



3rd European Technology Assessment Conference

MAY 17 TH - 19 TH 2017, CORK, IRELAND

CALL for PAPERS

Knowledge for policymaking

How to organize the use of best available knowledge?

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Session Duration: 90 minutes

Keywords: modes of organizing policy-science interface, best practices, dilemma's in connecting knowledge and policymaking

Word Count Max. 400 words

In this session we aim to explore the current understanding of the policy-science interface on the national policy level. Our hypothesis is that the results of (scientific) research are not always included in the policymaking process and that bridging the worlds of science and policymaking needs more attention and constant maintenance. In this session we would like to learn from different countries and their modes of organizing policy-science interface by discussing experiences, best practices, instruments & methods and dilemma's in connecting knowledge and policymaking.

We would like to illustrate this search by looking at different policy domains in different countries. Key challenge in our exploration is: *"How to organize/institutionalize the use of best available knowledge in the policy making process?"*

Underlying challenges include: "What factors should we take into account?" "Which best practices are applicable in different domains and different phases of policymaking processes?", "How can we best equip "boundary workers": people who actively search to bridge the worlds of knowledge and policymaking?", "How can the use of the best available knowledge on specific topics be strengthened?". "How can we make the best use of the total chain of scientific parties involved (our "knowledge landscape"), which consist of a range of universities, research institutions and assessment agencies?".

We like to invite both representatives from national governments, scientific experts on policy science interface as well as representatives of assessment agencies and boundary organizations (eg UK CIP) to submit abstracts for this session.

After a short introductory presentation on the session, we propose to present an example of the current Dutch policy-science interface. We will elaborate mainly on the policy domain of climate adaptation with a focus on the Dutch Deltaprogram and the Dutch National Adaptation Strategy. We explicitly like to invite participants from other



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countries and from other policy domains to submit papers on the organization of the interface between science and policymaking. Depending on the amount and content of the different papers we will develop a fitting approach for the session in Cork, e.g. a debate on the basis of short pitches on the key challenge and underlying challenges, as the other participants see it in their country or their policy domain.

We are aiming at a fruitful discussion on what can be learned from each other. The Dutch presentation will be made available in due time to the authors of accepted abstracts. This to enable the authors to assess similarities in differences between the Dutch approach and the situation in their country.

Further information: Please send your proposal directly to the sessions' organizers.
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