

Eawag Seminar Invitation

Achieving a broader range of “impacts” at the interface of environmental science and policy

Speakers **Prof. Dr. Christopher Cvitanovic**, *Australian National University (ANU), Canberra, Australia*

When **Wednesday, May 26, 9-10 am, CET**

Where **Online via Zoom, contact seminars@eawag.ch for access details.**

Abstract Scientists and scientific institutions alike are under increased pressure to demonstrate the tangible ‘impacts’ arising from their research. However, current conceptualisations of impact are largely instrumental and do not recognise the full diversity of forms that impacts can take across the spectrum of activities that comprise the ‘science-policy-management interface’. Moving beyond such instrumental definitions is critical for developing indicators that can monitor and measure research impact, and to guide impact planning activities to maximise the value that science can have on policy and management. In this talk, I will draw on empirical work from Europe and Australia to outline a broader range of impacts that occur at the interface of science and policy. I will show how broadening our acceptance of what constitutes impact can help us to identify more ‘bright spots’ - examples where science has achieved tangible change for societal good – and help to ascertain the critical factors that underpin successful knowledge exchange at the interface of science and policy. Finally, I will reflect on the role and importance of trust within the context of knowledge exchange, and outline empirically derived strategies for building and managing trust at the interface of environmental science and policy.