

Round table – Communicating and acting on policy mix research and analysis: What does it take to leverage effective, equitable and sustainable packages of instruments for environment and conservation in the real world?

Chair: Lucy Emerton (Environment Management Group, Sri Lanka)

Participants:

David N. Barton (Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, NINA, Norway)

Marianne Kettunen (Institute for European Environmental Policy, IEEP, Denmark)

Jussi Lankoski (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD, France)

Peter H. May (Rede de Desenvolvimento, Ensino e Sociedade, REDES, Brazil)

Jan-Erik Petersen (European Environment Agency, EEA, Belgium)

Ina Porras (International Institute for Environment and Development, IIED, UK)

Ralf Döring (Thünen Institute of Sea Fisheries, TI, Germany)

The roundtable draws together and reflects on the deliberations and insights that have emerged during the course of the conference. The focus is on discussing the extent to which the considerable advances in research methodologies and information that have been generated over recent years have influenced the way in which environment and conservation policies are actually formulated and implemented in practice. The intention is to identify lessons learned and ways forward in better closing this knowledge-policy-practice loop in the future.

Experts from a variety of technical and organisational backgrounds will offer perspectives on what they consider to be the most critical constraints to, and enabling conditions for, the implementation of policy mixes that successfully deliver on environmental and conservation goals. They will share their own experiences of communicating and acting on policy research and analysis. The roundtable will also provide a forum for conference participants to contribute their thinking and ideas on this topic.

In order to ground the discussion, both panel members and conference participants are encouraged to provide real-world examples of the successes, constraints and challenges that they have faced when attempting to design, deliver or use research to inform the development of environment and conservation policies.

Discussions will include consideration of:

- How can “policy mix” (as compared to “policy instrument”) research add value to the design of conservation policies?
- To what extent does the availability of a solid information and evidence base improve the quality of the trade-offs between effectiveness, equity and sustainability considerations when instruments are selected and combined?
- What kind of research is needed to identify the necessary and sufficient conditions for a particular combination of instruments or mix of policies to be interpreted as being “successful”?
- How do we effectively communicate research findings to decision-makers, and “make the case” for particular policy mixes or combinations of instruments?
- What needs to be done to improve the accessibility, acceptability and credibility of research findings for environment and conservation planners, managers and policy-makers?