Climate Change, Sustainable Development and the Law: Governance Challenges and Innovations

What are the most pressing governance challenges for the world in responding to the threats and opportunities of climate change in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the upcoming Paris accord to be concluded in December? Which innovative legal instruments and practices hold potential to help address them? How can they be implemented across diverse sectors?

The Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL), in cooperation with the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law (LCIL) at the University of Cambridge, the Centre for Research on Climate Resilience (CR2) at the University of Chile, and the Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy (CASELAP) of the University of Nairobi, is pleased to announce a legal essay competition on "Climate Change, Sustainable Development and the Law: International or national legal and governance innovations to implement the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions and the Paris accord."

The competition is open to law students at the undergraduate and graduate level, from all regions of the world. Students from least developed countries are especially encouraged to apply. Papers should be 10 pages in length single-spaced, and address a current pressing international, regional or local legal research or governance challenge relating to climate change and sustainable development, identifying or proposing innovative legal instruments which might provide solutions to the challenge.

The international gold, two silver and three bronze award winning entries will be announced in a special legal awards ceremony at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (CoP21) in Paris, France, and will be published internationally by the CISDL. The winning entry will receive an award of $X USD, made possible by a generous contribution from the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).

Please send entries, along with a 300 word bio, to 'Climate Essay International Jury' at <climate-essay@cisdl.org> by 5pm EST, November 22, 2015.