



Essential Readings in Environmental Law
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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN NIGERIA

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OVERVIEW OF KEY SCHOLARSHIPS

General Introduction to Environmental Law and Practice in Nigeria

1. Ikoni, U. D., *An Introduction to Nigerian Environmental Law*, (Lagos: Malthouse Press, 2010).
2. Fagbohun, O., *The Law of Oil Pollution and Environmental Restoration* (Odade Publishers, Lagos, 2010).
3. Ladan, M. T., *Trend in Environmental Law and Access to Justice in Nigeria* (Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, 2012).

Biodiversity, Environmental Crime, Compliance, Climate Change and Water Law

4. Ayua, I. A., and O. Ajai, (eds.), *Implementing the Biodiversity Convention: - Nigerian and African Perspectives. Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS)*, (Lagos, 1997).
5. Violet, A., “Combating Environmental Crimes in Nigeria: A Daunting Uncertainty”, (2011) 1:1 NIALS Journal of Environmental Law, pp. 200-229.
6. Ladan, M. T., “Review of NESREA Act 2007 and Regulations 2009-2011: A New Dawn in Environmental Compliance and Enforcement in Nigeria”, (2012) 8:1 Law, Environment and Development Journal, 16-140.
7. Olarenwaju, F. and F. Nlerum, “Implementing an Effective Regulatory Scheme for Climate Change in Nigeria: The Role of Law”, (2011) 1:1 NIALS Journal of Environmental Law, 226-295.
8. Ajai, O., “Law, Water and Sustainable Development: Framework of Nigerian Law,” (2012) 8:1 Law, Environment and Development Journal, 9-115.

General Introduction to Environmental Law and Practice in Nigeria

Out of about fifteen major scholarly books published between 1990 and 2012 on Environmental Law in Nigeria, the fundamental publications of **D. Ikoni**, **O. Fagbohun** and **T. Ladan** provide brilliant and thorough introductions to Environmental Law and Practice in Nigeria, with a concise perspective on the development of the field over the last 100 years, and the emerging issues of environmental restoration, governance and

access to justice. These books provide the reader with a deeper understanding of the historical developments of the law and policy and the debate around the emerging issues in Nigeria.

1. The book by **D. Ikoni** titled, *An Introduction to Nigerian Environmental Law*, provides a systematic introduction to the basic principles and concepts, nature, scope and types of environment and environmental pollution as well as protection and liability regimes in Nigeria. Though essentially written for law students, the book is equally an invaluable asset to teachers of environmental law. It should also provide valuable legal information to legal practitioners and other persons with interest in environmental education and research.
2. On the other hand, **O. Fagbohun**' book *The Law of Oil Pollution and Environmental Restoration* provides a clear, authoritative and comprehensive account of the laws and principles relating to environmental restoration and the problems of oil pollution arising from both onshore and offshore exploration and production installations. This book essentially meant for students, legal practitioners, researchers, judges and law teachers, undoubtedly takes its readers beyond their national boundaries.
3. In *Trend in Environmental Law and Access to Justice in Nigeria*, **M. T. Ladan** provides an essential reading for those readers wanting to grasp the most recent trends in environmental regulations, analysis of case law on access to environmental justice, land use management and a case for climate justice for environmental migrants in Africa. This book reveals that Nigeria now has a relatively comprehensive environmental legal and institutional regimes adequately empowered to ensure effective compliance, monitoring and enforcement of all relevant treaties, legislations, policies and regulations for sustainable development and conservation of natural resources nationwide. To enable interested readers to have access to the full texts unedited, the most recent environmental regulations have been appended to the chapters of this book.

Biodiversity, Environmental Crime, Compliance, Climate Change and Water Law

Of the over 50 published journal articles and chapter book contributions on the above subjects in Nigeria, the following selected publications provide an impressive overview of the contending perspectives on the above mentioned fields of environmental law in Nigeria.

4. The book *Implementing the Biodiversity Convention* by **A. Ayua** and **O. Ajai** is an essential reading for policy makers, legislators, researchers, environmental activist and a general reader wishing to grasp a reasonable overview of the issues, interests, constraints and solutions for implementing the *Biodiversity Convention* in Nigeria and to a lesser extent in Africa. At the very least, this publication is a useful introduction to the subject

under discussion and should provoke further enquiry and concrete practical steps towards implementing the Convention.

5. The article by **A. Violet**, titled *Combating Environmental Crimes in Nigeria*, examines environmental crime regulatory regime in Nigeria and its ability to provide a panacea from environmental ills which have pauperized the nation in light of the failure of the civil enforcement regime to deter environmental infractions which are prevalent in the country.
6. The article by **F. Olarenwaju** and **F. Nlerum** examines climate change and its impacts, and how law has been used and can be used to implement an effective framework to address climate change in Nigeria.
7. **M. T. Ladan's** *Review of NESREA Act 2007 and Regulations 2009-2011: A New Dawn in Environmental Compliance and Enforcement in Nigeria* provides an insightful overview of how Nigeria's formal environmental legal regime has developed significantly from humble beginnings, to the promulgation of the most comprehensive environmental legislation, in most recent times, and its twenty four regulations, for effective protection of the environment, management of biodiversity and promotion of sustainable development in Nigeria. **M. T. Ladan** argues that Nigeria now has a relatively comprehensive legal and institutional regime adequately empowered to address Nigeria's environmental problems broadly categorized into four, being accorded highest priority at present: ensuring sustainable industrial production; preventing and preserving desertification; managing forest, wildlife and natural resources; and combating floods and erosion.
8. **O. Ajai's** article, titled *Law, Water and Sustainable Development: Framework of Nigerian Law*, identifies and presents the salient rules of customary law in a schematic and conceptual manner. It also evaluates the usefulness of recruiting traditional institutions into the institutional framework for modern sustainable water resources management. It further sequentially examines water legislation, environmental management and governance issues, riparian law, and then closes with an overview and conclusions.

Further recommended readings:

1. Omotola, J. A., (ed.) *Environmental Laws in Nigeria, including Compensation*. Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Nigeria, 1990
2. Ajomo, M.A., and O. Adewale, (eds.), *Environmental Law and Sustainable Development in Nigeria*. Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS), Lagos, 1994
3. Simpson S., and O. A. Fagbohun, (eds.), *Environmental Law and Policy*. Law Centre, Lagos, 1998

4. Okorodudu – Fubara, M. T., Law of Environmental Protection: - Materials and Texts; Caltop Press, Ibadan, 1998
5. Amokaye, O. G., Environmental Law and Practice in Nigeria, University of Lagos Press, 2004; Ladan, M. T., Materials and Cases on Environmental Law and Policy in Nigeria (2004) ECONET Publishers, Zaria, Nigeria
6. Adamu, K. U., Environmental Protection Law and Practice, Ababa Press Ltd, Ibadan, 2012; Ladan, M. T., Trend in Environmental Law and Access to Justice in Nigeria. Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany, 201