



Panel discussion Uncertainty at the science-policy interface: why does it all go wrong?

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Climate change and other global environmental problems pose great challenges both for science and politics – but in different ways. While researchers struggle with complexity and build knowledge incrementally, politicians are confronted with the task to set up potentially far-reaching interventions into societal activities. To inform and justify these interruptions, scientific policy advice is often seen as crucial.

Some Earth system scientists are comfortable with engaging in policy advice even if that means to leave their respective scientific core competencies. For others, this means a threat to scientific integrity and neutrality. The science-policy interface is populated by many actors, with a variety of interests that potentially interfere with an idealized science speaks the truth to parties of power process.

Uncertainty plays a decisive role in these difficult science-policy interactions. Different languages, rationalities and strategies often lead to confusion and a perceived mismatch of expectations between science and politics. Against this background, we want to discuss with scientists, policy experts and decision-makers about their perceptions.

Host:

- Philipp Griewank, Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany

Discussants:

- Alexander Otto (Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford, UK)
- Inge Paulini (German Advisory Council on Global Change)
- Michael Pregernig (Institute of Forest and Environmental Policy, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Germany)
- Hauke Schmidt (Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany)