

droit de l'environnement

ECOLEX

ECOLEX

derecho ambiental

E



environmental law

ECOLEX

ECOLEX

X

ECOLEX

the gateway to environmental law

1

What is ECOLEX ?

ECOLEX is the result of a need: to enable users to access information on environmental and natural resources law from one single source

2

Why ECOLEX ?

it is true that nowadays there are thousands of Web sites reporting on legal tools at the national and international level however, until ECOLEX went online, policy makers, lawyers, NGOs and researchers could not easily access the legal basis for sustainable development from a single source

3

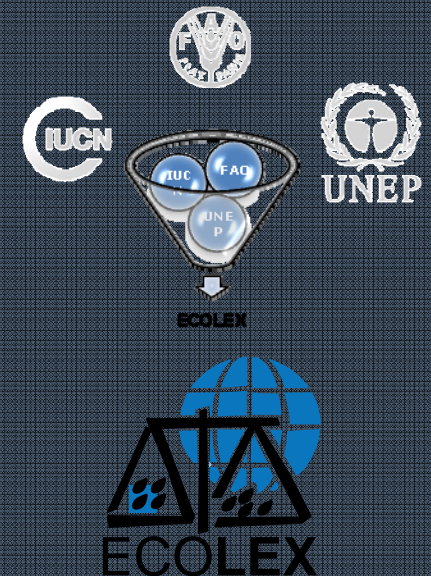
What does it offer ?

online access
it addresses all areas of law (treaties, national legislation, court decisions and law/policy literature)
it covers all major natural resources and environmental fields
simple search [word-based search]
advanced search

4

ECOLEX who's who

the project is the result of a partnership between FAO, IUCN and UNEP



an ECOLEX overview: questions and answers
a small number of facts that make a big difference!

1. ECOLEX subject areas

Ecolex covers all major environmental and natural resources fields.
To be more user friendly the contents are divided in 15 subject areas:

AGRICULTURE	ENERGY	FOOD	SEA	WATER
AIR & ATMOSPHERE	ENVIRONMENT	FORESTRY	LIVESTOCK	WILD SPECIES & ECOSYSTEMS
CULTIVATED PLANTS	FISHERIES	LAND & SOIL	MINERAL RESOURCES	WASTE & HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

TREATIES

IUCN's input on Multilateral legal instruments with full texts

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

FAO's input with over 80.000 entries for national legislation

1

simple search

CROSS
DATABASE
SEARCH

(common option for simple or advanced search)

4. ECOLEX can be browsed by:

LITERATURE

IUCN's Monographs, articles literature database with 30.000 and ever increasing references

COURT DECISIONS

UNEP's court decision database

2

advanced search

the architecture of the system

conceptual structure and internal levels of ECOLEX

1

simple search

word-based search

include full text (optional)

search results

SEARCH STRUCTURE

Select one or more databases for simple or advanced search

2

advanced search

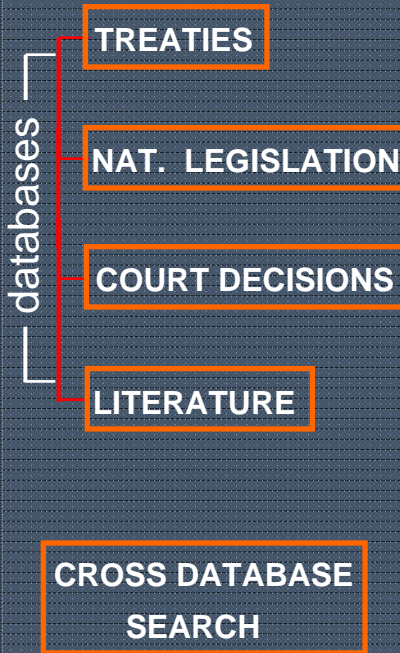
- individual database
- cross databases

set a combination of parameters

search results

simple search allows users to run a word-based query also within the body of full texts. Results vary depending on the language to which the search is confined

advanced search allows users to run more specific queries through selected databases and subject areas, and other specific criteria such as by country, territory, geographical area, keywords, etc.



search results can be sorted according to users' needs, either chronologically or by title and in various formats

■ ECOLEX experience in relation to the themes of the meeting

1. Relevance of ECOLEX to Conventions	Need/desirability of Secretariats and Parties to obtain information on: ...national legislation taken or used in implementation 1
2. Relevance of Conventions to ECOLEX as 'a gateway to environmental law'	...major court cases related to the conventions themselves or implementing legislation 2
3. ECOLEX experience with harmonization	...other conventions and agreements in related fields 3 ...relevant law and policy literature 4
4. ECOLEX experience with interoperability	

1 Example of ADVANCED SEARCH selecting 'Legislation' db, year 2008, 'Legislation' and keyword 'biological diversity'; sorted by country

2 Example of SIMPLE SEARCH selecting 'Court decisions' db and inserting 'biological diversity' in the word-based box

3 Example of SIMPLE SEARCH selecting 'Treaties' db and inserting 'CBD' in the word-based box

4 Example of ADVANCED SEARCH - 'Literature' db, subjects 'Environment'-'Wild species & ecosystems', kwd 'international relations/cooperation'

■ ECOLEX experience in relation to the themes of the meeting

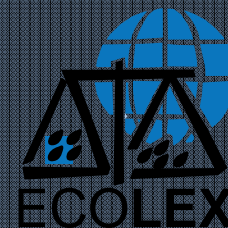
1.
Relevance of ECOLEX
to Conventions

Need for ECOLEX to link to Conventions' data, and data on Conventions

...through the links to 'other relevant websites'

2.
Relevance of
Conventions to ECOLEX
as 'a gateway
to environmental law'

go to



3.
ECOLEX experience
with harmonization

for list of Convention Secretariats ■

4.
ECOLEX experience
with interoperability

for other data on conventions TEMATEA ■

■ ECOLEX experience in relation to the themes of the meeting

1.

Relevance of ECOLEX
to Conventions

two different systems, softwares, indexes, vocabulary and styles

2.

Relevance of
Conventions to ECOLEX
as 'a gateway
to environmental law'

...difficulties to create an efficient common interface without
harmonization

...both at the technical and conceptual level

3.

ECOLEX experience
with harmonization

...resulting also in an ECOLEX cross search

with 7 common parameters (word search/ subjects/
countries/ geographical areas/ basins/ keywords/ language)

4.

ECOLEX experience
with interoperability

cross database advanced search ■

**Lesson learned: need for being precise
and selective on the elements to be harmonized**

■ ECOLEX experience in relation to the themes of the meeting

1.
Relevance of ECOLEX
to Conventions

interoperability

2.
Relevance of
Conventions to ECOLEX
as 'a gateway
to environmental law'

at present, interoperability not with ECOLEX but with individual databases

3.
ECOLEX experience
with harmonization

for example:

CIESIN access to the treaty data

ECOLEX access to additional functionalities

so far: COP DECISIONS ■

4.
ECOLEX experience
with interoperability

...for better interoperability...

...need for software development

...need for resources to do so!

visit www.ecolex.org



ECOLEX

thank you

enjoy your search!

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