

Economic Policymaking amid Climate Change: Accountability and Legal Challenges for Sustainable Development

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Abstract

The paper examines the complex nature of legal issues associated with the implementation of climate change accountability strategies in economic policy making with a specific emphasis on the international environmental commitment versus domestic sovereignty and sustainable development latter. Particularly, it analyzes the impact of international regulatory measures, such international agreements, carbon pricing, and green finance policies, on the global decision-making processes on the economics front. Moreover, it goes through the intersection of these frameworks with the national legal systems, especially in terms of state administration restructuring to manage effective green economy and congruence of the environmental law and the economic law. This requires a critical analysis of available legal solutions, economic management philosophies and how to develop intersectoral solutions to ensure that environmental factors are incorporated into economic operations. Nevertheless, in as much as verbal promises of climate action have been on the rise, the actual introduction of a practical environmental policy tends to falter and natural resources exploitation and carbon emissions continue to soar as the world economy likewise reinvigorates its economic performance. This gap reveals the very contradiction: the development of the international green economy theory has not become an impressively large-scale change in pace. This ongoing disconnectivity of policy and ecological necessity points to the ineffectiveness of the existing measures of global climate policy and the necessity of more effective accountability regimes. The ongoing absence

of accountability is not the result of the absence of initiatives, but is instead based on measurement of procedures rather than actual environmental results, which has resulted in the continued environmental degradation despite the ever-expanding control over it.

Key Words: Climate Change, Accountability, Sustainable Development, Environmental Law, Economic Policy, Green Economy, Carbon Pricing, Green Finance, International Agreements, Governance.

Introduction

Global governance systems are becoming more key in influencing economic policy implementation to meet the mounting environmental problems and the need to have sustainable development. This requires a strong exploration of legal issues facing integration of climate change accountability into economic policymaking, specifically the roles that must be played by governmental and non-governmental actors. One of the main principles which have been suggested by the latest legal changes is the idea of generalized duty of care towards climate changes and greenhouse gas emissions, which might increase the liabilities of the government and corporations worldwide. This changing legal environment includes the principles of public international law relating to the state responsibility in cases of transboundary harm, as well as the complex evolution of the new internal regulatory regulations that attempt to transform the sustainability goals into the legal duties adopted by the corporations and government entities. This multi-dimensional approach of sustainable development, which involves economic, human rights, and environmental issues, further defines the challenge of having a single interpretation and functioning mechanisms of accountability of climate in both national and international economic policy. This has been aggravated by the fact that greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere are diffuse and cumulative, and thus tend to complicate the principles of traditional laws presumed to deal with discrete harm, and hence, provides loopholes in accountability on corporate activities related to climate-induced disasters. This is necessitated by the fact that due to the slow rate of legal evolution compared to the fast rate of technological evolution, the legal gaps that exist in the nature of the environmental injustices faced by the vulnerable groups have risen significantly as was reflected by urgent need to have effective environmental governance frameworks that cut across national boundaries.¹ New legal concepts and tools are thus under discussion in order to internalize the ecological costs of the current economic activities and also the liability of climate related damages and shift the voluntary compliance into the mandatory compliance. This transition also requires the review of long-standing economic management principles and introduction of the idea of decarbonization and greening into the essential economic frameworks, which casts underlying questions of qualification requirements and the application of these ideas as practical strategies. The overlapping of environmental and economic law, then, demands an effort on mutual convergence to achieve legal solutions agreed upon, principles of economic administration, and intersectoral mechanisms of state impact. This complex task entails the definition of such concepts like environmental management, environmental innovations on the basis of clear qualifying criteria so that they would be implemented in the economic policy. This type of integration would enable the production of restrictive and stimulating regulatory instruments to direct economic actors to practices that are eco-friendly. Nonetheless, these policy measures must face serious structural obstacles such as lack of funds, poor technology, poor governance

¹ Ashwani Kumar and Ashwani Kumar Dwivedi, "The Development and Effects of Environmental Law on Green Governance," 11 Journal of Law and Sustainable Development (2023).

policies and poor policy priorities, especially in the developing economies.² These complex issues require a substantial re-review on current economic policies in order to promote sustainable development agenda considering the twin forces of economic growth and environment conservation. More so, the shortfalls of the market driven governance of climate and the ability of self-regulating climate disclosure systems to curb the climate crisis further elevate the need to have systemic interventions comprising of macroeconomic and structural policies as well as strategically planned impact investments.

2. Conceptual Framework: Climate Change Accountability and Sustainable Development

The theoretical framework that surrounds climate change responsibility and sustainable development is fundamentally connected with the necessity of internalizing environmental externalities in the process of making economic decisions as a result the transformation of the classic economic growth models which, as a rule, do not take into consideration the ecological degradation. To integrate this, one will have to reconsider the accounting norms to include those indicators, which are biophysical, in such a manner that the macroeconomic and the microeconomic policies are based on an overall understanding of the environmental values and risks.

2.1. Defining Climate Change Accountability

According to this scheme, the issue of climate change accountability may be considered as the legal and moral duty of state, corporate, and individual people to reduce greenhouse emissions, adapt to climatic effects, and compensate climate-based losses, as a means to promote intergenerational equity and environmental justice. This definition is not only compliance, but proactive obligation, to promote sustainable practice and real time reporting on environmental performance and incorporation of the ecological concern into the fundamental economic policies. This broadened concept of accountability is essential to phase out of the old GDP-based category of economic metrics to more comprehensive frameworks capable of incorporating ecological boundaries and social welfare into both local and global economic policies. The movement towards making climate change responsibility as part of economic frameworks requires the consideration of other alternative national accounting practices which take into consideration the ecological effects as opposed to the traditional ones which frequently disregard the damage to the environment in favor of seeking economic growth.

2.2. Pillars of Sustainable Development

The key to this reconsideration is the interdependence of the three aspects of sustainable development: economic viability, social equity, and environmental protection, which require the combined policy responses to guarantee the long term well-being of society within the margins of the planet.³ These include encouraging economies where growth is not linked to extraction of resources and where social justice is facilitated through equal fair access to resources and opportunities and ecological integrity to the current and future generations. This holistic method would involve the adoption of green accounting strategies that would

² John C. Sawhill, "Balancing Economic Growth and Environmental Protection," 34 *Management Quarterly* 24 (1993).

³ Dr. Abhimanyu Singh Chauhan, "Environment and Sustainable Development in the 21st Century: Challenges and Policy Interventions" Zenodo (CERN European Organization for Nuclear Research) (2025).



evaluate the actual costs and values of economic operations, such as environmental externalities, and the loss of natural capital. This model also acknowledges that there is need to instill restrictions to economic processes in order to mitigate the effects of climate change by curbing all the potential effects as liabilities to the current generation. The view is closer to a complete overhaul of the GDP-centred indicators to total welfare economy prioritising planetary prosperity and human happiness, and is specifically concerned with the equal distribution of resources and wealth.⁴

2.3. Interplay between Accountability, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development

The interconnection of climate change accountability, sustainable development and economic policy is vital in the development of a bottom-up and top-down strategy of ensuring the whole world is responsive to environmental degradation and that needs a composite rule to climate governance involving local and supranational regimes. This model should go beyond the conventional economic indicators such as GDP and further include other indicators such as net worth of the public sector that covers contingent liabilities and the overall value of natural and intangible capital, which is in line with the objectives of sustainable growth. This demands a redefinition of economic priorities, in recognition that economic growth is a means to an end and not an end unto itself. In fact, it is possible to embrace a more holistic and sustainable growth through making accountability and strategic management a priority in policy-making and linking sustainability and profit optimization and loss prevention. In addition, this entails a change of accounting systems that record positive and negative contributions, hence provoking conventional dependence on destruction and consumption as the main sources of economic growth.

2.4. Theoretical Underpinnings of Legal and Economic Governance

Theories of environmental economics, public international law, and institutional economics are the theoretical foundations of legal and economic regulation of climate change accountability and sustainable development, which together offer the frameworks of analyzing the practical measures of policy responses to internalize the externalities and promote international collaboration. These theoretical backgrounds tend to highlight the shortcomings of Gross Domestic Product as an exclusive indicator of progress and propose alternative measures of progress including environmental and social results. As an example, the wealth accounts provide a prospective viewpoint where the productive foundation of future goods and services is recorded, beyond past measures of consumption and welfare of the System of National Accounts. This paradigm shift appreciates the natural asset value and ecological services in a manner that is not based on a usual linear economic method but treats the system in a more circular and regenerative way. This requires the incorporation of strong governance structures and creativity to facilitate corporate sustainability performance and instill ecological thinking in the central economic planning.

3. International Legal Frameworks for Climate Change and Sustainable Development

These structures define the legal-legal and cooperative systems under which countries are dealing with climate change in order to balance economic growth and environmental

⁴ Ashfaq Khalfan et al., Climate Equality: A Planet for the 99%, 20 November 2023.

conservation using the vehicles of multilateral environmental agreements and international conventions.

3.1. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement

The UNFCCC gives the overall framework of intergovernmental effort to deal with the climate change whereas the Paris Agreement is a subsidiary level of the UNFCCC providing the legally binding international treaty on climate change, and its main aim is to limit the world warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, even 1.5 degrees Celsius, as compared with the levels before industrialization. This is an ambitious goal not only to be sought by the countries by establishing their own contribution aims but also by establishing a process whereby nations put up their own targets of reduction and they submit periodic reports on their emissions thus creating a decentralized yet coordinated international response. Moreover, carbon pricing measures (carbon taxes and cap-and-trade) are becoming the key elements in these systems to encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and trigger funding of clean energy technologies. These market-based instruments are designed to internalize the external costs of carbon emissions, which better aligns economic incentives with mitigation of climate change objectives and make the economic path more sustainable. On top of the market processes, inter-government initiatives and multi-stakeholder partnerships play a pivotal role in harmonizing the public and the private sectors to work towards sustainable development objectives, which promotes an integrated climate policy.

3.2. International Environmental Law Principles

There are various principles the international environmental law is founded on, with some being the common but differentiated responsibilities principle, the precautionary principle, and the polluter pays principle, which are used to govern and regulate the environmental status of the states. These values form the basis of international environmental treaties, where countries act in advance to take into account the environmental damage that may occur, allocate the costs of pollution to the polluters, and only grant differing national capacities and the historical role in environmental issues.⁵ The ultimate mission of such principles is to create a worldwide determination to the sustainable development in such a way that will balance the current needs and demands with the necessity to maintain environmental integrity to the next generation. The Paris Agreement which is based on these principles adds further clarity to the international commitment to act on climate as it enshrines a system in which countries detail their own action plans regarding climate action, referred to as Nationally Determined Contributions.

3.3. Human Rights and Climate Change

Human rights as they relate to climate change is cognizant of the fact that the environmental degradation disproportionately affects the vulnerable populations, hence breaching some of the fundamental human rights, including the right to life, health, and an adequate standard living. The intersection is necessitating the incorporation of the human rights principles in climate policy-making and environmental governance in order to make sure that climate action fosters justice and safeguards the rights of the impacted communities. Furthermore, the universal nature of all human rights, non-discrimination, democratic responsibility, and the rule of law can provide an ample amount of direction in ensuring that climate change policies

⁵ Amulya J. Shetty and Madhurima Saxena, "Harm principle in green criminology: environmental harm and human risk matrix," 7 *Frontiers in Climate* (2025).

are deemed fair and just. This ethical aspect is also supported by the fact that most of the fundamental human needs are given in the form of rights which highlight the social pillar of sustainable development.⁶

3.4. Challenges in International Law Enforcement and Compliance

Although well established legal frameworks exist, serious problems remain on the way of state compliance and proper implementation of international climate change commitments, often because of some problems related to poor monitoring, reporting, and verification rules. Moreover, many international agreements regarding the environment are not enforced by a centralized body, which tends to interfere with their effectiveness, and accountability gaps can exist. This is further aggravated by the realities that come about as the principal of common yet differentiated responsibilities that although such a principle recognizes the contribution towards the historical remittance and the difference in abilities to reduce the effects, may result in disagreements on how to share the burden of equity and resources between the countries.

4. Economic Policy Making and Its Legal Implications for Sustainable Development

The economic policy making contributes in great manner in determining the direction a country takes towards sustainable development by affecting the allocation of resources, industrialization and even technology. Nonetheless, the incorporation of climate change responsibility in the economy has a lot of legal challenges, particularly in developing countries where environmental policies do not coincide with the short term developmental strategies.

4.1. Green Fiscal Policies and Taxation

Introduction of green fiscal policy including carbon tax or other subsidies applicable to the environment requires strong legal formulation to make them consistent with national economic laws, as well as with international trade agreements, and to appropriately equalize environmental friendly measures. This legal formulation should have to manoeuvre some of the possible contradictions with the current trade regulations, like the ones in WTO framework, which may see some of the green fiscal adjustments as protectionist initiatives. Moreover, the formation of the legal systems that facilitate a circular economy, where the natural resources disappearance is not interconnected with the process of inclusive economic growth, is of utmost importance to the sustainable economic policy.⁷

4.2. Investment Regulations and Sustainable Finance

Legal frameworks and the regulation of investment are vital in ensuring that capital is channeled into projects that are environmentally friendly and not towards projects that contribute to the rise of climate change. These frameworks involve ensuring that corporations are expected to be accountable on environmental issues by compulsory disclosure and incorporation of sustainability standards in financial risk analysis. Further, the fact that most international climate change systems could not be binding and the ambiguity between the international environmental law and global investment policies are still significant

⁶ Elijah S. Sritharan, "The Ethics of Climate Change, Climate Policy and Climate Justice," 15 *Lexonomica* (2023).

⁷ B. Suresh and Asha Sundaram, "Cross-embedded relationship nature of Human Rights-related treaties and instruments with environment-related sustainable development goals" *The Age of Human Rights Journal* 205 (2022).

impediments to attain transformative change in sustainable finance. This brings out the deep-rooted necessity of strong legal tools that could be used to fully operationalize the principles of sustainable development in the national economic policies especially in the developing nations. This has been applied to agricultural production as well, in which legal control over economic practice is measured seeing that legal furnishings are consistent with contemporary environmental law needs after agreed legal settlements, economic administration values, and broad intersectoral system.⁸

4.3. Trade Policies and Environmental Standards

It is dictated by the necessity of sustainable development that the trade policies should be aligned with strict regulations related to environmental protection; the reconsideration of international trade agreements should be made in order to add the ecological factors and eliminate the transfer of environmental risks to the economies, which possess fewer stringent regulations. This demands effective law enforcement mechanisms able to enact environmental compliance along the global supply chains and thwart regulatory arbitrage in addition to facilitating fair trade practices beneficial in encouraging sustainable production methods in all the participating countries. This would also deal at the same time with the challenges of realizing a just transition to all which would mean that regulatory frameworks put in place defined rights and incentives to all green economic activities whilst proactively working to eliminate impediments to sustainable investments. In addition, the alignment of disjointed policy taxonomies and unification of measurement and reporting procedures are required to establish an equivalent financial ecosystem and align climate and development finance.

4.4. Subsidies and Incentives for Green Technologies

Good legal frameworks are essential when developing and introducing subsidies, incentives that actually stimulate the use of green technologies and sustainable innovations, which makes market-based processes and their relationship with the current regulatory environments stipulate careful consideration. This frequently entails developing legal provisions that maintain transparency, market distortions, and fair access to said benefits hence speeding up the shift to a low-carbon economy. In addition, the incorporation of green industrial policies especially in the developing states needs to be integrated with legal framework to enable technological innovation, and cross-sectoral cooperation in order to keep away the problem shifting and comprehensive protection of the environment. Such holistic strategy is essential in the rationality of negotiating between factors economic growth, ecological conservation, and social justice and thus enhancing the humanization of Sustainable Development Goals.⁹

5. Case Studies: Legal Challenges in Economic Policy Implementation

5.1. Case Study 1: Energy Transition and Fossil Fuel Subsidies

Legal issues regarding this area include often the transition to the phase of the economically instilled subsidies of fossil fuels as they are often seen as having beneficial effects in the short term, and are protected by a legal glass ceiling. This shift must result in new legal frameworks that encourage renewable energy supplies, entice green investment, and resolve the issue of

⁸ Awodezi Henry, "Prospects and Challenges to Prove Environmental Harm in Litigation: Status Quo in Nigeria," 2024.

⁹ Muhammad Salman Shabbir and Rabia Salman, "Sustainable Development Policy Interventions: Stakeholder Engagement and Environmental Policy in Practice," 35 *Business Strategy and the Environment* 1997 (2025).

possible social and economic displacement of communities involved. At the same time, these legal systems need to respect the requirement of additionality in green finance, that is, that both governmental and non-governmental funds truly make a difference in new environmental advantages in cases other than those of business-as-usual. It also involves the development of a legally viable plan of decommissioning of fossil fuel facilities and cleanup of the resulting environmental harm, which is frequently hampered by a current contract and property ownership deals. Moreover, this transition to non-traditional sources of energy requires a thorough legal reconsideration of the structure of energy grids to address the possibility of decentralized production of renewable energy and smart grids, which are guaranteed by grid stability and fairly distributed opportunities to all participants in the process. This complicated process may have legal obstacles involving lengthiness of regulations and differences in policies that require strong government schemes to overcome these barriers successfully. It highlights the essentiality of the clear legal and regulatory frameworks to define the role of environmental policies in the strategies of energy transition, which will indirectly increase their effectiveness and lead to the sustainable development. A good example of a national push to decarbonizes is the Chilean electricity system which involves substantial governmental intervention and regulatory change, to correct market failure and to enable the need to incorporate clean technologies into the institutional structures of the system.

5.2. Case Study 2: Infrastructure Development and Environmental Impact Assessments

This tends to be accompanied by highly contentious court cases concerning the sufficiency and breadth of Environmental Impact Assessments, especially in the consideration of massive projects like hydroelectric projects or renewable energy facilities that might encroach on the very sensitive ecosystems or indigenous lands. These evaluations are essential in making sure that the development of infrastructure is conducted according to environmental policies and global best practices, which reduce the ecological and social negative impacts. Yet, such evaluations may be highly politicized and lead to delays or cancellations of the project, which highlights the importance of prioritizing the issues of environmental protection and infrastructure advancement. The legal frameworks used in Moving Environmental Impact Assessments must thus be strong enough to stand legal scrutiny hence elaborate appraisals and consultation with the stakeholders and giving line of acceptable methods of solving disputes. In addition, the effectiveness of these frameworks in most cases depends on how they are flexible to the new environmental risks and new technologies that arise and demand a provision of some form of a periodical review and revision of the framework so that it remains relevant and enforceable. Moreover, the growing number of climate litigation, which frequently stands in between climate benefits and conflicting environmental or social interests, underscores the complicated legal landscape in which infrastructure projects operate and the need to support a set of structures that can traverse these triple-tiered trade-offs. It is necessary that legal instruments are re-assessed to warrant sufficient incorporation of climate resilience and adaptation aspects on infrastructure planning and development that goes beyond traditional environmental impact paradigms.

5.3. Case Study 3: Corporate Accountability and Supply Chain Regulations

This is a field that encompasses a tricky legal dilemma of encompassing corporate responsibility beyond direct operation to include the supply chain as a whole especially on environmental and social implication on jurisdictions that have relatively low regulatory bodies. This calls for the establishment of extraterritorial forms of law and due diligence, which would take a corporation to measure and manage environmental and human rights risks

inherent in their global supply chains, which in some cases demand the climate impact assessment of the project producing large GHG emissions. These frameworks should also deal with the inevitability of such obligations in legal terms in various national jurisdictions, in many cases choosing bilateral or multilateral agreements to ensure that an integrity in the application and responsibility of the obligations. This poses quite a challenge to grammar of creation of legal standing on the part of the affected parties and enforcement of judgments in various legal regimes especially concerning the weighing of economic interests against environmental protection. In addition, the lack of coherence of international law and difference in understanding corporate social responsibility adds to the perplexity surrounding the setting of globally binding standards of responsibility within the supply chain.¹⁰

6. Identifying Gaps and Opportunities in Legal Frameworks

In this section, the legal tools available will be critically examined and any gaps highlighted, and recommendations made on ways to improve the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts by legislators and the judiciary. Special emphasis will be put on the realization of knowledge gaps in setting corporate obligations and liabilities in transnational environments, particularly individual contribution to climate change and the issues of causality.

6.1. Weaknesses in Current Accountability Mechanisms

Existing frameworks tend to be silent on the issue of mandatory climate due diligence throughout supply chains, which constrains the extent of corporate climate responsibility and the opportunities to respond to indirect emissions. The given gap is also enforced by the difficulty with assigning responsibility to cumulative effects and also creating a clear lineage between individual corporate activities and overall climate change impacts. The new tendency of establishing compulsory net-zero emission goals cross jurisdictions, though, gives the possibility to encompass more severe corporate climate responsibility standards, in particular, via the legislative process, with its focus on inclusivity and equity in climate frameworks. In spite of these achievements, however, there are always recurring problems with precisely quantifying and allocating emissions in complicated international supply chains, which makes it difficult to enforce such targets.¹¹

6.2. Emerging Legal Theories and Strategies

New legal theories are on the rise that aims to cope with these complications by applying climate science and human rights concepts to the litigation plans thus making corporations more responsible to climate-based damages. These tactics usually use the platforms of existing human rights platforms and propose a corporate responsibility to reduce climate change, particularly when the contribution of multinational businesses to either detrimental human rights impacts, or a failure to do so, can be demonstrated. These will involve creating

¹⁰ Paul Ebohsetale Atamewan, "Corporate Liability for Climate-Related Disasters: Emerging Trends in Global Environmental Litigation," 5 *Journal of Frontiers in Multidisciplinary Research* 108 (2024).

¹¹ Daniel Silva et al., "Corporate emissions and climate targets: Insights from high-emitting firms in Brazil's transition to sustainability," 4 *PLOS Sustainability and Transformation* (2025).

frameworks to consider both direct and indirect source of greenhouse emission and environmental degradation across global value chains.¹²

6.3. Opportunities for International Cooperation and Harmonization

The fragmented state of international climate law requires more cooperation between the states to define a coherent and universally applicable set of standards of corporate climate accountability, and not the voluntary manner of collaboration. This necessitates coming up with harmonized due diligence requirements which are not limited by the national boundaries so that the corporations are accountable to their environmental impact in the whole chain of supply regardless of the point where the emissions are released. Such collaboration may include formation of international arbitration organs or harmonization of national legislations in order to provide enforcement of climate related liabilities across national borders especially in situations where transnational organizations are involved. An emerging trend in climate litigation is to give more credence to such harmonization through the application of cutting-edge attribution science to attribute particular sources of emissions to climate-related injuries and broaden legal actions to the non-traditional torts form of action to corporate limitability.¹³

6.4. The Role of Non-State Actors in Promoting Accountability

Non-state actors are important in making climate accountable in different ways, including advocacy, awareness campaigns, and direct legal actions both against corporations and governments. These players tend to make strategic use of litigation in which human rights jurisprudence and corporate governance is used to force greater openness and environmental compliance. Their relentless campaign is indicative of the increasing awareness that corporations, especially those through the carbon-intensive industries carry a big responsibility towards the climate crisis and its impact on human rights. This is the union of multi-dependent pressure of non-state actors, which facilitates calls to more solid regulatory standards, such as the global and national legal measures concerning better corporate responsibility. The active engagement of civil society in the pursuit of a solution and the resulting active response by government highlights the need to incorporate the stakeholder involvement in the development and execution of climate accountability measures that would ensure that varying voices are adopted when developing and enforcing policies.¹⁴

7. Conclusion

As noted in this paper, there are complex legal issues that lie in incorporating climate change accountability into economic policymaking, especially in corporate responsibility and in the delivery of sustainable development goals. It has formulated the ongoing challenges of developing any conclusive cause-effect interests among corporate activities and climatic effects, particularly in transnational practices, and the resultant complications of legal and monetary responsibility measures. In spite of these, new legal theories, the tactical application of human rights law, and the central role of the non-state actors are all contributing to creating new

¹² Julia Dehm, "Beyond Climate Due Diligence: Fossil Fuels, 'Red Lines' and Reparations," 8 Business and Human Rights Journal 151 (2023).

¹³ Cinnamon Piñon Carlarne, "U.S. Climate Change Law: A Decade of Flux and an Uncertain Future" SSRN Electronic Journal (2019).

¹⁴ Yedong Zhang, "Exploring the Reform and Development Pathways of AIB's Climate Accountability Mechanism in the Context of Global Climate Governance" arXiv (Cornell University) (2025).



avenues of holding corporations and states to account on their part of climate change. The developing legal environment in the world, which is more litigious on climate matters, also underscores the need to have stronger and enforceable accountability systems. Further studies ought to be made on how to come up with holistic international schemes that help in streamlining climate-related corporate due diligence duty and strengthen cross-border enforcement in response to changing geopolitical and economic circumstances to continue the oftentimes forward-moving process. This involves inquiring how different forms of accountability, including those of the soft law such as SDGs or more forceful international conventions and nationally-focused legislative measures, can be used to trigger a globally just and environmentally sustainable economic transition. There must also be empirical research to evaluate the effectiveness of corporate climate commitments, the difference between voluntary efforts and efforts required by some set of rules creating hard law, or ambitious norms, to help understand which methods can actually lower emissions and can create accountability. The study of the effects of environmental due diligence on value chain structures and environmental management is an area that should be investigated further. Also, the impacts of application and process of current accountability standards have not been well comprehended and thus require further investigation on the effectiveness and validity of the standards. In addition, studies on how to incorporate design, input and output accountability structures into the corporate reporting mechanisms are important to meet the loopholes constantly addressed and to increase the ability of due diligence systems to monitor. There is the essential analysis of the transparency regulation and legal pathways implementation dynamics in various settings and industries, their complex relationships as well. Lastly, future scholarship must confront the current ideological and structural paradigms, which facilitate business abuse of human rights, and not just encourage businesses to respect human rights under the current paradigms. Elaborating this, a deep treatment of how the establishment of corporate planning can redefine organizational purpose within planetary limits, which may supplement current due diligence models, is a likely area of academic research in the future. In particular, the combination of the risk management systems with that of sustainability management system in the decision-making process in corporations together with the role of the Green Human Resource Management practices are quite untapped spheres needing more theoretical and empirical exploration.