Development’; or perhaps the schemes discussed might have been shown in a starker light.

One issue in capacity development in practice was not clearly covered in this book: building on and benefiting from existing or initial capacities. When we do capacity development in practice we do not start from zero: there are some capacities and qualities already in existence and these may vary considerably from one case or party to another. Naturally, there will be common features also.

As the diversity of contributors is high, reading and benefiting from the book is not easy and not as anticipated. It is not immediately clear how to make capacity development more professional and increasingly effective in achieving development goals. While some chapters like Chapter 24 on becoming professional are descriptive and short, Chapter 2 on multiple actors is more analytical, and Chapter 9 more illustrative. Also subject coverage varies considerably from one chapter to another. Accordingly, the reader cannot consider the book either as a reference in the subject matter nor as an introduction to it. But, every effort can produce a worthy outcome.

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Environmental Management in Practice, edited by Elzbieta Broniewicz, InTech Publishers, Rijeka, Croatia, July 2011, pp. x + 448, downloaded free from http://www.intechweb.org/ (ISBN: 978 953 307358 3).

This book has 22 chapters arranged in three parts: environmental management at national and regional level; in industry; and then some technical aspects of environmental management. It is difficult to regard the book as uniting its three parts or elaborating the ideas in the title, because the 22 contributions are not well linked.

This book covers a limited part of environmental management; it does not cover the main environmental management issues faced in practice, that is, resource management, uses management, and issues of managing impacts. For example, the first part: (environmental management at the national and regional level) talks about climate change policies, sustainable management of muddy coastlines, community ecology and capacity, contaminated sites, etc., but it does not tackle the three main issues of environmental management.

There is no mention of legal or institutional aspects of environmental management. There is no reference to questions of effects on population. This is a great shortcoming. None of the three parts has an introduction at its start or a summary at its end. This makes the reader wonder about the aim and the outcome of the part itself and the findings of the book as a whole. Less than one page is devoted to the general introduction.

Parts two and three of the book are about environmental management in industry and technical aspects of environmental management. These mostly discuss the same matters, although emphasising some technical aspects of environmental management in industry such as statistical distribution of industrial waste, lengthening biolubricants’ lifetime, effects of paper recycling, and a technology roadmap for wastewater reuse in refineries. If the purpose of the book is environmental management in practice, it does not fulfil that purpose. Its analyses seem to be confined to the improvement of environmental management activities in industry.
It is interesting that the 22 chapters of the book were written by 54 different authors from 16 different countries in four continents. Accordingly, the titles of the 22 chapters of the book reflect this wide geographical distribution and diversity. But, you cannot find a logical link between the chapters of the book. It is a mixture of experiences and presentations; for example, the titles of Part 2 of the book on Environmental Management in Industry:

Chapter 9: Indicators of Sustainable Business Practices: This chapter examines whether or not firms are applying sustainable business practice based on the Triple Bottom Line (Environmental, economic, and social areas).

Chapter 10: Assessment of Industrial Pollution Load in Lagos, Nigeria by Industrial Pollution Projection System (IPPS) versus Effluent Analysis: This deals with estimated pollution loads of some industries in Lagos using IPPS pollution intensities with respect to employment and total output.

Chapter 11: Pollution Prevention in the Pulp and Paper Industries: This study discusses various pulp waste treatment technologies taking into consideration the production processes, raw materials and the regulations.

Chapter 12: Retrofit Approach for the Reduction of Water and Energy Consumption in Pulp and Paper Production Processes: This chapter introduces a general approach and does not detail specific reduction methods.

Chapter 13: An Application Model for Sustainability in the Construction Industry: This chapter pinpoints the roles of various stakeholders in the construction industry including the government, the trade unions, consumers, manufacturers, builders, installers, and distributors.

Chapter 14: Assessing the SMEs’ Competitive Strategies on the Impact of Environmental Factors: A Quantitative SWOT Analysis Application: This chapter concerns various methods for SWOT analysis such as AHP or ANP.

Chapter 15: Implementation of ISO 14000 in Luggage Manufacturing Industry: A Case Study.

With so many practical matters where theory should be related to understandable problems, it is regrettable that the editor has linked the diversity of topics so weakly. There is no overall pattern, no raising of big questions, no human dimension. Yet, strangely, each chapter by itself is an acceptable contribution.

Although the book is published by a Croatian company and a Polish editor, it does not touch on changes in environmental management happening in former Eastern Bloc countries. Yet there is much anecdotal evidence of mismanagement with continuing consequences in these countries, a matter of concern.

With all this diversity and poor linking of chapters, the audience of the book were not well identified. The book cannot be recommended as an environmental management reference, but it could mainly be useful for graduate research students.

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