Government Policy and Science Centres

Do governments like science centres?
A contribute from Pavilion of Knowledge – Ciencia Viva, Portugal

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The financial holy trinity

• Own income
• Private sponsorship
• Public funding
Well our Government does support its Science Centres
José Mariano Gago

Minister of Science and Technology

Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education
(2005 – 2011)
• Why should governments financially support science centers?

• What can governments expect from science centers in exchange?

• How can we motivate governments into granting the support we need (financial and other)?
Science centres:

• Are important for the democratization of science

• For the appropriation of science by citizens

• Are the best places for public debate
... science centers are “trusted” places to introduce the public to new technological solutions and sustainable technologies and to broaden the potential use of those solutions...

In: Tokyo Protocol
Governments should support Science centres:

*We are a social tool of democracy that places science and scientific choices at the centre of the social debate*