

Preface

The idea for this book stemmed from two activities: a European research project and an international scientific conference. The research project 'GoFOR – New Modes of Governance for Sustainable Forestry in Europe' was funded under the 6th European Union (EU) Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development and was coordinated by the editors at InFER, the Institute of Forest, Environmental and Natural Resource Policy at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna. This common research effort brought together researchers from ten European countries to assess evolving practices of new modes of governance in environmental and natural resource policies. Approximately half of the contributors of this book participated in the research project.

The initiative gained further momentum at the '15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management' where the editors organized three sessions on evaluating the evolving practices in participation, policy coordination and scientific policy advice in environmental governance. Selected authors were invited to these sessions; they provided fresh input to the common field of interest and complemented the list of contributors.

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