

# Science-Policy Interfaces for Biodiversity

**Axel Paulsch**  
**Network-Forum**

A project by:



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Science Policy

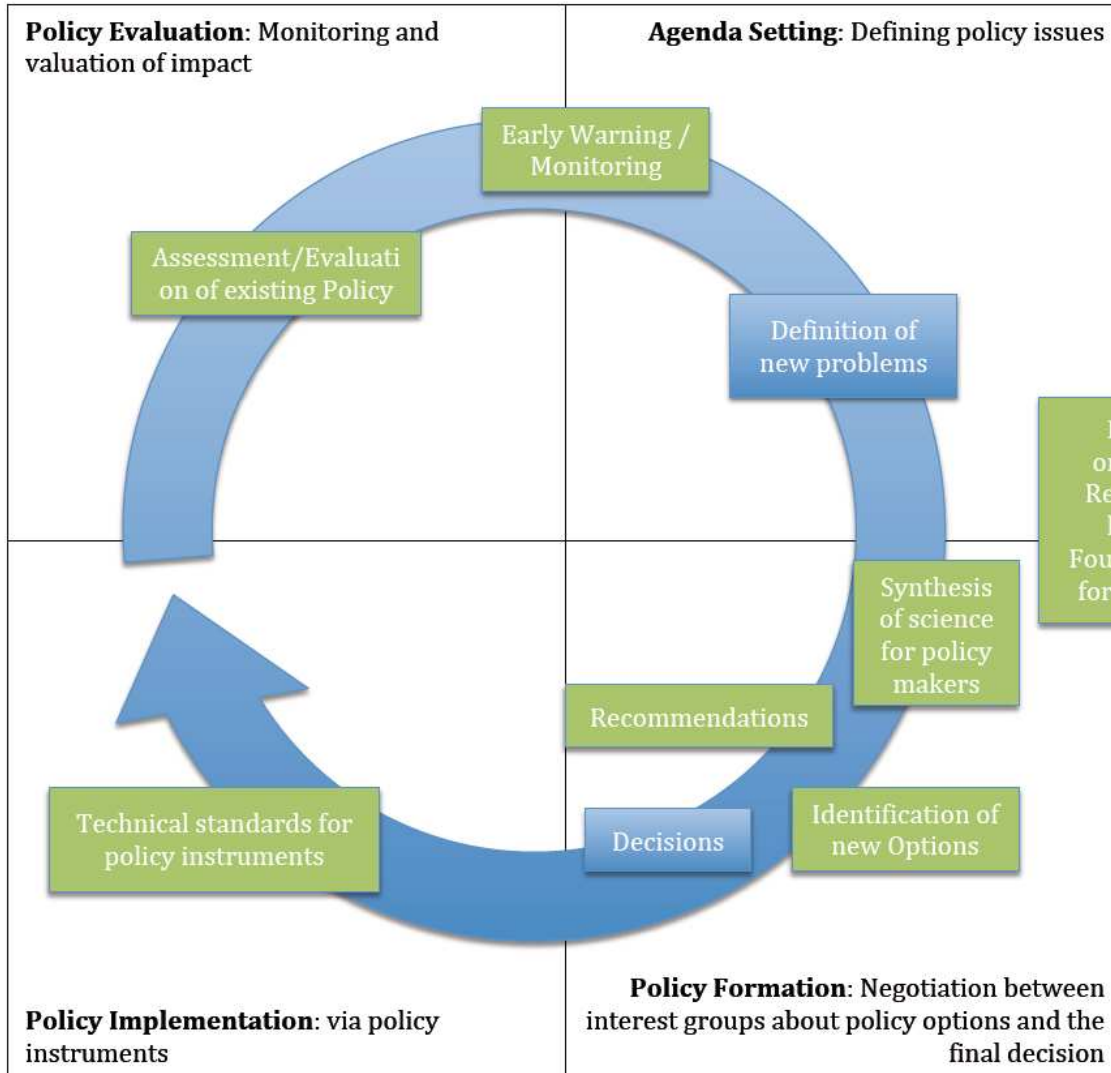
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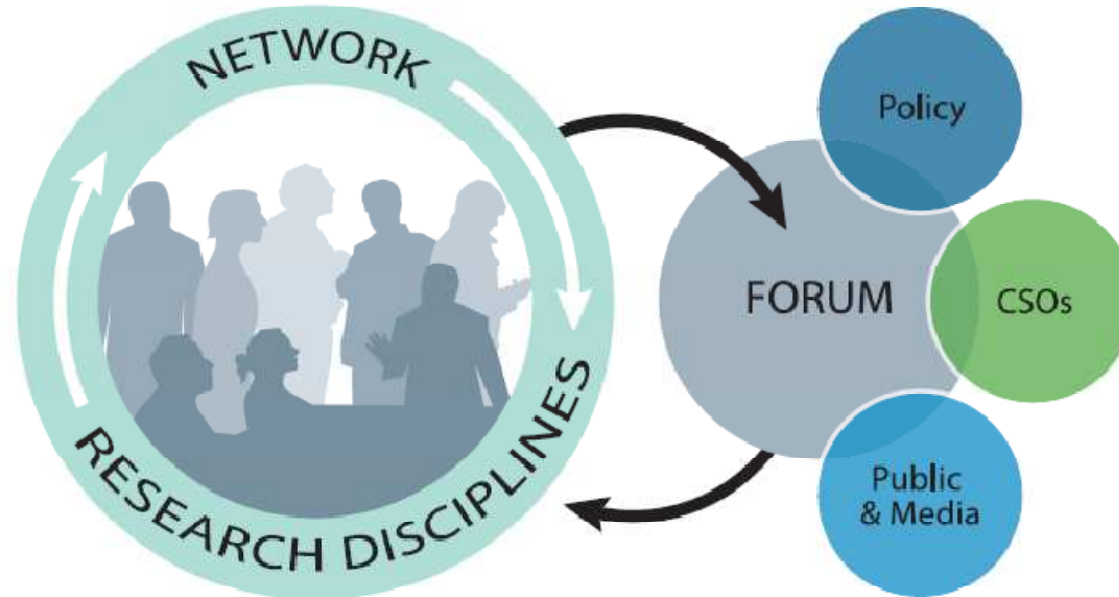
## Definition of SPIs

**Science-Policy Interfaces** are social **processes** which encompass relations between **scientists** and **other actors** in the policy process, and which allow for exchanges, co-evolution, and joint construction of **knowledge** with the aim of **enriching decision-making** (van den Hove 2007, Futures, 815)



**Functions of SPIs (green boxes) in the policy cycle** partially based on Weingart and Lentsch (2008).

# Network-Forum for Biodiversity Research Germany



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# Network

- **Overview and analysis of German research community and its international involvement**
- **Facilitating the (interdisciplinary) scientific exchange via workshops**
  - **Post-2010 targets**
  - **LIFEWATCH**
  - **Ecosystem services and German legislation**
  - **Climate change and infectious diseases**
- **Newsletter informing about policy**




## Forum

- **Facilitation of experts upon request (policy and media)**
- **Development of fact sheets**
  - **Invasive species and new pathogens**
  - **Ecosystem services**
  - **Major COP10 topics**
- **PR work for biodiversity research**
- **PR trainings for researchers**



# Information hub [www.biodiversity.de](http://www.biodiversity.de)

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netzwerk-forum zur biodiversitätsforschung deutschland




Ein Projekt im Rahmen von

Über uns
Über Biodiversität
Für Forschung
Für Politik & Praxis
Für Presse & Medien

### Die COP10 - Verhandlung über unsere Zukunft

Vom 18. bis 29. Oktober findet es wieder statt, das Tauziehen um die Biodiversität, die natürlichen Ressourcen und den Umgang mit ihnen. Bei der 10. UN-Vertragsstaatenkonferenz des Übereinkommens zur biologischen Vielfalt (COP10) soll erneut der Versuch unternommen werden, verbindliche Ziele und Regeln schaffen, die den rasanten Schwund der biologischen Vielfalt aufhalten. Zur Diskussion steht ein neuer *Strategischer Plan bis 2020*, der die Weichen für die Arbeit der CBD und seiner Vertragsstaaten für die nächsten Jahren stellen soll.




Die Biodiversitätsforschung hat in diesem Prozess eine entscheidende Rolle, denn sie liefert die Daten, um die Entwicklung überhaupt einschätzen zu können. Dazu liefert sie Ansätze und Pilotprojekte für Maßnahmen zum Schutz und nachhaltiger Nutzung der natürlichen Ökosysteme. NeFo war an den Vorbereitungskonferenzen beteiligt und wird die COP10 vor Ort begleiten. In unseren Themenschwerpunkten möchten wir Ihnen einen Blick hinter die Kulissen der Konferenz ermöglichen.

[Kurzeinführung Presse](#)

**Welche Themen werden bei der COP10 besonders kontrovers diskutiert?**

#### Aktuelle Themen



**Aktuelle Berichte unseres Teams vor Ort**

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Warum wir Biodiversität brauchen



Im **nefo**-Interview:  
**Prof. em. K. Eduard Linsenmair**

## International links

**Direct link to the European Platform  
for Biodiversity Research  
Strategy EPBRS**



**NeFo works as a German hub for the forthcoming  
IPBES**





# Belgian Biodiversity Platform

## www.biodiversity.be



- BIOBEL**
- INVASIVE SPECIES**
- CLIMATE CHANGE**
- FRESHWATER BIODIVERSITY**
- FOREST BIODIVERSITY**
- ANTARTIC BIODIVERSITY**
- BELGIAN DATA PORTAL**

**belspo**

**Welcome to the Belgian Biodiversity Platform site**

Our Platform is the information and communications hub on [biodiversity](#) science and research in Belgium. It gives you a privileged access to primary biodiversity data and biodiversity research information. It encourages interdisciplinary cooperation among scientists and serves as an interface between researchers and science policy.

**Platform news**

**POSITIVE VISIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY, Brussels**  
November 16-19/2010

Meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS)

**European Commission consultations**  
Protecting our natural capital: an EU strategy to conserve biodiversity and ensure the provision of ...

**Enhancing Fitness-for-Use Across the GBIF Network**  
GBIF Position Paper on Future Directions and Recommendations for Enhancing Fitness-for-Use Across ...

**News**

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- Protect nature for world economic security, warns UN biodiversity chief**  
The Guardian  
Posted on 17 Aug 2010
- Mangroves offer win-win opportunity**  
BBC  
Posted on 11 Aug 2010
- First-of-its-Kind Map Depicts Global Forest Heights**  
NASA  
Posted on 09 Aug 2010
- Problems for biodiversity analysis in Gulf of Mexico**  
Birmingham Science News Examiner  
Posted on 09 Aug 2010



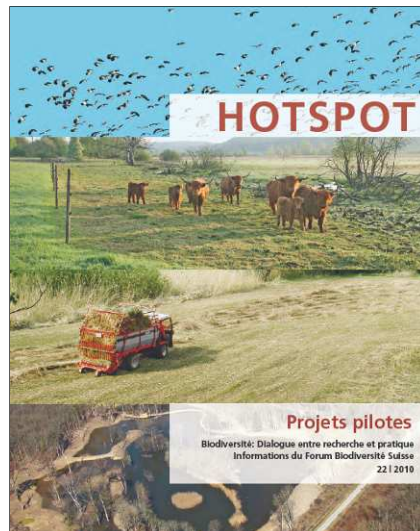
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# The Swiss Biodiversity Forum

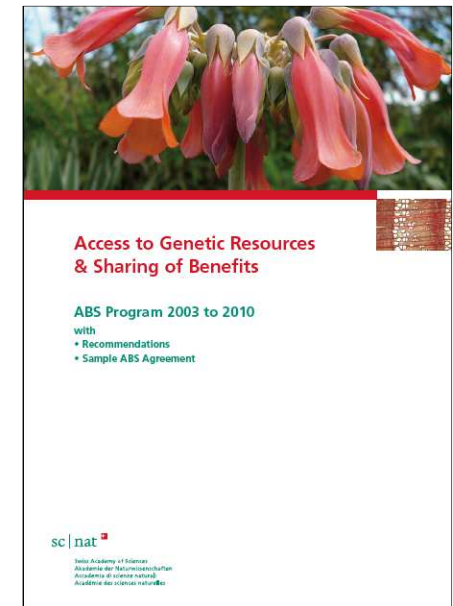
A science-policy platform  
of the Swiss Academy of Sciences



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# Foundation for the Research on Biodiversity in France

**120 stakeholders** : **businesses** (30: Veolia, TOTAL, LVMH...); **conservation bodies** (20: WWF, IUCN...), **protected area managers** (10: national parks...); **genetic resource managers and agriculture bodies** (20: Limagrain, FNSEA...); **local administrations** (10: association of French regions, science and technology office of parliament...), etc. –  
have joined the FRB so far

**8 founders** (national institutions and public research organizations): BRGM, CEMAGREF, CIRAD, CNRS, IFREMER, INRA, IRD, MNHN



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# Examples of interfaces

- **Global level: IPBES**
- **European level: EPBRS**
- **National level:**
  - **Belgium**
  - **Switzerland**
  - **France**
  - **Germany**





# SPIRAL

## Interfacing Biodiversity and Policy

Science-Policy Interfaces for Biodiversity: Research, Action, and Learning

WP1: Stocktaking and assessment of science-policy interfaces

WP2: Communication of the role of biodiversity

WP3: Tools encouraging biodiversity-friendly policy

WP4: Adaptive test cases of science-policy interfaces

WP5: Recommendations and dissemination of results

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# Challenges

- **Funding**
- **Input by scientists**
- **Transformation of results into policy options**
- **Acceptance by policy makers**



# German NBSAP

- **Consultation process with scientists, NGOs**
- **Draft version prepared by Ministry of Environment (2005)**
- **Negotiation with all ministries**
- **Final version accepted by all ministries (2007)**



## Comparison

Topic	Draft	Final	Difference
Diversity of habitats	Well functionig mangement for <b>all</b> protected areas by <b>2015</b>	Well functionig mangement for <b>all large</b> protected areas and Natura 2000 areas by <b>2020</b>	Timeline, not all protected areas
Rivers and water meadows	By 2015 <b>stop</b> farming in river meadows with high risk of erosion	By 2015 <b>modify</b> agricultural use.....	Strictness reduced
Mining	No mining in areas with high risk for biodiversity		Taken out



## Comparison

Topic	Draft	Final	Difference
Agriculture	Reduce pesticides by 15% by 2015	Continuation of the programme to reduce pesticides	No time line, no percentage
Social awareness	Increase places in kindergardens focussing on the experience of nature by 15% by 2015	Increase places in kindergardens focussing on the experience of nature by 25% by 2015	Higher percentage
Soil use		Residual contamination has been largely remediated by 2050	Taken in

# Take home message

**Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.**

**SPIs are a valuable tool but we need the societal and political willingness to listen to scientific advice.**

**More information**

**<http://www.biodiversity.de>**

**Thank you**



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