



HARMONITOR

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Deliverable 2.5 (D2.5)

Version 1.0 of the Platform for continuous review and improvement of certification schemes

Work package 2 (WP2): Concepts and methodologies for the HARMONITOR platform

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REPORT

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview and Context

The HARMONITOR project, is focused on enhancing the performance, transparency, and harmonisation of certification schemes and labels (CSLs) within the EU bioeconomy. As a co-regulation instrument, CSLs are important instruments to address policy gaps and ensure sustainable practices in bio-based value chains. Deliverable D2.4 documents the development and implementation of a collaborative platform (developed under Task 2.4) designed to foster continuous engagement, cooperation, and knowledge exchange between key actors involved in certification, including CSL operators, certification bodies, policy makers, NGOs, and related research initiatives.

This platform is an essential building block of the HARMONITOR project's broader ambition to co-develop a Monitoring Tool (the BIOBASEDCERT Monitoring Tool) capable of benchmarking and improving CSLs. Task 2.4 plays a central role in enabling stakeholder engagement, facilitating alignment across multiple projects (HARMONITOR, Star4BBS, and SustCert4BioBased), and ultimately supporting CSL improvement and potential policy integration.

Objectives of Task 2.4

Task 2.4 had the following main objectives:

- Coordinate continuous and efficient stakeholder interaction to avoid engagement fatigue.
- Enable CSL involvement in developing the BMT and the benchmarking activities of Work Packages 4 and 5 of the HARMONITOR project.
- Foster cooperation and mutual learning between CSLs.
- Present and discuss intermediate and final results with a broad audience, including CSLs and policy makers.
- Ensure strategic outreach and integration with the BIOBASEDCERT research cluster formed with sister projects.

Structure and Activities of the Collaborative Platform

The collaborative platform developed under Task 2.4 consisted of two core components:

1. **Platform Events:** These included a series of communication, dissemination, and co-creation events co-hosted by the BIOBASEDCERT cluster. They served as venues for presenting results, engaging with stakeholders, and jointly developing and testing elements of the BMT. Notable events included side events at EUBCE 2023 and 2024, online co-creation workshops, and presentations in Brussels with high-level EU representatives.
2. **BIOBASEDCERT Roundtable for CSLs:** This was a dedicated forum to enable structured yet informal dialogue between CSLs and related stakeholders. It focused on:
 - Exploring common challenges and interests.
 - Discussing new policy developments (e.g., Carbon Farming Directive).

- Reviewing and improving the BMT criteria and methodology.
- Strategizing for long-term collaboration beyond the project.

The roundtable held five meetings from July 2024 to May 2025, each with specific thematic focus. It successfully brought together representatives from EU Commission departments (DG GROW, DG RTD, DG ENV, DG CLIMA), industry leaders (e.g., BASF), and civil society (e.g., ISEAL, ECOS), fostering multi-perspective engagement.

Key Outcomes and Impacts

- **Improved Coordination:** The creation of the BIOBASEDCERT cluster allowed joint outreach and aligned stakeholder interaction across three major EU-funded projects, increasing efficiency and visibility.
- **Broad Stakeholder Engagement:** The platform and roundtable enabled interaction with 14 CSLs and multiple EU policy actors, strengthening the relevance and legitimacy of the BMT and facilitating dialogue between various stakeholder groups.
- **Methodological Development Support:** Feedback from roundtable participants contributed directly to shaping the indicators, criteria, and usability of the BMT.
- **Policy Integration Pathways:** Discussions at high-level policy roundtables highlighted the potential of CSLs to function as co-regulation tools within evolving EU bioeconomy policy frameworks.
- **Sustainable Continuation:** Task 2.4 initiated a sustainable structure for continuing collaboration into the future, including the establishment of a secretariat and DBFZ's continued coordination through late 2025. Plans are underway for a follow-up in-person roundtable event in December 2025.

2. INTRODUCTION

The HARMONITOR project aims to enhance the performance of certification schemes and labels (CSLs) in various sectors of the EU Bioeconomy, making them more effective and strengthening their role as a co-regulation instrument. CSLs can address challenges faced by public regulations and fill policy gaps. The project intends to establish a participative review platform that enables CSLs to collaborate and find common ground within bio-based value chains across EU borders. This platform builds upon the innovative 'Sustainability Certification Tools' proposed by the STAR-ProBio project. The specific objectives of HARMONITOR include establishing a review platform, providing transparent data on bio-based value chains, comparing performance requirements of CSLs, developing a monitoring system, and improving the understanding of CSLs in co-regulation. The expected outcomes of the project include enhanced transparency and traceability in value chains, increased effectiveness, and robustness of CSLs through systematic monitoring, awareness of trade flows and their impacts, and potential use of CSLs as part of the EU Bioeconomy policy framework.

2.1 Task 2.4 description

Task 2.4 aimed to support the implementation of the analytical work and the results from WPs 4 and 5 as well as other project results. For this purpose, task 2.4 has developed a collaborative platform to coordinate the continuous exchange between HARMONITOR partners, relevant certification schemes, certification bodies, NGOs, policy makers and other stakeholders. The main objective of this platform was therefore to:

- Ensure a continuous involvement of CSLs in the development of the monitoring tool and the benchmarking analysis of WP5, avoiding stakeholder fatigue by a coordinated and efficient interaction with CSLs.
- Discuss relevant working steps, assumptions and intermediate results with the CSLs.
- Understand possibilities and common interest for cooperation between CSLs and potential ways to support this process by the HARMONITOR consortium.
- Coordinate interactions with other research projects and a wider audience to present HARMONITOR results.

Throughout the course of the project, HARMONITOR and the two sister projects Star4BBS and SustCert4BioBased formed the BIOBASEDCERT research cluster to jointly develop the monitoring tool for the effectiveness of CSLs. This development had some implications for the work in T2.4, mainly regarding the increasing demand for coordination within the cluster. Additionally, the focus of the collaborative platform developed in T2.4 shifted from the sole focus on the implementation of the monitoring tool towards enabling more cooperation amongst CSLs to support CSL improvement while continuously discussing the possibilities for the implementation of the monitoring tool by CSLs.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE TASK 2.4 COLLABORATIVE PLATFORM

The collaborative platform which was developed in Task 2.4 included two main elements: i) a series of different communication/dissemination events for the BIOBASEDCERT cluster and ii) a roundtable for certification schemes, certification bodies and labels.

3.1 Platform events

After formation of the BIOBASEDCERT cluster, by the three projects HARMONITOR; Star4BBS and SustCert4BioBased, T2.4 provided a platform aiming to coordinate the joint outreach of the cluster as well as a number of events to discuss topics related to the cluster results. This allowed the cluster partners to approach their target audience in a coordinated, more efficient way than the otherwise resource efficient engagement with stakeholders in three individual projects.

The following table summarises the main meetings organised under or supported by the platform.

Table 1 List of communication, dissemination and exploitation activities hosted under the T2.4 platform.

Event	Event type	Date, location	Audience	Brief description
EUBCE 23 side event	Conference	07-06-23, Bologna (IT)	Scientific community, industry	Presentation of the HARMONITOR platform
EUBCE 23 side event	Conference	07-06-23, Bologna (IT)	Scientific community, industry	Presentation on Development of a Joint Monitoring System for Bio-Based Certification Schemes and Labels
EUBCE	Conference	07-06-23, Bologna (IT)	Scientific community, industry	Presentation on preliminary results of cost/benefits of certification
EUBCE	Conference	07-06-23, Bologna (IT)	Scientific community, industry	Presentation of the HARMONITOR project
Meeting with CSLs	Workshop	30-06-23, Online	Civil society, industry	Presentation of the Roundtable with CSLs
Meeting with CSLs	Workshop	08-09-23 Online	Civil society, industry	Presentation of the Roundtable with CSLs
BiobasedCert Cluster online co-creation event: "Robust and Effective Sustainability Certification for Bio-based Systems"	Workshop	11-12-2023 online	Industry	Presentation on the draft monitoring system
BiobasedCert Cluster closed workshop	Workshop	29-5-2024, online	Industry	Presentation on the preliminary results of the methodology of BMT testing
EUBCE 2024 side event	Presentation	26-6-2024, Marseille	Scientific community, industry, policy makers	Presentation on the monitoring system and preliminary results of the methodology testing

Event	Event type	Date, location	Audience	Brief description
EUBCE 24 conference	Presentation	26-6-2024, Marseille	Scientific community, industry, policy makers	Presentation on the monitoring system and preliminary results of the methodology testing
Workshop on BMT with policymakers	Workshop	04-12-2024, Brussels	CSLs, scientific community, industry, policymakers	Workshop to present BMT and discuss its applicability with policymakers
4 th Roundtable meeting	Online event	02-04-2025, Brussels	CSLs, scientific community, industry	4 th Roundtable meeting
Final event BiobasedCert Cluster	Presentation	13-05-2025, Brussels	Scientific community, industry, policy makers	Joint session with sister projects "Exploring the applicability of the BIOBASEDCERT Monitoring Tool (BMT) as a co-regulation instrument"

Complementing the series of the Platform events, Task 2.4 developed a roundtable for CSLs, which is described in more detail in the following section.

3.2 The BIOBASEDCERT Roundtable

The roundtable for CSLs was developed as a forum to discuss elements of the developed Monitoring Tool (i.e. the BMT), such as its criteria and indicators as well as general trends and relevant topics in the bio-based industries and sustainability certification. It has facilitated informal discussions on the design, market implementation, and uptake of CSLs. Different meetings were organized, each of them dedicated to a specific topic. The content of the meetings was driven by the interests and inputs of the roundtable participants. Highlights included sessions on emerging trends in policy and industry relevant to CSLs, as well as an in-person event with representatives from DG GROW, DG RTD, DG Environment, and DG CLIMA to discuss the role of certification in future policy frameworks.

Throughout the project, the roundtable organised five events for CSLs, to discuss:

- the general interest and focus points of the participating CSLs and certification bodies regarding improved cooperation and aspects such as mutual recognition,
- new trends and upcoming demand for certification in the bioeconomy. With keynotes from DG Climate, BASF and the advisory board,
- upcoming regulations and lessons learned regarding the use of sustainability certification as a co-regulation instrument. A meeting in Brussels with representatives of 14 CSLs and DG GROW, DG RTD, DG Environment, DG CLIMA,
- the developed BMT and how the BMT might support the future development of CSLs, and
- the future of the roundtable after the end of HARMONITOR.

Figure 1 shows the organisations involved in the roundtable. A steering committee with members of the BiobasedCert Cluster was supporting the organisation of meetings and events.



Figure 1. Organisations that participate in the Roundtable.

The following figure gives an overview of the roundtable meetings.



Figure 2 Meetings of the BIOBASEDCERT roundtable, organised under T2.4

The following sections summarise the main elements of the organised roundtable meetings.

3.2.1. 1st Roundtable meeting – 12.07.2024

The first meeting of the roundtable was used to discuss and identify common interests amongst the roundtable participants and to define the topics for the next meetings. The following figure shows the agenda of the first meeting.

Meeting agenda



Figure 3 Agenda of the first roundtable meeting

During the meeting, the roundtable members discussed relevant topics for future meetings, using a virtual whiteboard. The input received during this session was used to develop the concepts of the follow up meetings. The identified topics included aspects such as: future demands for certification in the EU Bioeconomy, upcoming regulation with potential impact on CSLs, challenges related to mass balancing of sustainable feedstock in complex product systems or aspects related to harmonisation or mutual recognition of CSLs.

The platform concept

- **Constituent meeting in July**
 - Future demands and trends
 - Ways forward for CSLs (e.g. increasing regulation)
 - Mass balancing of different feedstocks
 - Harmonisation, mutual recognition, etc.



3

Figure 4 Topics discussed and identified during the first roundtable meeting

3.2.2. 2nd Roundtable meeting – 27.09.2024

The second meeting of the roundtable was dedicated to expected trends and developments in the EU bioeconomy, with relevance for CSLs. The agenda of the meeting is included in the following figure.

Agenda:

- **Welcome - 10:00 AM**
- **Block A**
 - Trade Flows in the EU Bioeconomy – 10:10 AM
 - The EU Framework for Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Certification (DG Climate) – 10:30 AM
 - Q&A and Discussion – 10:50 AM
- **Block B: Stakeholder Perspectives**
 - Industry Perspective by BASF – 11:10 AM
 - Perspective from ISEAL (Alliance of Certification Schemes and Labels) – 11:20 AM
 - Environmental Perspective from ECOS (Environmental Coalition on Standards) – 11:30 AM
 - BioBasedCert Advisory Board Perspective by Jenny Walther-Thoss – 11:40 AM
- **Discussion**
- **Next Steps & Closing - 12:00 PM**

Figure 5 Agenda of the second roundtable event.

Highlights of the meeting included a presentation from DG Climate on the developments of the Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming Directive and the possibilities of the participating CSLs to implement the requirements of the directive in their standards in order to participate in the voluntary non-ETS markets.

The second block of the meeting focussed on the different perspectives from the chemical industry, ISEAL (as association of different CSLs), ECOS (as an NGO) and a perspective from the BIOBASEDCERT advisory board.

3.2.3. 3rd Roundtable meeting – 04.12.2024

In December 2024, the roundtable and the platform of Task 2.4 organized two in-person events in Brussels. During the morning session, the roundtable invited several external speakers from different departments of the EU Commission as well as national policy makers to discuss with the participants of the roundtable. The afternoon session, organized under the platform was dedicated to the future utilization and implementation of the BMT.

Agenda morning session

9:30 – Opening and Welcome Address (Stefania Rocca – REA and Stefan Majer - DBFZ)

- Overview of the event's objectives and importance of certification in bioeconomy governance.

9:40 – Tour de Table

- Participant introductions

9:50 – Keynote 1: "The Bioeconomy in the Near Future" (Adrian Leip – DG RTD)

10:10 – Open Discussion based on Keynote and Guiding Questions

- Dialogue on how certification schemes can support emerging regulatory needs.

10:45 – Summary of Discussion

11:50 – An introduction to the BIOBASEDCERT Monitoring System (BMS) (Iris Vural Gursel, WR)

11:00 – Break

11:10 – Keynote 2: "The Role of Certification – Possibilities and Limitations" – (Maira Devisscher – ISEAL)

11:25 – Open Discussion

- Exploration of certification's strengths, challenges, and potential enhancements.

11:50 – Summary and Outlook to the Next Roundtable

12:00 – Closing Remarks and Lunch Break (Stefan Majer - DBFZ)

Figure 6 Agenda of the 3rd roundtable event

During the meeting, the roundtable participants discussed with representatives from DG Growth, DG Climate, DG Environment, DG RTD as well as representatives from RVO (the Netherlands Enterprise Agency) about the general opportunities as well as the limitations of certification as an instrument to support bioeconomy policies. Based on the discussions during the meeting, the following key take-aways could be developed:

- The bioeconomy is a key element in driving the green transition and supporting the defossilization of the EU economy. A robust and well-defined policy framework is essential to ensure a sustainable management of carbon sources, balancing the growing demand for land and biomass, and promote responsible resource use to meet environmental and economic goals.
- Sustainability certification schemes provide comprehensive frameworks to ensure sustainable production practices across social, economic, and environmental dimensions in various sectors of the bioeconomy. While their rapid development in recent years was largely driven by regulatory requirements, the growing demand for sustainable biomass and products is also expanding into unregulated markets.

- The further development of policy requirements for a sustainable bioeconomy presents several challenges. On the one hand, it is essential to account for existing requirements and advancements in sectors such as bioenergy, while addressing the evolving needs of other sectors. On the other hand, ensuring stakeholder participation and acceptance is critical for the successful implementation of new policy measures.
- Established sustainability certification schemes can play a key role in supporting the development and implementation of policy frameworks by acting as a bridge between policymakers at both European and national levels and market actors. Independent institutions, such as NGOs and ISEAL, can contribute by defining best practices and driving innovation.
- Further dialogue among EU and national policymakers, certification schemes, and NGOs is crucial to advance a sustainable bioeconomy. Platforms like this roundtable for certification schemes provide a neutral space for effective communication and collaboration.



Figure 7 The roundtable meeting on the 4th of December 2024 in Brussels.

3.2.4. 4th Roundtable meeting – 02.04.2025

Considering that the development of the joint monitoring tool (BMT) was coming to an end, the 4th meeting of the roundtable was dedicated to the BMT implementation and the question, how CSLs and roundtable participants could benefit from the BMT. During the meeting, different partners of the BIOBASEDCERT cluster presented the BMT and its different elements and collected feedback from the roundtable members. The agenda of the meeting is included in the following figure.

Today's agenda

- Welcome
- The revised ISEAL benchmarking guide
- Introduction to the BMT – Overview of what it is and how it works
- The three levels of the BMT – approach and key results
 - System level
 - Content level
 - Outcome level
- BMT implementation and next steps – group discussion with speakers and roundtable members
- Next steps and closing of the meeting



Figure 8 Agenda of the fourth roundtable meeting

The presentation slides from all roundtable meetings are included in the annex of this report.

3.2.5 5th Roundtable meeting – 26.05.2025

Regular meetings throughout the project have demonstrated strong engagement and value for participants, with members expressing clear interest in continuing the Roundtable platform beyond the project's official end. Thus, the final meeting of the roundtable within the project timeline of HARMONITOR was dedicated to the potential continuation of the roundtable.

For this purpose, Task 2.4 has implemented a number of measures to allow for a smooth continuation of the roundtable without HARMONITOR funds. These measures include:

- The establishment of a “Secretariat”, including representatives of the participating CSLs. This Secretariat will take over the responsibilities of planning the content and the timing of future roundtable meetings.
- The DBFZ, as responsible institution leading Task 2.4 will continue the commitment for the roundtable and provide the necessary resources to host and chair roundtable events in the second half of 2025.
- The roundtable will remain open for participation from all CSLs, operating in the EU Bioeconomy.

In the short term, the DBFZ has committed to continuing the coordination of the Roundtable platform, managing logistical aspects such as meeting organisation, agendas, and facilitation for the next year. Plans are also underway to host a follow-up in-person event in December 2025, building on the success of the previous gathering held in Brussels in December 2024, which brought together CSLs and EU policymakers. This event would serve both to maintain momentum and to explore opportunities for further collaboration and policy alignment. By providing a neutral and structured space for exchange, the Roundtable remains a promising vehicle for advancing mutual recognition, harmonisation, and continuous improvement of sustainability certification in the bioeconomy.

4. ANNEX

Slides from the different meetings of the platform roundtable for certification schemes



BIOBASEDCERT

A platform for CSL cooperation

Constituent meeting of the roundtable

12.07.2024

Meeting agenda

- 1 Welcome and participant introductions
- 2 The roundtable concept and plans
- 3 Discussion and reflections
- 4 Focus on the next meetings
- 5 Summary and next steps



BIOBASEDCERT

The roundtable concept

- **The roundtable is an initiative of BiobasedCert**, a cluster formed by the three H2020 projects SUSTCERT4BIOBASED, STAR4BBS and HARMONITOR
- **BiobasedCert aims at:**
 - Developing a **monitoring system** for sustainability certification within the EU BE
 - **Supporting the further development of sustainability certification** schemes and labels
 - Provide recommendations regarding for an efficient use of **sustainability certification as a robust co-regulation instrument**

The roundtable concept

- The roundtable is an **exchange format** for representatives of **certification schemes, labels and certification bodies**
- Roundtable **meetings** will be held **every two months**, each meeting will be **dedicated to one specific topic**
- **Meetings will be organized and prepared by the BiobasedCert cluster**

Inputs received (so far...) for the Roundtable (I)

- During different preparatory discussions, the following topics have been identified as relevant agenda items for roundtable meetings:
 - How will the **demand for certification** develop in voluntary markets?
 - What are **trends and expectations** from the industry?



BIOBASEDCERT

Inputs received (so far...) for the Roundtable (II)

- During different preparatory discussions, the following topics have been identified as relevant agenda items for roundtable meetings:
 - **Exchange with policy makers** about the **use of certification in policy instruments** (Focus on BE)
 - **Understand future plans of policy makers**
 - **Raise awareness about the potentials and the limitations** of the instrument

Inputs received (so far...) for the Roundtable (III)

- During different preparatory discussions, the following topics have been identified as relevant agenda items for roundtable meetings:
 - **Understand better how the BMS will be used** and how it can support the development of CSLs
 - Exchange regarding **best practices**
 - **“Benefit” from the three cluster projects** and the network

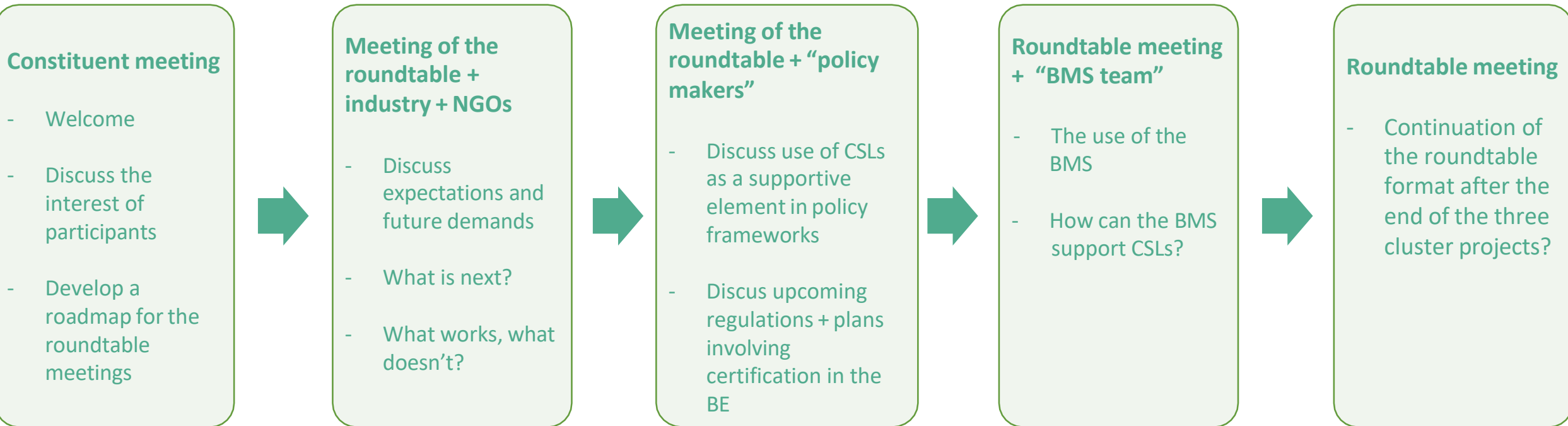
Meeting agenda

- 1 Welcome and participant introductions
- 2 The roundtable concept and plans
- 3 **Discussion and reflections**
- 4 Focus on the next meetings
- 5 Summary and next steps



BIOBASEDCERT

Preparations of the next meetings



Focus on the next meetings

- Short group exercise to collect and discuss additional inputs for the preparation of the next two meetings:
 - Which topics should be addressed during the meeting?
 - Who could be invited to the meeting?
 - Anything else to consider?

Miro Board



BIOBASEDCERT

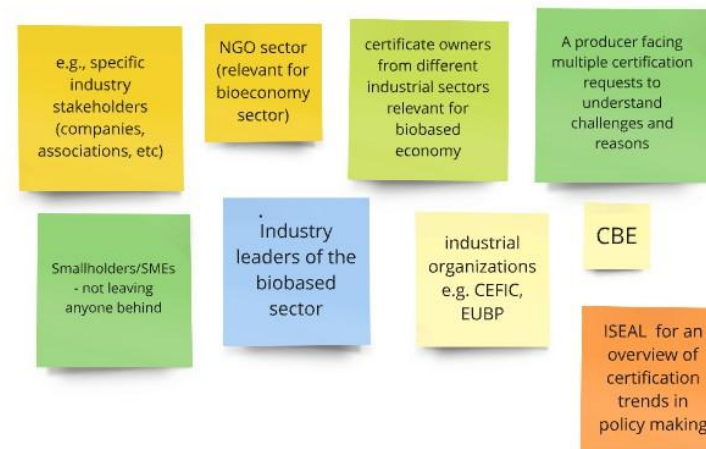
Miro Board

Meeting I - future demands and trends

Which topics should be addressed during the meeting?



Who could be invited to the meeting?



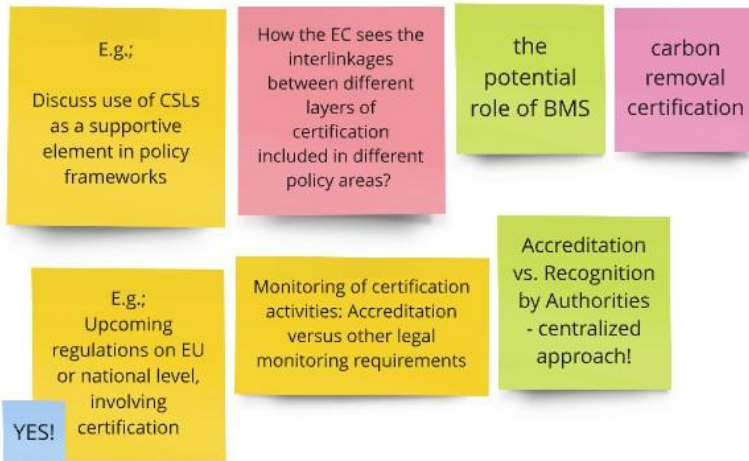
Anything else to consider (e.g., own contributions, specific outputs of the meeting, etc.)?



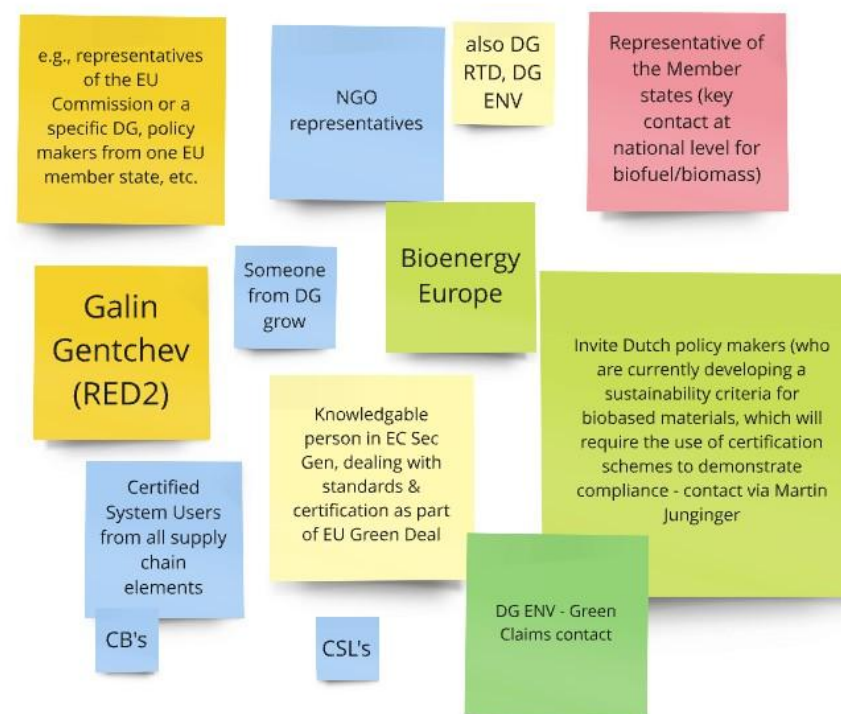
Miro Board

Meeting II - Certification as an instrument in BE policies

Which topics should be addressed during the meeting?



Who could be invited to the meeting?



Anything else to consider (e.g., own contributions, specific outputs of the meeting, etc.)?



Summary and next steps

- Recording of the meeting will be made available to the participants
- Identification of dates for future meetings (pot. September and December)
- Planning for the „policy meeting“ as an in-person meeting in Brussels (at the end of the year)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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BIOBASEDCERT

A platform for CSL cooperation

2nd meeting

“(some) Trends in Sustainability Certification in the EU Bioeconomy”

27.09.2024

The roundtable concept

- **The roundtable is an initiative of BiobasedCert**, a cluster formed by the three H2020 projects SUSTCERT4BIOBASED, STAR4BBS and HARMONITOR
- The roundtable is an **exchange format for** representatives of **certification schemes, labels and certification bodies**
- Roundtable **meetings** will be held **every two months**, each meeting will be **dedicated to one specific topic**
- **Meetings will be organized and prepared by the BiobasedCert cluster**

The platform concept

- **Constituent meeting in July**
 - Future demands and trends
 - Ways forward for CSLs (e.g. increasing regulation)
 - Mass balancing of different feedstocks
 - Harmonisation, mutual recognition, etc

Meeting I - future demands and trends



Meeting II - Certification as an instrument in BE policies



BIOBASEDCERT

Meeting agenda for today

1. Welcome

2. Block A Input

- Trade Flows in the EU Bioeconomy
- The EU Framework for Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Certification

3. Block B: Perspectives

- Industry Perspective - BASF
- Perspective from ISEAL
- Environmental Perspective from ECOS
- BioBasedCert Advisory Board Perspective

4. Next Steps & Closing



BIOBASEDCERT

Preparations of the next meetings

Constituent meeting

- Welcome
- Discuss the interest of participants
- Develop a roadmap for the roundtable meetings



Meeting of the roundtable + industry + NGOs

- Discuss expectations and future demands
- What is next?



Meeting of the roundtable + “policy makers”

- Discuss use of CSLs as a supportive element in policy frameworks
- Discuss upcoming regulations + plans involving certification

4th of December.
In-person meeting
in Brussels



Roundtable meeting + “BMS team”

- The use of the BMS
- How can the BMS support CSLs?



Roundtable meeting

- Continuation of the roundtable format after the end of the three cluster projects?



BIOBASEDCERT

Summary and next steps

- Recording of the meeting will be made available to the participants
- Planning for the „policy meeting“ as an in-person meeting in Brussels (Invitations will follow very soon)
 - Collect questions from our roundtable

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Stefan Majer
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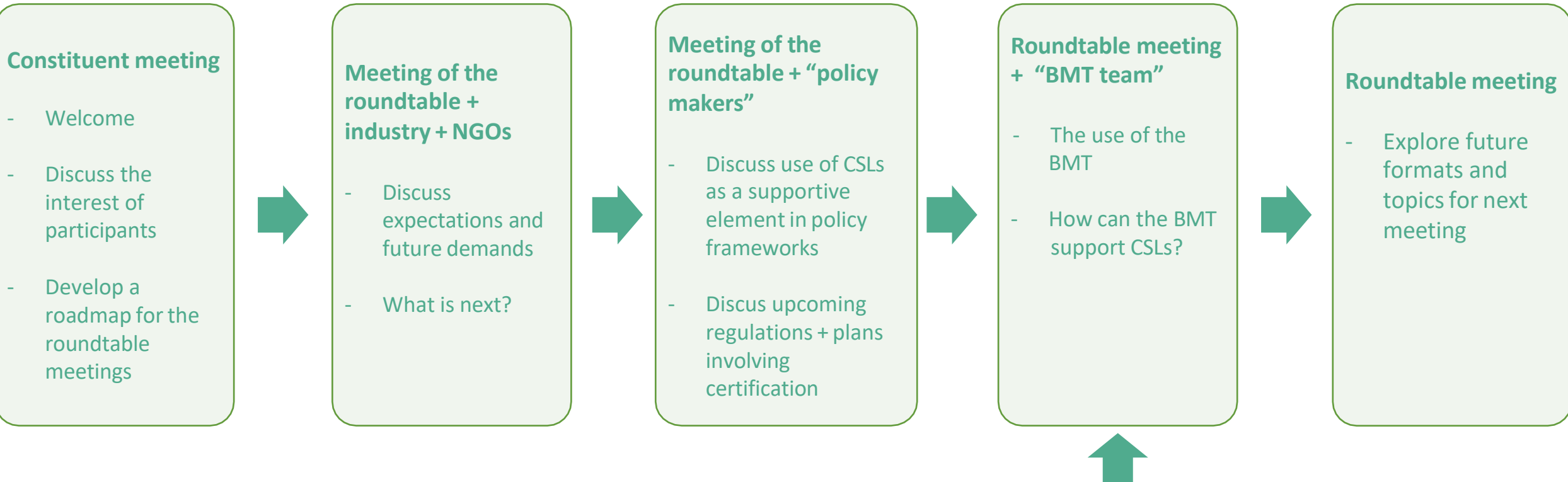


BIOBASEDCERT

A platform for CSL cooperation

4th meeting
„All eyes on the BMT”
01.04.2025

Roundtable meetings



You are here



BIOBASEDCERT

Today's agenda

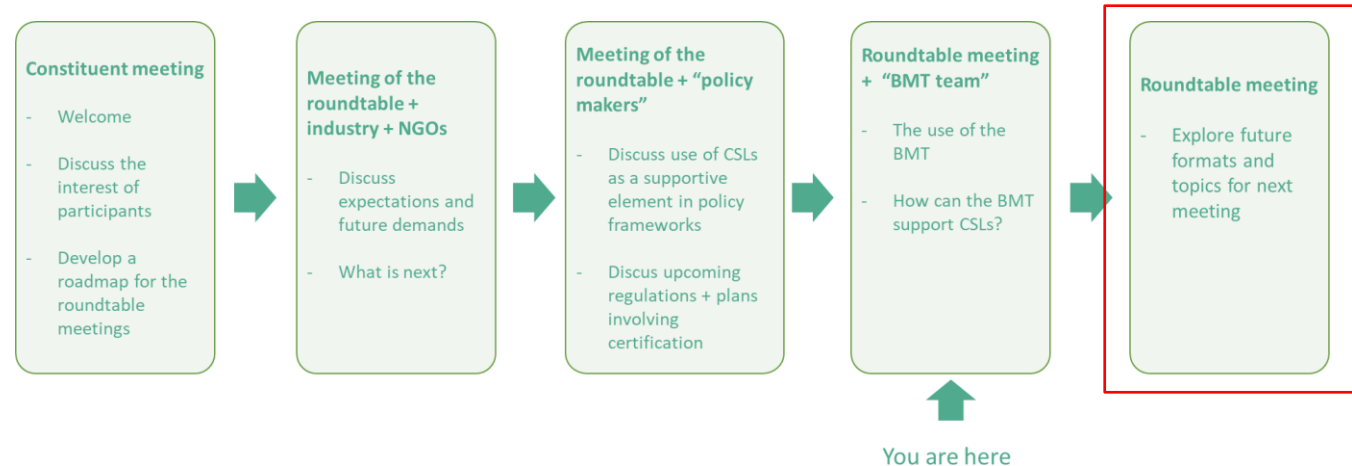
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- Next steps and closing of the meeting



BIOBASEDCERT

Preparations of the next meetings

- The BIOBASEDCERT cluster projects are coming to an end.
- We are exploring different options to keep the roundtable alive
- Lets use our next meeting (end of may) to discuss different options and ways forward.



Join us for the final event of BIOBASEDCERT

How can voluntary certification systems support the transition to a sustainable circular bioeconomy

- Presentation of results
- EC DG RTD.B1-led workshop on: “Bio-based products in the frame of the Ecodesign for sustainable products Regulation and the Consumer empowerment Directive”.
- May 13th, 2025 - 21 Rue Du Champ De Mars, 1050 Ixelles, Brussels
- Agenda and [registration](#) link will be distributed via email



BIOBASEDCERT



BIOBASEDCERT

BIOBASEDCERT FINAL CONFERENCE

Title	How can voluntary certification systems support the transition to a sustainable circular bioeconomy
Date and location	May 13 th , 2025 - 21 Rue Du Champ De Mars, 1050 Ixelles, Brussels
Participants	Polymakers, Advisory Board members, schemes owners, industry actors, NGOs, academia, EU projects related to bio-based systems
Organizers	STAR4BBS, SUSTCERT4BIOBASED, HARMONITOR
Related projects	BIORECER; 3-CO; SUSTRACK; ALIGNED; CALIMERO; VISS; REBOLUTION; BIOTRANSFORM; SYMBIO; SYMBA; ESCIB; LCA4BIO; ACTPAC; ARGONAUT; BIORADAR
Approach	<p>The event will share key results from the BIOBASEDCERT cluster, linking them to the broader European bioeconomy policy framework.</p> <p>The day will feature: i) Interactive thematic sessions, including presentations by the cluster, panel discussions and co-creation activities involving key stakeholders; ii) Integrative sessions to reflect on and synthesize the insights gained during the day.</p> <p>Discussions will cover the BIOBASEDCERT Monitoring Tool (BMT), assessment of certification schemes and labels, trade flow analysis, and cost-benefit evaluations. A key focus will be the role of certification in supporting EU policies, such as the EU Green Claims Directive and its contribution to shaping the future of the EU Bioeconomy policy framework.</p> <p>A highlight of the event will be an EU DG RTD.B1-led workshop on: “Bio-based products in the frame of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation and the (proposal) for a Green Claims Directive”. Throughout the event, insights on how voluntary sustainability certification systems can serve as effective policy tools for a sustainable circular bioeconomy will be explored. Key takeaways and policy recommendations will be documented, with the day concluding in an integrative session to synthesize findings.</p>
09:00 – 09:15	Opening of the conference
09:15 – 10:45	<p>Session 1: “Exploring the applicability of the BIOBASEDCERT Monitoring Tool (BMT) as a co-regulation instrument”</p> <p>This session will provide a short overview of the BMT, its functionalities, and the key findings of its testing phase. The discussion will explore how the tool can support policymakers in increasing the uptake of sustainable bio-based materials in the EU economy and the possibility to use it as a co-regulation tool in potentially upcoming regulation on bio-based products.</p>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Stefan Majer
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an initiative of  European Commission

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BIOBASEDCERT

The roundtable

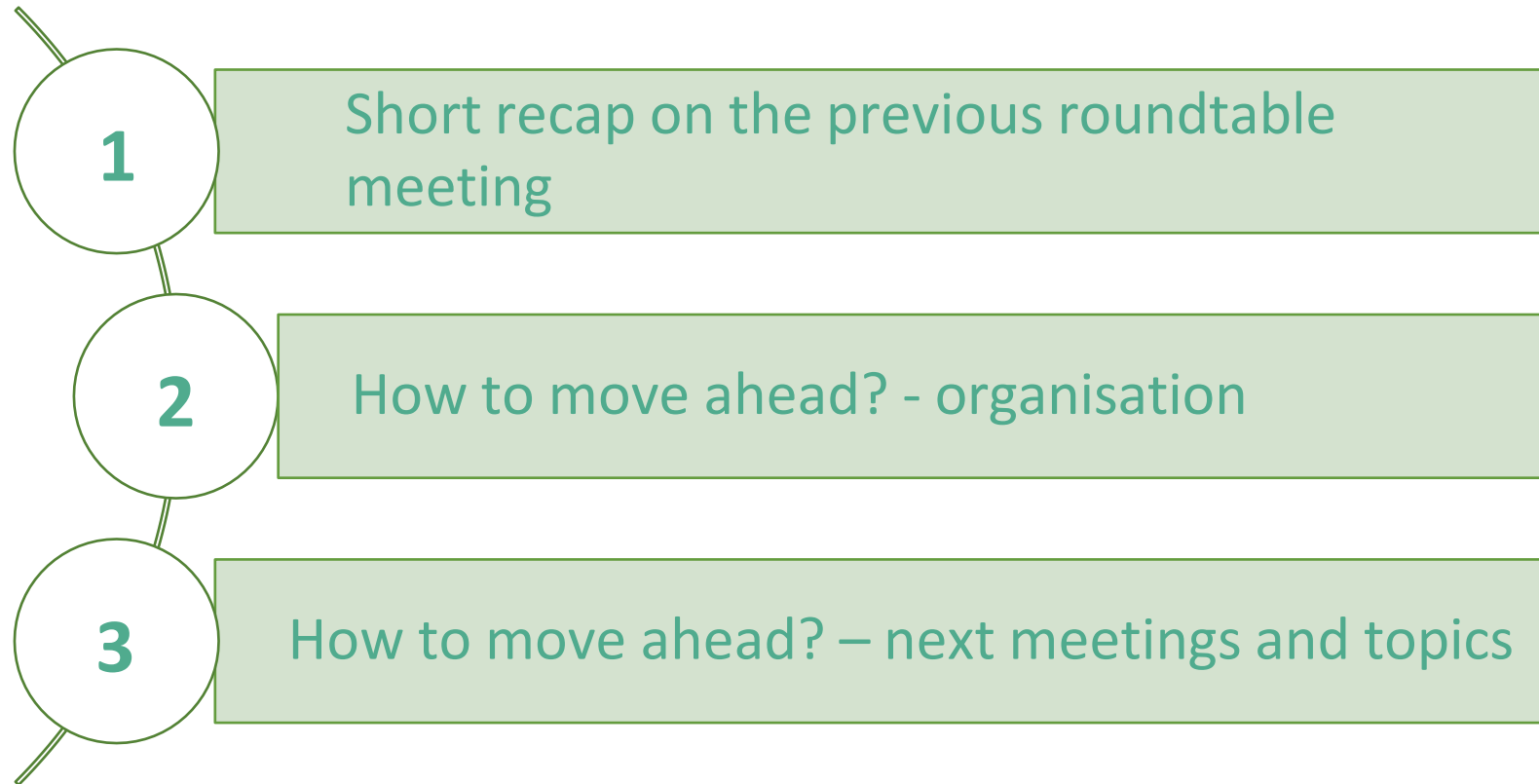
-

platform for CSL cooperation

Fifth roundtable meeting

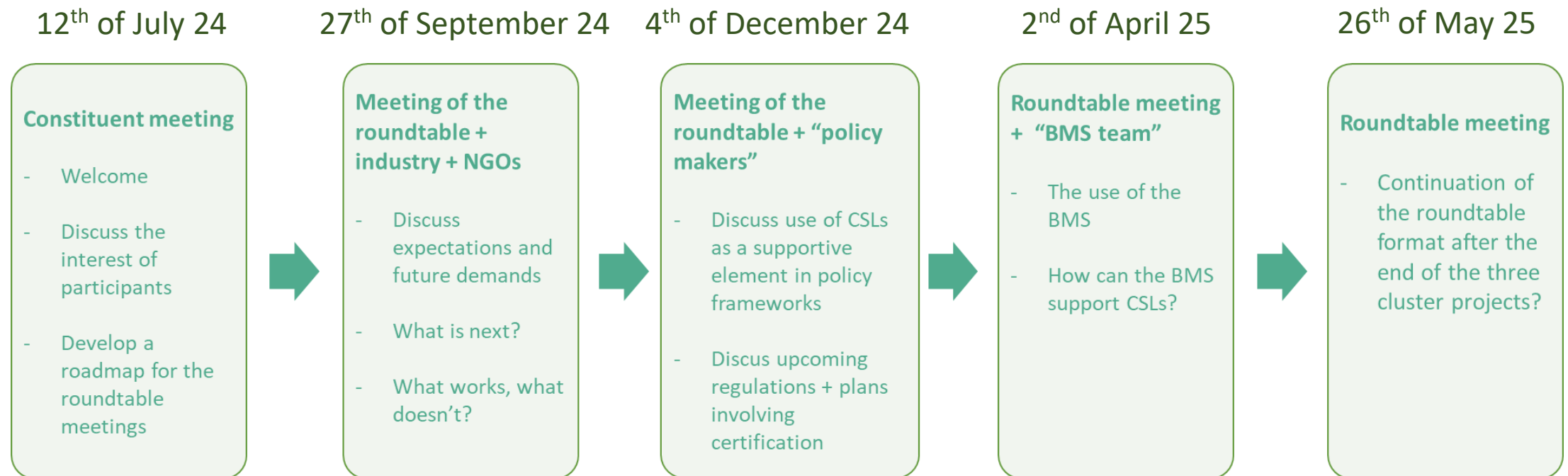
25.05.2025

Meeting agenda



BIOBASEDCERT

Past roundtable meetings



Past roundtable meetings

12th of July

Constituent meeting

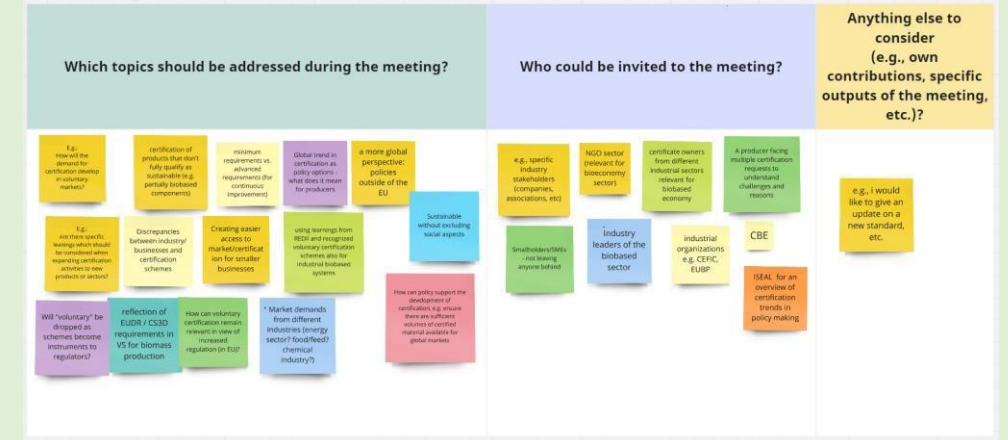
- Welcome
- Discuss the intent of participants
- Develop a roadmap for the roundtable meetings



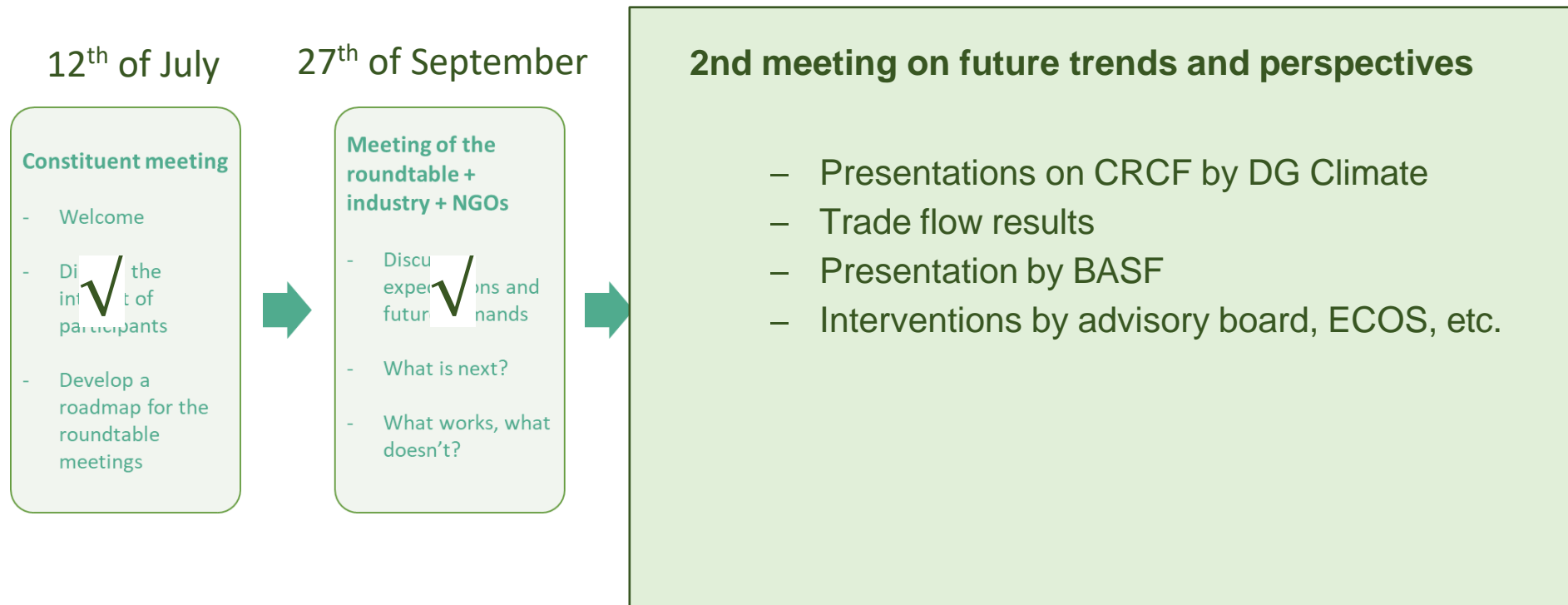
Identification of relevant topics for CSLs

- Future demands and trends
- Ways forward for CSLs (e.g. increasing regulation)
- Mass balancing of conventional and non-conventional feedstocks
- Harmonisation, mutual recognition, etc.

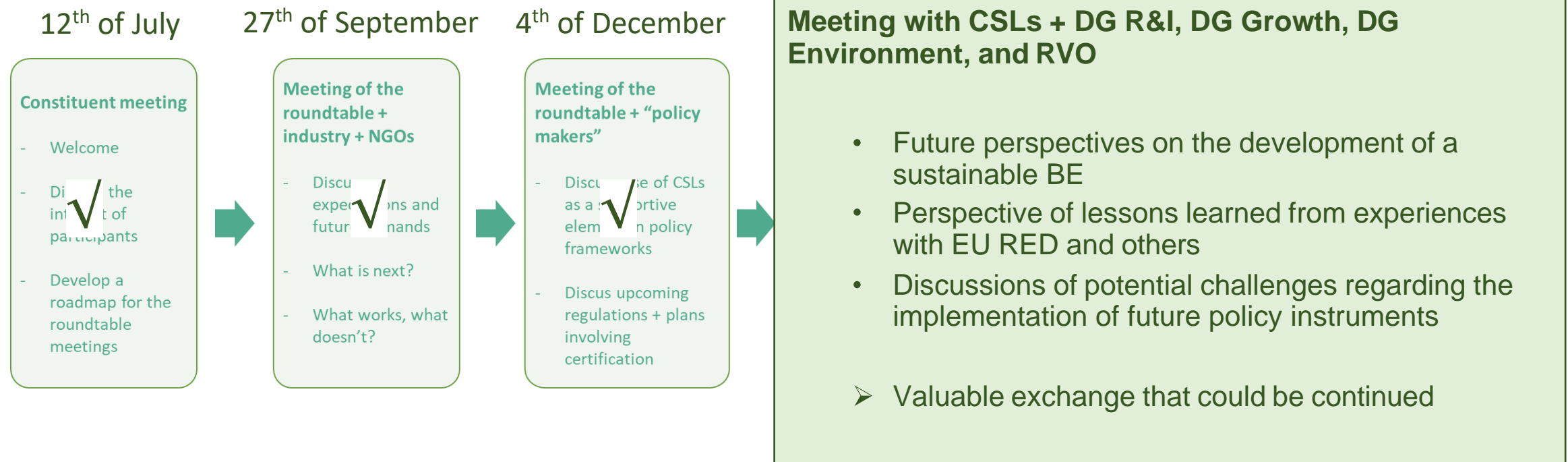
Meeting I - future demands and trends



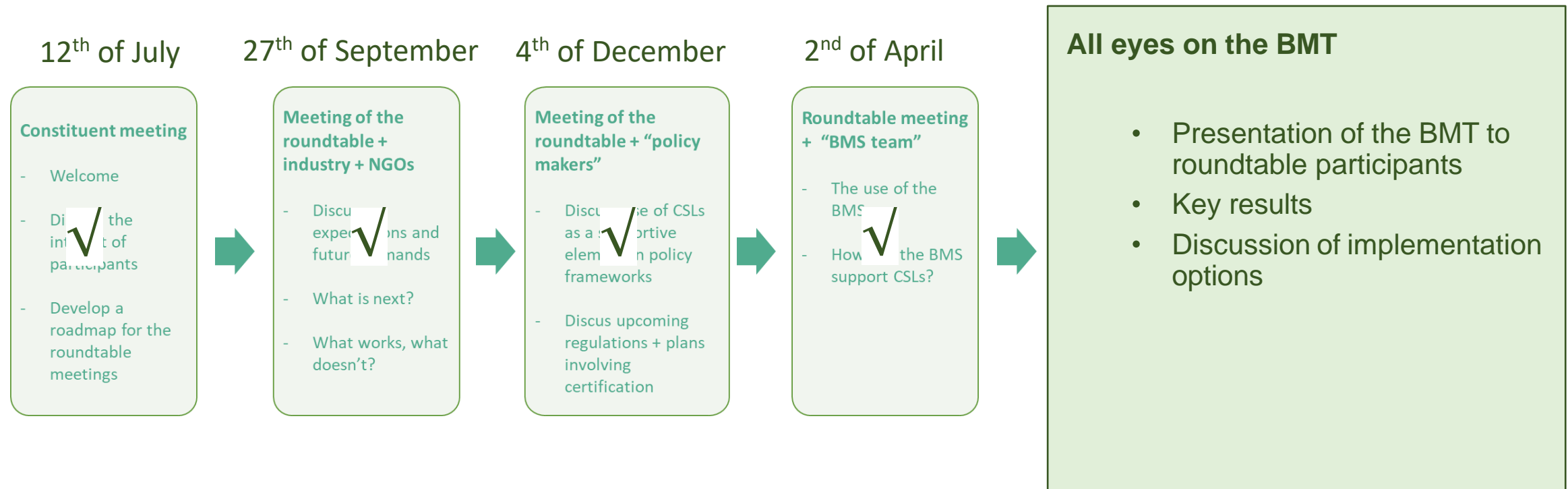
Past roundtable meetings



Past roundtable meetings

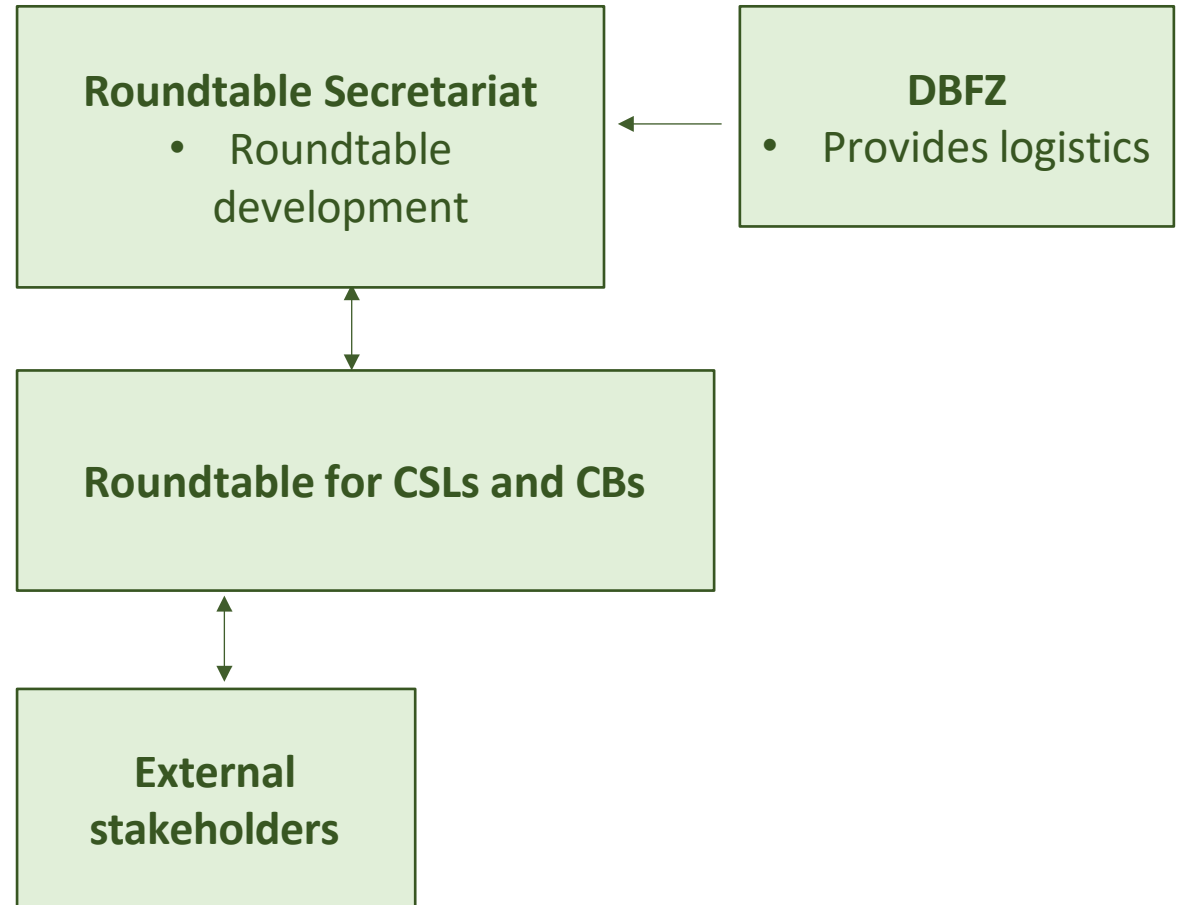


Past roundtable meetings



How to move on? - organisation

- We would like to continue with the roundtable
- DBFZ will continue organizing the meetings
- Roundtable shall remain open to participation of all interested CSLs, CBs etc.



How to move on? – next meetings and topics

- Depending on the topics and preferences of CSLs, we suggest three meetings in the second half of 2025
- Two virtual meetings (August and (October)
- One physical meeting (if meaningful) in december

https://zoom-x.de/wb/doc/LgyiqVqCS_quCnYozp5e0A



BIOBASEDCERT

AoB

**Thank you all for your participation and contributions in the
last months!**



BIOBASEDCERT

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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