

ACHIEVING GLOBAL IMPACTS: WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU KEEP SHOWING UP?

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PLoS One, 6 September, “Emergence phenology, uncertainty, and the evolution of mi



WHAT'S A GLOBAL IMPACT?

- Speaking at a global conference?
- Adoption of a policy recommendation? Change in regulations?
- Policy Forum essay in *Science*?
- Personal attack by Donald Trump?
- You're dating Brad Pitt?

Related issues:

A global impact is probably not about “projects.”

What is *policy*? The UN General Assembly? The loan guidelines for the European Investment Bank? The administrative systems for the Rijkswaterstaat?

Do you have a global message? Do you need one? Do you have the capacity to work on this level?

AGWA: ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL WATER ADAPTATION



- Began 2010 with ~25 members
- >1000 now, very global; co-chaired by the World Bank, SIWI
core funding from USACE, BMZ, Sida, WB, NL RWS
- Strong technical programs on adaptation and freshwater management
- ~130 people on our global policy team



WHAT'S THE BIG MESSAGE?

Who's your (global) audience?

Heading Off Negative Impacts of Dam Projects

By ERICA GIES DEC. 8, 2015



The Xayaburi Dam under construction in Laos. It is an example of how public comment can lead to changes that are intended to reduce the potential harm of hydroelectric projects. In the Mekong River Basin, 12 dams are planned for the main stem of the river and 78 on its tributaries. Courtney Weatherby

Hydroelectric dams grace bank notes in developing countries, from Mozambique to Laos, Kyrgyzstan to Sri Lanka, a place of honor reflecting their reputation as harbingers of prosperity.

- Technical practitioners who already knew climate was a problem
- “Technical decision makers” — many disciplines
- Global policy, institutions create an enabling or disabling environment — indirect

- **Source to sea approaches — Sweden, Fiji**
- **International Hydropower Association — private sector finance; Renewable Energy Directive policy incoherence**
- **ICPDR, WWF, EIA guidelines/methods**
- **EIB NBS methodologies/approaches**
- **UNECE Water Secretariat**
- **National / EU regulators: BMUB**

FUN FACT: SPEAKING AT A CONFERENCE IS NOT LASTING CHANGE



HOW DO YOU TAKE THAT MESSAGE TO SCALE?

Find the key levers of action

- Finance (which is not economics)

Green bonds — over 1 billion USD in the past year based on our criteria

- Decision making processes — adoptions, buy in, ownership
CRIDA, World Bank Decision Tree
- Look actively for policy connections with people who can help translate for you

#ClimateIsWater campaign, SDGs, UNFCCC, regulators, Sendai, Ramsar, CBD

Crises: make sure that preparation meets opportunity

Case: *Do you know what an NDC is? The new language for development, including infrastructure, ecosystems, investment.*



LEARN YOUR AUDIENCE

- There is much you can't take credit for; having other groups take credit for your work is a sign of success
- Be a good party host; convening is a powerful form of credit
- Learn process — do the work to learn *their* system
- Work to become the translator
- Mind the gaps — disciplines, institutions, cultures, experiences
- Keep showing up





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