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Final report, Best Practice Project 2023:
Landscape Governance Compendium

Background

Within the many educational programs at LAPF, the Landscape Governance and Management Theme Group (LGM) plays a central role at both BSc, MSc and PhD level. Management is gradually becoming integrated in many individual courses at various landscape related programs, and is central within the newly developed cross-faculty, international BSc program Forest & Landscape. Likewise, specific development of Governance courses is taking place within the Forest & Landscape program, but is far from limited to that, as many courses across many programs gradually are including governance aspects such as participation, user engagement, method development etc.

LGM has initiated and now run two specific governance courses in the Forest & Landscape program. Both courses align with the current SLU Strategy in which sustainability is highlighted as core. Further, the new degree program is in line with the current LTV strategy emphasizing the need for degree programs attracting highly qualified students with diverse backgrounds, as well as the increased need for scientifically based knowledge integrated in our educational activities. The Forest & Landscape BSc program has proven that SLU can create an attractive cooperative partnership across faculties, and within the LTV faculty, also across departments (LAPF and IMS). As a new driving force, the program has already experienced a high attraction, and has recruited qualified international students to meet the needs of a future sustainable society. The two courses are specific examples of courses that include all sustainability perspectives, in governing and managing forests and landscapes, including socio-economic as well as spatial-biological and cultural perspectives.

Strategic idea behind the project

The two courses, Forest & Landscape Governance and Forest & Landscape Analysis, are linked in terms of contents and progression, but there is a need for identifying relevant literature. Therefore, in the Best Practice project, we have developed a 'Governance compendium', consisting of relevant English literature, introducing terms and concepts on a BSc level to be used in the F&L program, but also to be used in other landscape-related programs within SLU Landscape.

Methodological approach

During 2023, we held a number of workshops to discuss and create a baseline list of terms, concepts and principles already presented in the courses. From there, we defined categories of terms and related search strings to be used in Scopus. Three overall categories were created and within these,

seven different search groups occurred, each with a specific search string, hence twenty-one search strings in total.

Searches were limited to 10 years, spanning 2014-2023. The articles were sorted by relevance, and the 10 first articles in each search string were reviewed to identify and discuss the latest research within the fields of forest and landscape governance and management. In addition to the searches for contemporary literature, we have added our own knowledge and experience to identify papers, but not at least textbooks, which we felt, have been central to define the included terms, concepts and principles.

Based on the compilation of literature, we developed a content list (see Box 1) for the compendium, and briefly defined and described each concept is as we will define and use the terms in the courses.

Box 2 provides two examples of how each section of the compendium describes each concept, followed by the key literature that will be used in the courses.

Conclusions

The development of these texts have been very useful for developing and enlarging our own understanding of the terms, but also to produce a unified approach to how we teach and use the terms.

We believe the lists of key-literature; will be useful for the students too, and it is a practical way for the to be presented with and grasp the key literature. For the final version of Compendium, we will add DOI for all texts.

We are currently at the final stage of the project, which includes thoroughly editing all text, and peer review from our colleagues. Our aim is to be able to provide this Compendium already to the students in this year's courses, during the autumn term. We also aim to share our experiences within the department, and possibly also across the Faculty. By doing so, we expect to perform annual or bi-annual updates of the Compendium, to constantly update the descriptions, but also add new terms and concepts as other courses within the Forests & Landscape program, or in other landscape courses taught at the Faculty, join the development and use of the Compendium.

Compendium Contents

Foreword
Our approach
1. Analysis of Forested Landscapes
1.1. Landscape
1.2. Landscape Analysis
1.2. Landscape Ecology
1.3. Landscape dynamics
1.4. Multifunctionality
1.5. Landscape Character Assessment
1.6. Historical Landscape Analysis
1.7. Lands Use Analysis
1.8. The Urban Matrix
1.9. Green Infrastructure
2. Social Characteristics of Forested Landscapes
2.1. Landscape Actors: Stakeholders and users.
2.2. Human Uses of Forested Landscapes
2.3. User Perceptions and Values
2.4. Participation, Engagement and Inclusion.
2.5. Stakeholder Analysis
3. Management of Forested Landscapes
3.1. Landscape Management and Maintenance
3.2. Urban Green Space Management
3.3. Strategic Management
3.4. Adaptive Management
3.5. Urban Forestry
4. Governance of Forested Landscapes
4.1. Governance
4.2. Organisational Structures
4.3. Governance Paradigms
4.3.1. The Bureaucracy Paradigm
4.3.2. Professional Rule Paradigm
4.3.3. New Public Management
4.3.4. New Public Governance
4.3.5. Scientific Forestry Paradigm
4.3.6. Community-based Forestry Paradigm
4.4. Global Environmental Governance
4.5. Governance in the Global South
4.7. Swedish Nature Conservation
4.8. Governance Analytical Frameworks
4.8.1. The Policy Arrangement Model
4.8.2. The Decentralization Framework
4.8.3. Mosaic Governance
4.8.4. The Inquiry-based Governance Framework
4.8.5 Good governance
5. Other concepts
5.1. Sustainability
5.2. Ecosystem services
5.3. Nature-based Solutions
5.4. Environmental Justice
5.5. Social Ecological Technological Systems
5.6 Nature-based Thinking
5.7. Resilience
5.8. Wicked problems
6. Additional literature

Box 1 Compendium contents list

2.1. Landscape Actors: Stakeholders and users.

Forested landscapes are significantly shaped by human activities, with a diverse array of actors that hold different interests and relations to the landscape. Actors relations to a specific landscape depend on the historical, social, and political constitution of the powers of each actor, which may be based on ideology, wealth, heredity, election, appointment or other means. Actors may also be differentiated from each other by their beliefs and objectives, internal structure of their organization, membership, funding sources and the laws to which they are subject (Agrawal & Ribot, 1999). Landscape actors are, sometimes denoted as users or stakeholders, the two terms are closely related, but hold slightly different meanings.

Stakeholders are defined as those individuals, groups, or organizations, which have a vested interest or concern in a certain issue, area or theme (Reed et al, 2009). A forest and landscape stakeholder will usually have a specific interest, e.g. being affected by activities and regulations in the management, development, preservation, or use of a specific forest or landscape (Bryson, 2004). The different stakeholder's interests influence the landscapes' character and functioning. These interests often include the ecological, social, cultural, economic, or recreational aspects of a particular forest or landscape. Landscape Stakeholders may include, but are not limited to, local governments, residents' associations, care and utility companies, property owners, recreational groups and conservationists (Persson et al., 2020).

Users are defined as a specific subset of the public, including individuals or groups regularly or potentially interacting with a particular space (Fors et al., 2020). Users are categorized into 'communities of location' (geographically linked groups) and 'communities of interest' (groups connected by shared interests), (Seyfang & Smith, 2007; Fors et al., 2020). While there are overlaps with the term "stakeholders," being a user does not automatically make someone a stakeholder; it only occurs when they have a specific stake in the landscape. Moreover, in urban open spaces, different user groups have been described (Jansson et al., 2020), the most common being: Young children and their families, Children in schools and preschools, The elderly and people in need of care, People with disabilities and Ethnic minorities and immigrants.

Key literature:

- Agrawal, A. & Ribot, J. (1999) Accountability in Decentralization: A Framework with South Asian and West African Cases. The Journal of Developing Areas 33(4):473-502
- Persson et al., (2020) Organisations related to urban open spaces. In Jansson, M., & Randrup, T. B. (Eds.). (2020). *Urban open space governance and management.* Routledge.
- Bryson, J. (2004) What to do when Stakeholders matter. Public Management Review, 6(1), 21-53, DOI:10.1080/14719030410001675722
- Reed, M. S., Graves, A., Dandy, N., Posthumus, H., Hubacek, K., Morris, J., ... & Stringer, L. C. (2009). Who's in and why? A typology of stakeholder analysis methods for natural resource management. Journal of environmental management, 90(5), 1933-1949.
- Jansson et al., (2020) User-oriented urban open space governance and management. In Jansson, M., & Randrup, T. B. (Eds.). (2020). In *Urban Open Space Governance and Management* (pp. 68-92). Routledge.
- Fors, H., Ambrose-Oji, B., Van den Bosch, C. K., Mellqvist, H., & Jansson, M. (2020). Participation in urban open space governance and management. In Jansson, M., & Randrup, T. B. (Eds.). (2020). In *Urban Open Space Governance and Management* (pp. 112-128). Routledge.

4.1. Governance

Governance as a concept has been defined as "*the many ways in which public and private actors from the state, market and/or civil society govern public issues* [or commons] *at multiple scales, autonomously or in mutual interaction*" (Arts & Visseren-Hamakers, 2012). Governance is thus about organization and decision-making processes.

It is important is to recognize a governance 'situation' to be able to apply the tools and frameworks that we present in the next sections, whether to handle the situation or simply to understand it. In the literature, the concept of governance has been described and defined within very diverse perspectives, however in this compendium we will refer to two overall fields of study.

One is the understanding of governance from a management perspective, whether public i.e., a municipality; or private i.e., a non-government institution. Here governance is often seen as a trend, or a demand, to involve interested parties (stakeholders) for a range of different reasons (e.g. Gentin et al. 2022). Focus is often *how to* 'perform governance', which may include engagement, coordination, facilitation or conflict resolution.

Another field of study has more focus on *understanding* existing governance structures. While managers, planners or coordinators need tools that help facilitate governance, a thorough understanding of the underlying social aspects and dynamics of governance is necessary. These include Formalised as well as non-formalised rules which already lie beneath the governance of several public issues and commons (Felice and Vatiero 2012), some with long historical roots, and others emerging when needed. Here, a general objective is often to understand *why* governance structures has become what they are, and *how* they persist, adapt, evolve or dissolve (e.g. Lund and Rutt 2015). Mansourian et al. (2019) offer a systematic framework to identify, map out and contextualize governance problems and solutions.

Key literature

- Arts, B. & Visseren-Hamakers, I. (2012) Forest governance: a state of the art review. In B. Arts et al. (eds.), *Forest-people interfaces: Understanding community forestry and biocultural diversity*, Wageningen Academic Publishers. DOI 10.3920/978-90-8686-749-3_15
- Gentin, S.; Herslund, L.B.; Gulsrud, N.M. & Hunt, J.B. (2022) Mosaic governance in Denmark: a systematic investigation of green volunteers in nature management in Denmark. *Landscape Ecology*, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10980-022-01421-z
- Felice, F. & Vatiero, M. (2012) Elinor Ostrom and the Solution to the Tragedy of the Commons. American Enterprise Institute - AEI
- Lund, J.F. & Rutt, R.L. (2015) *The logic of professionalization in participatory forestry.* Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen. Policy Briefs (Copenhagen Centre for Development Research) No. 03/2015.
- Mansourian, S., G. Walters & E. Gonzales (2019) Identifying Governance Problems and Solutions for Forest Landscape Restoration in Protected Area Landscapes. *Parks.* Vol. 25.1, May.

Box 2 Examples of two compendium sections

Financial report

We were granted 180 000 SEK for this project, and have used the funds for salaries. Please see the enclosed economic statement from our department.