



## **Environmental Governance and Climate Change: Challenges and Prospects**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Environmental governance is emerging as one of the trending and crucial fields of study, as climate change is one of the major challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century and it adds considerable stress to our societies and to our environment. Climate change also referred by the buzz word 'Global Warming' is the observed century –scale rise in the average temperatures of earth's climate system and its related effects. The impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale, ranging from shifting weather that threaten food and crop production, to rising sea levels that increase the risk of catastrophic flooding.*

*Posing serious threat to the existence of life on earth, people from across world are putting efforts to contain it, resulting in a series of conferences led by world forums like United Nations(UN) ,right from earth summit (1992) to Kyoto protocol (1997) down to Paris and Kigali agreements held in 2015 and 2016 respectively. Are these agreements and treaties going to yield any desired results is a matter of serious debate because quite often climate change becomes victim of petty politics, reflected by recent decision of Donald Trump to withdraw from Paris Climate Agreement. The multiplicity of causes of climate change, the uncertainty of timing and effects and substantial economic costs make global agreements difficult to attain and maintain. Along with a challenge to material wellbeing, however, the climate change problem poses an ethical dilemma stemming from large physical, social and even temporal distances between emitters and victims as developing and developed countries always pointing fingers at one another. The proposed research paper seeks to analyse the Governance challenges in tackling climate change at global level as well as prospects thereof, while exploring the key questions about responsibility, consequences, action and way forward vis-à-vis climate change is concerned. Challenges in establishing a sovereign and functioning climate change regime will also be highlighted in the proposed study.*

**Keywords:** *Environmental Governance; ethical imperative; Paris Agreement ;Strategic adaptive Governance; National interest; Global climate regime; social behavior; Issue linkage.*