

Special Issue

The Future of Nature: Alternative Approaches to Sustainable Development

Message from the Guest Editors

Academics and policymakers draw diverse views on what the future of nature and the natural world should look like. Discussion of what, if anything, should be done to protect and conserve the natural world has become a source of both academic discussion and policy debate. While there is consistent agreement that conservation is desirable, little agreement exists among policymakers about how to do so. In practice, the desire to conserve the natural world has manifested itself through proposed policy solutions that focus on the use of regulatory rules or improved social planning. A wide literature explores these solutions in some detail. In practice, however, these approaches face stiff resistance in policy implementation since they are often viewed as conflicting with goals to increase standards of living and economic development.

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