Closing Gaps in Global Environmental Treaties: some key themes

Dr Emanuela Orlando, School of Law, University of Sussex



Identifying gaps

- Underlying concern about the effectiveness of international environmental law (IEL)
- Identifying gaps:
 - Gaps in the text of the treaties
 - Gaps arising from lack of coordination and connection between different regimes and policy frameworks. International law evolving in a piecemeal and fragmented fashion
 - Lack of integration and/or different levels of ambition
 - Problems of compliance and need to strengthen compliance
 - Liability





Addressing gaps

- Need for a broader outlook and an integrated approach: consider treaty regimes and policy measures not in isolation, but in a way to identify overlaps between regimes and/or potential conflicts between various policy objectives, and enhance policy coherence and coordination
- identify possible coexistence and exploit or create synergies at the drafting stage
- Explore scope for institutional cooperation and coordination among MEAs
- Coordination through action at the national level through the implementation of the int'l policy framework
- Strengthening Compliance and implementation, including through the engagement of broader range of actors