Acknowledgements

This book would have been impossible without the generous support from a number of organizations, funders and colleagues all over the world. I’m indebted to the Resilience Alliance, the Earth System Governance Project, the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, and Stockholm Resilience Centre in particular, for their continuous efforts to provide arenas where scholars from different scientific disciplines meet and explore critical global sustainability challenges. Support from the Swedish Futura Foundation has been critical for the realization of this book – thank you for allowing me to bring all those messy ideas and mini-projects into one (hopefully) coherent book.

A number of colleagues have also contributed with important input as co-authors over the years. I would especially like to thank Andreas Duit, Beatrice Crona, Frank Biermann, Albert Norström, Henrik Österblom, Per Olsson, Örjan Bodin, Johan Gars, and Björn Nyqvist. Many of the chapters have been improved thanks to the much-needed comments on early chapter drafts provided by Melissa Leach, Will Steffen, Michael Schoon, Ralph Bodle, Larry Madoff, Stephan Barthel, Lennart J. Lundqvist, Gunilla Reischl, Rak Kim, Anne-Sophie Crépin, Maja Schlüter, Juan Carlos Rocha, Emilie Lindkvist, Jerker Thorsell, Jorge Laguna-Celis, and Manjana Milkoreit.

A number of people from international organizations (such as the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization), non-governmental actors (such as Médecins Sans Frontières), and governmental bodies (such as the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) have contributed with their valuable time in interviews. I can’t mention them all here, but their help should be recognized.

I would like to mention a number of colleagues who have provided invaluable inspiration, and pushed me towards steep learning curves over the years. Will Steffen opened my eyes to the Anthropocene challenge in an evening lecture many years ago, and drastically changed the trajectory of my research plans as a young political scientist. Elinor Ostrom, Carl Folke, Johan Rockström, Thomas Homer-Dixon, Per Olsson, Frank Biermann and Frances Westley have been critical as sources of intellectual inspiration over the years. Per Olsson has also, as a close friend
and colleague, made my life as a scientist considerably more fun that it
normally would be. Carl Folke – I wouldn’t be the sort of multidiscipli-
nary scientist and optimist I am today without his energetic support and
leadership over the years at both CTM and the Resilience Centre. The
‘Wolfpack’ (you know who you are), and the brilliant DJs, artists and
musicians at SoundCloud.com have constantly injected me with positive
energy, and made the last writing year (almost) a pleasure.

Fredrik Moberg at Albaeco and the Stockholm Resilience Centre
deserves a special mention here. Fredrik has continuously read, reviewed,
and commented on all chapters in this book. His help and always positive
support as a friend, colleague and co-author has been truly invaluable
throughout the whole writing process. And to my beautiful wife Karin
Wettre – thank you so much for putting up with my travels, late writing
evenings, and occasional mood swings during the last critical month.
This book would never have existed without your love and unconditional
support.