis of compliance of Polish environmental laws, institutions and procedures with the requirements of the European Union; Preparation of a Action Plan for the approximation of law, funded by the European Union.

Serbia

Preparation of terms of reference for a project on legal and institutional reform in the environment sector, funded by the European Union

Ukraine

Preparation of training course on environmental law and implementation, funded by the European Union.

UNECE Region, United Nations

Preparation of a train-the-trainers manual on ISO 14 000 environmental management, funded by the UN Environment Program.

Organization of conference on implementation of the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer, funded by the UN Environment Program.

Organization of a Conference of Environment Ministers, funded by the Council of Europe.

Publications

Gondal, Zafar, et al. *National Anti-Corruption Strategy for Pakistan*, 2000. Lahore: Government of Pakistan, 2001.

Gondal, Zafar, et al. *Drafting for a Post Conflict Collapsed State-Afghanistan*, European Journal for Law Reform, 2009-3

Gusman, Sam, von Moltke, Konrad, Irwin, Frances, Whitehead, Cynthia. *Public Policy for Chemicals, National and International Issues*. Washington, D.C.: The Conservation Foundation, 1980.

Whitehead, Cynthia, editor. *Guideline to the Urban Development Permit Process*. Pristina: 2007.

Whitehead, Cynthia. *Guide to the Approximation of European Union Environmental Legislation*. Brussels: Commission of the European Union, 1998, 2006. Published in 14 languages. <<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/guide/contents.htm>>.

Whitehead, Cynthia, editor. *Environmental Management System Training Resources Kit*. Paris: UNEP/ICC/FIDIC, 1995, 2001. Published in 15 languages. Served as the basis Urban Environmental Management Training Resources Kit. Paris: UNEP/ICLEI/FIDIC, 2001. <http://www.unep.or.jp/ietc/Announcements/EMSKit_launch.asp>.

Whitehead, Cynthia, editor. *Manual for the Environmental Clearance of Projects*. Thimphu: Royal Government of Bhutan, 2000.

Whitehead, Cynthia. editor. *Strategic Action Plan for the Danube River Basin, and Environmental Programme for the Danube River Basin*. Brussels: Commission of the European Communities, 1994.

Whitehead, Cynthia, editor. *European Community Environment Legislation*. Seven volumes, nine languages. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1992, 1993.

Whitehead, Cynthia and Woodford, Jérôme. *Administrative Structures for Environmental Management in the European Community*. Luxembourg: Office of Official Publications of the European Communities, 1993.

Documents

Whitehead, Cynthia. *Legislative Drafting Guideline*. Kabul: IDLO, 2008.

Whitehead, Cynthia. *Training Course in Mining Law*. Kabul: IDLO, 2008.

Whitehead, Cynthia, editor. Conclusions of the Conference “Environment for Europe,” Dobris, Czechoslovakia, June 21-23, 1991. <<http://www.environmentforeurope.org/efehistory/dobris1991.html>>.

Gondal, Zafar. *Training modules on Economic and Financial Crimes, Narcotics and Organized Crimes, Commercial Law, Commercial Procedure, World Trade Law, Commercial Contract*. Kabul: IDLO, 2006-2009.

Gondal, Zafar. *Uses, Abuses, Safeguards and Oversight on Delegated Legislation in New Zealand, Canada, UK and Hong Kong*. London: IALS, 2007

Gondal, Zafar. *Effective and Enforceable International Arbitration Clauses-A Recipe for Investment and economic development*. London: IALS, 2007

Gondal, Zafar. *Principles and limitations on powers to make tax laws-legislative or executive powers*. London: IALS, 2007

Links

Governmental

International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
European Union, External Cooperation Programme
United Nations - International Law
UN Food and Agriculture Organization
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) - Environmental Law
African Development Law Centre - International Law Institute
USAID Democracy and Governance
United States Institute of Peace (USIP)
World Bank

Policy, research and education, NGO's

British Institute for International and Comparative Law (BIICL)
Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)
European Academy for Law and Legislation
Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace : Democracy & Rule of Law Program
Center for International Development, Harvard University
International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
International Law Institute, Georgetown University
International Legislative Drafting Institute, Tulane University
International Peace Research Institute (PRIO)
Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
Law of Sustainable International Development, University of Washington, School of Law
Sir William Dale Centre for Legislative Studies
United Nations Asia and Far East Institute (UNAFEI)

Professional Associations

American Bar Association – Rule of Law (CEELI)
Commonwealth Association for Legislative Counsel
International Association of Prosecutors
International Bar Association
International Association of Legislation
INPROL
Law and Society Association
Punjab Bar Council, Lahore

Legislation

Ecolex – Environmental Law Database
EUR-Lex – European Union law database
Rule of Law Resource Center
Lexology

Publications

European Journal of International Law
International Law Book Facility
European Journal for Law Reform



Address

Sustainable Law Institute
77 Hubert Road
Eastham
UK-London E6 3EX
Telephone +44 20 850 344 83 zafargondal@sustainablelaw.net

6656 Colton Boulevard
Oakland, California
USA 94611-2332

Telephone +1 510 350 8068 cynthiawhitehead@sustainablelaw.net

www.sustainablelaw.net office@sustainablelaw.net

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SUSTAINABLE LAW INSTITUTE 77 HUBERT RD EASTHAM, LONDON E6 3EX UK