

At this WSF, for the first time all young scientists' organizations collaborated and we had the most young scientists at WSF ever! Fifty participants from over 30 countries with a diversity of region, gender, and scientific expertise.

Speaking of expertise, I have a PhD in Neuroscience and this is how I thought of this bio paradigm of science-policy interface.

We, the young scientists, understand that policy-making is a very complex system, as we are all aware, which is why it can be represented as the brain.

The effectors who bring policy into practice are the actual people, the communities, Which can be regarded as the muscles.

The brain and the muscle need to talk to each other and this is where we, the young scientists, see our role.

If we extend this example to the 2030 SDGs, one way to turn the 2030 SDGs policies into practice is through the active engagement of science and scientists. Especially young motivated scientists, many of whom are educators and teachers.

Young scientists are ready to take an active role to be the interface between the policy-makers and the people, to help formulate and communicate the knowledge findings, in two directions – both to the policy makers and to the public.

This is why we, the young scientists, suggest a very practical solution: Start a regular and structured forum in your local congress or parliament which allows young scientists to be actively involved and not just summoned ad hoc.

We also suggest communication training programmes and internships for young scientists to learn how to talk to policy-makers in a more effective way and to learn to be aware of the policy-making process.

These initiatives would help the whole implementation, from policy to practice, to go more smoothly. Going back to my bio reference... if you engage young scientists, you go through the spinal cord, the backbone.

Let us, the young scientists be the young and fast neurons in this backbone.

*Presented on behalf of the assembled young scientists by Ivana Gadjanski
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