

**Scientists' Coalition** for an effective Plastics Treaty

<https://ikhapp.org/scientistscoalition/>  
[scientists.coalition@ikhapp.org](mailto:scientists.coalition@ikhapp.org)

## Science-Policy Interface for Plastic Pollution | Report Launch

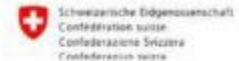


TESS

Forum on Trade, Environment and the SDGs



Permanent Mission of Norway  
Geneva



7 November 2023



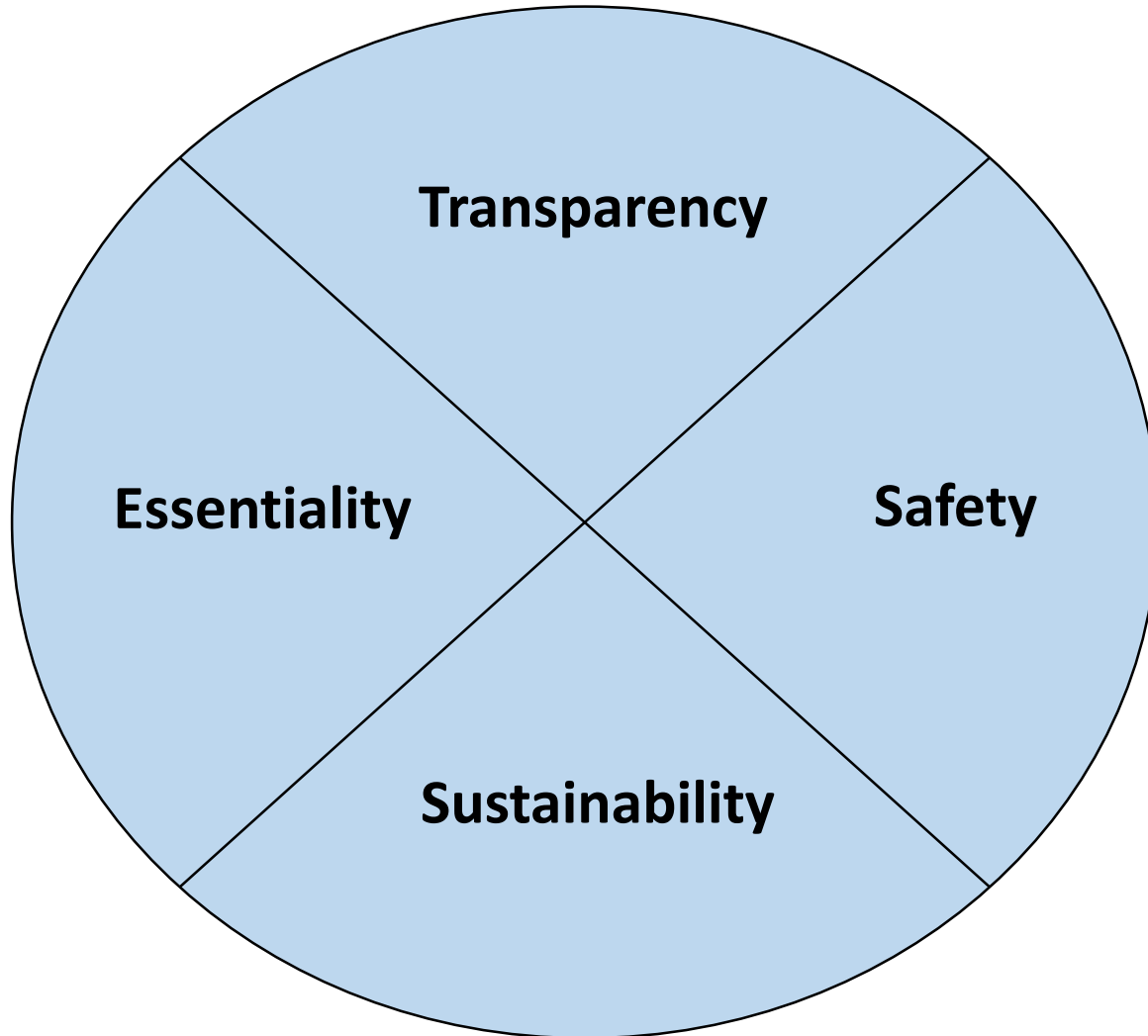
Amila Abeynayaka, PhD  
Policy Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)



@litterlifecycle



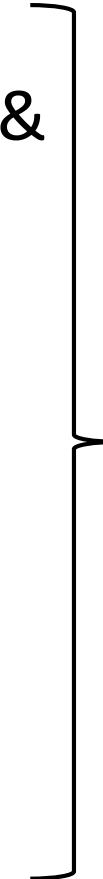
# Assessment criteria



- Plastics-associated chemicals
- Polymers
- Products
- Technologies (extraction, production, use, waste management, removal and remediation)
- Systems/services (e.g., reuse)

*Including assessment of plastics alternatives (bioplastics) and material substitutes*

- **Credibility** (transparency, openness to critique, & scientific independence)
- **Legitimacy** (broad participation & ownership)
- **Salience** (tailored outputs)
- **Agility** (built-in review & scientific flexibility)



## Dedicated Science-Policy Interface



### Hybrid Regulatory System

- Prohibited
- Restricted
- Permitted
- Exempt

# Key Principles for an Effective Science-policy Interface



## ➤ **Transparency:**

- Sources of information and the methods.
- Make scientific information and data accessible.

## ➤ **Scientific Integrity:**

- Scientific process is based on peer review, research ethics.
- Guard against bias, manipulation, distortion of scientific findings to serve specific policy agendas.

## ➤ **Independence:**

- Independence from political or corporate influence.
- Protect scientists from undue pressure to conform to specific policy positions.

## ➤ **Inclusivity:**

- Involve a diverse range of experts and stakeholders in the science-policy dialogue.
- Strive for a balance between various considerations (economic, environmental, and social concerns).

## ➤ **Ethics and Conflict of Interest:**

- Guidelines and mechanisms to identify and manage conflicts of interest.
- Disclosure of financial, personal, or institutional interests.

# Key Principles for an Effective Science-policy Interface (Contd.)

## ➤ **Communication and Engagement:**

- Effective communication between scientists and policymakers, emphasizing plain language and clarity.
- Translate complex scientific information into understandable terms for non-expert audiences.
- Involve the public in the science-policy dialogue (trust, understanding, increase the legitimacy).

## ➤ **Accountability:**

- Scientists and policymakers accountable for their roles in the science-policy interface.
- Review/evaluate effectiveness of interface in providing evidence-based policy recommendations.

## ➤ **Long-term Perspective (and flexibility):**

- Recognize the importance of a long-term vision in science-policy interactions, as some issues require sustained engagement and monitoring.
- Adapt to changing circumstances and emerging scientific knowledge while maintaining a strong commitment to evidence-based decision-making.

## ➤ **Regional Context:**

- Specific challenges and opportunities that need to be considered.

# Scientists' Coalition

for an  
effective  
Plastics  
Treaty

Get in touch:

- [Scientists.coalition@ikhapp.org](mailto:Scientists.coalition@ikhapp.org)
- [Twitter.com/ScientistsCoa](https://twitter.com/ScientistsCoa)
- <https://ikhapp.org/scientistscoalition/>