QUESTION 2: How to strengthen the scientific quality process by allowing critical **assessment of scientific outputs in the light of user needs** and of other types of knowledge?

Panellist: Michel Schouppe (EC DG RTD)

FROM:		**TO:**
Robust scientific knowledge	→	Evidence-based policy
Policy-relevant research	→	Policy-supporting research
Peer-reviewed publications	→	Practical solutions, tools and guidance

REQUIRES: SPI

Effective **Science-Policy Interfaces** to better match demand and supply

CIS-SPI OBJECTIVES

- To review policy needs
- To formulate them into research or implementation questions
- To review research activities and map new knowledge
- To identify research gaps
- To help in the transfer of research outcome

CIS-SPI DIALOGUE

- Network of SPI-correspondents
- Annual SPI conferences
- RTD project synopsis and policy briefs in relation to EU legislation
- Dedicated SPI sessions in water policy meetings
- WISE-RTD, EU support actions
- Case studies and best practices

LASTING COMMITMENT

- Non-stop process: constantly new research, knowledge, legislation, priorities, available technologies
- Different science and policy motivations; need to showcase gains, evidences!
- Syndrome: *"SPI is very needed but shall be done by the others"*

PARTNERSHIPS ARE NEEDED

- Scientists, policy makers and fields practitioners together
- "Joint formulation and prioritisation of research questions and associated R&D programmes

- At all scales down to local level

MULTI- and CROSS-LEVEL SPI

TRANSFER of PRACTICAL KNOW-HOW

- SPI = additional step after scientific peer-reviewing to make scientific information ACCESSIBLE and USABLE by non-scientific users
- Understanding of user profiles (different glossaries, languages, etc)
- Concept of 'knowledge translators' (communication and facilitation skills)
- Scientific and policy 'ambassadors' at the SPI interface
- Dissemination guidance
- Integrated communication tools
- Integration of knowledge (trans-disciplinary, complex water challenges)
- Different science and policy cycles, milestones, processes, etc.