



Normative and practical implications for governing complex social-ecological systems

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Now more than ever before, organizations and societies worldwide depend on responsible leadership and strategy interventions to inform novel governance practices that have to respond to the challenges of complex inter-connected social and environmental systems. The nature of these complex inter-connected systems are often described, but the practical use and deeper implications of the nature of such systems often remain under explored. This presentation aims to unpack six key features of complex adaptive systems based on some general patterns of behavior that are intrinsic to complex adaptive systems. Complex adaptive systems have certain distinguishable properties (features) and behaviors (dynamics) that challenge us to come up with new ways of studying and governing such systems. A deeper understanding of these key features hold significant normative and practical implications for developing practical and ethical heuristics for intervening in coupled social-ecological systems. These practical and normative implications for action could, in turn, also inform novel governance frameworks and strategies aimed at securing more resilient Anthropocene futures.