Global trends in climate change legislation and litigation: 2018 snapshot

ANNEX: Additional figures


The source for all the figures in this Annex is: Climate Change Laws of the World database, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and Sabin Center for Climate Change Law (2018)

1. Trends in legislation

Figure 1. Number of climate-related laws and policies passed each year globally, to 2017
Figure 2. The number of climate laws and policies passed around the world, as of March 2018

Figure 3. Focus of new laws passed each year, to end of 2017
2. Trends in litigation

Figure 4. Number of plaintiffs and defendants in litigation dataset by type

Figure 5. Degree of centrality of climate change to court cases, to 2017

Note: We have classified cases as ‘strategic’ if, in addition to having climate change as a core factor, litigants asked the courts to fill a governance gap in jurisdictions that lack comprehensive national-level climate change policies, or were testing a legal point that would apply to cases other than their own, or were trying to create awareness, encourage public debate or spark policy change. Such cases are sometimes referred to as ‘test cases’ or ‘impact’ litigation (see for example Public Law Project, 2014, Guide for Strategic Litigation, London: Public Law Project).