

Johann

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## INSTITUTION

Berlin Institute of Technology  
(Germany)

## POSITION

Professor and head of the Environmental  
Assessment and Planning Research Group

## PRESENTATION

**Understanding the problem: wind  
energy and environmental problems.**

## ABSTRACT

With the 1992 Rio Earth Summit both the Biodiversity Convention and the Climate Change Convention, two paramount agreements were initiated. Certainly, the effort it would take to achieve both aspirations could not have been foreseen 25 years ago and are still pending in the 21st century. The contemporary 17 United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set tangible global goals and targets, including 'life on land' (SDG 15), 'life below water' (SDG 14), yet as well 'affordable and clean energy' (SDG 7) and 'climate action' (SDG 13).

Thus, staying in a 'safe operative space' (i.e. within the planetary boundaries), we have to extend renewable energy development substantially, triggering modifications in land - and seascapes. At the same time, designing the inevitable transformation of the energy sector as a complex system will not be an easy assignment, since many of the agents participating in these processes are still used to think and act in more or less sectoral ways. Yet, it is necessary to refer on regional landscapes and the relations between agents and sub-agents in 'socio-ecological systems' (SES), identifying the potentials of cooperation or even collaboration.

During this rapid development of wind energy aiming to combat climate change worldwide, there is greater need to avoid, reduce, and compensate for impacts on wildlife: Through the effective use of mitigation, wind energy can continue to expand while reducing impacts. Today's book launch is another pivotal step into discussing and understanding mitigation strategies collectively, identifying the current state of knowledge and be a beneficial resource for practitioners and conservationists. Further on, we need an ever improved understanding into the efficacy of wildlife mitigation.

Finally, considering the much higher density of installed wind energy capacities in small countries likewise Portugal and Germany makes it evident, why just researchers and practitioners from both countries might be predestinated to further cooperate and share and introduce the state of knowledge in emerging wind energy developing countries too – equipped with the recent and upcoming books with Springer publisher at hand (CWW 2015, Mascarenhas et al. 2017, CWW 2017).

### BOOK PRESENTATION



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