

Rapid and living evidence

Using Recent Advances in Artificial Intelligence to Accelerate & Scale Evidence Synthesis for Evidence-based Climate Policy and Science Assessments

Jan Minx Science Europe Webinar 26 June 2025





Decision makers need 'living' evidence synthesis

Elliott JH, Lawrence R, Minx JC, et al. Nature 2021;600:383-385

Julian H. Elliott, Rebecca Lawrence, Jan C. Minx, Olufemi T. Oladapo, Philippe Ravaud, Britta Tendal Jeppesen, James Thomas, Tari Turner, Per Olav Vandvik & Jeremy M. Grimshaw

Fund and use dynamic evidence summaries of the latest data to steer research, practice and policy. Council, worried that the cacophony would create confusion and anxiety among alreadystressed clinicians. We argued for key bodies to come together quickly and use robust, evidence-based processes to find signals in the noisy flow of COVID-19 research. Two weeks the evidence pipeline'. Take the example of remdesivir, an intravenous treatment originally developed for Ebola virus. In May 2020, weak but promising data suggested it could be used to treat COVID-19. Over the next 18 months, 52 papers from 14 randomized trials were pub-

Living Evidence

- Providing the best and most recent evidence ever more important
- Disconnect between need for and delivery of evidence is a fundamental problem at science-policy interface
- Living evidence: constantly updating high-quality systematic maps and reviews







Exponential growth of climate evidence poses new challenges for rigorous assessments of the state of knowledge (scale; quality)





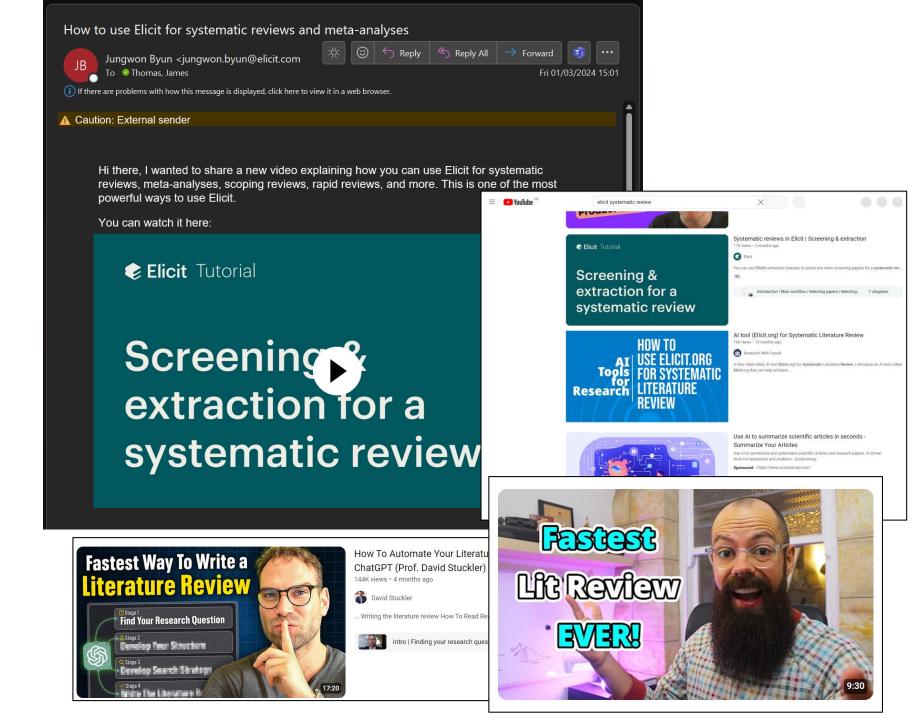


But maybe most recent advances in Al can help us rise to the challenge?





LLMs have created a lot enthusiasm around digital evidence synthesis tools (DESTs)



WILD WEST – evidence synthesis needs to remain a scientific process!









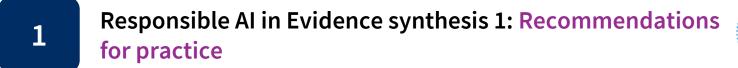
3

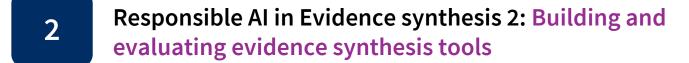
But guidance is becoming available

RAISE: Responsible AI in evidence synthesis



Three-paper RAISE collection for AI use in research





Responsible AI in Evidence synthesis 3: Selecting and using evidence synthesis tools





















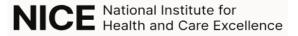










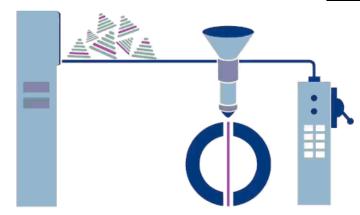




Making rigorous evidence synthesis faster, cheaper and living

Digital Evidence Synthesis Tool Innovation Yielding Improvements in Climate & Health

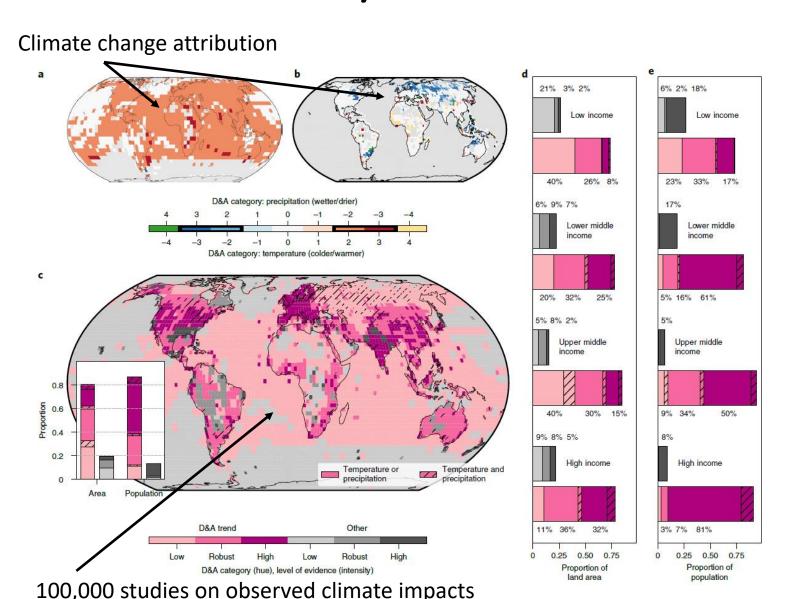




DESTINY will co-develop a new generation of digital evidence synthesis tools (DESTs) and showcase their transformational power for the delivery of rigorous living evidence in climate and health that matters to policymakers and other evidence users.

- New DESTs leverage recent advances in AI to develop a new generation of DESTs for making evidence synthesis faster, cheaper and more useful (WP2);
- Responsible use of DESTs engage in DEST evaluation to design safe and responsible applications without eroding methodological standards (WP3);
- Creating impact on the ground through co-production build communities of practice with decision makers around the globe and across scales to ensure DESTs are fit-for-purpose, work for all and are applied to six impact cases that matter (WP1, WP4);
- Mainstreaming the use of DESTs Support users, producers, and funders of climate and health evidence synthesis to establish best practices (WP5).

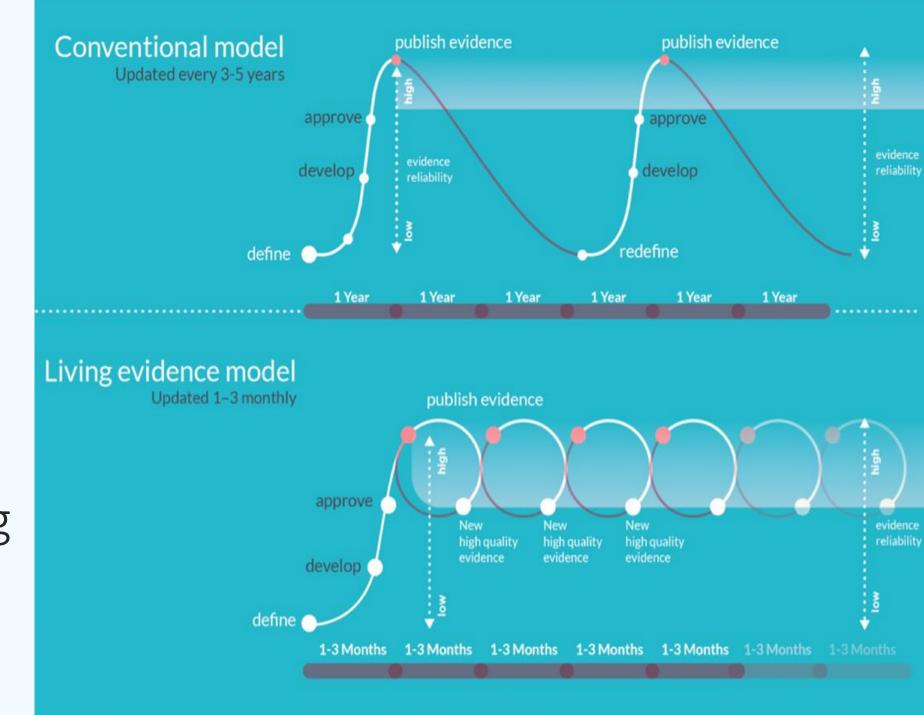
Al for evidence synthesis at scale in science assessments



Climate impacts can be observed and are documented for 80% of the land surface, where 85% of the world population lives.



Let's be efficient: rapid and living evidence to support evidence-based decision-making



Thank you!

jan.minx@pik-potsdam.de



