

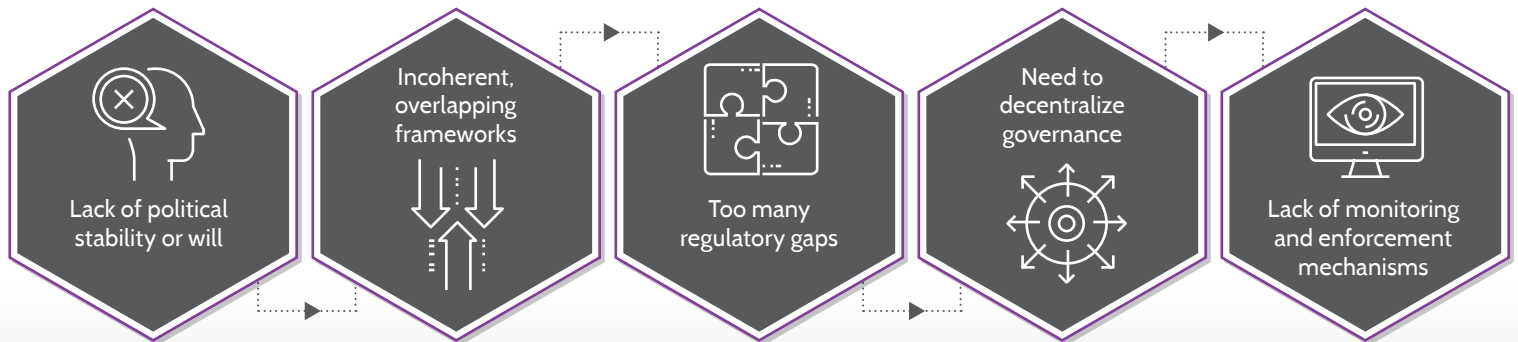
A NEW WAY OF LAW MAKING

Building legal preparedness for more effective responses for sustainable development

Lack of focus on law, justice and empowerment was a missed opportunity in the MDGs framework. With new global development goals converging in the integrated 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is time to rethink the way we design laws to achieve transformational change.

CHALLENGES AHEAD

Current legal frameworks are proving inadequate to meet the ambitions of the new global agenda, due to:



BUILDING 'LEGAL PREPAREDNESS' IS THE WAY FORWARD

IT'S MOVING BEYOND ...

... AND INSTEAD COMMITTING TO

✘ Siloed laws aimed at single problems

✔ Crosscutting legal vision

✘ Reliance on short-term legal expertise

✔ Building capacity of national lawyers

✘ Laws copying international treaties

✔ Laws adapted to local realities

✘ Hasty legal reforms

✔ Inclusive law making

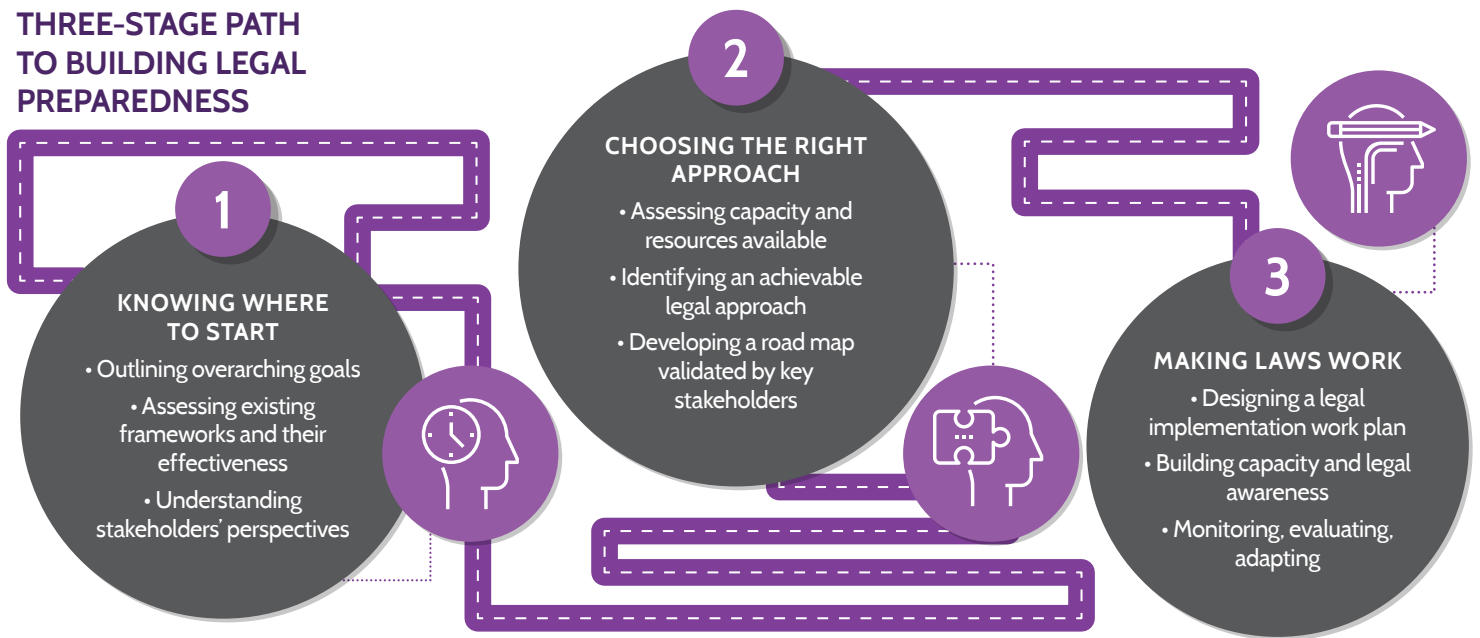
✘ Seeing laws as technical solutions

✔ Building political leadership

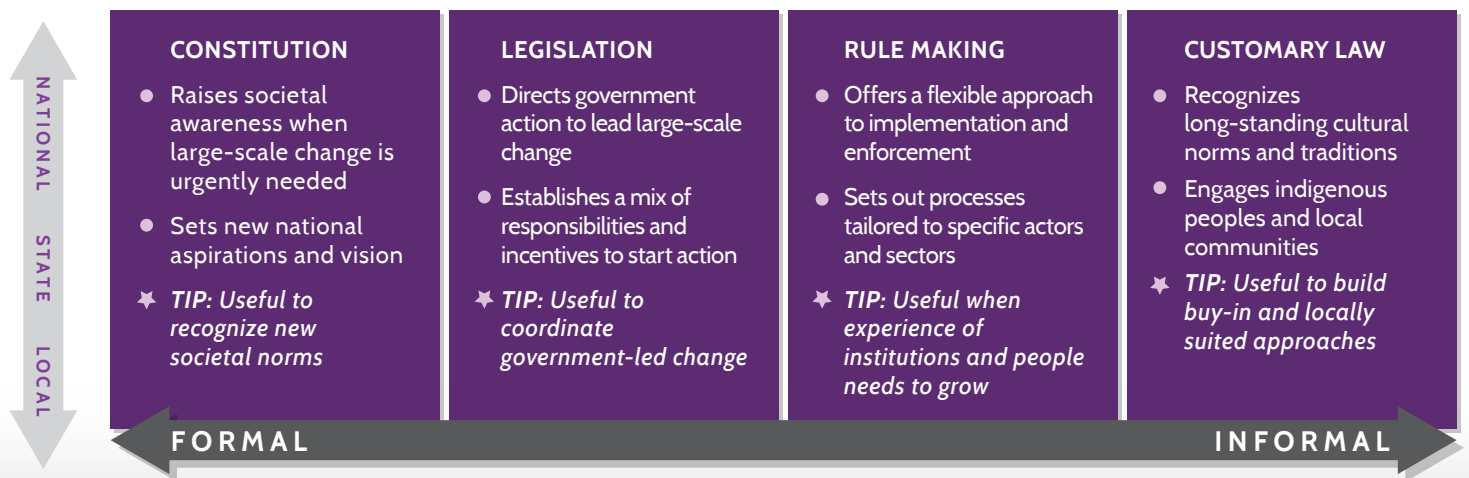
✘ Short-term focus on legal drafting

✔ Adaptive long-term legal reforms

THREE-STAGE PATH TO BUILDING LEGAL PREPAREDNESS



SELECTING THE RIGHT LEGAL APPROACH



A STORY OF LEGAL EVOLUTION

2008: A conflict led to a culture of distrust between the Argentinian government and actors within the agricultural sector. It highlighted a need to create a shared vision for the future of the whole agricultural sector, with the contribution of all involved actors.

The Argentinian Government embarked on a participatory process to shape this vision. More than 500 meetings with 7,000 people were held, with views collected from agricultural producers, scientists, farmworkers, industry groups, academics, international agencies, agriculture schools and small-scale farmers.

2009: As a result, a 10-year Strategic Plan for Agrofood and Agrobusiness was developed (*Plan Estratégico Agroalimentario y Agroindustrial Participativo y Federal 2010-2020.*) It called for a transformative shift away from producing primary products to an emphasis on adding value at source, for better jobs, sustainability and food security.

2014: A law (*Ley VIII N° 68 - Ley de Fomento a la Producción Agroecológica*) gave legal grounding to the concept of 'agro-ecological production', solidifying the integration of the environmental and agriculture sectors.

An innovative aspect of the 2014 law was to create a participative certification system, aimed at complementing the more traditional and centralized certification system for organic produce in place since 2001. It recognizes the role of farmers as local resource managers – engaging them as actors for both agriculture and biodiversity.

Read next about how the rule of law can help to achieve sustainable development.