

# Can we establish research impacts of the ESA CCI programme on national policies?

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A study by the European Space Policy Institute

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07 October 2021

11<sup>th</sup> ESA CCI Colocation meeting

# ESA's Climate Change Initiative: contributions

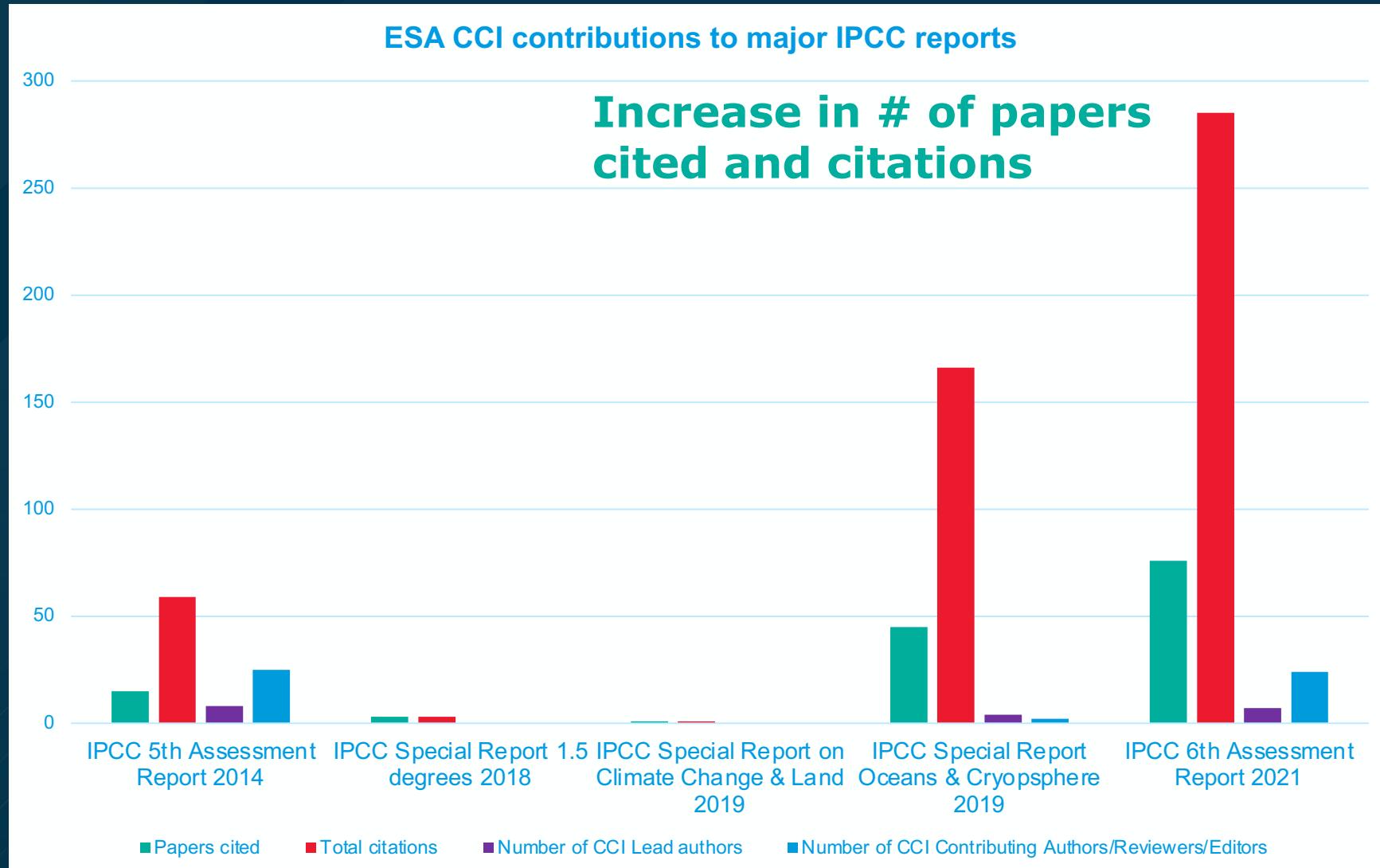
AR6 WG1 report:  
7 lead/coordinating  
authors

14 contributing  
authors

~10 expert reviewers

~75 papers cited

+270 in-text citations





## Science, Solutions, Solidarity

For a livable future



Source: un.org/climatechange



### Ministers prep for COP26

Climate and energy ministers will hash out key political issues in the lead-up to the Glasgow climate talks. The Pre-COP, the last high-level meeting of its kind before COP26, will bring together representatives from about 40 States along with UN officials and civil society advocates. Topics on the table include the protection of communities and natural habitats, sustainable finance and transparency.

[Read more »](#)



### Youth convene to drive action

Almost 400 young people from 186 countries will meet in Milan to rev up the call for climate action. With weeks to go before COP26, they will highlight youth leadership and push for a climate conscious society. Tune in for in-depth debates, the day of cinema and the #Music4Climate concert featuring the world's largest rock band.

[Read more »](#)

## Google Books Ngram Viewer



Climate Change, Climate Policy, Climate Action

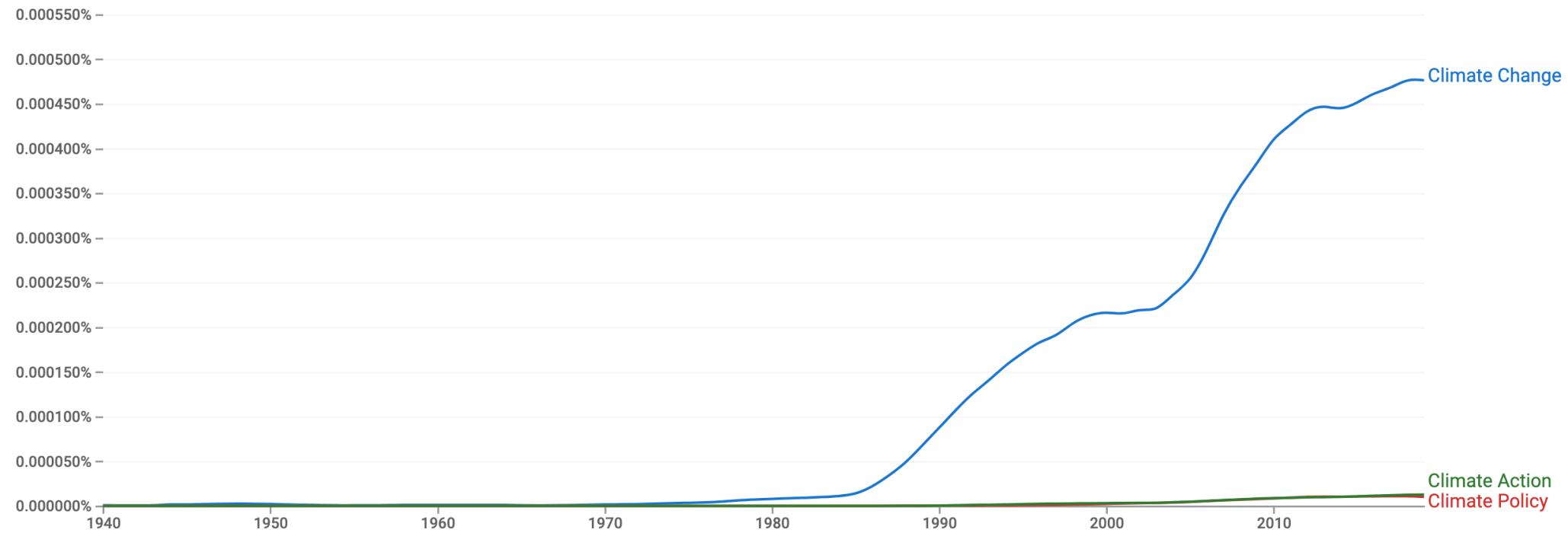


1940 - 2019 ▾

English (2019) ▾

Case-Insensitive

Smoothing ▾



Source: books.google.com/ngrams

## What role does ESA CCI play on national and EU level?

- How do Climate Data Records translate into climate policies on national/EU level?
- Is it only through uptake in the IPCC report?
- Are there other mechanisms? Should there be other mechanisms?



# Forms of science contributions to policy

- Agenda setting
- Expert moderation
- Clarifying concept
- Questioning false assumptions
- Guidance on structuring a decision
- Substantive advice
- Technical tips
- Data collection advice

# Forms of policy impact evidence

A citation in a government report

A citation in a parliamentary debate or other public proceedings

Documented personal testimony by a policymaker

Appointment to policy decision-making authority or committee

A citation in a report by an international body

Documented evidence of debate amongst practitioners and policymakers referring to research evidence

Independent documented evidence by third party, including the testimony of experts and users

Engagement with campaign and pressure groups and other civil organisations

Documented evidence of change to legislation, regulations or guidelines

Measures of improved public services or policy outcomes

Evidence of change in policy process or use of technology in delivery of public services

A citation of a scientific data source (e.g., satellite imagery, other space-based data)

# National Adaptation policies – 2 examples

## 1. Switzerland

CH2018 climate scenarios underpinning NAP  
Swiss National Adaptation Action Plan 2020-2025

2013 IPCC Report: The Physical Science Basis (Contribution of WGI)

ECV data on glaciers, GHG, ice sheets, ozone, sea level, SST, soil moisture

ESA CCI

## 2. Norway

White Paper, "Climate Change in Norway" (National Adaptation Strategy-2012)

cites

### Government Report

*The climate in Norway in 2100. Background material for the Official Norwegian Report on Adaptation to Climate Change. The Norwegian Climate Centre, September 2009, Oslo.*

#### Lead author, S. Sandven

- Former science leader of ESA CCI sea ice project (2011-2018)
- Publications with ESA CCI data

#### Co-author, L.M. Andreassen

- Member of climate research group (CRG) for ESA CCI glaciers project.
- Publications with ESA CCI data

Key chains of connection between Swiss NAP 2020-2025 and ESA CCI

Key chains of connection between Norwegian Adaptation Strategy and ESA CCI scientists

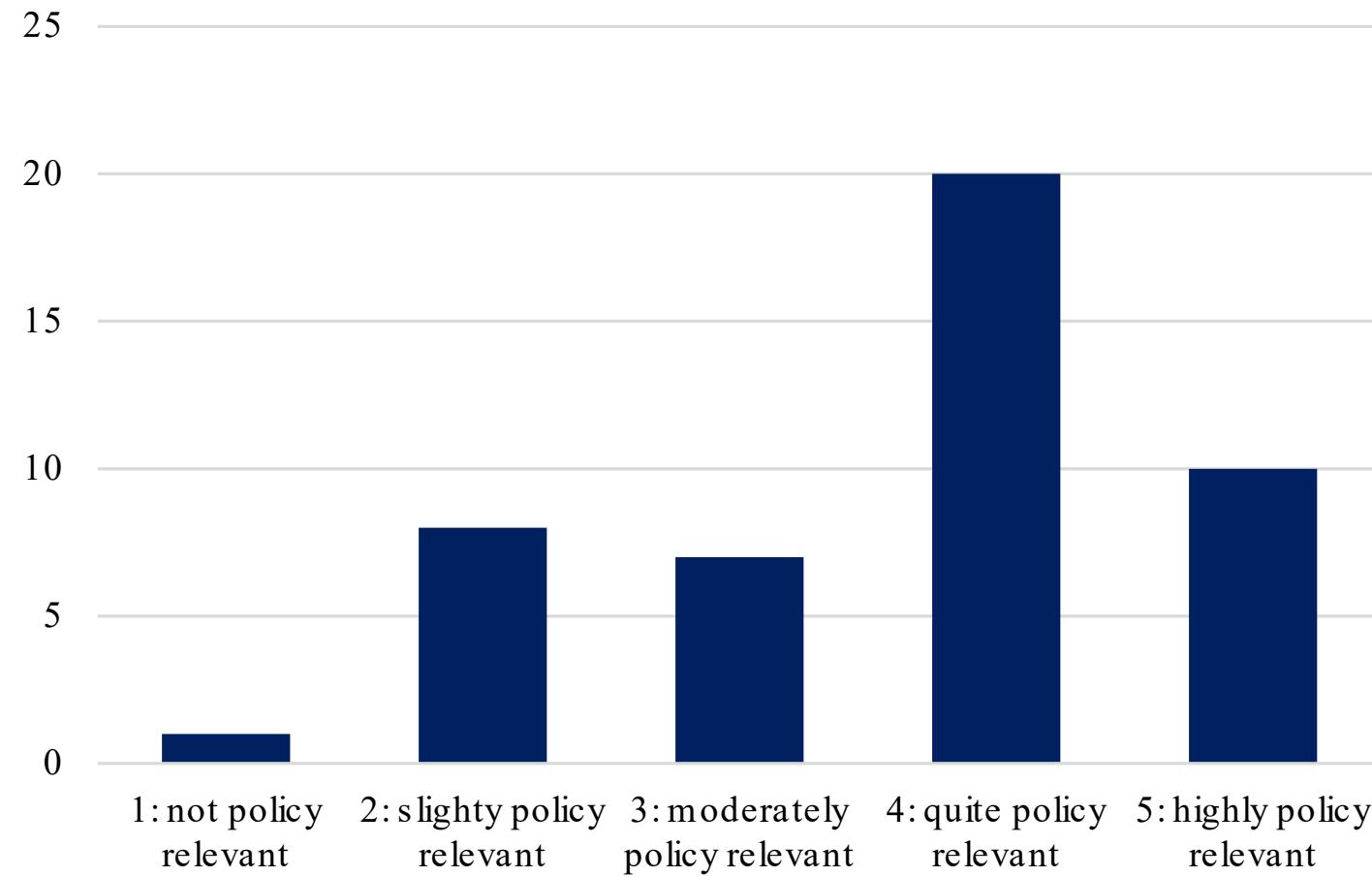
Scientific publications and data (ESA CCI data)

References to scientific publications and data in policy document

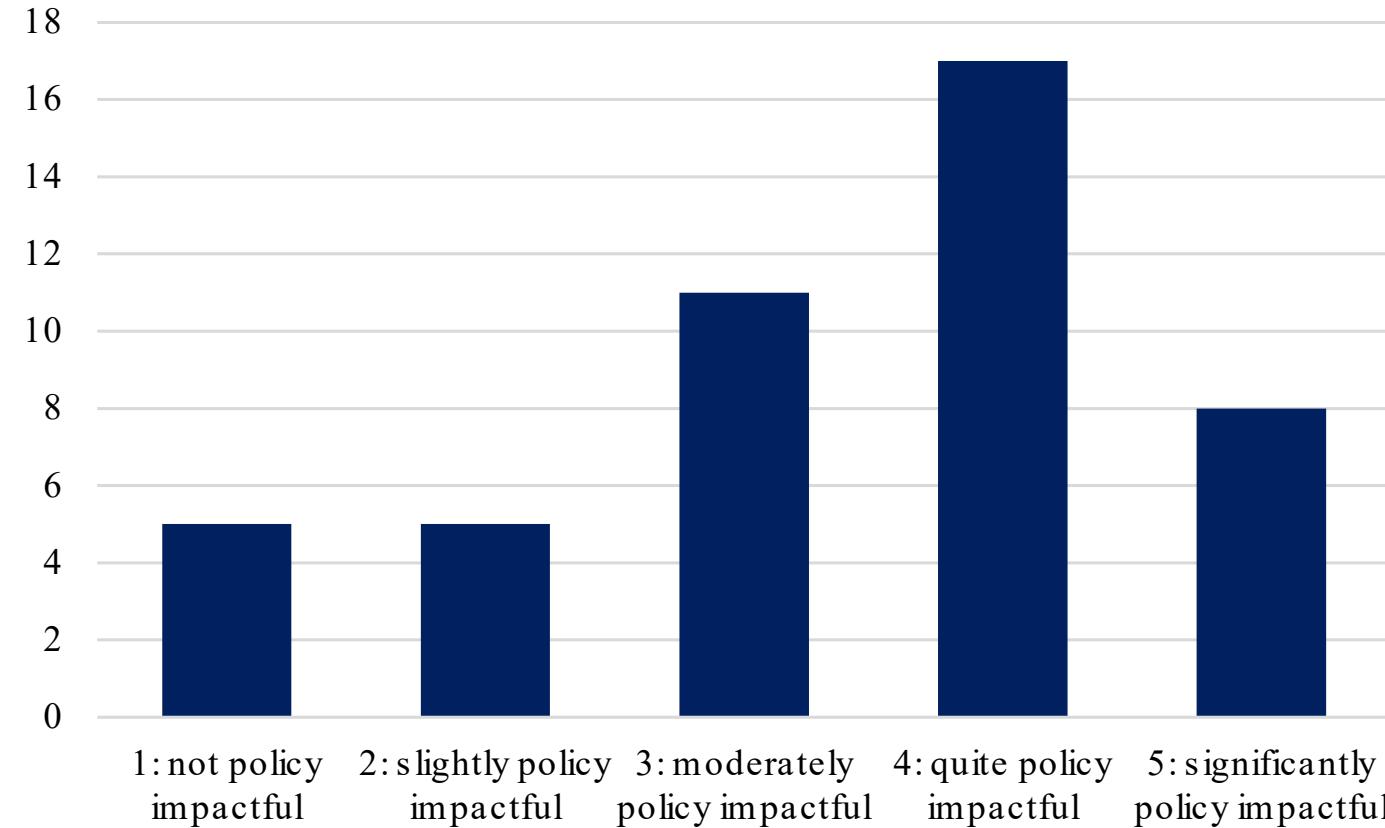
Climate policy measure

Climate action

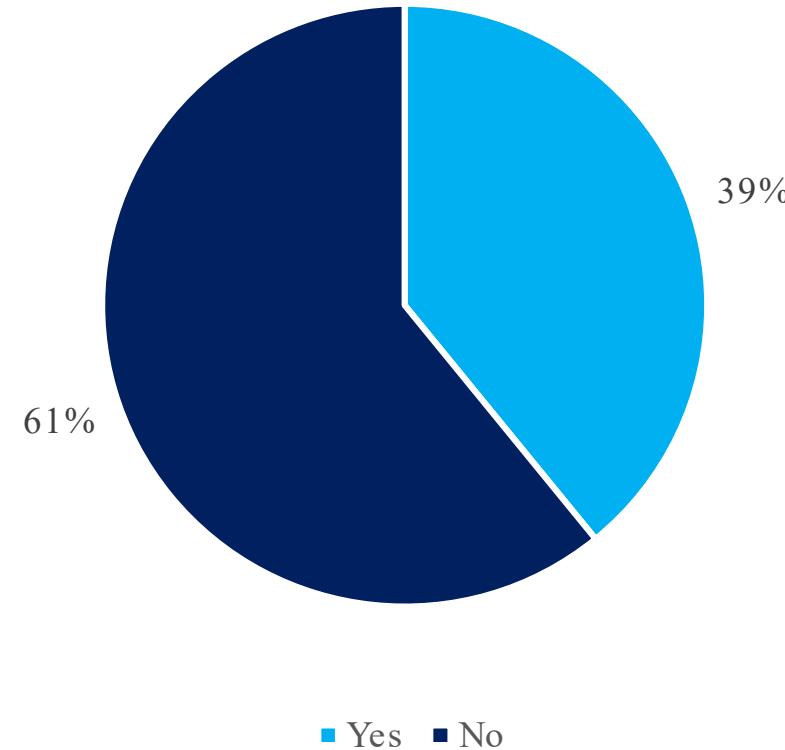
## How would you rate the policy relevance of your research?



## How you would rate the policy impact of your research?

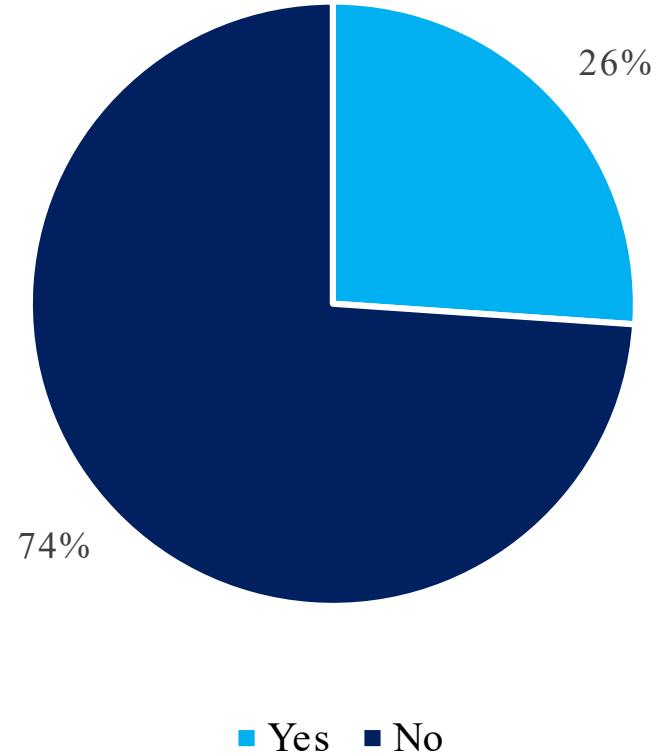


To your knowledge, has at least one of your publications been cited, referenced, or consulted in the drafting of a policy document since 2008?



■ Yes ■ No

## Have you been consulted at any point in national climate policymaking processes?



## Excerpts:

CH → “The way policy goes through the forest science is very specific studies get lead to policies.”

CH → “In Switzerland, the role played by science is enormous for policy creation.”

PT → “We need satellite data to tell us whether the forests are stable or are being reduced. We have scientists that use data on forest fires, but it's very disconnected from public policy.”



**“Disconnect” between the science and policy communities:**

Policymaking and scientific communities generally do not interact at a level which creates a structured and direct dialogue.

**Need for actionable information to inform the policymaking process:**

The information policymakers receive must be communicated in an accessible and understandable way.

**Non-identical national policymaking process:**

There are large discrepancies from one Member State to another, related to how scientific institutions are involved in the policymaking process and at what point.

**A general lack of awareness:**

Consulted stakeholders highlighted that organisations often need a decade-long vision coupled with awareness-raising campaigns and the organisation of workshops and conferences on their work and findings in order to have some sort of policy impact.