



Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

PhD Program in Science & Policy: Stakeholder Engagement

Lecturer: Dr. Minu Hemmati; **Case study supervisor:** Dr. Andrea Pfisterer

Location: Botanical Garden, University of Zurich

Dates: 6th October & 3rd November 2014

Credit Points: 2 ECTS

Over the course of their work life, natural scientists will have to deal with issues relating to the development of their field, some of which may be subject to controversies in society. They may engage in implementing policy programs, such as for the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, which may involve changing habits and adopting new techniques. Natural scientists may also be invited to participate in stakeholder engagement processes, for example as experts or representatives of the scientific community. Communicating and collaborating effectively within the context of different stakeholder groups and engaging constructively with representatives of different sectors of society in multi-stakeholder processes will be key competencies in this context. In this course, students will learn how to build and work with multi-stakeholder groups.

Objectives:

- Gain a basic understanding of Stakeholder Engagement and multi-stakeholder processes;
- Get an overview of possible issues within Life Sciences where Stakeholder Engagement could play a role;
- Learn to identify and analyse stakeholders;
- Know different levels of involvement and how to plan them; understand their strengths and weaknesses; and
- Know criteria and methods for evaluating stakeholder engagement processes.

Prior Knowledge: enrolled students will be provided with preparatory literature; apart from this, no prior knowledge is required.

Number of Participants: A maximum of 20 students will be able to enrol in this course.

Individual Performance and Assessment:

Students complete a journal fulfilling different tasks, which has to be accepted by the case study supervisors. Student teams will discuss and present their case studies in plenary.

Please note: In the weeks between the two workshop days you should plan for available time for group work and individual work of min. 30 hours.

Trainer:

Dr. Minu Hemmati is a clinical psychologist with a doctorate in organisational and environmental psychology. Since 1998, she has been working independently with international organisations, governments, non-government organisations, women's



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networks, companies, and research institutions, developing, facilitating, coaching, and evaluating multi-stakeholder processes. She is author of the book 'Multi-Stakeholder Processes for Governance and Sustainability. Beyond Deadlock and Conflict.'(2002). Also see www.minuhemmati.net.

Dr. Andrea Pfisterer is an ecologist with a doctorate in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning research and experience in environmental education. She is the coordinator of the PhD program Science & Policy.