Getting Sediment at the European Strategic Research Agenda

Meeting of the SedNet Working Group Sediment Science and Policy Interfacing (SedNet WG Sediment SPI)
Suggestions for:
Science-Policy Interfacing

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1. Evidence base: reliable science, data open source, meaningful information

2. Bride the gap between policy and science:
   . channels of communication
   . meetings

3. “we are not good in integrating quality and quantity”

4. More holistic vision

5. Site specify problems and solution involving communities
   Frame the problem in outcomes that are meaningful
   Also involving economics + stakeholders participations

6. “Science Policy Public”
   Trust – engagement
   Involve politicians

7. Storytelling
Summary of the suggestions for: Science-Policy Interfacing

1. Generation of reliable science and meaningful information
   Why: to inform sediment policies and management options. Evidence base/reliable science will raise trust in the scientific community. Open data sources and the availability of meaningful information will improve the incorporation of scientific knowledge in policies and in the manager’s agenda.

2. Bride the gap between policy and science
   Why: narrow the gap between politicians and scientists will contribute to increasing decision-making using scientific information as the rationale for sustainable sediment management strategies.

3. Adopting a holistic sediment management approach
   Why: because “we are not good in integrating quality and quantity”; because sediment is an essential, integral and dynamic part of river basins and co-exist with water, fauna,....., people.
Summary of the suggestions for:
Science-Policy Interfacing

4. Addressing site-specific problems; aiming to find universal solutions
Why: problems are very often site-specific and affecting local communities. But finding “universal” solutions can be an important issue in funding, and in “capturing” the politicians attention to the solution.

5. Promoting politicians and public engagement
Why: it will increasing the possibilities for scientific knowledge to be incorporate in politicians agenda. Because the implementation of coastal measures very often depend on the interaction between political leaderships and institutions and society, public engagement is also vital.

6. Framing the message
Why: because “we are not thinking machines, but feeling machines”. Storytelling will help to capture people’s attention. Finding common “interests and language” will help to reach the audience (e.g. economics benefits)