Unlocking ways for communicating Environmental Biogeochemistry research to media, policymakers, and governments

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Environmental Biogeochemistry is a discipline that can provide innovative solutions to tackle some of the global challenges of the 21st century. From climate change to the environment and public health, from chemical pollution control to biodiversity and ecosystem conservation- these exemplify the critical topics covered within the scope of Environmental Biogeochemistry research. Therefore, this research must be translational to policy and the public to create an impact on time. In this presentation, I will share my experiences working with 1. media for science outreach activities, 2. policymakers for strengthening contamination-related policies, and 3. government officials for raising awareness on the impact of climate and environmental change on natural resources, agriculture, and global health. These involvements have taught me that, as scientists, we sometimes need different communication strategies to deliver the same message to different audiences and readers. Communication between geochemists and non-scientific audiences in print, digital media, and governments is significantly distinct and thus requires different skill sets. This presentation will highlight various tools and practices through which geochemists can deliver their knowledge and research to the public. For example, since the success of scientific research in Environmental Biogeochemistry mostly requires active collaborations among scientists, policymakers, practicing diplomats, and governments, science diplomacy might be a powerful way through which we can tackle global challenges.