**Targeted Audience**

The course is aimed at government officers dealing with transboundary water issues, diplomats, negotiators, specialists from various ministries (Foreign Affairs, Environment, etc.) and governmental agencies working in the field of water management, law professors, and researchers.

**Profile of Applicants**

To apply for the course, candidates must be between 25 and 45 years old and have a background in law, political science, economics or international relations, or have work experience in freshwater issues.

Fluency in **written English** is also required since the course will be conducted in English.

Applications will be screened on the basis of a selection process.

**Application Procedure**

Qualified candidates can apply for the course by completing the online form provided at: [http://www.unitar.org/event/international-water-law-jun-2014](http://www.unitar.org/event/international-water-law-jun-2014) and sending their resumes and motivation letters to info.ilp@unitar.org

The deadline for applications is 11 May 2014.

**Selection Process**

A committee will analyze the applications and select 35 trainees who will participate in the course on a **free of charge basis**.

The committee will give due consideration to applicants’ qualifications and to the scope of their professional duties. Due consideration will be also given to candidates from least developed countries and developing countries.

Only selected participants will be notified by email on 26 May 2014.

**Contact**

For further information about the course, please contact Ms Monica Nunez at info.ilp@unitar.org

**Organizers**

The course has been jointly developed by [the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)](http://www.unitar.org/) and [the University of Geneva](http://www.unige.ch/) in partnership with [the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation](http://www.sida.ch/).

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**International Water Law**

**e-Learning Course**

2 June to 4 July 2014

Deadline for applications 11 May 2014

More information at [www.unitar.org/ilp](http://www.unitar.org/ilp)
Background

Water is the most abundant resource on Earth. However, only a small quantity of it, approximately 2.53%, is freshwater that can be used for agriculture, human consumption, and industrial purposes. Population growth, climate change, and economic development place increasing demand on Earth’s finite supplies of freshwater resources. Thus, knowledge of international principles and norms that govern the use, management and protection of freshwater resources is necessary for sustainable development, equitable use and effective protection of this natural resource, and to avoid conflicts arising from water use and sharing.

International agreements must be negotiated and implemented in order to address the problems related to the access, use, shared management and protection of freshwater resources. To accomplish this task, it is necessary to have qualified professionals, in particular in least developed and developing countries.

Course Goal

The goal of this course is to provide professionals involved in negotiating or implementing treaties on or related to freshwater resources with an advanced knowledge of the principles and norms that govern the use, sharing, management and protection of this exhaustible natural resource.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this course participants will be able to:

- Describe the key principles of the law on transboundary water resources including rivers, lakes, and aquifers.
- Explain the interaction between universal, regional, and specific water agreements.
- Identify the linkages between the norms and the practice related to international economic law and the management of freshwater.
- Define the notion of the right to water and sanitation and its relationship with other human rights.
- Analyze the norms protecting water during armed conflict.

Course Content

The course is composed of the following four modules:

Module 1: The Evolution of International Regulation on Transboundary Water Resources
Module 2: The Principles of the Law on Transboundary Water Resources I
Module 3: The Principles of the Law on Transboundary Water Resources. II
Module 4: Water and International Economic Law

Methodology

The course will accommodate 35 participants. It will be conducted over 5 weeks and delivered through UNITAR’s Virtual Learning Environment, consequently, participants will require a reliable internet connection throughout its duration. Technical requirements for taking the course properly can be consulted at: http://www.unitar.org/ilp/e-courses-international-law

The course design allows participants to actively interact with their peers and the moderator. Guided discussion forums are organized on selected topics to promote experience and knowledge sharing. Participants also have the opportunity to work with practical examples, analyze case studies and conduct short research assignments. As the course is an asynchronous e-learning course, trainees can access the course material and participate in the forums at anytime.

The course is moderated by a subject matter expert who will guide participants in their learning process and answer their questions. Depending on each module, there is a slight variation of the amount of study time required. As an average, participants are expected to devote approximately 10 hours per week to review the course content and to complete course assessment activities.

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Certificate of Completion issued by UNITAR and the University of Geneva.