

Participatory Water Management: the Water Stewardship Approach

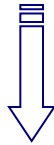
*Future of European Waters
Budapest, 24.03.11*



Rob D'hondt

Closing the gap...

- **Raising awareness** of policy makers and private sector
- Apparent **challenges in implementation** of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) within sectors and water user groups



Demand for an **active guidance towards SWM**

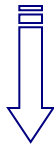
Going one step further...

Water Stewardship goes further:

Volume  Impact  **RESPONSE**

RESPONSE through:

- Guidance to initiate private actions
- Positive Incentives for changing behaviour
- Fines / Penalties (regulations / pricing / law)

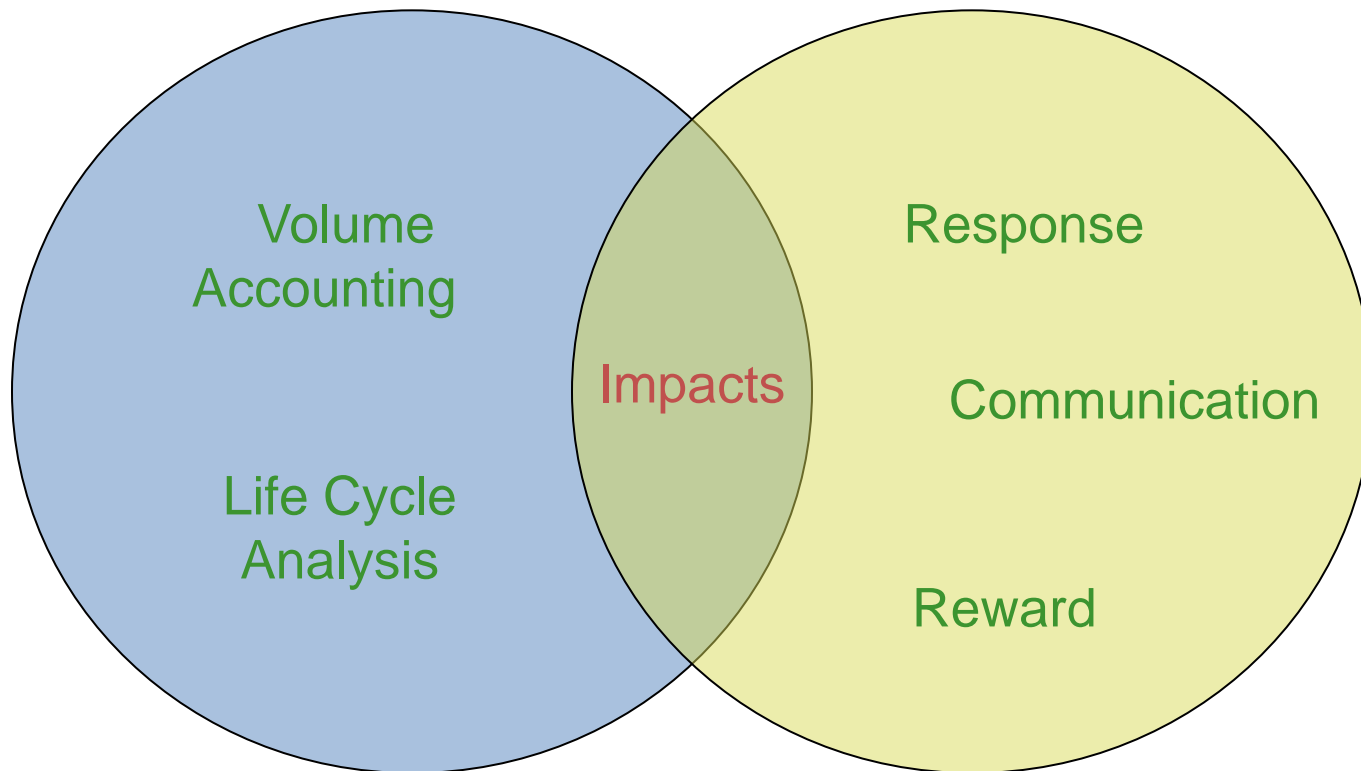


Together in the same direction

Footprinting and Stewardship

Footprinting:
understanding

Stewardship:
responding



... with the right tools!

A **standard** to change behavior towards Sustainable Water Management (SWM)

- Developed via a multi-stakeholder process
- Complement and support regulatory actions
- Recognize and reward water users who take major steps towards Sustainable Water Management (SWM)
- Minimize the impacts at the facility and watershed level

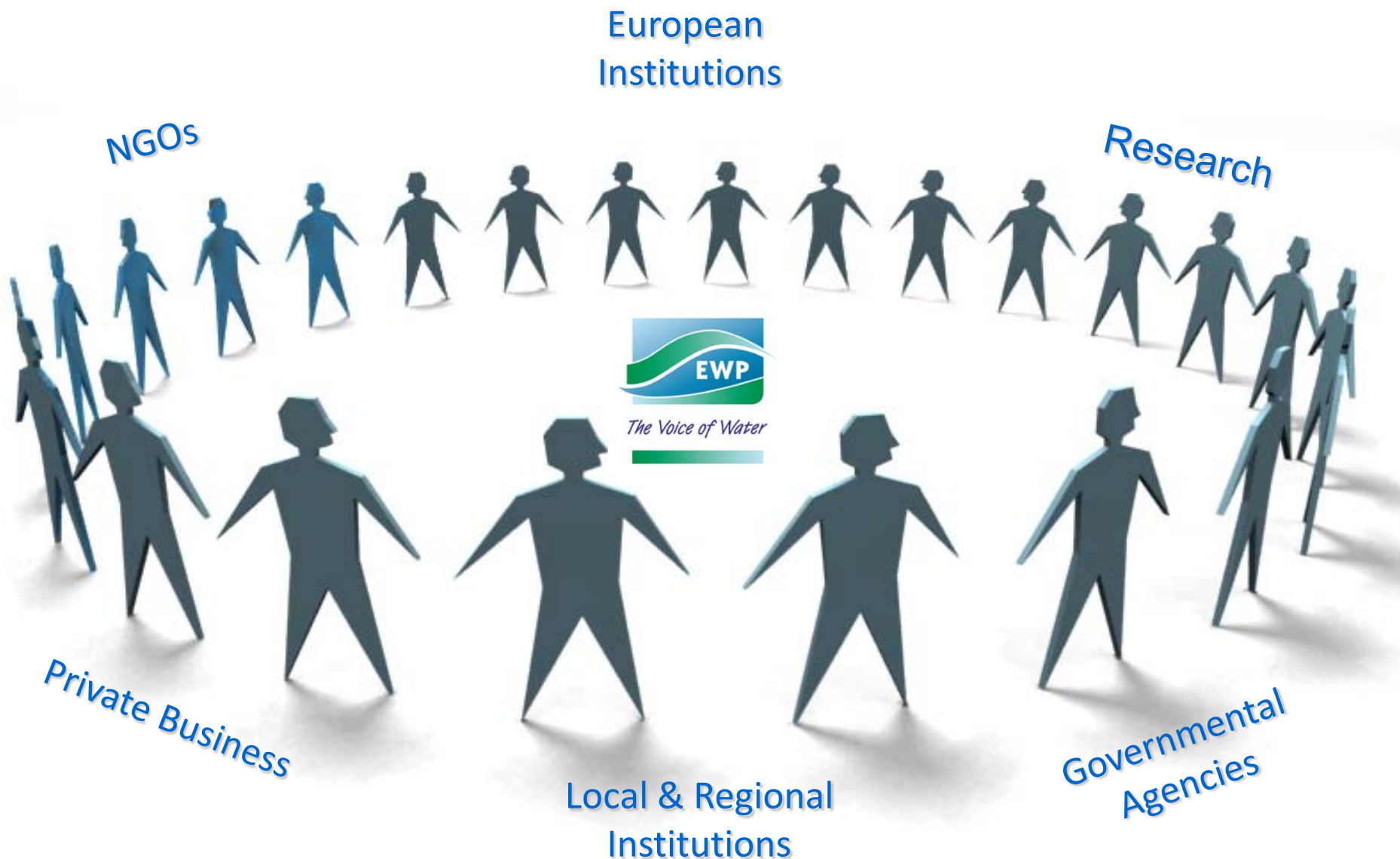
A **voluntary scheme** for and from water users

- Definition of requirements for SWM
- Objective scheme to evaluate the sustainability
- Communicate and award sustainable performance

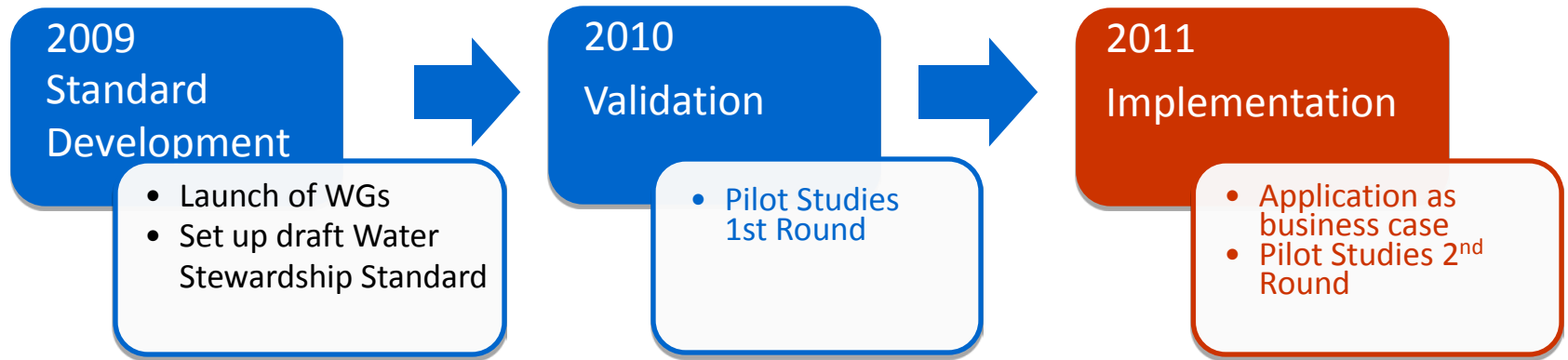
A **global framework**

- Connect and relate European and global processes
- Avoid the “carbon situation”

EWP as a platform



EWP Water Stewardship Program



Aquawareness Strat
Partners



Water Stewardship
Partners



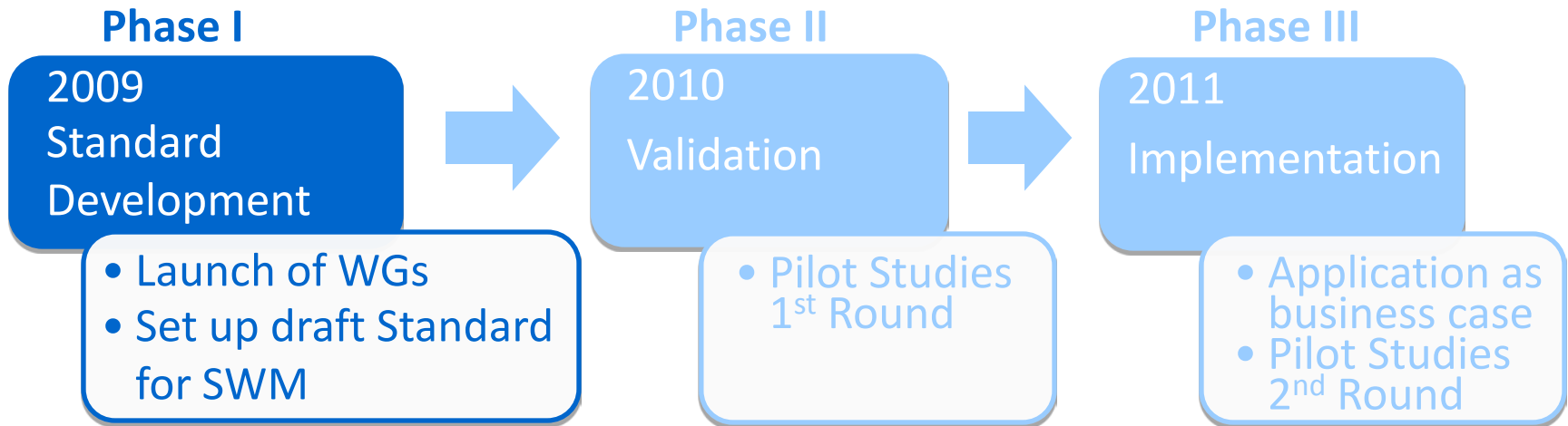
Sponsored by



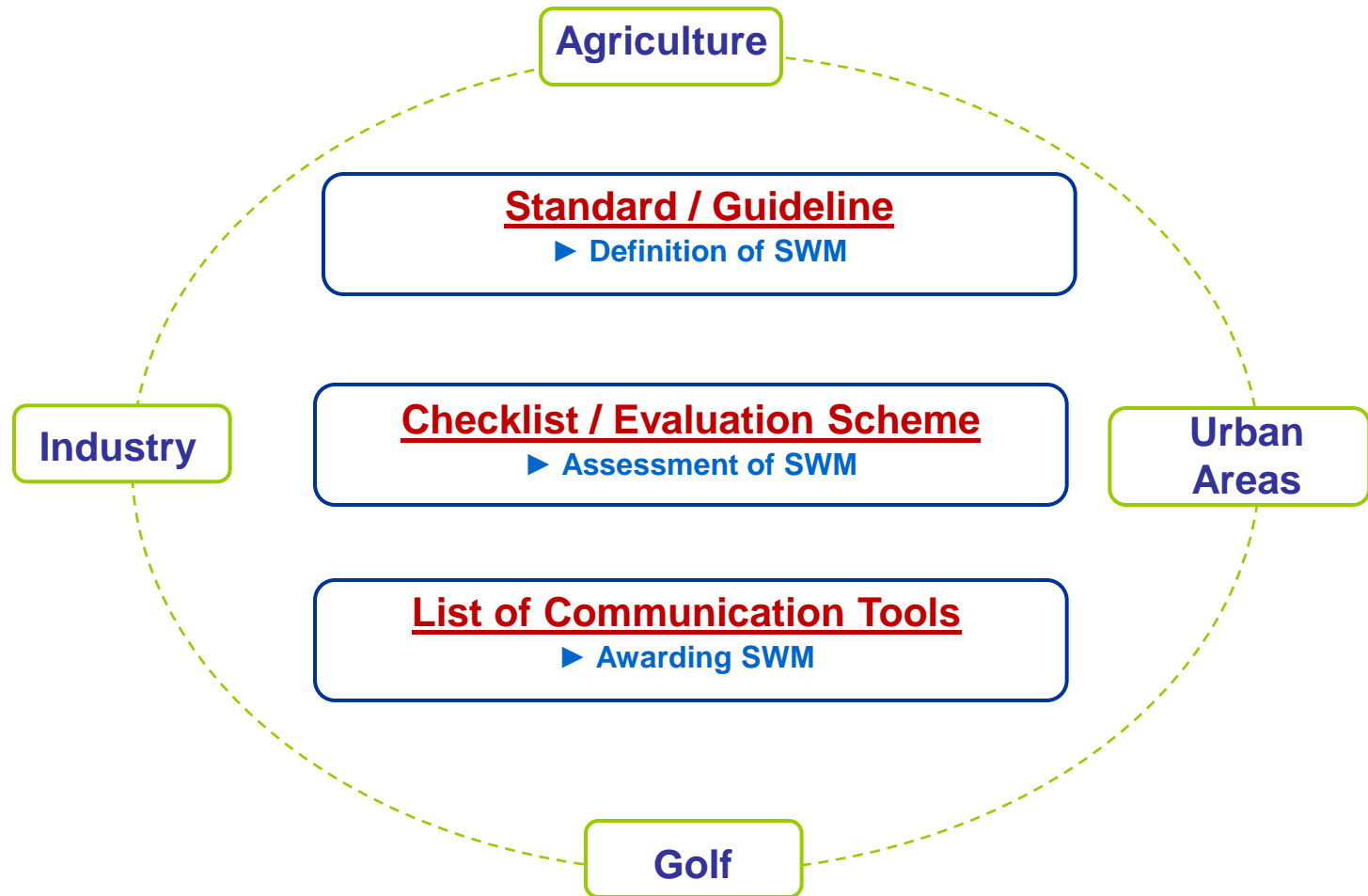
CONTROL UNION CERTIFICATIONS
MEMBER OF CONTROL UNION WORLD GROUP



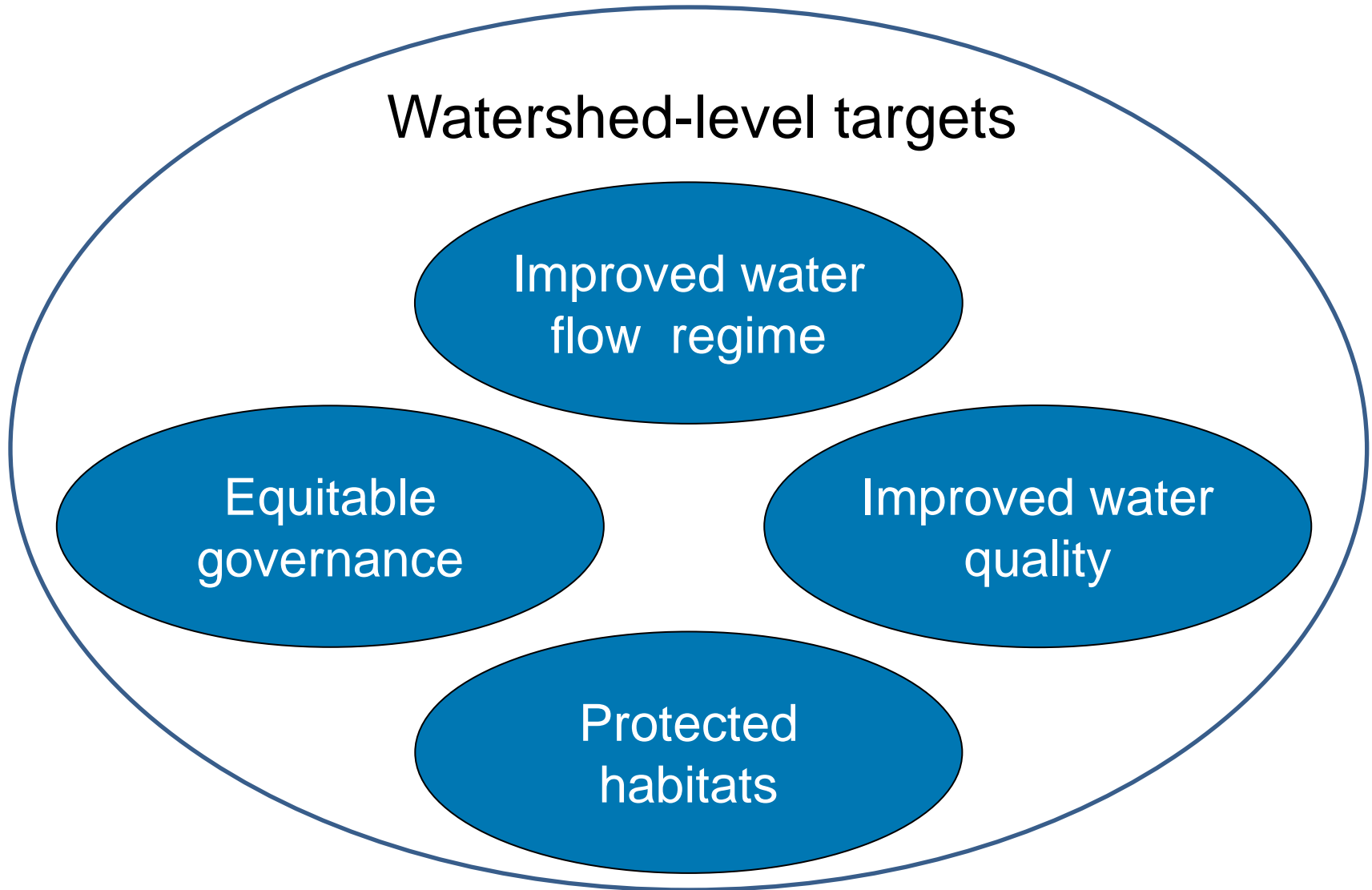
EWP Water Stewardship Program



Program Phase I: Water Stewardship scheme



Focus for Standard: Impact Based



Program Phase I: Standard Development

Technical assessment is basis but **Water is more!**

⇒ Take into account **social, political, economic** aspects

⇒ Focus on **Operational** and **Watershed Level**

1 Standard valid for all sectors: 4 Principles

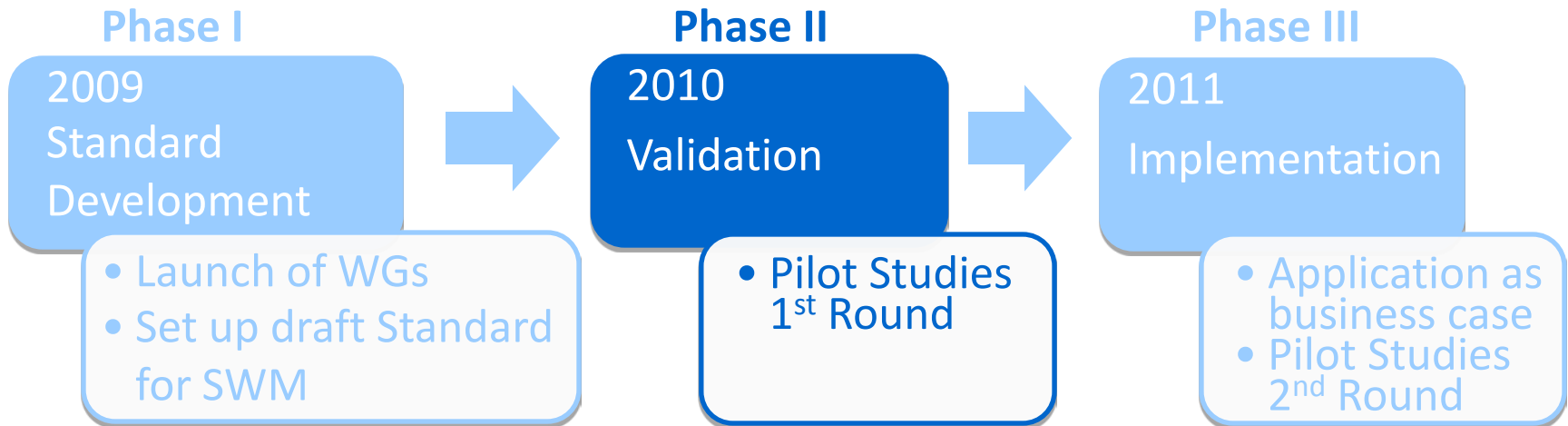
Principle 1: Achieve and maintain sustainable water abstraction in terms of water quantity.

Principle 2: Ensure the achievement and maintenance of good status in terms of chemical quality and biological elements.

Principle 3: Restore and preserve water-cycle related high conservation value ecosystems.

Principle 4: Achieve equitable and transparent water governance.

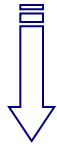
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Program Phase II: Validation

Key to Success:

Balance **Level of Detail - Applicability**



Pilot Studies
Public Consultation

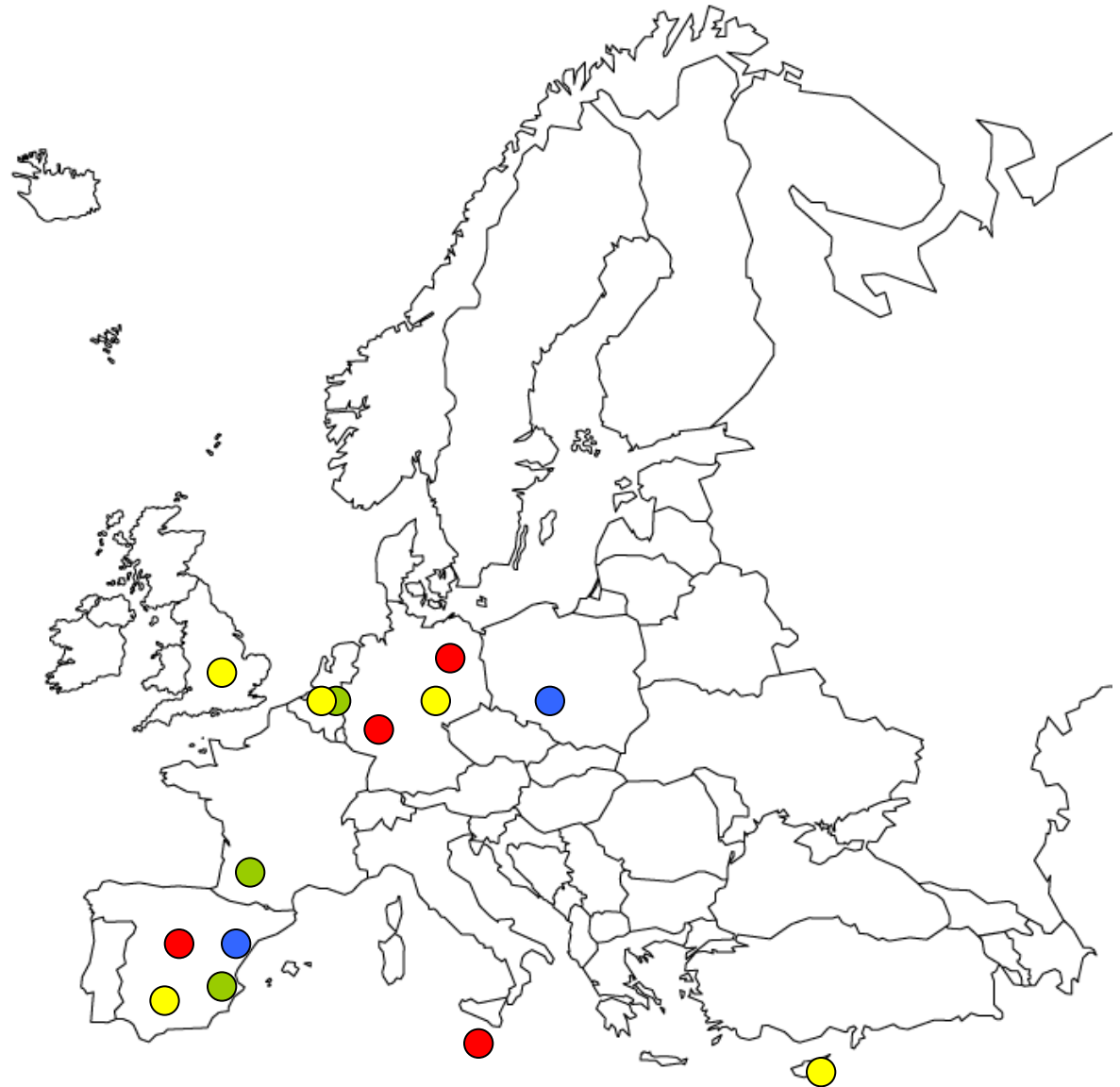
Pilot organizations:

- provide **feedback and expertise**
- receive first **performance analysis**

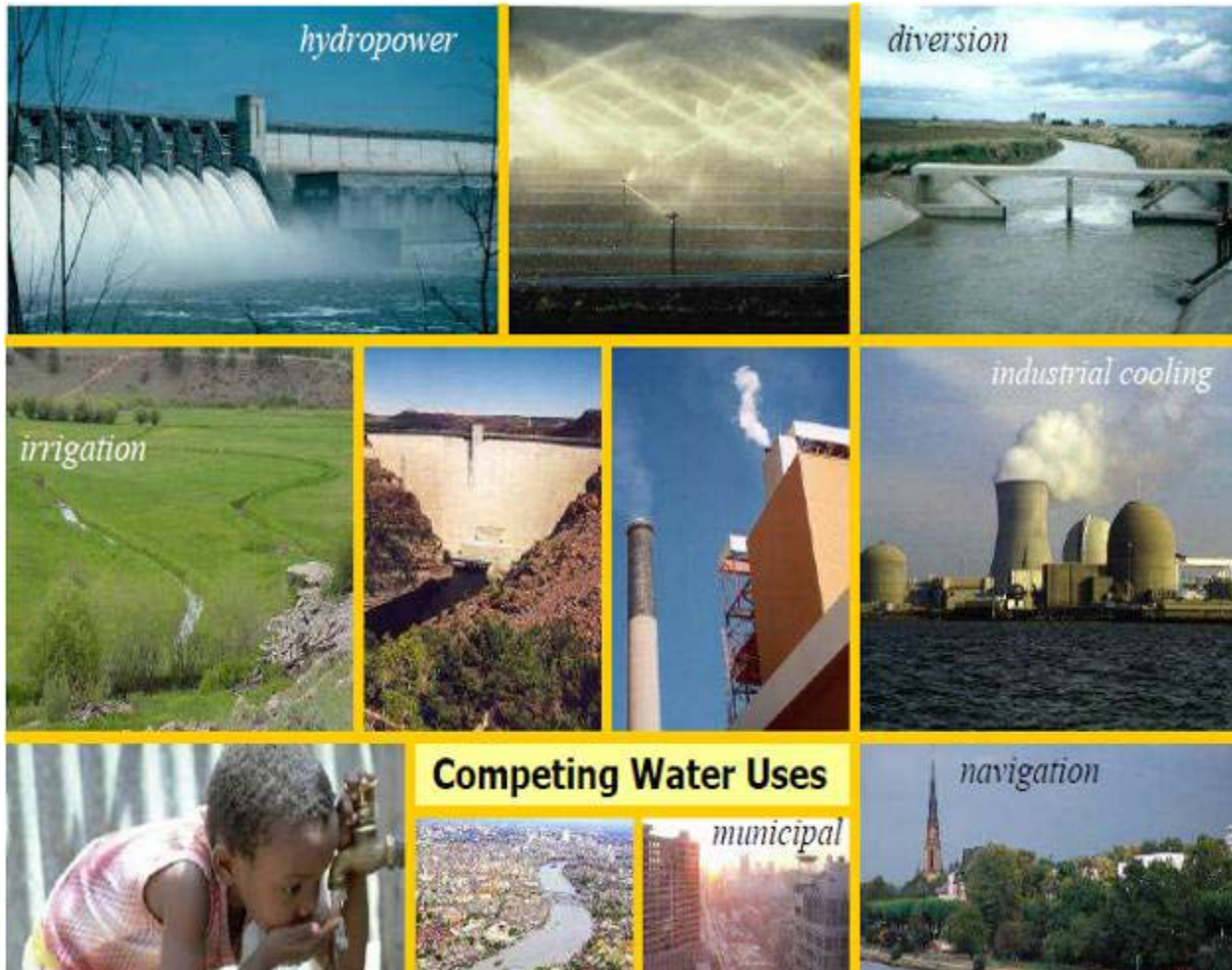
Program Phase II: Current Status

Pilot organizations:

- Industry
- Agriculture
- Golf
- Urban Areas



Program Phase II: Outcome Pilots



Physical risk

- water supply and quality

Regulatory risk

- uncertainty

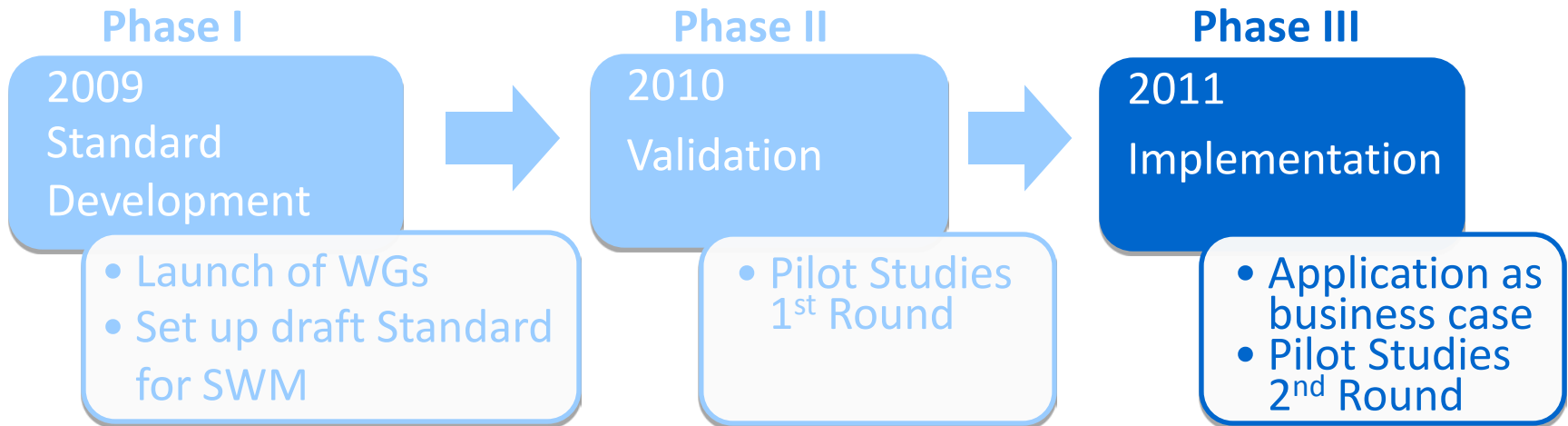
Reputational risk

- social license to operate

Financial risk

- threats to the bottom line, direct costs and investment related

EWP Water Stewardship Program



Program Phase III: Implementation

- Application as a **voluntary scheme**:

Depends on **needs from sectors and stakeholders**

- Supporting EU Flagship Activities:

- Resource Efficiency
- Water Framework Directive (WFD)
- European Blueprint for Safeguarding Europe's Water

- Regional Initiative in **Global Framework (AWS)**

Added Value to the WFD

- “Thinking beyond the Water Box”

Active participation of stakeholders, water managers and economic actors

- **Promoting the uptake** of the Directive:

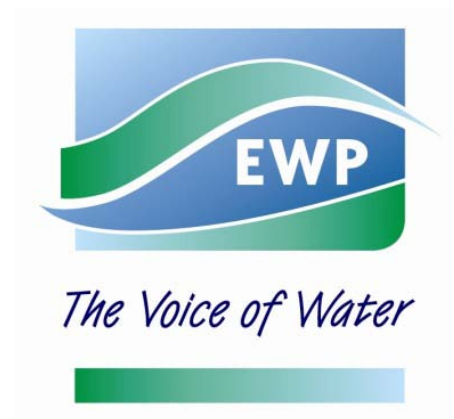
Employing an **operational approach in various sectors**

- **Early feedback** on WFD implementation

- Opportunity to **assess the progress** of individuals, sectors and the EWP Water Stewardship Program itself
- Identifying possible **implementation challenges**

Identified Challenges

- Quantifying at least **3 types of specificity**:
 - **Regional** (geographic, political, demographic, economic)
 - **Sectoral** (administrative, infrastructural, socio-economic)
 - **Scale of beneficiaries**: SME's to larger entities
- At the same time **maintaining EU-wide integrity**



Contact and information

www.ewp.eu/activities/water-stewardship

and

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