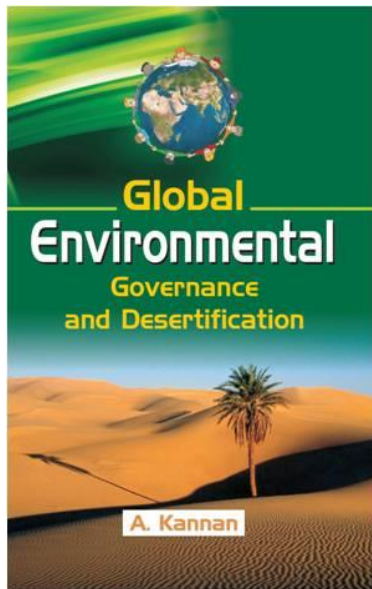


The proliferating 'global governance' literatures clearly indicate that global order exists in the form of governance rather than government in addressing the complex socio-economic problems. The author systematically argues that the failure of state-centred institutional regimes to address global problems successfully prompted a search for new institutions, partnerships, and governance mechanisms. The contemporary global order is more inclusive and is increasingly the outcome of multiple, interlocking patterns of transnational interaction shaped both by state and non-state actors.



Global Environmental Governance and Desertification: A Study of Gulf Cooperation Council Countries. Dr. A. Kannan, Concept Publishers, New Delhi, 2011, xxi+410 pp. Price: Rs.1200.

Since the governance mechanism is being used as an appropriate and suitable alternative to address all the contemporary socio-economic problems, the author focuses on environmental issues within the context of "Global Environmental Governance (GEG)." Global environmental problems are increasingly becoming complex and dynamic. Environmental problems experienced at any given political

level frequently have their origins at locations other than where their impact is most acutely felt. Interestingly among different environmental problems, the author chooses desertification which has larger implication for sustainable development of many developing and under developed countries in the world.

This book which consists of seven chapters explores on how the issues of desertification came under the framework of GEG. It extensively analyses the global communities' efforts to combat desertification including the adoption of UN Convention on Desertification. The author selects the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries as case study to assess the role of governments in addressing the issue of desertification within the framework of UN Convention on Desertification. The GCC countries are located in one of the most arid regions in the world.

Most importantly this book discusses not only the implementation aspects of international convention undertaken by the national governments but also their compliance. There are very limited studies on the compliance aspects especially in environmental field.

The author has taken painstaking efforts in gathering information to justify the compliance aspects. However this book fails to discuss in details the link between desertification and climate change as well as relation with food security. Similarly the author should have used the indicators applied by the UNEP in analyzing the governments' efforts instead of relying on UNCCD secretariat indicators. UNEP's methodology is being considered as most suitable.

Overall this piece of work is an important contribution in the academic field especially in the area of environmental governance.

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