

Eating City Summer Campus
UNITED 4 FOOD - For a Regenerative Food System
La Bergerie de Villarceaux
France – 12-19 August 2015

Measuring sustainability in public food service

Alessandro Kim Cerutti

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- 1. Metrics for sustainability assessment**
- 2. The basis of Life Cycle Assessment**
- 3. A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont (Italy)**
- 4. On the importance of transport**
- 5. Modelling the catering service for the INNOCAT project**
- 6. Examples of Carbon Footprint results for some GPP practices**
- 7. Result of the full assessment and options for further improvements**
- 8. Remarks on regenerative production systems**

1. Metrics for sustainability assessment



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Environmental claims and declarations



BIODEGRADABLE!
ECO-FRIENDLY!
NATURAL!
SUSTAINABLE!



<http://sinsofgreenwashing.org>

Environmental claims and declarations



1. Fluffy language

Words or terms with no clear meaning; e.g. 'eco-friendly'

2. Green products v. dirty company



Such as efficient light bulbs made in a factory which pollutes rivers



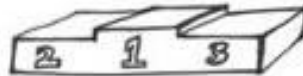
3. Suggestive Pictures

Green images that indicate a (un-justified) green impact e.g. flowers blooming from exhaust



4. Irrelevant claims

Emphasising one tiny green attribute when everything else is un-green



5. Best in class?

Declaring you are slightly greener than the rest, even if the rest are pretty terrible



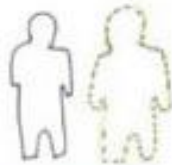
6. Just not credible

'Eco friendly' cigarettes anyone? 'Greening' a dangerous product doesn't make it safe



7. Gobbledygook

Jargon and information that only a scientist could check or understand



8. Imaginary friends

A 'label' that looks like third party endorsement...except it's made up



9. No proof

It could be right, but where's the evidence?



<http://sinsofgreenwashing.org>

Environmental claims and declarations



<http://sinsofgreenwashing.org>

Environmental claims and declarations

According to ISO 14020 there are three levels of certifications based on the process of environmental assessment that is adopted

ISO 14021

Autodeclaration based on just one aspect of the production chain



ISO 14024

Multicriteria assessment verified by a third independent organization

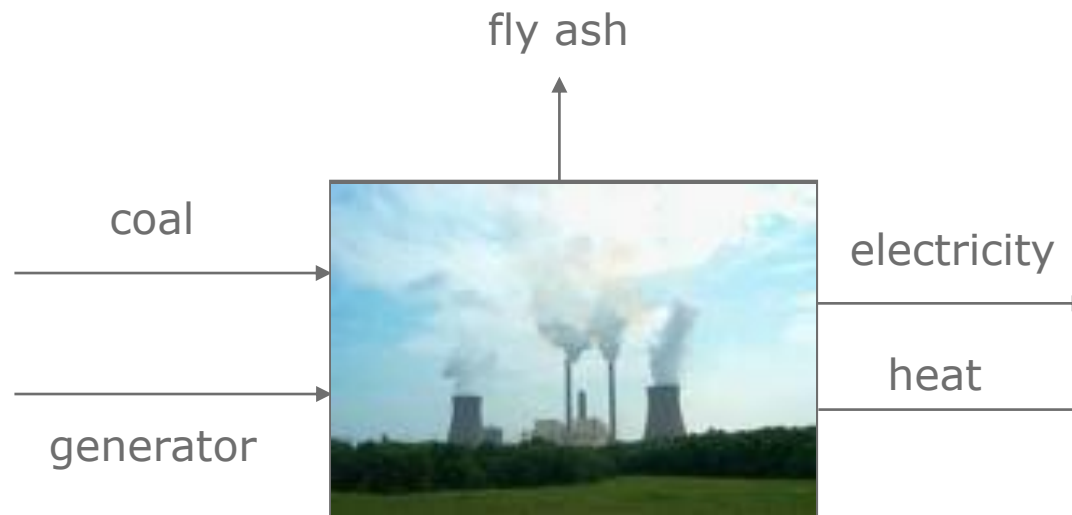


ISO 14025

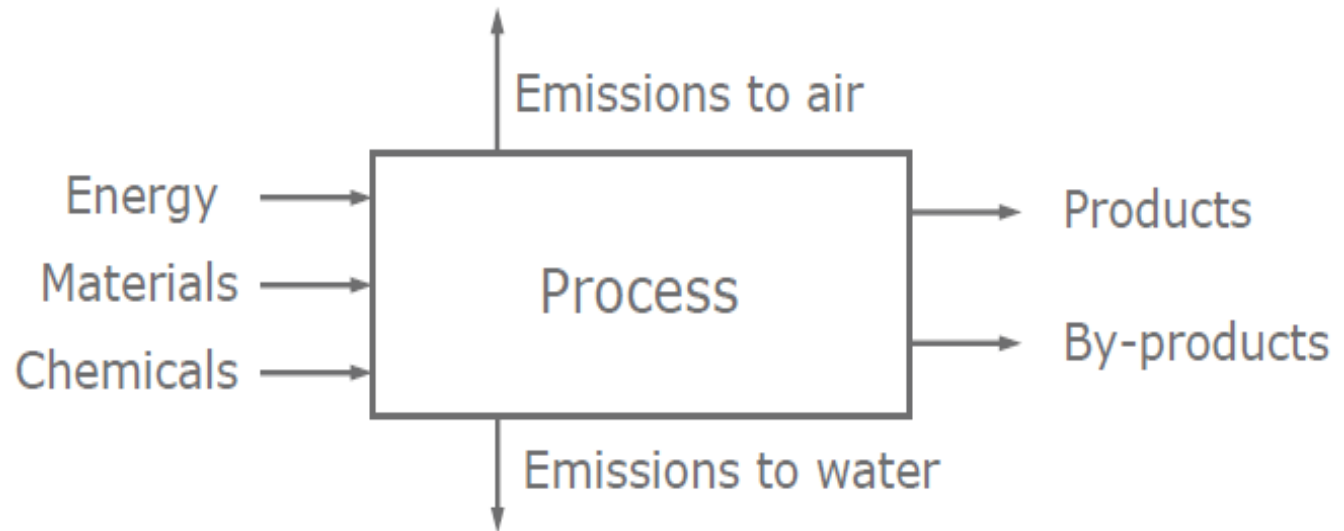
Environmental assessment based on the full life cycle of the product and verified by a third independent organization



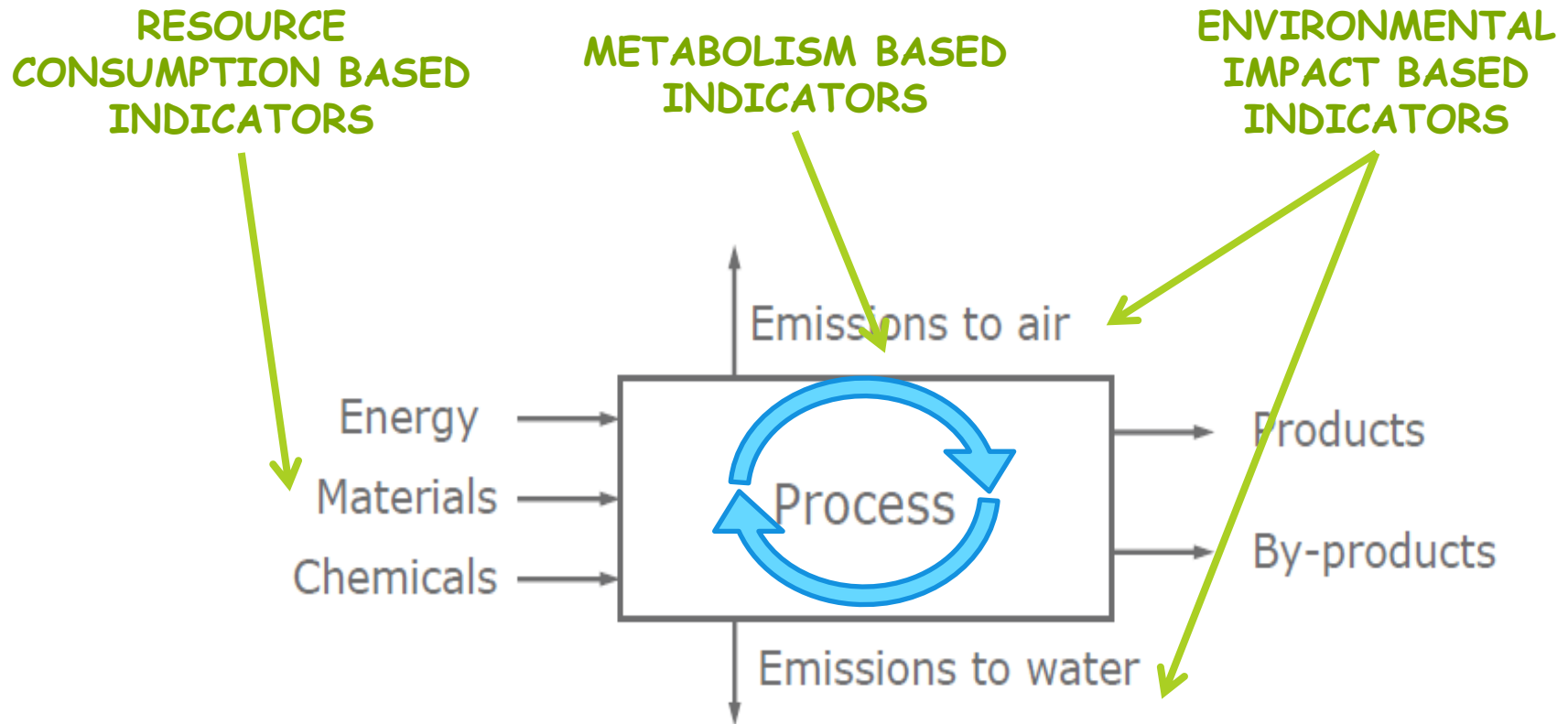
Types of environmental assessment methods



Types of environmental assessment methods



Types of environmental assessment methods



Types of environmental assessment methods

RESOURCE CONSUMPTION BASED INDICATORS

Environmental space
(Opshoor, 1995)

Ecological Footprint
(Rees, Wackernagel,
1996)

Water footprint
(Hoekstra, 2000)

NPP (Vitousek, 1986)

HANPP (IFF Austria)

METABOLISM BASED INDICATORS

Material Flow Analysis
(Wuppertal Institut, 2000)

eMergy (Odum, 1996)

exergy (Jorgensen, 1998)

Energy Flow Analysis (IFF)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BASED INDICATORS

Carbon footprint

Ecosystem damage
potential

Human health damage

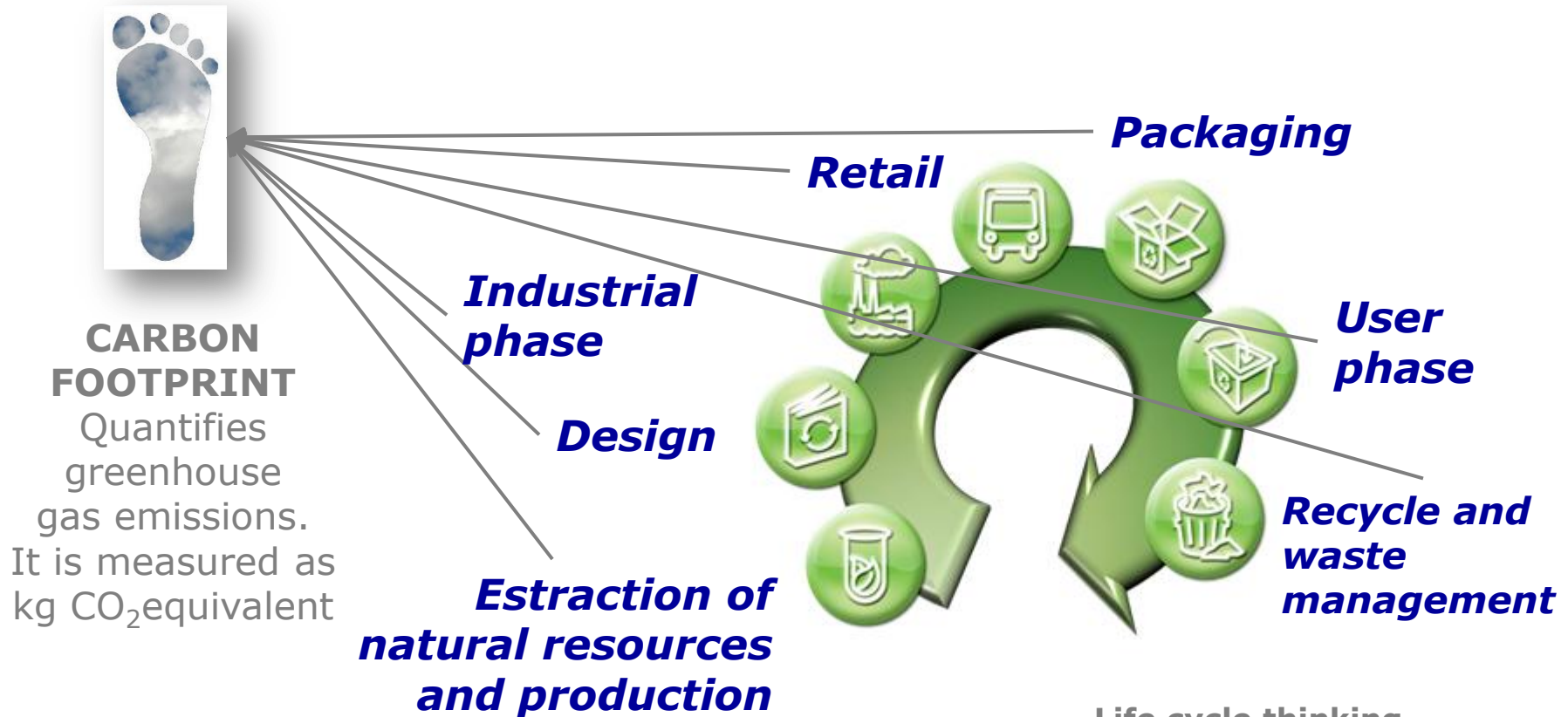
*"If all you have is a
hammer, everything
looks like a nail"
Abraham Maslow*

The Life Cycle approach



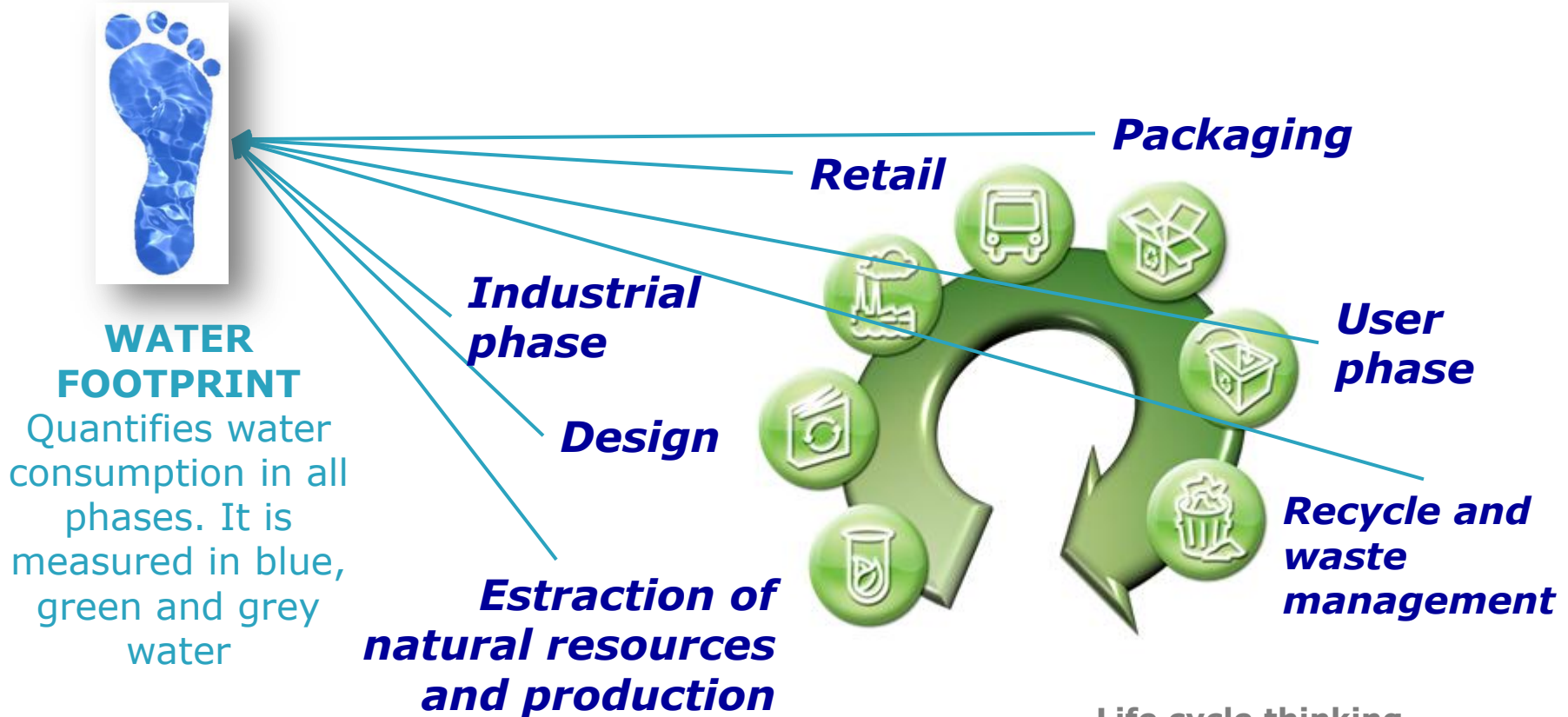
Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

The Life Cycle approach



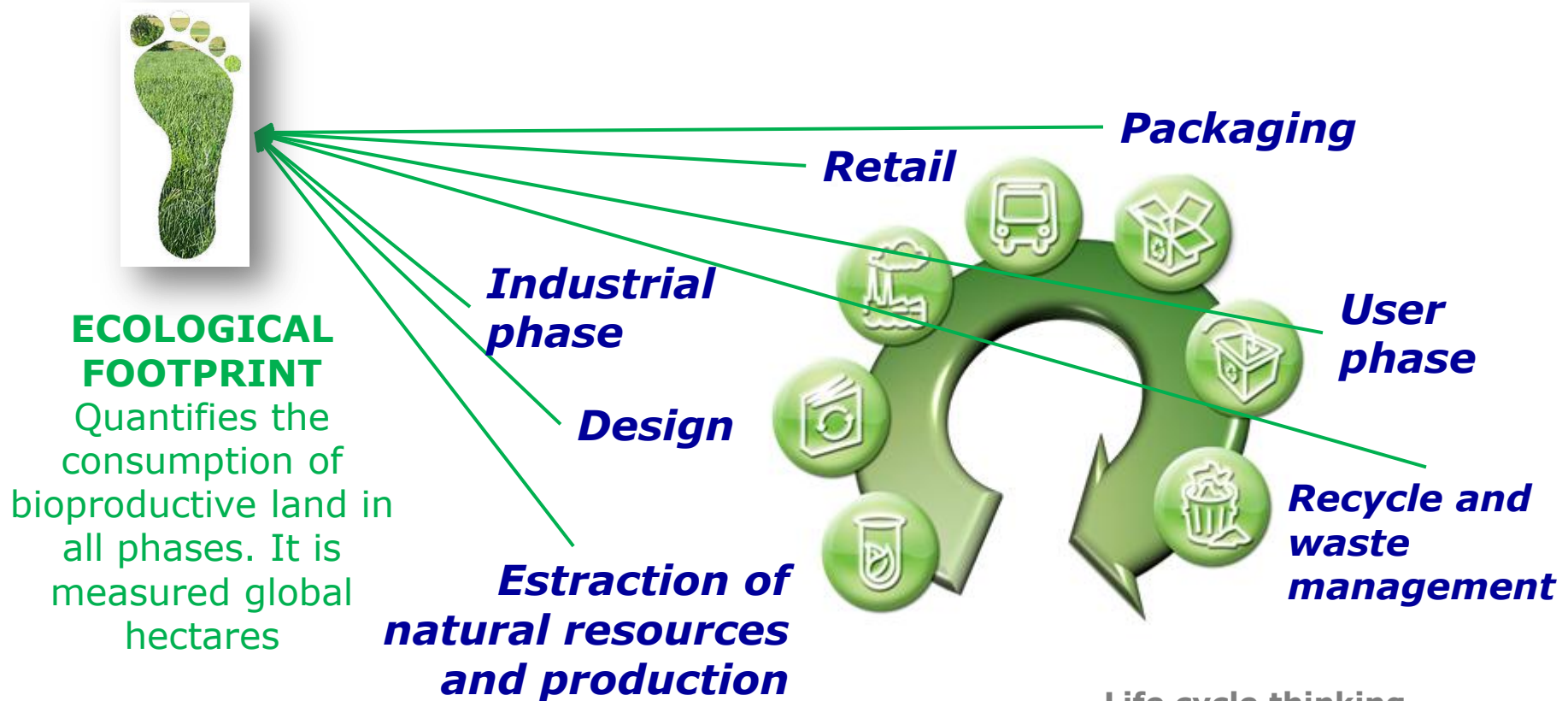
Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

The Life Cycle approach



Life cycle thinking
<http://epica.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

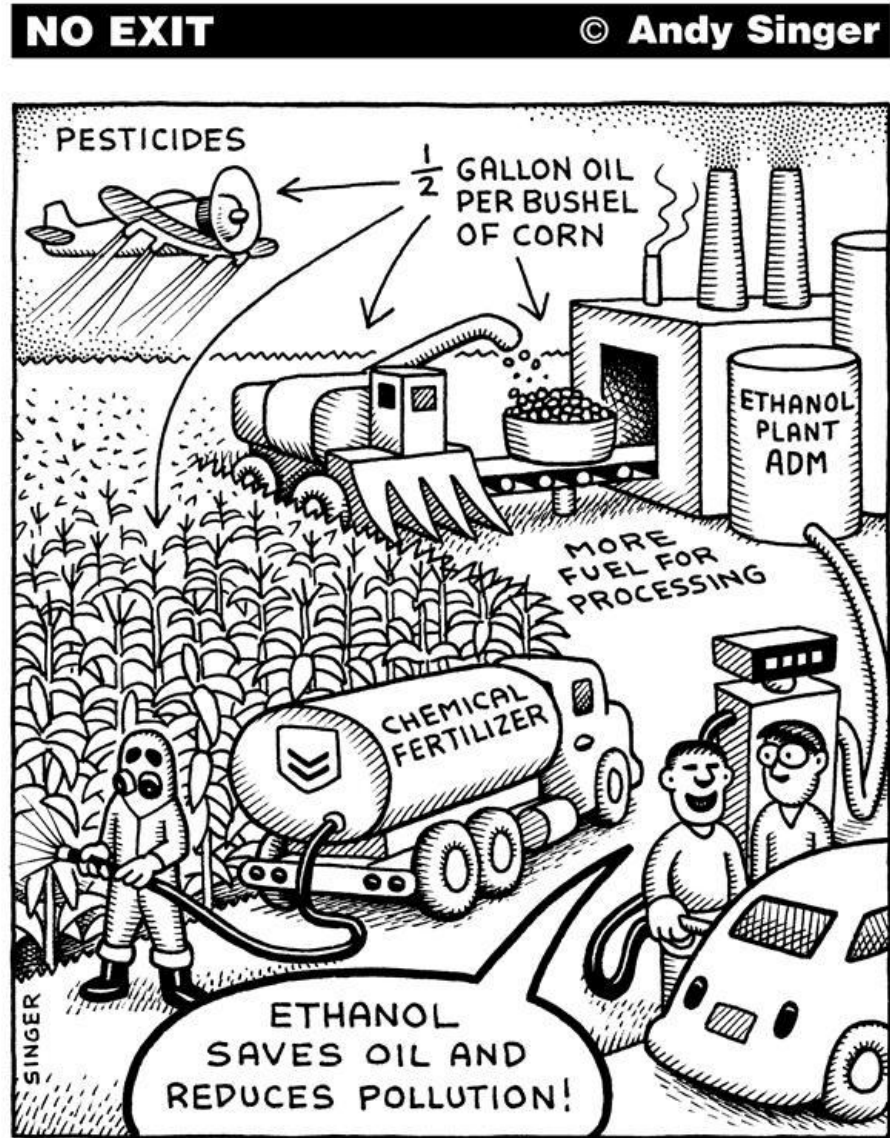
The Life Cycle approach



Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

The Life Cycle approach

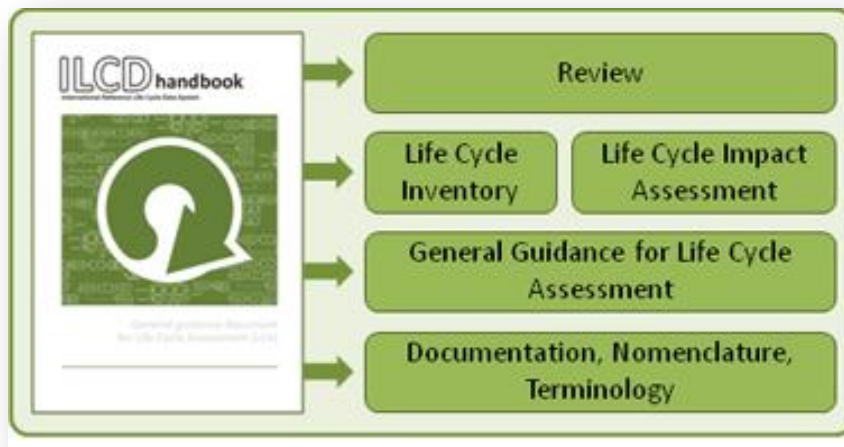
- Allows the identification of hot spots
- Avoids the 'burden shifting' effect



Some references

The **European Platform on LCA** is a project of the European Commission, carried out by the Commission's Joint Research Centre, Institute for Environment and Sustainability in collaboration with DG Environment Directorate Green Economy.

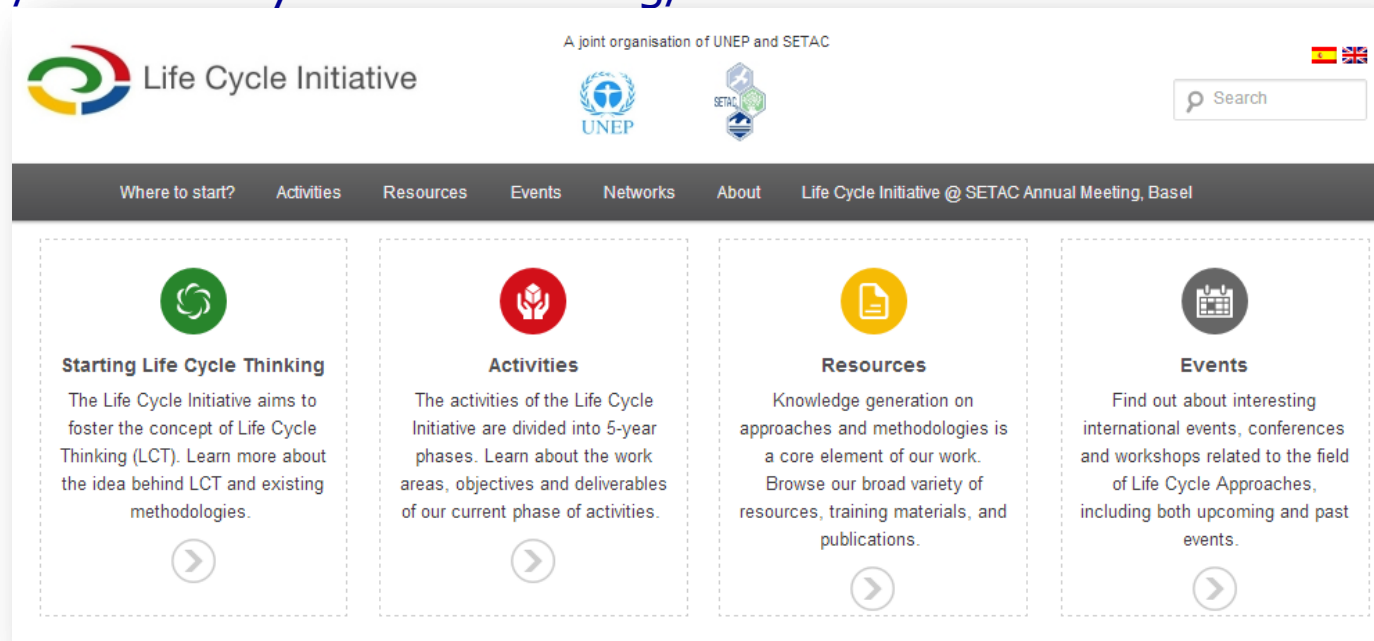
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



Some references

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) launched in 2002 an International Life Cycle Partnership, known as the Life Cycle Initiative, to enable users around the world to put life cycle thinking into effective practice.

<http://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/>



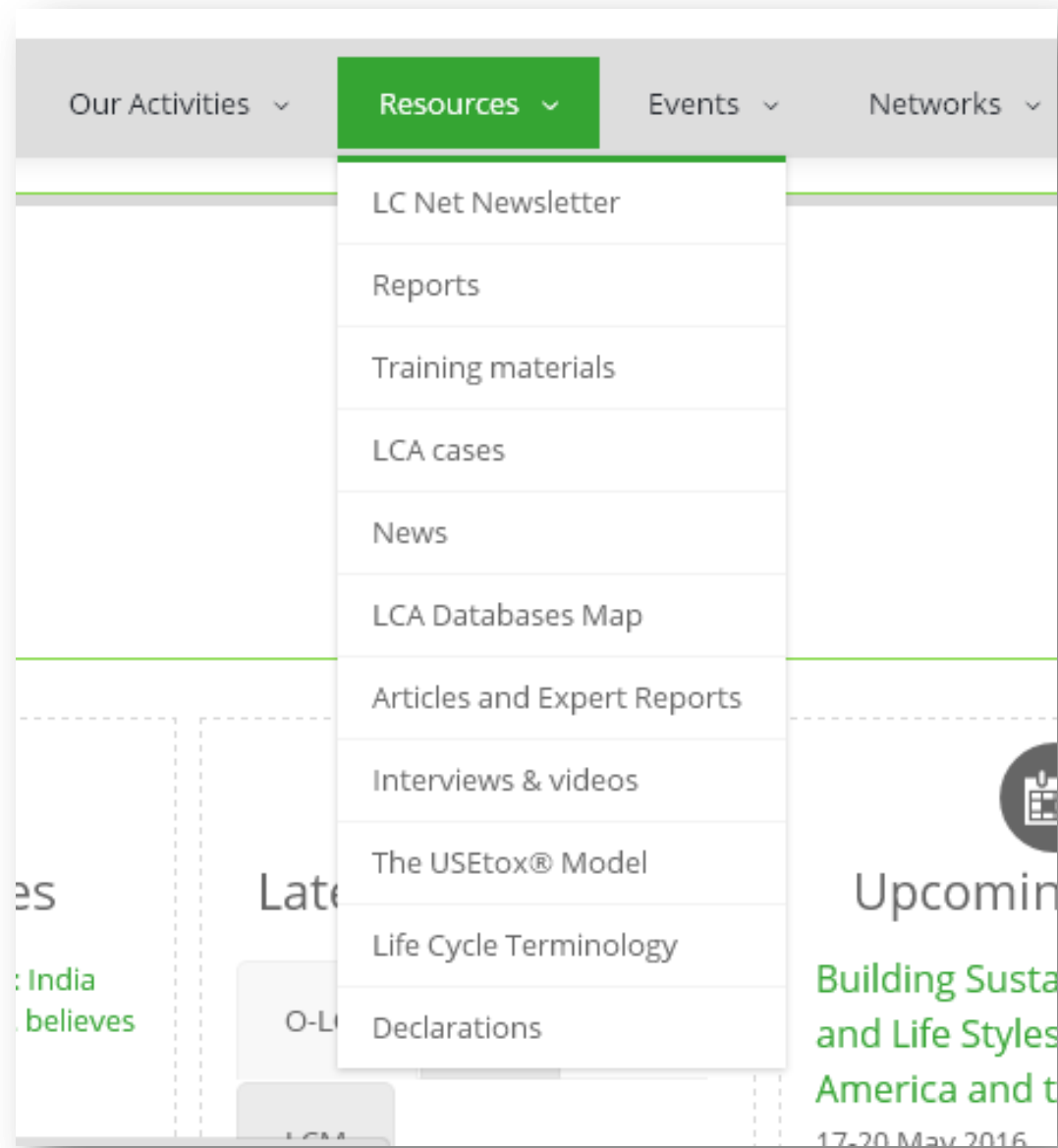
Some references

LIFE CYCLE INITIATIVE

<http://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/>



A joint organization of
UNEP and SETAC



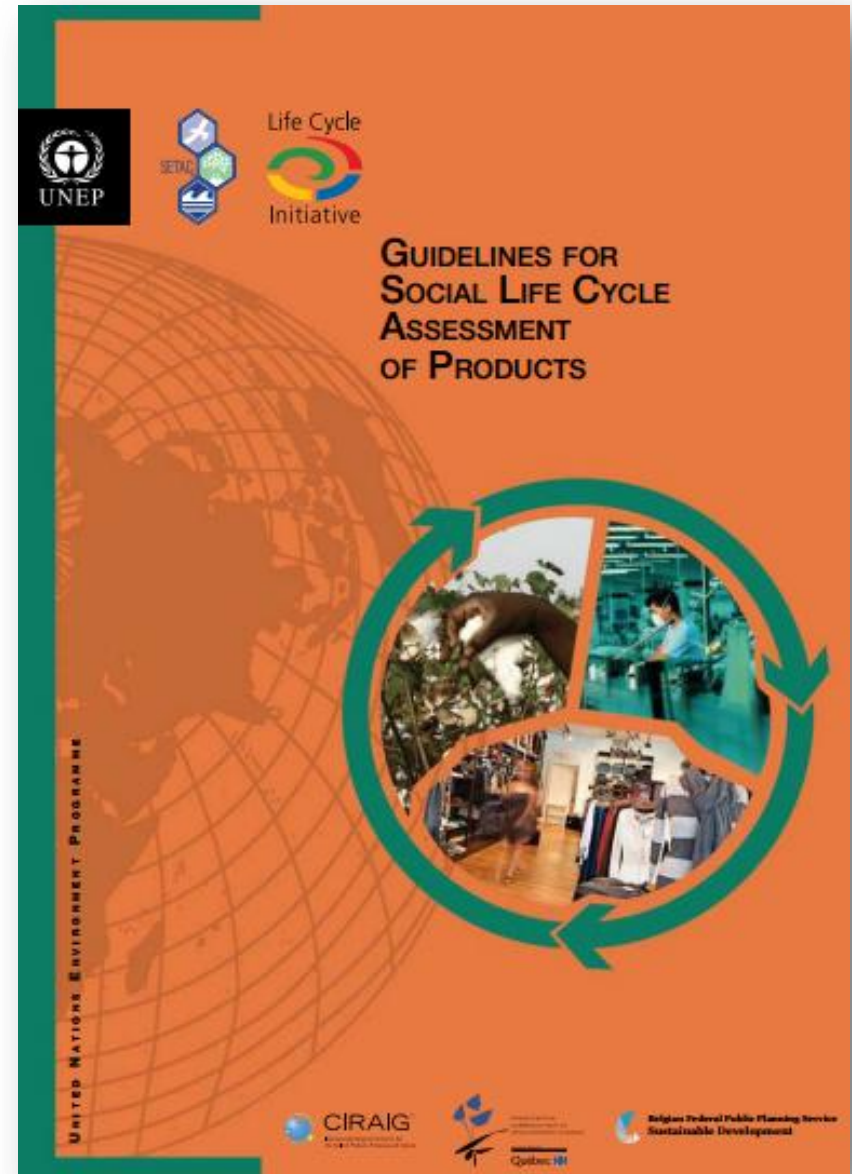
Some references

LIFE CYCLE INITIATIVE

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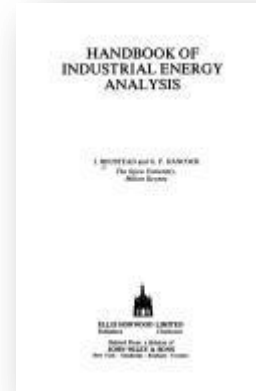
A joint organization of
UNEP and SETAC



2. The basis of Life Cycle Assessment



In the UK, **Ian Boustead** calculated the total energy used in the production of various types of beverage containers, including glass, plastic, steel, and aluminium.



Boustead consolidated his methodology to make it applicable to a variety of materials, and published the **Handbook of Industrial Energy Analysis**.

1969

1972

1974

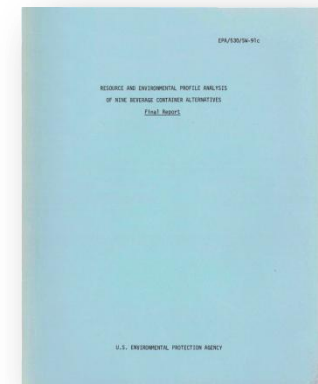
[...]

1979

The **Coca Cola Company** funded a study to compare resource consumption and environmental releases associated with beverage containers.



EPA produced the report "Resource and Environmental Profile Analysis of Nine Beverage Container Alternatives"





UN Earth Summit there was a ground-swell of opinion that life-cycle assessment methodologies were among the most promising new tools for a wide range of environmental management tasks.

Wegener Sleeswijk et al (1996) published the first set of guidelines on methodological topics for LCAs of agricultural products in the Netherlands.

1980 [...] 1990 1992 1996 1997

Vis, J. C., Krozer, J., van Duyse, P. J. C., & Koudijs, H. G. (1992). Milieumatenstudie van margarines (p. 56). Rotterdam



As the same need for agricultural specifications was also felt in other European countries, a number of European research institutes took concerted action to draw up a harmonised approach for use by European agricultural LCA practitioners (Audsley & Alber, 1997).



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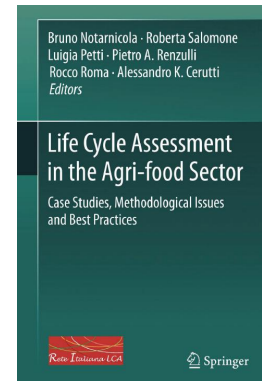


As the same need for agricultural specifications was also felt in other European countries, a number of European research institutes took concerted action to draw up a harmonised approach for use by European agricultural LCA practitioners (Audsley & Alber, 1997).

LCA in Agriculture,
Agro-Industry and
Forestry. Brussels,
Belgium



Notarnicola, B., Salomone, R.,
Petti, L., Renzulli, P. A., Roma,
R., & Cerutti, A. K. (Eds.).
(2015). *Life Cycle Assessment
in the Agri-food Sector: Case
Studies, Methodological Issues
and Best Practices*. Springer.



1998

2015

1996

2002

International
Journal of
Life Cycle
Assessment

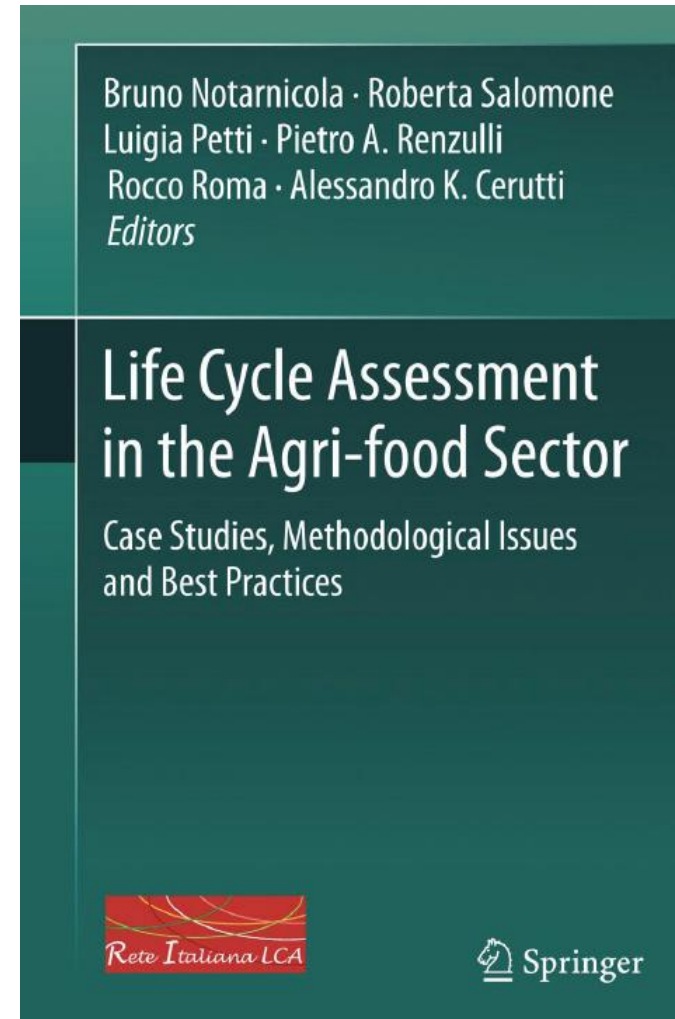


The United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP) and the Society
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Chemistry (SETAC) launched in
2002 an International Life Cycle
Partnership, known as the Life Cycle
Initiative (LCI),



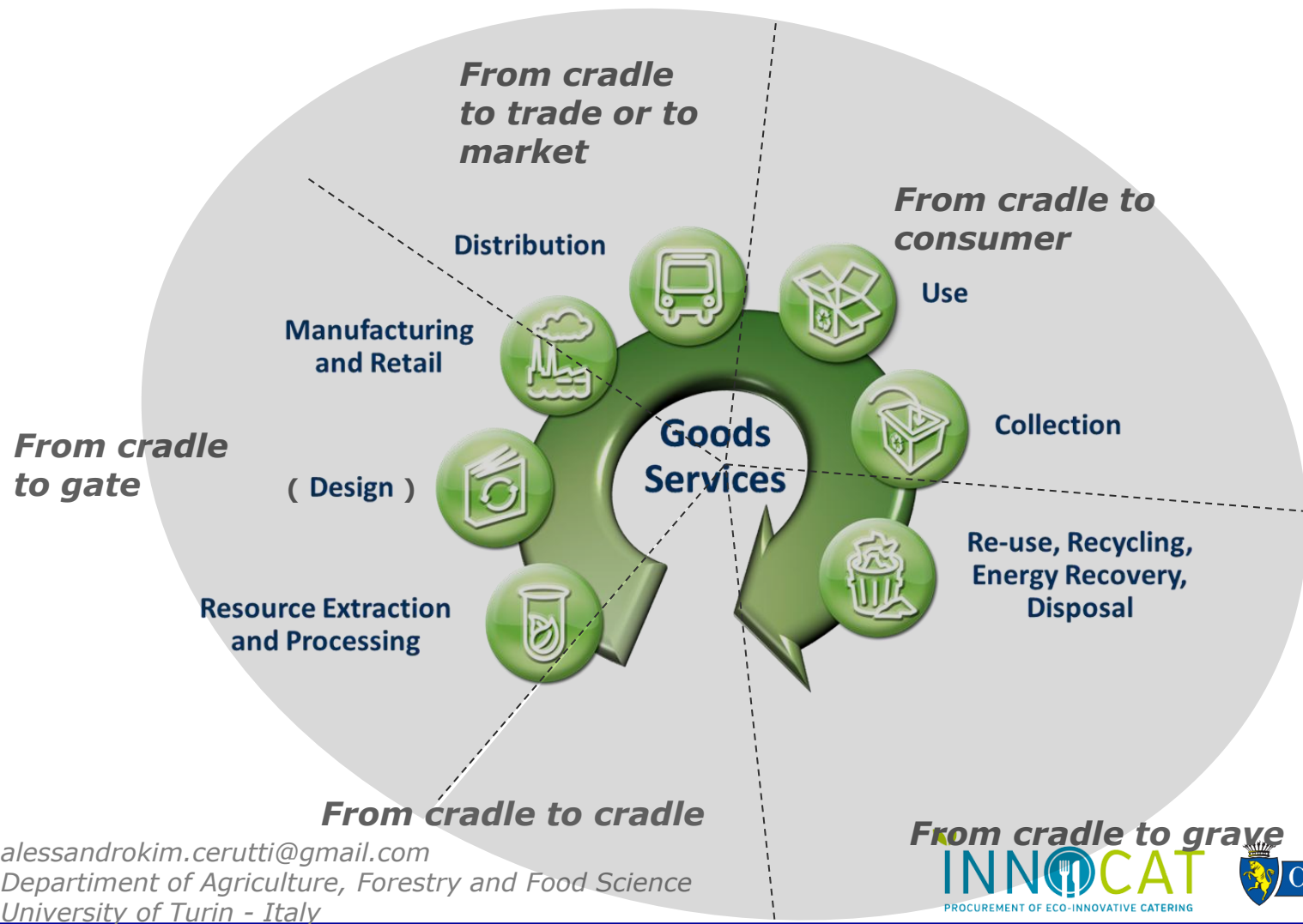
Food production systems (vs industrial systems)

- Unproductive phases
- Yield not constant during the years
- Pluriannual productions (in perennial crops)
- Carbon sequestration
- Organic byproduct



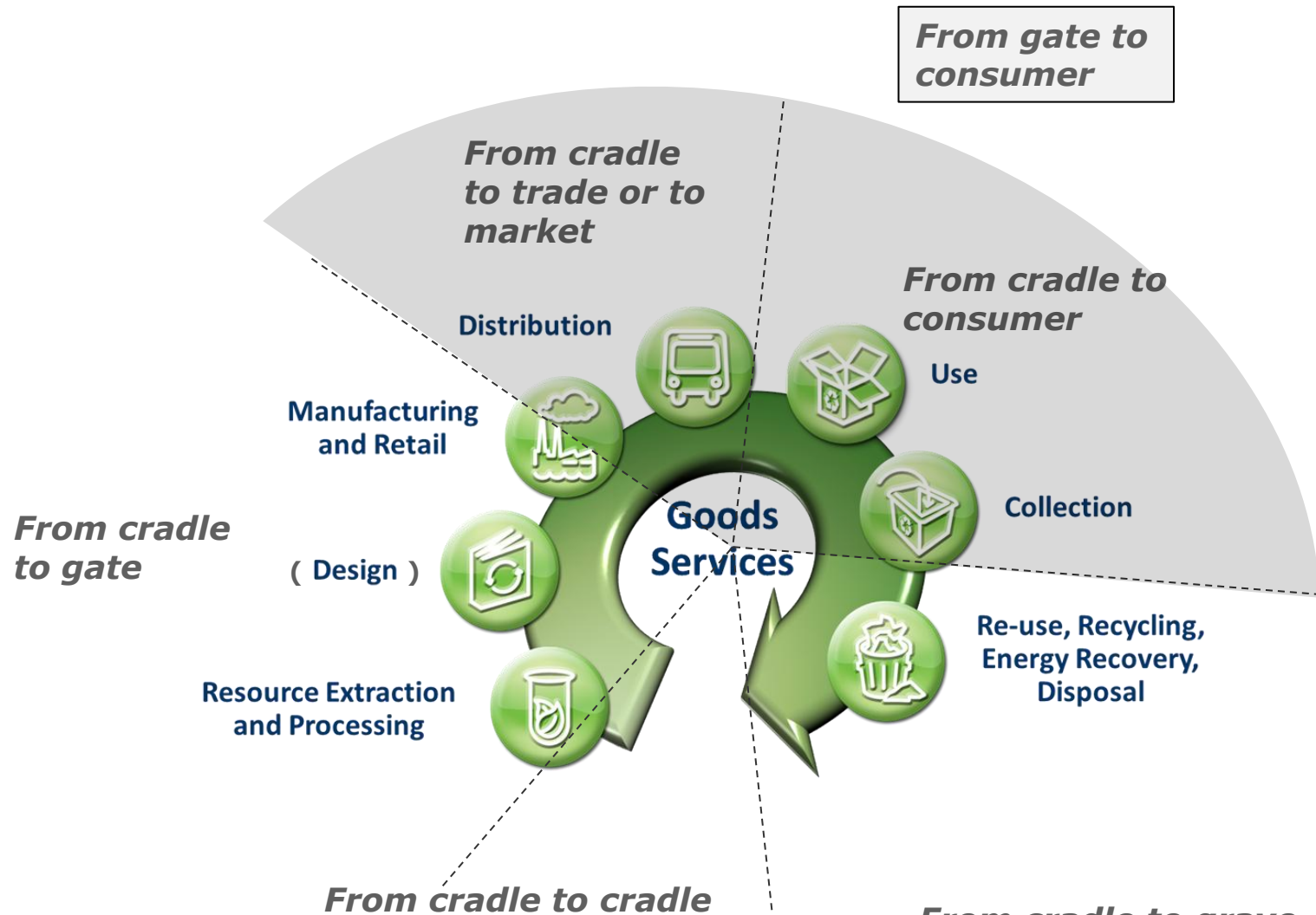
System boundaries

<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



System boundaries

<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



From cradle to grave

INNOCAT
PROCUREMENT OF ECO-INNOVATIVE CATERING



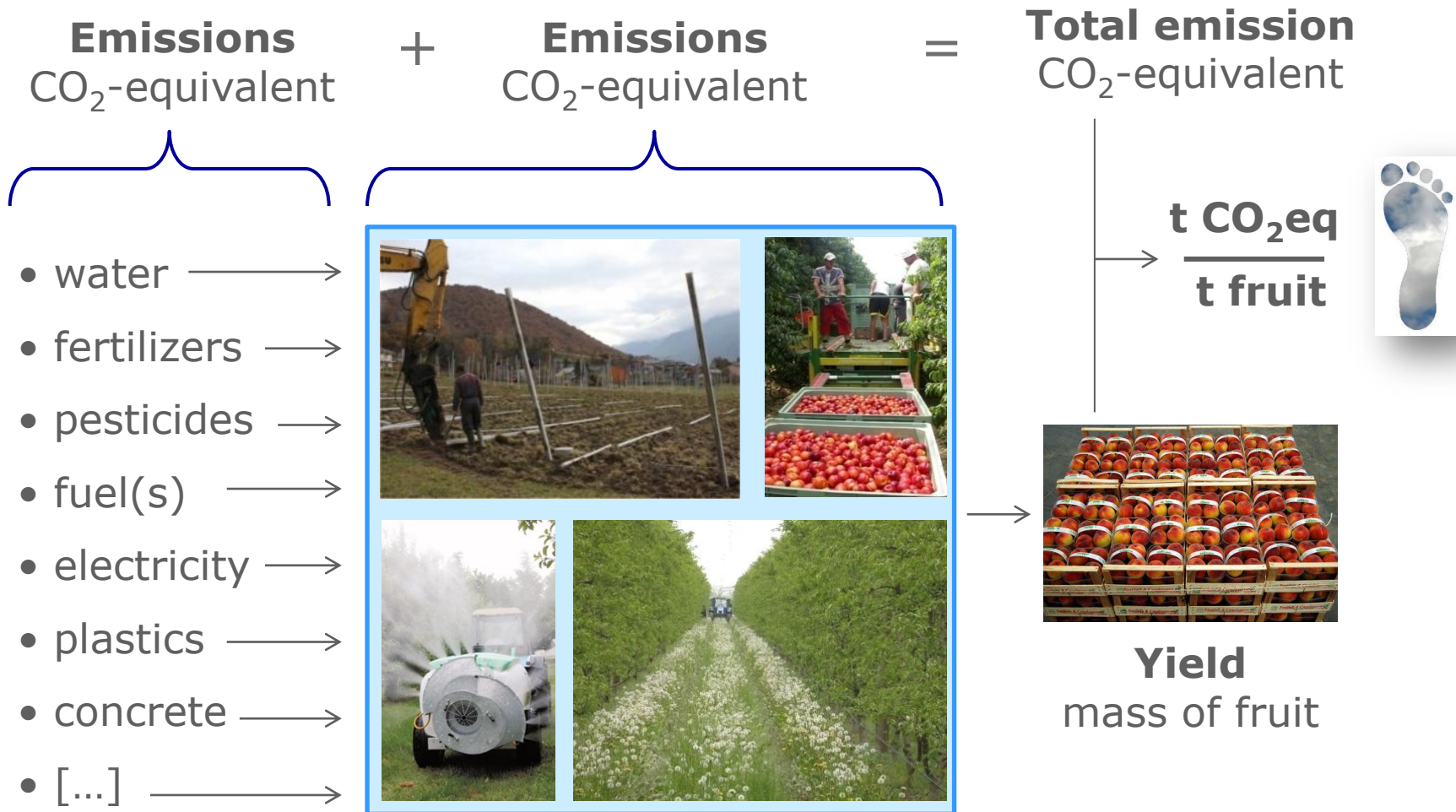
CITTA' DI TORINO

alessandrokim.cerutti@gmail.com
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Science
University of Turin - Italy

e.g. fruit products (system boundaries)



e.g. fruit products (emission calculation)



e.g. fruit products (functional unit)

Emissions CO₂-equivalent

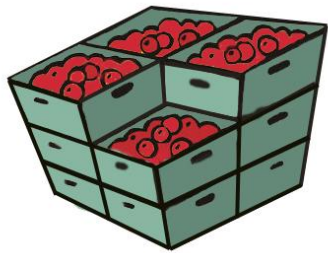
- water →
- fertilizers →
- pesticides →
- fuel(s) →
- electricity →
- plastics →
- concrete →
- [...] →

Emissions CO₂-equivalent

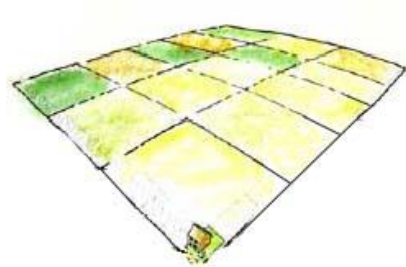


Functional unit

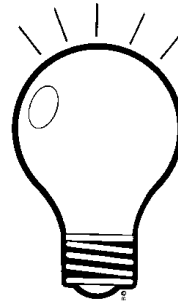
The unit to which all environmental impacts are referred



Mass



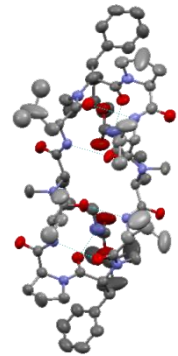
Surface



**Energy
content**



Economy



**Nutrient
content**

Problems:

- Non quantifiable functions
- More than one function
- Different results for different FUs

Functional unit

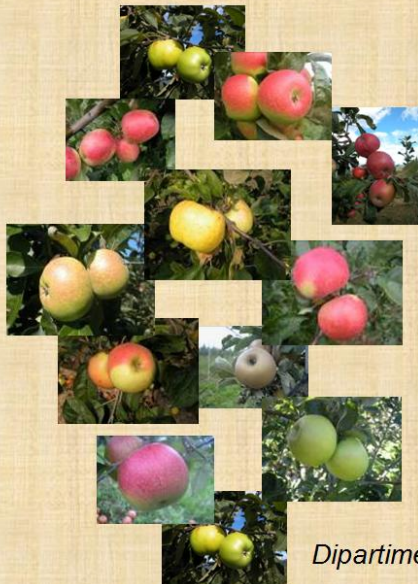


3. A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont (Italy)

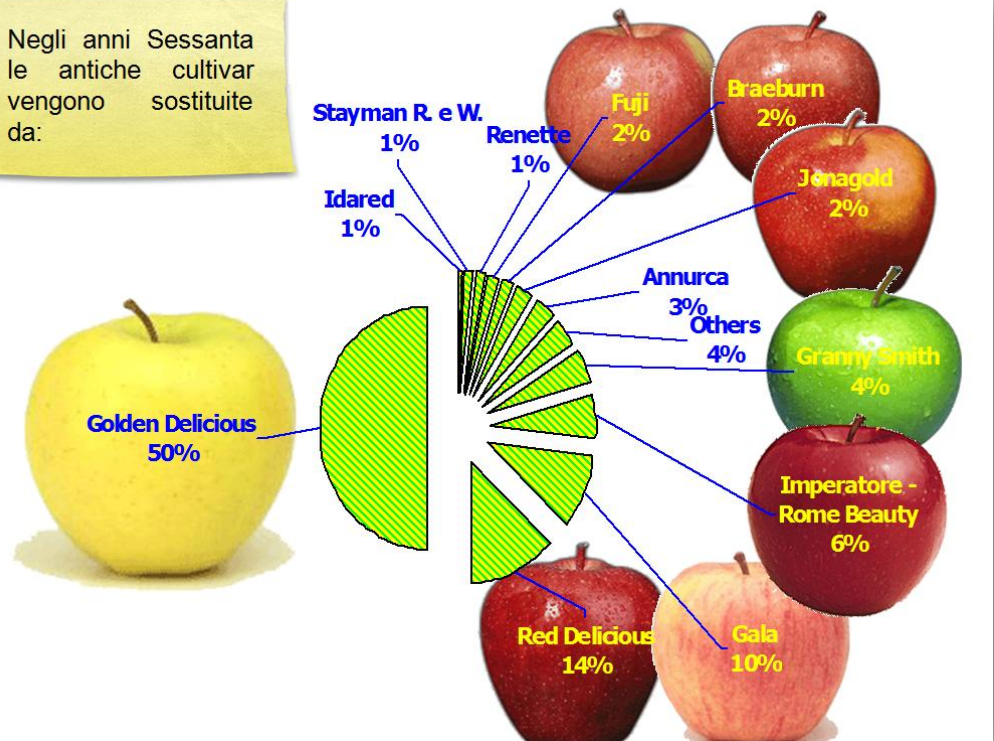
A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont

Cerutti, A. K., Bruun, S., Donno, D., Beccaro, G. L., & Bounous, G. (2013). Environmental sustainability of traditional foods: the case of ancient apple cultivars in Northern Italy assessed by multifunctional LCA. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 52, 245-252.

300-400 cultivar



Negli anni Sessanta le antiche cultivar vengono sostituite da:



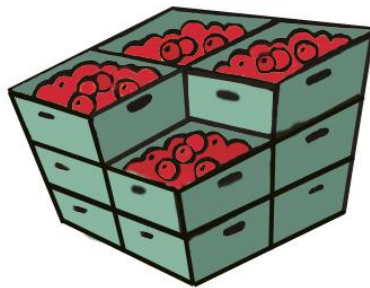
Dipartimento Colture Arboree, U
Scuola Ma
Regione Piemonte

A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont

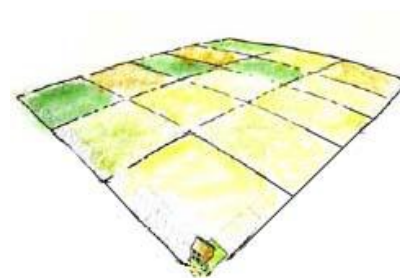
Cerutti, A. K., Bruun, S., Donno, D., Beccaro, G. L., & Bounous, G. (2013). Environmental sustainability of traditional foods: the case of ancient apple cultivars in Northern Italy assessed by multifunctional LCA. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 52, 245-252.

Table 1
Main agronomic properties of the cultivars studied.

| Characteristics | Golden delicious | Grigia di Torriana | Magnana | Runsé |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Origin | Clay county, West Virginia (United States) | Barge, Cuneo (Italy) | Bibiana, Torino (Italy) | Cavour, Torino (Italy) |
| Vigour | Medium-low | Medium-low | Medium | High |
| Flowering period | Early (2nd week of April) | Early (2nd week of April) | Early (2nd week of April) | Early (2nd week of April) |
| Harvest period | Early (end of September) | Medium-late (end of October) | Late (2nd week of November) | Late (2nd week of November) |
| Orchard design (cm) | 400–450 * 80–100 | 450 * 150 | 450 * 180 | 500 * 200 |
| Plants per hectare | 2200–3000 | 1450 | 1230 | 1000 |
| Yield (t/ha) | 40 | 25 | 23 | 20 |
| Wholesale fruit price in 2011 (€/kg) | 0.40–0.80 | 0.60–1.00 | 0.60–1.00 | 0.60–1.00 |



?



A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont

Cerutti, A. K., Bruun, S., Donno, D., Beccaro, G. L., & Bounous, G. (2013). Environmental sustainability of traditional foods: the case of ancient apple cultivars in Northern Italy assessed by multifunctional LCA. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 52, 245-252.

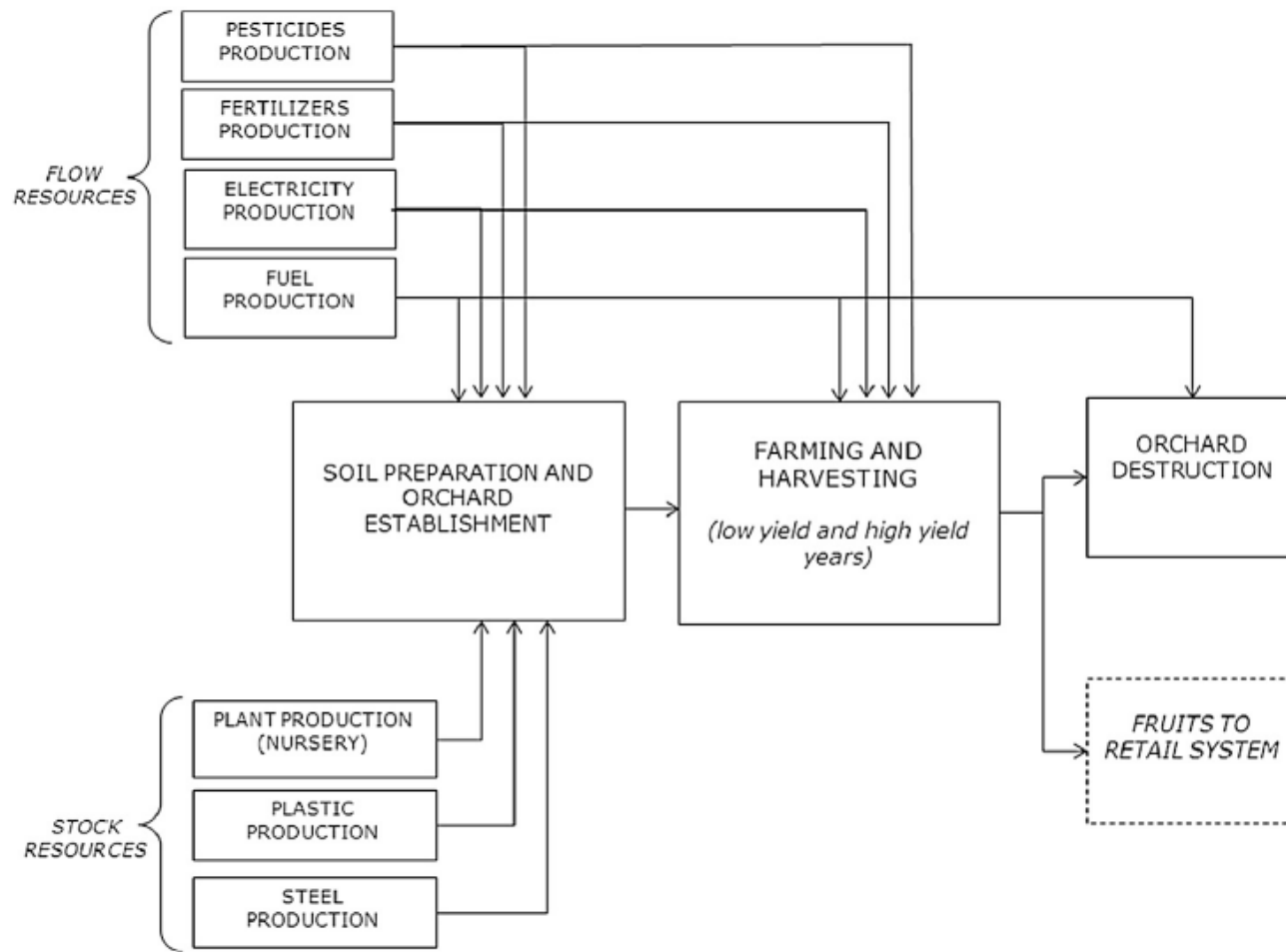
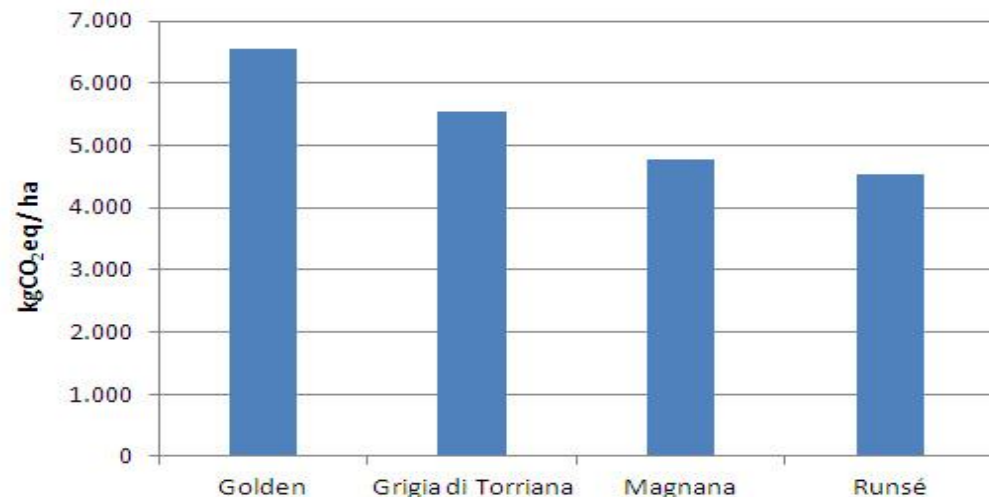
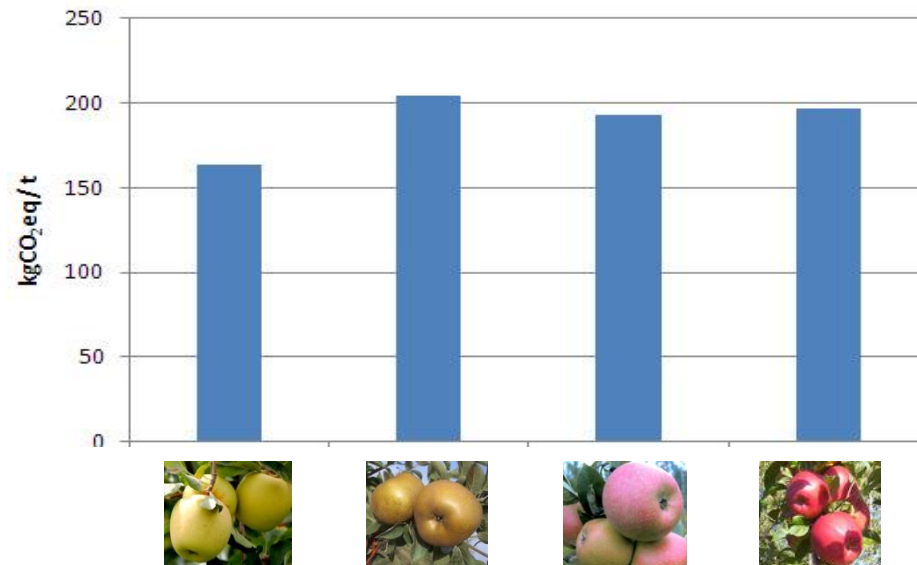
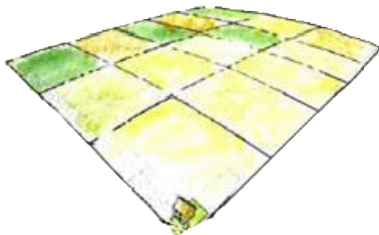
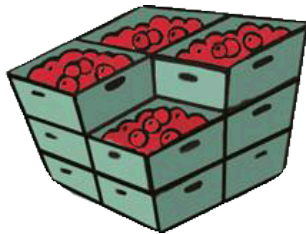


Fig. 1. System boundaries of the study. Dotted line box indicates processes not included in the assessment.

A case study: ancient apple cultivars from Piedmont

Cerutti, A. K., Bruun, S., Donno, D., Beccaro, G. L., & Bounous, G. (2013). Environmental sustainability of traditional foods: the case of ancient apple cultivars in Northern Italy assessed by multifunctional LCA. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 52, 245-252.

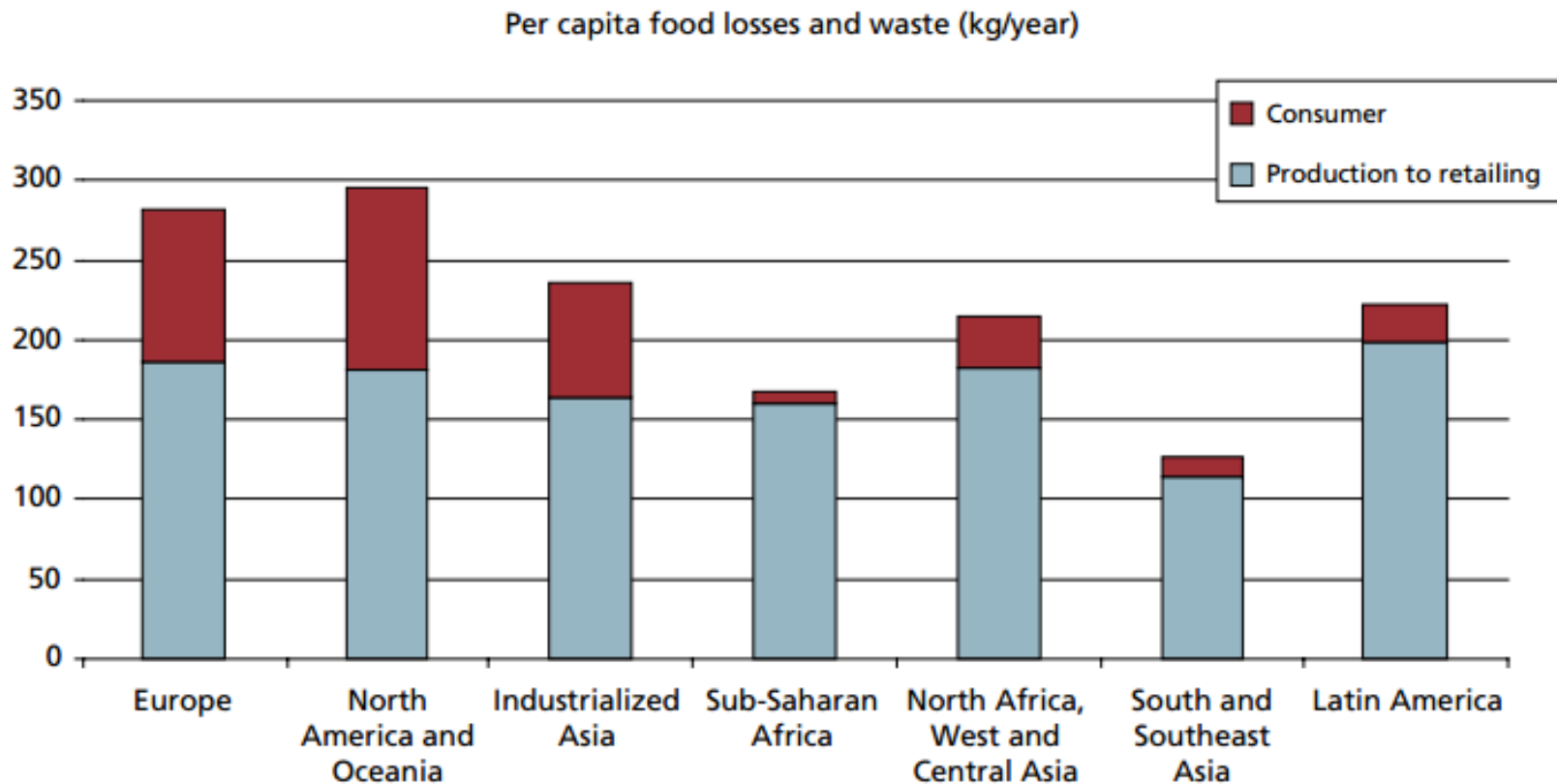


About a third of world production of food for human consumption is lost or wasted throughout the food chain each year (FAO 2011); about 24% when measured in calories.

The percentage rises to 45% for the fruits and vegetables!

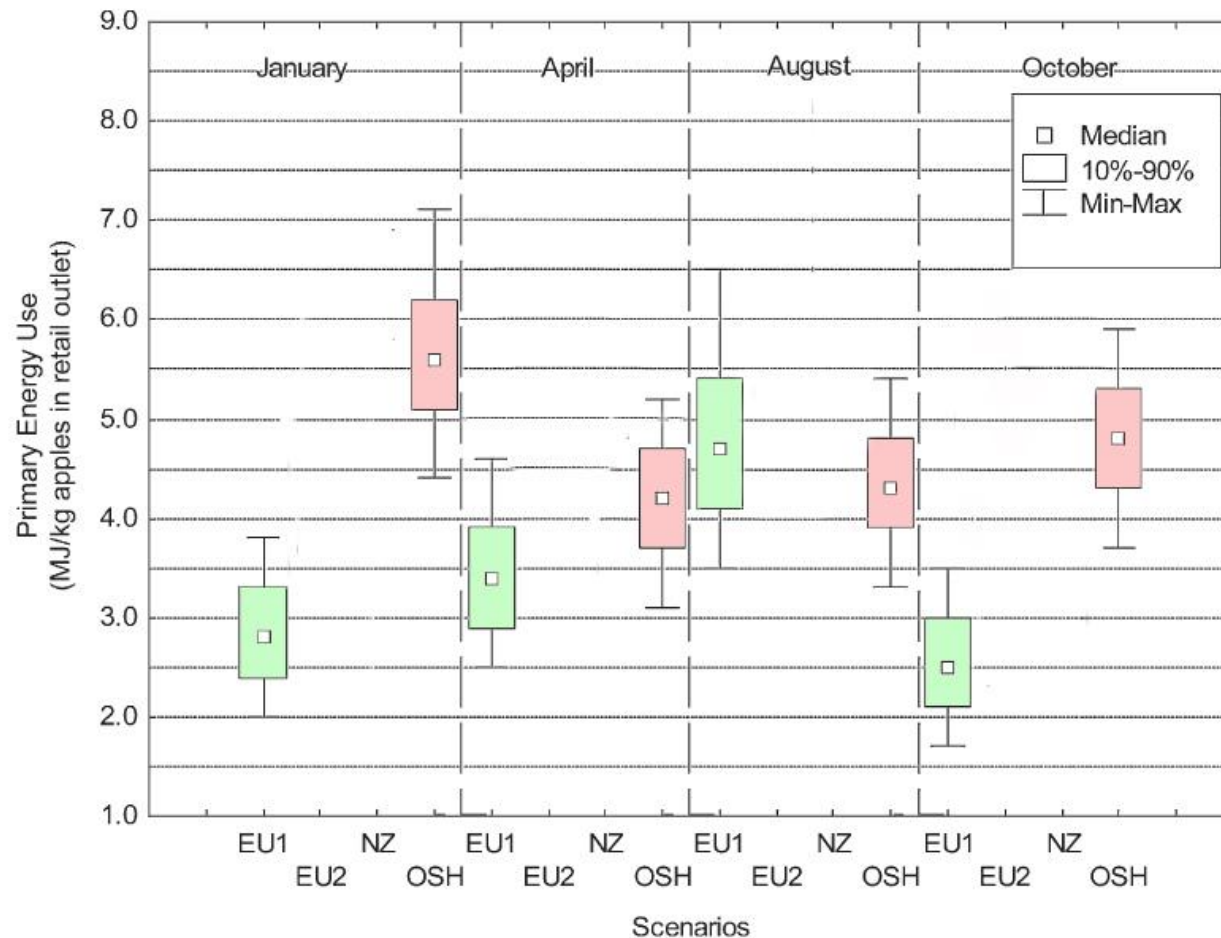
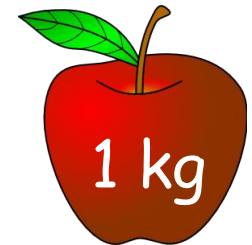
FAO 2011. Global Food Losses and Waste. Extent, Causes and Prevention,
available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/mb060e/mb060e.pdf>

Figure 2. Per capita food losses and waste, at consumption and pre-consumptions stages, in different regions

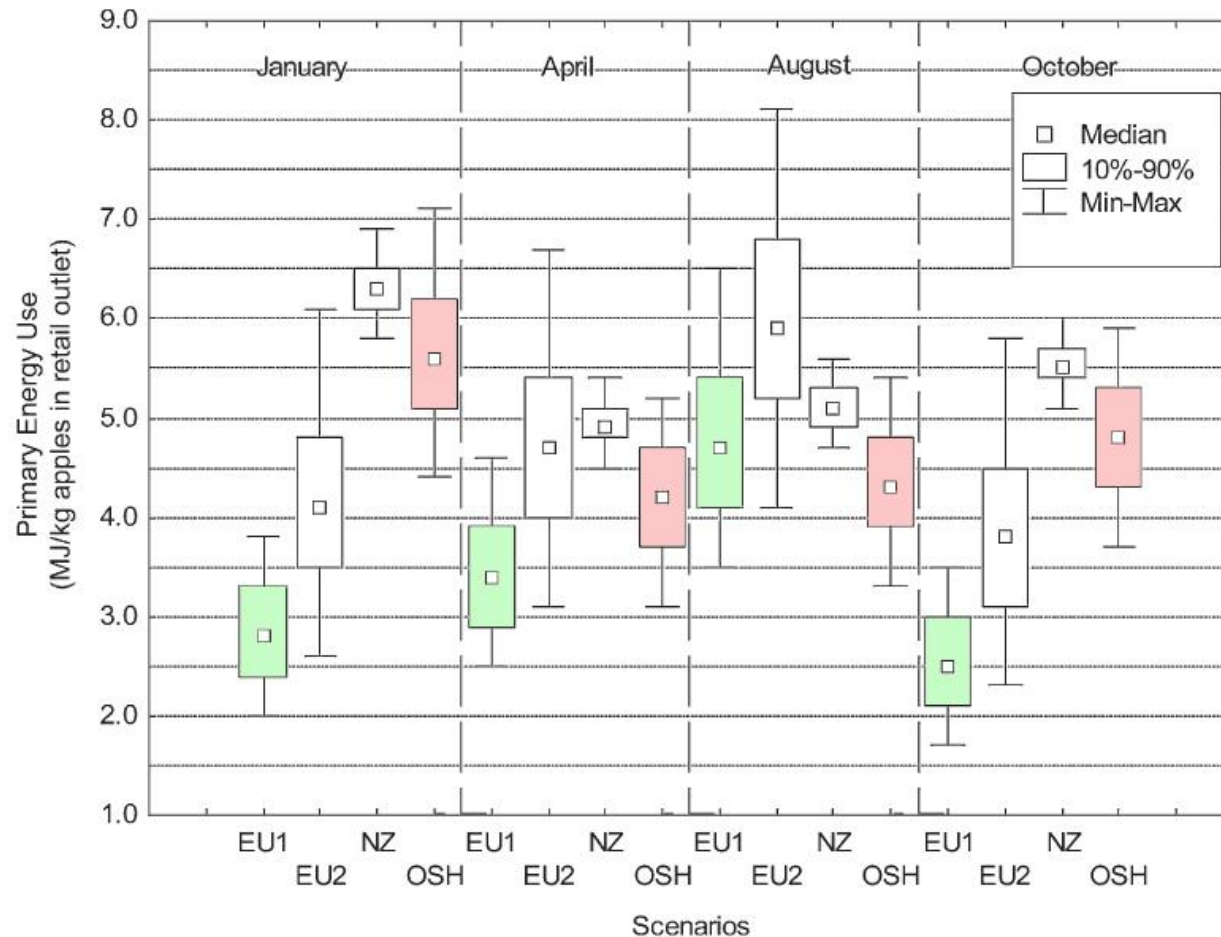
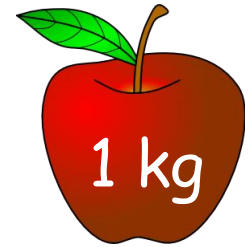


4. On the importance of transport

Mila i Canals L., Cowell S.J., Sim S., Basson L., 2007. **Comparing domestic versus imported apples: a focus on energy use.** Env. Sci. Pollut. Res., 14:338-344



Mila i Canals L., Cowell S.J., Sim S., Basson L., 2007. **Comparing domestic versus imported apples: a focus on energy use.** Env. Sci. Pollut. Res., 14:338-344



5. Modeling the catering service for the INNOCAT project



www.sustainable-catering.eu

INNOCAT aims to bring together a group of public and private buyers to publish a series of tenders for eco-innovative catering products, services and solutions. The aim is to help encourage eco-innovation in the catering sector by providing a sizeable launch market for new solutions.



PHASE 1

*Calculation of greenhouse gas emissions
of the food production stages*



Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

PHASE 1

*Calculation of greenhouse gas emissions
of the food production stages*



Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

PHASE 2

*Calculation of greenhouse gas emissions
of the food transport stages*



Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

PHASE 3

Calculation of greenhouse gas emissions of the food cooking and serving stages, including materials, energy and waste



Life cycle thinking
<http://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

PHASE 4

Testing the carbon footprint reduction occurred by the adoption of the GPP practices included in the INNOCAT project

| Stage of the catering service | GPP Policy |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Food production | Different production practices for food Change food component in the diet |
| Food transport | Local provisioning of food Improvements in local distribution of food |
| Cooking, storage and serving | Adoption of energy efficient appliances Certified electricity exclusively from renewable sources Electricity from photovoltaic panels |
| Waste management | Washable tableware Tableware in Mater-Bi® Tap water Optimization (80%) of the recycling of inorganic waste Optimization (90%) of the composting of organic waste |

6. Examples of Carbon Footprint results for some GPP practices

... just to give the idea



1 km = 200g CO₂ eq.

1 mile = 320g CO₂ eq.

1 mile = 0.64 pounds CO₂ eq.

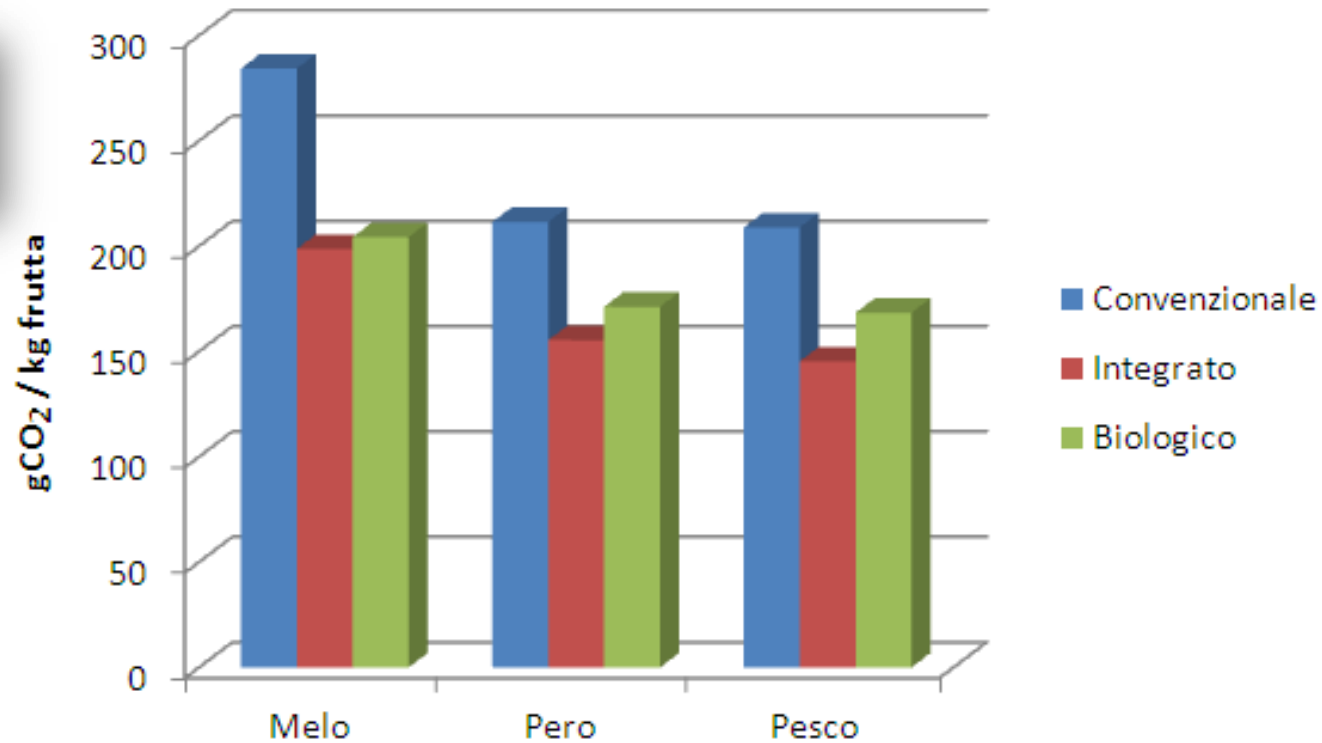


1 tCO₂ eq. = 5000 km

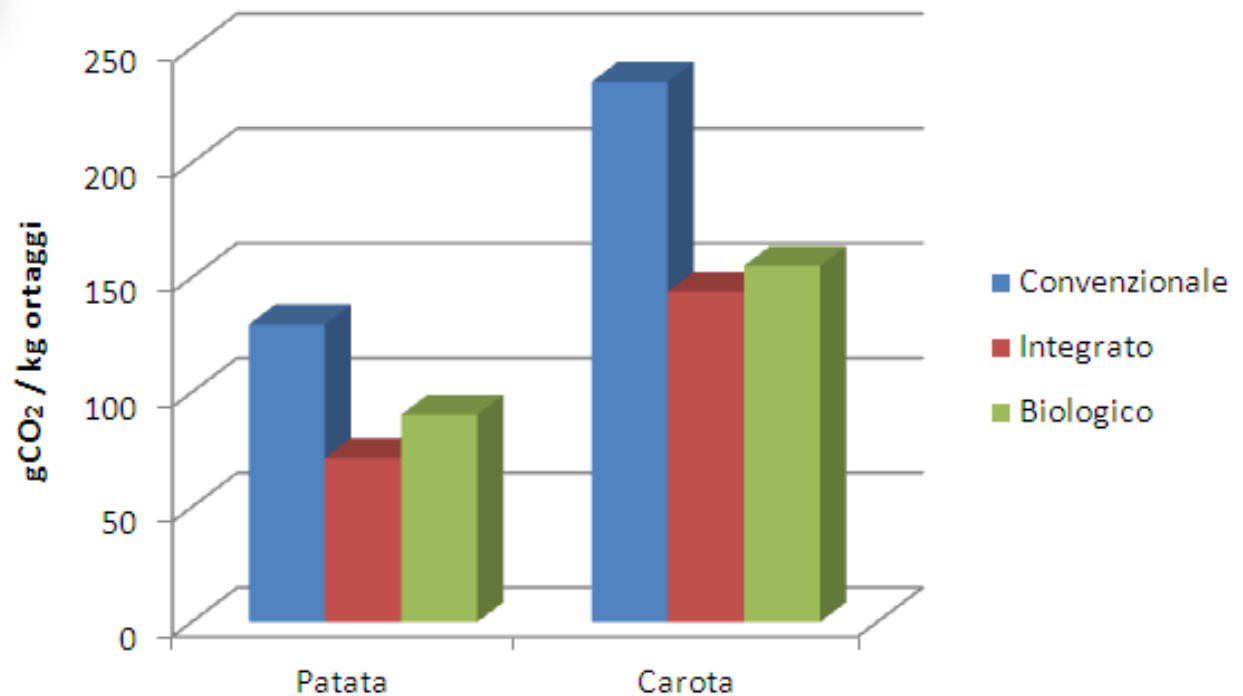
1 tCO₂ eq. = 3125 miles

2204 lbsCO₂ eq. = 3125 miles

e.g. GPP1 - Different production practices for food



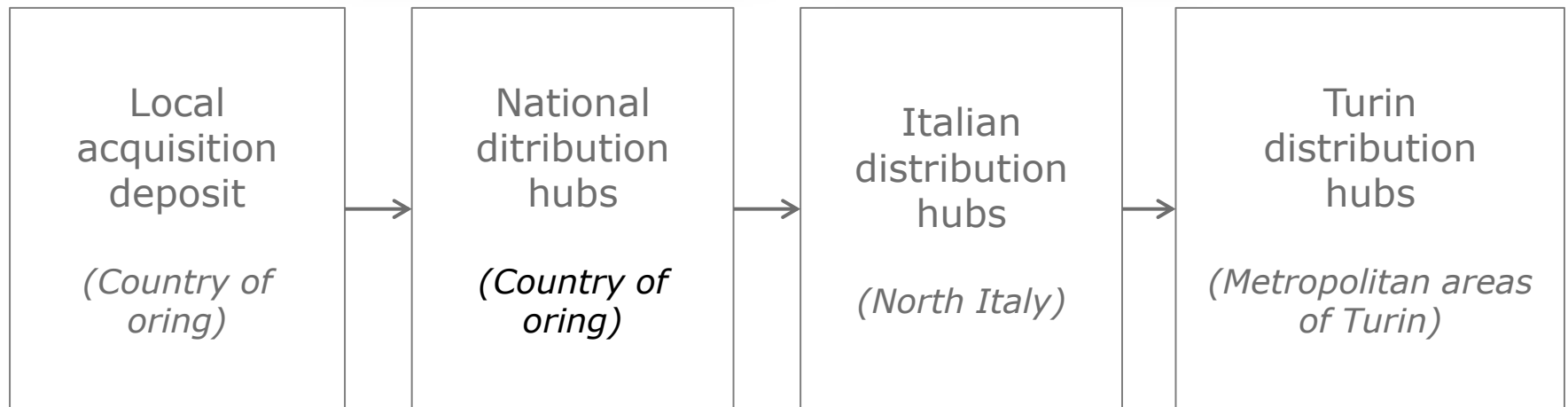
e.g. GPP1 - Different production practices for food



e.g. GPP1 - Different production practices for food

| | Conventional production systems | | School year 2013/2014 | | Emission save | Variation |
|---------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Product | Agro-technique | tCO ₂ eq | Agro-technique | tCO ₂ eq | tCO ₂ eq | % |
| Apples | Conventional | 82.45 | Organic / integrated | 57.89 | -24.56 | -30% |
| Pears | Conventional | 12.69 | Organic / integrated | 9.48 | -3.21 | -25% |
| Peaches | Conventional | 12.53 | Organic / integrated | 8.95 | -3.58 | -29% |
| Potatos | Conventional | 70.61 | Organic / integrated | 43.73 | -26.88 | -38% |
| Carrots | Conventional | 25.93 | Organic / integrated | 18.07 | -7.86 | -30% |

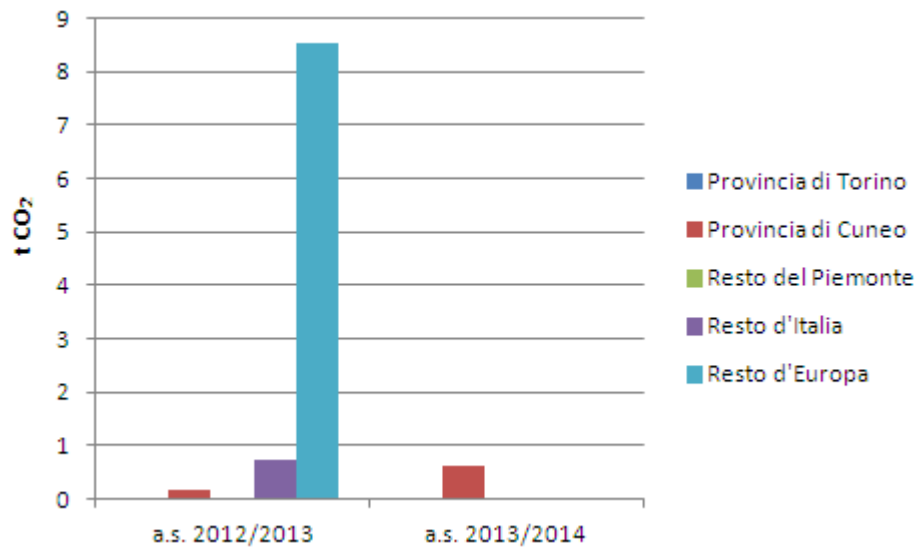
e.g. GPP2 – Local provisioning of food



e.g. GPP2 – Local provisioning of food



| Origin | 2012/2013 t fruit | 2013/2014 t fruit |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Torino Province | 2.18 | 8.34 |
| Cuneo Province | 11.87 | 47.48 |
| Piemonte (other Povinces) | 3.95 | 4.17 |
| Italy (other Regions) | 33.48 | 0 |
| Europe (other Nations) | 8.52 | 0 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>60</i> | <i>60</i> |

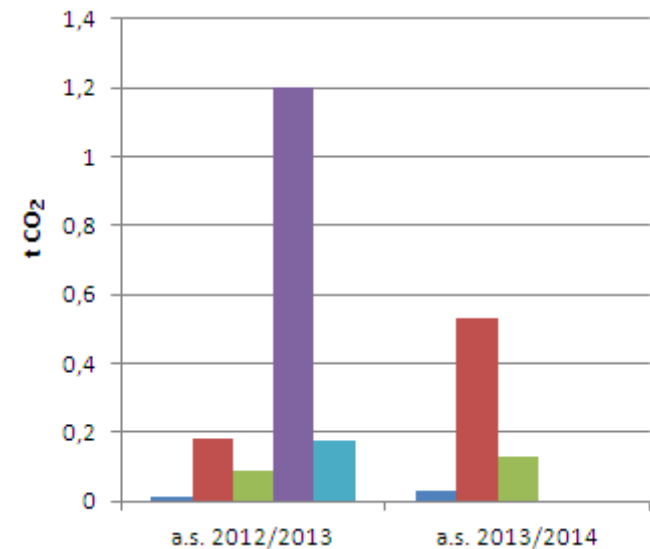


1.32 tCO₂

0.70 tCO₂



| Origin | 2012/2013 t fruit | 2013/2014 t fruit |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Torino Province | 2.64 | 7.24 |
| Cuneo Province | 14.1 | 40.27 |
| Piemonte (other Povinces) | 8.46 | 12.49 |
| Italy (other Regions) | 31.54 | 0 |
| Europe (other Nations) | 3.2 | 0 |
| <i>Totale</i> | <i>60</i> | <i>60</i> |



1.66 tCO₂

0.69 tCO₂

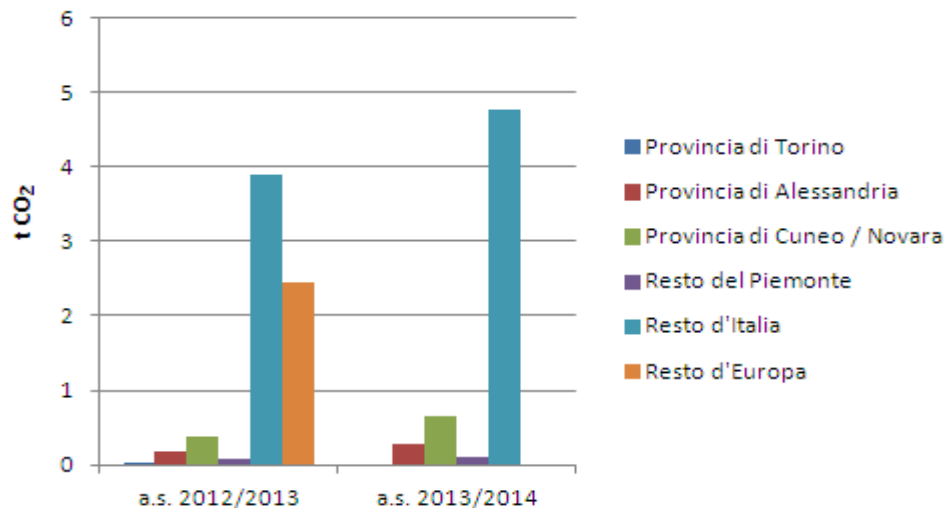
e.g. GPP2 – Local provisioning of food



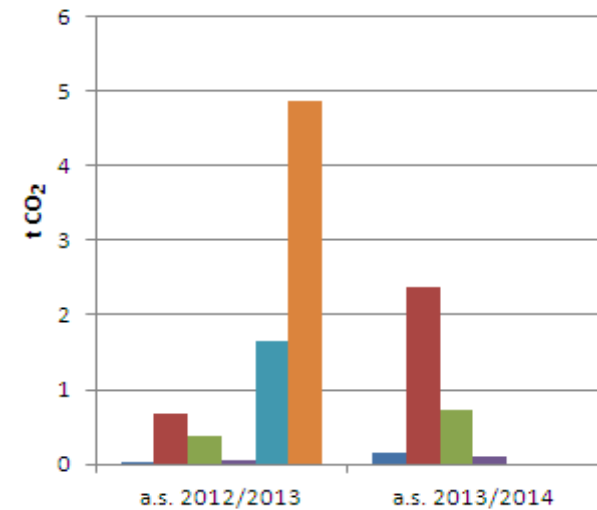
| Origin | 2012/2013 | 2013/2014 |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| | t carrots | t carrots |
| Torino Province | 0.44 | 1.06 |
| Novara Province | 29.01 | 48.74 |
| Alessandria Province | 14.36 | 24.12 |
| Piemonte (other Pvinces) | 6.19 | 7.88 |
| Italy (other Regions) | 147.49 | 118.19 |
| Europe (other Nations) | 2.52 | 0 |
| <i>Totale</i> | <i>200</i> | <i>200</i> |



| Origin | 2012/2013 | 2013/2014 |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| | t potatoes | t potatoes |
| Torino Province | 8.63 | 35.29 |
| Alessandria Province | 57.6 | 200.74 |
| Cuneo Province | 28.02 | 55.19 |
| Piemonte (other Pvinces) | 4.75 | 8.77 |
| Italy (other Regions) | 110.43 | 0 |
| Europe (other Nations) | 90.57 | 0 |
| <i>Totale</i> | <i>300</i> | <i>300</i> |



6.92 tCO₂ 5.80 tCO₂



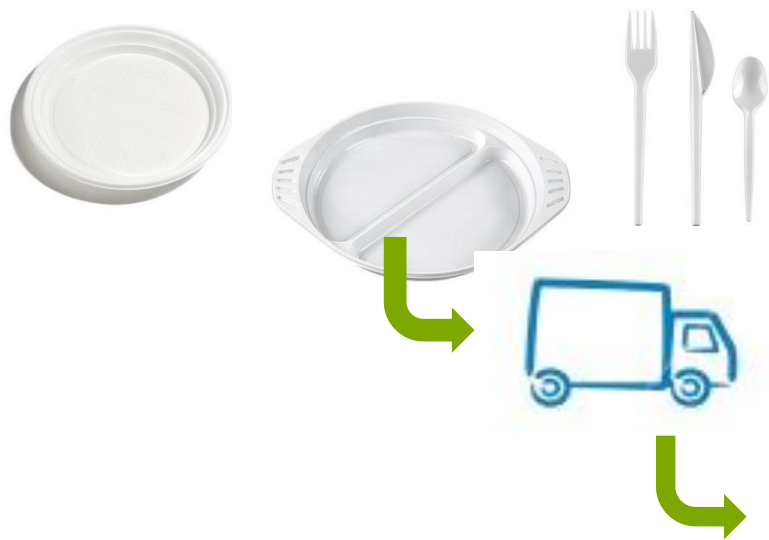
7.60 tCO₂ 3.32 tCO₂

e.g. GPP2 – Local provisioning of food

| | School year 2012/2013 | | School year 2013/2014 | | Emission save | Variation |
|---------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Product | Origin | tCO ₂ eq | Origin | tCO ₂ eq | tCO ₂ eq | % |
| Apples | Piedmont | 3.41 | Piedmont | 3.41 | 0.00 | 0% |
| Pears | UE supply-chain | 1.32 | Piedmont | 0.70 | -0.62 | -47% |
| Peaches | UE supply-chain | 1.66 | Piedmont | 0.69 | -0.97 | -58% |
| Potatos | UE supply-chain | 7.60 | Piedmont | 3.32 | -4.28 | -56% |
| Carrots | UE supply-chain | 6.92 | Italy | 5.80 | -1.12 | -16% |

Comparison of total greenhouse gas emissions of the five supply-chains studied in the school year 2013/2014 and a scenario with the situation in school year 2012/2013

e.g. GPP3 - Washable tableware and Tableware in Mater-Bi®



*Disposable
tableware*





e.g. GPP3 - Washable tableware and Tableware in Mater-Bi®



**Washable
tableware**



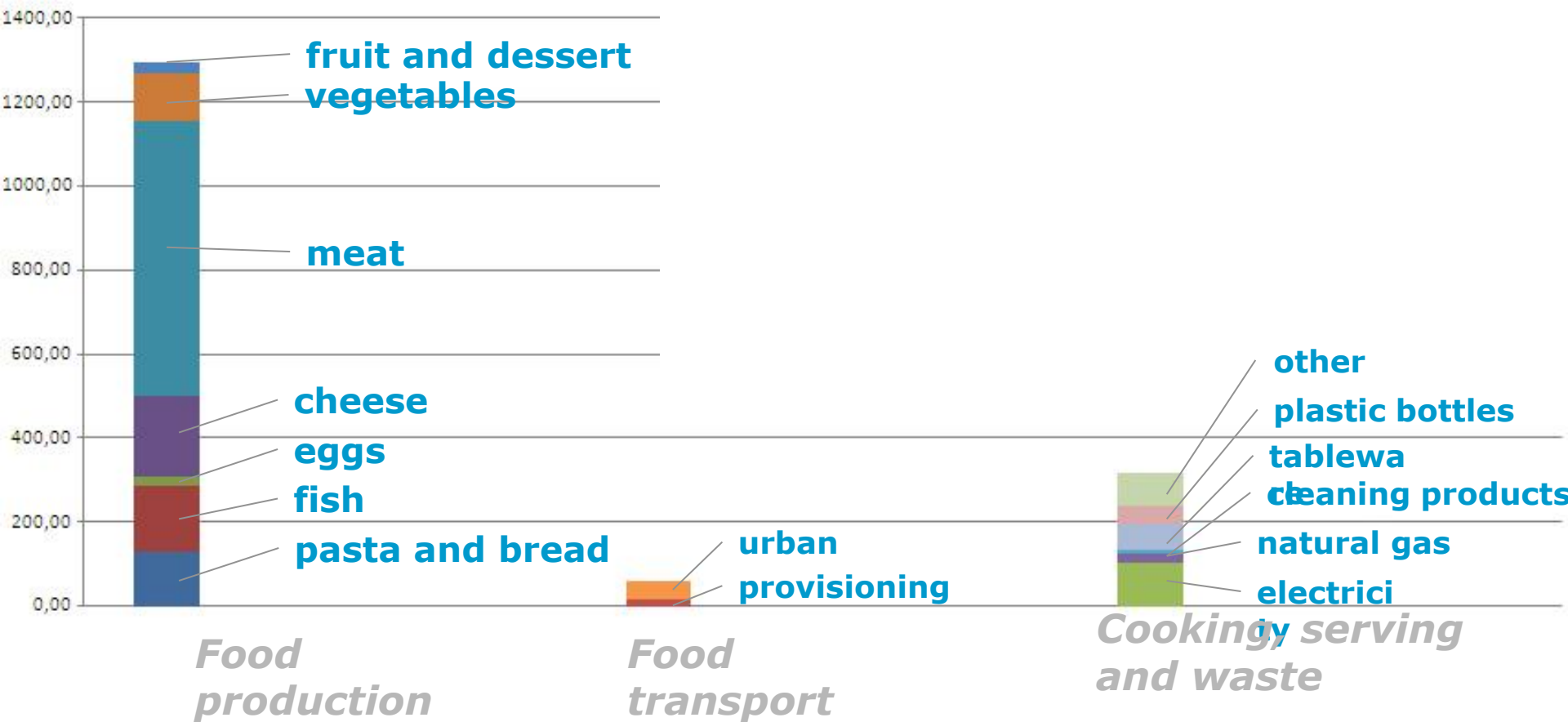
e.g. GPP3 - Washable tableware and Tableware in Mater-Bi®

| | Carbon Footprint [tCO ₂ eq/anno] | |
|---|--|---|
| Disposable Tableware-Polypropylene Polystyrene | 295.81 |  |
| Primary packaging Polyethylene | 20.20 | |
| Secondary packing (cardboard) | 171.27 | |
| DISPOSABLE TABLEWARE | 487.28 | |
| Production of melamine dishes | 95.45 |  |
| Washing of plates and cutlery | 42.55 | |
| Washing of glasses | 42.55 | |
| WASHABLE TABLEWARE (EXCLUDING TRANSPORT) | 180.55 | 306,73 (-63%) |
| Transport of tableware | 107.32 | |
| WASHABLE TABLEWARE (INCLUDING TRANSPORT) | 287.87 | 199,41 (-41%) |
| Mater-Bi® life cycle | | |
| COMPOSTABLE TABLEWARE | 373.54 | 113,74 (-32%) |

7. Result of the full assessment and options for further improvements

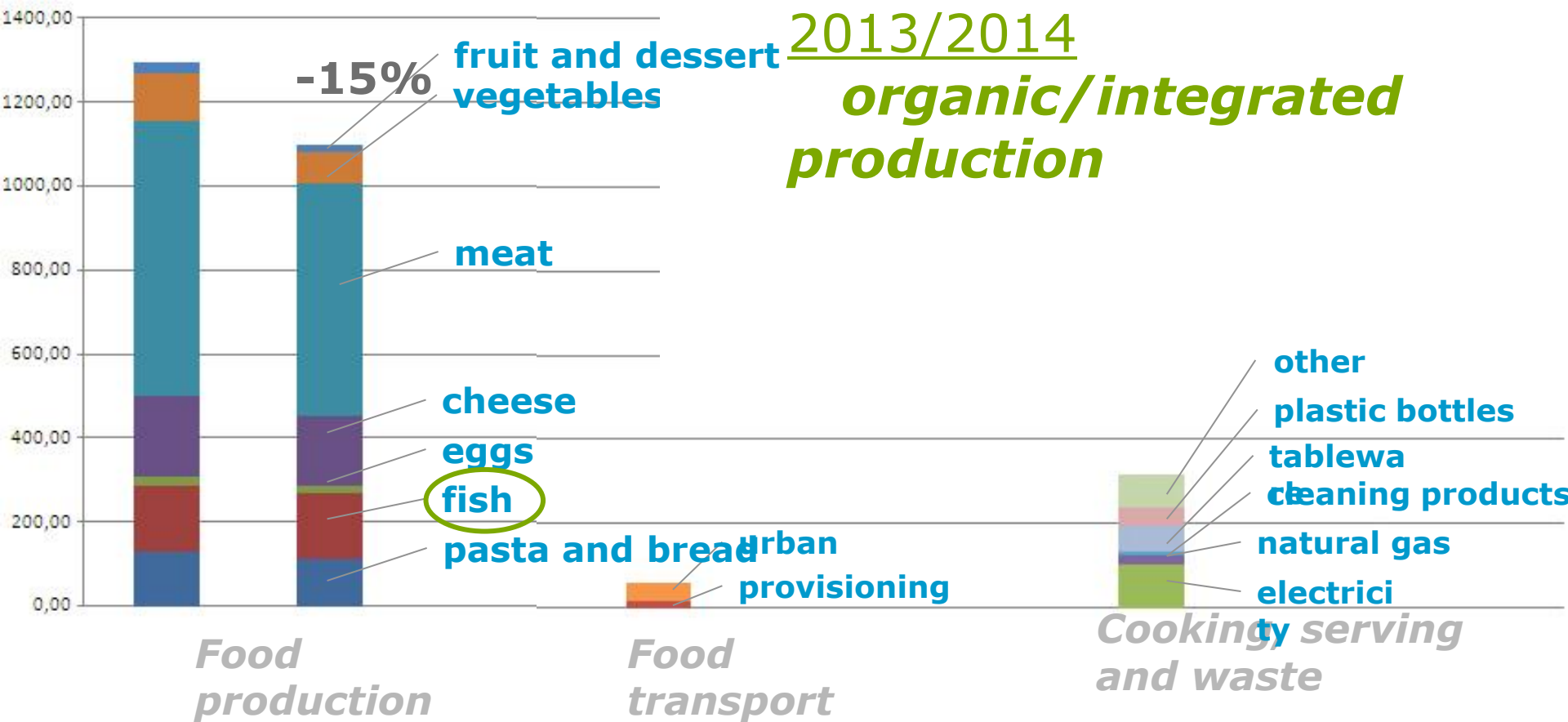
The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



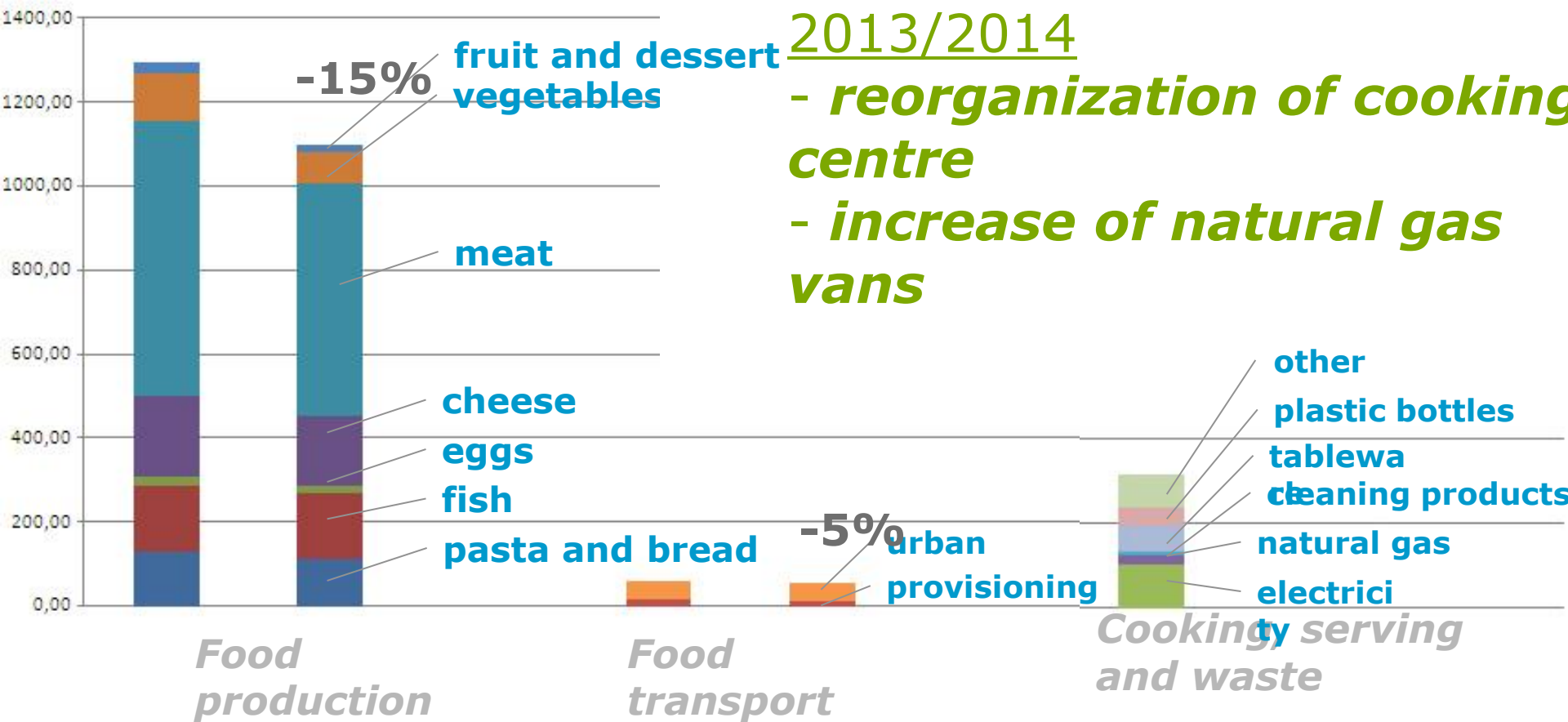
The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



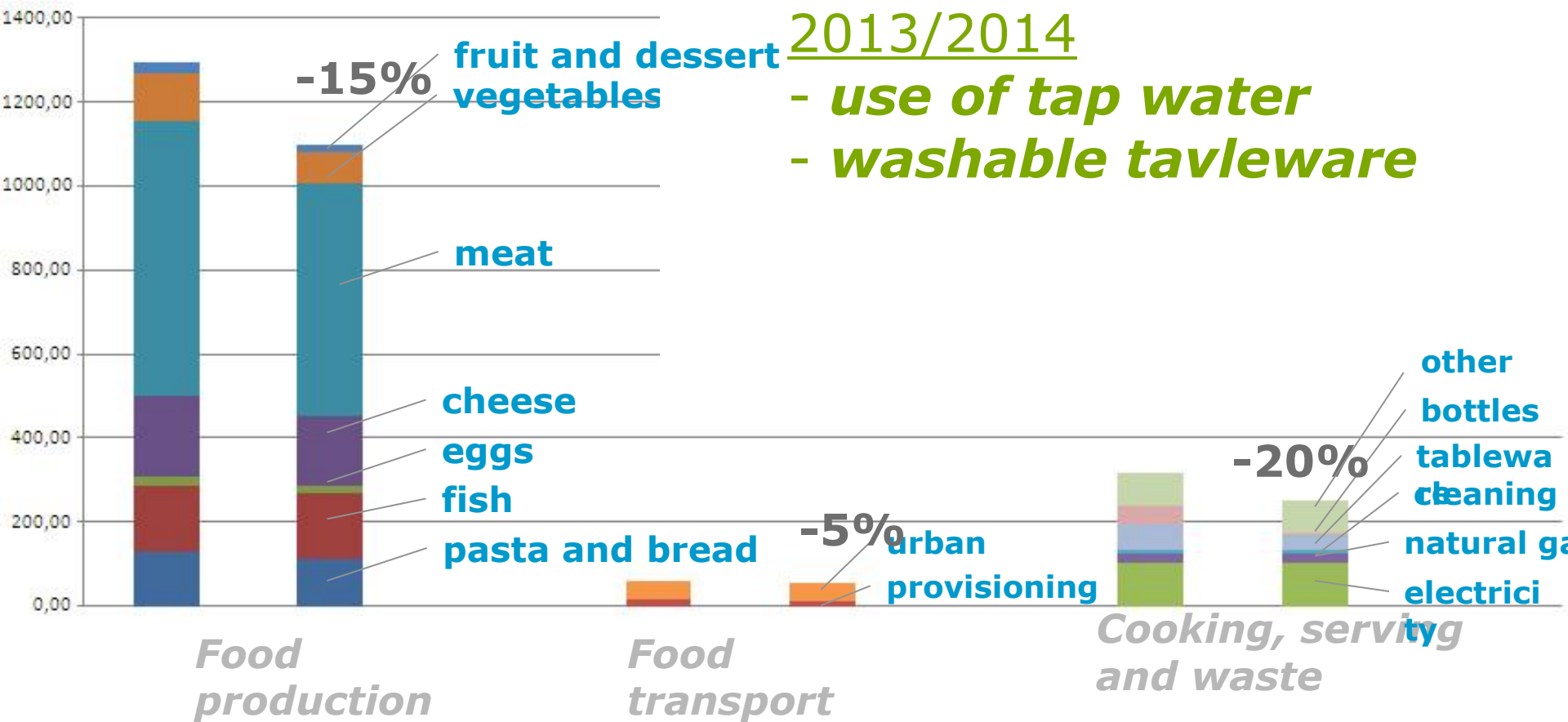
The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



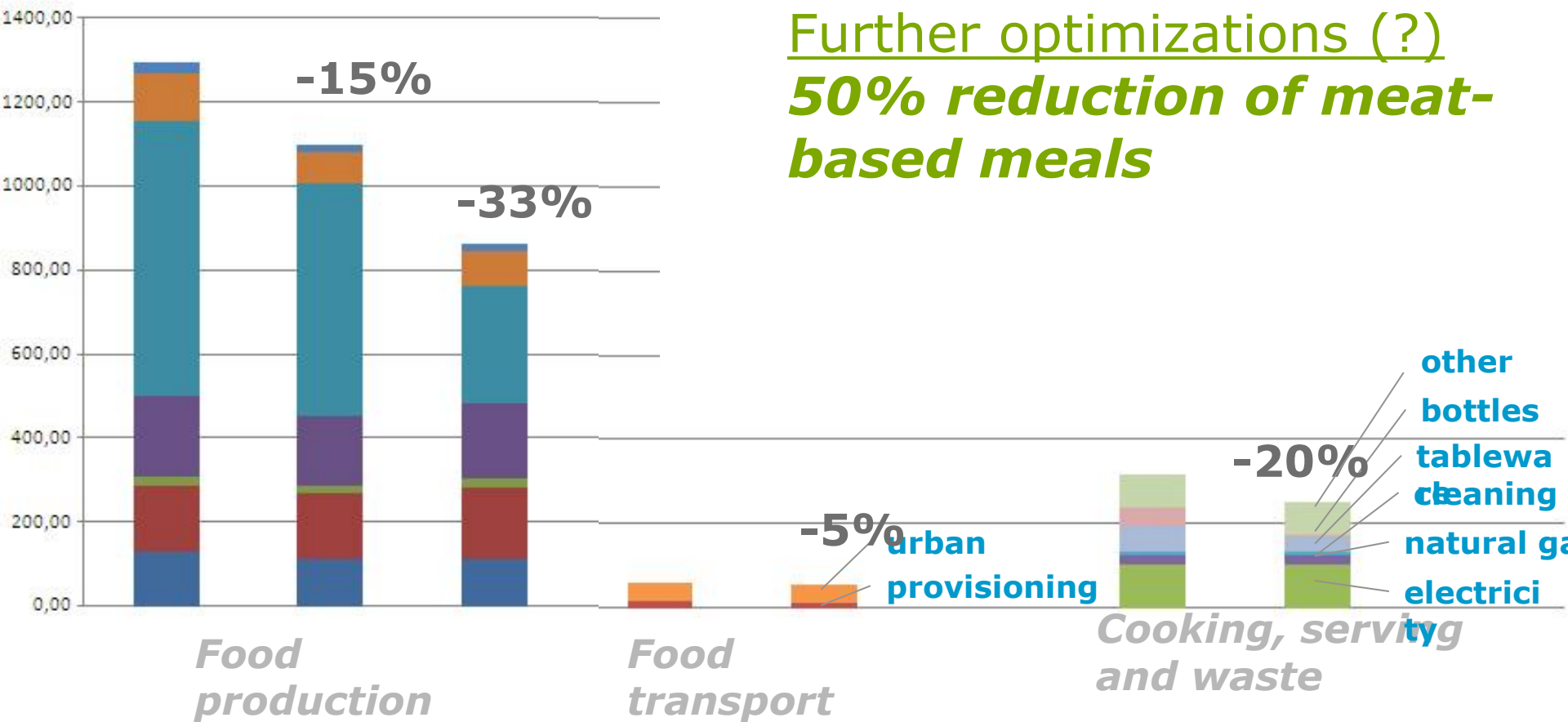
The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

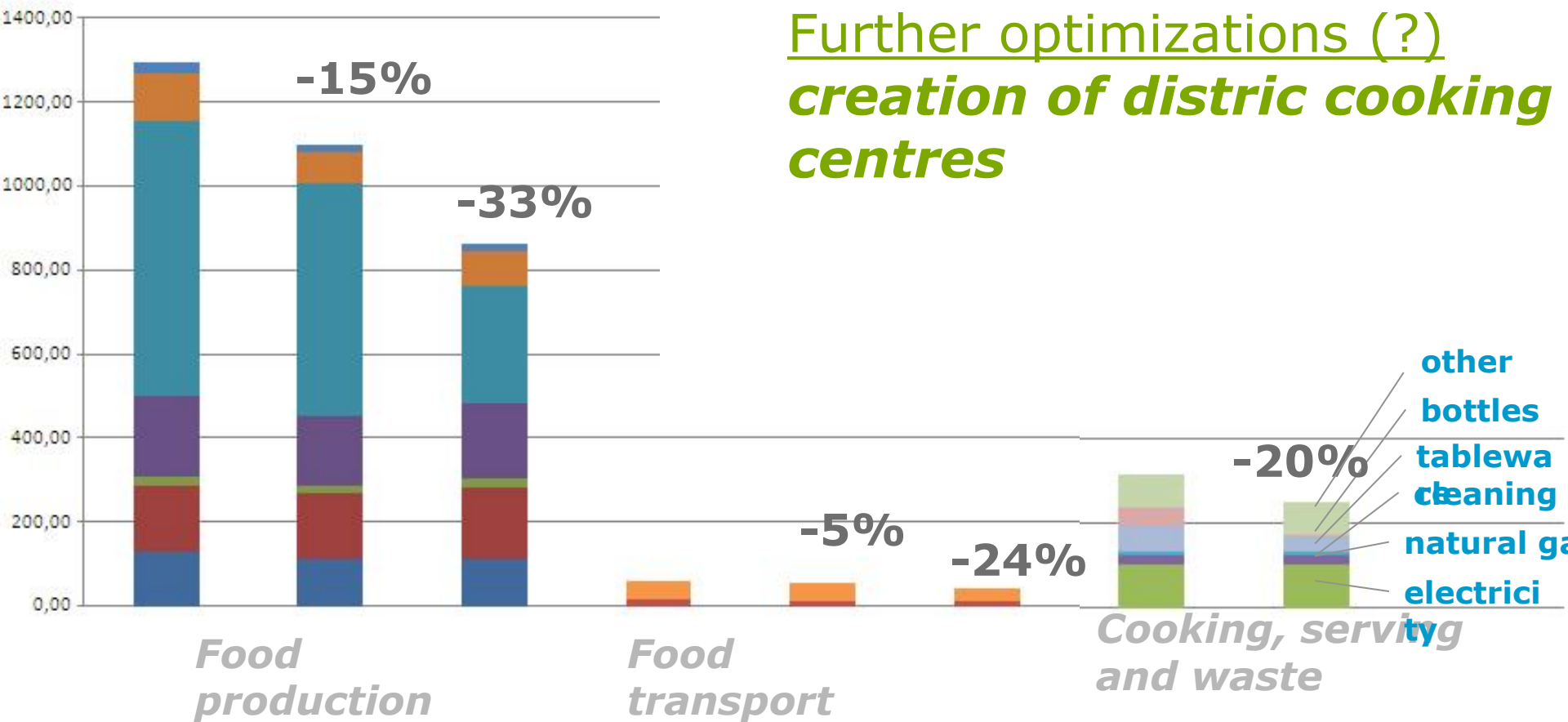
gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



Further optimizations (?)
50% reduction of meat-based meals

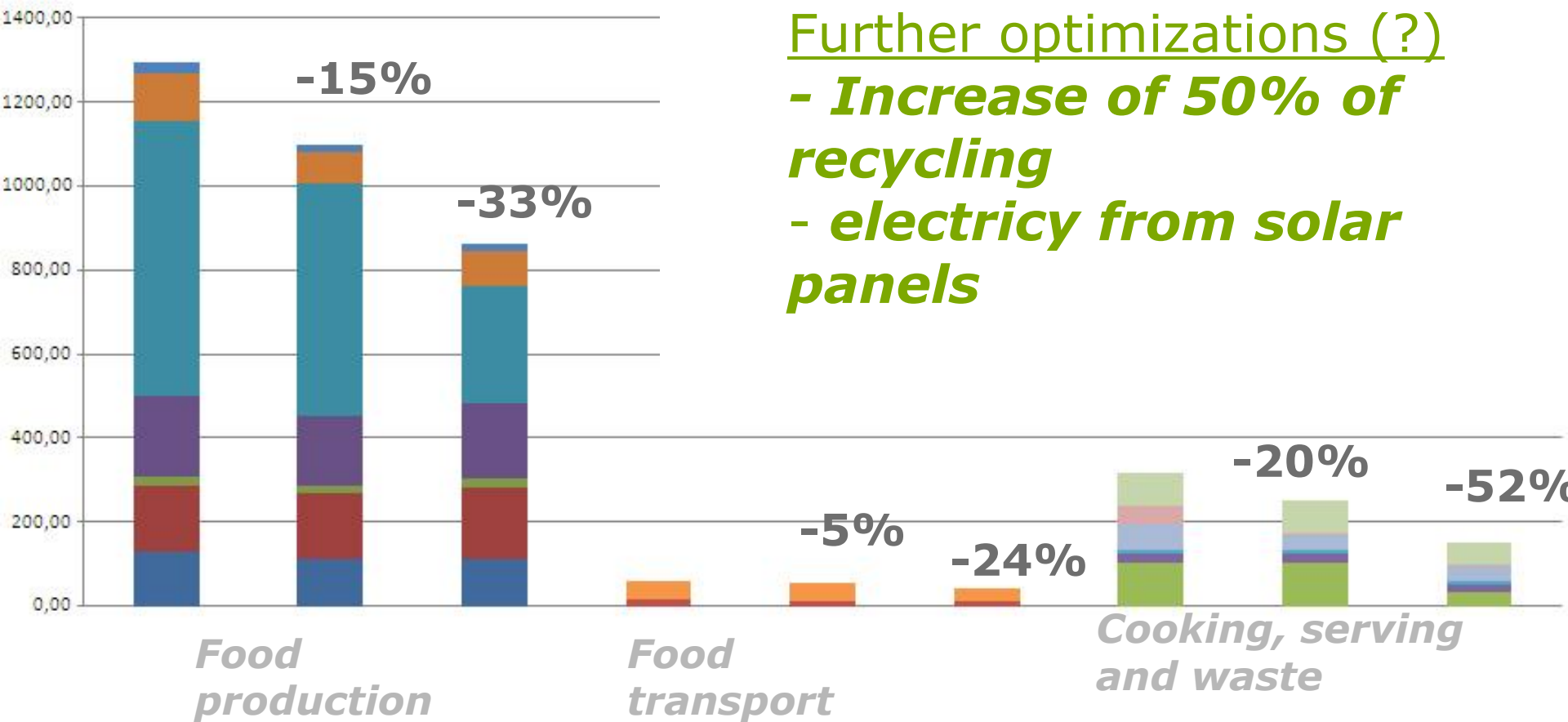
The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



The Carbon Footprint of the full catering service

gCO₂ equivalent for the average meal



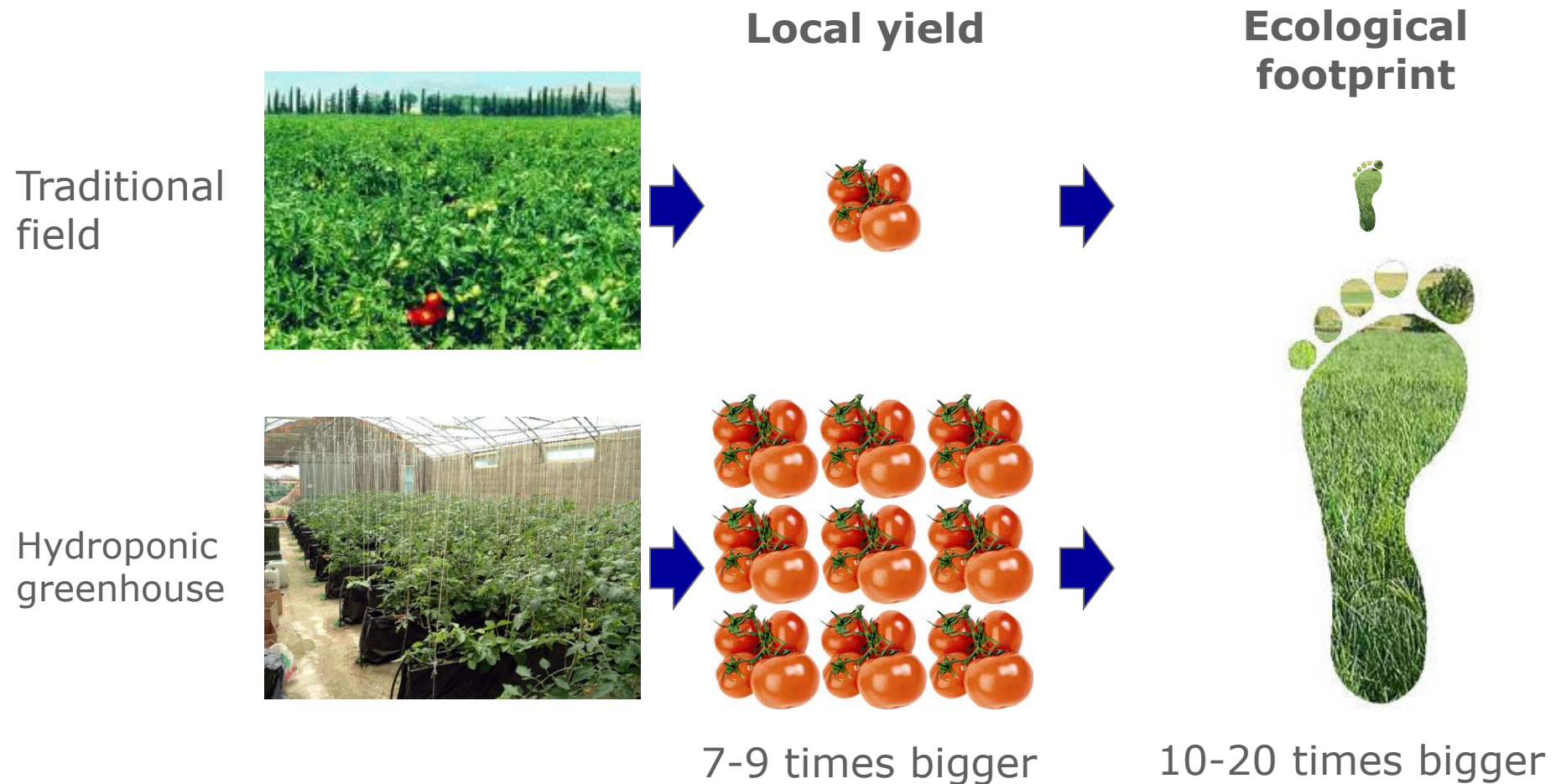
Further optimizations (?)

- Increase of 50% of recycling

- electricity from solar panels

8. Remarks on regenerative production systems

Wada, Y., 1993. **The appropriated carrying capacity of tomato production: comparing the ecological footprints of hydroponic greenhouse and mechanized field operations.** Ph.D. Thesis. University of British Columbia



A matter of power!

In physics, **power** is the rate of doing work. It is equivalent to an amount of energy consumed per unit time.

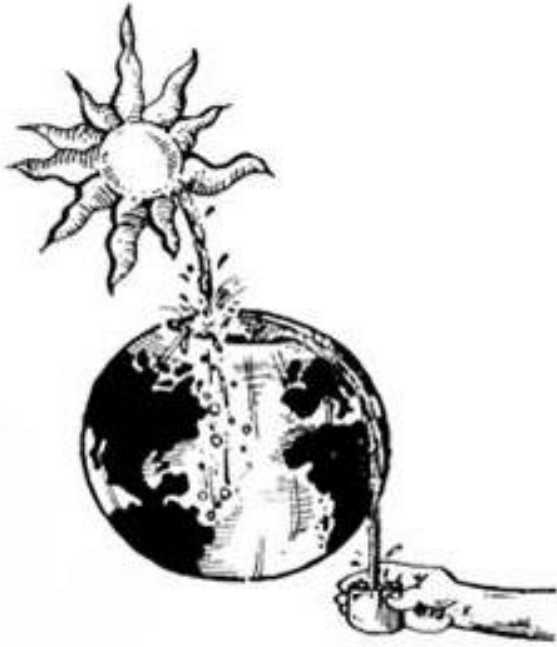
↑ High power
↓ Low resilience



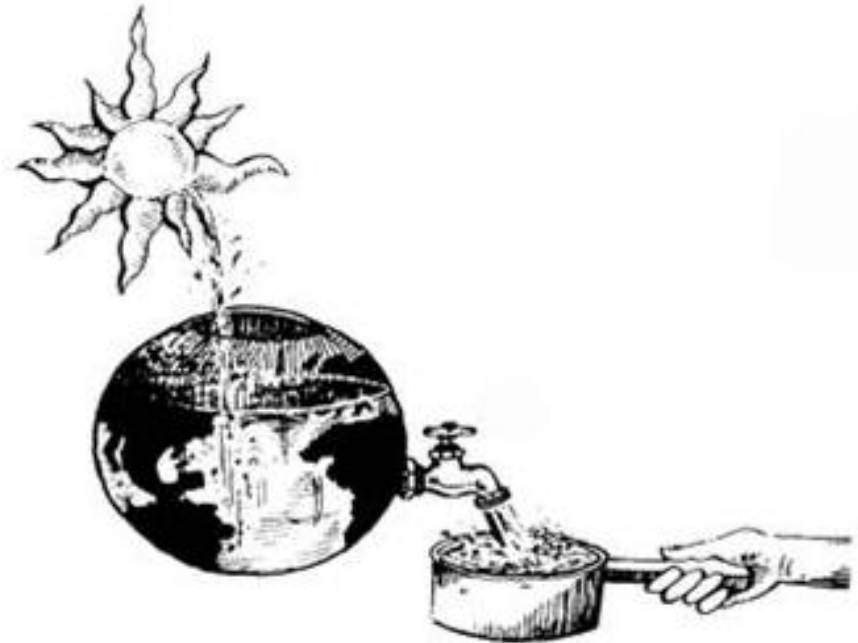
↓ Low power
↑ High resilience



Themodynamic equilibrium



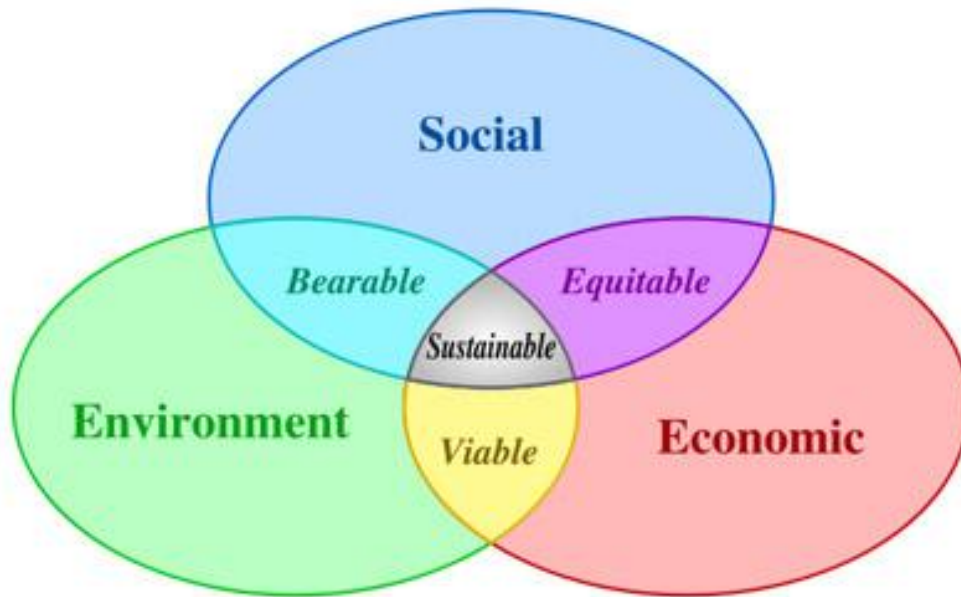
Stationay system



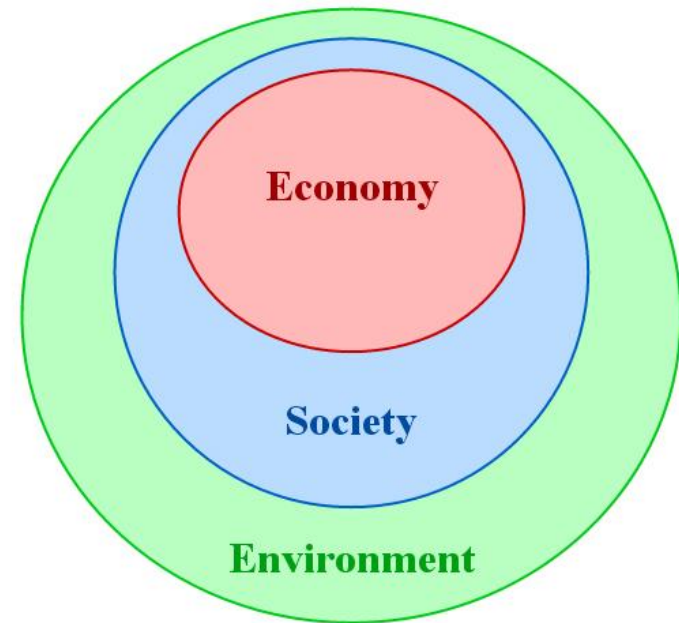
Transient system

Wackernagel, M., & Rees, W. (1998). *Our ecological footprint: reducing human impact on the earth* (No. 9). New Society Publishers.

WEAK SUSTAINABILITY



STRONG SUSTAINABILITY



"Nested sustainability-v2" by KTucker - Own work. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons

WEAK SUSTAINABILITY

Natural capital **can** be substituted by human capital

Technological approach

Reducing environmental impacts without changing lifestyles

STRONG SUSTAINABILITY

Natural capital **cannot** be substituted by human capital

Ecological approach

Maintaining ecosystem resilience at any price



WEAK SUSTAINABILITY

Improve resource use efficiency thorough machineries and materials development, but without changing consumption patterns.

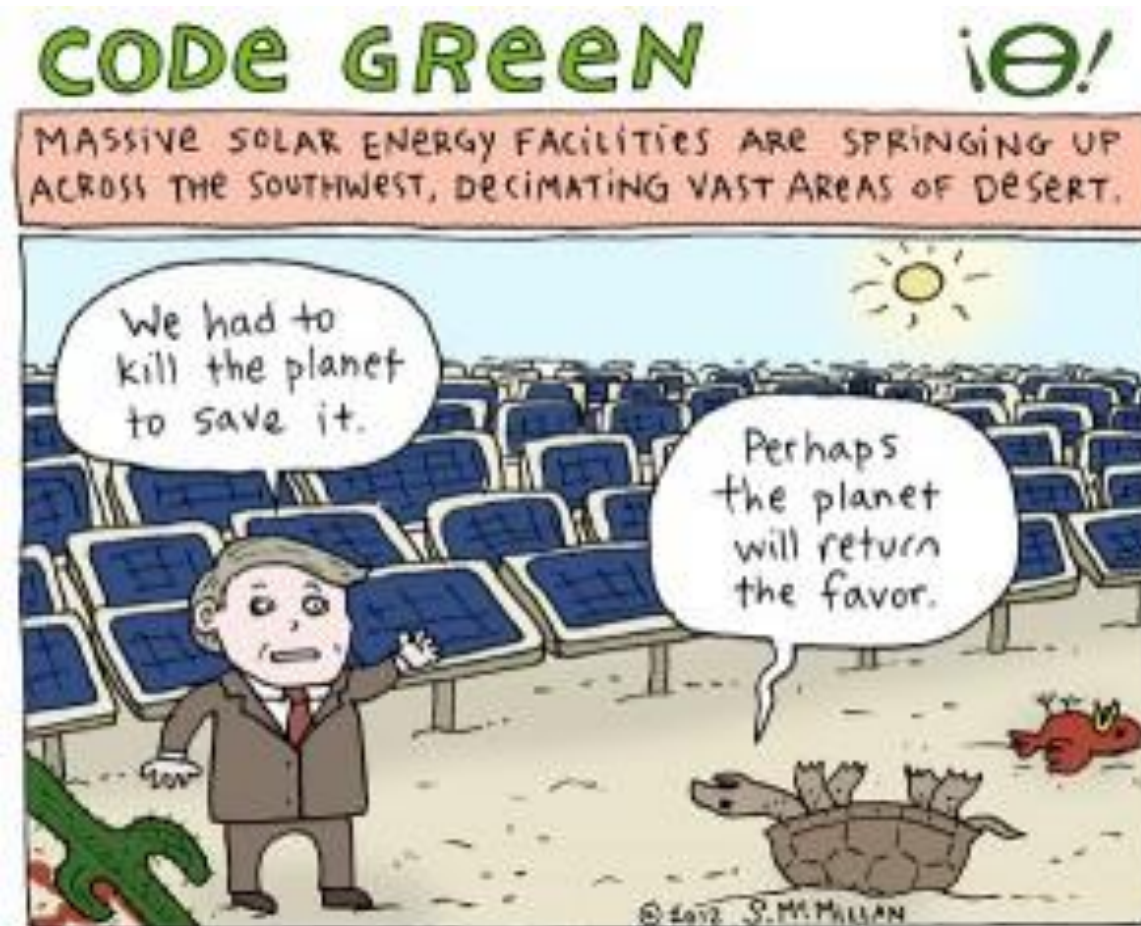


***Carbon
credits***

STRONG SUSTAINABILITY

Investigate on productive systems in order to improve the resilience of the ecosystems and to lower the impact on environment even if solution would decrease yield.





<http://www.stephaniemcmillan.org/codegreen/>

Eating City Summer Campus
UNITED 4 FOOD - For a Regenerative Food System
La Bergerie de Villarceaux
France – 12-19 August 2015



Grazie dell'attenzione

Thank you for the attention

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