

Sustainable Land Management – A New Approach for Implementation

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SUMMARY

So far, planning processes which are an important part of any sustainable land management are based on a system-oriented approach. System oriented approaches are, however, limited in capturing real phenomena. Unexpected influences and sudden changes are not included. Concerning land management, this means that unforeseen things which can be initiated by any decision during the planning phase cannot be regarded within the planning process. As sustainable development calls for a high degree of people's participation, many actors are included in the process and in its decision-making. The more people are included, the higher the degree of unpredictability.

Within this paper an attempt is made to overcome the limits of the existing planning theory based on systems oriented approaches. The main idea is to use elements of the chaos-theoretical approach to redefine and extend the elements of the well known system-oriented planning approach. It will be shown that by using a chaos-theoretical approach, improvements in sustainable (land) development can be achieved which mainly consist of a more sophisticated way of participation of all stakeholders.