

# Rhetoric or Reality: Rethinking Strategies for International Environmental Law and Planetary Integrity in Africa

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# Introduction and Overview

- Legal Regime of Environmental and Planetary Sustainability in Africa
- Challenges and Prospects of Environmental and Planetary Sustainability in Africa
- Moving from Rhetoric to Reality
- Conclusion



# Legal Regime of Environmental and Planetary Sustainability in Africa

- International Regimes

- *the Rio Declaration*
- *the Convention on Biological Diversity*
- *the Desertification Convention*
- *the Kyoto Protocol and Other International Environmental Instruments*

- Regional Regimes

- *the African Convention on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources*
- *the New Partnership for Africa's Economic Development (NEPAD)*

- Specific African Countries

- *Case Study of the Nigerian Regime*

# Challenges and Prospects of Environmental and Planetary Sustainability in Africa

- Community-based sustainability
- Intergenerational-oriented Sustainability
- Local realities
- Partnering with local institutions



# Moving from Rhetoric to Reality

- Pluralized Environmental and Sustainability Strategies
- De-politicization of the Sustainability initiatives/strategies
- Rethinking strategies



# Conclusion

- *In moving from rhetoric to reality, international law would need to shift its present paradigms and strategies of attaining ecological or planetary integrity in Africa for community-oriented approaches which build on indigenous practices and existing (local) institutional structures of sustainability, planetary integrity and environmental management.*