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INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

# AUSTRALIA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, CLIMATE CHANGE REGULATIONS AND CARBON EMISSIONS COMPLIANCE

**Fully Accredited  
By:**

Chartered Institute of  
Professional Certifications

CPD  
Certification Service



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Australia's environmental law framework is complex, **with multiple layers of federal, state, and local regulations that are often in conflict with each other**. For instance, mining and water use regulations differ significantly between Western Australia and Queensland. This regional variation means businesses operating across multiple jurisdictions face significant compliance challenges.

This certified program is designed to provide you with a thorough understanding of Australia's environmental laws at both federal and state levels. You will explore key legislation, including the **Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act)**, the **Climate Change Act 2022**, the **National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007**, and **state-specific environmental regulations from NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and more**. Participants will also explore the carbon market frameworks, including the governance of **Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)**, and ESG disclosure obligations under ASIC, ACCC, and ASX requirements.

Throughout the program, you will gain practical knowledge in **managing various environmental compliance aspects such as pollution control, waste regulation, contaminated land management, and water law**. You will also delve into the legal requirements for biodiversity conservation, carbon emissions reduction policies, carbon pricing and offset mechanisms.

## ACCREDITATIONS



4.8



4.6



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Beyond environmental legislation, you will gain insights into **the processes involved in development control and environmental impact assessments, guiding you through when and how assessments are required**, and the role of public participation in environmental decision-making. By the end of this program, you will have gained comprehensive understanding into Australia's environmental laws and compliance frameworks, enabling you to navigate complex legal requirements and implement effective environmental management strategies that mitigate risks and ensure adherence to regulations.

Upon successful completion of the program, you will attain the **Certification in Australia Environmental Law and Compliance**. This certification will amplify your professional qualifications and demonstrate your expertise in Australia environmental laws and your ability to create proper compliance frameworks that align with all relevant legislation and policies.

## ACCREDITATIONS



4.8



4.6



# KEY SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

## From This Program



**AUSTRALIA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW  
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL  
LAWS  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND  
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999 (EPBC  
ACT)**

**CLIMATE CHANGE ACT 2022  
NATIONAL GREENHOUSE AND ENERGY  
REPORTING ACT 2007  
AUSTRALIAN CARBON CREDIT UNITS SCHEME**

**ROLE OF THE EPA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
LICENSES  
THE NATIONAL WASTE POLICY  
STATE SPECIFIC WASTE REGULATION AND  
POLICY**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT  
ACT  
WATER ACT  
WATER REGULATION IN NSW AND VICTORIA**

**PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT OPERATIONS  
ACT**



# YOUR FACULTY DIRECTOR



## Dr. Katie Woolaston

### Highly Distinguished Environment And Climate Legal Expert

Dr. Katie Woolaston is a distinguished lawyer, educator, and social scientist with over 17 years of expertise in environmental and climate governance, biodiversity law, and sustainability policy. She is the Director of Green Governance Solutions and formerly served as Senior Lecturer in Law at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Dr. Woolaston has **advised the Australian Government, UNEP, FAO, and Wildlife Health Australia on environmental and climate law reforms**, and is a globally recognized expert on the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) panel on Biodiversity and Pandemics. She also **chairs the Technical Advisory Group for the United Nations Environment Programme's Nature4Health initiative**.

Dr. Woolaston was formerly the Vice-President of the National Environmental Law Association, Associate Editor of the *Asia-Pacific Journal of Environmental Law*, and a member of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law. She is internationally respected for her contributions to evidence-based environmental policy, carbon compliance frameworks, and One Health governance.

# OUR PARTICIPANTS

Over 70% of FORTUNE 500 Companies Have Attended Our Accredited Programs Before







# PROGRAM AGENDA

## MODULE 1: FOUNDATIONS OF AUSTRALIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND GOVERNANCE

- Understand Australia's environmental governance architecture – Federal vs state powers
- Identify how environmental law interacts with economic and development objectives
- Analyze the role of the EPBC Act 1999 and environmental impact assessment processes
- Recognize the legal and governance challenges in balancing development with biodiversity protection

## MODULE 2: INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OBLIGATIONS AND DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION

- Understand key international environmental treaties (CBD, Paris Agreement, Ramsar, WHC)
- Explore how global obligations are embedded in national frameworks and policies
- Examine compliance reporting, accountability, and the influence of international scrutiny

- Discuss how international law drives domestic regulatory reform and climate ambition

## MODULE 3: CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND POLICY IN AUSTRALIA

- Understand the Climate Change Act 2022 and Safeguard Mechanism
- Evaluate sectoral emissions reduction targets and corporate obligations
- Identify compliance risks and enforcement tools under Australia's climate policy
- Explore how technical non-compliance influences regulatory evolution and innovation

## MODULE 4: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Analyze the EIA process and its role in promoting transparency and accountability, at both State and Federal levels
- Understand the importance of cumulative impact assessment and public participation
- Recognize Indigenous rights and consultation obligations in project approvals
- Evaluate how governance failures in consultation lead to judicial review and policy reform



# PROGRAM AGENDA

## MODULE 5: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE, ENFORCEMENT AND RISK

- Explore modern compliance models (e.g. Victoria's General Environmental Duty)
- Understand environmental enforcement powers and compliance assurance tools
- Identify liability and remediation responsibilities for pollution and contamination
- Apply risk-based compliance and prevention principles in corporate operations
- Compare State vs Federal compliance and enforcement models

## MODULE 6: ESG FRAMEWORKS AND CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

- Understand how ESG frameworks complement legal compliance
- Examine regulatory expectations from ASIC, ACCC, and ASX on disclosure
- Identify governance tools for managing climate and environmental risk
- Recognize the growing legal implications of misleading sustainability claims

## MODULE 7: STAKEHOLDER GOVERNANCE AND SYSTEMS THINKING

- Apply systems thinking to complex environmental governance problems
- Conduct stakeholder mapping and power analysis in compliance contexts
- Understand cross-sector collaboration, trust-building, and adaptive governance
- Discuss how adaptive, networked, and transparent governance supports compliance resilience

## MODULE 8: CARBON AND BIODIVERSITY MARKETS

- Understand how market-based mechanisms support compliance and incentives
- Evaluate integrity and accountability frameworks for carbon and biodiversity credits
- Explore governance challenges in linking voluntary and regulatory markets
- Identify opportunities for private-sector engagement in nature-positive outcomes

## MODULE 9: LEGAL, FINANCIAL AND REPUTATIONAL RISKS

- Identify litigation trends driving environmental and climate accountability
- Understand how directors' duties intersect with environmental risk management





# PROGRAM AGENDA

- Explore enforcement pathways and remedies for non-compliance
- Assess financial, legal, and reputational consequences of regulatory breaches

## **MODULE 10: FUTURE DIRECTIONS — INTEGRATING SYSTEMS GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE**

- Understand the future trajectory of environmental and climate governance in Australia, including the Nature Rights and the Right to a Healthy Environment movement
- Examine integrated approaches linking biodiversity, climate, and health
- Reflect on institutional capacity, innovation, and leadership in environmental law

# YOUR CHARTER DESIGNATION



Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications' programs are unique as they provide you with professional charter designations and marks that can be used across your lifetime once you have completed our programs.

Upon successful completion of this program, you will be awarded the **Certification in Australia Environmental Law and Compliance**, which can be used in your resume, CV, and other professional credentials. This certification is industry-recognized and carries lifelong validity.

Globally recognized and highly relevant in today's sustainability and regulatory landscape, this certification affirms your expertise in interpreting and applying Australia's complex environmental and climate governance frameworks. It validates your ability to implement effective environmental compliance systems, manage emissions reduction obligations, and align corporate strategies with evolving climate and sustainability regulations. Developed by the **Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications**, the content of this program has been independently accredited by the **CPD Certification Service** as adhering to the highest standards of continuing professional education and practice.



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# OUR FACULTY DIRECTORS

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# CONTACT US TODAY

We Thank You for Your Ongoing Support  
of Our Programs

## **Singapore and Asia Pacific Enquiries**

Email: [advisor@charteredcertifications.com](mailto:advisor@charteredcertifications.com)  
Phone: +65 6716 9980  
Address: Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications  
1 Gateway Drive  
#20-04 Westgate Tower  
Singapore 608531

## **Australia and New Zealand Enquiries**

Email: [advisor@charteredcertifications.com](mailto:advisor@charteredcertifications.com)  
Phone: +61 3 9909 7310  
Address: Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications  
530 Little Collins Street, Level 1  
Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia

## **UK, Europe and Middle East Enquiries**

Email: [advisor@charteredcertifications.com](mailto:advisor@charteredcertifications.com)  
Phone: +44 (020) 335 57898  
Address: Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications  
86-90 Paul Street  
London, EC2A 4NE

## **USA Enquiries**

Email: [advisor@charteredcertifications.com](mailto:advisor@charteredcertifications.com)  
Phone: +1 888 745 8875  
Address: Chartered Institute of Professional Certifications  
99 Wall Street #3936  
New York, NY 10005