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Table of Contents

Summary	5
1. Background	5
2. Methodological outline	5
2.1. Literature review and Desk work	6
2.2. Open consultation	7
2.3. EMEG activities in Policy dialogue stocktaking	11
2.3.1. Identifying specific problems.....	11
2.3.2. Identifying and prioritizing Specific Policy Objectives	12
2.3.3. Identifying expected impacts.....	12
2.3.4. Keynote speech.....	12
2.3.5. Developing a scheme of variables and factors necessary to enhance successful policy dialogue (barriers/enhancing factors).....	12
2.3.6. Collecting suggestions for possible actions.....	12
2.3.7. Preparation of “paradigm” for each societal challenge	13
2.4. Position paper	13
3. Outcomes and discussion	14
3.1. Main Objectives and Main problems (as emerged from the Open consultation) 14	
3.2. Solutions (from open consultation clusterized by EMEG)	21
3.3. Specific problems (for each group)	23
3.4. Specific Policy Objectives (most voted)	24
3.5. Expected Impacts	25
3.6. Keynote speech (synthesis)	30
3.7. Variables: barriers and positive factors	31
3.8. Suggested actions	37
4. Evaluation of the event	43
5. Conclusions	45
5.1. Cross-cutting paradigm	45
5.2. Paradigm for each societal challenge	45
6. References	46
ANNEXES	47
A - Questionnaires for open consultation (steps 1-3)	48
B - Keynote speech slides	55
C – Feedback Evaluation Form	75
D - List of participants	78
E – Photo-gallery	80

List of Tables

<i>Table 1 - Shortcomings/limits in the EU-Med cooperation in R&I as perceived by participants to the open consultation, grouped according the Main Problems Categories</i>	15
<i>Table 2 - Proposed new objectives in the EU-Med cooperation in R&I, grouped according the Main Problems Categories</i>	18
<i>Table 3 - Main Objectives vs. Main Problems (coming from the Open Consultation)</i>	21
<i>Table 4 - Horizontal solutions to be implemented to ensure effective policy dialogue (source: EMEG's clusterization exercise, August 2014)</i>	21
<i>Table 5 - Specific Problems grouped according the Main Problems Categories, for each societal challenge</i>	23
<i>Table 6 - Most voted Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge</i>	24
<i>Table 7 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (WATER)</i>	25
<i>Table 8 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (FOOD)</i>	26
<i>Table 9 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (ENERGY)</i>	28
<i>Table 10 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (WATER)</i>	31
<i>Table 11 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (FOOD)</i>	33
<i>Table 12 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (ENERGY)</i>	35
<i>Table 13 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (WATER)</i>	37
<i>Table 14 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (FOOD)</i>	39
<i>Table 15 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (ENERGY)</i>	41

List of Figures

<i>Figure 1 - Methodological approach</i>	6
<i>Figure 2 - Open Consultation 1: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile</i>	10
<i>Figure 3 - Open Consultation 2: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile</i>	10
<i>Figure 4 - Open Consultation 3: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile</i>	11

<i>Figure 5 - Degree of awareness on EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Figure 6 - Degree of effectiveness of EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Figure 7 - Perceived positive impacts of EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Figure 8 - Level of importance of Main Objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Figure 9 - Main Objectives ranked according to their importance (scores 1-2 high importance; 3 medium importance; 4-5 low importance).....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Figure 10 - Degree of achievement and main bottlenecks/problems of Main Objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Figure 11 - Evaluation of quality of material and level of involvement in the preparatory activities toward the 2nd EMEG meeting</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Figure 12 - Evaluation of Workgroups activities, keynote speech, plenary debate and logistic aspects.</i>	<i>44</i>
<i>Figure 13 - Evaluation of overall satisfaction about the event and quality of feedback activities....</i>	<i>44</i>

Summary

The aim of the Task 2.2 is to identify ways and means to address societal challenges in accordance with the EU, MS and MPCs strategies.

The present deliverable summarizes the process that led EMEG Euro-Mediterranean Experts Group to develop a sound conceptual model and some paradigms for effective policy dialogue in research and cooperation.

The main result of this activity is the formulation of a cross-cutting paradigm making key recommendations for a stronger policy dialogue on R&I in the Mediterranean Region. According to this paradigm Euro-Mediterranean R&I policy should orient the prioritisation of research toward nexus problems, based on sustainability, including trans-disciplinarity, integrating science in society, gender mainstreaming, stakeholders co-ownership.

1. Background

In the last few years, the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation has been developed through some key initiatives, which have spelled out several objectives to be reached for building a strong and stable cooperation.

The first initiative is the **Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conferences on Higher Education and Scientific Research**, held in Cairo in 2007. It represents the highest level of research policy dialogue in the Mediterranean, since North and South ministers were directly involved and committed their countries to the achievement of concrete objectives. On this occasion, ministers recognized that Education, Research and Technical Development Infrastructure (RTDI) did not receive sufficient attention in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and agreed on the creation of a common research area through the enhancement of MPCs participation in the Framework Programmes, taking into account their particular needs, areas of mutual interest and benefits.

The second pivotal initiative is the **Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation**, held in Barcelona in April 2012, which put an emphasis on the need to establish a renewed partnership in R&I, based on co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefits. Also, the Conference conclusions underline the importance of moving away from a “bilateral” approach and build on a more strategic “region to region” approach. On that occasion, the EC announced the preparation by interested EU Member States and South Mediterranean countries of a bi-regional programme based on Article 185 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU), that would be a major initiative contributing to the implementation of the common agenda.

The policy dialogue framework is completed by the **Group of Senior Official (GSO) for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in RTD** (former MoCo), whose periodical meetings, conclusions and recommendations represent a high level response to the challenges to be faced in order to boost cooperation. GSO/MoCo has also the task of making recommendations to the EU for the joint implementation of RTD policy priorities. The last MoCo/GSO meetings agreed on the need of revisiting the past achievements of cooperation on the basis of the principles of partnership, co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefits. Also, Senior Officials highlighted the need to establish a medium/long term common R&I agenda.

Last but not least, an input to the development of Euro-Mediterranean research policy dialogue derives from the position paper circulated after the **1st EMEG meeting** (Lisbon, June 2013), which gives some recommendations on concrete actions to be adopted for ensuring a good governance of Euro-Mediterranean research cooperation.

2. Methodological outline

The purpose of Task 2.2 is to assess how Euro-Mediterranean policies can synergize to support research and innovation in the societal challenges of the region. To this end, a sort of “shared strategic vision” should be defined. Such vision should move from an analysis of the main

achievements of RDI cooperation initiatives and policies, taking into account strengths and weakness of national/regional programmes, in order to identify objectives and expected impacts for the development of effective policies to overcome barriers and enhance positive factors.

This section describes in detail the single steps and methodology for the implementation of EMEG activities (Figure 1).

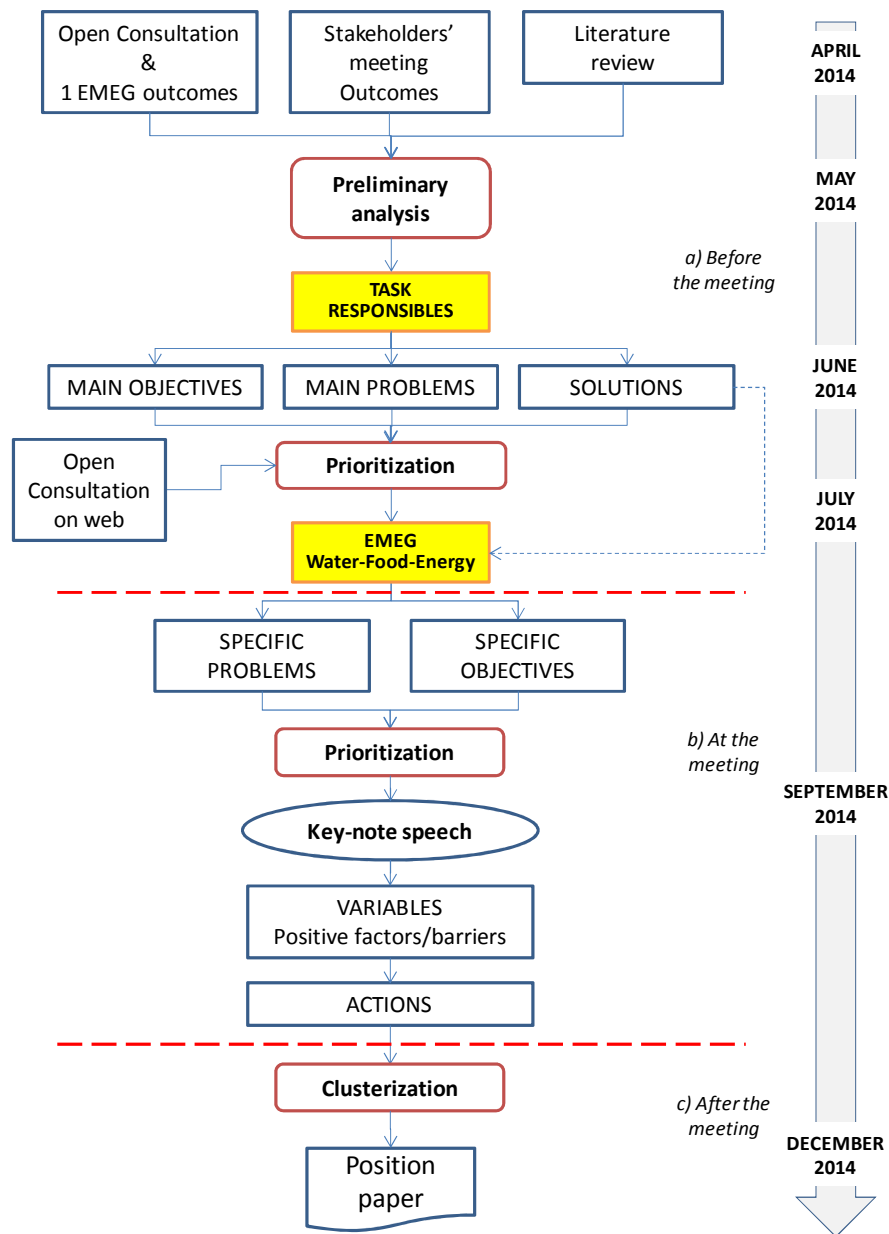


Figure 1 - Methodological approach

2.1. Literature review and Desk work

A preliminary analysis was carried out by the EMEG Co-ordination Team and EMEG members (April-June 2014). It consisted of a critical stocktaking of multilateral cooperation and policy dialogue on research in the Euro-Mediterranean Region.

The following documents / material were used:

- Literature review, including a stocktaking of FP7/H2020 (1st call) published topics

- Relevant outcomes from the MedSpring Open Consultation and 1st EMEG meeting: Position Paper (Lisbon 2013)
- Inputs deriving from MedSpring stakeholders meeting (Brussels, April 2014)
- Declarations and minutes of policy dialogue events.

The stocktaking - conducted by the MedSpring Coordination team - provided a comprehensive frame of policy objectives and targets agreed and outlined in major bi-regional and multi-lateral (North-South) policy dialogue events undertaken in the last 10 years. The main outcome of such analysis consist of a systematized overview and a prioritization of main problems and results (the latter being not necessarily achievements) of Euro-Mediterranean RDI policy dialogue, which serve as a base for the identification of objectives, or still non-achieved objectives to be focused in the EMEG meeting. Furthermore, problems and achievements will be divided in macro-categories.

2.2. Open consultation

Following the desk work described above, and building on the results of the analysis in terms of objectives, achievements and bottlenecks, the project launched an **on-line open consultation** aimed to assess the Research & Innovation policy and policy dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region, in relation to the three societal challenges addressed by Med-Spring.

The open consultation was also aimed at complementing and preparing the ground for the EMEG work in Tunis Meeting and beyond (drafting of the position paper).

The Open Consultation was divided in three steps, covering approximately a 1-month time span, launched respectively on 9th – 20th – 30th of June, closed on 10th July. The number of contacts were 329 from different EU-Mediterranean countries, belonging to the following categories:

- Scientist
- Policy maker / RTD manager
- Industry - Enterprise
- Civil society – consumer

The questionnaire

The questions for each step were the following:

OPEN CONSULTATION #1

Q1.1 - What is your degree of awareness on the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research & Innovation (R&I)? (High, Medium, Low)

Q1.2 - Do you think that Euro-Mediterranean cooperation policies have effectively addressed research as well as innovation and sustainability in the last 20 years? (Very much, Poorly, Not at all, I don't know)

Q1.3 - Do you perceive any positive impact of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in R&I (Research and Innovation) in your country? (Yes, No, I don't know)

Q1.4 - Do you think there are/were some shortcomings in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in R&I? If yes, please give one or two example(s) (Open question)

OPEN CONSULTATION #2

In this survey, participants were asked to express their opinion on the importance of 5 objectives identified on the basis of a critical stocktaking of the most important outcomes of Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation in the last 20 years. Moreover they were asked to prioritize them.

Q2.1 - In your opinion, how important are the following objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I? (Very important, Important, Not so important, I don't know)

- 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 Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs) participation in EU research framework programmes (e.g. FP7, H2020)
- e. Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation

Q2.2 - Please rank the above mentioned objectives according to their relative importance, as follows: (from 1 – most important to 5 – less important)

- 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

Q2.3 - Which new objective(s) would you propose for a more effective Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue in R&I? (Open question)

OPEN CONSULTATION #3

In this survey participants were asked to express their opinion on the degree of achievement of 5 objectives identified on the basis of a critical stocktaking of the most important outcomes of Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation in the last 20 years. For each objective they were asked to identify the main bottlenecks in their achievement and suggest potential solutions.

Q3.1 - In your opinion what is the degree of achievement of the following objective of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and policy dialogue in R&I? (High, Medium, Low, I don't know)

- a. Fostering long-term and stable cooperation

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Differences in EU/MPCs approaches to cooperation
- Political willingness
- Institutional capacity
- Other

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems (open question) (*solutions are not included in the present report*)

- b. Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Low attention and awareness of civil society
- Low policy-makers awareness on societal needs
- Poor involvement of stakeholders in the process
- Other

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems (open question) (*solutions are not included in the present report*)

c. Developing programmes tailored on country needs

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Low programmes adaptability to Countries' specificities
- Policy-makers misperception of country needs
- Poor involvement of stakeholders in the process
- Other

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems (open question) (*solutions are not included in the present report*)

d. Encouraging MPCs participation in EU research framework programmes

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Differences in EU/MPCs needs and priorities
- Bureaucracy and administrative procedures
- Number of MPCs-oriented calls
- Other

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems (open question) (*solutions are not included in the present report*)

e. Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Ineffective communication/definition of common priorities among EU and MPCs
- Discrepancies between planned and implemented project activities
- Project results enhancement and monitoring
- Other

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems (open question) (*solutions are not included in the present report*)

GENERAL INFORMATIONS ABOUT PARTICIPANTS

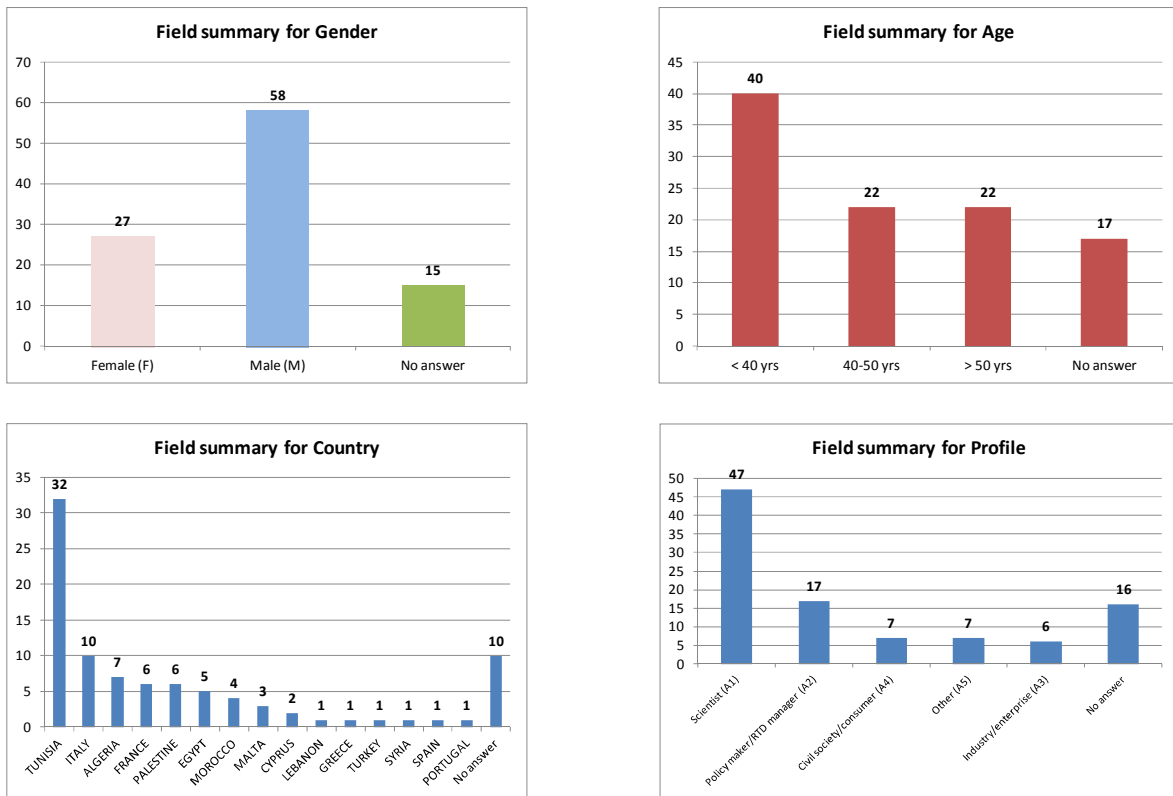


Figure 2 - Open Consultation 1: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile



Figure 3 - Open Consultation 2: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile

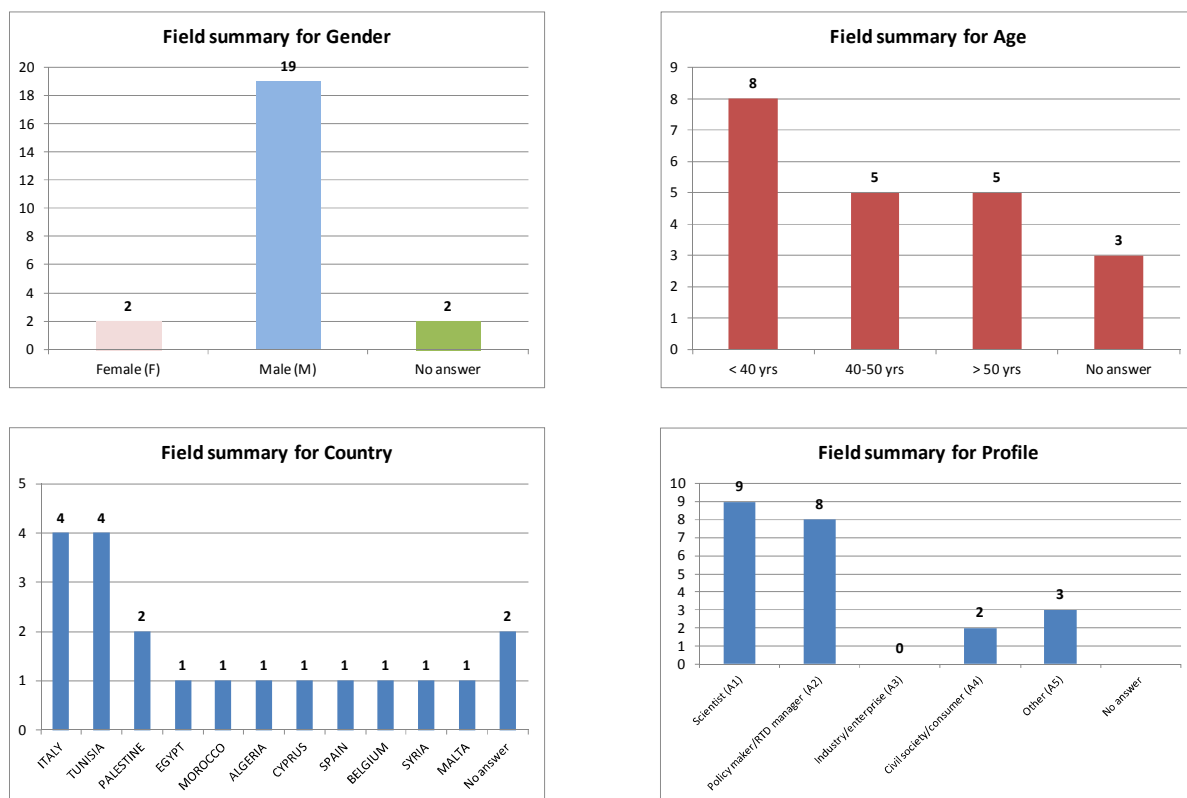


Figure 4 - Open Consultation 3: breakdown of participants according to gender, age, country and profile

2.3. EMEG activities in Policy dialogue stocktaking

EMEG meeting was held in Sousse (Tunisia) on 22-23 September 2014. About 45 experts participated to the event; they were subdivided in three groups according the chosen societal challenge (water, food and energy). The main objective of the meeting was the identification of ways and means to address (or re-address) policy and policy dialogue, particularly regarding objectives and expected impacts, accounting the current scenarios, in Research and Innovation cooperation.

This work lead to the identification of new (or renewed) objectives and expected impacts of Euro-Mediterranean R&I policy dialogue and cooperation, which were be presented by each EMEG sub-group in a plenary session under the form of “paradigms”.

The EMEG members were also asked to provide suggestions for possible actions, which are keys to enhance factors and overcome barriers. These actions should be considered as possible solutions, which could provide useful inputs for the orientation of national and international research programmes (e.g. H2020).

The following point summarize the objectives of each activity carried out by EMEG during the meeting.

2.3.1. Identifying specific problems.

In each group, building on the main problems in research and cooperation policies outlined in the preliminary analysis as well as in the open consultation (see points 2.1-2.2), EMEG members were asked to define the **Specific Policy Problems** (deriving from contextualization of the main problems according to the specific societal challenge). Then the proposed Specific Problems were grouped into 4 problems categories deriving from the 1st EMEG meeting in Lisbon (2013)

1. Networking & Communication

2. Management & Institutional responsibility
3. Resources (financial/human) & Capacity
4. Responsiveness to users' needs

The list of defined Specific Policy Problems is summarized in Table 5.

2.3.2. Identifying and prioritizing Specific Policy Objectives

The objective of this activity was: to identify **Specific Policy Objectives** for each main problems category.

Moving from Specific Problems, through a brainstorming exercise, experts were asked to identify Specific Policy Objectives; for each problems category, a number of different objectives were expected to be identified. These objectives have been prioritized (with a voting exercise) in order to identify the 2 most important ones for each category.

The list of defined Specific Policy Objectives is summarized in Table 6.

2.3.3. Identifying expected impacts

The objective of this exercise was to identify expected **impacts** for each Specific Policy Objective.

Impacts are intended as the visible (or measurable) output resulting from the achievement of certain specific objectives. Through a Metaplan exercise, experts identified expected impacts linked to the selected objectives (as well as to the outcomes). Impacts were collected and could be applied to further develop an indicators system.

The list of expected impacts is summarized in Tables 7-8-9.

2.3.4. Keynote speech

After this session, a key-note speech was given by a highly reputed expert on research policies, sustainable development and socio-economic issues (prof. Joachim Spangenberg, UFZ Helmholtz Centre for Environment Research, Germany) to “inspire” EMEG in the identification of variables (here meant as positive factors and/or barriers) key to the successful achievement of the policy objectives previously identified . The presentation represented a real “innovative” output by EMEG as Euro-Mediterranean think-tank, aiming at merging research and policy in water, food and energy, taking into account the current frame of Euro-Mediterranean social and economic context. A synthesis of the Keynote speech is reported at point 3.6.

2.3.5. Developing a scheme of variables and factors necessary to enhance successful policy dialogue (barriers/enhancing factors)

During this activity, EMEG members have been asked to identify **variables** for a successful policy dialogue and cooperation. In the 1st EMEG Rationale, variables were intended as «*main barriers and positive factors to effective dissemination and results valorization*». In the case of policy dialogue they could be defined as **barriers** and/or **enhancing factors** able to hinder or facilitate the achievement of the identified objectives and expected impacts.

The suggestions provided in the key-note speech constituted a valuable guidance in defining realistic variables for the improvement of policy dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean Region.

Variables are summarized in Tables 10-11-12.

2.3.6. Collecting suggestions for possible actions

This last exercise was aimed at collecting suggestions for possible **Actions** able to build on enhancing factors and overcome barriers.

EMEG experts, individually, starting for the results of previous exercises as well as from the inputs coming from the open consultation (clusterized solutions, see table 4), were asked to provide suggestions for actions. Experts were requested to answer to the following question: “*what could*

be the most effective action to enhance positive factors or to overcome barriers?'. These actions should be considered as possible solutions, which could provide useful inputs for the orientation of national and international research programmes (e.g. H2020). More actions were indicated for each variable, and the same action could address more variables at the same time.

Even in this case actions were collected for a further analysis.

Suggested actions are summarized in Tables 13-14-15.

2.3.7. Preparation of “paradigm” for each societal challenge

Following the previous exercises, the group members were asked to prepare recommendations, called “paradigms” to be included into a position note.

2.4. Position paper

Following the meeting, a **position paper** (under the title “*Stocktaking of policy dialogue*”) is going to be drafted.

Starting from the rough material produced during the 2nd EMEG meeting, the following steps are foreseen:

Step 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).

Step 2. Drafting of the position paper.

It could be organized as follows:

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

The draft version of the position paper will be shared among EMEG members, MedSpring partners and via web before submission to and discussion with the European Commission.

3. Outcomes and discussion

3.1. Main Objectives and Main problems (as emerged from the Open consultation)

OPEN CONSULTATION #1

The **questions** and related **outcomes** were:

Q1.1 – “What is your degree of awareness on EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I?”

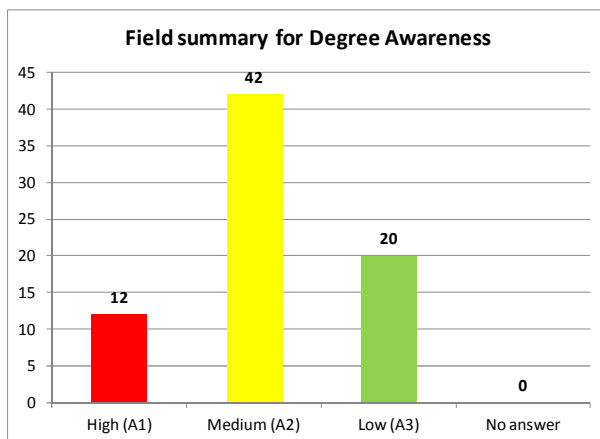


Figure 5 - Degree of awareness on EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I

Q1.2 – “Do you think that EU-Med cooperation policies have effectively addressed research as well as innovation and sustainability in the last 20 years?”

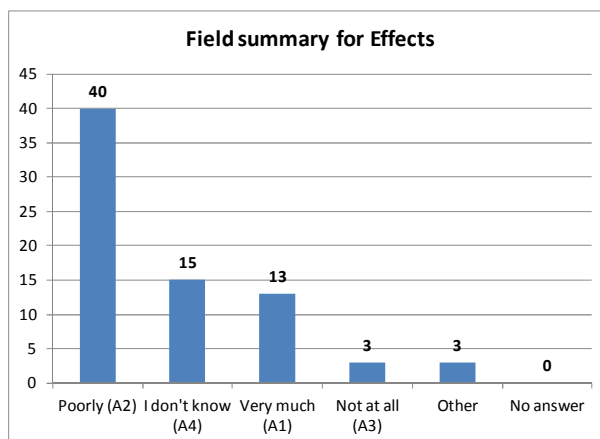


Figure 6 - Degree of effectiveness of EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I

Q1.3 – “Do you perceive any positive impact of the EU-Med cooperation in R&I in your country?”

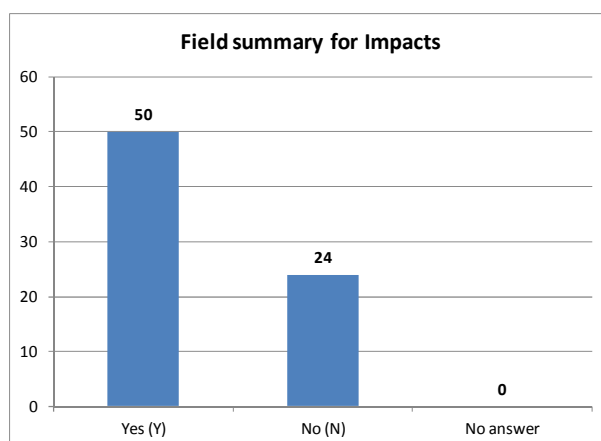


Figure 7 - Perceived positive impacts of EU-Med policy dialogue on R&I

Q1.4 – “Do you think there are/were any shortcomings in the EU-Med cooperation in R&I? If yes, please give one or two examples.”

The table below summarize (by clustering) the **answers**.

Table 1 - Shortcomings/limits in the EU-Med cooperation in R&I as perceived by participants to the open consultation, grouped according the Main Problems Categories

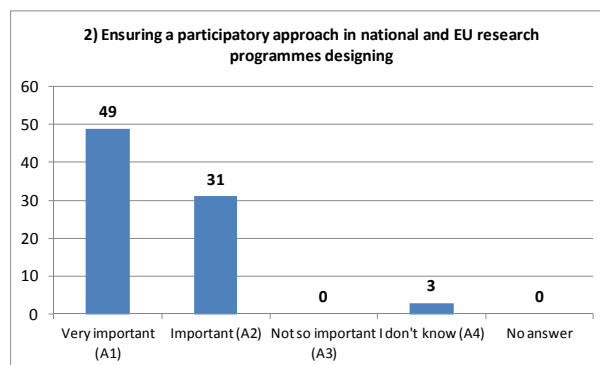
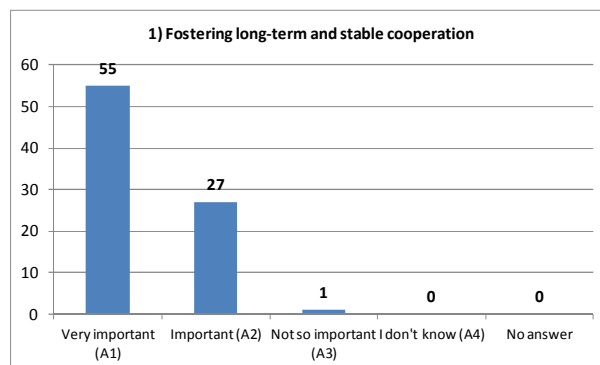
Networking & Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor communication of information, results and experiences to various targets and between the two shores of the Mediterranean. • Lack of real channels of communication between R&I and policy makers. Perhaps because real involvement of NGOs is lacking. It is usually 'decorative'. • Knowledge transfer, especially for innovation in developing regions. • Lack of co-ownership and win-win approach. • Poor involvement of SME's. • Poor communication and cooperation within scientists and researchers. • Establishment of EU-Mediterranean Research Networks (ICT...). • Lack of reciprocal trust between the two sides of the Mediterranean. • Competences usually go from North towards South Countries. • Lack of promotion on funding opportunities.
Management & Institutional responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative/bureaucratic complexity (including scientific VISA). • R&I should focus on the overhaul of the administrative structure of Tunisian scientific research, and create new structural incentives for applied research. • Duplication and fragmentation of projects instead of Integration and synergies. • Research agenda is mainly driven by Europe. • Lack of assistance in consortium building and partners funding. • There is not a clear and efficient strategy in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in R&I. • No concrete assessment of project results. • Policy-oriented research VS independent research.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited participation of MPCs in programme designing. Opportunities for participation captured only by who are aware of the system.
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No long-term sustainability ensured. Insufficient funds.
Responsiveness to users' needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of the conducted projects is too low: there are no follow up of results and no concrete outcomes such as startups or research results converted into productive projects. Research in South Mediterranean has poor link and impacts with industrial sector as well as with social actors; research valorization should be more addressed to have impact at socio economic level. Research is mainly organized to serve the EU not Lebanon. The cooperation does not take enough into account the gap between the level of industrialization of northern and southern parts of the Mediterranean. The lack of specification for the Mediterranean reality. Cooperation was focused on research and not innovation.

OPEN CONSULTATION #2

The **questions** and related **outcomes** were:

Q2.1 – “Please state how important are the following objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I”



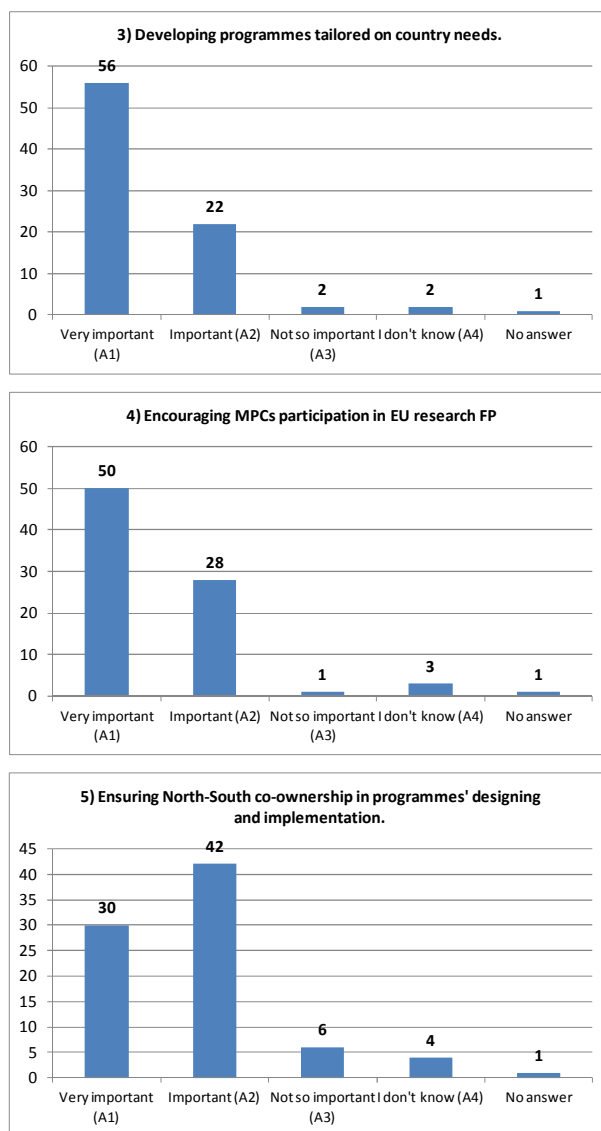


Figure 8 - Level of importance of Main Objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I

Q2.2 – “Please rank the above mentioned objectives according to their relative importance, from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important)”

	1	2	3	4	5
Fostering long-term and stable cooperation	40	21	7	7	7
Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing	27	29	9	10	7
Developing programmes tailored on country needs	32	22	11	7	10
Encouraging MPCs participation in EU research framework programmes	27	20	15	17	3
Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation	13	30	10	15	14

Figure 9 - Main Objectives ranked according to their importance (scores 1-2 high importance; 3 medium importance; 4-5 low importance)

Q2.3 – “Which new objective(s) would you propose for a more effective Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I?”

The table below summarize (by clustering) the **answers**.

Table 2 - Proposed new objectives in the EU-Med cooperation in R&I, grouped according the Main Problems Categories

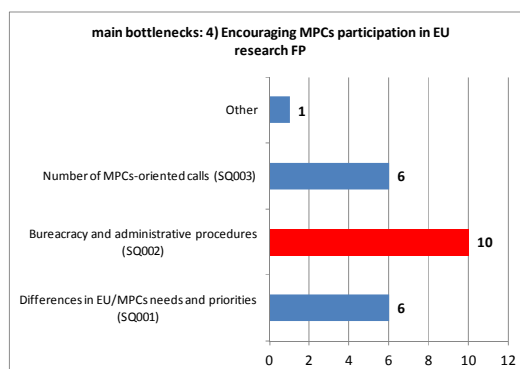
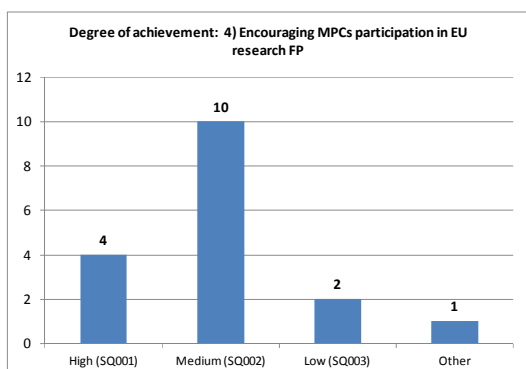
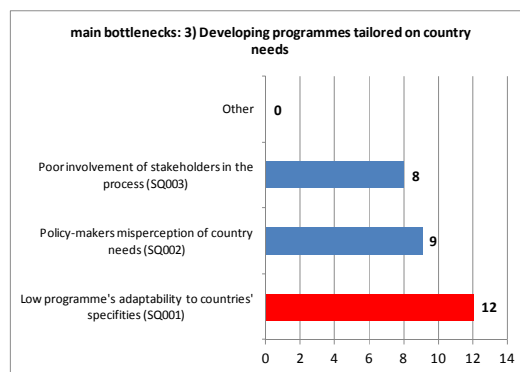
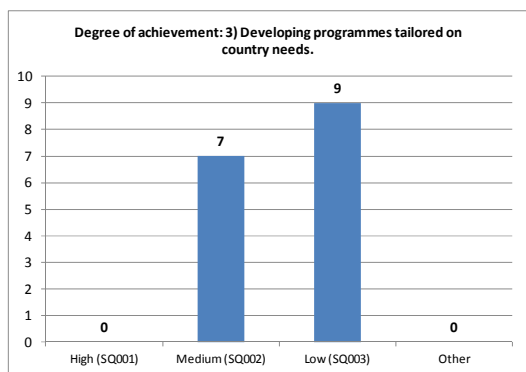
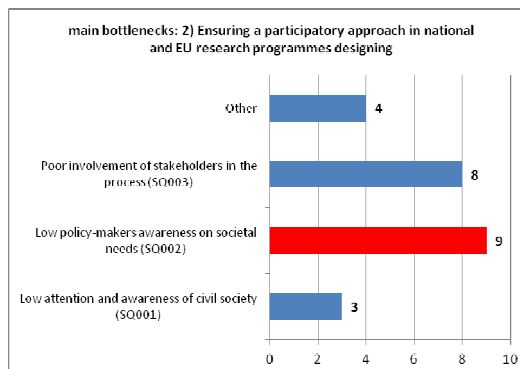
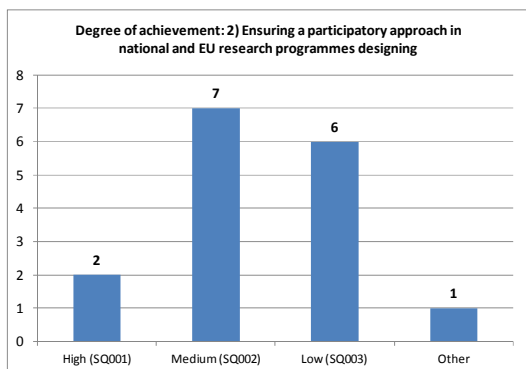
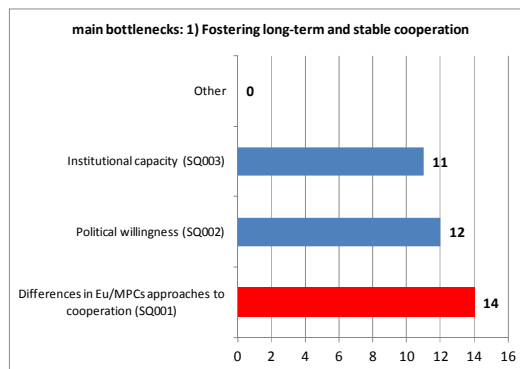
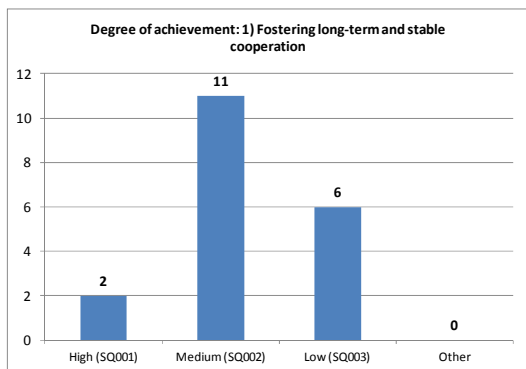
Networking & Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To involve new countries in the dialogue. • To bridge the gap science-society and science-policy (e.g. dissemination, awareness raising, involvement of civil society in projects). • To promote the exchange of cultures and experiences. • To encourage involvement of the young and women in research. • To encourage the involvement of local entities. • Major involvement of institutions and researchers from several EU countries. • To encourage North-South co-ownership in research activities. • To strength economic and technological collaboration.
Management & Institutional responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote a stronger participation of researchers from Southern Mediterranean Countries (also in coordinating projects). • To develop and to implement long-term programs in science and education. • To take more into account societal challenges and needs of MPCs in the preparation of new cooperation Programmes. • To Involve smaller institutions with smaller budgets. • To develop common agendas and road maps for R&I. • To explore R&D capacity in the Southern Mediterranean Countries. • Streamlining the bureaucratic machine in the designing and especially implementation of projects (e.g. Visa release for non EU citizens coming to the EU and vice versa, coordination among different institutional organs maybe through spokespersons and/or designated interlocutors, etc.). • To develop R&D programs multi-discipline approach, accounting the most relevant nexus in the region related to economic growth and young employment. • To upgrade the equipment and management of research laboratories in the Southern Mediterranean countries. • To move from general indications to real support to research activities.
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve capacity building. • To learn more from European experience. • To stimulate human valorization. • To encourage and increase the mobility opportunities for all kind of researchers in order to better understand each country situation.
Responsiveness to users' needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth analysis of the real needs of the region (especially South Mediterranean) and foster the EU-MPC cooperation in the main societal challenges (i.e. renewable energy) and others of national and regional priority (i.e. Health, Security, Human rights). • Application of biotechnology to produce drought tolerant plants.

- To improve IPM and organic production on Mediterranean crops.
- Biological control of agricultural pests for healthy food.
- Natural resources use efficiency.
- Natural reserves management.
- To open dialogue with civil society and the entrepreneurship system to have specific focus groups including different parties in the region.
- To ensure participation of the private sector and industrial clusters in this dialogue.
- Stress the attention on developing more projects such as MEDSPRING in order to better focus on real needs and correct goals.
- Developing programmes tailored on country needs.
- Improve education in Universities.
- To encourage multidisciplinary studies especially on global climate change (e.g. control on implementation of carbon capture).
- Supporting projects related with solving problems in developing countries and their integration to developed ones.
- Taking into account not only regional problems but also global ones from a regional point of view
- Sustainable water resources management based on technical studies as well as on changing users' consumption habit.
- Funding projects targeting innovation.
- To align the priorities with the Smart Specialization strategies of the countries in order to deal with the economic crisis more efficiently.
- More research-actions developed in cooperation with the people in Euro-Mediterranean Countries and their practices.

OPEN CONSULTATION #3

The **questions** and related **outcomes** were:

Q3.1 – “In your opinion, what is the degree of achievement of the following objectives (Objectives are listed accordingly their score)? What were the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of these objectives?”



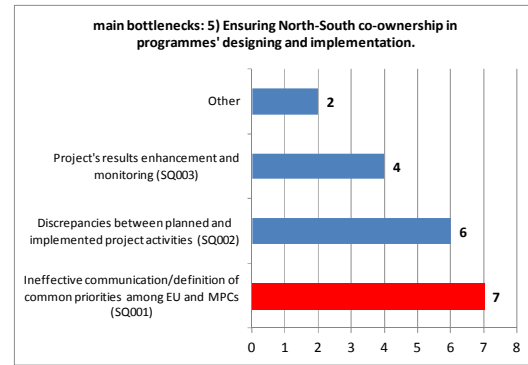
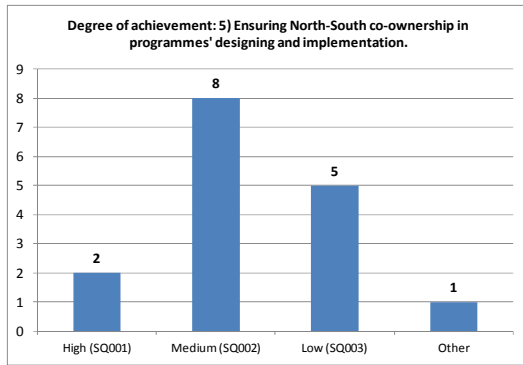


Figure 10 - Degree of achievement and main bottlenecks/problems of Main Objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I

Table 3 - Main Objectives vs. Main Problems (coming from the Open Consultation)

Main Objectives	Main Bottlenecks/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

(source: Open Consultation, July 2014)

3.2. Solutions (from open consultation clusterized by EMEG)

Moving from the solutions suggested by the participants to the open consultation, EMEG members were asked to clusterize them according to the previously mentioned four problems categories. In the table below the results are showed.

Table 4 - Horizontal solutions to be implemented to ensure effective policy dialogue (source: EMEG's clusterization exercise, August 2014)

Networking & Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Management & Institutional responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

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

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

3.3. Specific problems (for each group)

Table 5 - Specific Problems grouped according the Main Problems Categories, for each societal challenge

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems		
	WATER	FOOD	ENERGY
Networking & Communication	Insufficient access to information and low communication flow among MS-MPC and EU as well as low participation of MPCs in platforms and policy setting instruments	Food and agriculture is a highly-country specific sector, low participation of Mediterranean participants in formulating and designing projects' proposal.	Deficit of involvement of stakeholders (e.g. Policy Makers, Industry, Civil Society, End Users, Decision Makers, Private Energy Sector) in Joint Mediterranean strategy in the NEXUS.
	Lack of policies that consider the future challenges related to food-energy-water-space nexus	Scientific evidence on food-related issues and problems not being appropriately translated into political terms.	
Management & Institutional responsibility	Different water management approaches: more socially oriented in scarce areas while more economically oriented in water rich areas	Lack/poor organisation of stakeholders reflects on the poor involvement in the definition of food sector priorities and processes	Insufficient co-ownership of energy initiatives between North and South Med.
	Political Difficulties in Implementing common water strategies	The food-related dimension is not well represented in the current EU-Mediterranean consultation system.	Inadequacy between energy policy: common EU policy versus MPCs multi-policies (partnerships instead of cooperation). Lack of integrating approach for a real mutual partnership. Lack of systemic approaches (NEXUS of energy, food, water, and space) to solve energy problems.
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	Discontinuity of funding, discrepancies in budget allocations between North and South (e.g. Salary) and rigidity of administrative and financial procedures as well as low capacity to manage funds especially in the MPCs	Mediterranean participants (small and medium sized enterprise and research centres) face difficulties in meeting the bureaucratic demands (administrative, financial and regulatory).	Insufficient energy regulation and implementation to achieve the renewable energy strategies in MPCs.
Responsiveness to users' needs	Poor water governance, poor awareness of decision makers on available sustainable solutions and funding instruments and poor engagement of mid level policy makers, water managers, and scientists/end users in regional policy development	European framework programmes are not always addressing problems related to food production and consumption systems especially in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries.	Lack of initiatives/actions tailored to local needs in current joint EU and MPCs programs integrating gender needs, mainstreaming and SMES.
	Low sensitivity and insufficiency of EU programs toward the spatial and temporal variation in specific needs and priorities in different Med Countries	Differences in food system-related priority and needs: mostly food security in the South and food quality in the North is the base of different approaches in long-term stable cooperation	

3.4. Specific Policy Objectives (most voted)

Table 6 - Most voted Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge

Main Problems Categories	Specific Policy Objectives		
	WATER	FOOD	ENERGY
Networking & Communication	Create a platform that integrates the outcome from various EU-Med initiatives and foster its place in policy discussion in EIP, JPI, ETP related to water	Development of common knowledge with mutual benefits (continuous policy dialogue)	Develop new innovative communication approaches for solving energy problems between EU and MPCs countries.
	To ensure equal participation of MPCs in relevant platforms and initiatives of policy setting to ensure more balanced programs		
	To create permanent inter-ministerial dialogue to enhance the nexus	Improve the links between scientific world and policy makers	Improve initiatives of mobility of researchers, staff, decision makers (both directions) to better identify common problems, solutions and better know obstacles at the EU-MED partnership.
	To develop integrated policies that minimize water and energy uses and lower costs of production and reuse		
Management & Institutional responsibility	To develop water management policies that integrate social, economic and environmental aspects in more balanced way	To facilitate and support with appropriate programs the establishment of Bio economy ETP's mirror groups in MPC	Enhance co-ownership through formulating EU energy R&D programmes, including MPC representatives and INCO groups.
	To adopt water policies that minimize the water footprint in all sectors		
	To maximize political support (minimize political interference) when deciding on common plans and strategies for the EUROMED region	Highlight the importance of food dimension to be integrated in EU-Med consultation	Developing a systemic approach to solve energy problems.
	To re-launch the action plan for the Med water Strategy to consolidate priority actions in short and long term		
	To ensure the convergence of funding sources/instruments to serve the priorities		
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	To ensure sustainable funding mechanisms and instruments to the priorities of MED countries	Enhance capacity of stakeholders to be able to participate effectively to the consultation process	To have specific regulation and implementation steps to achieve the R.E. Strategies in MPC.
	To ensure equal budget allocation and develop flexible administrative and financial procedures to accommodate justifiable changes		Prepare common EU-MPC renewable energy plan with target for the whole region including comprehensive support actions for implementation

	To develop capacity building programs for MPCs to enable them from understanding and managing the funds properly		
Responsiveness to users' needs	To develop water policies in full participatory manner and ensure inclusion of stakeholders at various stages of policy development	To identify regional priorities for improving research and capacity building to foster long term cooperation between EU and MPCs	Define specific actions which address specific local needs with the tools /rules of these programs implementation
	To improve the awareness of policy makers at technical and financial aspects		
	To develop water policies and programmes that takes the socio-environmental aspects into account	To update and harmonize national agro-food regulations with EU regulations in the MPCs	Design initiatives /actions that take into account needs of local communities and SMES integrating gender needs and mainstreaming.
	To develop a platform that includes various groups of interest from MS & MPCs to develop policies that respond to specific needs		

3.5. Expected Impacts

Table 7 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (WATER)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
Networking & Communication	Create a platform that integrates the outcome from various EU-Med initiatives and foster its place in policy discussion in EIP, JPI, ETP related to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Larger number of R&I topics focused on Med Water priorities, - Increased number of Joint projects EU-MPCs
	To ensure equal participation of MPCs in relevant platforms and initiatives of policy setting to ensure more balanced programs	
	To create permanent inter-ministerial dialogue to enhance the nexus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource use efficiency, demand management and more sustainable consumption patterns triggered by creative policies
Management & Institutional responsibility	To develop water management policies that integrate social, economic and environmental aspects in more balanced way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - R&D results fitting social needs and Med Water Context, - Sustainable Supply of quality water to municipal agriculture and industrial sectors
	To adopt water policies that minimize the water footprint in all sectors	
	To maximize political support (minimize political interference) when deciding on common plans and strategies for the EUROMED region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More sensitive water strategy, - RDI sustainable solutions easy to adopt by stakeholders, - An efficient use of water with a potential to increase the water capital per person by using advanced technology
	To re-launch the action plan for the Med water Strategy to consolidate priority actions in short and long term	
	To ensure the convergence of funding sources/instruments to serve	

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
	the priorities	
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	To ensure sustainable funding mechanisms and instruments to the priorities of MED countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher participation in H2020 and higher financial contribution for MPCs
	To ensure equal budget allocation and develop flexible administrative and financial procedures to accommodate justifiable changes	
	To develop capacity building programs for MPCs to enable them from understanding and managing the funds properly	
Responsiveness to users' needs	To develop water policies in full participatory manner and ensure inclusion of stakeholders at various stages of policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consensual water policy for a more feasible and stable strategy, - End users and stakeholders having sense of ownership to newly implemented projects, - Better implementation of policies and strategies as a result more goals achieved, - Well enhanced mechanism of participation of stakeholders in EU programmes
	To improve the awareness of policy makers at technical and financial aspects	
	To develop water policies and programmes that takes the socio-environmental aspects into account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More specific topics related to the real needs of EU/MPCs countries, - Long-term strategies that will enlarge participation, - the Euro-Med partnership is tangible and contribute to the development of South Med countries
	To develop a platform that includes various groups of interest from MS & MPCs to develop policies that respond to specific needs	

Table 8 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (FOOD)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
Networking & Communication	Development of common knowledge with mutual benefits (continuous policy dialogue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicated specific cooperation structures for local support (exchange cooperation services included) are set-up.
	Improve the links between scientific world and policy makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Strategic" framework related to food and agriculture including civil society and researchers needs is being improved; - Increased involvement of the scientific community in the development of policies (joint working groups); - The rank of food-related problems rises in the development agenda priority list for MPCs; - Scientific research and outputs are more oriented and useful to support political decision;

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A better balanced relation between agriculture industry and small scale farmers into the EU-Med area is achieved.
<p style="text-align: center;">Management & Institutional responsibility</p>	<p>To facilitate and support with appropriate programs the establishment of Bio economy ETP's mirror groups in MPC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased involvement of Mediterranean stakeholders in the definition of EU R&I priorities discussing them with their EU colleagues and EU policy makers; - A better vision of the needs of the Mediterranean area in terms of research and capacity building is achieved; - RTD is improved in agro-food industry; - Common research strategy is formulated; - National/Transnational R&I activities benefit from the presence of the Mediterranean technological platforms mirror groups; - Pertinent policies are designed by policy makers more aware about food and agricultural system.
	<p>Highlight the importance of food dimension to be integrated in EU-Med consultation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The food dimension becomes officially one of the concern regularly discussed during EU meeting of Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Economy; - Improved competence of policymakers in food sector; - More and better targeted food related content in all types of EC funding programmes and research calls and related activities.
<p style="text-align: center;">Resources (financial/human) & Capacity</p>	<p>Enhance capacity of stakeholders to be able to participate effectively to the consultation process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of food stakeholders associations in the MPCs increased; - Southern Mediterranean Participants have high capacity and are empowered to participate to food-related research projects; - A better involvement of all stakeholders, especially the weakest ones, is achieved. - The consultation programme for defining research programming is designed to enable researchers to take part.
<p style="text-align: center;">Responsiveness to users' needs</p>	<p>To identify regional priorities for improving research and capacity building to foster long term cooperation between EU and MPCs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved uptake of research results by market (best economic impacts); - Agricultural and food priority and needs of MPCs are appropriately addressed in calls and work programmes.
	<p>To update and harmonize national agro-food regulations with EU regulations in the MPCs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An EU-Med market without artificial barriers with open corridors for plants and safe food export has developed; - Common vision among EU and MPCs calls has been developed; - Mediterranean population benefits from the harmonization of agro-food regulations.

Table 9 - Expected Impacts related to Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (ENERGY)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
<p style="text-align: center;">Networking & Communication</p>	<p>Develop new innovative communication approaches for solving energy problems between EU and MPCs countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance cooperation efficiency extended to other issues (water, food, ICT). - Enhance citizen awareness on energy issues and their sustainable development.
	<p>Improve initiatives of mobility of researchers, staff, decision makers (both directions) to better identify common problems, solutions and better know obstacles at the EU-MED partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the mobility of researchers (both ways) then the number of real partnerships between North and South NPCs could increase. - Increased knowledge transfer and intercultural exchange of good practice. Policies will be more cross-cutting. - Alignment of joint EU-MPC policy with different context and real needs of the EU and MPCs citizens.
<p style="text-align: center;">Management & Institutional responsibility</p>	<p>Enhance co-ownership through formulating EU energy R&D programmes, including MPC representatives and INCO groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number of coordination projects that solve energy problems between EU and MPCs. - Creating an environment for real partnership, for example, mutual and equal responsibilities and benefits.
	<p>Developing a systemic approach to solve energy problems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solving energy problems in MPCs in a systemic approach. - New opportunities of component optimization (energy, water, food, space) and thus higher level efficiency in resources use.
<p style="text-align: center;">Resources (financial/human) & Capacity</p>	<p>To have specific regulation and implementation steps to achieve the R.E. Strategies in MPC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Faster switch to renewable energies than presently observed.
	<p>Prepare common EU-MPC renewable energy plan with target for the whole region including comprehensive support actions for implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local communities SMES and End-Users are implementing on the field sustainable initiatives that improve the life of populations respecting natural resources. - Open wide perspectives to local markets.
<p style="text-align: center;">Responsiveness to users' needs</p>	<p>Define specific actions which address specific local needs with the tools /rules of these programs implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solving local needs/problems will demonstrate the usefulness of new renewable energy alternatives and catch the population to accept and become promoter of the new sustainable energy technologies (bottom-up rather than top-down). - Increase joint EU-MPC programmes to tailor the local energy

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	Expected Impacts
	Design initiatives /actions that take into account needs of local communities and SMES integrating gender needs and mainstreaming.	<p>needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable decentralized problem solutions in the energy systems of the EU-MS and MPCs. - Upward boost in economy in smaller business communities and reduction of unemployment.

3.6. Keynote speech (synthesis)¹

Title: "A policy dialogue for Science in, for and with society" (By J. Spangenberg)

The concept of sustainable development should be both the starting point and the final aim of R&I cooperation and of all research activities. Sustainable development could be seen as a result of two basic concepts: justice and limits in the distribution of material and immaterial wealth. In order to achieve this fair and sustainable distribution, there is the need to enhance innovation in four different dimensions: institutional, social, economic and environmental. With particular reference to research, innovations should have a sustainability direction and should lead to solutions which are not problems in the long term. The idea is thus not to "do things better", but to "do better things".

Adding policies to the picture, in order to achieve sustainable development through research and innovation, it is of utmost importance to establish a coherent link among the overall policy orientation (based on problem awareness and stakeholders participation), R&I policies, research conducted and results implemented.

In this frame, research actions to be promoted should be cooperative rather than competitive, and this requires also a good degree of institutional innovation at the decision making level in the definition of national and EU research programmes (including Framework Programmes). The role of initiatives such as MED-SPRING should be to put emphasis on the need to develop cooperative research in order to find suitable solutions for common problems.

To this regard, some pre-policy dialogue questions should be answered when defining priorities for R&I Euro-Mediterranean policies, such as: do the North Mediterranean and South Mediterranean countries share the same problems? Are national strategies aligned or compatible?

In addition to this, in order to ensure the largest societal impact of research through policy dialogue, some general conditions are required: 1) having basic infrastructures for research, 2) organizing the demand for knowledge, 3) upstream and downstream linkages to education and innovation.

Last but not least, with particular reference to what seems to be a strategic direction and an imperative for research in the Euro-Mediterranean area, that is to address the water-food-energy nexus, policy dialogue should lead to problem oriented research instead that product oriented research. This would allow to solve today's problems without creating new problems for the generations of tomorrow.

¹The synthesis was not revised by the Author.

3.7. Variables: barriers and positive factors

Table 10 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (WATER)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
Networking & Communication	Create a platform that integrates the outcome from various EU-Med initiatives and foster its place in policy discussion in EIP, JPI, ETP related to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange funding programmes; - Dialogue/communication platforms; - Good degree of responsiveness of H2020 MED calls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low number of MED oriented calls; - MPCs participate in EU call but not on equal footing; - Low trust among involved actors; - No public/long-term access and maintenance of projects (dates ...etc); - Low number of MED experts in EC list
	To ensure equal participation of MPCs in relevant platforms and initiatives of policy setting to ensure more balanced programs		
	To create permanent inter-ministerial dialogue to enhance the nexus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More funding and research/RDI in water nexus; - Global trend towards "Nexus" well absorbed by MED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of holistic vision in institutions; - Low follow up of research; - Insufficient link research-policy makers
	To develop integrated policies that minimize water and energy uses and lower costs of production and reuse		
Management & Institutional responsibility	To develop water management policies that integrate social, economic and environmental aspects in more balanced way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bio-safety Model; - Useful studies, methodology and data available; - Frontier Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sectorial thinking and decision making; - Lack of communication, "fake" trans-disciplinarity; - Low impact of research and low uptake on water saving; - low stakeholders participation; - water governance not adapted to nexus
	To adopt water policies that minimize the water footprint in all sectors		
	To maximize political support (minimize political interference) when deciding on common plans and strategies for the EUROMED region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGOs are more empowered to play a significant role in water policy; - Many initiatives at the EURO-Mediterranean level in the preparatory phase (PRIMA, Blue Med, ERANETMED ...etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National strategies are not considering the regional dimension; - Limited involvement of the NGOs and Civil Society in strategy development; - Current transitional political situation in the region; - Weak mainstreaming of gender issues; - Poor dissemination of information/poor access to information by policy makers
	To re-launch the action plan for the Med water Strategy to consolidate priority actions in short and long term		
	To ensure the convergence of funding sources/instruments to serve the priorities		
Resources (financial/human)	To ensure sustainable funding mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good tools for capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not innovative capacity building

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
& Capacity	and instruments to the priorities of MED countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (platforms, forums ...etc); - Openness of H2020 to participate and receive funding; - Efforts/discussion to reduce inequality; - Increased exchange of best practices between North and South 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> methods; - Purpose of EU funds for research; - Absence of funding mechanisms to ensure sustainability of programmes; - Legal constraints in accepting national rules by the EU; - Limited training programme facilities (financial and technical)
	To ensure equal budget allocation and develop flexible administrative and financial procedures to accommodate justifiable changes		
	To develop capacity building programs for MPCs to enable them from understanding and managing the funds properly		
Responsiveness to users' needs	To develop water policies in full participatory manner and ensure inclusion of stakeholders at various stages of policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ETPs and Platforms; - Local water management approach and results; - High valuation of water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discontinuity of Dialogue; - No proper channelling of different stakeholders' views; - Bureaucracy/Structure of water resources management agencies; - Inefficient decentralization systems and local mechanisms - No proper channelling of different stakeholders' views
	To improve the awareness of policy makers at technical and financial aspects		
	To develop water policies and programmes that takes the socio-environmental aspects into account	<i>No variables identified</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water integrity (water governance)
	To develop a platform that includes various groups of interest from MS & MPCs to develop policies that respond to specific needs		

Table 11 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (FOOD)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
Networking & Communication	Development of common knowledge with mutual benefits (continuous policy dialogue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of communication and communication technologies - Organise round tables and dialogue community with communication specialists to disseminate knowledge - Adoption of the same set of indicators - Consultation organized in a "plain language" in order to facilitate participation from stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political instability in MPCs cause difficulties in developing long-term strategies - Difference in interests between scientists and policy makers - No opportunity/channel to share information - Absence of a common knowledge between scientists and policy makers
	Improve the links between scientific world and policy makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research results and outcomes responding to country priorities are presented in an economic developmental terms - Forums of discussion and platforms where policy and academia can interact - Evaluate the programs of networking between politicians and scientists on a regular basis (monitoring) - Present research results in a way showing impacts on the bio-economy development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong influence of multinational firms which interfere in the consultation process involving science and policy - Lack of willingness of scientists and policy makers to cooperate - Policy makers and scientists have different missions and visions - Low relevance of research outcomes to national priority programmes
Management & Institutional responsibility	To facilitate and support with appropriate programs the establishment of Bio economy ETP's mirror groups in MPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of positive experience and best practices in Europe as examples for MPCs - More involvement of Med Countries in collaborative projects (H2020) - Support to the project consortia in the project preparation phase to get commitment from all partners and develop a feasible project proposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absence (unavailability) of economic resources to implement a fair and consistent stakeholder involvement - National authorities not convinced of the importance of creating a forum bringing together stakeholders
	Highlight the importance of food dimension to be integrated in EU-Med consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to data and updated information on food-related issues at the time of the consultation - Food security and food safety issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Different public perceptions of food security (as well as other food-related issues) in EU-Med. Countries - Underestimating the importance of the

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are reflected in the domestic use of participant Countries - Food dimension is integrated in sectoral development plans at national and local levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> gender dimension in reducing food problems in southern Med countries - No involvement or participation of food specialists in the consultation team
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	Enhance capacity of stakeholders to be able to participate effectively to the consultation process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific support measures to enhance the public and media understanding of the bio-economy - Increase mobility and exchange of project's staff - Invite stakeholders to be involved in the whole process at early stage - Increase quality of policy makers decision process - Trust of Med countries in the EU strategies for solving their problems related to food sector - Consultation organised in local languages in order to make easier participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of incentives to motivate R&D actors to participate - Civil society and researchers are excluded at national level in consultation process - Under evaluated R&D opportunities by SMEs and farmers
Responsiveness to users' needs	To identify regional priorities for improving research and capacity building to foster long term cooperation between EU and MPCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and implementation of specific accompanying measures - Competences and importance of international organisations and regional institutes is a very useful tool for connecting regional stakeholders and EU - Think tanks are created to influence EU-MPCs cooperation - Existence of economic policy strategy in agro-food sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absence of a structured research system with clearly defined objectives based on strategies - Priorities at national level in southern Mediterranean countries are not defined in a participatory way (involving civil society/researchers)
	To update and harmonize national agro-food regulations with EU regulations in the MPCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Twinning schemes support harmonisation of regulations - Strict obedience to the rules of quality and safety by the MPCs - Benefits from already existing networks (e.g. SINAM) and meetings in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulations acting as trade barriers, political and economic interest may hamper the process and influence the competition in the international trade - Poor capacity of small producers to adapt to and apply new regulations

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
		the frameworks of current projects	- Obstacles to implement possible EU-compatible regulation in various food dimensions in MPCs

Table 12 - Variables affecting the achievement of selected Specific Policy objectives, for each societal challenge (ENERGY)

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
Networking & Communication	Develop new innovative communication approaches for solving energy problems between EU and MPCs countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up a culture of partnership; - Common research interests; - Common design and accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suspension of EU-MPC ministerial dialogue on energy since 2007 created no roadmap for energy cooperation; - Lack of common language; - Cultural barriers
	Improve initiatives of mobility of researchers, staff, decision makers (both directions) to better identify common problems, solutions and better know obstacles at the EU-MED partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding programs which allow increased mobility; - Growing networks of national researchers and network between MPCs and EU researchers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficulty on researchers international mobility; - Inadequate ERA space organization; - Insufficient women representation in research advisory board and decision making position
Management & Institutional responsibility	Enhance co-ownership through formulating EU energy R&D programmes, including MPC representatives and INCO groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance co-ownership by including MPCs representatives in policy formulation; - Inclusion of international cooperation on Energy programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No KPI (Key performance Indicators) to measure mutual benefits; - Marginalization of the international dimension in H2020 programme architecture/lack of ambition for a "common EU-MED RI area"; - Lack of national comprehensive policies acting in an integrated way; the fragmentation of political decisions and its implementation; - lack of interaction between economic actors of the NEXUS
	Developing a systemic approach to solve energy problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommend national actions (on research and innovation) towards concrete challenges: urban development, agricultural production, tourism, based on the NEXUS concept; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficulty to work trans-disciplinarily in the present set-up of sectoralized institutions; - lack of gender disaggregated data that could feed proper gender sensitive

Main Problems Categories	Specific policy objectives	VARIABLES	
		Positive Factors	Barriers
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leading paradigms of research, highlighting the interdependency of energy/food/water/space/environment (NEXUS); - Solve issues of energy together with food, water and space at research implementation level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approach to energy problems; - lack of common policy/vision in EU-MED region on energy sector
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	To have specific regulation and implementation steps to achieve the R.E. Strategies in MPC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pressing need to switch to renewable energy for different reasons (climate, depletion, pollution); - common interest, common design and common accountability; - promotion of women's participation in all the phases, from policy design to implementation of development projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop common policies between EU and MPCs authorities; - Sectorialization of funding instruments; - Policies EU targeting and difficulties of dialogue at decision level.
	Prepare common EU-MPC renewable energy plan with target for the whole region including comprehensive support actions for implementation	<i>No variables identified</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Particular, especially commercial but also operational interest of existing structures preventing change
Responsiveness to users' needs	Define specific actions which address specific local needs with the tools /rules of these programs implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mutual responsibility and mutual benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H2020 programme design that disadvantages "local" energy solutions with societal participation
	Design initiatives /actions that take into account needs of local communities and SMES integrating gender needs and mainstreaming.	<i>No variables identified</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural barriers; - Lack of communications between local communities and SMEs stakeholders

3.8. Suggested actions

Table 13 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (WATER)

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
Networking & Communication	Insufficient access to information and low communication flow among MS-MPC and EU as well as low participation of MPCs in platforms and policy setting instruments	Create a platform that integrates the outcome from various EU-Med initiatives and foster its place in policy discussion in EIP, JPI, ETP related to water	Create mechanisms for involving MPCs in various EU water initiatives and platforms (EIP, JPI, ETP)
		To ensure equal participation of MPCs in relevant platforms and initiatives of policy setting to ensure more balanced programs	
	Lack of policies that consider the future challenges related to food-energy-water-space nexus	To create permanent inter-ministerial dialogue to enhance the nexus	Setting Med Committee on Nexus to develop visions , holistic approaches and new programmes and building synergies with other relevant programmes
		To develop integrated policies that minimize water and energy uses and lower costs of production and reuse	Developing mechanisms and tools to enhance cooperation/exchange/communication to lead to common vision on water and energy saving and optimum uses. To build policy based on pilot studies in water/energy nexus
Management & Institutional responsibility	Different water management approaches: more socially oriented in scarce areas while more economically oriented in water rich areas	To develop water management policies that integrate social, economic and environmental aspects in more balanced way	<i>No Actions identified</i>
		To adopt water policies that minimize the water footprint in all sectors	
	Political Difficulties in Implementing common water strategies	To maximize political support (minimize political interference) when deciding on common plans and strategies for the EUROMED region	Create a technical committee to review the MED water strategy and set implementation recommendations

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
		<p>To re-launch the action plan for the Med water Strategy to consolidate priority actions in short and long term</p> <p>To ensure the convergence of funding sources/instruments to serve the priorities</p>	
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	<p>Discontinuity of funding, discrepancies in budget allocations between North and South (e.g. Salary) and rigidity of administrative and financial procedures as well as low capacity to manage funds especially in the MPCs</p>	<p>To ensure sustainable funding mechanisms and instruments to the priorities of MED countries</p>	<p>Developing co-funding mechanisms to ensure sustainability</p>
		<p>To ensure equal budget allocation and develop flexible administrative and financial procedures to accommodate justifiable changes</p>	<p>Capacity building on financial management through learning by doing and on-line support</p>
		<p>To develop capacity building programs for MPCs to enable them from understanding and managing the funds properly</p>	<p>Setting long term planning and secure funding for good projects to realize the intended outcomes</p>
Responsiveness to users' needs	<p>Poor water governance, poor awareness of decision makers on available sustainable solutions and funding instruments and poor engagement of mid level policy makers, water managers, and scientists/end users in regional policy development</p>	<p>To develop water policies in full participatory manner and ensure inclusion of stakeholders at various stages of policy development</p>	<p>Set-up a relevant SH representation at each required level. Identify the consultation process that guarantees the change of information. Updating community institutions (including capacity building). Providing incentives for adopting water saving technologies</p>
		<p>To improve the awareness of policy makers at technical and financial aspects</p>	
	<p>Low sensitivity and insufficiency of EU programs toward the spatial and temporal variation in specific needs and priorities in different Med Countries</p>	<p>To develop water policies and programmes that takes the socio-environmental aspects into account</p>	<p>Set-up of a new mechanism for the integrative water valuation according to the existing local condition. Establish boards representing experts of the different disciplines and aspects of the water management (social, economical, environmental). Develop tools representing different group of interest.</p>
<p>To develop a platform that includes various groups of interest from MS & MPCs to develop policies that respond to specific needs</p>			

Table 14 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (FOOD)

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
<p style="text-align: center;">Networking & Communication</p>	<p>Food and agriculture is a highly-country specific sector, low participation of Mediterranean participants in formulating and designing projects' proposal.</p>	<p>Development of common knowledge with mutual benefits (continuous policy dialogue)</p>	<p>Encourage North and South Mediterranean Countries in increasing research networks which could alleviate the South Mediterranean isolation. This could be done through specific programmes and projects which will improve N-S dialogue and facilitate trade in the Med area offering mutual benefits</p>
	<p>Scientific evidence on food-related issues and problems not being appropriately properly translated into political terms.</p>	<p>Improve the links between scientific world and policy makers</p>	<p>Promote participation of the MPCs in large scale collaborative projects with EU-Countries aiming at solving national/regional problems identified by national authorities</p> <p>Implementation of regular workshops/conferences involving politicians, scientists and farmers on a national level to identify current problems of the food sector and to develop possible solutions</p> <p>Politicians should always count on the expertise of scientific advisors (scientific advisory boards could be included in the policymakers group/subgroup)</p>
	<p>Lack/poor organisation of stakeholders reflects on the poor involvement in the definition of food sector priorities and processes</p>	<p>To facilitate and support with appropriate programs the establishment of Bio economy ETP's mirror groups in MPC</p>	<p>To devise accompanying measures in order to better explore the productive structures and organizations in order to better identify the stakeholder to be involved</p>
	<p>The food-related dimension is not well represented in the current Eu-Mediterranean consultation system.</p>	<p>Highlight the importance of food dimension to be integrated in EU-Med consultation</p>	<p>To harmonize the EU-Med consultation processes valorising the inter-relation between food security and food safety as well as taking into account neglected issues (e.g. gender balance)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Management & Institutional responsibility</p>			

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	Mediterranean participants (small and medium sized enterprise and research centres) face difficulties in meeting the bureaucratic demands (administrative, financial and regulatory).	Enhance capacity of stakeholders to be able to participate effectively to the consultation process	Establishment of sustainable partnerships between MPC research centers and international leading EU Institutions in agro-food sector, to foster MPC centers of excellence, considering infrastructure management, link and connect SME's to RDI stairways to market with multiplier effect, improving governance capacity building for RDI and belonging to civil society Creation of EU-Med R&D Forum for consultation (REGPOT, ERAWIDE, TEAMING, R2I)
	Responsiveness to users' needs	European framework programmes are not always addressing problems related to food production and consumption systems especially in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries.	To identify regional priorities for improving research and capacity building to foster long term cooperation between EU and MPCs
Differences in food system-related priority and needs: mostly food security in the South and food quality in the North is the base of different approaches in long-term stable cooperation		To update and harmonize national agro-food regulations with EU regulations in the MPCs	Establishment of a permanent national-regional Committee involving researchers and policy makers, in order to enforce the agro-food regulations, considering the obtained results among the already existing workgroup/networks (e.g. Cooperation projects of the CIHEAM-MAIB) Promote a long-term MPCs strategies to reach the EU standards of the agro-food products towards increasing the awareness of civil society consumers, policy makers on the sanitary status of plants and food

Table 15 - Suggested actions to achieve the selected Specific Policy objectives (ENERGY)

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
Networking & Communication	Deficit of involvement of stakeholders (e.g. Policy Makers, Industry, Civil Society, End Users, Decision Makers, Private Energy Sector) in Joint Mediterranean strategy in the NEXUS.	To develop new innovative communication approaches for solving energy problems between EU and MPCs countries.	Create a meeting place (virtual and/or physical) that facilitates an inclusive participation of all EU-MPC stakeholders to adopt common energy strategies.
			Create a web-based virtual civil society observatory to collect the citizen's concerns about energy issues.
		To improve initiatives of mobility of researchers, staff, decision matters (both directions) to better identify common problems, solutions and better know obstacles at the EU MED partnership.	Create a new EU-MPC program to raise the awareness on the importance of researchers' mobility for common research activities.
			Make a better use of Marie Curie Program (Individual Fellowships, ITNs,...) to facilitate bidirectional mobility of researchers to set up common research activities.
Management & Institutional responsibility	Insufficient co-ownership of energy initiatives between North and South Med.	To enhance co-ownership through formulating EU energy R&D programmes, including MPC representatives and INCO groups.	Setting up of an institutionalized forum aimed at getting together stakeholders (including scientists) if EU and MPCs to enhance co-ownership in the design of programs and implementation of projects of RE taking into account gender perspectives;
	Inadequacy between energy policy: common EU policy versus MPCs multi-policies (partnerships instead of cooperation).		Developing specific research programs in RE targeting common benefits, interests and effects both in EU and MPCs encouraging the participation of women researchers
	Lack of integrating approach for a real mutual partnership.	To develop a systemic approach to solve energy problems.	Developing research programs targeting systemic approach in common energy problems between EU and MPCs considering gender perspective;
	Lack of systemic approaches (NEXUS of energy, food, water, and space) to solve energy problems.		Provide capacity building activities/actions to promote an effective systemic approach to solve energy problems with special attention to women's needs.
Resources (financial/human) & Capacity	Insufficient energy regulation and implementation to achieve the renewable energy strategies in MPCs.	To have specific regulation and implementation steps to achieve the Renewable Energies Strategies in MPC.	Develop a RE roadmap & action plan in each MPC, pursuing a systemic approach (Nexus) & including a wide scope of stakeholder (i.e. national, regional policy makers; communities; civil society, business); Establish a high-level platform on energy policies in the MPCs, aiming at integrated regional energy strategy

Main Problems Categories	Specific Problems	Specific policy objectives	Suggested Actions
		to prepare common EU-MPC renewable energy plan with target for the whole region including comprehensive joint actions for implementation	<p>Resuming the (inter-??) ministerial dialogue on RE between EU-MS & MPCs, taking into regard other aspects of the Nexus energy-water-food-space environment;</p> <p>To Provide : - legal support: to transform Road Maps into adequate legislation that is conducive to RE - financial support: for reducing risks for SME start-ups (lower interest) - counseling/managerial support by temporarily employed foreign experts - regular bi-regional monitoring conference on the RE strategy implementation progress</p>
Responsiveness to users' needs	Lack of initiatives/actions tailored to local needs in current joint EU and MPCs programs integrating gender needs, mainstreaming and SMES.	<p>to Define specific actions which address specific local needs with the tools /rules of these programs implementation</p> <p>to Design initiatives /actions that take into account needs of local communities and SMES integrating gender needs and mainstreaming.</p>	<p>Proposing specific programs more focused on MPCs needs and priorities</p> <p>Designing specific and actions targeting SMEs awareness on R&I activities</p> <p>Offering training opportunities for all stakeholders integrating SMEs needs</p>

4. Evaluation of the event

Following the event, a feedback evaluation form was delivered to EMEG members. The questionnaire is enclosed in Annex C. The main results are summarized here below.

Accordingly with the participants, the preparatory activities were evaluated as “good” and “very good” level (figure 11) both in terms of material provided (stocktaking of policy dialogue, documents from Meetings, ...) and as level of involvement (open consultation, clusterization exercises for EMEG).

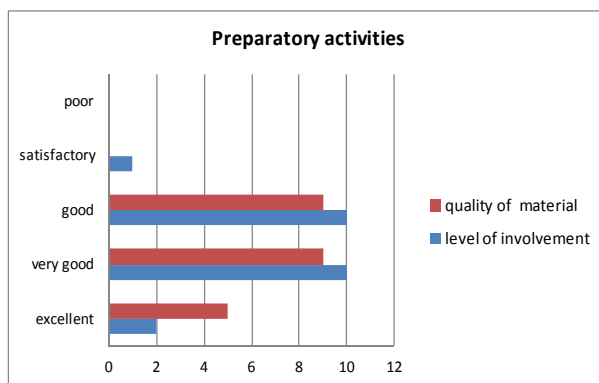
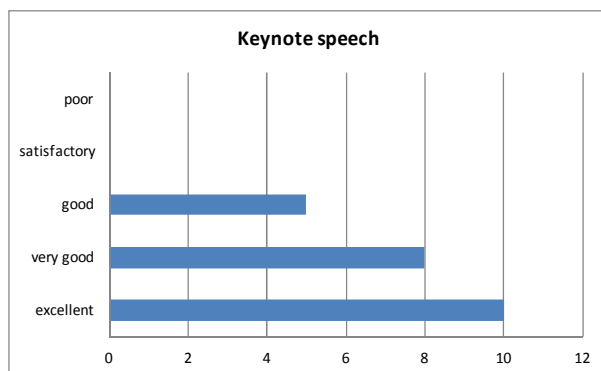
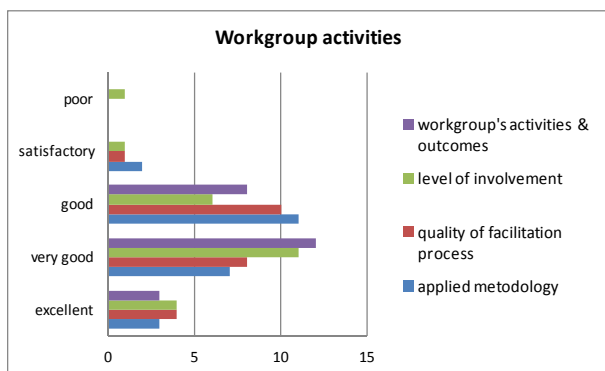


Figure 11 - Evaluation of quality of material and level of involvement in the preparatory activities toward the 2nd EMEG meeting

Going in detail, the EMEG activities were subdivided (and evaluated) in the following parts:

- Workgroups activities (including evaluation of: applied methodology, quality of facilitation processes, level of personal involvement in the group and workgroups outcomes);
- relevance and inspiration of the keynote speech;
- quality of plenary debate;
- quality of logistics.

The EMEG experts evaluate the above points respectively as a) “very good - good”, b) “excellent”, c) “very good” and d) “very good” (figure 12).



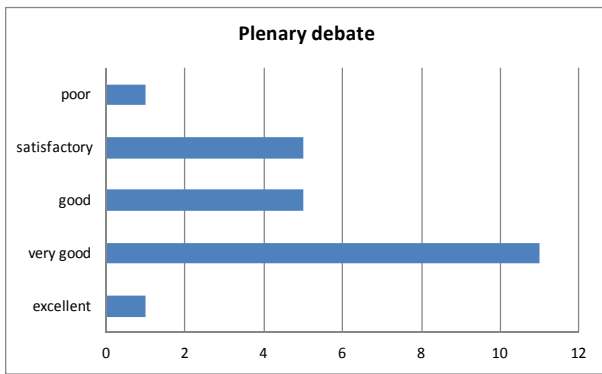


Figure 12 - Evaluation of Workgroups activities, keynote speech, plenary debate and logistic aspects.

Nevertheless some comment arises from experts: the methodology applied was evaluated as very interesting even if the rhythm obliges shortcuts and drastic résumés of the discussions.

The professionalism of working group facilitators in making the best ideas emerging was highly appreciated. The high richness of the working groups' discussions, the outcome of groups' activities and the result of the discussions are absolutely not reflected by the format imposed through paradigms. The final plenary session was perceived as confusing and conditioned by the short time available. A way to overcome this problem would be to have an extra half-day or 1 day more, giving time for more discussions in plenary sessions and having real cross working groups exchange.

The organization was evaluated as "very good", thanks to the efforts of TESR personnel.

The overall satisfaction about the event as well as the quality of feedback activities (dissemination material available on the web, EMEG questionnaire, streaming, ...) was "very good" (figure 13).

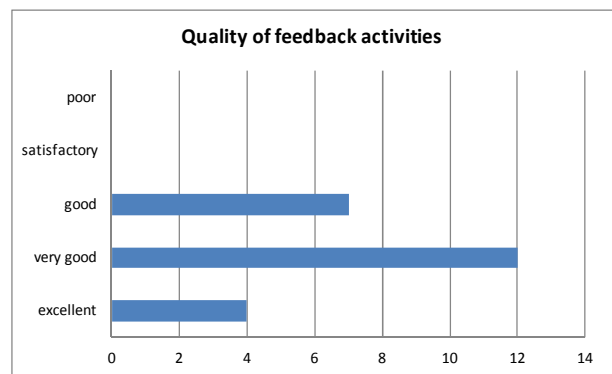
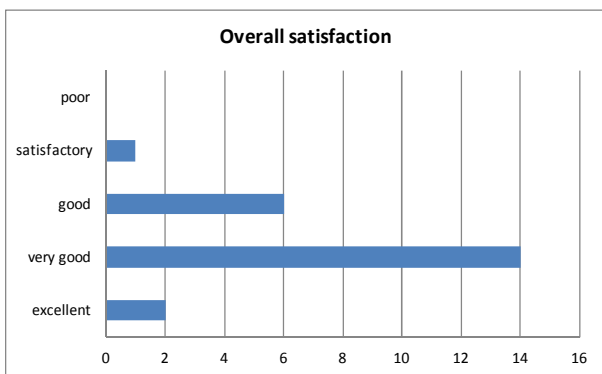


Figure 13 - Evaluation of overall satisfaction about the event and quality of feedback activities.

5. Conclusions

5.1. Cross-cutting paradigm

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, is implying the development of creative integrated policy and politics.

A clear orientation should be given to the Euro-Mediterranean research and innovation policy, 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 prioritization of research toward nexus problems, based on sustainability including trans-disciplinarity, integrating science in society, gender mainstreaming, stakeholders co-ownership.

5.2. Paradigm for each societal challenge

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.”

6. References

- Barcelona Declaration adopted at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference of 27-28/11/1995 (http://www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/docs/bd_en.pdf)
- Conclusions of the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th meetings of the Monitoring Committee for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation (MoCo)
- EMEG 1st meeting – Position Paper (Lisbon, 20-21 June 2013) <http://agora.medspring.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/emegpositionpaper.pdf>
- ENP Action Plans for Mediterranean Partner Countries (http://eeas.europa.eu/enp/documents/action-plans/index_en.htm)
- Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation – Consolidated Report (Barcelona, 2-3 April 2012) http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2012/euro-mediterranean/pdf/euro-med_conference_consolidated_report.pdf
- First Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Higher Education and Scientific Research (Cairo Declaration) of 18 June 2007 - Final Declaration (http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/cairo_declaration.pdf)
- Five Years Work Plan adopted within the Union for the Mediterranean (2005) (http://eeas.europa.eu/euromed/summit1105/five_years_en.pdf)
- Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean (Paris, 13 July 2008) (http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ufm_paris_declaration1.pdf)
- Texts of the Bilateral S&T Agreements between EU and Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan (<http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=countries>)

ANNEXES

A - Questionnaires for open consultation (steps 1-3)

B - Keynote speech slides

C – Feedback Evaluation Form

D - List of participants

E – Photo-gallery

ANNEX A

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR

OPEN CONSULTATION

(STEPS 1-3)

EMEG questionnaire

0. Introduction

“MEDSPRING” (Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway) is an EU funded project aiming at strengthening the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on Research and Innovation in key societal challenges: Resource Efficiency (particularly Water), High Quality Affordable Food and Energy. Among others, an important component of MED-SPRING is EMEG (Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group), which acts as a “think tank” of experts. This year, EMEG will work on research policy dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, identifying suggestions on concrete actions for enhancing cooperation.

Within this activity, we would like to know your opinion and views on the role and impacts of Research and Innovation (R&I) policies and policy dialogue in the Mediterranean. EMEG will carefully take into account your ideas as it was done in the past.

Have your say and take part in this on-line consultation!

SECTION 1. Registration

Sex: female / male

Age: _____

According to your profile, you may answer as:

- Scientist*
- Policy maker / RTD manager*
- Industry - Enterprise*
- Civil society – consumer*

Country (drop-down menu)

SECTION 2. Questions (STEP 1)

1. What is your degree of awareness on the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research & Innovation (R&I)?

- High
- Medium
- Low

2. Do you think that Euro-Mediterranean cooperation policies have effectively addressed research as well as innovation and sustainability in the last 20 years?
- Very much
 - Poorly
 - Not at all
 - I don't know
3. Do you perceive any positive impact of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in R&I (Research and Innovation) in your country?
- Yes
 - No
 - I don't know
4. Do you think there are/were some shortcomings in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in R&I? If yes, please give one or two example(s)

SECTION 2. Questions (STEP 2)

In this survey, you will be asked to express your opinion on the importance of 5 objectives identified on the basis of a critical stocktaking of the most important outcomes of Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation in the last 20 years. You will be then asked to prioritize them.

1. In your opinion, how important are the following objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on R&I?

1.a Fostering long-term and stable cooperation

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- I don't know

1.b Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- I don't know

1.c Developing programmes tailored on country needs

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- I don't know

1.d Encouraging Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs) participation in EU research framework programmes (e.g. FP7, H2020)

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- I don't know

1.e Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation

- Very important
- Important
- Not so important
- I don't know

2. Please rank the above mentioned objectives according to their relative importance, as follows: from 1 – most important to 3 – less important

- 2.a Fostering long-term and stable cooperation
- 2.b Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing
- 2.c Developing programmes tailored on country needs
- 2.d Encouraging MPCs participation in EU research framework programmes
- 2.e Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation

3. Which new objective(s) would you propose for a more effective Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue in R&I? _____

SECTION 2. Questions (STEP 3)

In this survey you will be asked to express your opinion on the degree of achievement of 5 objectives identified on the basis of a critical stocktaking of the most important outcomes of Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on Research and Innovation in the last 20 years. For each objective you will be then asked to identify the main bottlenecks in their achievement and suggest – if you want – potential solutions.

In your opinion what is the degree of achievement of the following objectives of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and policy dialogue in R&I?

1.a Fostering long-term and stable cooperation

- High
- Medium
- Low
- I don't know

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Differences in EU/MPCs approaches to cooperation
- Political willingness
- Institutional capacity
- Other _____

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems

1.b Ensuring a participatory approach in national and EU research programme designing

- High
- Medium
- Low
- I don't know

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Low attention and awareness of civil society
 - Low policy-makers awareness on societal needs
 - Poor involvement of stakeholders in the process
 - Other
-

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems

1.c Developing programmes tailored on country needs

- High
- Medium
- Low
- I don't know

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Low programmes adaptability to Countries' specificities
 - Policy-makers misperception of country needs
 - Poor involvement of stakeholders in the process
 - Other
-

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems

1.d Encouraging MPCs participation in EU framework programmes

- High
- Medium
- Low
- I don't know

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Differences in EU/MPCs needs and priorities
 - Bureaucracy and administrative procedures
 - Number of MPCs-oriented calls
 - Other
-

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems

1.d Ensuring North-South co-ownership in programmes' designing and implementation

- High
- Medium
- Low
- I don't know

What were/are the main bottlenecks in the effective achievement of this objective?

- Ineffective communication/definition of common priorities among EU and MPCs
 - Discrepancies between planned and implemented project activities
 - Project results enhancement and monitoring
 - Other
-

Please suggest possible/feasible solutions to overcome the above mentioned problems

Thank you for your contribution! If you want to join our web community, please click here

ANNEX B

KEYNOTE SPEECH SLIDES



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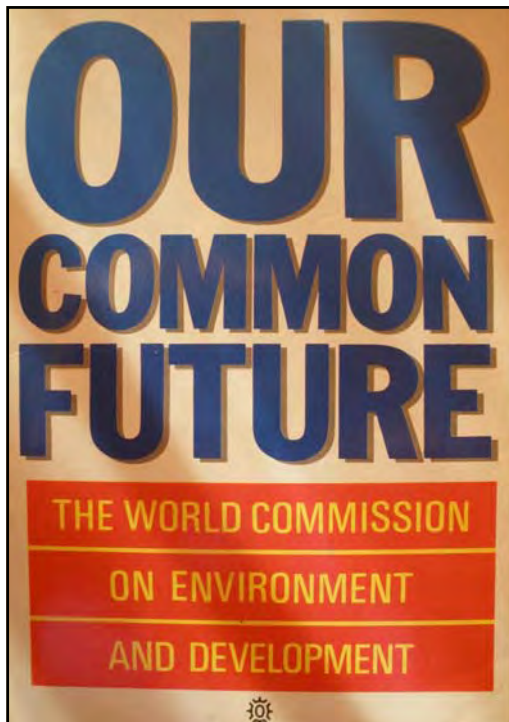
**A Policy Dialogue
for Science in, for and with Society**

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

Sousse, Tunisia, 22-23 September 2014



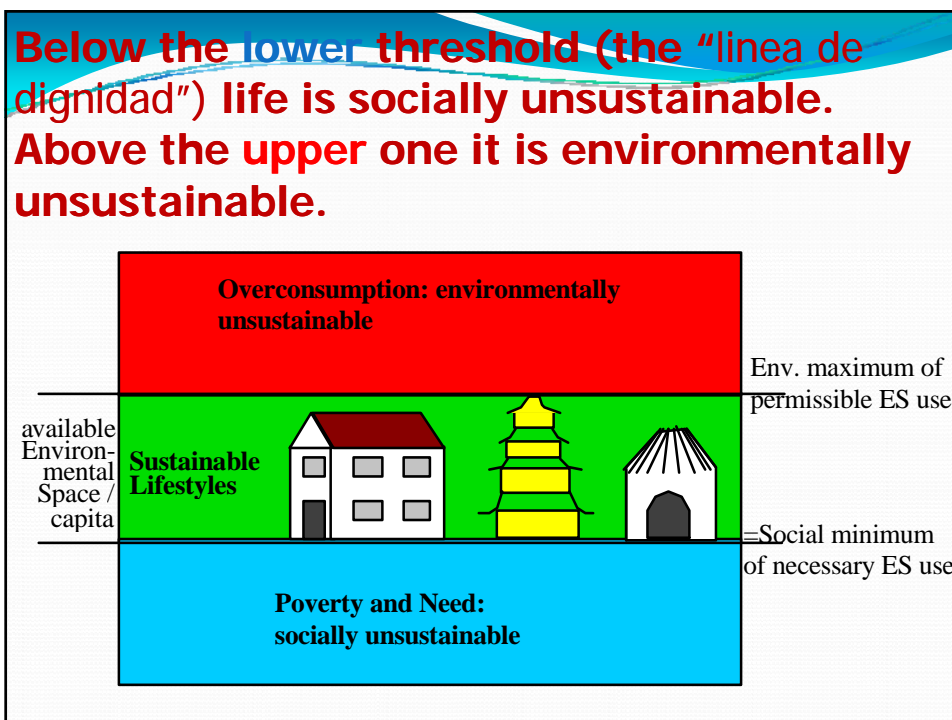
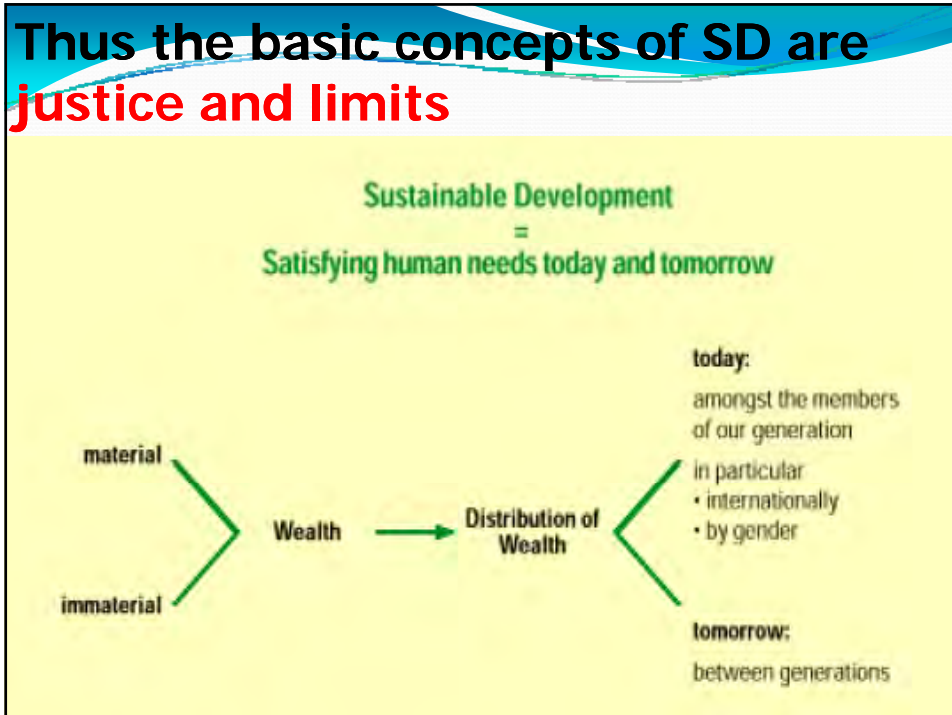
Sustainability

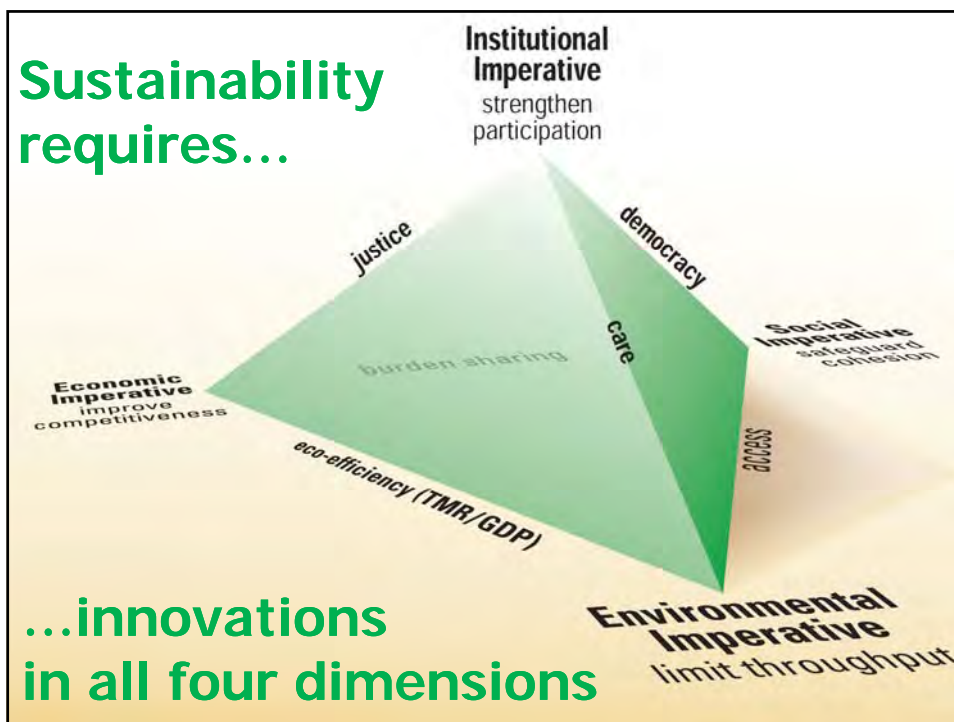


“Sustainable
development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. **It contains within it two key concepts two key concepts: ...**

1. **The concept of “needs”** in particular the essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given, and
2. **The idea of limitations** imposed by the state of technology and social organisation on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs.”
(WCED 1987, p.43)







For Sustainability...

...doing things better is not enough – we have to do better things.

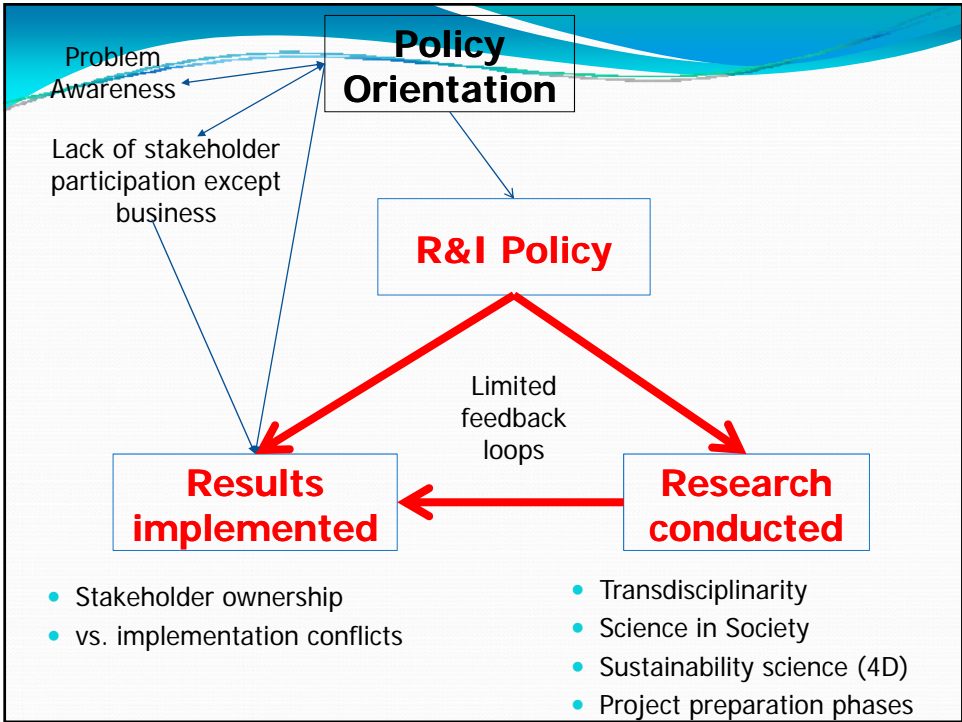
Today however, according to innovation research

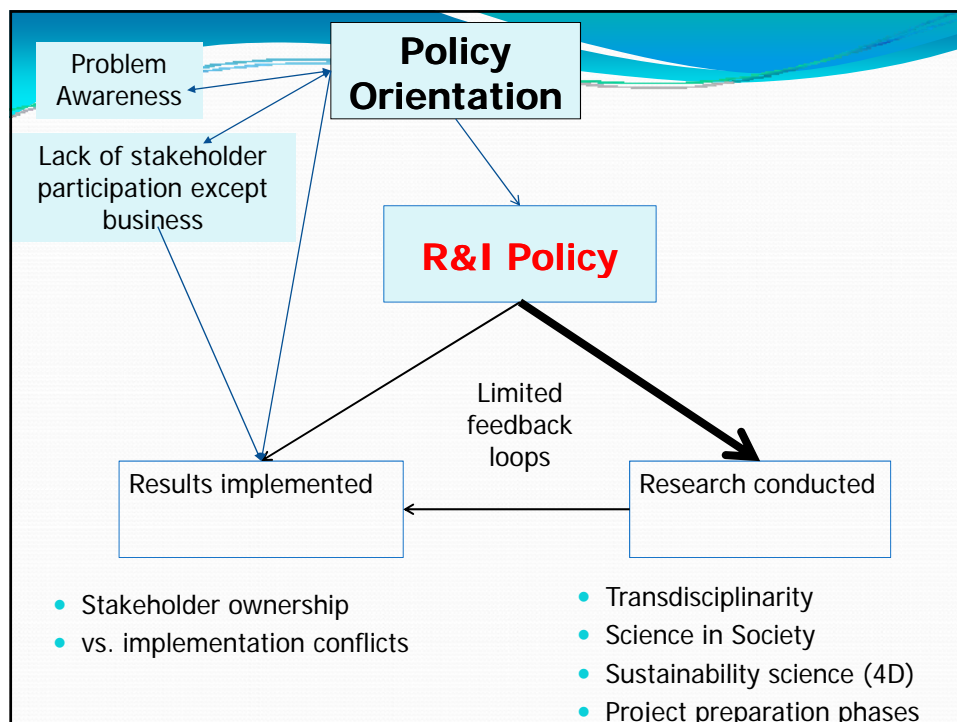
- We have much more process innovation than product innovation,
- We have much more incremental innovation than radical or basic innovation,

Being new does not imply being good – innovations must have a sustainability direction, or they are not solutions but problems in the making.

- We have almost no research in ex-novation but try to add new solutions on top of unsustainable structures, institutions, processes and products.

Another Nexus





Background: the 7 FPs

Since the 1980s, as industrial policy became unfashionable, RTD/R&I policy has been considered a substitute. Each country competes against all others, and the Union against the rest of the world, no specialisation.

The Commission started RTD policies without a mandate in the treaties (like environmental policy) and had to use other legitimations: EU research was always purpose bound, for solving societal problems and developing products

Since the Great Recession the EU policy orientation has changed from Union competitiveness to the outside world, towards competitiveness races between MS.

Questions arising

- How much cooperation is still possible on the political level, when competition is the policy game of the day?
- **How can country/problem specific programs be integrated in H2020 which is dedicated to enhance EU competitiveness?**
- **Are they then still useful to S-Med countries?**
- **Against this background, can medSpring or any other policy dialogue still create a niche for R&I to the benefit of the partners?**
- **Which institutional innovations are needed to make this possible?**

For instance in Germany, we discuss the participation of civil society in all research funding bodies...

When dialogue cannot change the facts of life...



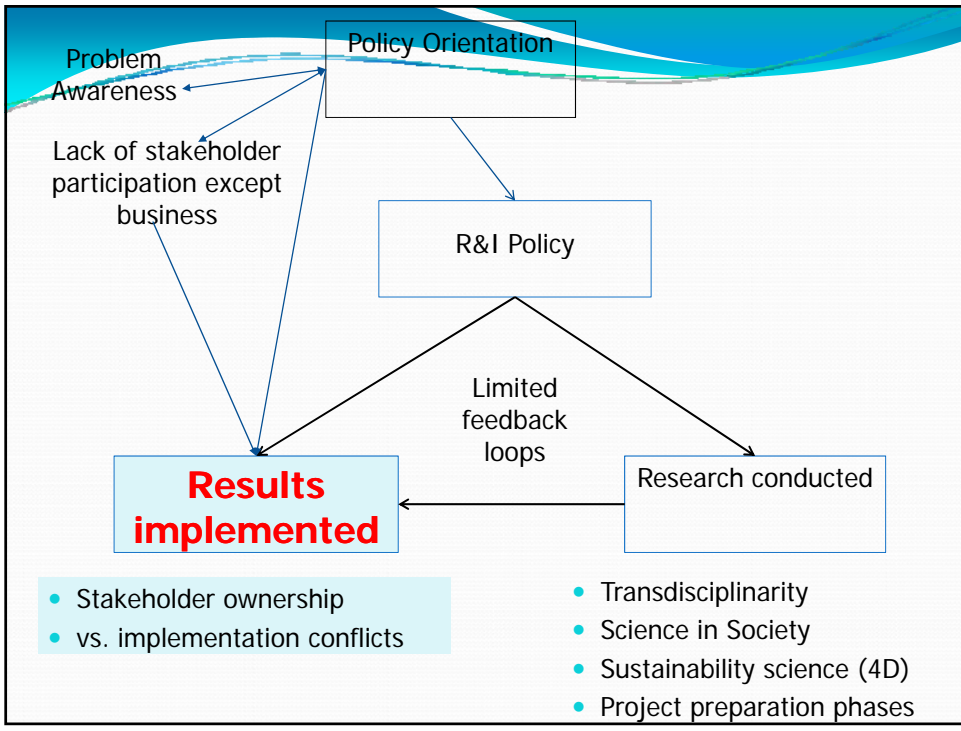
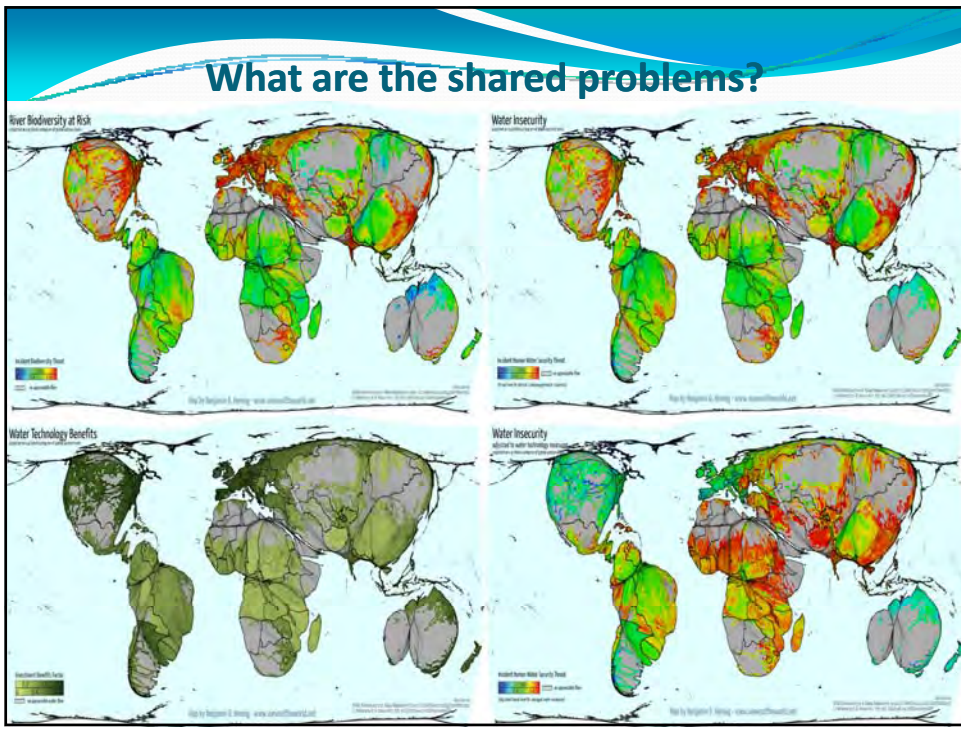
"I MET SOMEONE WONDERFUL IN A CHAT ROOM...
AND THEN I FOUND OUT SHE'S A CAT!"

Pre-policy dialogue questions

- Where do N-Med and S-Med share the same problems, and where are the problems of one caused by the solutions of the other?
- What is the strategic orientation of research programs? Are they geared towards problem solving and if so, which the problems of the region? Are identical, or at least compatible objectives and priorities given, and are the basic ideas for strategies towards these objectives compatible (social & institution vs. technical innovations)?
- Which opportunities for fruitful collaboration on country-specific problems are left under H2020, the EU post-research program for product development and European competitiveness?
- Dialogues are only successful if they make a difference: which?
- Are continuity, reflexivity, transparency and accessibility given, is monitoring and evaluation part of the process? Where does the input come from (sectors, levels)?

What are the shared problems?





General conditions

Larger societal impact depends heavily on an enabling societal and policy environment, support by policy dialogue, that

- (i) translates into minimum **infrastructure for research** (capacity building),
- (ii) organises **demand for knowledge** and its uptake (relevance, participation),
- (iii) upstream and downstream **linkages to education and innovation**.

However, beyond this general characterisation, the conditions for impact differ between the three types of research. In the following, I will discuss all three, with a focus on problem focussed research.

Remember:

Impact at such scales takes time to materialise, but time scales are compressible when suitable policies are in place.

Basics distinctions, again

Clearly distinguish and do not confuse **basic research, problem-oriented** and **product-oriented research (the current meaning of “innovation”)**!

- They are distinct in research questions and methods, and dissemination.
- For the **water, food & energy nexus, problem focussed research is the key.**
- As political and social problems cannot be solved (at maximum: postponed) by technical measures, look for innovations in all 4 dimensions to:
 - Do things better (process innovation),
 - Do better things (product innovation – not necessarily a material good or even a commodity),
 - Stop doing the wrong things (exnovation).

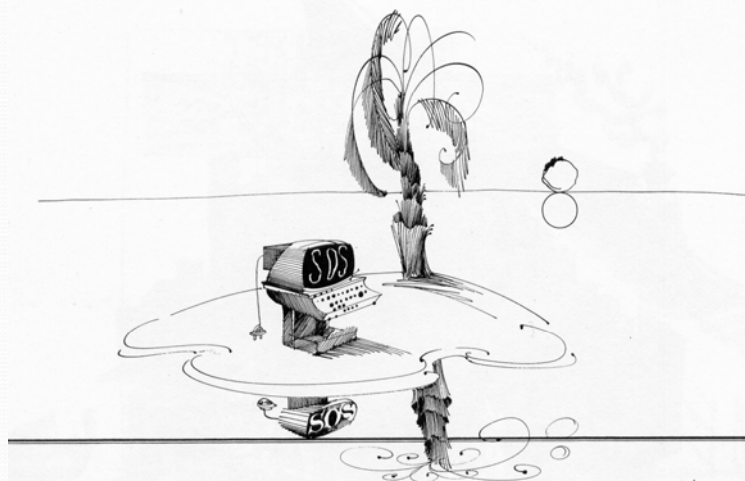
Minimum infrastructure for research

- Access to information, libraries, journal subscriptions, funds for participation in international conferences,..
- Incentives and perspectives (e.g. merit based career opportunities, fair allocation of funds, bonuses for publications in international peer reviewed journals,...),
- Communication and research infrastructure (hardware) from buildings to equipment and ICT, plus maintenance,
- Sufficient numbers of qualified scientific and technical support staff (link to higher education, also beyond academic studies),
- Independence from external funding to allow for focus on problem solving research,
- Funding for stakeholder participation (partnership on equal footing, science in society).

More infrastructure

- Technical universities and institutes are as necessary as better business schools, both learning to take into account social processes beyond the narrow confines of their respective disciplines.
- Research programs must include adequate funding for travel and conference fees to make participation in the scientific community possible: a condition for being involved in future projects, as participants and coordinators.
- Researchers need qualified support staff – their education and salaries must be adequate as well.
- Here schooling from the bottom up becomes important (a problem not solved in most EU MS).

A minimum infrastructure is needed for research

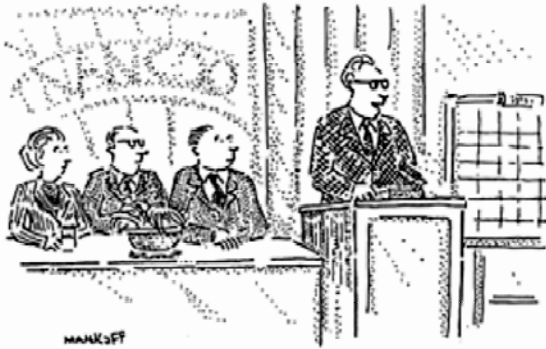


Organising demand for knowledge and its uptake 1

- An inner-science problem for basic research, and essentially **no problem for product-oriented research** provided that
 - there is sufficient business participation,
 - business has decisive influence on the choice of products to be developed which it later has to sell,
 - pick-and-run is impossible, business carries an economic risk and will thus mobilise its market analysis and marketing skills,
 - public funding complements but does not substitute for in-house research, development and innovation capacities.
- *The business of business is business – they will invest in what they can sell. In all other cases, public research is needed: public money for the public good, private money for the private profit.*
- *The task of public research is to complement business, not to subsidise it → focus on pre- or non-market goods, public goods.*

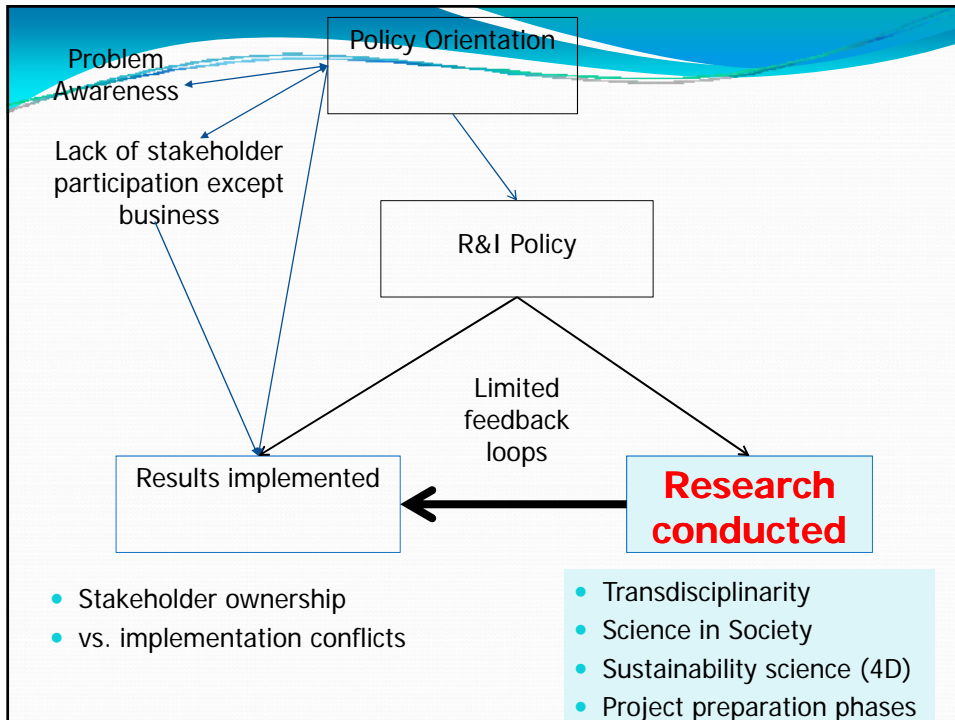
Organising demand for knowledge and its uptake 1

© Cartoonbank.com



"And so, while the end-of-the-world scenario will be rife with unimaginable horrors, we believe that the pre-end period will be filled with unprecedented opportunities for profit."

Business does not need to be pampered – it recognises and exploits opportunities



Organising demand: impact conditions

The **key condition to increase the impact of research** on societal processes is that the knowledge produced is taken note of, perceived as relevant, and believed to be reliable. These conditions are only fulfilled, if the source of information is considered trustworthy, scientifically competent and capable of identifying the most relevant information, and to deliver it effectively. This requires

- **1. Confidence:** Transparency, openness of motives and actions, accountability, dialogue and communication;
- **2. Competence:** Factual relevance, quality of information and knowledge recognised by others (social actors in society), mutual recognition among scientists, credible products, meeting societies' needs;
- **3. Capabilities:** (i) Knowledge, which is not only factually, but also politically relevant. (ii) Ability to support the process. (iii) Installed capacity of hardware, software, and infrastructure for networking.

Research as if humans mattered

- For problem-oriented research these are major challenges.
- Stakeholder involvement is to sustainability science what market research is to product innovation.
- As long as science does not provide the means to meet the ends societal stakeholders have defined, the impact will be limited. Science cannot alone set the standards as to which kind of knowledge is relevant but has to explain: (a) what is the importance of the research? (b) why is it important? (c) what effect, what impact is expected?
- Science is neither well prepared to integrate different but equally important kinds of knowledge, nor address the questions lay people are asking, nor embody perceptions and roles of social actors differing from scientists', or the diverging expectations regarding benefits.

Organising demand: a serious challenge



Trying to build a bridge between natural and social science, society and decision making

Transdisciplinarity & Sustainability science (4D)

Sustainability science is transformation science and transformative science, inter- and transdisciplinary.

The interests (motivations, needs, etc.) of stakeholders (**public administrations, politics,...**) investing time and/or money in research have to be taken into account in developing research strategies:

- spheres of interest and power,
- delegation or sharing of responsibilities,
- political interests, delivery on political commitments.
- investments in future economic ties.

For civil society other interests come into play:

- solving acute problems,
- respecting tradition,
- culture and informal hierarchies and role models.

Science in Society & Project preparation phases

- Science in Society: makes civil society to a research partner on the same level as scientists, enabling mutual learning: EJOLT.
- Project preparation phases: permit potential project organisers to visit colleagues and stakeholders in advance of submitting a project proposal, making it possible to conduct an ex-ante scoping analysis and integrate its results into the application.
- Scoping: increased social added value of public research can be achieved by ex-ante participatory gap analysis. Questions include: what do local/regional decision makers need to solve nexus problems, what is missing, what can science contribute?
- Integration: Underdeveloped linkages with national research systems and policy minimises impacts. If sustainability science is to be transformative, it must also transform the national science and innovation systems.

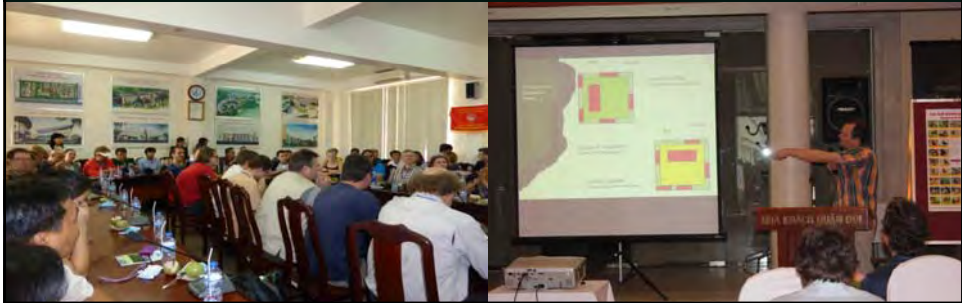


Consulting authorities: Raising the awareness of administrative and political stakeholders





Consulting business and science: Explaining threats&options, understanding opportunities



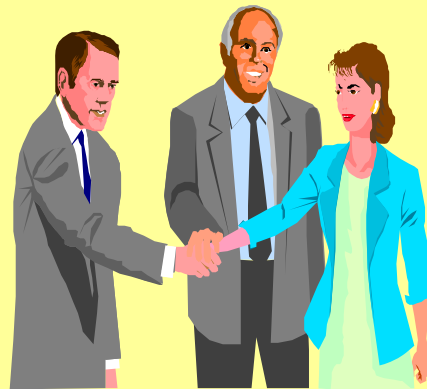
Consulting farmers
Group discussions, interviews, gender groups



Thinking out of the box

- Given the water and food challenges, and the need for sustainable energy supply, what is the maximum sustainable resource consumption (in a LCA perspective, including land, water and energy consumption for food, accommodation and inland travel) per capita per day of tourists in the Med countries? Which policy measures can be taken to make sure the limitations are either enforced or transgressions compensated?
- Exporting plants (flowers, fruit, vegetables) from irrigation agriculture in semi-arid countries to water-rich regions may be a good business in terms of money at current prices, but it is insane in terms of resource endowments (see Ricardo's theory of international trade). What is the situation regarding EU – S-Med trade in terms of embodied water, land, energy and resources? Is it sustainable, and if not so, which corrective measures are imaginable?

REMEMBER:



Your Mind is like a Parachute -
it only Works when it's Open !

Thank you for your attention. You find this presentation at
<http://seri.academia.edu/JoachimHSpangenberg>



***Good luck
on the track
to a medSpring
partnership in
research, and for sustain-
able development !!!***

ANNEX C

FEEDBACK EVALUATION FORM



2nd EMEG Meeting - evaluation form

The present evaluation form is aimed at collecting EMEG views to evaluate if the event met the expected goals and to make recommendations on possible adjustments/improvements in view of the next steps. This feedback will be used to guide the MedSpring Coordination Staff and WP2 responsible in organizing the forthcoming EMEG event, planned in 2015.

Please take few minutes to complete the following questionnaire & return it to medspring@iamb.it by 31st October

Participant name: _____

e-mail: _____

Institution: _____

Workgroup: WATER FOOD ENERGY

1. Preparatory activities

a. How do you rate the level of involvement and contribution by civil society and EMEG experts in the preparation of the event? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

b. How do you rate the quality of preparatory material (stocktaking and open consultation results, rationale, guidelines, annotated agenda)? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

2. Overall Satisfaction

a. How do you rate the event? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

3. Workgroup activities

a. Please evaluate the overall methodology applied in the workgroups activities (please put in bold your answer) :

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

b. Please evaluate the quality of the facilitation process in your workgroup (please put in bold your answer):

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

c. Please evaluate the level of your involvement in your group (please put in bold your answer) :

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

d. Please evaluate your workgroup's activities and outcomes :

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

4. Keynote speech

a. With regard to the overall results of the event, how do you evaluate the relevance/inspiration of the keynote speech : « A Policy Dialogue for Science in, for and with Society»? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

5. Plenary debate

a. How do you evaluate the quality of the plenary session debate and its usefulness in view of the definition of a shared vision on policy dialogue in research and cooperation ? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

6. Logistics

a. How do you evaluate the quality of logistics (bureaucratic issues, pick up from/to airport, hotel accommodation, equipment, ...)? (please put in bold your answer)

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

7. Post-event feedback

a. Please evaluate the quality of feedback activities (material availability, dissemination through the project website and MedSpring AGORA, ...) after the event (please put in bold your answer):

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Poor

8. Other comments/suggestions:

Thank you for your collaboration!

The MedSpring Coordination Staff

ANNEX D

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Euro Mediterranean Experts Group (EMEG): List of participants

<i>EMEG Water</i>	<i>EMEG Food</i>	<i>EMEG Energy</i>
<p>Group leader: Ayman Rabi (PALESTINE)</p> <p>Juan Antonio Sagardoy (SPAIN) Christian Leduc (FRANCE) Ian Gauci Borda (MALTA) Anabela Carvalho (PORTUGAL) Adriana Bruggeman (NETHERLANDS) Mohamed Sinan (MOROCCO) Latifa Bouselmi (TUNISIA) Ahmed Ghrabi (TUNISIA) Amer Marei (PALESTINE) Zeinab El-Sadr (EGYPT) Alessandra Sensi (ITALY) Raphael Rodriguez (SPAIN) Atef Hamdy (EGYPT) Rita Baraldi (ITALY) Alessandro Stefani (ITALY)</p> <p>Facilitator: Marinella Giannelli, Zeinab El Sadr</p>	<p>Group leader: Moez Jebara (TUNISIA)</p> <p>Hamid El Bilali (MOROCCO) Soukeina Bouraoui (TUNISIA) Rosanna Quagliariello (ITALY) Khaled Djelouah (ALGERIA) Pere Puigdomenech (SPAIN) Judith Schick (GERMANY) Domenico Pignone (ITALY) Halil Ibrahim Atabay (TURKEY) Ahmed Mliki (TUNISIA) Sanaa Zebakh (MOROCCO) Rafik Karaman (PALESTINE) Alessandro Stefani (ITALY) Eduardo Cuoco (ITALY) Maria João Fernandes (PORTUGAL) Habiba Hassan Wassef (EGYPT) Khuloud K. Al-Dajani (PALESTINE)</p> <p>Facilitator: Gaetano Ladisa</p>	<p>Group leader: Victor Silva (PORTUGAL)</p> <p>Gabriel Marquette (FRANCE) Eduardo Maldonado (PORTUGAL) Nestor Fylaktos (GREECE) AmenAllah Guizani (TUNISIA) Imad Ibrik (PALESTINE) Abdelwahab Kassem (EGYPT) Alexandra Camilleri (MALTA) Marcello Scalisi (ITALY) Sifeddine Labeled (ALGERIA) Anna Fumarola (ITALY) Adel Ghazel (TUNISIA) Majd Al Naber (JORDAN) Martin Regelsberger (AUSTRIA) Joachim Spangenberg (GERMANY)</p> <p>Facilitator: Chiara Morini</p>

OTHER PARTICIPANTS (not experts/members of EMEG): Fadila Boughanemi (European Commission), Hamid El-Zoheiry (MHESR), Irene Costantini (S-Com), Claudio Bogliotti (CIHEAM-IAMB), Chiara Ciannamea (CIHEAM-IAMB), Ralph Hermann (Germany), Omar Amawi (Jordan).

ANNEX E

PHOTO GALLERY



Photos 1-6 - Some snapshots from the EMEG meeting

