

ETH zürich



Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

Science and Policy Talk

Evidence use in environmental policy: Barriers, best practices, and our roles as researchers

Guest speaker:Dr. Benjamin Hofmann (Eawag/University of St.Gallen)Location:ETH Zentrum, HG F 33.5Date:Nov 13, 2024: 17:00 – 18:30

Description

How can you prepare for a career at the interface between science and policy? In the Science and Policy Talk series, professionals working in different roles at the interface between science and policy explain how they contribute to linking science and policy and give us insights in their career pathway.

<u>Benjamin Hofmann</u> is postdoctoral research at the Swiss water research institute Eawag and lecturer in political science at University of St.Gallen. He holds a PhD in international affairs, has hands-on experience in environmental policymaking, and is currently leading the knowledge integration in a large interdisciplinary research project. He is an alumnus of the Robert Bosch Postdoc Academy for Transformational Leadership, a member of the <u>Swiss Young Academy</u>, and a fellow of <u>td Academy</u> platforms that engage in connecting science and other societal actors.

In this talk, Benjamin Hofmann will speak about evidence use in environmental policymaking. What motivations do different actors have to use or ignore scientific evidence? What principles can help to support evidence use for sustainable transformation? And what new roles can researchers play in there? The talk will present recent social science findings on these questions and challenge some conventional wisdoms about the science-policy interface. It will draw on examples from different environmental areas, including climate, pesticides, rivers, and oceans.

He will also talk about his career trajectory and how his education prepared him to take on jobs at the science-policy interface. Furthermore, he will give insights into job prospects at the interface of science and policy.

Number of Participants: 40