



RES in science-policy dialogues

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Evidence Synthesis for Environmental Action

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■ Science-Policy dialogues

- **Baseline:** production and dissemination of scientifically sound knowledge relevant to political decision-making processes (Böcher, 2016)
- **Aim:** Improving political decisions through reliable knowledge
- **Differentiation:** Political advice is based on knowledge, lobbying on interests (Veit et al., 2010)
- **Challenges:** relationship between science and politics is complex and tense (Veit et al., 2010)
- What if the others don't want to listen?

Source: Böcher, 2016; Veit et al., 2010

■ Prerequisite for successful scientific policy advice and dialogues

- CRELE-criteria
 - **Credibility:** scientific quality and validity
 - **Relevance:** political usefulness and connectivity
 - **Legitimacy:** Acceptance and trust of the actors involved in the process and the result

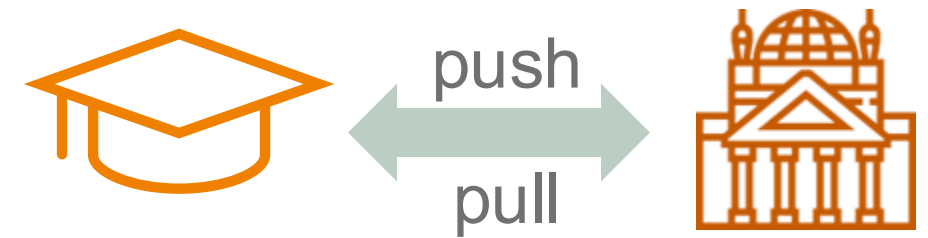
Key to success?

- Demand-oriented

Source: Heink et al., 2015

■ Classic formates of science-policy interfaces

- Classic communication (push by science)
 - Policy briefs, informational papers, statements
 - Workshops and conferences
 - political discussion formates (parliamentary breakfasts/evenings, fireside chats)
- Expert function (pull by politics)
 - Attendance at hearings, bodies, committees
 - Use of Expert databases
- Digital formats
 - Webbased platformen, **evidence maps**, expert databases
- Institutionalised channels
 - Academies, foundations
 - Departmental research
 - Representation offices



■ Success factors



Inter- and transdisciplinarity



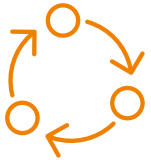
Neutrality and trustworthiness



Expertise, competence



Scientific rigour, objectivity,
clear handling of uncertainties and
complexity



Transparent, iterative processes with
sufficient resources



Involvement of political decision-makers at
multiple levels



Establishing personal networks and
stable partnerships

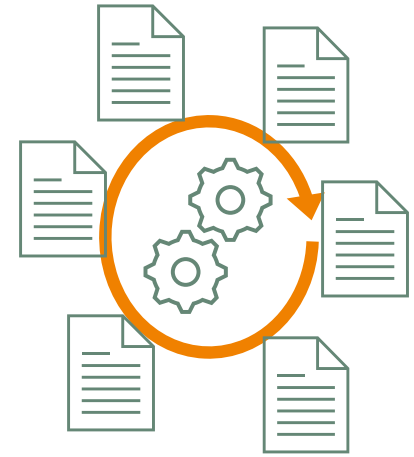


Communication skills

Quelle: Wagner et al., 2023

■ Rapid evidence syntheses...

- ...are possible alternatives to evidence syntheses
- ...can complement time- and resource-intensive systematic reviews
- ...originated in health science
- ...are used in rapidly changing systems or situations (pandemic, crisis, extreme events?)
- ...can be useful for funders to identify emerging research fields



However:

- Climate and climate change are subject to long-term processes
- Climate information and information on possible climatic changes are already clearly communicated
- Climate resilient development and transformation process need to speed up
- **Living evidence can be useful for what-if-scenarios (action tracker)**

The question is:

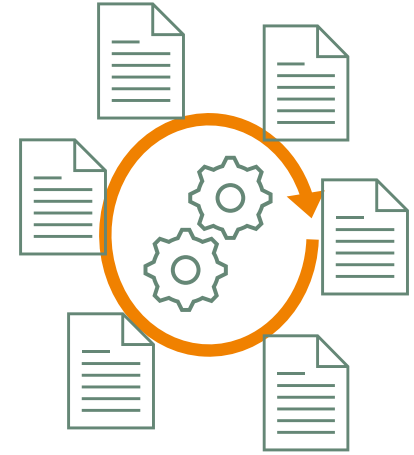
- Can RES support and accelerate the implementation of climate action and adaptation

■ Rapid evidence syntheses...

But:

- Lack of standardised process
- Accuracy before speed!
- We must not risk trustworthiness!

➔ use of robust techniques with short timelines remains a challenge



Literature

Böcher, M. (2016). *How does science-based policy advice matter in policy making? The RIU model as a framework for analyzing and explaining processes of scientific knowledge transfer*. *Forest Policy and Economics*, 68, 65–72. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2016.04.001>

Heink, U., Marquard, E., Heubach, K., Jax, K., Kugel, C., Neßhöver, C., Paulsch, A., Tilch, S., Timaeus, J., & Vandewalle, M. (2015). Conceptualizing credibility, relevance and legitimacy for evaluating the effectiveness of science–policy interfaces. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 53, 161–168. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2015.06.019>

Veit, S., Hustedt, T., & Fleischer, J. (2010): Wissen ist Macht? Wissenschaftliche Politikberatung der Bundesregierung, in: *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte : APuZ*, Jg. 60, Nr. 19, S. 15–21.

Wagner, N., Velandar, S., Biber-Freudenberger, L., & Dietz, T. (2023): Effectiveness factors and impacts on policymaking of science-policy interfaces in the environmental sustainability context. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 140, 56–67. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2022.11.008>