

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ST&I POLICY RESEARCH AND POLICY MAKING

BY

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RESEARCHER APPROACHES


- PUBLISH ACADEMIC PAPERS AND BOOKS
 - ACADEMIC CAREER REQUIRES IT
 - CONTRIBUTES TO CLIMATE OF ACADEMIC OPINION
 - WORK MAY BE READ BY KNOWLEDGE BROKERS
- PROACTIVELY INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION AND POLICY
 - CULTIVATE PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH POLICY MAKERS AND THEIR ADVISERS
 - WRITE ARTICLES FOR NEWSPAPERS
 - APPEAR ON TV AND RADIO – BECOME A GURU
 - WELCOME VISITS OF POLICY MAKERS TO DEPARTMENT OR RESEARCH CENTRE
 - DEVELOP INDICATORS OF POLICY IMPACT
- SERVE ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES

POLICY MAKER REQUIREMENTS

- TIMELINESS OF INPUTS TO DECISIONS
 - 1 DAY
 - 3 WEEKS
 - 1 YEAR+
- KNOWLEDGE NOT INFORMATION
- TRUSTED AND AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES OF KNOWLEDGE
- GENERIC AND SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE
- KNOWLEDGE ABOUT OTHER ORGANISATION AND COUNTRIES EXPERIENCES
- VIEWS OF STAKEHOLDERS TO ADVICE: POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS: eg Differential impact of policies on lives of men and women

BRIDGING THE GAP AND ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE BROKERS

- WHO ARE KNOWLEDGE BROKERS?
- WEB BASED APPROACHES
 - GOOGLE
 - SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (SCIDEV.NET)
 - SOUTH AFRICAN GREEN PAPER ON S&T POLICY
 - OXFORD ANALYTICA
- ADVISORY COMMITTEES: GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIES
- CHIEF SCIENTISTS
- CITIZEN JURIES
- THREE TELEPHONE CALL SOLUTION



IN CONCLUSION

- MUCH ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE ON THE TOPIC, BUT RELATIVELY LITTLE RESEARCH
- NEED FOR INTERACTION BETWEEN POLICY RESEARCHERS, POLICY MAKERS AND KNOWLEDGE BROKERS
- INCREASING INTEREST IN HOW BEST TO ENCOURAGE EVIDENCE BASED DECISION MAKING
- RELEVANCE FOR MENA REGION?