Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

Connecting Communities
Protecting the Planet
OUR MISSION

The Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW) helps communities speak out for clean air, clean water, and a healthy planet. We are a global alliance of attorneys, scientists and other advocates collaborating across borders to build a sustainable, just future.

“It helps to interact with a wide network of highly knowledgeable and passionate people. We’ve solved issues that would otherwise have been impossible.”

Gift Joshua, Tanzania
WHAT WE DO

ELAW collaborates with local advocates to win victories for communities and the environment. By giving our partners the legal and scientific support they need, ELAW helps challenge environmental abuses and builds a worldwide corps of skilled, committed advocates working to protect ecosystems and communities for generations to come.

Legal Support

Citizens can play a key role in protecting the environment through law. ELAW collaborates with local advocates to strengthen and enforce environmental laws.

Scientific Support

We give grassroots lawyers and communities the scientific resources they need to prevent environmental abuses. ELAW Staff Scientists critique proposed developments, design systems to monitor environmental conditions, provide expert testimony, and recommend clean alternatives.

Pelicans in the Danube Delta. Photo by Iliuta Goean
ELAW Fellows Program

Roughly 200 lawyers have traveled to Eugene to gain language skills, tap legal and scientific resources, work closely with ELAW staff, and learn from worldwide efforts to protect the environment.

Community Legal Education

ELAW advocates help citizens use legal tools to inform decision-makers and build a just and equitable future.

Defending Defenders

Grassroots advocates face growing attacks and threats. ELAW helps partners analyze risk, and design and implement strategies to protect themselves, their organizations, their clients, and their data.

Juana Bilbano and Delvin Rosalio, Miskito attorneys, CEJUDHCAN. Photos by Todd Cooper, Eugene Weekly
HISTORY

In 1989, grassroots lawyers from 10 countries launched ELAW with a great vision: If they could share legal strategies and scientific information across borders, they could protect the environment, human rights, and communities more effectively.

Now, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, leading advocates in more than 80 countries collaborate through the ELAW network to challenge environmental abuses, empower communities, and chart a sustainable future.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

To make a secure, online gift that supports our high impact work defending the environment and human rights in communities around the world, visit www.elaw.org/give.

Cover photo: Sofia Ashraf from India stars in “Kodaikanal Won’t,” protesting mercury contamination.
Photo below: Mayan children in Conejo, Belize
ELAW Annual International Meeting participants, Arusha, Tanzania