



2nd EMEG Meeting
**“Euro-Mediterranean Research and Innovation
Policy and Policy Dialogue in relation to societal
challenges”**

Sousse (TN), 22-23 September 2014

**From Lisbon to Sousse:
along the EMEG work**

C. Bogliotti
(CIHEAM-IAMB)

MEDSPRING

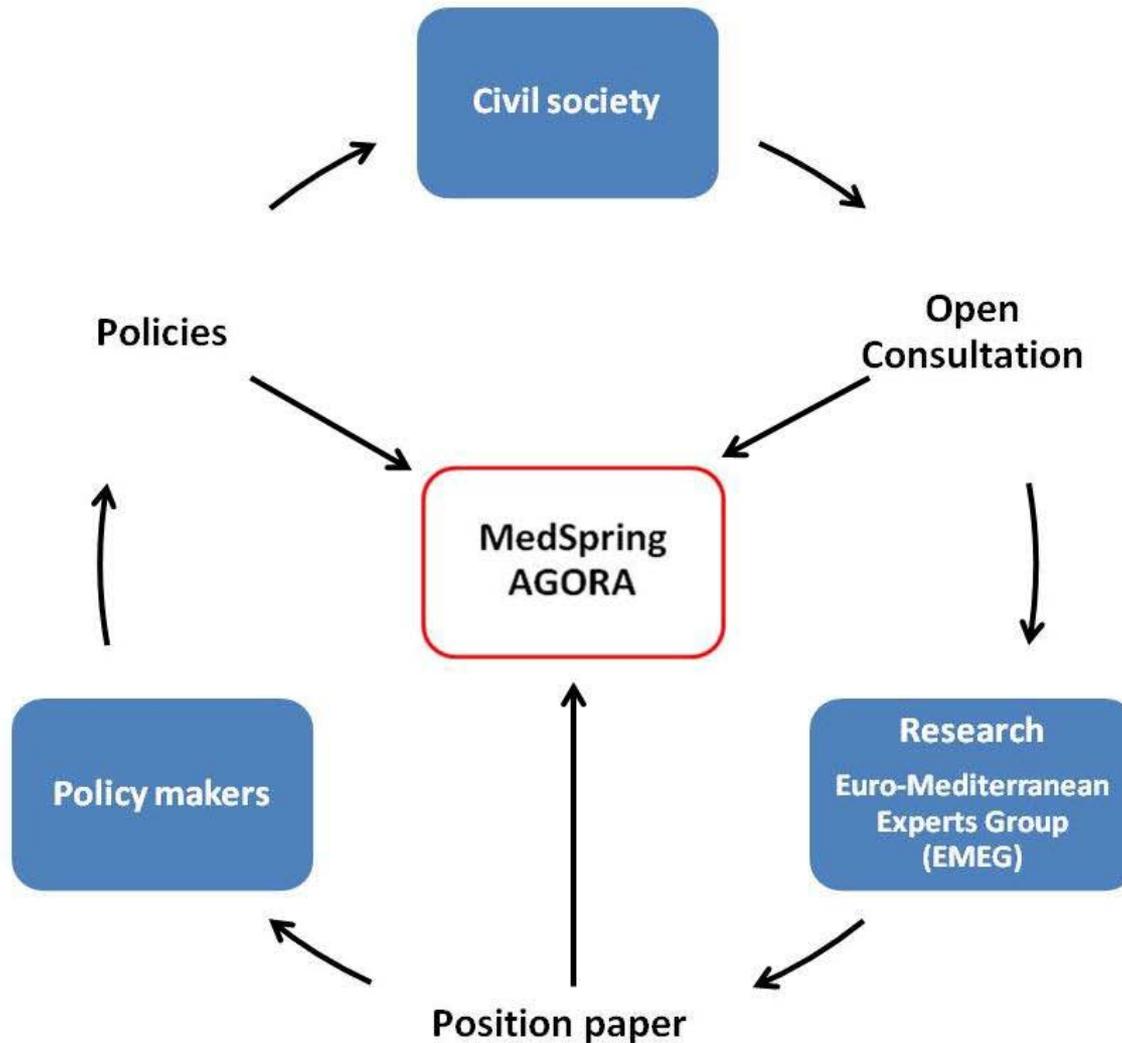
Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway

- Societal challenges to reinforce cooperation
- Strengthening cooperation on R&I (networking, capacity building, brokerage)
- Building synergies for sustainable Euro-Med cooperation with a vision on co-ownership and integration
- Supporting policy dialogue on R&I

EMEG

- Addressed to the societal challenges: resource efficiency (water), high quality affordable food, energy
- Recommendation to the Euro-Mediterranean R&I agenda
- Task 1: Research results and their uptake 
- Task 2: Research policies 
- Task 3: Holistic / integrated approach

The dialogue process in MEDSPRING



Lisbon Position paper - overarching paradigms

Resources efficiency - **Water**:

“Managing water resources under scarcity, pollution and uncertain conditions while improving agricultural water use efficiency as well as treatment and re-use of non-conventional water” .

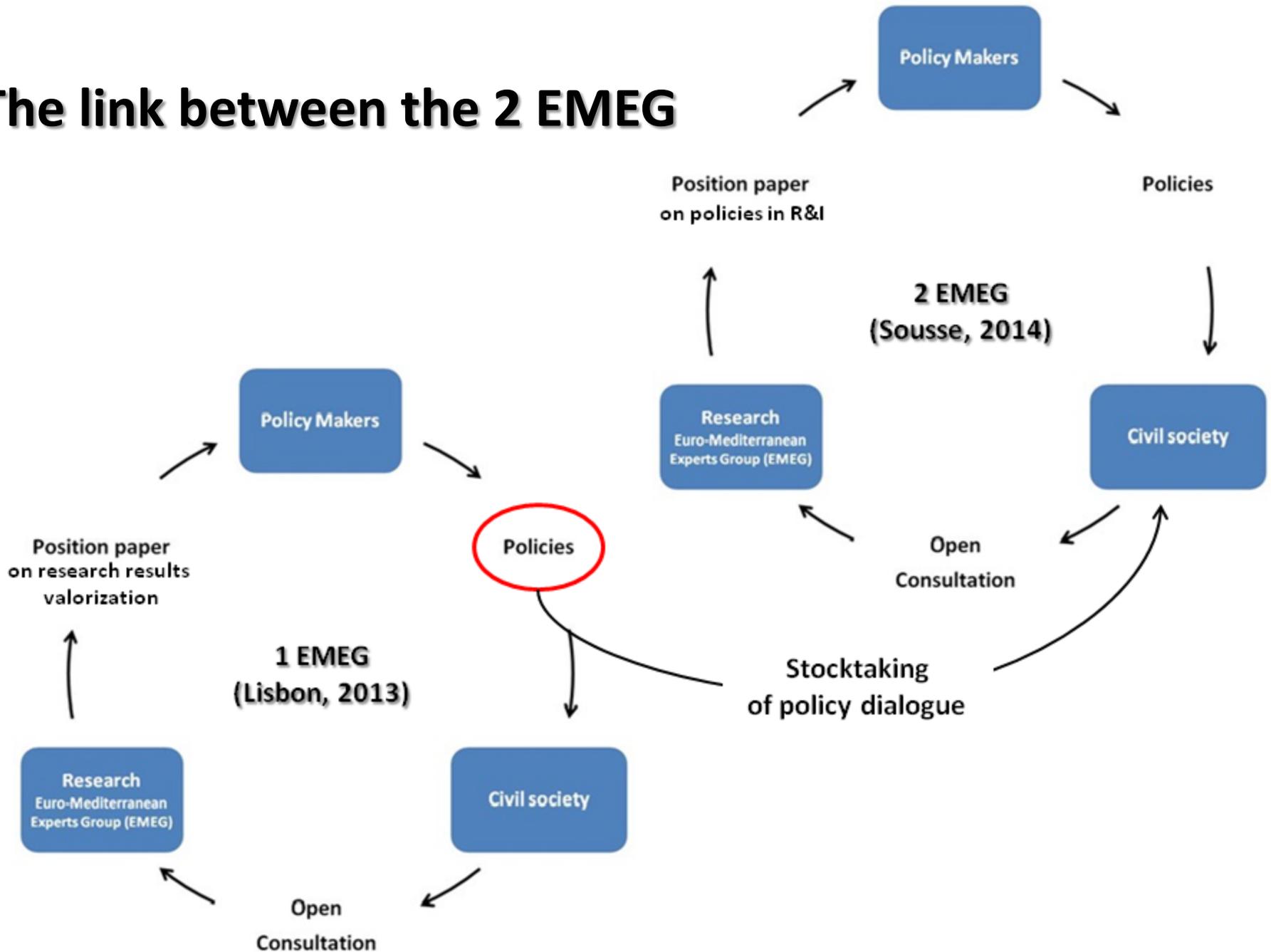
High quality affordable **Food**:

“Integrated development and rehabilitation of rural arid and semi-arid areas capitalizing on sustainable agriculture including traditional and organic farming, empowering rural communities and valorizing agricultural resources” .

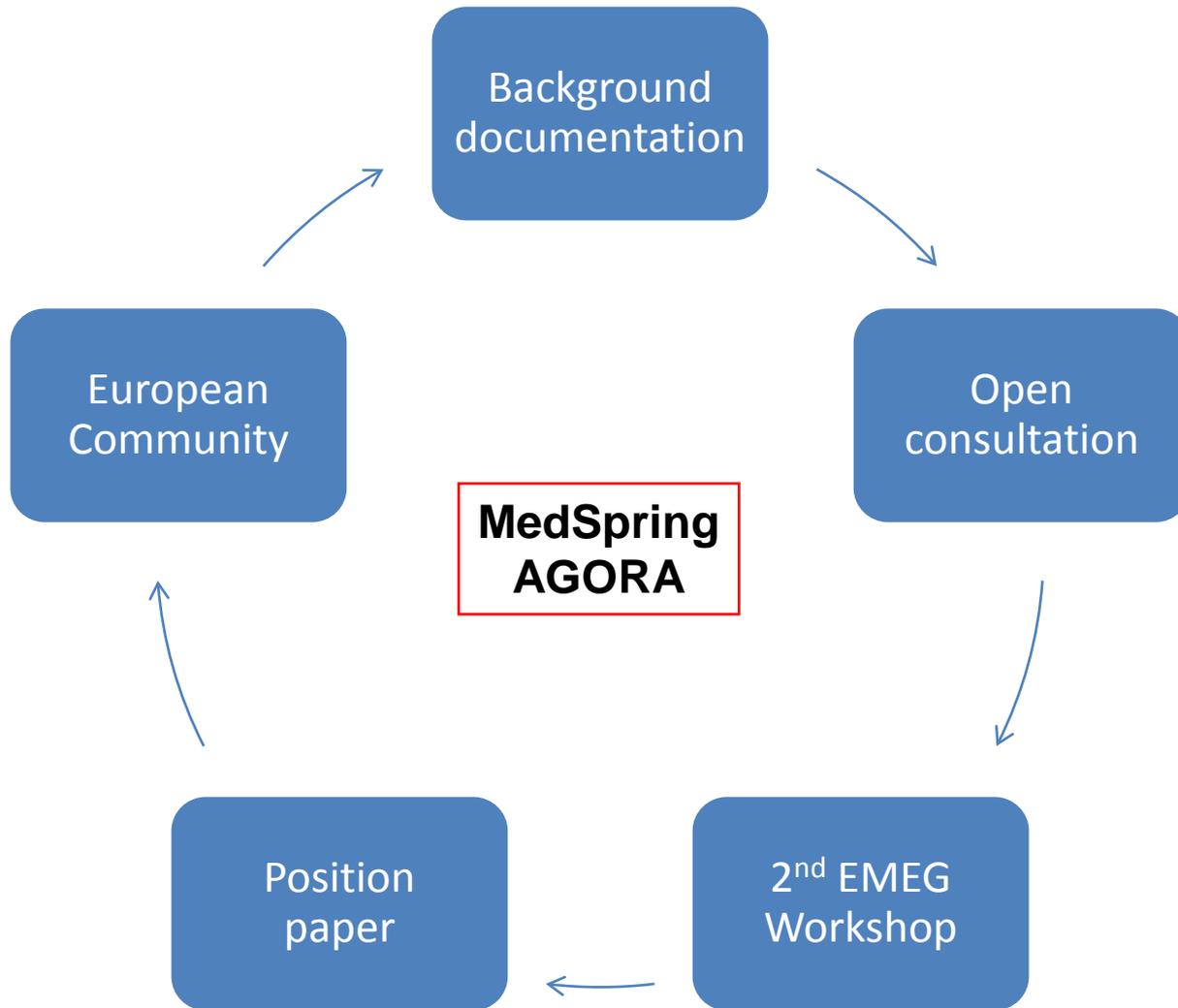
Energy:

“Capitalizing on local large availability of solar energy, by developing adapted packages of solutions for sustainable remote communities, both in terms of supply and demand, in addition to promoting the well integrated penetration of renewable energy solutions in the inhabited areas, while taking into account local cultural heritage”.

The link between the 2 EMEG



The Sousse workshop cycle



Inputs from Policy Stocktaking: objectives and outcomes (1)

- **Strategic Objectives** (objectives which are deemed to be the ideal frame of Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue in Research and Innovation).
 - a) **Fostering long-term and stable cooperation**
 - b) **Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing**
 - c) **Developing programmes tailored on country needs**
 - d) **Encouraging MPCs participation in EU research framework programmes**
 - e) **Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation**

Inputs from Policy Stocktaking: objectives and outcomes (2)

- **Operational Objectives** (objectives which should be reached through the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation).
 - a) **Higher Education**
 - b) **Mobility**
 - c) **Capacity Building**
 - d) **Technology Transfer**
 - e) **Uptake of research results**

Inputs from Policy Stocktaking: objectives and outcomes (3)

Following the identification of objectives, some **positive factors** and **problems** have been systematized through an assessment of the main results of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in the last few years.

Positive factors

- a) Progresses towards the establishment of an Article 185 initiative for the Mediterranean.
- b) 3 Mediterranean Partner Countries are in the top 20 Third Countries with the highest number of participant in approved projects in FP7.
- c) About 7% of the topics of FP7 call were specifically addressed to the Mediterranean Partner Countries.
- d) Some key issues for the Mediterranean such as “Food” and “Environment” are well addressed in the first Work Programme of H2020.
- e) There is more involvement of the civil society in recently approved projects in the Euro-Mediterranean region

Inputs from Policy Stocktaking: objectives and outcomes (4)

Following the identification of objectives, some **positive factors** and **problems** have been systematized through an assessment of the main results of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in the last few years.

Problems

- a) The organization of the 2nd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Research and Innovation is still on hold.
- b) There has been no increase in the % of Mediterranean Partner Countries participants from FP6 to FP7 (remained at about 10%).
- c) Low number of topics (3) addressed to Mediterranean Partner Countries in the first Work Programme of H2020 (about 0,5%).
- d) Key issues like health and energy are not directly addressed by H2020 calls oriented to the Mediterranean

Inputs from Open Consultation: Main Objectives vs. Main Problems

Main Objectives	Main Problems
A. Fostering long-term and stable cooperation	- Differences in EU/MPCs approaches to cooperation
B. Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing	- Low policy-makers awareness on societal needs - Poor involvement of stakeholders in the process
C. Developing programmes tailored on country needs	- Low programmes adaptability to Countries' specificities
D. Encouraging MPCs participation in EU research framework programmes	- Bureaucracy and administrative procedures
E. Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation	- Ineffective communication/definition of common priorities among EU and MPCs - Discrepancies between planned and implemented project activities

Inputs from Open Consultation: Solutions

Q3.3 – *“Please, suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems”*

Networking & Communication

- Increasing dialogue and interactions among North and South of the Mediterranean to build a common approach to cooperation and intensify financial synergies
- Institutional awareness raising on the importance of research and innovation and on the benefits of long-term cooperation
- Organizing meetings, social & awareness events involving North and South Mediterranean stakeholders and policy makers in order to set-up a valid and shared common strategy
- Increasing dissemination and information conferences/events addressed to researchers

Inputs from Open Consultation: Solutions

Q3.3 – *“Please, suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems”*

Management & Institutional responsibility

- Streamlining and simplifying bureaucratic processes and application procedures
- Harmonizing research policies and procedures
- Promoting capacity building actions on governance, project development and management
- Inspiring the definition of research funding priorities based on scientific/knowledge aspects rather than on political issues
- Promoting participatory approach in the decision making process (e.g. involvement of scientists) and a North-South co-ownership of in the designing of programmes and implementation of projects
- Developing research programmes targeting medium and long term common benefits and effects
- Increasing the number of MPCs oriented calls
- Following-up the results of projects and leveraging on the excellent ones
- Reducing discrepancies between planned and implemented activities

Inputs from Open Consultation: Solutions

Q3.3 – *“Please, suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems”*

Resources (financial/human) & Capacity

- Improving capacity building, offering training opportunities for all stakeholders especially the ones belonging to civil society
- Improving governance capacity building
- Improving capacity building for high-qualified Project Managers in MPCs, by ensuring training opportunities on application procedures and cooperation projects management
- Setting-up new financial instruments

Inputs from Open Consultation: Solutions

Q3.3 – *“Please, suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems”*

Responsiveness to users’ needs

- Designing specific programs more focused on MPCs needs, open and flexible enough to allow countries participation according to their specificities.
- Improving the involvement of stakeholders in the different steps of the process, especially in the identification and prioritization of real needs
- Paying more attention to final users needs and priorities in designing R&I projects
- Identifying most important barriers and difficulties during the designing of projects

2nd EMEG tasks

EMEG experts are asked:

- to contextualize **Main Problems** (coming from open consultation) according with specific societal challenges to obtain **Specific Problems**
- to define **Specific Policy Objectives** linked to Specific Problems
- to prioritize **Specific Policy Objectives**
- to define **Expected Impacts**
- to identify barriers/enhancing factors (**Variables**)
- to suggest **Possible Actions** for each Specific Objective

Sousse position paper – cross-cutting paradigms

Research in water, food and energy in the Mediterranean region has cross-border dimension and can be successfully tackled only in the frame of mutual EU-MPC co-operation with participation on equal footing.

Addressing the nexus among water, food and energy to satisfy human needs within the limits of natural resources, implying the development of creative integrated policy and politics.

Euro-Mediterranean research and innovation policy should be given a clear orientation through a process of generating joint problem awareness, and by participation of stakeholders beyond business

Euro-Mediterranean R&I policy will have to orient the prioritisation of research toward nexus problems, based on sustainability including trans-disciplinarity, integrating science in society, gender mainstreaming, stakeholders co-ownership.

Sousse position paper - overarching paradigms

Resources efficiency - **Water**:

“Developing water research policies in line with the Action Plan of Euro-Mediterranean Strategy while orienting such policies to the minimization of water footprint in different uses by integrating social, economic and environmental sustainability.

Supporting the participation of MPC research organizations in policy dialogue in EU water related platforms (EIP, JPIs, ETP).”

High quality affordable **Food**:

*“EU and MPCs food-related **cooperation** should be based on **co-ownership, inclusiveness and shared benefits**, aiming at improving research and innovation **impact** in support of sustainable food production systems that recognize the **interdependence** between agriculture, water, energy, health and environment, reflected in **comprehensive policies for sustainable food and nutrition security, including food quality and safety.**”*

Energy:

*“The new **“Energy paradigm”** for both EU and MPCs involves the move from traditional fossil fuels to sustainable renewable sources and a reduction of demand by increasing the efficiency of resource use. Supply and demand must be analysed in an integrated way. The application of this paradigm must be well adapted to sustainable development, local uses and traditions, making users comfortable and active partners. EU and MPCs should work together towards a common co-owned vision for the whole region.”*

The work after the 2 EMEG

1. Organize/clusterize workgroups outcomes in order to classify them into 2 categories:

a) horizontal:

objectives, impacts, variables and actions to be implemented to ensure effective policy dialogue, regardless the sector of application;

b) specific:

objectives, impacts, variables and actions to be implemented in the frame of policies addressed to specific societal challenges (water, food, energy).

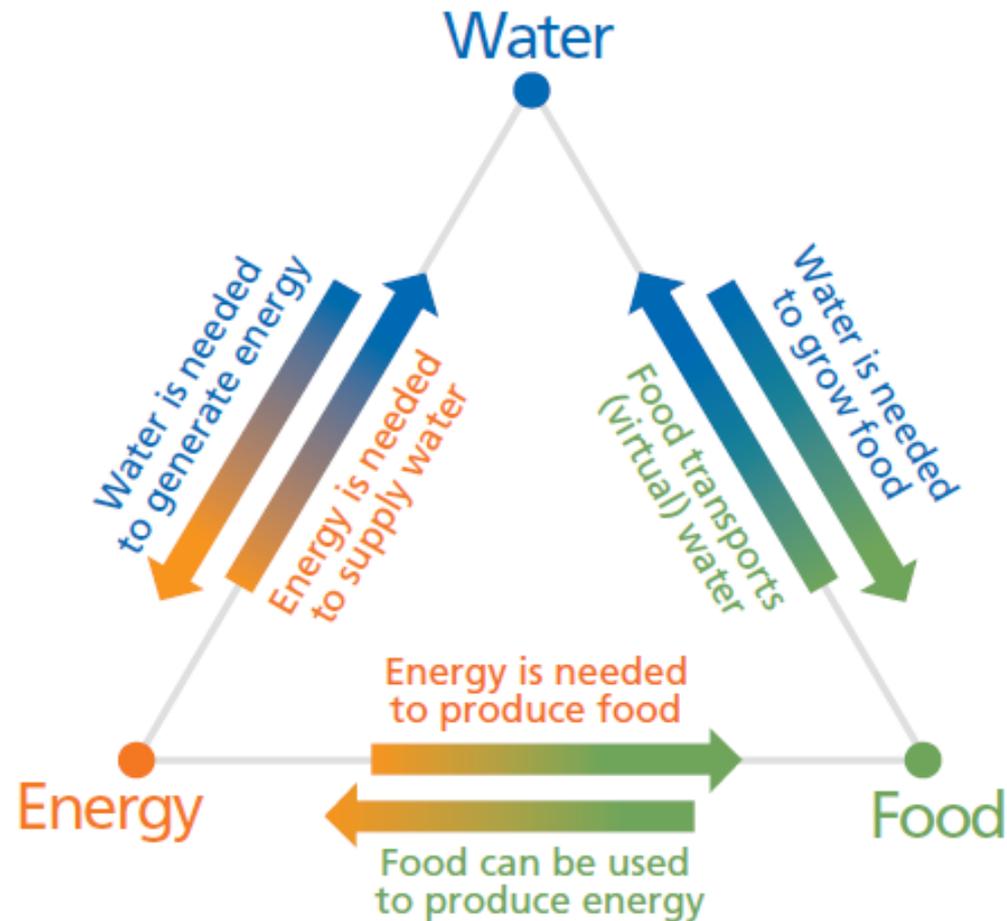
The work after the 2 EMEG

2. Drafting of the **position paper**.

It could be organized as follows:

- Main Problems and Outcomes in R&I policy dialogue
- Specific Policy objectives and expected impacts (per problems categories)
- Variables to improve effectiveness of policy dialogue
- Recommendations

The next step: water-food-energy nexus



Adapted from: Water - A Global Innovation Outlook Report, IBM, 2009

Thank you!

