



Plant Sciences and Policy

## Does Evidence matter in Policy Making?

Panel and Plenary Discussion

**Wednesday 10 November 2010, 3.00 – 5.00 p.m.**

Botanical Garden University Zurich, big auditorium, Zollikerstrasse 107, Zurich

Free entrance, no registration required, language English

Holger Gerdes, *Ecologic Institute, Germany*

Andreas Hauser, *FOEN, Switzerland*

Tiana-Angelina Moser, *GLP, member of the Swiss national council*

Christian Pohl, *td-net, transdisciplinary research, ETH Zuerich*

Andrew Seidl, *IUCN Headquarters, Switzerland*

In research we can observe tendencies to doing not just useful, but useable research, research that offers some guidance on how to improve our actions in our environment and to improve society. On the other hand, practitioners too, are getting more 'evidence-aware', wanting to base management decisions on scientific evidence and to evaluate their success. Also, evidence-based policy has become a major part of many governments' approaches to policy making and the machinery of government. Yet, multiple factors other than evidence influence policy making and policy implementation, such as resources ('what works at what cost'), values (ideology and political beliefs) or habits and traditions.

In this discussion our invited experts from governmental, non-governmental and research institutions discuss the role of evidence in decision-making from their own experiences.

**Anybody interested in the role of (plant) science and research for policy-making is welcome to attend and contribute to this event – PhD students, postdocs, and PIs alike.**



"Some say it's irrevocable, others say it's irreversible. Given such an absence of consensus I suggest we do nothing drastic."