Community comment 1:

We want to thank Dr. Heather Doran for her comments.

My comment relates to the role of science communication facilitators in this landscape. It isn’t clear (until later in the article) that you only discuss the role of scientist - communicators in this overview. Universities employ public engagement professionals, science writers, events organisers and or outreach organisers who take on some of the burdens of science communication to support, train and facilitate communication from scientists. It would be great to see this being explored in more detail in the discussion. You could explore some of the resources from the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement in the UK for further information about what these engagement professionals do in the academic arena. In addition they have undertaken activities that relate to recognition of communication and engagement within the role of research. There’s a very interesting discussion about who delivers training in this area and how this might adhere to a set of principles rather than it being based only on an individuals experience. Depending on how much that individual is connected with the wider discussions in science communication and/or networks such as the Public Communication of Science and Technology Network (PCST) they may or may not be aware of some of the complexities in this space.

This is a good point, and we will clarify that our focus in this editorial is indeed on scientists in academia. That said, we will also include a discussion on science communication facilitators in the revised manuscript (e.g., in Section 3.3 'Science communication as a professional activity').

More information about the relationship between scientists and citizen scientists in this overview of how science communication may take place. I don’t think this dynamic is fully reflected in the overview as it stands - this could be explored through the Science Shops network and/or the Impetus Citizen Science project.

Considering our focus on the 'shadowlands,' particularly within the context of geoscience communicators (scientists), this point may fall outside the scope of this editorial. However, we will briefly address it in section 3.3. Furthermore, we plan to elaborate on this aspect in the Introduction.