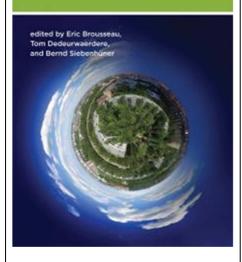
Reflexive Governance for Global Public Goods



Hardcover | ISBN: 9780262017244 | 376 pp. | 6 x 9 in | 8 figures | April 2012

Paperback | ISBN: 9780262516983 | 376 pp. | 6 x 9 in | 8 figures | April 2012

Reflexive Governance For Global Public Goods

Edited by Eric Brousseau, Tom Dedeurwaerdere and Bernd Siebenhüner

Overview

Global public goods (GPGs)--the economic term for a broad range of goods and services that benefit everyone, including stable climate, public health, and economic security--pose notable governance challenges. At the national level, public goods are often provided by government, but at the global level there is no established state-like entity to take charge of their provision. The complex nature of many GPGs poses additional problems of coordination, knowledge generation and the formation of citizen preferences. This book considers traditional public economy theory of public goods provision as oversimplified, because it is state centered and fiscally focused. It develops a multidisciplinary look at the challenges of understanding and designing appropriate governance regimes for different types of goods in such areas as the environment, food security, and development assistance.

The chapter authors, all leading scholars in the field, explore the misalignment between existing GPG policies and actors' incentives and understandings. They analyze the complex impact of incentives, the involvement of stakeholders in collective decision making, and the specific coordination needed for the generation of knowledge. The book shows that governance of GPGs must be democratic, reflexive--emphasizing collective learning processes--and knowledge based in order to be effective.

Politics, Science, and the Environment

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The MIT Press Cambridge, Massachusetts London, England

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MIT Press books may be purchased at special quantity discounts for business or sales promotional use. For information, please email special_sales@mitpress.mit.edu or write to Special Sales Department, The MIT Press, 55 Hayward Street, Cambridge, MA 02142.

This book was set in Sabon by Toppan Best-set Premedia Limited. Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Reflexive governance for global public goods / edited by Eric Brousseau, Tom Dedeurwaerdere, and Bernd Siebenhüner.

p. cm.—(Politics, science, and the environment)
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 978-0-262-01724-4 (hardcover : alk. paper)—ISBN 978-0-262-51698-3 (pbk. : alk. paper) 1. Public interest—International cooperation. 2. Common good—International cooperation. 3. Public interest—Environmental aspects. 4. Common good—Environmental aspects. 5. Public interest—Economic aspects. 6. Common good—Economic aspects. 7. Environmental protection—International cooperation.
8. Sustainable development—International cooperation. I. Brousseau, Eric.
II. Dedeurwaerdere, Tom. III. Siebenhüner, Bernd.
JC330.15.R45 2012

2011038145

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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