

Room: Brookfield, Wednesday 3.15- 6pm

Linking science and society to policymaking How to serve policymakers' needs?

Chair: Leonie van Droogen (Rathenau Instituut)

- Geert Munnichs (Rathenau Instituut)
 - A stakeholder dialogue on the regulation of genetically modified crops
- Gloria Rose & Georg Aichholzer (ITA, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna); Ira van Keulen & Iris Korthagen (Rathenau Instituut)
 - A servant of two masters? Functions of e-participation for decision-makers and the public
- Daniel Ketzer, Nora Weinberger & Christine Rösch (ITAS); Stefanie B. Seitz (DBFZ, UFZ Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research)
 - The role of inter- and transdisciplinary project consortia in technology assessment – Chances and challenges of closeness to politics
- Anne-Greet Keizer & Frans W.A. Brom (Scientific Council for Government Policy, WRR)
 - Connecting science and policy is not enough
- Wieke Betten & Frank Kupper (Athena Institute VU University):
 - Critical reflections on the use of multi-stakeholder dialogues as a method for mutual learning
- Peter Keet (Ministry of Economic Affairs)
- Frank Kupper (Athena Institute VU University)

In this session we will explore how the needs of policymakers can best be served by making use of technology assessment and related activities such as science and technology studies and responsible research and innovation (RRI). What methods to integrate scientific findings and societal perspectives into the policymaking process turn out to be useful and successful? What needs do policymakers have? And how could TA and RRI practitioners serve these needs, and at the same time keep their independence? Different methods and best practices from different countries will be compared in order to learn from each other's experiences.

The Rathenau Instituut will give a presentation on the stakeholder dialogue as a method to link scientific expertise and stakeholder views to the policymaking process. In 2016 the Rathenau Instituut organized a stakeholder dialogue, commissioned by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, on the hard to handle policy issue how to regulate the cultivation of genetically modified crops on a national level. In the session the method of the stakeholder dialogue will be reflected upon and compared to similar methods that link scientific findings and societal perspectives to the policymaking process.