

Eawag Seminar Invitation

Actionable Knowledge and the Art of Engagement

Speaker **Prof. Maria Lemos**

University of Michigan, USA

When **November 1, 11.00 – 12.00 a.m.**

Where **Forum Chriesbach, room C20, Eawag Dübendorf**

Abstract What makes knowledge relevant to environmental sustainability actionable? Scholars and practitioners have increasingly advocated that the traditional linear model of science production, with its unidirectional flow of information from scientists to policy-makers, be replaced by a new approach in which researchers and knowledge-users meaningfully interact to co-create knowledge that is actionable in decision-making. This popular model—*co-production*—has advanced thinking on how to create usable knowledge. In practice, however, co-production has not been a single approach, but instead a diversity of forms of engaged research. Further, the jargon of co-production may both obfuscate governance dimensions and limit understanding of what works. Finally, the emergence of co-production as an alternative model of science production and use has raised questions about its transaction costs (e.g. time investment, logistics and in building trust), how to evaluate its impacts, and how to scale it up to meet the challenge of solving pervasive and urgent sustainability problems.