



## Edward and Bonnie Foreman Biodiversity Lecture Series

Tuesday,  
February 24,  
2026  
12:00-1:00  
p.m.  
Great Hall

# The Role of Multilateral Development Banks in Supporting The Implementation of International Water Law and Sustainable Water Resources Development



Multilateral development banks shape environmental governance by embedding environmental and social standards into development planning, financing, and implementation. Through lending policies, safeguards, and technical assistance, they advance international environmental norms and support sustainable, climate-resilient development. This lecture examines how these roles play out in the water sector, with a focus on the implementation of international water law through operational policies and environmental standards.



Dr. Christina Leb is Lead Water Specialist in the World Bank Group's Global Water Department, specializing in transboundary water governance. She previously served as Senior Counsel in the Environment and International Law Department and as Program Manager of the Central Asia Water Energy Program. Before joining the World Bank, she worked at the University of Geneva Faculty of Law. Dr. Leb is a Fellow of the Platform for International Water Law at the University of Geneva and an Affiliate Member of the International Water Law Academy at Wuhan University. She will be speaking in her personal capacity.



Lunch will be served for registered attendees  
Register below or scan the QR code  
<https://forms.office.com/r/PpaBXy35Pz>