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# Science to Policy interface: How to achieve meaningful impact

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We are a Knowledge based enterprise, expert in:

- Collaborative research
- **Evidence-informed public policies**
- Quality scientific communication

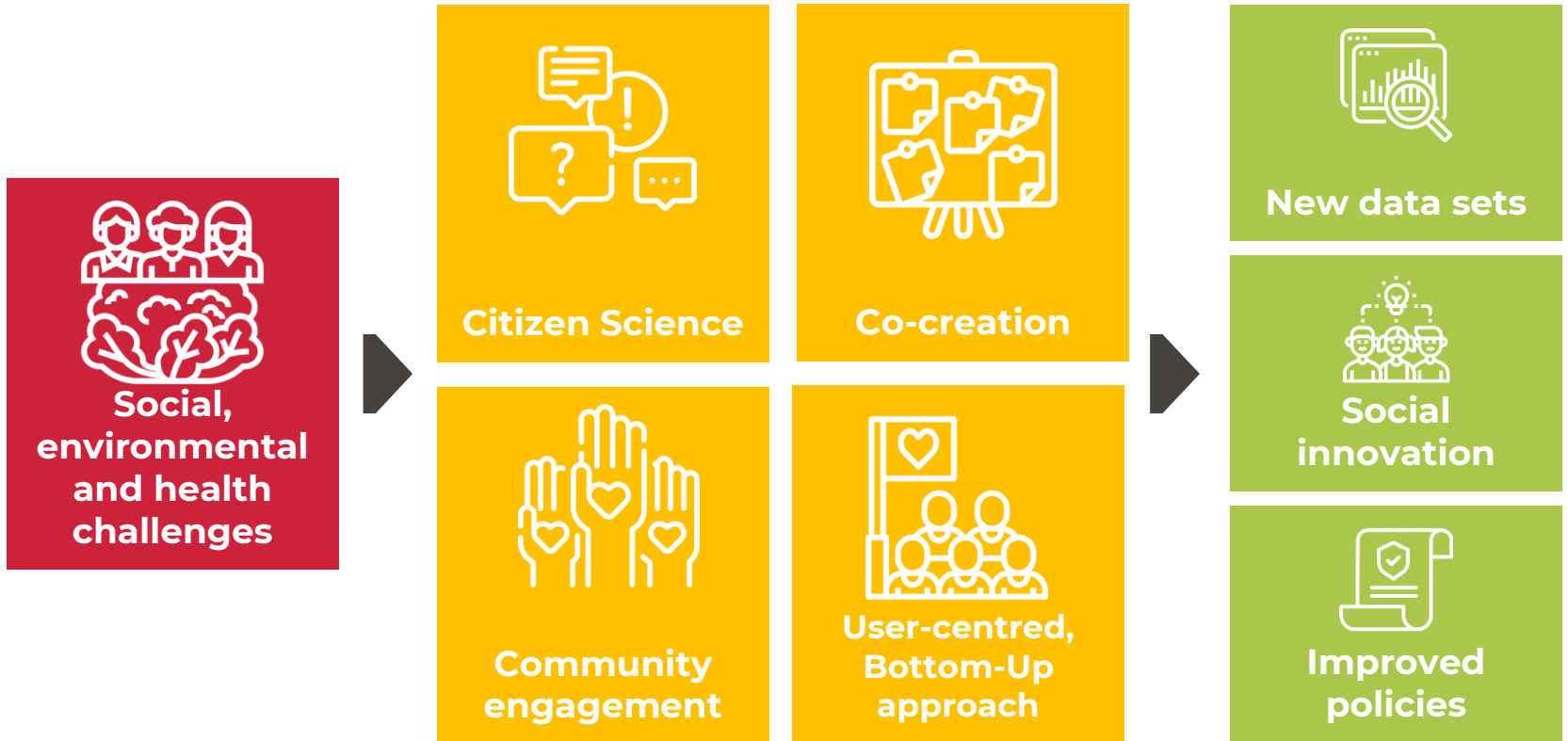
At Science for Change we address social, environmental and health challenges through citizen science, participatory strategies and co-creation

## Mission:

We facilitate **collaborative research** between different agents to **co-design solutions** to challenges that concern citizens and **inform public policies** based on scientific evidence.

## Vision:

We seek a paradigm shift that allows the **democratization of science** through real, active and inclusive **participation of society** in the **generation of knowledge**.





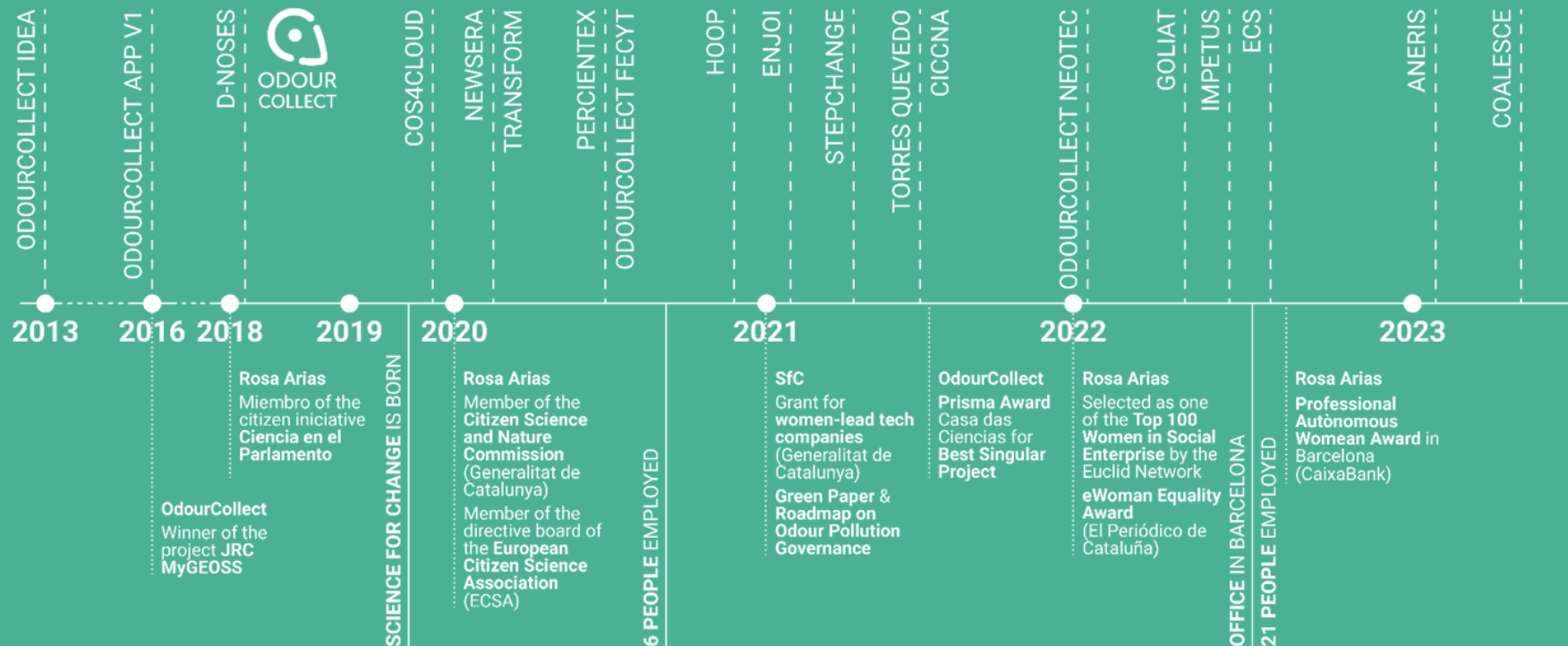
**+14 ongoing  
projects**

**in +20 countries**

**in collaboration  
+100 institutions**

**+3M funding for  
research projects**

# Science for Change at a glance





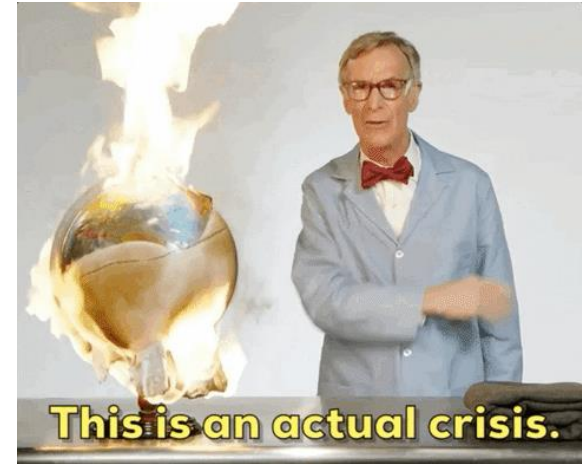
Join at  
**slido.com**  
**#3456 846**

1. Select, at least, 5 cards that you agree with (20 minutes).
2. Discuss, with the help of the cards and based on your ideas, views and beliefs (15 minutes):
  - ☐ Why is it relevant to include science in policymaking?
  - ☐ How do you think you can include your research into policy?
3. Share your opinions and points of view through slido (15-20 minutes).

## The world is currently facing a PERMACRISIS

- Environmental, health and socioeconomic challenges.
- **Joint effort** from citizens, policymakers and researchers.

Evidence-informed policymaking





# Connecting policymaking with scientific research is NOT AN EASY TASK



- Scientific and policymaking communities operate in **different worlds**.
- Distinct cultures, values, incentives, languages, skills and time scales.

**Enhancing science communication with policymakers**

THEN,

How can researchers engage  
with policymakers to work  
together to increase the policy impact  
of research projects?

## Creating a policy action map

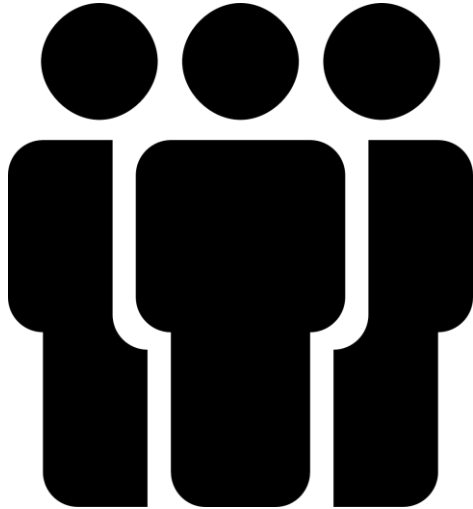
1. BUILD **ALLIANCES** WITH POLICYMAKERS
2. FIND THE **RIGHT PERSON**
3. **PLAN** AHEAD
4. SUPPORT **EVIDENCE-INFORMED POLICIES**
5. PREPARE A **DIRECT AND SPECIFIC MESSAGE**
6. **TEAM UP** WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

# 1. Build **alliances** with policymakers

- Collaborate closely with public administration at all levels.
- Build bridges between public administration and citizens.

1	[PROJECT]		
	Build alliances with policymakers		
	Goals	Who to contact (Authority/Institution)	Mutual Interests
International			
European			
National			
Regional			
Local			

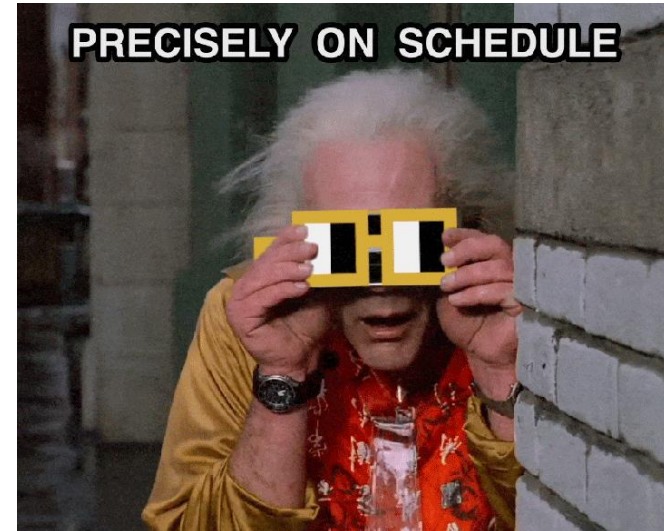
## 2. Find the **right people**



- Identify the appropriate policymaker at each level (part of the government, technical person or political role, vision, etc.)
- Policy analysis of how a territory is governed and by whom.

### 3. Plan ahead

- Stay informed about public agendas and timing:
  - Take notes about policy events.
  - Consider electoral agendas and how they may impact on policymaker's availability and priorities.



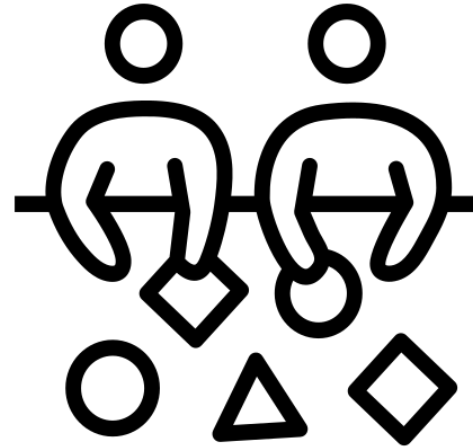
## 4. Support **evidence-informed policies**

- Start by assessing whether your project can address an issue on the political agenda.
  - Understand policymakers' needs
  - Think big picture and societal impacts
  - Propose solutions

Data and results  
+  
political agenda topicality

## 4. Support **evidence-informed policies**

- Consider co-creating the project with policymakers.
- Create specific materials tailored to the policymakers.
- Provide clear messages and recommendations to governmental agencies based on data.



## 5. Prepare a **direct** and **specific** message



- Prepare a direct message that takes into account their schedules and priorities.
  - Facts do not speak for themselves.
- Have a clear idea of what you want to convey and how your project can address their needs.
- Consider developing useable and understandable products that showcase the value of your work in a tangible way: **policy briefs, policy recommendations**, etc.



## 6. **Team up** with other organisations and build your relationship on mutual benefits.

- Collaboration with other organisations can be a powerful way to amplify the impact of your project and build a more comprehensive approach to addressing public challenges.
- Focus on identifying mutual benefits .
- Consider working with complementary projects such as cultural neighbourhood organisations, amateur associations, etc.
- Position your project as a valuable resource for organisations seeking to make evidence-informed decisions.

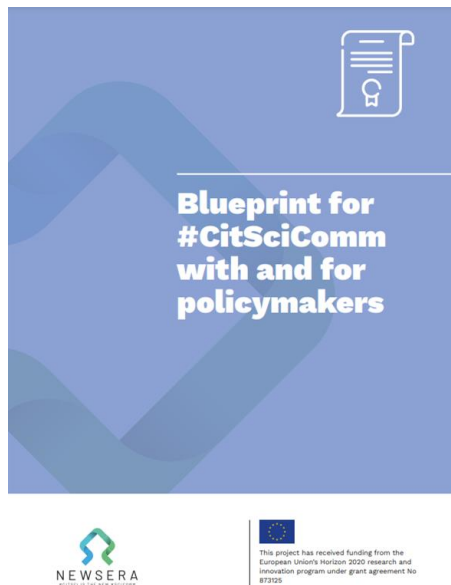


THE WAY TO GO:

## Recommendations to efficiently engage with policymakers for wider impact:

- Timing is crucial
- Understand which level and type of policymaker is relevant to your project
- Boost the potential of your project policy impact
- Grasp the attention of policymakers
- Create alliances with public institutions
- Raise institutional awareness for creating Transfer Knowledge Units
- Consider the multi-level governance model to effectively garner support at all institutional levels
- Talk about the economic impact of your project
- Boost the social dimension of your project
- Lobby

## Resources



<https://newsera2020.eu/>

Blueprint for  
#CitSciComm with and for  
policymakers (D4.4).

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7752668>

NEWSERA Policy Brief 2  
(D5.4).

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7752561>

More resources:

- Knowledge for Policy, EC: [https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/evidence-informed-policy-making\\_en](https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/evidence-informed-policy-making_en)
- Science for Policy, JRC: [https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/index_en)

