Biographical information

Dr Jeroen van der Heijden (1977) is Assistant Professor of Environmental Governance. He received an MSc in Architecture (high distinction equivalent) in 2002 and a PhD in Public Policy (highest honours) in 2009, both from the Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands. He currently holds positions at the Australian National University, Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet) and the University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Law School.

He has spent time teaching and researching at the above mentioned universities as well as at the University of Washington (United States), the University of Oxford (United Kingdom), the Sri Venkateswara University (India), the London School of Economics (United Kingdom), the University of East Anglia (United Kingdom) and the Queensland University of Technology (Australia).

Dr van der Heijden's main research interest is in the theory and practice of environmental governance. His current research is driven by questions such as: How can we achieve sustainability without the force of law? Why are free markets often unable to achieve a meaningful improvement of environmental performance? Is collaboration between governments, businesses and civil society a fruitful approach to address environmental problems?

In particular, he seeks to understand why the often normative assumptions of new, collaborative and experimental forms of environmental governance are not realized in practice. His work is international comparative in nature, and often builds on medium-n case-studies including large numbers of interviewees.

Dr van der Heijden has a track record of outstanding publications. Since 2008 he has published over 25 articles in peer-reviewed journals, and another ten in policy and practitioners' journals. He has published four books, a series of book chapters, and a wide range of publications for a policy and practitioner audience. He maintains an urban sustainability and resilience blog on which he regularly discusses his research findings (urbansustainabilityresilience.wordpress.com).

Before pursuing his PhD he worked for a number of years at a building consultancy firm. Here he advised city governments on the implementation of building regulation, and supported property developers and

property owners in building projects. In 2012 he was awarded a prestigious VENI early career researcher's grant from the Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (€250 000 – awarded to the top 10 per cent of grant applicants); the grant has allowed him, among others, to write the current book.

Dr van der Heijden is a citizen of the Netherlands and currently lives in Australia. He enjoys exploring the Australian bush, photographing Australia's big skies and gum-trees during the golden hours, and being overwhelmed time and again by the vast openness of this astonishing continent.