

**Could we focus more on the
“policy” part of science policy
interfaces?**



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Introduction



Policy-maker

Scientist



Concepts

- Co-production (Jasanoff, Wynne etc etc)
 - How the world is, shapes how we find out about it and vice versa.
 - K is socially constructed
 - Dynamically shaped by interactions between actors, context, Interactions of multiple actors, pre-existing Ks
 - Links to ideas of ‘boundary objects’
- Science and policy
 - Interaction between scientific & policy knowledges
 - “Bring each other into being” (Turnhout, 09)



Concepts

- Implications

(1) Efforts to improve scientific K use*

- Promote interactions and ‘boundary crossing/spanning’ (Young et al, 14)
- Multiple forms of ‘use’ valued (Weiss et al, 79+).

(2) Studies of K use

- Understand both science and policy actors, settings and interactions



* knowledge use/transfer/impact/exchange/Science-Policy Interfaces

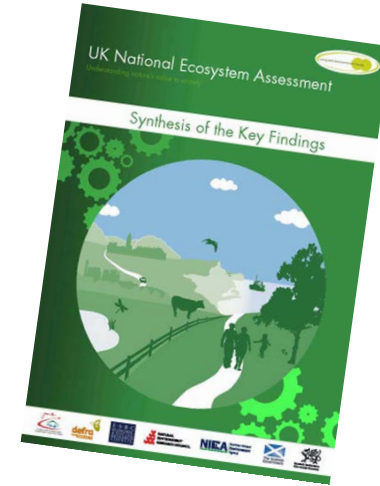


Experiences

- SPIRAL experiences

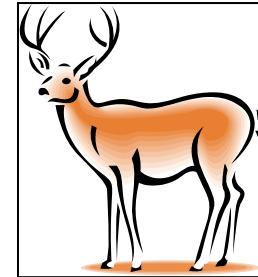
1. UK NEA (Waylen & Young, 14)

- Initiative to feed sci K to policy



2. UK Deer Management

- Agency implementation of policy



3. Planning for WFD implementation

- Operationalisation of EU policy
and translation into domestic policies





Experiences

1. Processes < products

But

expectations often focus on products



Old news!
E.g. Nutley 07 etc etc



Experiences

2. “Policy” + “Policy-maker” hard to define

- Decision-maker? Blurry and messy.
- Need to break categories to understand K co-prod



Not new e.g. Jasanoff 2004
sufficiently taken on board?





Experiences

3. “Policy makers” hard to access?

- Hard to engage in research
- Identify limited role for selves in process – passive
- Potential comeback on researchers

→ Insufficient attention





Implications

- Less attention to policy = challenge
- Research
 - ‘Policy-making’ less well understood
- Action
 - Reinforces tendency to emphasise role of scientists
- E.g. Nordhagen et al 2014 *Climatic change*
 - Good paper: how researchers personal and professional activities affect credibility in climate change field
 - Comparable work on policy-makers?





Conclusion

- Could we focus more on policy-making?

1. Should we?

- Yes!
- Both research and ‘action’ on SPIs

2. How?

- The difficult bit. Power.
- All we can do is flag this?



Thanks!

- Any questions?

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<http://www.spiral-project.eu>
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