

Acronyms and Abbreviations

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| ABSP | Agricultural Biotechnology Support Programme |
| ACSAD | Arabic Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Drylands |
| AEPC | African Environmental Protection Commission |
| AEPS | Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy |
| AEWA | African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement |
| AFED | Arab Forum for Environment and Development |
| AGERI | Agricultural Genetic Engineering Institute |
| AIA | Advance Informed Agreement |
| AIDS | Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome |
| AMCEN | African Ministerial Conference on the Environment |
| AMU | Arab Maghreb Union |
| AoA | Agreement on Agriculture (WTO Uruguay Round) |
| AOAD | Arab Organization for Agricultural Development |
| AU | African Union |
| AUB | American University of Beirut |
| BCH | Biosafety Clearing House |
| BMP | Best Management Practices |
| BOD | Biological Oxygen Demand |
| BU | Boston University |
| CAB | Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences |
| CAN | Competent National Authority |
| CAMP | Coastal Area Management Project |
| CAMRE | Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment |
| CBC | Community-Based Conservation |
| CBD | Convention on Biological Diversity |
| CBO | Community-Based Organization |
| CCS | Carbon Capture and Storage |
| CDM | Clean Development Mechanism |
| CDRs | Certified Emissions Reductions |
| CEIT | Countries with Economies in Transition |
| CEDARE | Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe |
| CERES | Coalition for Environmentally Responsible Economics |
| CFC | Chloro-Fluoro-Carbon |
| CFL | Compact Fluorescent Lamp |
| CGIAR | Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research |
| CH ₄ | Methane |
| CHP | Combined Heat and Power |
| CLSS | Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel |
| CITES | Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora |
| CLRTAP | Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution |
| CMS | Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals |

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| CNA | Competent National Authority |
| CNG | Compressed Natural Gas |
| CO ₂ | Carbon Dioxide |
| CO ₂ eq | CO ₂ -equivalents |
| COD | Chemical Oxygen Demand |
| COP | Conference of the Parties |
| CPB | Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety |
| CRS | Center for Remote Sensing |
| CSD | Commission on Sustainable Development |
| CSP | Concentrated Solar Power |
| CZIMP | Coastal Zone Integrated Management Plan |
| DALYs | Disability-Adjusted Life Years |
| DEM | Digital Elevation Model |
| DESA | Department of Economic and Social Affairs |
| EAD | Environment Agency Abu Dhabi |
| EEAA | Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency |
| EGS | Environmental Goods and Services |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| EITI | Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative |
| EMS | Environmental Management System |
| ENSO | El Niño-Southern Oscillation |
| EPA | US Environmental Protection Agency |
| ESCWA | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia |
| EPI | Environment Performance Index |
| ESBM | Ecosystem-Based Management |
| ESI | Environment Sustainability Index |
| EU | European Union |
| EU ETS | European Union Emission Trading System |
| EVI | Environmental Vulnerability Index |
| FACE | Free Air Carbon Enrichment |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FDI | Foreign Direct Investment |
| G7 | Group of Seven: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, United States |
| G8 | Group of Eight: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States |
| GAPs | Good Agricultural Practices |
| GATT | General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade |
| GBC | Green Building Council |
| GBIF | Global Biodiversity Information Facility |
| GCC | Gulf Cooperation Council |
| GCM | General Circulation Model |
| GCOS | Global Climate Observing System |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GECF | Gas Exporting Countries Forum |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility |
| GEMS | Global Environment Monitoring System |
| GEO | Global Environment Outlook |
| GHGs | Greenhouse Gases |
| GIS | Geographical Information Systems |
| GIWA | Global International Waters Assessment |
| GLASOD | Global Assessment of Soil Degradation |

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| GLCA | Global Leadership for Climate Action |
| GM | Genetically Modified |
| GMEF | Global Ministerial Environment Forum |
| GMO | Genetically Modified Organism |
| GNI | Gross National Income |
| GNP | Gross National Product |
| GRI | Global Reporting Initiative |
| GRID | Global Resource Information Database |
| GWP | Global Water Partnership |
| HACCP | Hazardous Analysis and Critical Control Points |
| HDI | Human Development Index |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| ICAM | Integrated Coastal Area Management |
| ICARDA | International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas |
| ICC | International Chamber of Commerce |
| ICGEB | International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology |
| ICM | Integrated Coastal Management |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| ICZM | Integrated Coastal Zone Management |
| IEA | International Energy Agency |
| IFA | International Fertilizer Industry Association |
| IFAD | International Fund for Agricultural Development |
| ILO | International Labour Organization |
| IMF | International Monetary Fund |
| IMO | International Maritime Organization |
| IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| IPF | Intergovernmental Panel on Forests |
| IPM | Integrated Pest Management |
| IPR | Intellectual Property Rights |
| ISO | International Organization for Standardization |
| IUCN | World Conservation Union (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) |
| IWRM | Integrated Water Resources Management |
| IWMI | International Water Management Institute |
| JI | Joint Implementation |
| LADA | Land Degradation Assessment of Drylands |
| LAS | League of Arab States |
| LEED | Leadership in Environmental Design |
| LDCs | Least Developed Countries |
| LMBAs | Land and Marine Based Activities |
| LMEs | Large Marine Ecosystems |
| LMG | Like Minded Group |
| LMO | Living Modified Organism |
| LPG | Liquefied Petroleum Gas |
| MAP | Mediterranean Action Plan |
| MARPOL | International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships |
| MCM | Million Cubic Meters |
| MDGs | Millennium Development Goals |
| MEA | Multilateral Environmental Agreement |
| MECTAT | Middle East Centre for the Transfer of Appropriate Technology |
| MEMAC | Marine Emergency Mutual Aid Centre |

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| MENA | Middle East and North Africa |
| MPA | Marine Protected Area |
| Mt | Megatonnes |
| MW | Megawatt |
| NBC | National Biosafety Committee |
| NBF | National Biosafety Framework |
| NEAP | National Environmental Action Plan |
| NFP | National Focal Point |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| NPK | Nitrogen, Phosphates and Potash |
| NPP | Net Primary Productivity |
| OAU | Organization for African Unity |
| ODA | Official Development Assistance |
| ODS | Ozone-Depleting Substance |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| PACD | Plan of Action to Combat Desertification |
| PCB | Polychlorinated biphenyls |
| PCFPI | Per Capita Food Production Index |
| PERSGA | Protection of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden |
| PICs | Pacific Island Countries |
| POPs | Persistent Organic Pollutants |
| PPM | Parts Per Million |
| PPM | Process and Production Methods |
| PTSs | Persistent Toxic Substances |
| PV | Photovoltaic |
| RA | Risk Assessment |
| RBP | Restrictive Business Practices |
| RCM | Regional Circulation Model |
| REMPEC | Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea |
| RM | Risk Management |
| ROPME | Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the sea area surrounded by Bahrain, I.R. Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates |
| RSA | Ropme Sea Area |
| RSGA | Red Sea and Gulf of Aden |
| SAP | Strategic Action Program |
| SCP | Sustainable Consumption and Production |
| SEA | Strategic Environmental Assessment |
| SLR | Sea Level Rise |
| SoE | State of the Environment |
| SPM | Suspended Particulate Matter |
| SRES | Special Report on Emission Scenarios |
| TOE | Tonnes of Oil Equivalent |
| TRAFFIC | Trade Records Analysis for Flora and Fauna in International Commerce |
| TRI | Toxics Release Inventory |
| TRIPs | Trade-Related Aspects of International Property Rights |
| UHI | Urban Heat Island |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNCBD | United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity |
| UNCCD | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification |
| UNCED | United Nations Conference on Environment and Development |
| UNCHS | United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (now UN-Habitat) |

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| UNCLOS | United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea |
| UNCOD | United Nations Conference on Desertification |
| UNCTAD | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commission for Refugees |
| UNICE | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UNWTO | United Nations World Tourism Organization |
| US | United States |
| USCCCSP | United States Climate Change Science Program |
| USEPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| UV | Ultraviolet (A and B) |
| VOC | Volatile Organic Compound |
| WBCSD | World Business Council for Sustainable Development |
| WCED | World Commission on Environment and Development |
| WCD | World Commission on Dams |
| WCP | World Climate Programme |
| WCS | World Conservation Strategy |
| WDPA | World Database on Protected Areas |
| WEF | World Economic Forum |
| WEI | Water Exploitation Index |
| WFP | World Food Programme |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WMO | World Meteorological Organization |
| WRI | World Resources Institute |
| WSSCC | Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council |
| WSSD | World Summit on Sustainable Development |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |
| WWAP | World Water Assessment Programme |
| WWC | World Water Council |
| WWF | World Wide Fund for Nature |