

Conclusions

The complexity of environmental challenges is growing. Many solutions, which were in use for decades, appear to be simplistic panaceas that do not work anymore. In order to address the emerging challenges, they need to be replaced with new ones, which would support the context-sensitive governance of the new environmental reality. Higher education plays a pivotal role in the transformation of management and policy paradigms. Environmental graduates entering the world of profession shall be expected to act under high uncertainty or even no sufficient knowledge available, to be capable to keep their options open, to be inclusive as regards sources of knowledge and stakeholder recognition, and to be aware of multiple management options and approaches. This was also the guiding assumption for the development of this textbook that offers an introduction to environmental policies and their European context, an overview of the methods and principles of environmental policies relevant for management actions, and examples from different sectors and environmental contexts.