FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION

Ways to ensure interdisciplinary, participatory and practiceoriented pedagogy

DR. BALAKRISHNA PISUPATI

LAW DIVISION, UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

The Challenge!

- Lack of Interdisciplinary Research Centers on various branches of law;
- Barriers in innovative clinical legal models;
- Lack of a South Asian vision for environmental lawyering;
- Lack of comparative law research and curriculum design; and
- Trailblazing as a mode to explore a career as a lawyer with options for innovative areas of practice.

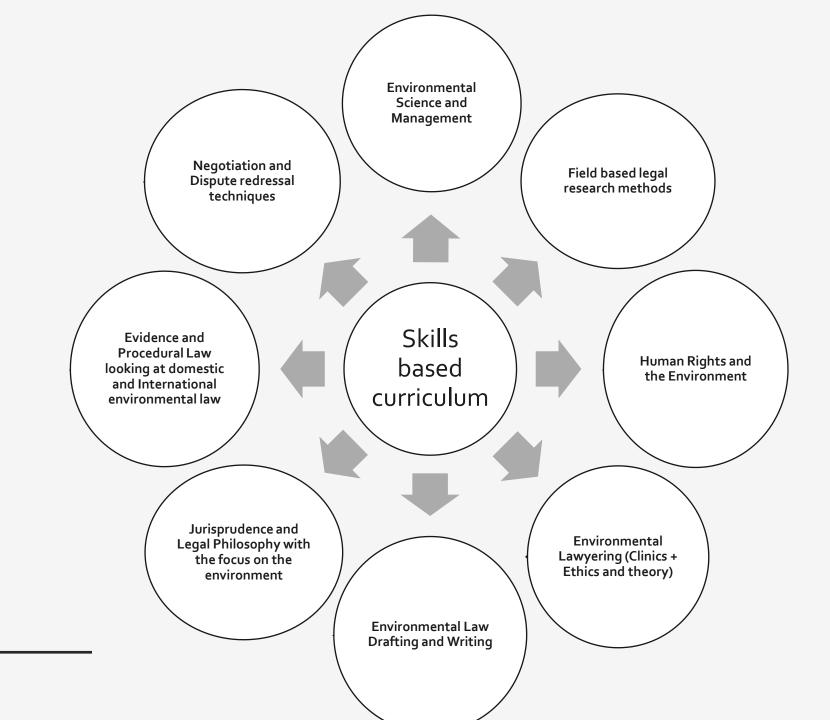
Two-fold nature of the problem - Taking Environmen tal Law as an example

Crisis in different Diluted forms, but primarily perception of Lack of interest in lack of talent in environmental opting for problem solving and environmental law law because of thinking around the previous as a career path environmental factors issues

Initiatives to address the crisis

- Interdisciplinary Curriculum
 Design
- Clinical Legal Models for the Indian Context
- Dispute resolution and Conflict Redressal Centers
- Drafting Studios

Interdisciplinary
Curriculum
Design - An
example



Clinical Legal Models

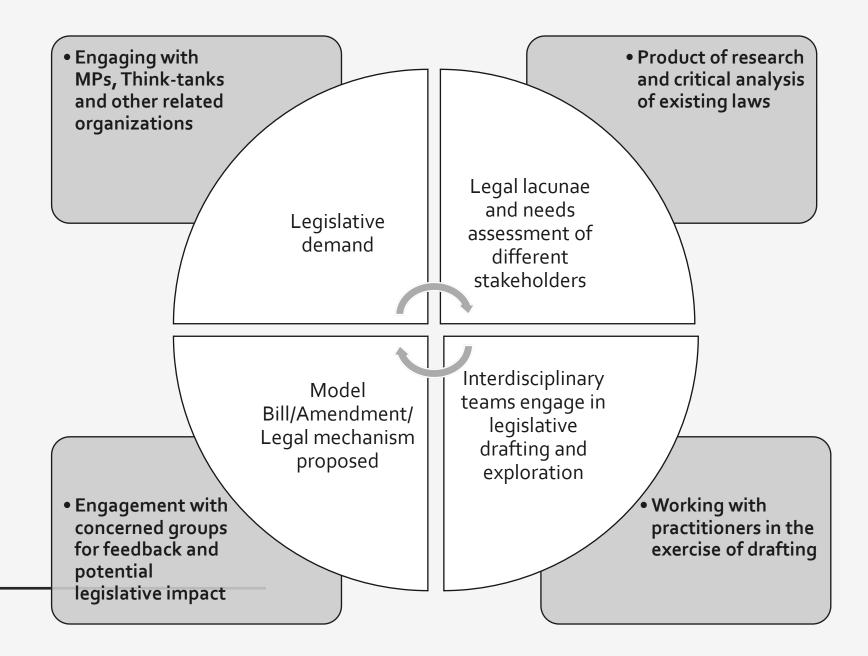
Engaging with practicing environmental Lawyers, ecologists, activists and paralegals Working with impacted communities, government, inter-governmental organizations among others based on the cases taken Dedicated clinical legal faculty working through the cases

Dispute and Conflict Redressal Centers

Case Selection and appropriateness for ADR methods Parties to the dispute along with a network of mediators and students work with the center to gain hands on techniques

Outcome and Learnings

Environmental Law Drafting Studios



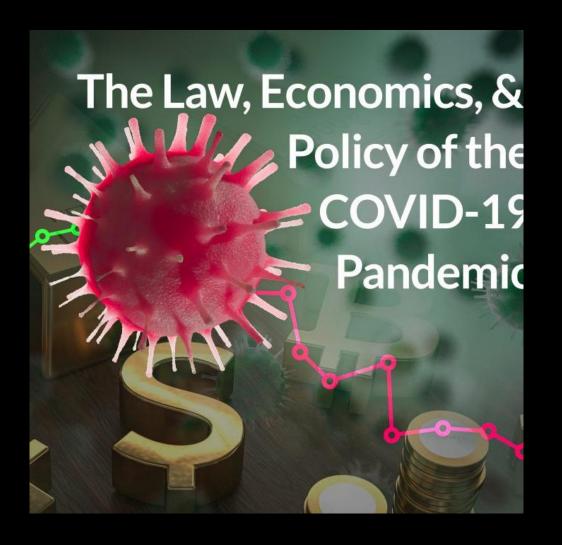
Future of Environmental Law:

Kaleidoscopic

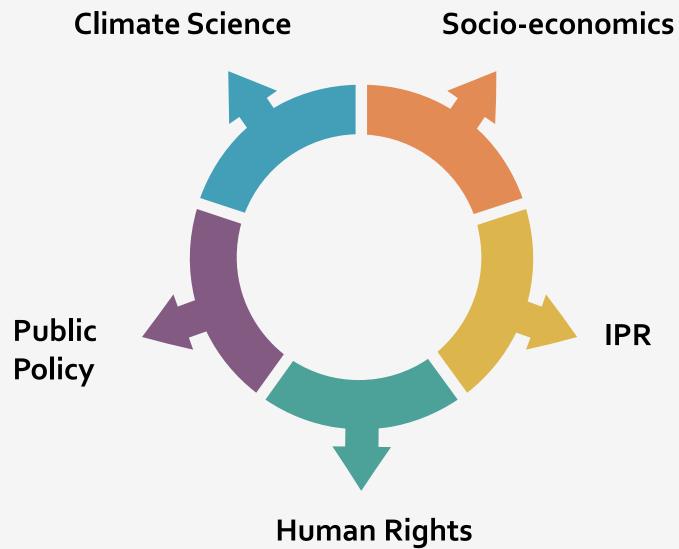


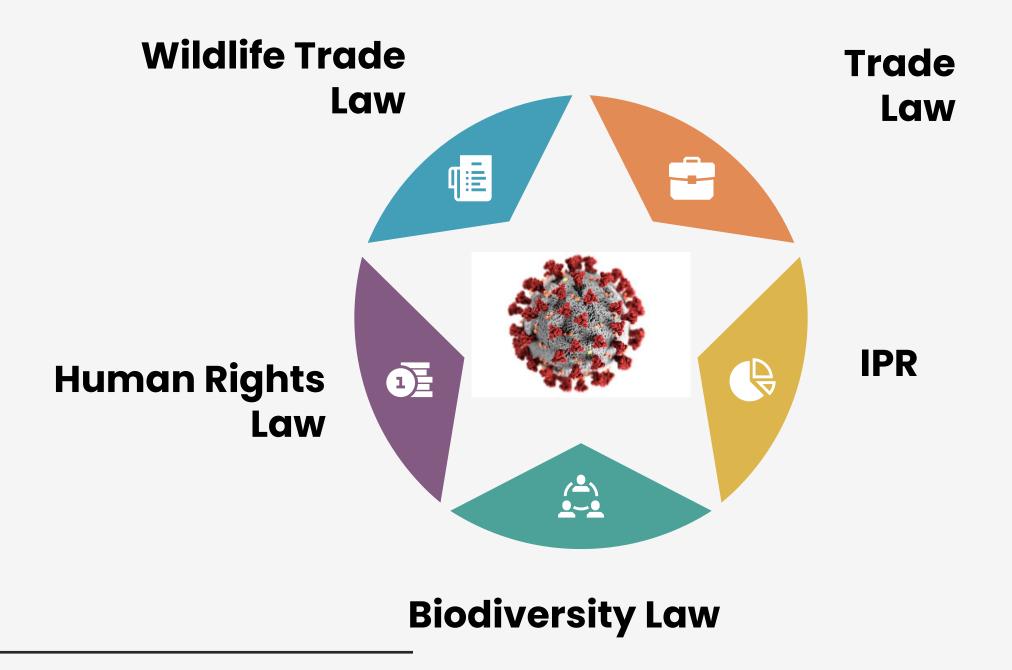
2 Examples







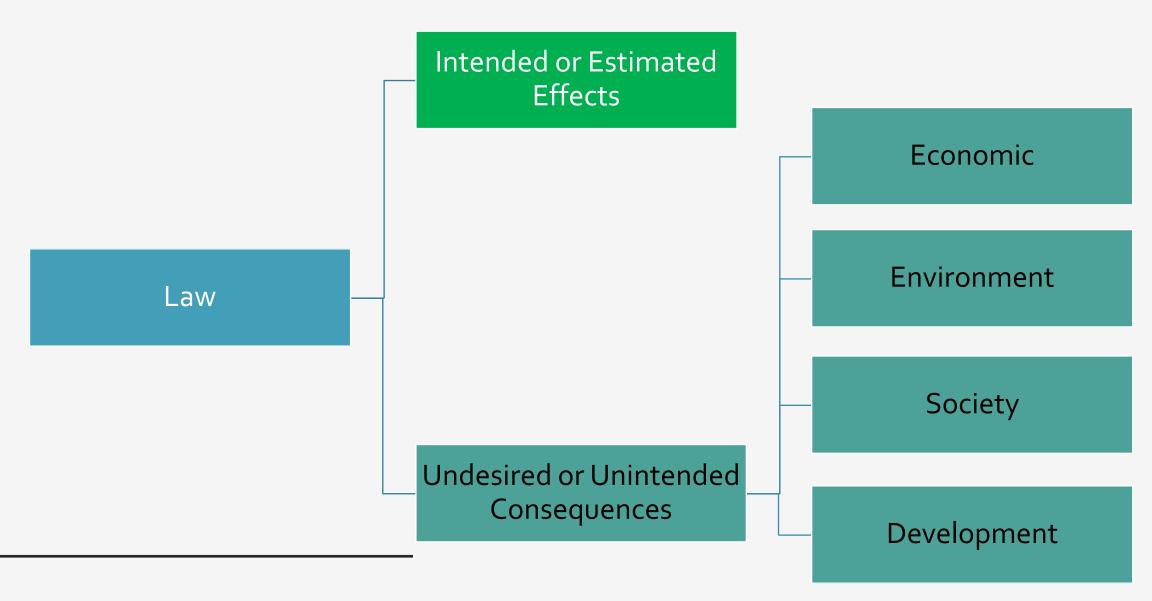




New Approach

$Legislative\\Impact\\Assessment$

Law & its Impacts



Legislative Impact Assessment

Legislative
Impact
Assessment
(LIA)

Framework built specifically for assessing impact & effectiveness of law arising by act of Parliament or Legislature, *before enactment*.

Framework designed to be *built into existing law-making processes* of legislature.

May be appropriately modified to assess regulatory proposals or delegated legislation.

Why focus on legislation?

Amending primary legislation is a lengthy process.

Delegated Legislation or Executive rules are comparatively more flexible.

Laws which are knee-jerk, ad-hoc or founded on trial & error attempts or simply poorly conceived can prove to be very costly

IF WE DESIRE RESPECT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, WE NEED TO MAKE IT RESPECTABLE!