Overview

We held our kickoff meeting at 2 PM GMT on November 30th, 2021. Please see the included slides for context. Below we summarize:
- what to expect next
- the outcomes of discussions
- the answers to some questions raised during the meeting.

What to Expect Next

In January, you will receive:
- a notice and agenda for the next meeting
- a notice of your assigned editor (if you do not have one already)
- information about an online tool to manage the submission process
- a formal contributor agreement with Routledge (T&F)
- updates on our progress regarding open-access publishing, reduced book costs, and website development

Discussion: Format of Online Meetings

Here are some ideas shared for the online meetings:
- include breakout rooms to meet other contributors
- provide opportunities for people to share work in progress
- move the time +/- a few hours each time to share the burden of distant time zones

Please feel free to share other ideas with us via email.

Discussion: Resources

Here are some requested resources:
- a list of authors with one-sentence biographies (we will request these from you shortly)
- an online website with the latest resources (Dropbox prohibited for some users)

Please feel free to share other ideas with us via email.

Questions and Answers from Kickoff Meeting

What is the average length of the chapters in the book?

Conceptual chapters range from 3000-5000 words. Case study chapters are typically 7500 words. Your specific word count was included in your invitation email. If you are unsure of your word count, please contact us.

I'm concerned about overlap with another chapter – can you put me in touch with the authors of that chapter so we can coordinate?

Yes, please let us know if you are concerned about overlap. We will be happy to put authors in touch with one another and provide guidance on the distinctions we see between chapters.

Is it okay to use case studies in a conceptual chapter?

You are welcome to introduce case studies in a conceptual chapter if you believe it will help convey your message. Note that the short length of conceptual chapters may make it challenging to go into the particulars of a case in detail.

Regarding "scales" and "keys themes," – should each chapter discuss all of these?

You should only make connections to the scales and themes you feel are appropriate to your chapter – there is no need to make a connection to all scales and themes. If your advice is applicable to a particular scale or differs depending on the scale of application – those details are worth mentioning. The key themes are meant to provide cohesion in the book, but there is no need to "stretch" to include a key theme if it is not relevant.

Is there a chapter on Rivers' Rights?

No, there is not a chapter on rivers' rights.

Will the peer review be anonymous?

The peer-review will not be anonymous. The process is intended to be collaborative and constructive; it is not a scientific peer review. Other contributors to the handbook will review your work – one with similar expertise and one with different expertise. We will ask you to review a chapter from the book, but this is not an absolute requirement.

Who will own the copyrights of the chapters?

The copyright for the chapters is likely to be held by the publisher – we will verify this point.

Will any chapters be published with open access? Is there a plan to publish a low-cost edition for developing regions?

We are working with the publisher to publish some chapters open access and will inquire about low-cost editions of the book. We will update you on our progress at the next meeting.