

A Thought Starter on

A Possible Model for the Science-Policy Interface under the Post 2020 Framework

1. This note is a work-in-progress document. It summarises some preliminary ideas and input on a possible model for the science-policy interface under the Post 2020 Framework. It is intended to stimulate thinking and feed into the discussions on science-policy interface for the intersessional process considering the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. Furthermore, it is a living document, which may be further developed in light of the discussions and the views expressed by other stakeholders.
2. During some of the Regional Meetings and the second meeting of the Intersessional Process, a number of stakeholders from intergovernmental organisations, national governments and non-governmental organisations have voiced the needs of a strengthened science-policy interface under the Post 2020 Framework.
3. Given the diversity and complexity of issues on chemicals (and waste), academic expertise in different disciplines and sub-disciplines are needed for different issues. Hence, this thought starter intends to propose a model with a lean insitutional setting and a flexible, network approach that may utilize existng global network of academic scientists in all relevant disciplines (see Figure 1) to fill in the gaps of existing science-policy interface in the field of chemicals and waste management while avoiding duplicated efforts by, e.g., the POPs Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention, the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention, and the IOMC organisations.
4. A proposed model will use a core team of 3–6 coordinators to reach out, maintain, expand and mobilise the wider academic community (scientific experts from all relevant fields will be engaged and involved on an *ad hoc* basis) for its work. In brief, upon specific request from the relevant bodies, the coordinators will establish an *ad hoc* working group by gathering academic experts from all relevant disciplines and from all relevant regions, as well as relevant experts from other stakeholders and sectors, and coordinate the development of relevant scientific outputs by the *ad hoc* expert group as requested. The core team's work programmes and expenditures will be overseen by a steering committee (e.g., consisting of representatives from regions).
5. A proposed model may conduct its work in the following three key areas, which are subject to the requests by the relevant bodies and can include (among others) the ability to:
 - a. From Science to Policy: Upon request by the relevant bodies, provide relevant scientific assessments on specific issues (e.g., supporting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in developing proposals of issues of concern, supporting policy implementation, supporting efforts in capturing issues with emerging evidence of concern and inform policymakers).
 - b. From Policy to Science: inform scientists about policy developments so as to enable them to understand policy needs, set proper research priorities, and generate targeted scientific knowledge in a proper format to support further policy development; coordinate scientific inputs in a synthesized and ready to be used format for specific policy calls.
 - c. Between Science and Policy: facilitate science-policy dialogue to support the development of joint strategies of science and policy on specific issues, information dissemination, knowledge management, and capacity building (e.g., winter/summer schools and training workshops).

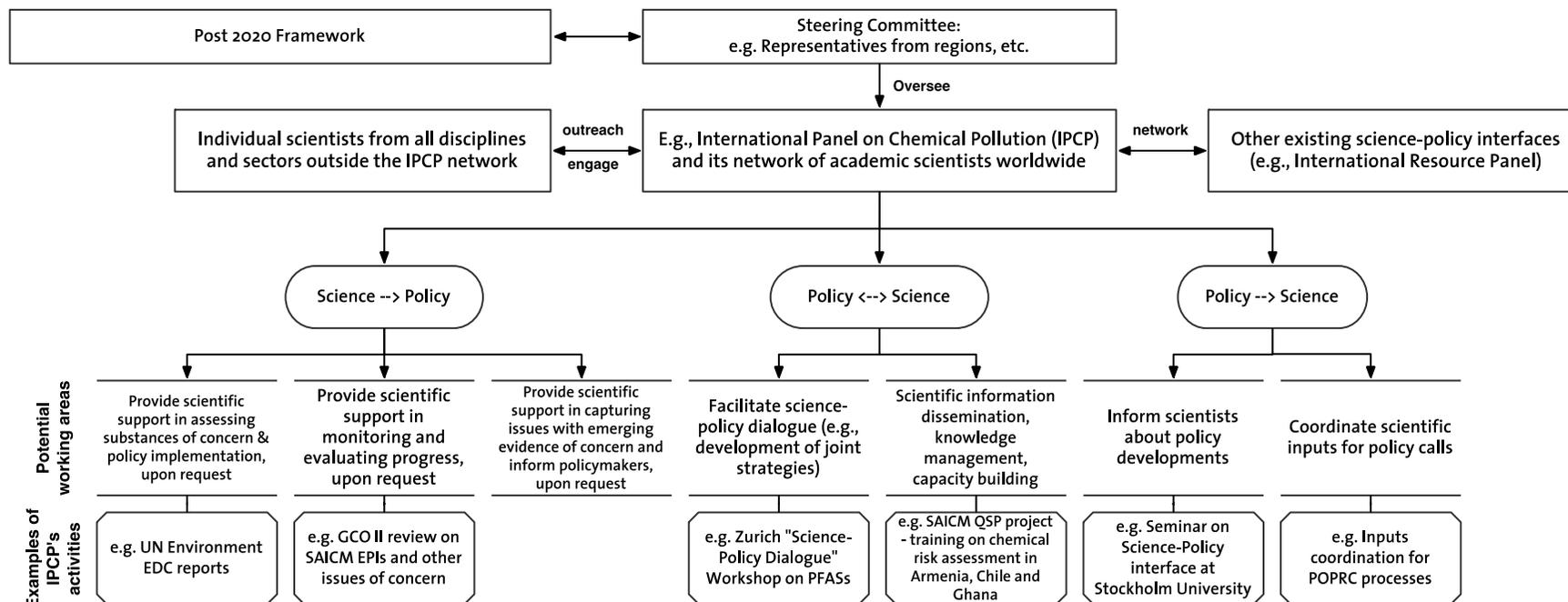


Figure 1. Overview of a proposed model for the science-policy interface under the Post 2020 Framework, including potential key working areas, main functions, and some existing examples of activities by the International Panel on Chemical Pollution in these areas.