

Judicial Leaders in Climate Science Commitment Examples

Judicial Leaders in Climate Science have committed to advance climate education with their colleagues and in their states. The design of such activities will depend on the specific legal context, including the trends in climate cases, the impacts, the understanding of climate issues, the judicial education context, as well as any sensitivities.

Programs could focus closely on the science arising in cases, or they could have a broader approach of providing education on the underlying concepts necessary to understand the science that will arise in cases, and their implications. There are a wide range of ways to accomplish these goals. Below are some examples that arose in our discussions during the first course in March 2022.

Education

- Organize a seminar, webinar, or conference session on a climate-related topic. *Example topics:* legal trends in your state, the types of climate impacts that might lead to climate litigation, and the science arising in climate cases.
- Invite a climate scientist or legal scholar to speak to your judiciary

Writing

- Write an article or op-ed for a judicial publication (e.g., NJC's Reflections from the Bench)
- Write or contribute to a judicial guide or bench book for dealing with climate cases

Other Actions

Join or organize working groups with the other branches of government to discuss climate-related topics

- Organize a judicial working group to develop processes and procedures for dealing with climate cases
- Organize a field trip to a business or sector impacted by climate change (local farms, fisheries, etc.). Engage with a community impacted by climate change (coastal communities, communities affected by wildfires and flooding, etc.)

