

Session 3: Science into Policy

EURAQUA

Issues

- Modes of communication? Dedicated Ministries? EU Observatories?
- Policy targets: 20 20 2020? (good science?)
- Simplification for policy makers: the “elevator message”. Any danger?
- Barriers and opportunities: the crisis-model as a shortcut – versus opportunistic science
- Knowledge “brokerage”? How?
- Links and rates? How do changes in scientific understanding affect policy? Is there a lock-in?

issues.

- Handling uncertainty: policy and science view? Investigation or action? Lack of consensus is a “must” in science – is this a problem for policy?
- More research does not mean less uncertainty! Perhaps it means more: then less science goes into policy than before! An illusion of certainty traded for an exposure of uncertainty?
- Role of tools and models: negotiation tools? Any number is a good number? Inform water manager but what of real policy makers?

(more) issues

- Linking data, knowledge and decisions: an EU vision? What is the role of policy support programmes? What is the role of WISE/WSDIS/EDOs etc?
- Temporal scale mismatch: policy cycles, research funding cycles, problem cycles
- Bottom-up and top-down approaches: common theory vs case-sensitive practice
- Is the Science-to-Policy interface to be treated as a research area (competing theories?) or as policy (setup instruments to ensure it)