

## EMERGING GOVERNANCE OF A GREEN ECONOMY

The idea of building an economy, which supports sustainable development without degrading the environment has been widely debated and broadly embraced by politicians, civil servants, the media, academics and the public alike for several decades. This book explores the measures being trialled at various levels of governance in the European region to reduce the adverse impacts of human behaviour on the environment whilst simultaneously addressing society's economic and social needs as part of the intended shift towards a 'green' economy. It includes European case studies that scrutinise the efforts being undertaken at subnational, national and regional tiers of governance to facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy. This book will be of interest to graduate students, researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers working in environmental governance, European studies, environmental studies, political science and management studies.

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# EMERGING GOVERNANCE OF A GREEN ECONOMY

Cases of European Implementation

Edited by

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## Preface

This edited volume has had a long gestation period. The contributions assembled represent the culmination of more than a dozen years of collaborative research work undertaken by a community of scholars. Some of the origins of the book can be traced back to the work of two consecutive research groups funded by the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES). The first was established in 2006, operated for two years, and focused on ‘European Union (EU) Environmental Policy’. The second commenced its work in 2009 and ran for three years, focusing on the ‘Governance of Sustainability in the EU’. Typically, during the life of the UACES-funded research groups, a series of workshops (normally three during the funded period) would be held at which original research work would be presented and debated by scholars and practitioners. Ideas relating to the topic of greening an economy were then further developed through an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)-funded seminar series, entitled ‘Constructing the Green Economy: Integrating Sustainability for Governance’, that operated during 2013–2014. The ESRC-funded seminar series comprised four workshops held over a two-year period, in London, in Bradford and in Norwich (at the University of East Anglia). Building on that earlier work, the debate was then continued via a subsequent Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS)-funded two-day workshop held at the University of East Anglia’s Norwich Business School in July 2015. Finally, the contents of the edited book were further refined, shaped and decided at another UACES-funded event held at the University of East Anglia’s business school in July 2019. Most importantly, all the contributors present at the final UACES-funded workshop in 2019 were specifically invited to participate because of their proven track records and acknowledged expertise in the chosen field of the ‘green economy’, established over the course of several years. As a result, the chapters gathered in this edited book represent the best of the papers from more than a decade of research work.

Crucially, continuity for the work was provided by the presence of one lead academic, who co-convened all of the various research groups and workshops mentioned above, usually in harness with an evolving but overlapping community of collaborators. Additionally, further important links were formed and strengthened through the participation of a number of scholars and practitioners who were involved in (all or more than one of) the events. These contributors helped to build, shape and maintain the threads and themes of the emerging debate. In effect, the development of this edited volume took the form of a sustained discussion over the course of several years. It is also worth highlighting that the various events and partnerships mentioned above brought together a variety of participants, ranging from established, eminent academics and leading practitioners to PhD students and early career researchers. Significantly, the workshops and seminars drew on inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches, combining concepts and approaches from a range of disciplines such as political science, geography, economics, environmental studies and law and management studies. In sum, an army of academics, practitioners and support staff were mobilised to see this project through to completion.

Our thanks go to the many participants of the UACES-funded workshops and conferences over the past decade and a half, the ESRC seminars, and the SAMS workshop. It is these participants along with the key staff at Cambridge University Press, namely Emma Kiddle and Sarah Lambert, who have made such a major contribution to the volume. We are deeply in your debt. We thank everyone for their commitment, patience and stamina in seeing this work through to publication.

## Book Synopsis

This edited volume represents part of the collective research output of an established group of scholars, based on the work they have undertaken during the past dozen or more years. The book begins with an introductory chapter that sets out the research agenda, closes with a chapter that responds to the core research questions that underpin the scholarship, and sandwiched in between, provides eight case studies. All of the case study chapters are directly concerned with the processes of ‘greening’ of the European economy, analysed through the lens of governance or multi-level governance (MLG). They furnish examples of the ways in which the idea of a ‘green economy’ can be understood and is (or can be) enacted in the real world. It is against this background, of the real-world events and debates, that this edited volume reflects on what it means to speak of a ‘green economy’ in a European context. As a collection, the book also contemplates the actions that may be required (or should or must be taken) to implement ‘green’ ideas and considers which actors can and need to act (or interact) in realising such a green economy. Various case studies contained in the volume also offer an evaluation of various green policies advocated in Europe and the measures that have been taken in bringing about (or not) a shift towards a green European economy.

Our overriding ambition in assembling this volume is to provoke further, informed debate about constituting a green economy, pose important questions about how such an economy could or should be realised in practice and offer some potential answers or solutions to the problems surrounding the realisation of a green European economy.

**Jenny M. Fairbrass and Nicholas Vasilakos**

## Acknowledgements

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Abbreviations

ABPs	Associated British Ports
ACER	Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators
AGMA	Association of Greater Manchester Authorities
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
ATC	Average Total Cost
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
BIS	Bremerhavener Gesellschaft für Investitionsförderung
BRIC	Brazil-Russia-India-China
CC	Climate Change
CEC	Commission of the European Communities
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DG	Directorate General
DGECCSD	Department of Green Economy, Climate Change and Sustainable Development
EAPs	Environmental Action Programmes
EDP	Energias de Portugal
EEC	European Economic Community
EEG	Erneuerbare Energien Gesetz
EFSI	European Fund for Strategic Investment
EIB	European Investment Bank
EM	Ecological Modernisation
ENTSO-E	European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity
ESRC	Economic and Social Research Council
ETS	Emission Trading System
EU	European Union
FiT	Feed-in-Tariff

FoE	Friends of the Earth
GCs	Green Certificates
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GE	Green Economy
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GHG	Green House Gases
GND	Green New Deal
GVA	Gross Value Added
HECA	Home Energy Conservation Act
ICN	International Competition Network
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IWES	Institute for Wind Energy and Energy System Technology
K-ETS	Korea Emissions Trading Scheme
KW/H	Kilo Watt per Hour
LCGES	Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services
LDO	Local Development Order
LEPs	Local Enterprise Partnerships
MC	Marginal Cost
MEWF	Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests
MLG	Multi-level governance
MR	Marginal Revenue
NEF	New Economics Foundation
NEPUD	New Environmental Protection Politics
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OEMs	Original Equipment Manufacturers
OJEU	<i>Official Journal of the European Union</i>
OTB	Offshore Terminal Bremerhaven
OWE	Offshore Wind Energy
PCGG	Presidential Committee on Green Growth
R & D	Research and Development
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
RWEA	Romanian Wind Energy Association
SAMS	Society of Advanced Management Studies
SAP	Standard Assessment Procedure
SBI	Social Business Initiative
SCC	Social Cost of Carbon
SD	Sustainable Development
SDCs	Sustainable Development Cities

*List of Abbreviations* xvii

SDS	Sustainable Development Strategy
SPD	Social Democratic Party
UACES	University Association of Contemporary European Studies
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNDESA	United Nations’ Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
WAB	Wind Energy Agency Bremerhaven/Bremen
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development