



ANIMAL &
DAIRY SCIENCES
University of Wisconsin-Madison



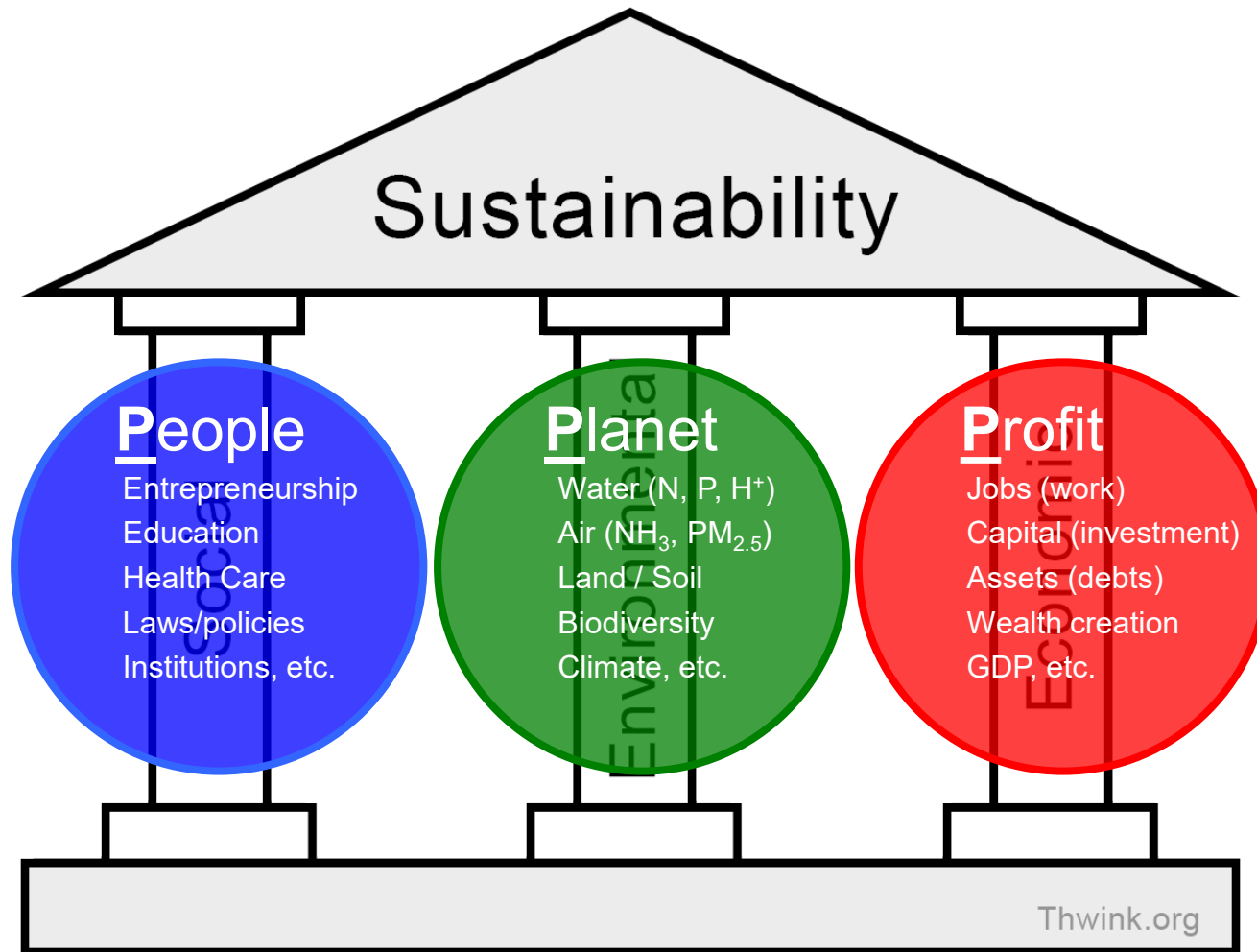
Climate-Smart Dairy and Dairy System Sustainability in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals

Michel A. Wattiaux

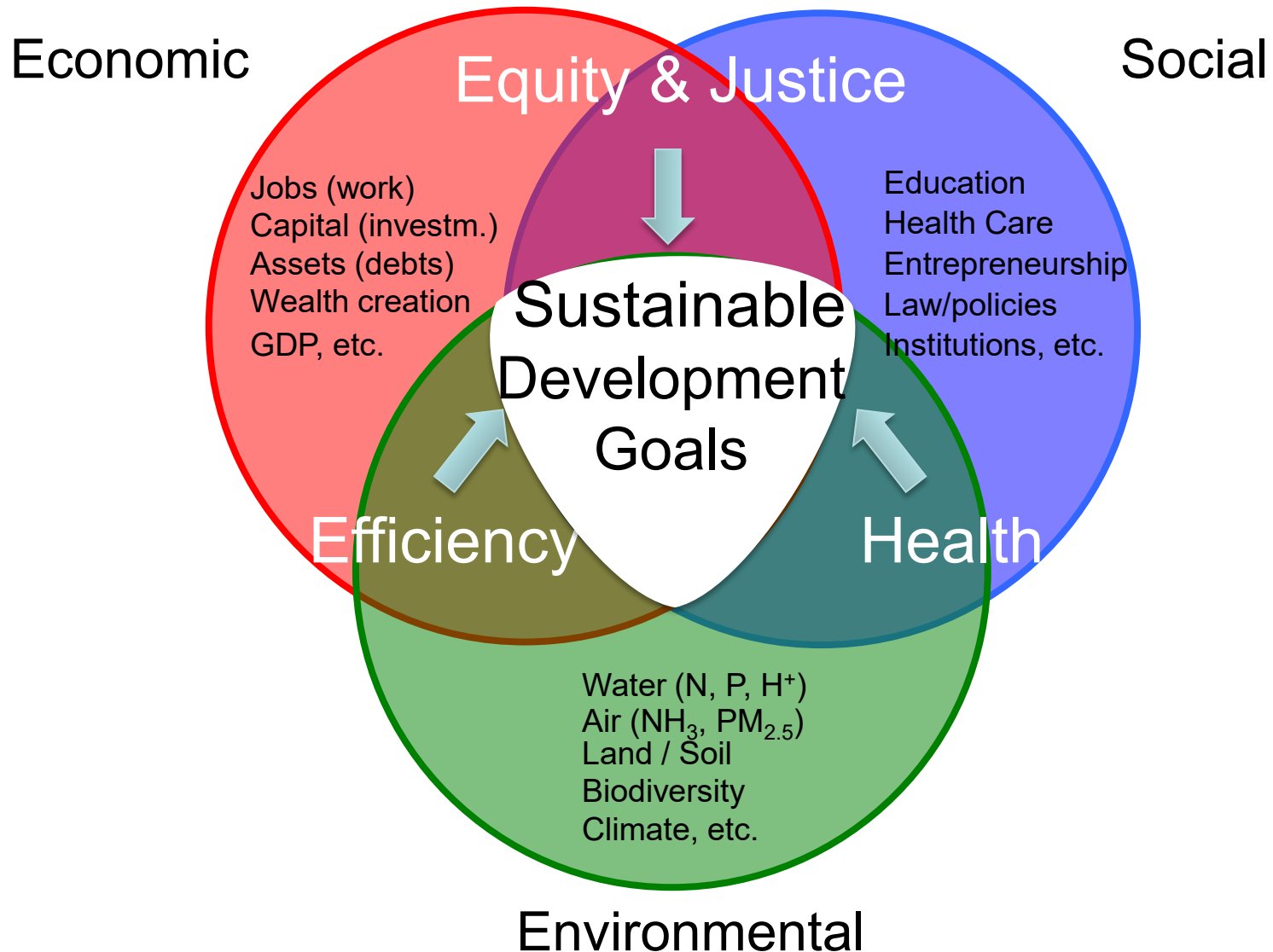
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- 1. Sustainability, Sustainable Development Goals, Climate-Smart Agriculture**
- 2: Climate-Smart-Agriculture
 - 2.1. Climate Change
 - 2.2. Adaptation / resilience / planetary boundaries
 - 2.3. Mitigation / reduction
- 3: Case Study 2: Switzerland as a Case Study
- 4: Final thoughts



Sustainable Development



Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



The global indicator framework includes **231 unique indicators**.

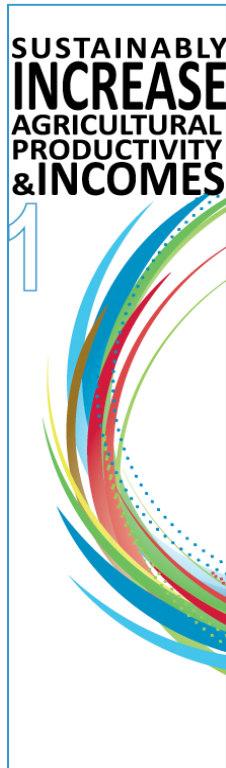
Challenges and Opportunities



Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)

Food Security:

Sustainably increase
productivity and incomes



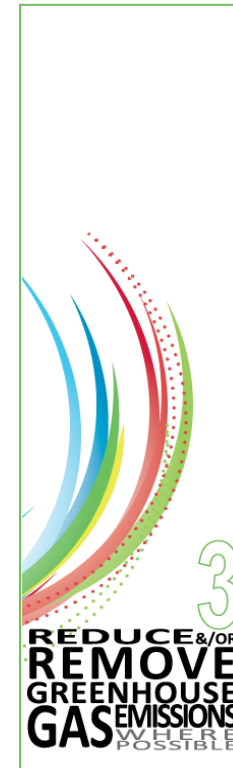
Adaptation:

Strengthen resilience to
climate change



Mitigation:

Reduce and/or remove
greenhouse gas emissions

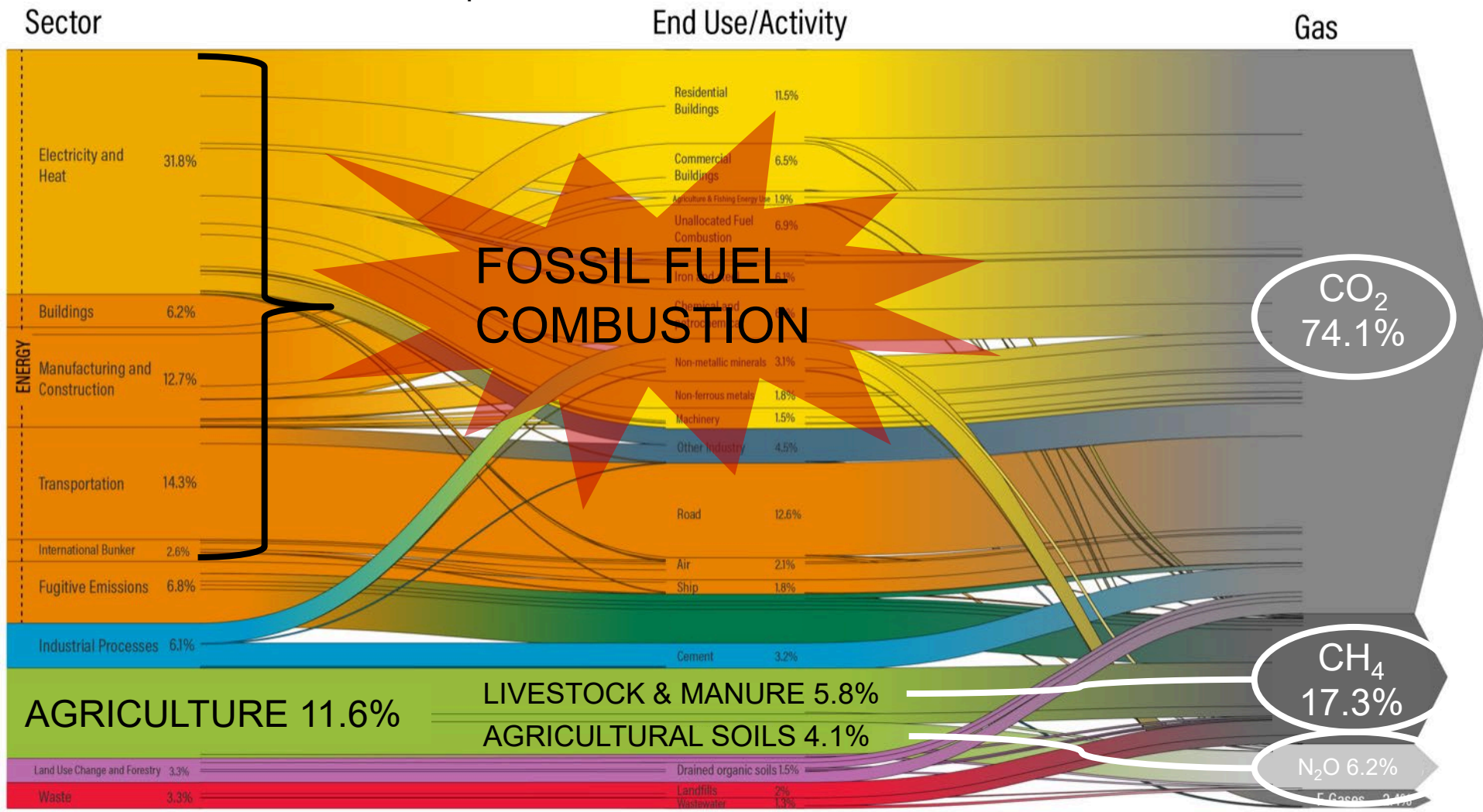




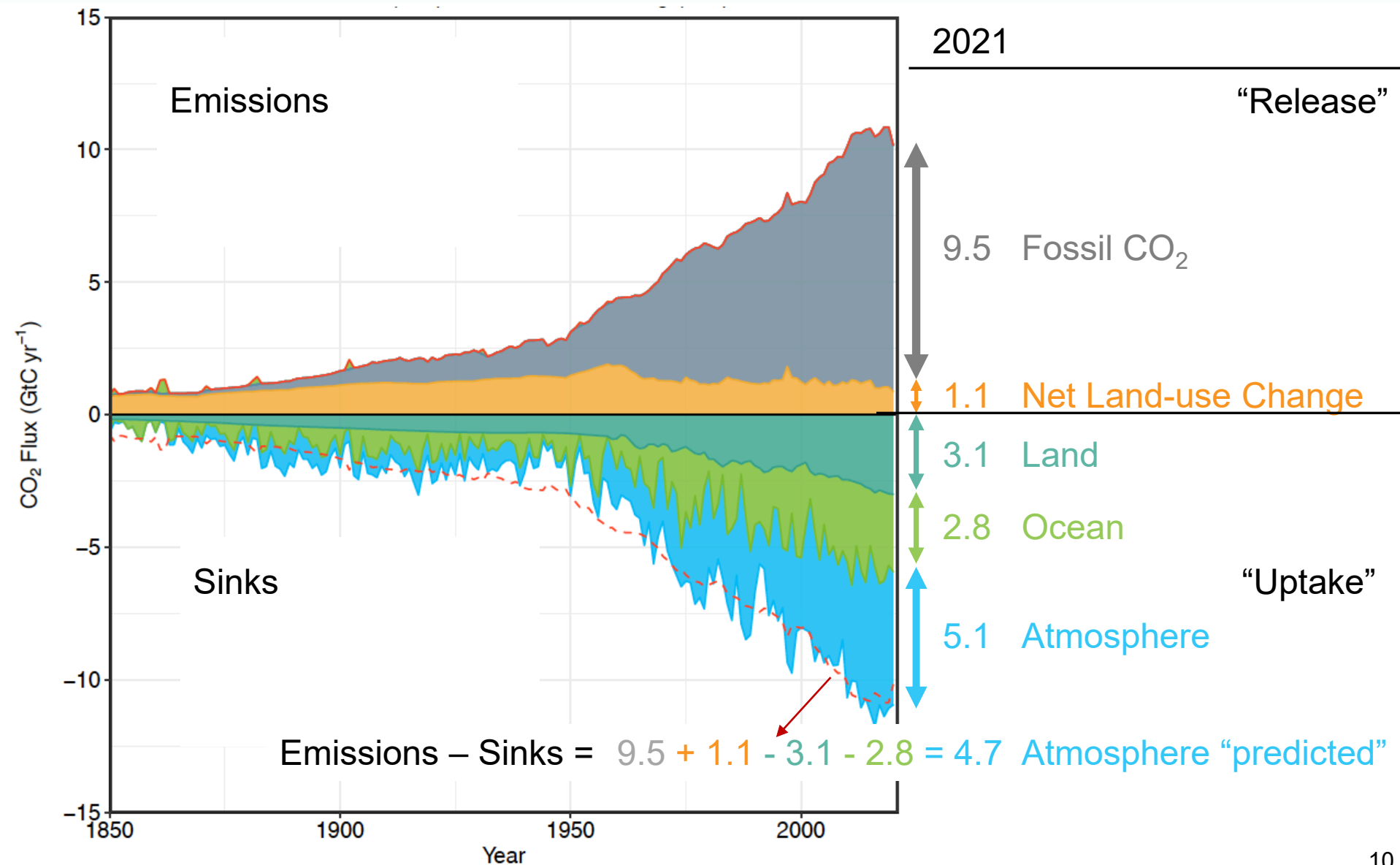
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World Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2019

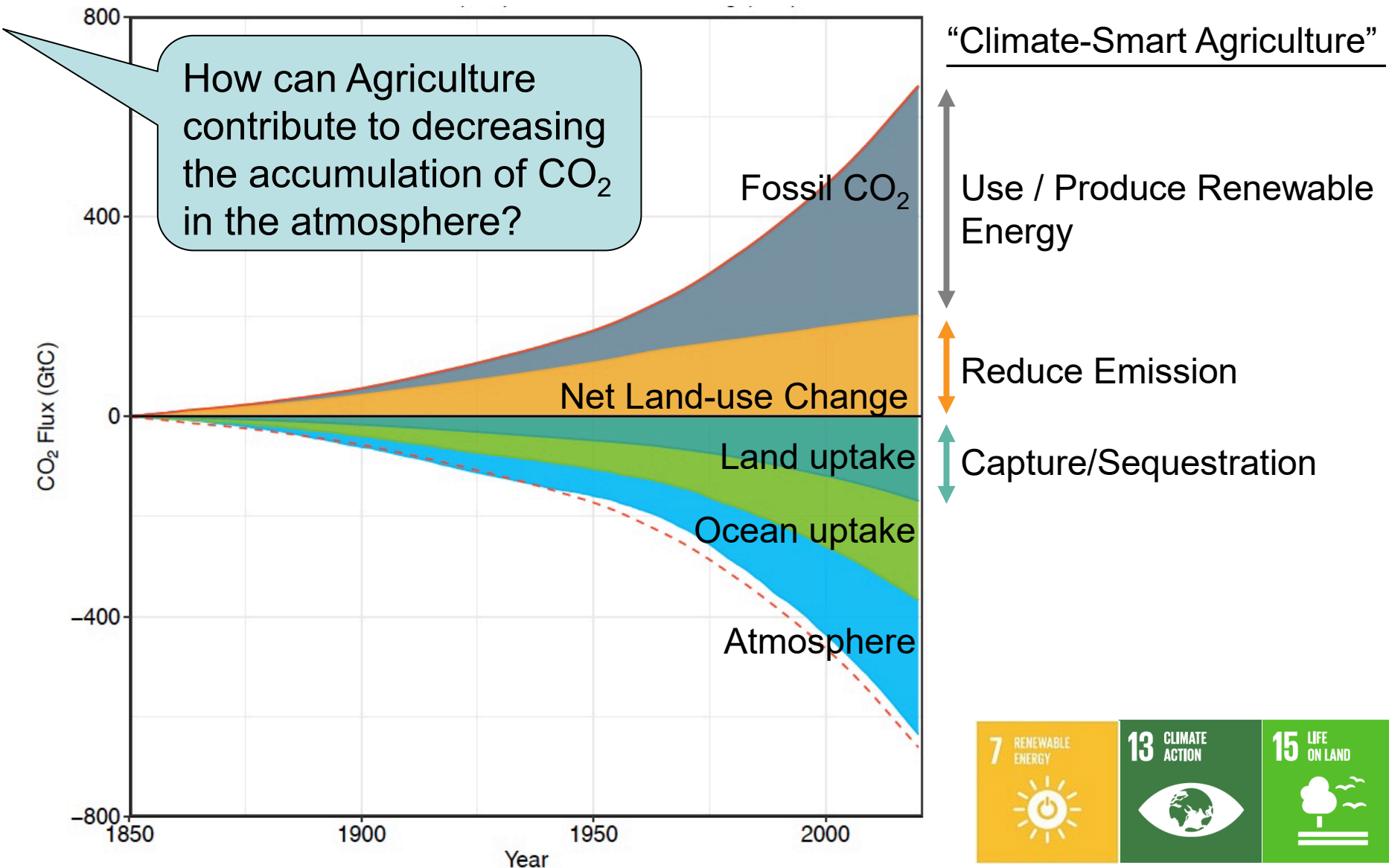
Total: 49.8 Gt CO₂-eq



Annual Global Carbon Budget 1850-2021



Cumulative Global Carbon Budget 1850-2021



SDG 13: Climate Action



SDG 13 urges national governments to integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and plans to combat climate change and its impact.

As one of the 8 indicators of this goal, **indicator 13.2.2.** refers to [reduction of] **total emission of greenhouse gases per year** (UN-SD, 2022)

World Dairy Sector between 2005 y 2015

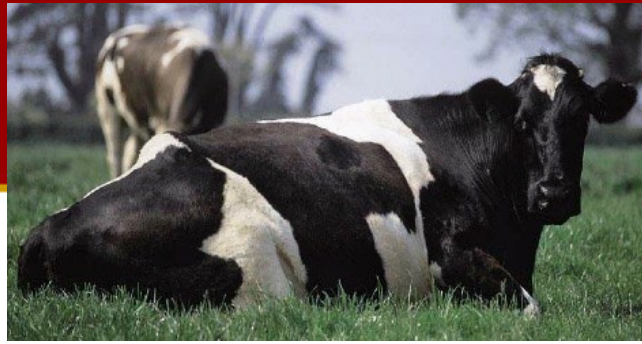


- +11%** Milking cow number
- +15%** Milk production per cow (productivity)
- +30%** World milk supply

-11% Milk carbon footprint
(2.8 vs 2.5 kg CO_{2-eq}/kg)

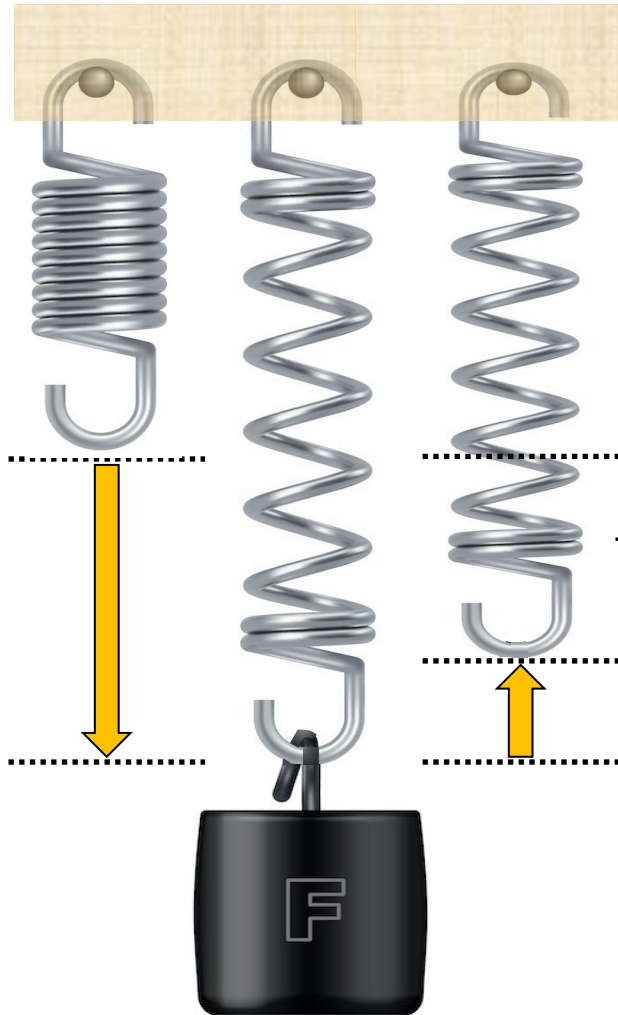
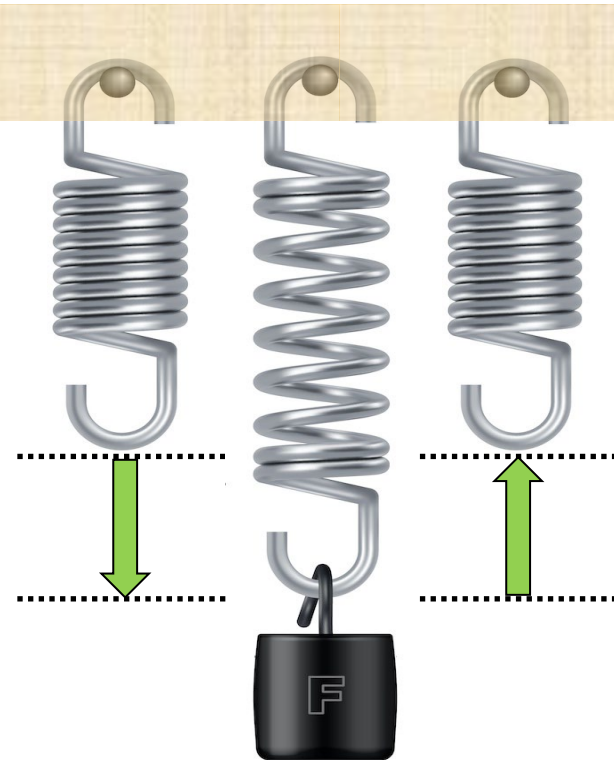
+18% Total emission of CO_{2-eq}

Total emission of CO_{2-e} if cow productivity had not changed **+38%**



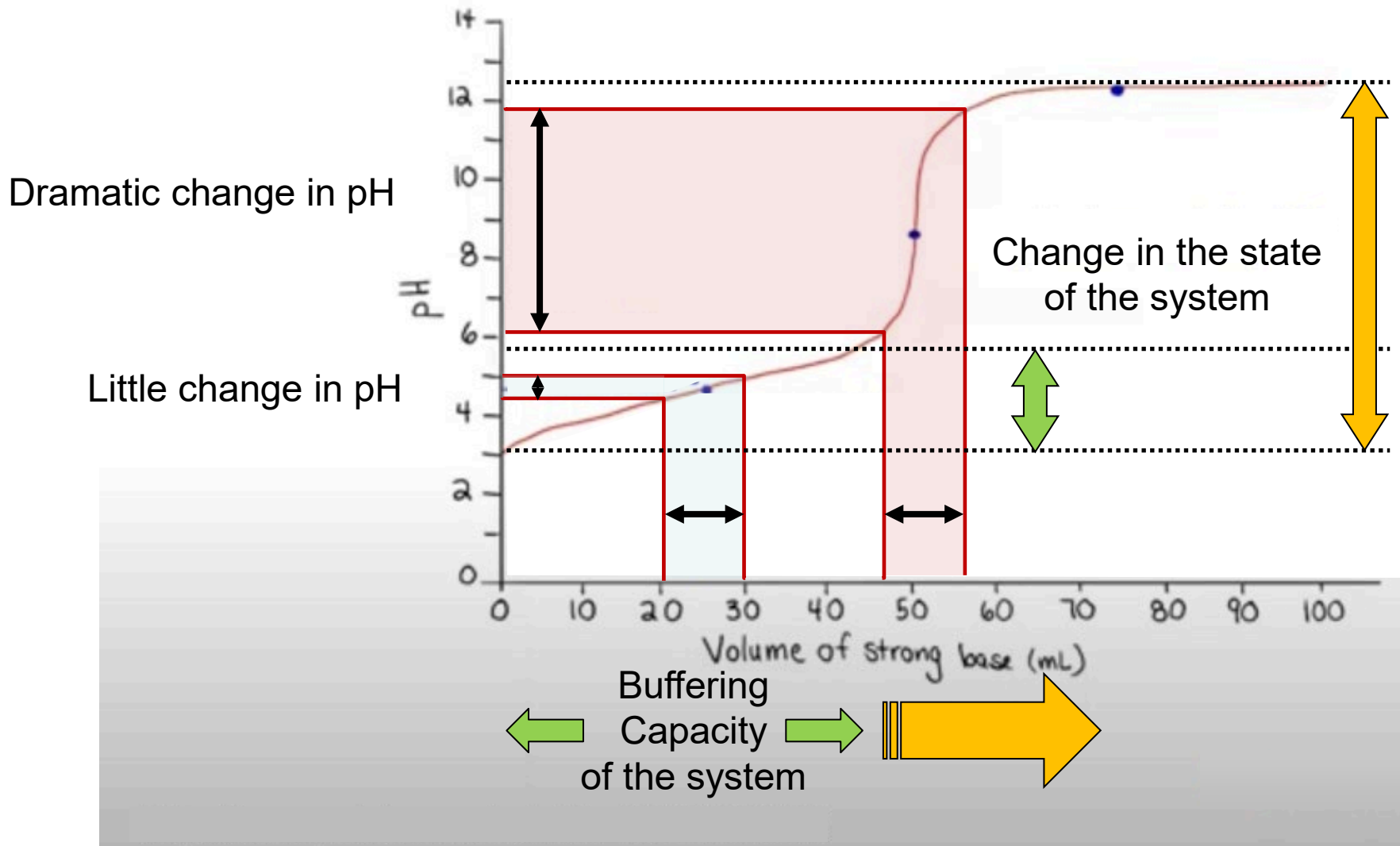
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Resistance to Change: Physics Analogy

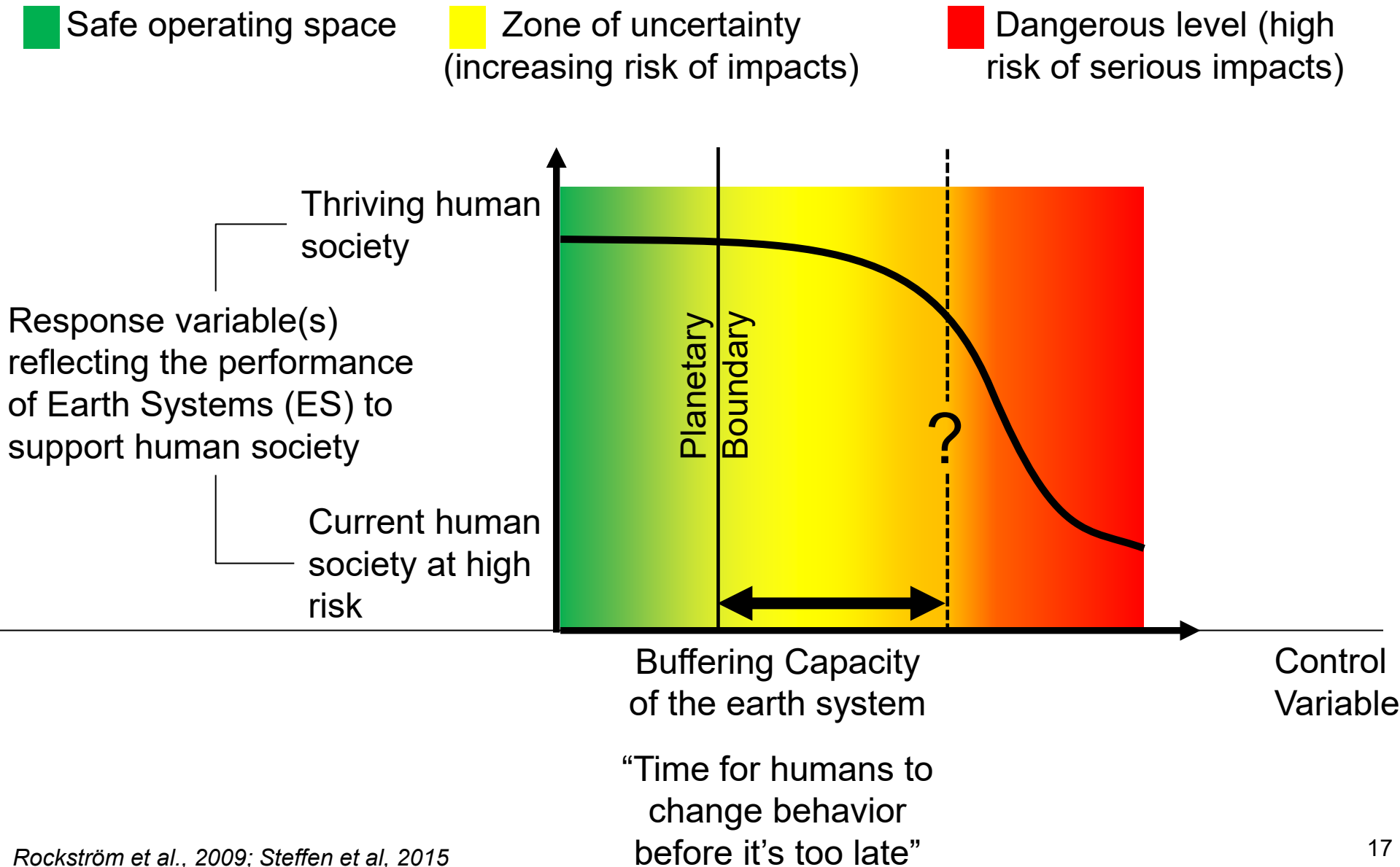


Permanent change in
the state of the system
(coiled spring)

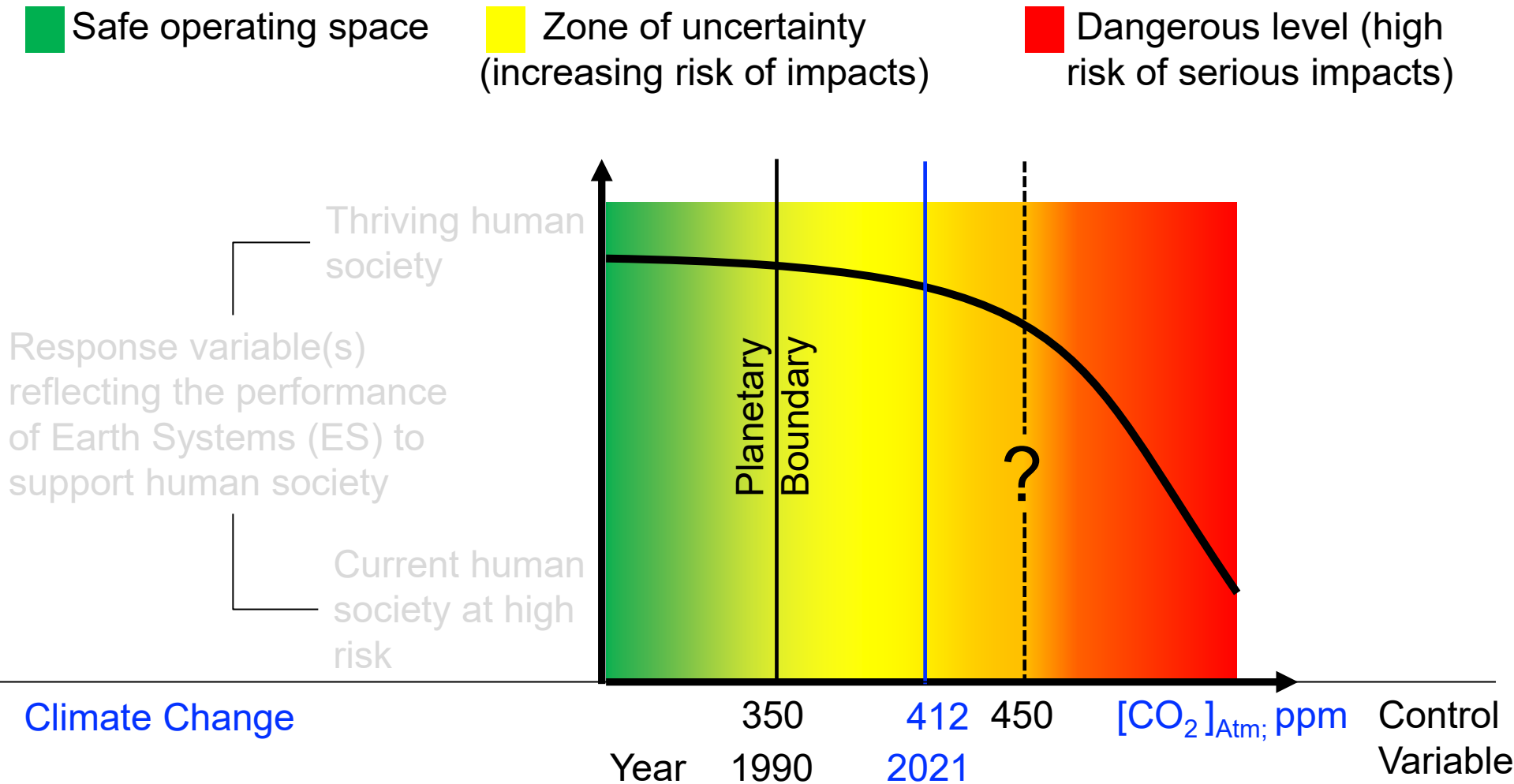
Resistance to Change: Chemistry Analogy



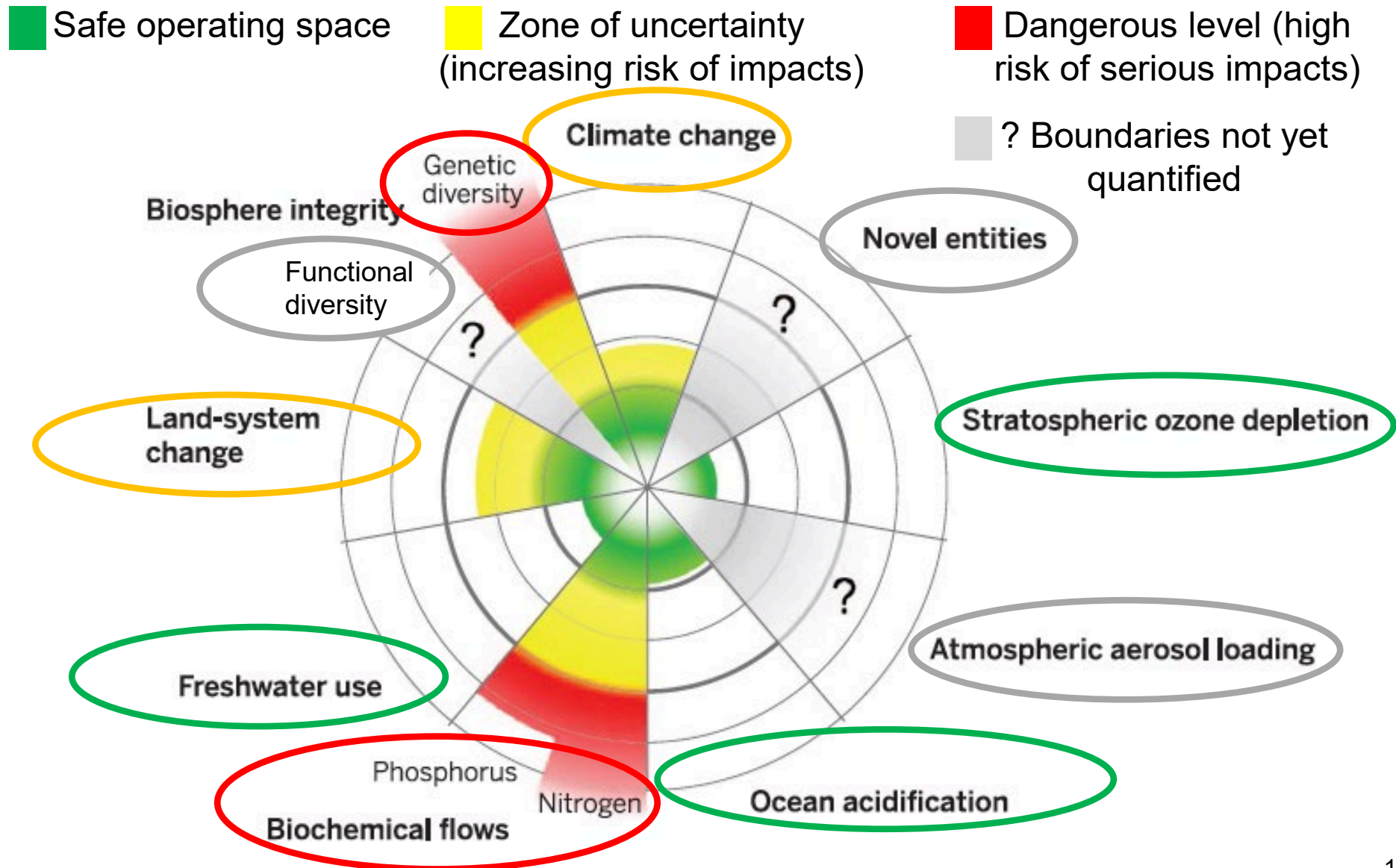
Planetary Boundaries (Guiding Human Development on a Changing Planet)



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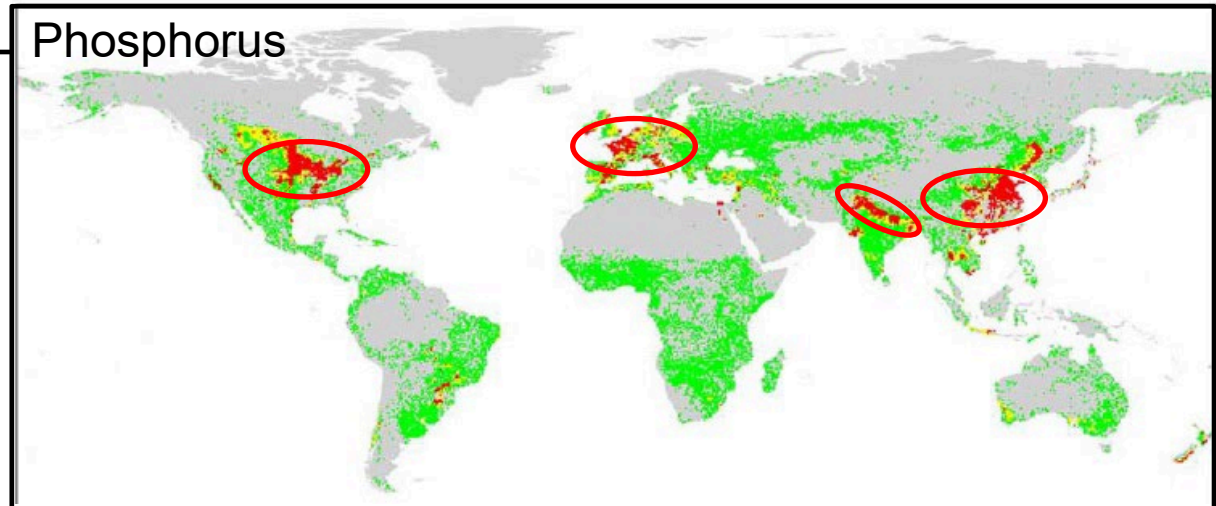
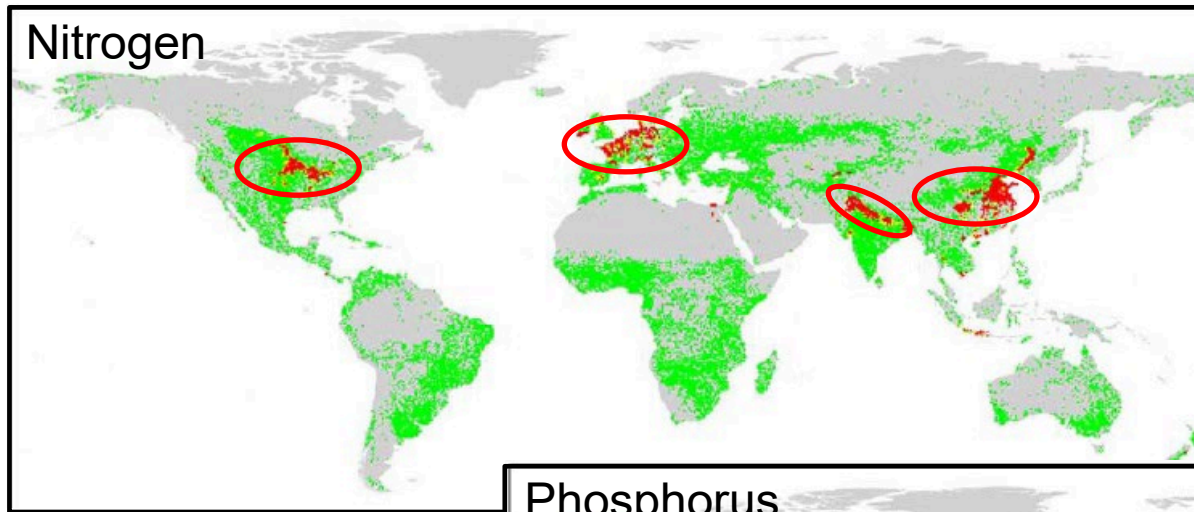


Planetary Boundaries (Guiding Human Development on a Changing Planet)



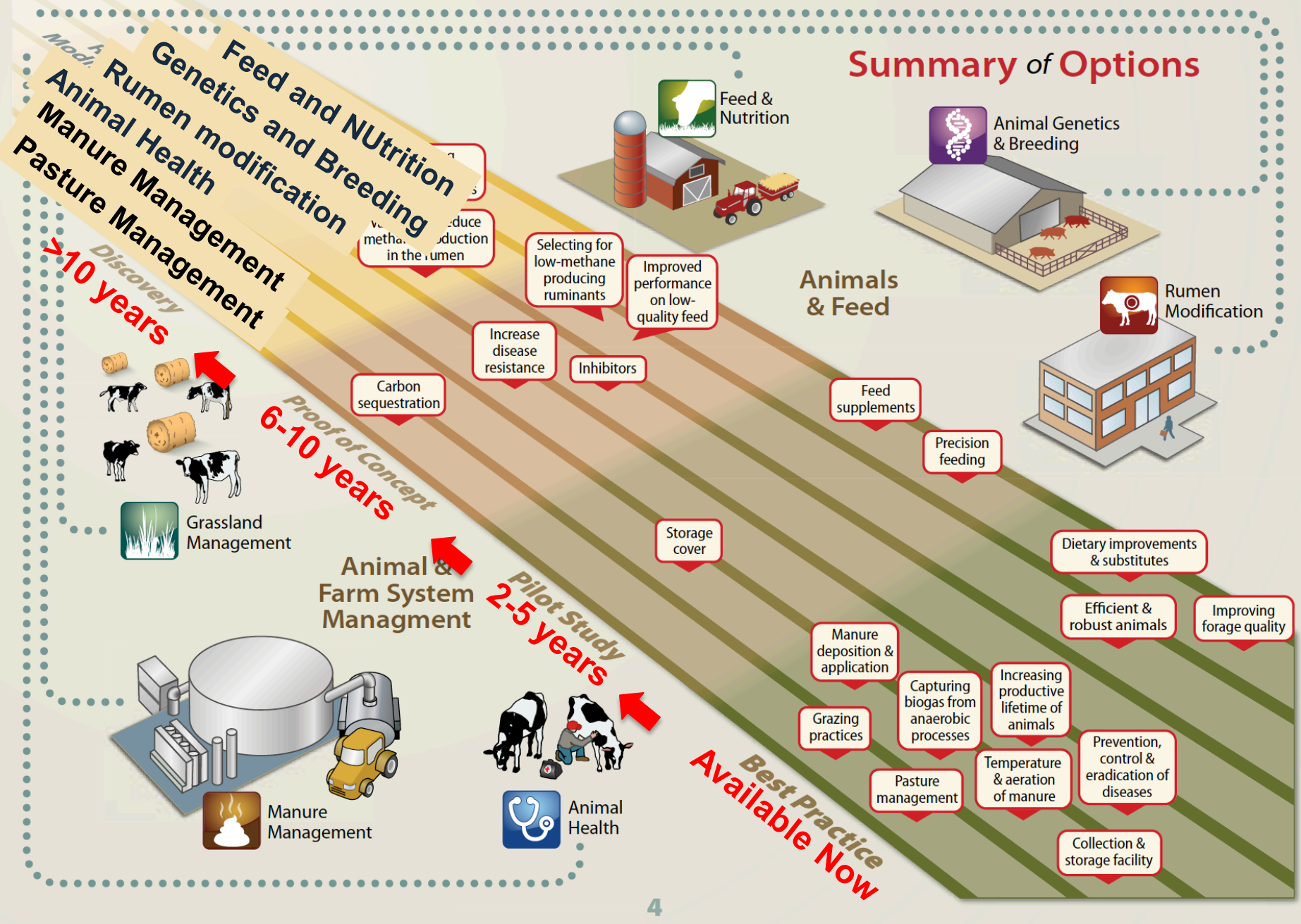
Not Everyone Contribute Equally!

- Safe operating space ■ Zone of uncertainty (increasing risk of impacts) ■ Dangerous level (high risk of serious impacts)





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Options to Reduce Emissions



N_2O

- ✓ Fertilization
- ✓ Diversity
- ✓ Legumes
- ✓ Genetics
- ✓ Grazing



CH_4

- ✓ Nutrition
- ✓ Breeding
- ✓ Reproduction
- ✓ Health



N_2O

CH_4

- ✓ Solid / Liquid
- ✓ Storage time
- ✓ Processing
- ✓ Nutrient Mgt



CO_2

N_2O

- ✓ Tillage
- ✓ Rotation
- ✓ OM

Options to Reduce Emissions

HERD

MANURE

SOIL

Auto-Sufficiency
Balance
Recycling


CROPS
PASTURES

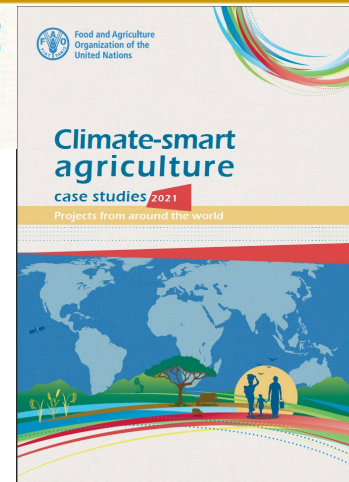


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Climate-Smart Dairy: The Swiss Case Study

Switzerland – piloting a goal-oriented farmer payment system for climate-smart milk production

- Dairy production contributes ~ 4.3% of national emission.
- Switzerland's 2020 emission target was: 20% below 1990 levels (a target that was missed!).
- Nestlé aims to achieve zero net emission by 2050.
- Public-Private partnership (government; processor, producers, and university).
 - Swiss dairy farmer's income is far below national average.
 - Adopting climate-smart practices can in the short run cause a reduction in income.
 - What are the most appropriate/relevant practices (in the Swiss context)?
 - How to make the program “fair” (i.e., farm-size neutral)?
- Program included temporary goal-oriented premium payments program.



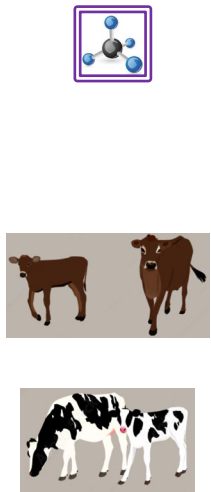
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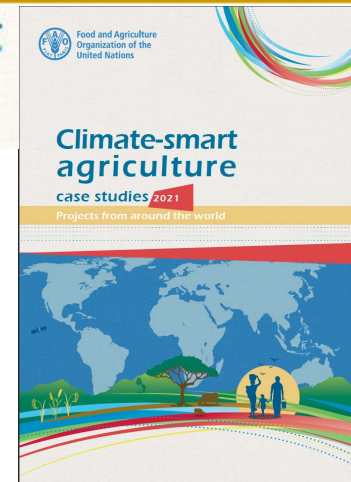
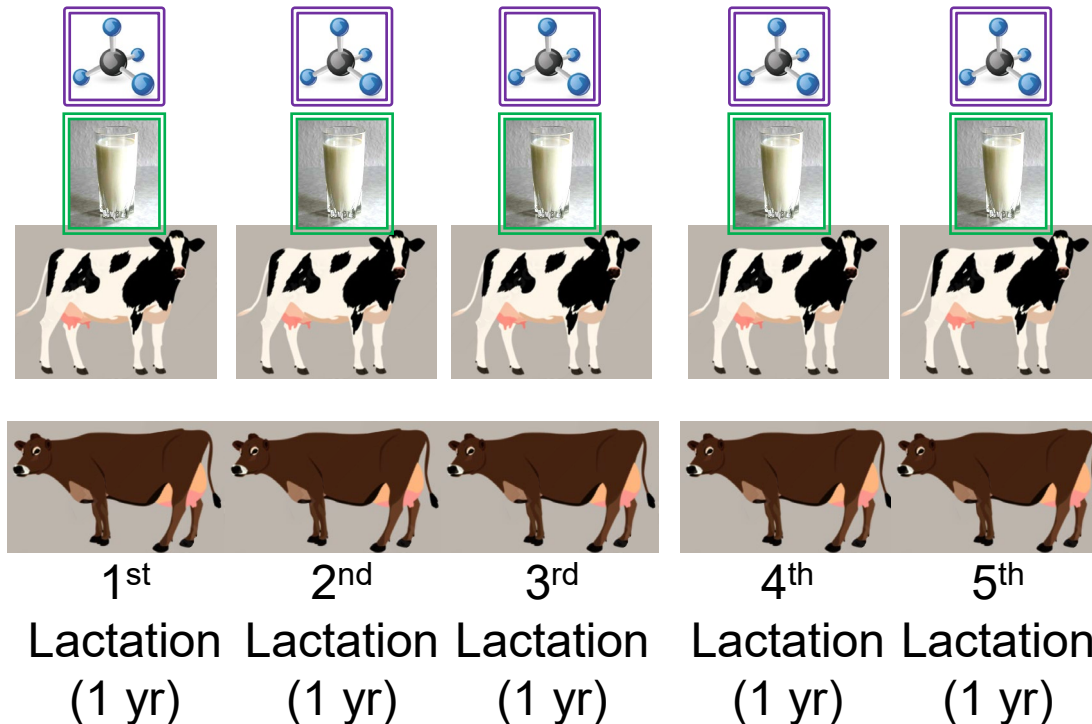
Farmers individually choose from a set of GHG reduction measures that best suit their situation:

1. Increase the number of lactation per cow:

Reduce the share of nonproductive animals in the herd.



Replacement
Heifers
(~2 yr)

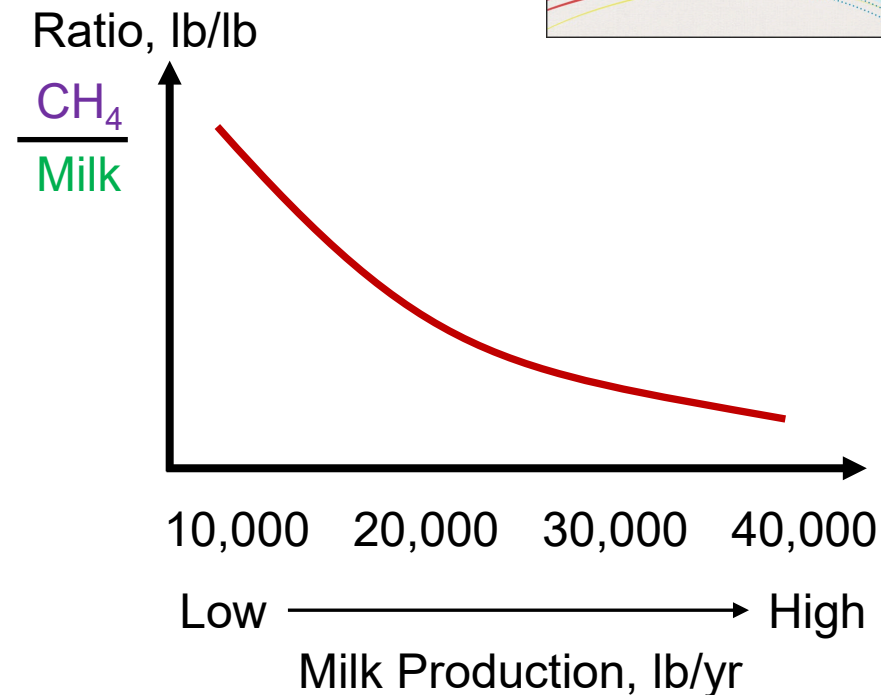
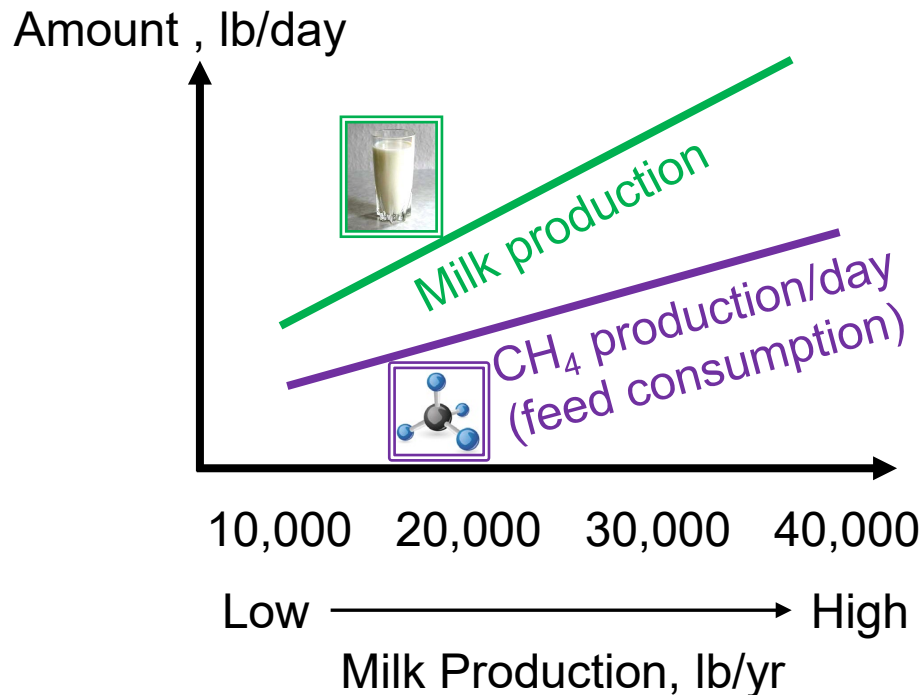
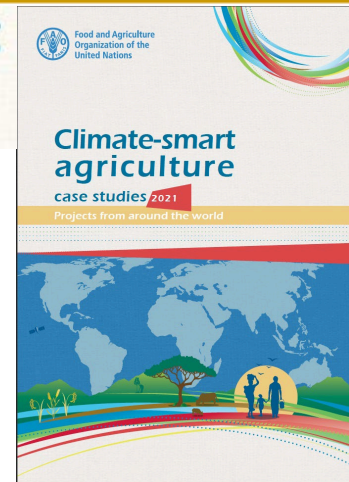


Climate-Smart Dairy: The Swiss Case Study

Switzerland – piloting a goal-oriented farmer payment system for climate-smart milk production

Farmers individually choose from a set of GHG reduction measures that best suit their situation:

2. Increase the lifetime performance (kilo of milk per life day).

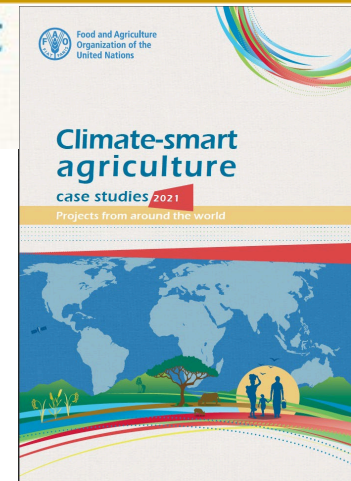
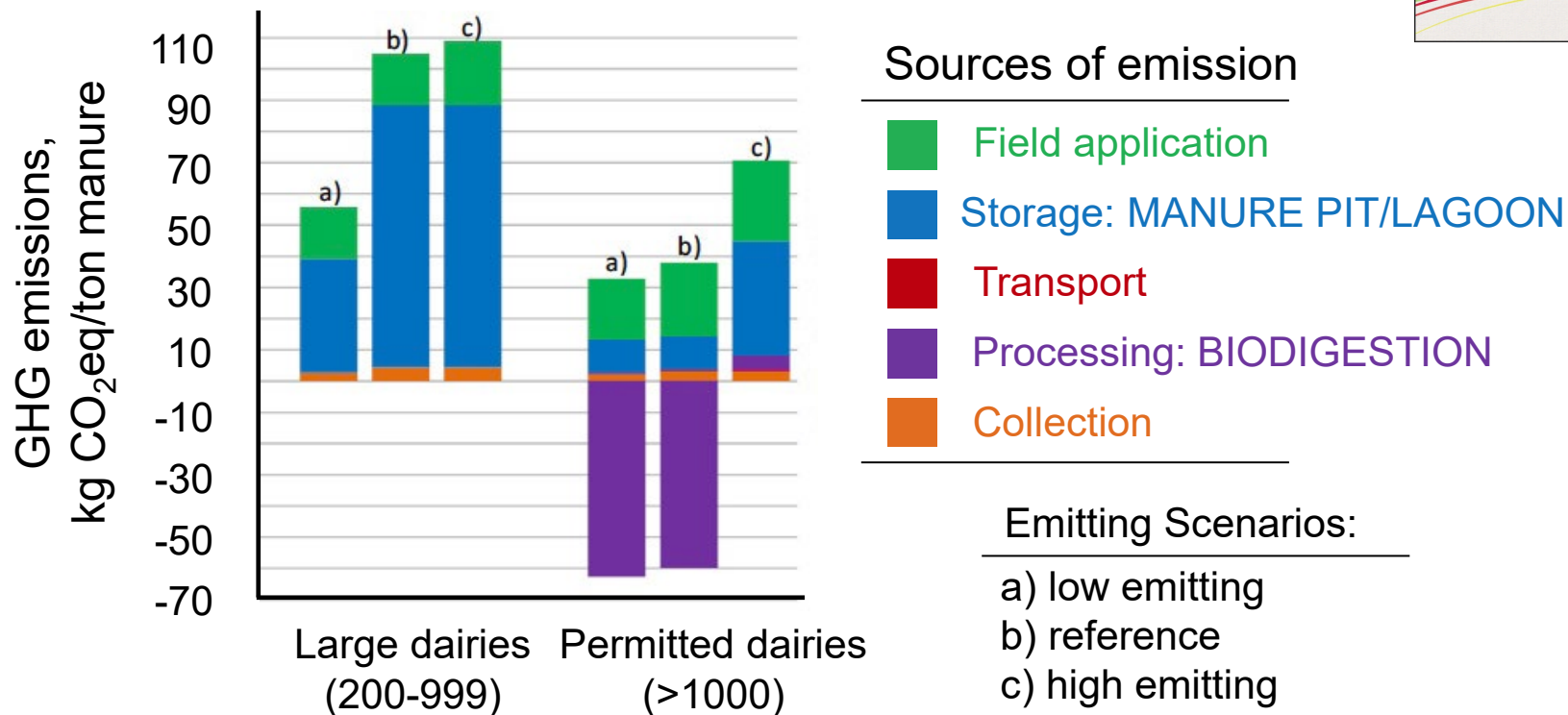


Climate-Smart Dairy: The Swiss Case Study

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Farmers individually choose from a set of GHG reduction measures that best suit their situation:

3. Manure bio-digestion (i.e., CH₄ as a source of renewable energy).

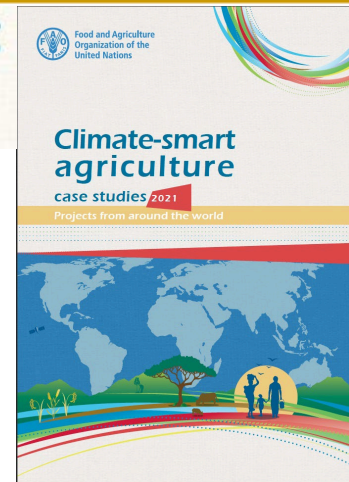


Climate-Smart Dairy: The Swiss Case Study

Switzerland – piloting a goal-oriented farmer payment system for climate-smart milk production

Farmers individually choose from a set of GHG reduction measures that best suit their situation:

4. Couple dairy-beef-production by using dual-purpose breeds and sperm sexing (i.e., dairy beef)



Carbon footprint of meat is considerably higher than carbon footprint of milk.

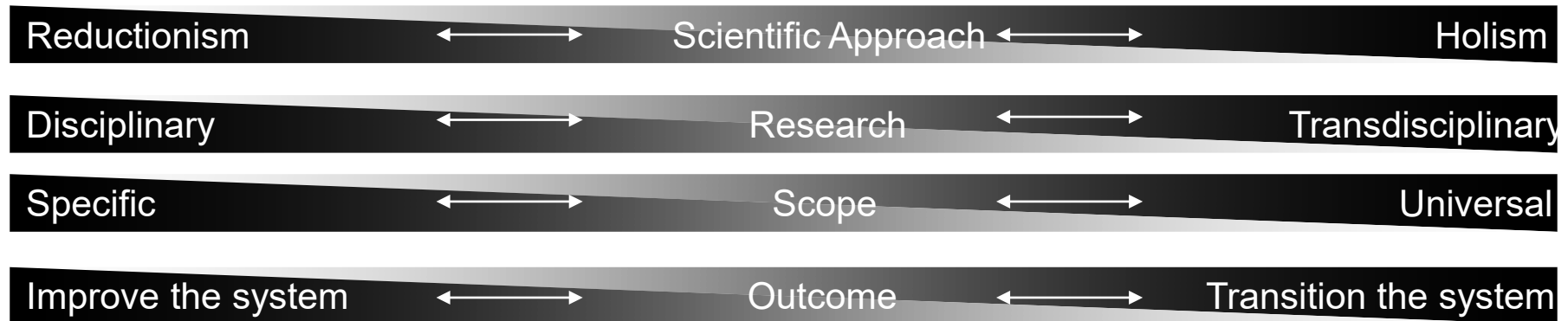
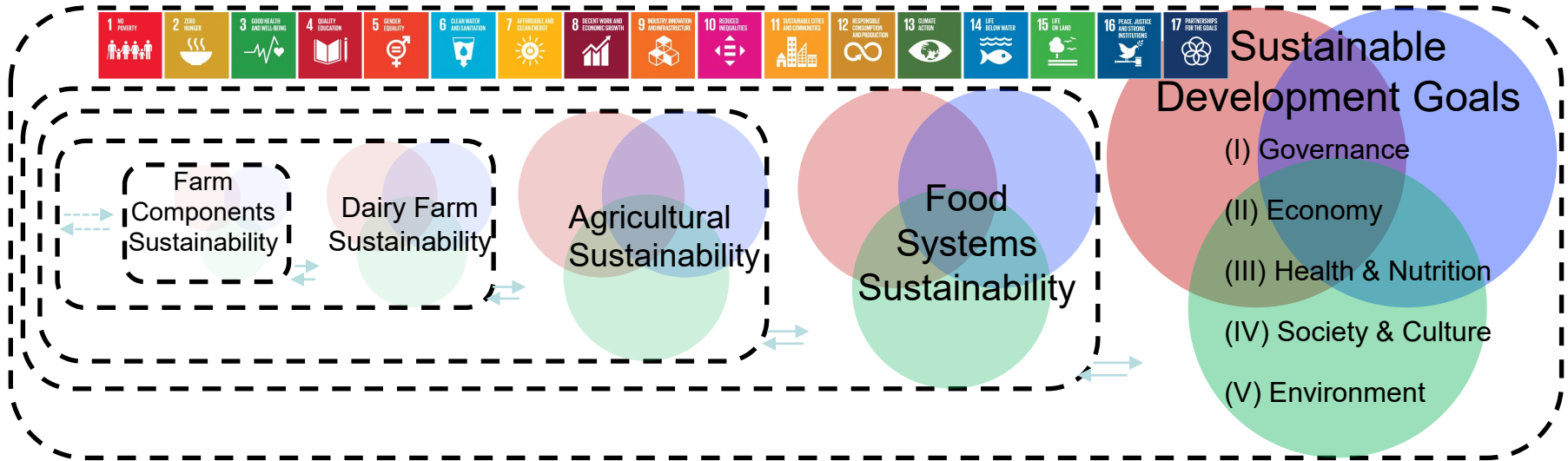
Carbon footprint of dairy beef is considerably lower than carbon footprint of specialized beef.

Increasing the production of dairy beef will reduce carbon footprint of meat supply.



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Final Thoughts



¡ MUCHAS GRACIAS !

