

# REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS WITHIN THE INDUSTRY AND COMPLIANCE MEASURES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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#### INTRODUCTION

 Having a regulatory framework and compliance measure for environmental sustainability is a crucial aspect of ensuring the balance between growth and conservation in industries.

• Therefore, it becomes imperative to have a well-defined set of regulations to mitigate any adverse effects on the environment while fostering sustainable development.

 Over time industries often face challenges in managing the various negative environmental impact that arise from their activities. This includes Air, water & soil pollution, deforestation & land degradation, climate change & global warming as well as Loss of biodiversity.

## WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY?



## **Environmental Sustainability**

Environmental Sustainability is contingent upon effective management of environmental and natural resources.

It is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and wellbeing, now and in the future.

To ensure Sustainability, there is need for proper enforcement measures and effective compliance which would ultimately result in sound health and economic development in the state.

- The LASEPA regulates everything from air pollutants to refrigerants to hazardous waste management and also sets standards for quality of air, water, soil, wildlife habitats and carbon emissions as well as enforces these standards with monetary penalties and legal action. regulates everything from air pollutants to refrigerants to hazardous waste management and also sets standards for quality of air, water, soil, wildlife habitats and carbon emissions as well as enforces these standards with monetary penalties and legal action.
- In Lagos State, LASEPA- Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency has been saddled with the responsibility of ensuring environmental sustainability for NOW and for the FUTURE.



 LASEPA was established in November 1996 under the LASEPA Edict No. 9 of 1996 (now Environment Management & Protection Law 2017 Part VI). The Agency's objective is in accordance with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Section II, 20, which states that:

"The State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard the water, air and land, forest and wildlife of Nigeria."

LASEPA is that organ of the State Government under the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources saddled with the mandate of regulating the environment of Lagos and to ensure compliance to all Environmental Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and Standards.



#### **MISSION**

• The mission of LASEPA is to safeguard environmental quality that is consistent with the social and economic needs of Lagos State, to protect health, welfare, property and quality of life.

#### **VISION**

• Our vision is to build a portfolio of sound environmental management programme and projects in the development of sustainable environment in conjunction with other arms of Government, regulatory organizations and international agencies.



## THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AND ITS POLLUTION CHALLENGES

Industrial pollution is one of the leading cause of pollution worldwide and poses a serious problem for the entire planet especially in states which are rapidly industrializing. Some forms of industrial pollution include but not limited to;



#### WATER POLLUTION

- Discharge of untreated Effluent
- olmproper containment of waste which percolates into the underground water



#### **AIR POLLUTION**

oAn estimated 30% of Lagos' PM2.5 air pollution concentrations are attributable to uncontained Biomass Fuel burning



## LAND POLLUTION olmproper discarding of waste materials

- Manufacturing Association of Nigeria (MAN) has about 7 or more sectoral groups which includes;
  - Food, Beverages & Tobacco Sectoral Group
  - Chemical & Pharmaceuticals Sectoral Products Group
  - Domestic & Industrial Plastics, Foam & Rubber Sectoral Products Group
  - Basic Metal, Iron & Steel and Fabricated Metal Products Sectoral Group
  - Textiles, Wearing Apparel, Carpet Leather & Leather Footwear Products Sectoral Group
  - Pulp, Paper & Paper Products, Printing & Publishing Sectoral Products Group
  - Electrical/ Electronic Products Sectoral Group
- Each Sectoral group has its different and specific pollution challenge which affects the Air, Soil & Water bodies in the state which consequently affects the human health.
- Therefore, it becomes imperative to have a well-defined set of regulations to mitigate any adverse effects on the environment while fostering sustainable development.

### REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS



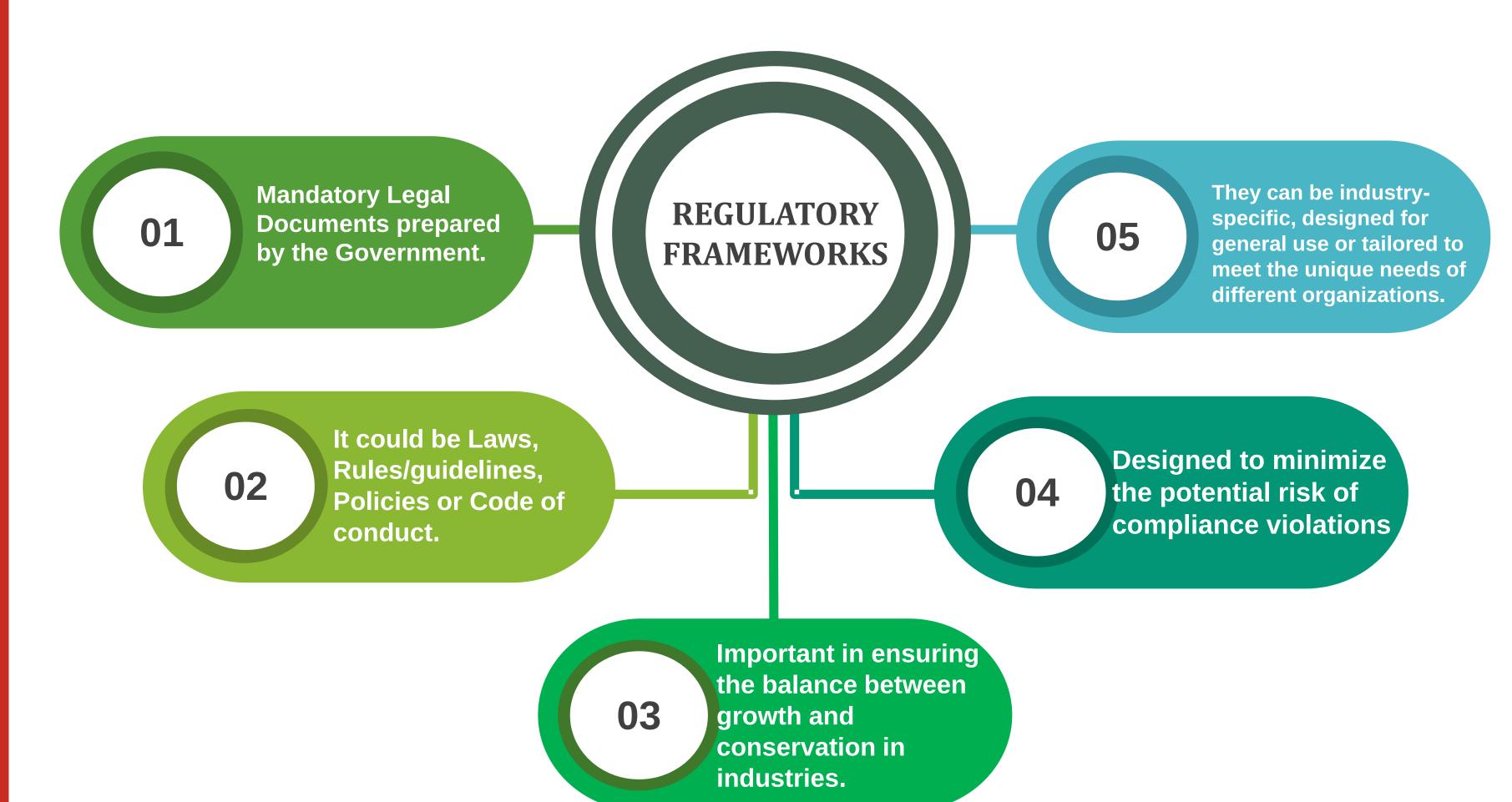
The Environment no doubt is nature's gift to mankind.

The right to explore, discover and utilize the Environment and its resources necessarily implies that corresponding duties exist to protect, recover and conserve them.

Consequently, Environmental laws (or regulatory frameworks) are enacted to set out environmental standard and guidelines to ensure environmental compliance.



#### WHAT ARE REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS



#### **PURPOSE OF REGULATIONS**

#### RESTRICTIVE REGULATION

oThis prevents industries from doing certain things except deemed competent and ethical by the regulator following due registering or licensing.

#### REACTIVE REGULATION

 This can occur in response to complaints, changes in law, reports of misconduct, and other inciting events.

#### PROACTIVE REGULATION

oThis intends to support high-quality standards and facilitate activities to encourage competence in industries. This can include communicating with industries about emerging or recurring problems, as well as performing inspections/audits and facilitating improvement practices.

#### TRANSPARENT REGULATION

•The Goal is to maintain a certain degree of accountability within an industry. It involves communicating with the profession and the public on its processes and decisions.

### WHO REGULATES?

 The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of a State develops environmental regulations and sets compliance monitoring and enforcement guidelines for that State. These regulations are intended to protect human health and the environment. The EPA also offer auditing and performance standards to encourage regulatory compliance and completes compliance reviews to give you site-specific recommendations.

In Nigeria, regulations are also prepared by the Federal Ministry of Environment via the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA). These are usually domesticated at the state level.

#### IMPORTANCE OF REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

All the rules are designed to safeguard the environment

It reduces the negative impact on the environment and preserve natural resources.

Regulations also ensure greater safety for those working within an industry.

It helps industries to stay within the bounds of laws, guidelines and standards that govern the business operation.



It helps Industries to stay abreast of environmental regulations and engage in reporting to remain in compliance.

It helps prevent irreversible disasters

 It allows for improvement in business efficiency.

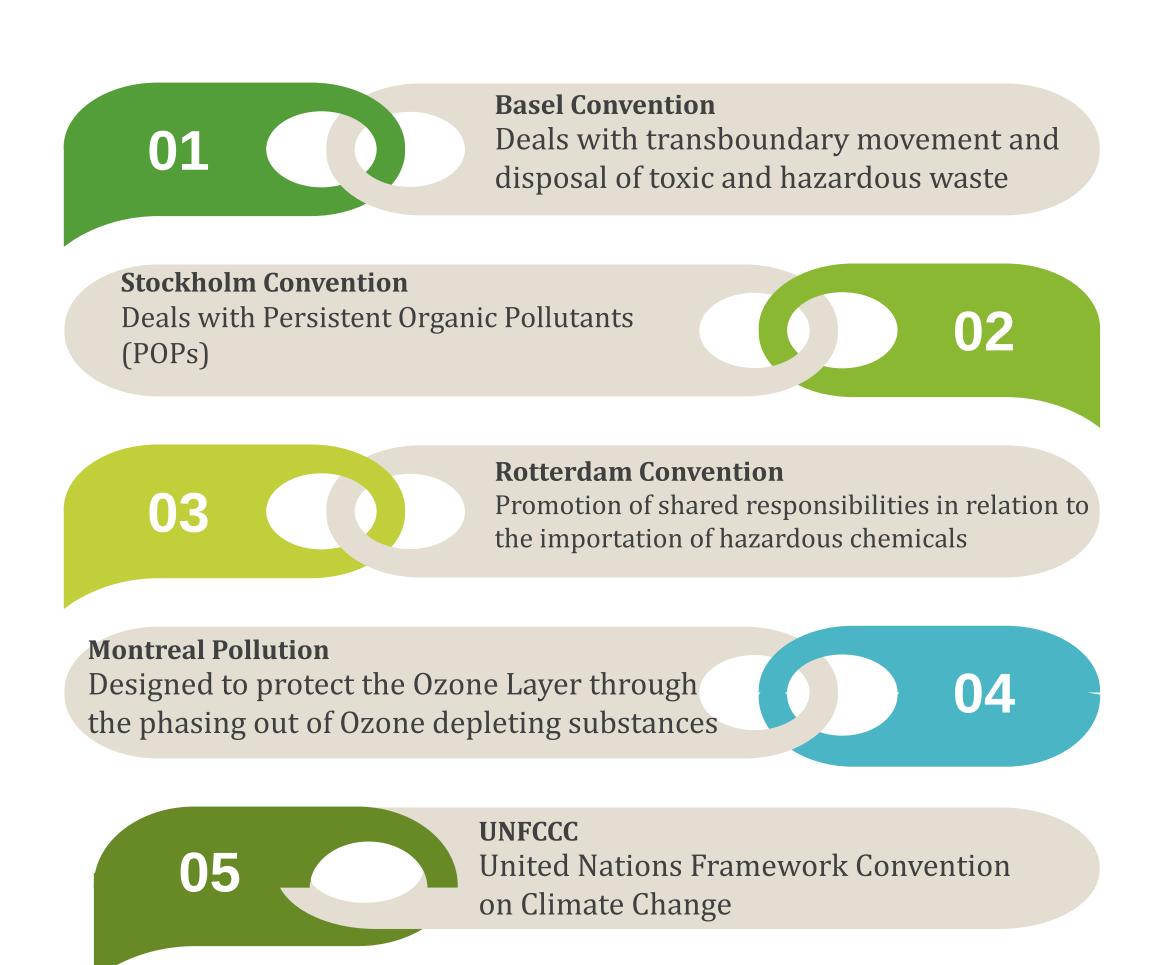
It is a desired developmental tool for the growth of modern society.

### REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS IN USE

INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL & STATE regulations



#### INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS



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Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999

National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency (NESREA) Act, 2007

Land Use Act

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act, Cap E12, LFN, 2004

Harmful Waste (Special Criminal Provisions) Act, Cap H1, LFN 2004

Hydrocarbon Oil Refineries Act, Cap H5, LFN 2004

Exclusive Economic Zone Act, Cap E11, LFN 2004

Oil Pipelines Act, Cap O7, LFN 2004

Petroleum Act, Cap P10, LFN 2004

National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency Act 2005 (NOSDRA) Act

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Petroleum Products and Distribution Act, Cap P12, LFN 2004

Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act, Cap N142, LFN 2004

Pest Control of Production (Special Powers) Act, Cap P9, LFN 2004

Water Resources Act, Cap W2, LFN 2004

Factories Act

Water Resources Act

The Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes Regulations

The National Effluents Limitations Regulations

Climate Change Act

## STATE LAWS

Lagos State makes use of the Environmental Management and Protection Law of 2017 along side some other Environmental Policy documents

## COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Compliance is the first step to sustainability and a minimum baseline to keep pace with changing demand and requirements. Hence compliance measures are indicators of adherence to government laws, guidelines and regulations.

Measures to be put in place include:

### **Environmental Sustainability Plan**

This is the need to develop comprehensive strategy, designed to identify and manage environmental sustainability issues.

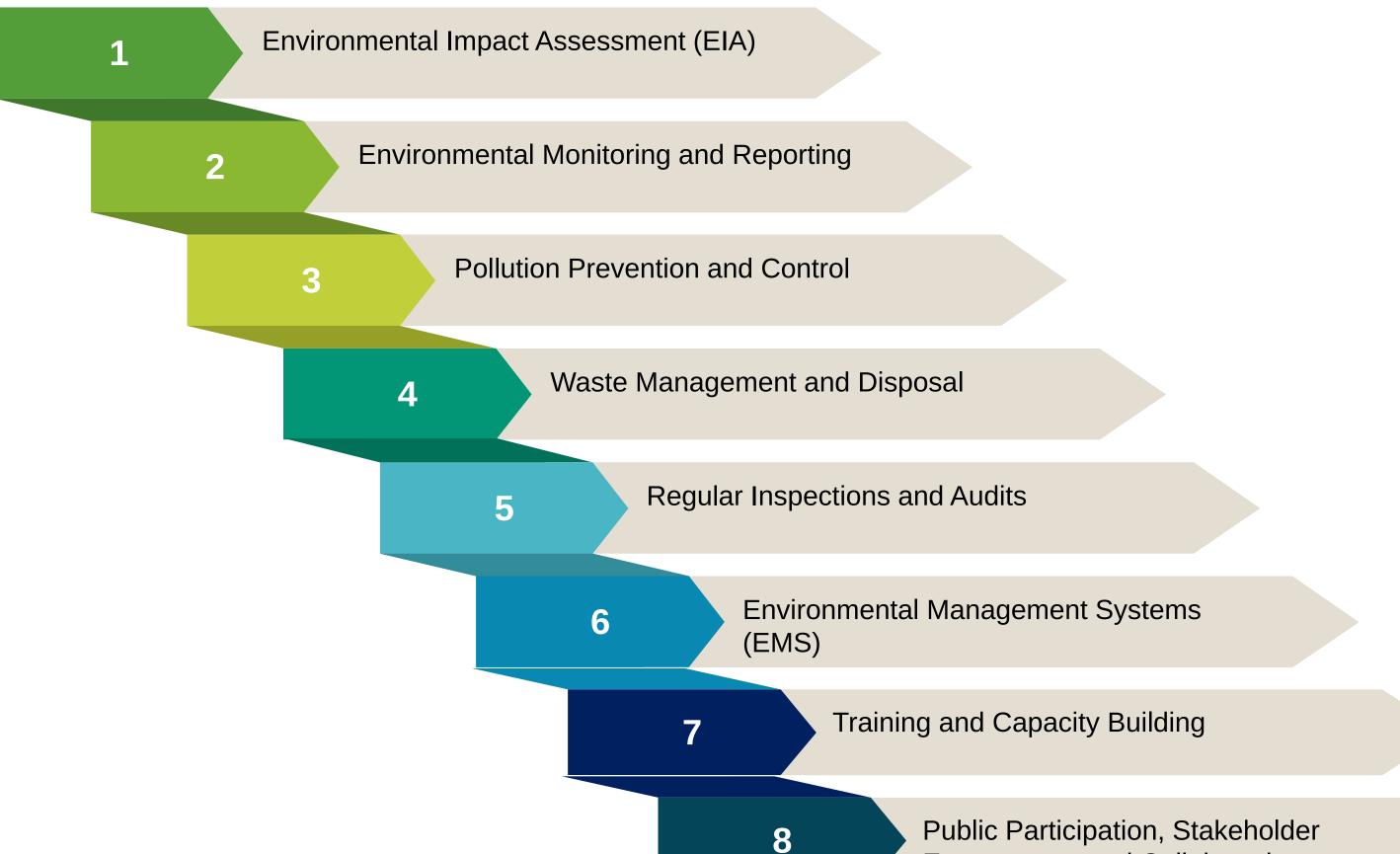
This is characterized by the need to identify pollution and environmental damage an organization's operations can cause,

**Environmental Compliance Risk Assessment** 

### **Environmental Compliance Review**

This will reveal lingering compliance obligations associated with a business

#### SOME COMPLIANCE MEASURES



## ACTIVITIES OF THE AGENCY IN ENSURING COMPLIANCE

Regulators are to establish, monitor, and enforce laws within their area of responsibility and this is the core function of the Agency.

Some of the Agency's roles are

- To Assess applications for licensing
- Perform inspections
- Carry out investigative or other compliance functions.
- Communicate and sensitize concerned populace, stakeholders and industries on government laws and regulations pertaining to their activities
- To Serve as environmental police.
- In the course of carrying out regulatory roles in facilities, the Agency's inspection team checks out for some parameters which are used as a form of checklist.

#### Some regulatory parameters to check for are:

- Air emissions
- Soil and groundwater contamination
- Surface and storm water contamination
- Chemical use and storage
- Generation of noise that can impact natural structures or personnel
- Generation and/or release of radiation
- The use and generation of biohazards and nanosubstance
- Generation, storage, transport, and disposal of industrial and hazardous waste including radioactive waste
- Discharge of any material to wastewater systems
- Impact on archeological and wildlife areas
- Discharge or disposal of water/sludge
- Generation of construction, demolition, and renovation by-products
- Activities for minimizing waste generation (e.g. reuse and recycling)
- Conservation of natural resources

#### The Agency carries out

- Inspection & Searches
- Sealing, Seizure & Arrest
- Permit, License and certificate forfeiture
- Workshops and Capacity Building

## RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- Adopting sustainable practices and technologies
- Engaging with stakeholders and promoting transparency
- Implementing efficient waste management and disposal systems
- Promoting environmental awareness and training
- Collaborating with industries and stakeholders to share best practices
- Conducting regular environmental impact assessments and monitoring
- Implementing environmental management systems and ISO 14001 certification
- Promoting sustainable agriculture and forestry practices

#### CONCLUSION

- Effective regulatory frameworks and compliance measures are crucial for environmental sustainability and Industries must adopt sustainable practices and technologies, engage with stakeholders, and continuously improve environmental performance to ensure a sustainable future.
- Collaboration and data collection and validation, knowledge sharing among industries, stakeholders, and regulators is also essential for environmental sustainability.
- On the part of the government, there would be continuous monitoring and evaluation of regulatory frameworks and compliance measures in other to ensure their effectiveness.

