

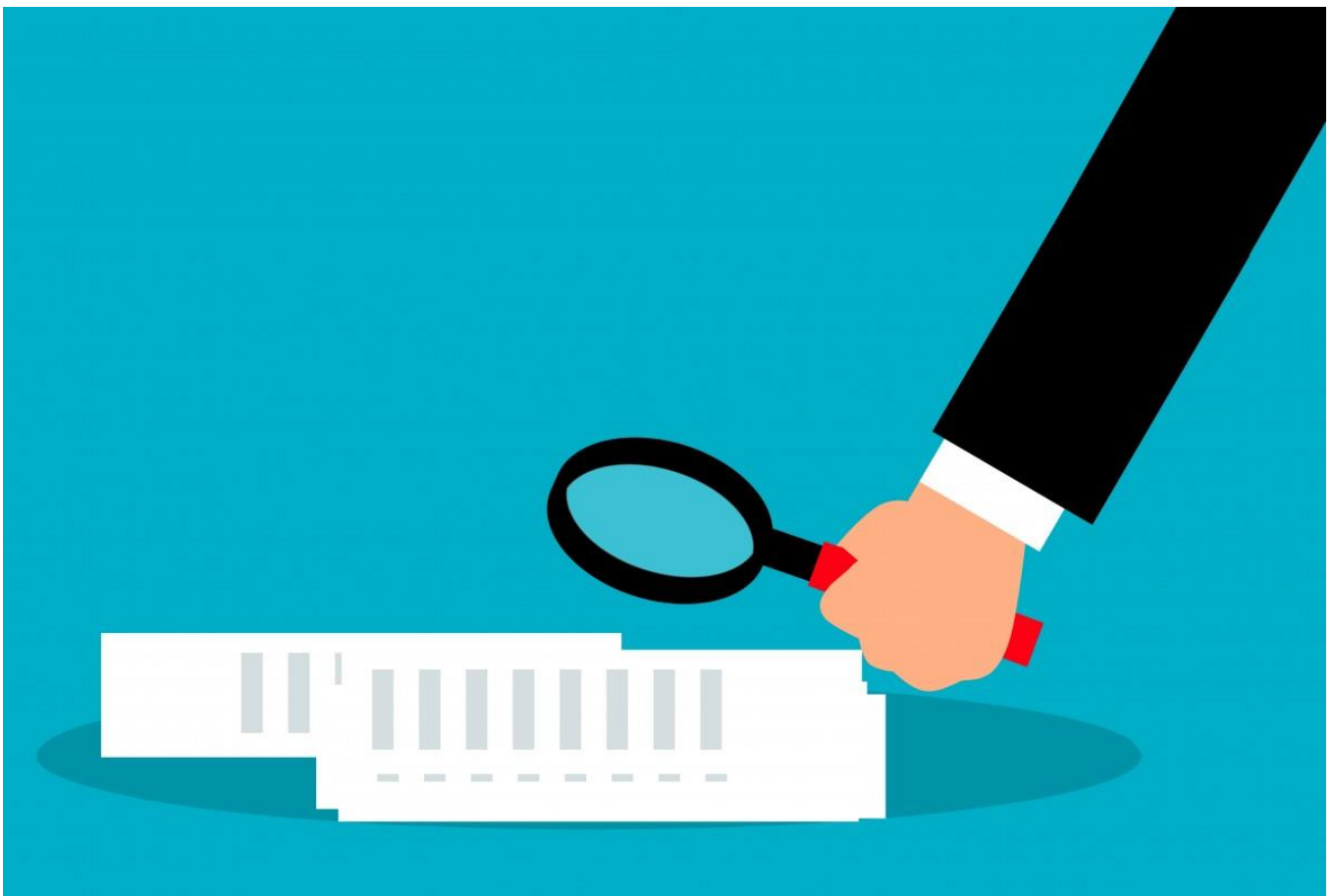


Agenda

JRC Online workshop

**Developing an evaluation framework for
science for policy ecosystems**

24th March 2022



Joint
Research
Centre

Developing an evaluation framework for science for policy ecosystems

Online workshop*, 24th March 2022, 14:00-17:00 (CET)

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) welcomes you to this online participatory workshop.

Background | This expert workshop forms part of [an initiative of the JRC to analyse and support the capacity of science for policy ecosystems¹ in EU Member States](#).

Particularly, the workshop will explore opportunities for developing a framework for evaluating the quality and capacity of science for policy ecosystems. The focus is on science for policy *ecosystems*, reflecting an interest in *institutional* conditions (rules, structures, procedures, norms, networks) conducive for evidence-informed policymaking.

The rationale for creating an evaluation framework is to stimulate and inform national and EU-level debates about both investing in and reforming science for policy capacity within the Member States. The framework would also help improve and guide the JRC's own capacity building activities in support of Member States. These debates and activities have intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic, as illustrated by recent EU initiatives concerning [better regulation](#), [research policy](#), [COVID-19 governance lessons](#), and [public administration reform](#).

Even though evaluation frameworks can help inform investments, reform, and capacity building debates and measures, existing frameworks, including indicator sets, are few, often not capturing the breadth and quality of mechanisms connecting science and policymaking.

Questions | To close this gap, we would like to discuss a number of questions, which discuss normative and conceptual foundations of an evaluation framework, as well as the methodological approach and limitations. Concretely, we will ask the following questions:

¹ **Science for policy ecosystem** is here understood as "a complex of organisational structures and entities, processes, and networks that interact to support the mobilisation, acquisition, synthesis, translation, presentation for use, and application of scientific knowledge in policymaking processes".

*Cover image available as public domain.

Why? What impact/outcomes should science for policy ecosystems have? Why do we need science for policy capacity?

What? What are the key attributes and elements of science for policy ecosystems that shape their capacity to achieve the desired impact/outcome?

How? How can we evaluate the quality/performance of these key attributes/elements? Who could be involved? What can we use the evaluation findings for, and what are their limitations?

We know that the discussion may raise more questions than answers! But it will identify some problems that have thus far prevented the emergence of comprehensive frameworks to evaluate the institutional capacity of science for policy ecosystems. It could also provide possible insights as to how to continue developing processes for evaluating ecosystems.

Participants | This exploratory workshop brings together an interdisciplinary group of academic experts and practitioners who approach the issue of evaluating institutional capacity for evidence-informed policymaking from different angles, including science and technology studies, public administration and governance, comparative political science, regulation studies, impact studies, and others.

Input papers | Three short input papers from different perspectives will be shared on 16 March.

Online platform | MS Teams, [channel](#). You will be receiving a calendar invitation with instructions on 16 March.

Programme

- 13:45 **Teams meeting** will be opened
- 14:00 **Short welcome by JRC**
David Mair, Head of the Knowledge for Policy – Concepts and Methods Unit, JRC
- 14:05 **Introduction to the objectives and agenda**
Kristian Krieger, Policy Analyst, JRC
- 14:15 **Interactive participant introductions**
- 14:25 **Making sense of the capacity of science for policy ecosystems**
[*Kathryn Oliver*](#), Associate Professor of Sociology and Public Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
[*Ingeborg Niestroy*](#), Founder/Director, Public Strategy for Sustainable Development (PS4SD)
[*Roger Strand*](#), Professor, Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, University of Bergen
- 14:40 **Introduction to break-out questions and rooms**
Lorenzo Melchor, Policy Analyst, JRC
- 14:45 **Break-out session #1: Why?**
What impact/outcomes should science for policy ecosystems have? Why is science for policy capacity needed?
- 15:15 **Short break**
- 15:25 **Break-out session #2: What?**
What are the key attributes and elements of science for policy ecosystems that shape their capacity to achieve the desired impact/outcome?
- 15:55 **Break-out session #3: How?**
How can we evaluate the quality/performance of these key attributes/elements? Who could be involved? What can we use the evaluation findings for, and what are their limitations?
- 16:25 **Ideas harvesting**
Group presentations in plenary and discussions
- 16:55 **Concluding remarks and what's next?**
Kristian Krieger, Policy Analyst, JRC
Lorenzo Melchor, Policy Analyst, JRC
- 17:00 **End**

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