

## 15. Summary Table

Feature	Brazil	Russia	India	China	South Africa
<b>Legal Framework</b>	National Environmental Policy Act; CONAMA Resolutions; Emphasis on state and municipal regulations. Law No. 15,190/2025	<i>Federal Law "On Environmental Protection" (No. 7-FZ, 2002)</i>	Environment Protection Act of 1986; EIA Notification of 2006; Balancing Development and Ecological Sustainability	Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China; Ecological and Environmental Code; Regulations by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE).	National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) of 1998; EIA Regulations; Promotion of sustainable development and stakeholder consideration of impacts.
<b>Licensing Stages</b>	3 stages (Preliminary, Installation, Operation). Consolidated (phases) or one-stage license, and Simplified licenses for lower-impact projects.	2 stages: (1) preparation and submission of project documentation with EIA results and baseline studies; (2) State Environmental Expertise (SEE) review and subsequent permitting. For Category I facilities, an additional stage involves obtaining an Integrated Environmental Permit (IEP) that consolidates all environmental permissions and	Two stages (Environmental Clearance and Consent).	3 stages (Planning, Construction, Operation).	2 stages (Environmental Authorization, Management Plan).

		technological standards.			
<b>EIA Requirement</b>	Mandatory for large projects.	Mandatory for significant impacts.	Mandatory for major projects.	Mandatory for all major projects.	Mandatory for significant impacts.
<b>Focus Areas</b>	Biodiversity, deforestation	Industrial pollution, waste management, water use, and biodiversity protection.	Air/water pollution, forest conservation.	Air quality, carbon neutrality.	Biodiversity, sustainable development.
<b>Public Participation</b>	Mandatory hearings/consultations; Environmental Councils at municipal and state levels. Quality of hearings variable.	Public consultations are legally required at the EIA stage and must occur before SEE approval. Online participation is allowed. Effectiveness remains limited due to bureaucratic and technical barriers, but is improving through reforms aimed at increasing transparency and digital access under the 2025 environmental strategy.	Mandatory hearings for Category A projects; the Process is often criticized as procedural rather than substantive.	Increasingly encouraged; Effectiveness evolving; Lacks legal safeguards and mechanisms for redress.	Strong emphasis on consultations.
<b>Enforcement</b>	Fines, license suspensions, criminal charges; IBAMA is the key enforcer. Limited resources and the vastness of the area pose challenges for enforcement.	Administrative fines, activity suspensions, criminal liability; Rosprirodnadzor is the key enforcer; Enforcement weakened by resource limitations.	Fines, closure of polluting industries, and imprisonment; CPCB/SPCBs and NGT are key enforcers; enforcement is inconsistent.	Fines, factory closures, and criminal charges; MEE has broad powers; enforcement is stricter in urban areas.	Fines, compliance notices, criminal charges; DFFE manages enforcement. Limited resources, illegal activities, and governance issues hinder enforcement.
<b>License Type &amp;</b>	Three-stage licenses	Permits and approvals	Environmental Clearance	Environmental Impact	Environmental Authorization

<b>Validity</b>	(Preliminary, Installation, Operation).	related to specific environmental aspects (air emissions, etc.).	(EC).	Assessment (EIA) approvals and Pollutant Discharge Permits.	(EA).
<b>License Type &amp; Validity: Validity Periods</b>	Determined by the environmental agency and the project's characteristics, varying depending on the license type	Vary by type of permit and activity, generally in the range of 1–5 years for emissions/waste; 10–25 years for subsoil and water use, or 7 years (Category I enterprises with IEP)	Generally valid for a specified period, usually 5-7 years (mining) or 7-10 years (infrastructure)	EIA approvals linked to construction permit validity; Pollutant Discharge Permits typically 3-5 years	Usually valid for a specified period, often 5-10 years, depending on the nature of the activity
<b>Key Authorities</b>	IBAMA (federal), state, and municipal environmental agencies, as well as CONAMA.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Minprirody) – policy and regulation; Rosprirodnadzor – enforcement and IEP issuance; Minpromtorg – BAT and technological review; Rospotrebnadzor, Rosvodresursy, and Rosrybolovstvo – sectoral expertise for discharges and water/biological impacts.	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC); State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs).	Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE); Local Environmental Protection Bureaus (EPBs).	DFFE Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE); Provincial Departments of Environmental Affairs.
<b>Legal Challenges</b>	Frequent lawsuits alleging procedural flaws and inadequate EIA. High level of judicial	Environmental decisions can be appealed through administrative or civil courts; however,	Frequent challenges in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Supreme Court; Allegations of	Legal challenges are increasing, but are limited by restrictions on civil society and	Subject to judicial review; Challenges based on procedural irregularities or violations of constitutional rights.

	activism.	cases are infrequent due to the procedural complexity and economic pressures. Judicial review exists, but is limited in practice.	violations, inadequate consultation.	the influence of local governments	
<b>Access to Information</b>	The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) serves as the central document; Access is facilitated through public hearings and government websites; Effectiveness depends on proactive disclosure.	Constitutional and environmental laws guarantee the right; however, implementation is limited by bureaucratic hurdles and secrecy, although the 2025 reforms expanded online registries and public access systems.	Notable progress in providing online access; Challenges in ensuring information is searchable, understandable, and accessible, particularly in remote areas.	Access is gradually improving; Driven by public awareness and pressure, Access remains uneven and challenging for sensitive projects.	Legislation strongly emphasizes public access; however, challenges arise in ensuring that information is accessible to all citizens, particularly those who are not proficient in English or live in remote areas.