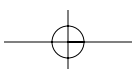
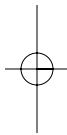
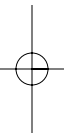
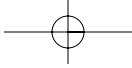


II STUDIES OF ARENAS



Introduction

Part II focuses on historical accounts of how the issues of acid rain, ozone depletion, and climate change developed across a range of national and international arenas—Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the former Soviet Union, Hungary, Japan, Mexico, Canada, the United States of America, the European Union, and the family of international institutions involved in these issues. The choice of these arenas is described in chapter 1. Comparative data for 1975, the midpoint of our study, are presented in table IIA for the countries in the group (World Bank 1997).

The empirical accounts in chapters 3 to 13 give a descriptive history of each issue's evolution within each of the arenas. The arena accounts follow a parallel format. The main characteristics of the arena that play a role in environmental management are sketched. A descriptive account of the historical development of the issues is given and summarized in chronologies. Each arena chapter gives an account of the factors that may explain the evolution of the risk management process and evaluates the evolution of the process over the period studied. We designed the study to examine the historical roles played by a wide range of potentially relevant groups: experts, governments, private-sector organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and the media.

For each arena we sought to explore the significance for issue evolution of differences in factors such as the position of science in state decision making, the openness of the state policy apparatus to interventions from domestic nongovernmental organizations or international actors, and the role played by the media. In addition, we examined the extent to which, and means by which, efforts at global environmental management entrained multiple actors across multiple arenas. Data collection and analysis were organized according to the common research protocol summarized at the end of volume 2 in appendix A. Preliminary working papers presented at the project's summer studies reported on findings to the protocol questions for each arena and each case studied. For the final arena accounts prepared for this volume, however, we relaxed the structure imposed by the common protocol and urged each arena team to tell the most interesting story it could about the general themes introduced in chapter 1. Although this decision was made at the cost of direct comparability among the chapters, it allowed each arena team to emphasize both the empirical data and the theoretical perspectives that it found most illuminating. As a result, in some chapters the framing of issues gets a relatively heavy emphasis, whereas in others the role of institutions is the main focus of analysis. Likewise, the chapters vary in the way they

Table II A
Comparative data for countries studied, 1975 (mid-point of study)

Country	Land area (square kilometers)	Population	Commercial energy use (kilograms of oil equivalents per capita)
Canada	9,220,970	23,209,000	7,217
Germany	350,300	78,679,000	4,017
Hungary	92,340	10,532,000	2,225
Japan	376,520	111,940,000	2,760
Mexico	1,958,200	58,876,000	1,055
Netherlands	33,810	13,666,000	4,356
Former Soviet Union	16,888,500	134,200,000	4,422
United Kingdom	241,840	56,226,000	3,591
United States of America	9,159,120	215,973,000	7,625

Source: World Bank (1997).

evaluate the evolution of the process. Rather than prematurely foreclosing the underlying theoretical debate of a best way to analyze global environmental issues in their historical context, this diversity of perspectives and emphasis has, we believe, enriched the overall project. It has certainly made this book more readable. Nonetheless, the variety visible at the level of explanation in the chapters that follow should not obscure the fact that the explanations are built on comparable data sets.

Patterns among and across the individual arena stories are analyzed in chapter 14, the final chapter in part II. Cross-arena patterns in issue attention, issue framing, and actor activities are examined. This analysis sets out to illuminate a number of questions. When and how did issues that were first discussed in the scientific community, and remained on its agenda for decades, eventually gain the attention of the public and policy makers? What triggered the expansion of interest in global environmental risks to different groups in society, including the media, industry, NGOs, and policy makers? Were these processes similar or different across arenas? How were acid rain, stratospheric ozone depletion, and global climate change perceived as problems over time? How similar were these perceptions across arenas?

Reference

World Bank. 1997. *The World Development Indicators 1997*. CD-ROM. Washington: World Bank.