

Zambia

General

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The environmental sector in Zambia had up until 1990 no umbrella legislation or organisation to co-ordinate its programs. In 1990, the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act No. 12 (EPPCA) was enacted and in 1992 the Environmental Council of Zambia (ECZ) formed with the mandate to protect the environment and prevent pollution. EPPCA created the legal basis for EIA.

In 2011, EPPCA was repealed and replaced by the Environmental Management Act (EMA). The new law created, in addition to EIA, the legal basis for SEA. It also renamed ECZ into the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA). ZEMA is currently the central authority to regulate and enforce EIA and SEA. ZEMA also takes decisions on the environmental clearance of projects.