



The Handbook of Environmental Policy Evaluation



Ann Crabbé and Pieter Leroy

The Handbook of Environmental Policy Evaluation

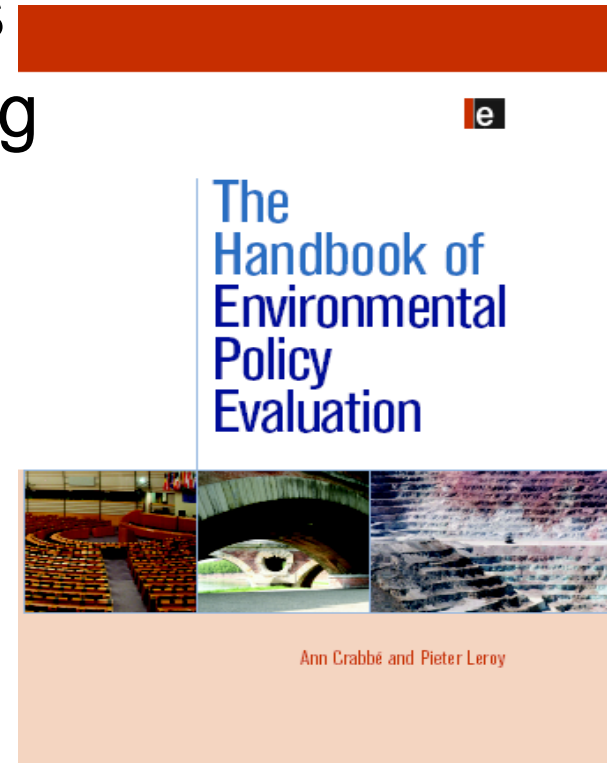
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Building Evaluation Competency,
Capacity, and Culture

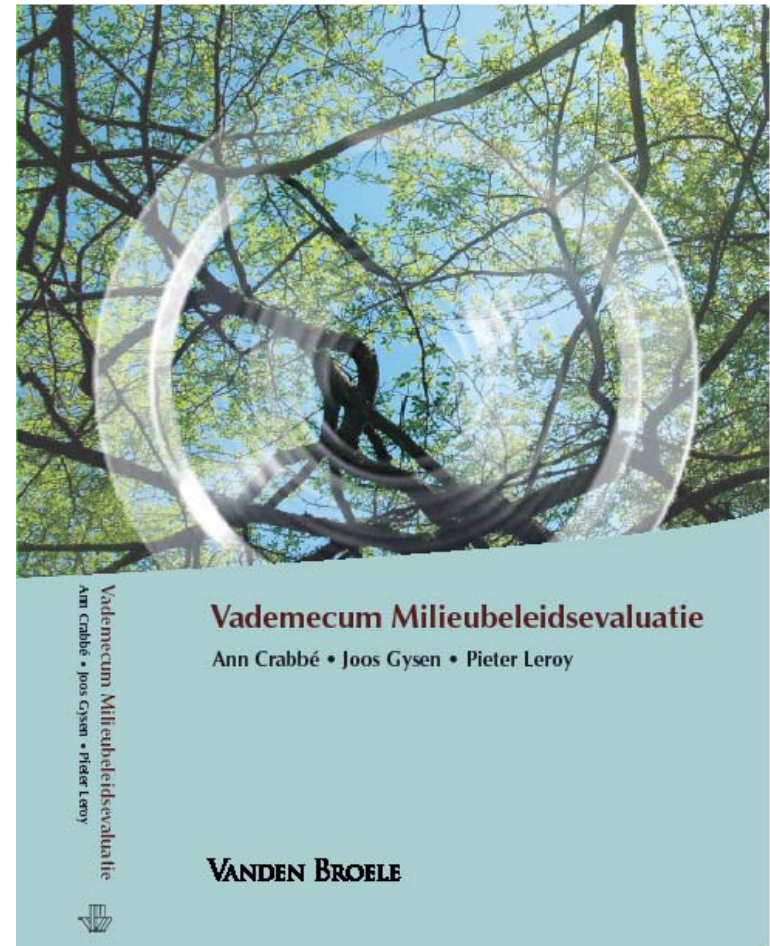
EEN Forum, Washington, D.C. : 8-9 June 2009

The book's coming into being

- Demand for a “cookbook”: linking evaluation questions with evaluation methods
- Background: state of the environment reporting focuses on distances to targets, but not on answering why and how questions

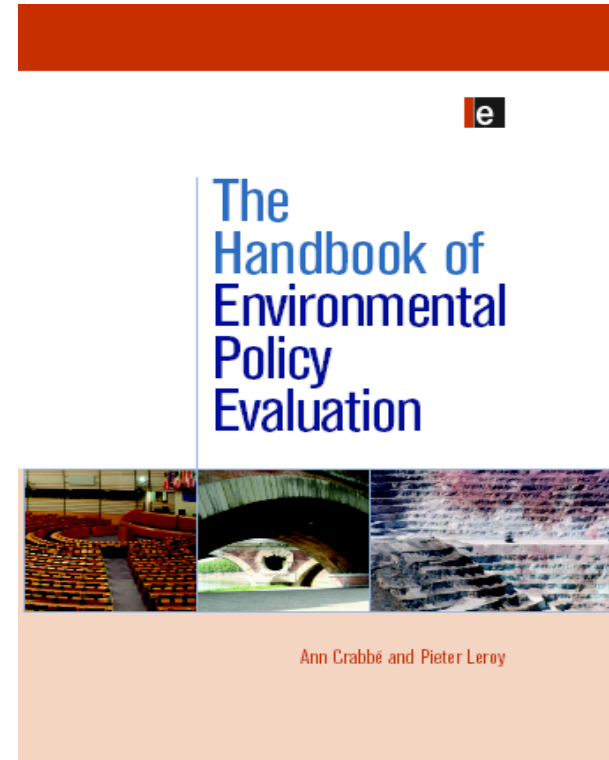


- Result: a Dutch version, outlined and edited in co-operation with the target group (civil servants, NGO-representatives)
- Built on a post-academic course
- Resulting in turn into
 - presentations
 - workshops
- Two years later: new edition, in English



The book's content and structure

- Perspectives on policy and policy evaluation
 - goal rationality, political interaction, institutional
- Distinct features of environmental policy
 - typical difficulties of EPE
- Series of methods
 - academically characterised,
 - and a series of examples,
 - from all over



Perspectives on policy & policy evaluation

- perspective of goal rationality
 - evaluation of policy theory
 - impact assessments
 - (quasi)experiments...
- political interactive perspective
 - responsive evaluation
 - deliberative democratic evaluation...
- institutional perspective
 - focus on networks, regimes, policy arrangements, discursive coalitions etc.



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Criteria for policy evaluation

- control and accountability > juridical criteria
- effectiveness and efficiency > economical criteria
- responsiveness and transparency > political criteria



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Typical features of environmental policies

- complexity
 - intervening (f)actors, delineating the object
- data availability and data appropriateness
 - overload and scarcity, (in)appropriateness
- time, space and level of analysis
 - time-lag, relevant selection of space & level of analysis vs level of observation
- case studies
 - single vs plural
 - quantitative vs qualitative
- the position of the evaluator and the evaluation's impact
 - in fear of the mirror
 - utilization



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- Series of methods:
 - not exhaustive, rather: apparently useful
 - all described with the same framework
 - with examples of EE from all over the world



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Framework method description

Elucidation and context

- the essence of the method:
 - what?
 - when?
 - advantages and disadvantages?
- historical context
- position in research and evaluation context

Methodology

- steps in the application of the method
- remarks

References

- primary and additional references
- examples

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Chapter 3

1. Needs analysis
2. Programme theory evaluation
3. Case study evaluation
4. Experiment and quasi-experiment
5. Formative/developmental evaluation
6. Goal-free evaluation
7. Impact assessment:
 - Social impact assessment
 - Environmental impact assessment
 - Regulatory impact assessment
8. Cost-benefit analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis
9. Logframe method
10. Multi-criteria analysis
11. Realistic evaluation

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Chapter 4

1. Advocate–adversary evaluation
2. Context, input, process and product evaluation (CIPP) model
3. Connoisseurship and criticism
4. Constructivist evaluation
5. Deliberative democratic evaluation
6. Empowerment evaluation
7. Evaluability assessment
8. Meta-evaluation
9. Mixed-method evaluation
10. Responsive evaluation
11. Utilization-focused evaluation

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More information:

www.earthscan.co.uk



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