

---

# Changing role of national legislation on climate change: Recent developments

GLOBE COP 20 Legislators Summit  
Lima, 7 December 2014

Dr. Alina Averchenkova

Co-Head Policy

Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment

London School of Economics

[a.averchenkova@lse.ac.uk](mailto:a.averchenkova@lse.ac.uk)

[www.lse.ac.uk/granthamInstitute/](http://www.lse.ac.uk/granthamInstitute/)



Grantham Research Institute of  
Climate Change and  
the Environment

# Key issues

---

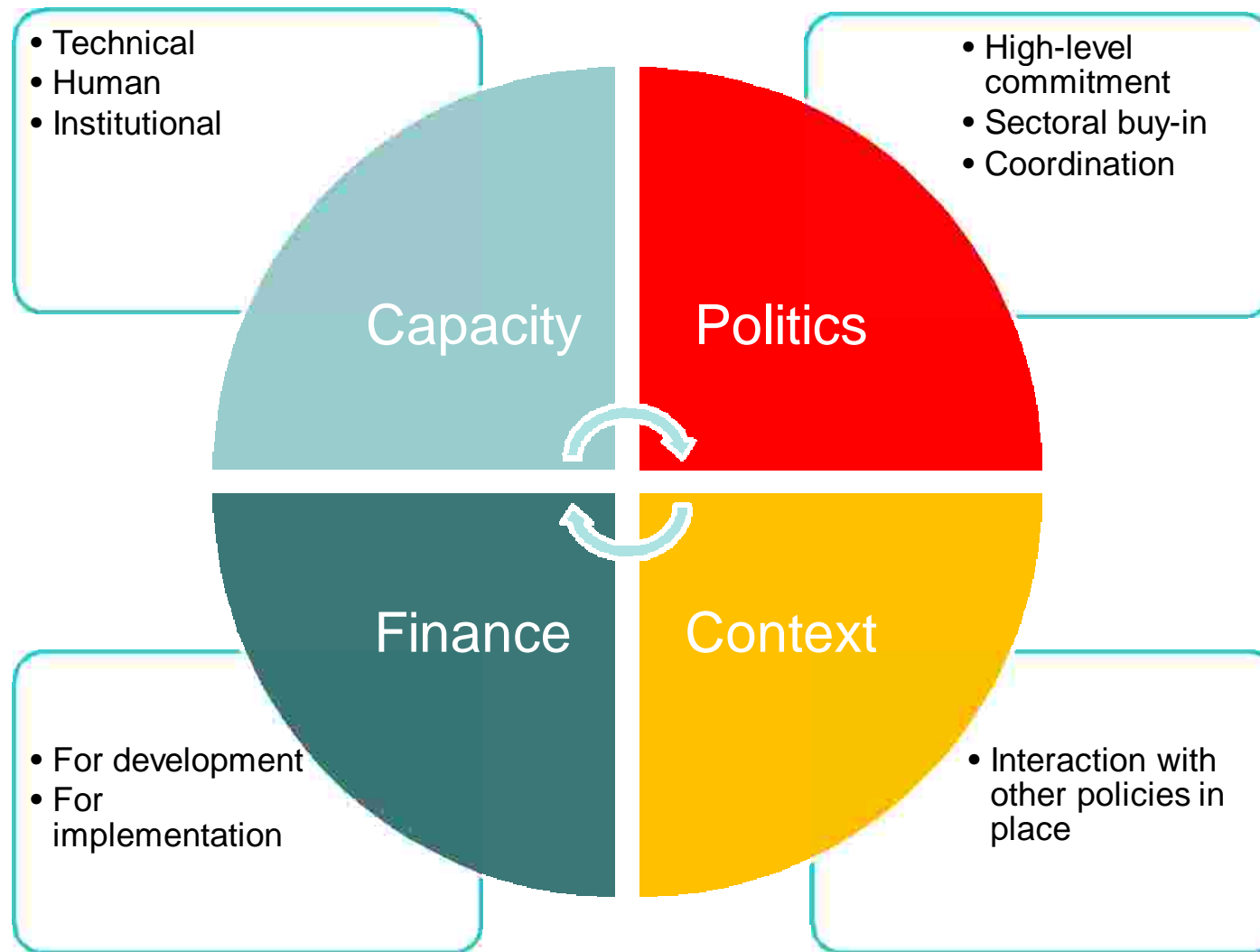
- q Changing nature of the international climate change framework
- q Barriers and enablers for national action
- q What makes for effective climate legislation
- q Recent legislative developments
- q Challenges ahead



# Changing nature of the international framework

- q Shift **away** from top-down “**burden-sharing**” approach
- q Toward **bottom-up** framework driven by “**nationally determined**” actions
  - q Countries to prepare nationally determined contributions (INDCs) and to communicate in advance of COP 21 (in Q1/2015 if ready)
  - q **Upward flexibility** with rolling 5-10 year targets with periodic revision and lower and upper “range” of commitments
- q Robust and transparent measurement, reporting and verification (**MRV**) **system** is the glue of the framework
- q Effectiveness of **national actions and legislation** are at the centre of success

# Barriers to national climate actions: Lessons from developing countries

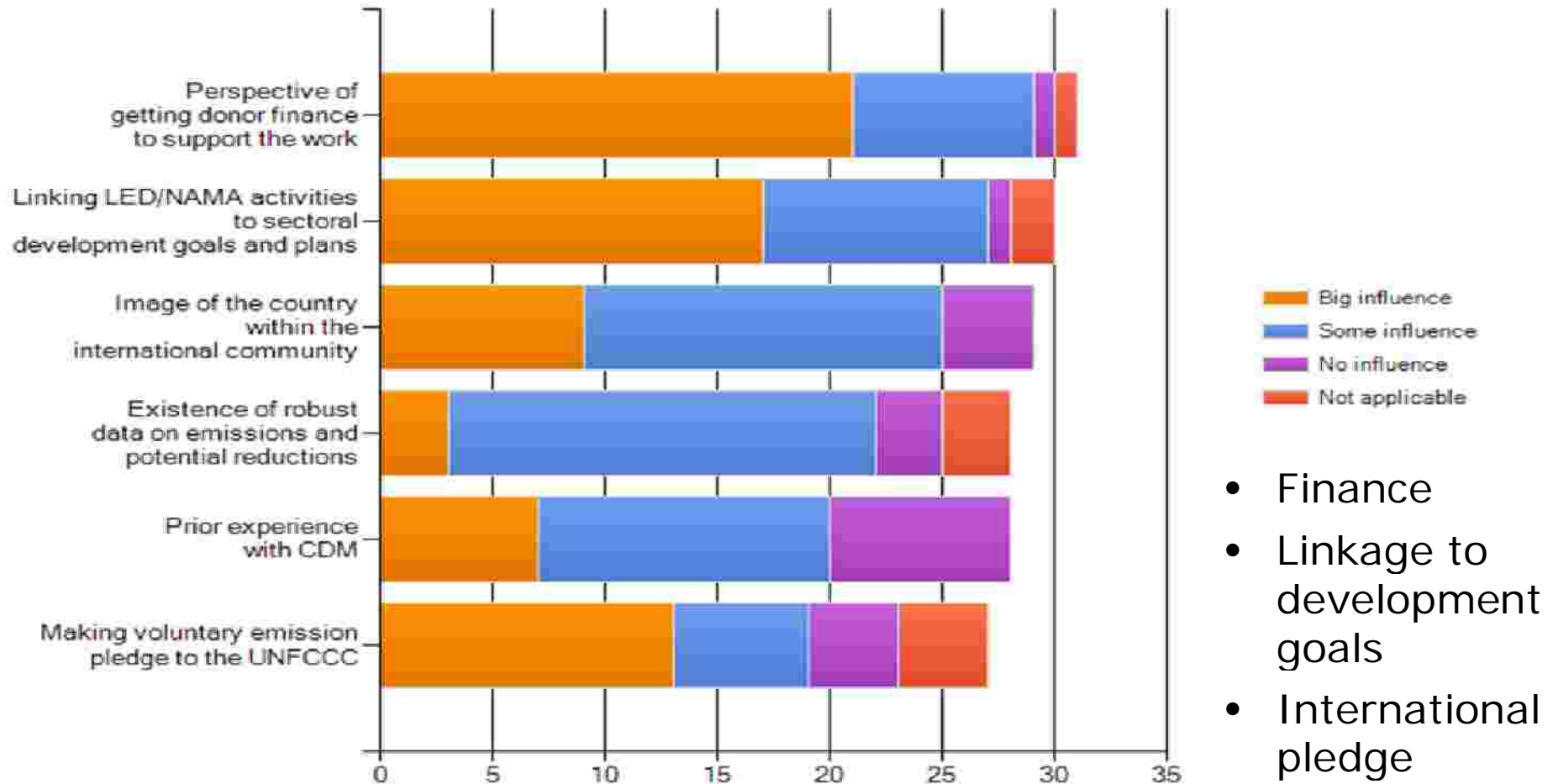


Source: Survey of policy makers in 25 developing countries;  
Averchenkova, UNDP LECB, 2014  
[http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Barriers\\_to\\_NAMAs\\_r4.pdf](http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Barriers_to_NAMAs_r4.pdf)



Grantham Research Institute of  
Climate Change and  
the Environment

# Factors in getting national political commitment



- Finance
- Linkage to development goals
- International pledge

Source: Survey of policy makers in 25 developing countries;  
Averchenkova, UNDP LECB, 2014  
[http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Barriers\\_to\\_NAMAs\\_r4.pdf](http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Barriers_to_NAMAs_r4.pdf)

# Getting national policy going: What has worked

---

- q Raising **awareness and capacity**
- q **Linking** climate change to national & sectoral development goals & plans
- q Engaging **sectoral ministries** into decision-making
- q **Creating incentives** for key agencies to engage
- q Technical or thematic working groups; interagency decision committees
- q **Adoption of national strategies & laws**



# Elements of Effective legislation

---

## q Information

- q To inform domestic policy; to comply with international MRV requirements

## q Targets

## q Policies on mitigation and adaptation

## q Institutional arrangements

- q Advisory board; delegation of responsibilities; Parliamentary oversight; provisions for enforcement and MRV

## q Finance



# Developments in 2013

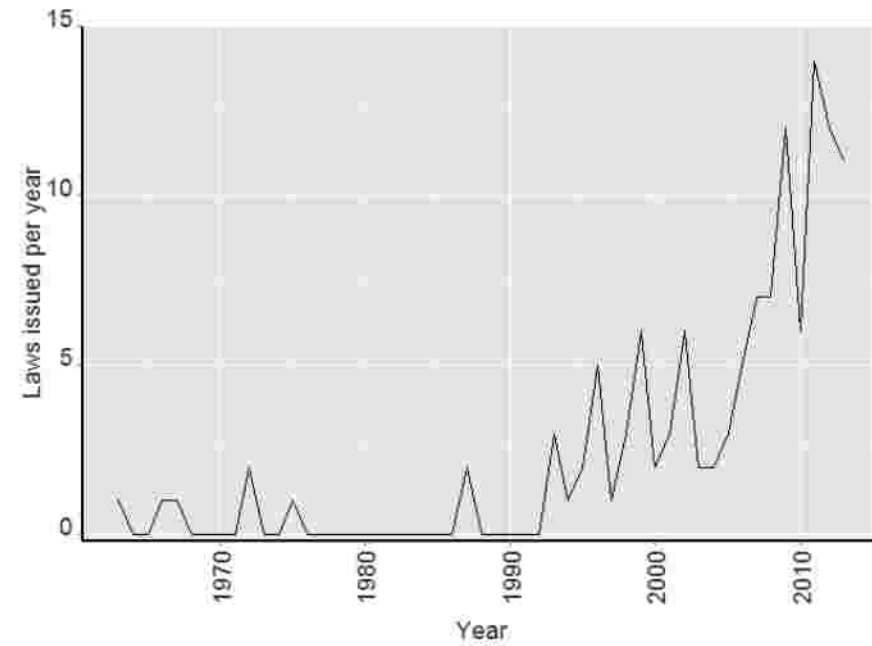
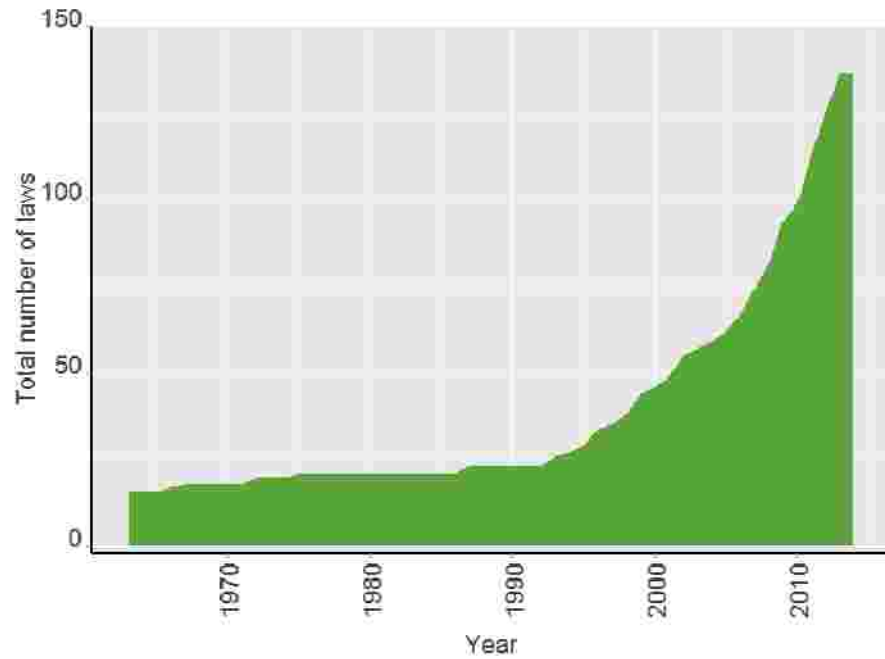
---

- q 4th GLOBE Climate Legislation Study, 2014; 66 countries
- q 487 climate-related laws in 66 study countries
- q 61 of the 66 countries passed laws to promote clean energy & 54 to increase energy efficiency
- q 52 countries have developed legislation or policies to improve resilience to the impacts of climate change
- q Substantial progress in 2013 in 8 countries;
  - q Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kenya, Micronesia, Mozambique, Nigeria and Switzerland





# Forest legislation is growing



Source: Credit to Murray Collins, University of Edinburg & GRI, LSE



Grantham Research Institute of  
Climate Change and  
the Environment

# Developments in 2014

---

q 2015 Study expanded to cover 100 countries; launch in spring 2015

q 34 new country chapters:

*Algeria, Angola, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cuba, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Kuwait, Libya, Madagascar, Myanmar, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu.*

q Collect information on the key elements of effective legislation & INDC process

q Progress so far identified in 19 countries out of 66 considered last year; 1 reversal (work in progress)



# Challenges ahead

---

- q **Ensuring consistency** between international pledge (INDC) and national policy & legislation
  - q National consultations involving legislators ahead of Paris
- q **Driving high ambition** while balancing national interests, international objectives and equity considerations
  - q Local benefits of climate action
- q Making national legislation **compatible with international MRV** requirements and best practices
  - q Awareness raising on MRV for national legislators
- q **Changing role** of national legislators vis-à-vis UNFCCC
  - q Key for ambition, enforcement & effectiveness of climate action
  - q Legislator's dialogue: consistency & comparability among national systems



---

# Thank you.

[a.averchenkova@lse.ac.uk](mailto:a.averchenkova@lse.ac.uk)



Grantham Research Institute of  
Climate Change and  
the Environment