

## **Measuring Food Supply Chain Performance**

**Daniel Gaitán Cremaschi, Alfons Oude Lansink, Miranda Meuwissen  
Business Economics Group, Wageningen University**

**[daniel.gaitancremaschi@wur.nl](mailto:daniel.gaitancremaschi@wur.nl)**

*Slides prepared for presentation at the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium's (IATRC's) 2013 Symposium: Productivity and Its Impacts on Global Trade, June 2-4, 2013, Seville, Spain*

# MEASURING FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN PERFORMANCE

Daniel Gaitán Cremaschi, Alfons Oude Lansink, Miranda Meuwissen  
Business Economics Group, Wageningen University

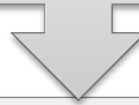
## IATRC Symposium

Seville 2-4 June

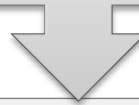


# MOTIVATION

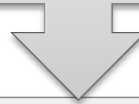
Food production is projected to increase to meet growing demand of food



Scarcity of natural resources and socio-economic costs derived from externalities of the intensification of agricultural production



Sustainable production of food has become a key concern and hence a requirement for trade



**Proliferation of certification schemes (voluntary, regulatory, etc.)**



# MOTIVATION

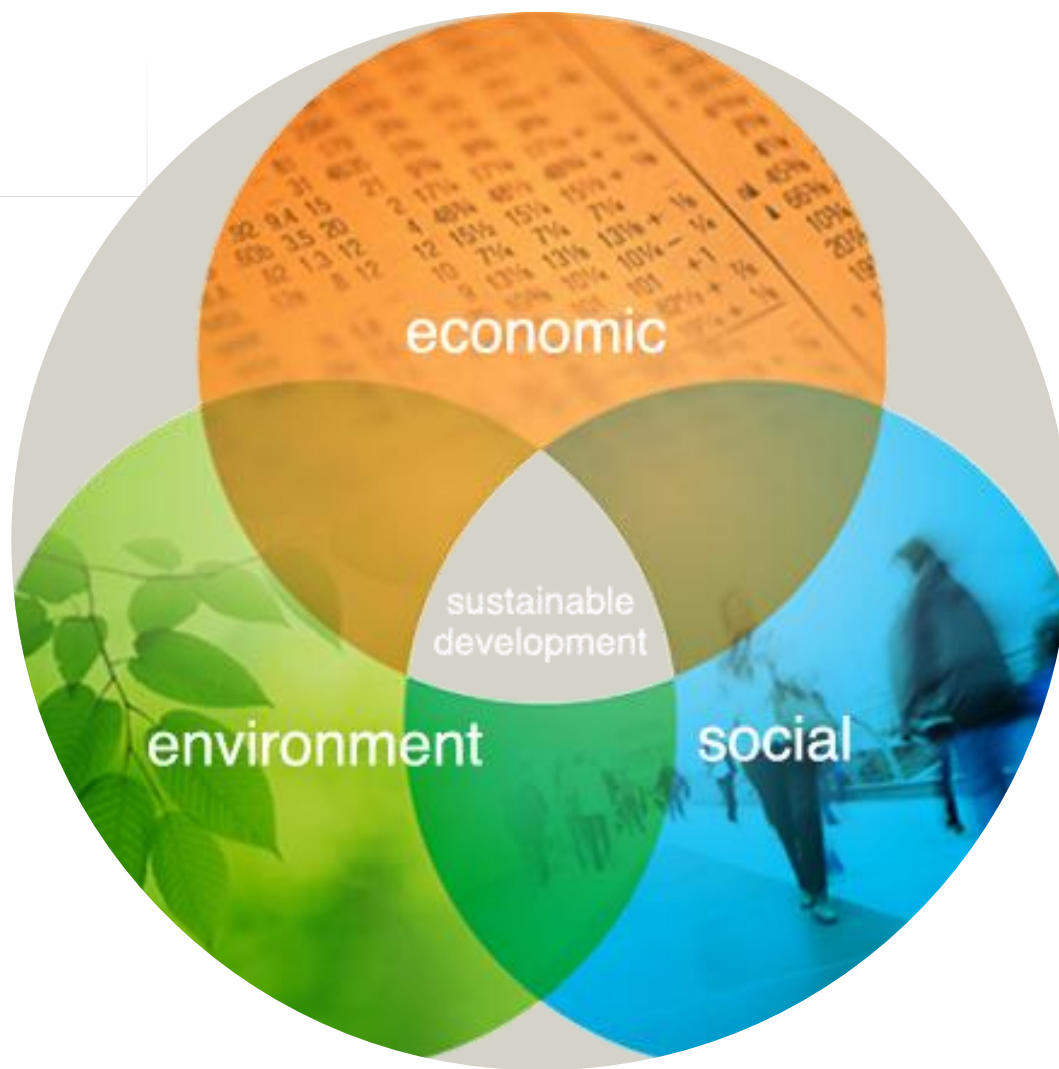
Problems:

- ❖ Harmonization
- ❖ Recognition
- ❖ Market-access requirements
- ❖ Resources
- ❖ Insecurity

Major obstacle for trade of sustainable commodities

# Therefore...

Need to develop a single metric of food supply chain performance towards sustainable development based on the Total Factor Productivity approach



# WHY A TFP APPROACH?

TFP acknowledges the fact that a food supply chain is first a system of production

TFP measures are prompt to be adjusted to internalize externalities of agricultural commodity production

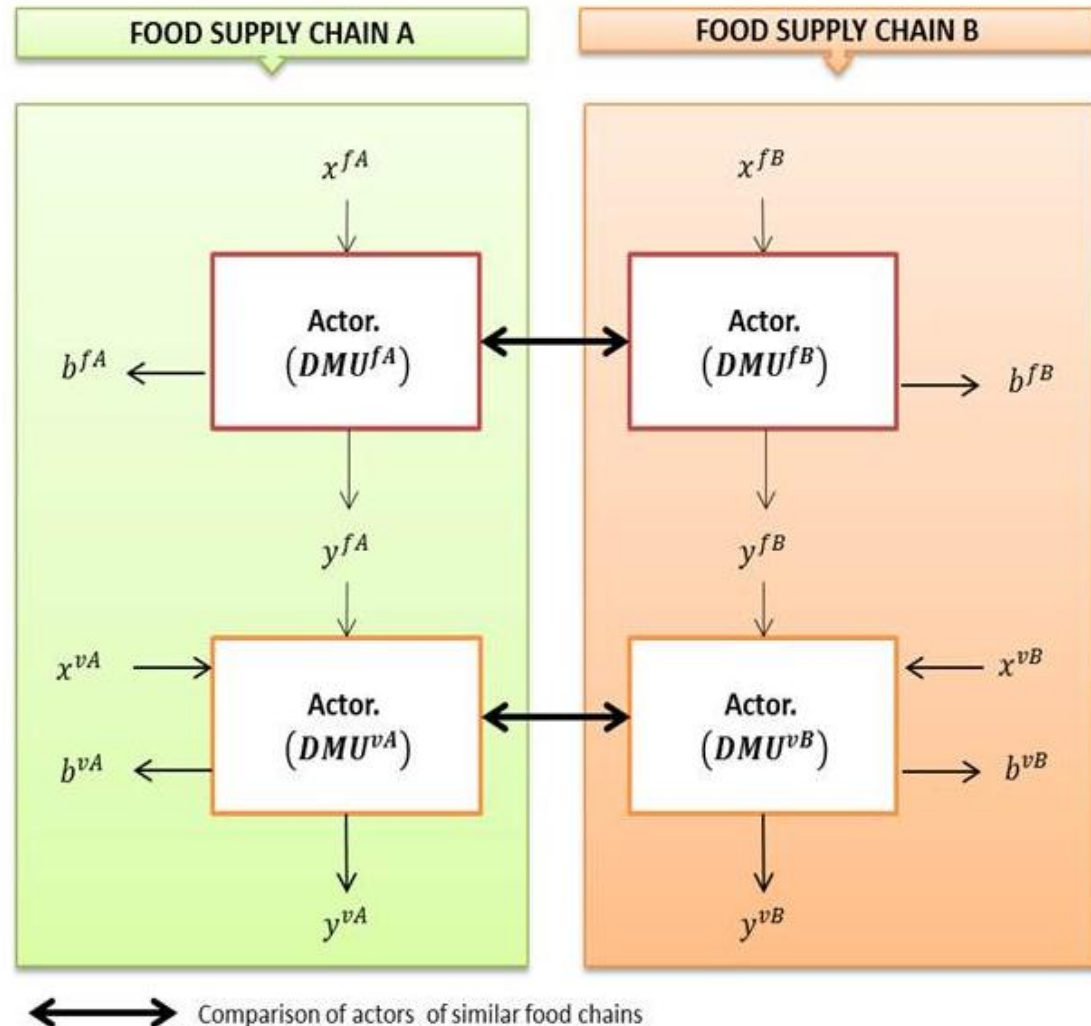


# FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY

Actors (*DMUs*) transforming inputs into outputs

Inputs  $x^f (x_1^f, x_2^f, \dots, x_n^f)$  and outputs  $y^f (y_1^f, y_2^f, \dots, y_m^f)$ .

Undesirable outputs  $b^f (b_1^f, b_2^f, \dots, b_j^f)$ .



# FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY



- ❖ Efficient
- ❖ Maintain the environmental quality
- ❖ Provide social rewards and produce a sufficient and accessible food supply



# ADJUSTED TFP INDICATORS

## ❖ TFP Indicators

$$TFP^{fA} = Q_0(y^{fA}, b^{fA}) - Q_i(x^{fA})$$

$$TFP^{fAB} = Q_j(y^{fA}, y^{fB}, b^{fA}, b^{fB}) - Q_i(x^{fA}, x^{fB})$$

Adjusted Bennet and Luenberger indicator

# ADJUSTED BENNET INDICATOR (1)

- ❖ Output quantity indicator minus an input quantity indicator

$$B^{AB} =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{p^A}{p^A g_y + w^A g_x + r^A g_b} + \frac{p^B}{p^B g_y + w^B g_x + r^B g_b} \right) (y^B - y^A) -$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{r^A}{p^A g_y + w^A g_x + r^A g_b} + \frac{r^B}{p^B g_y + w^B g_x + r^B g_b} \right) (r^B - r^A) -$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{w^A}{p^A g_y + w^A g_x + r^A g_b} + \frac{w^B}{p^B g_y + w^B g_x + r^B g_b} \right) (x^B - x^A)$$

- ❖ Where bad outputs  $b$  are aggregated using shadow prices  $r$ .  
Bennet indicator  $> 0$  productivity B higher than A

# ADJUSTED BENNET INDICATOR (2)



- ❖ Measure of overall welfare.

Relative performance towards sustainability



Hypothetical *DMU*: Based on international standards, targets, sustainable reference values, scientific literature, etc.

- ❖ Adjusted Bennet indicator  $< 0$  room for improvement
- ❖ Shadow prices for non-marketed outputs: WTP and WTA

# ADJUSTED BENNET INDICATOR (3)

## Advantages

- ❖ Few observations required
- ❖ Easy to construct and compute
- ❖ Regional perceptions and values about sustainability aspects are considered

## Disadvantages:

- ❖ Precise economic calculation is often impossible. Some values cannot be adequately captured by monetary metrics
- ❖ Some values are non-fungible and subject to value incommensurabilities.

# ADJUSTED LUENBERGER INDICATOR (1)

❖ Technology  $P$ : all feasible vectors  $(x, y, b)$  defined as:

$$P(x) = \{(y, b) : x \text{ can produce } (y, b)\}$$

❖ Two properties:

1. Weak disposability
3. Null-jointness



# ADJUSTED LUENBERGER INDICATOR (2)

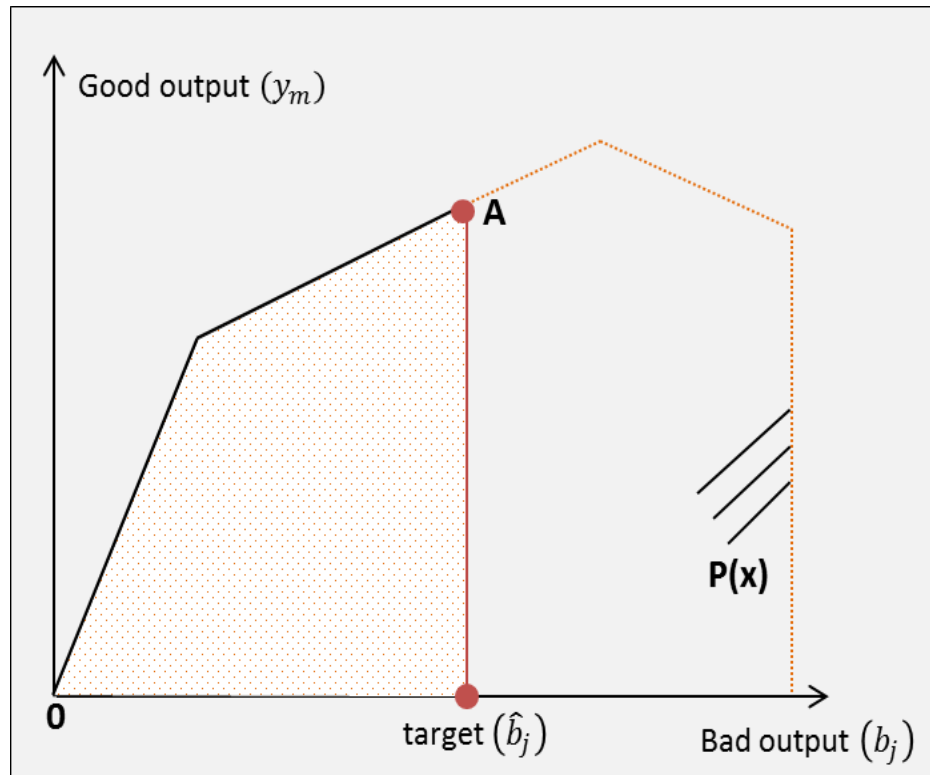
Limits to growth



Imposition of maximum restrictions on bad outputs and inputs



Efficient frontier regarded as an empirical standard of excellence performance towards sustainable development



# HOW TO ESTIMATE THE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY FRONTIER?

- ❖ Once the frontier is established, we can compare a set of *DMUs*, to the frontier. Thus, it can be regarded as a benchmarking tool
- ❖ How to evaluate the economic, environmental and social performance of the observed *DMUs*.



# PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

## ❖ Directional distance functions

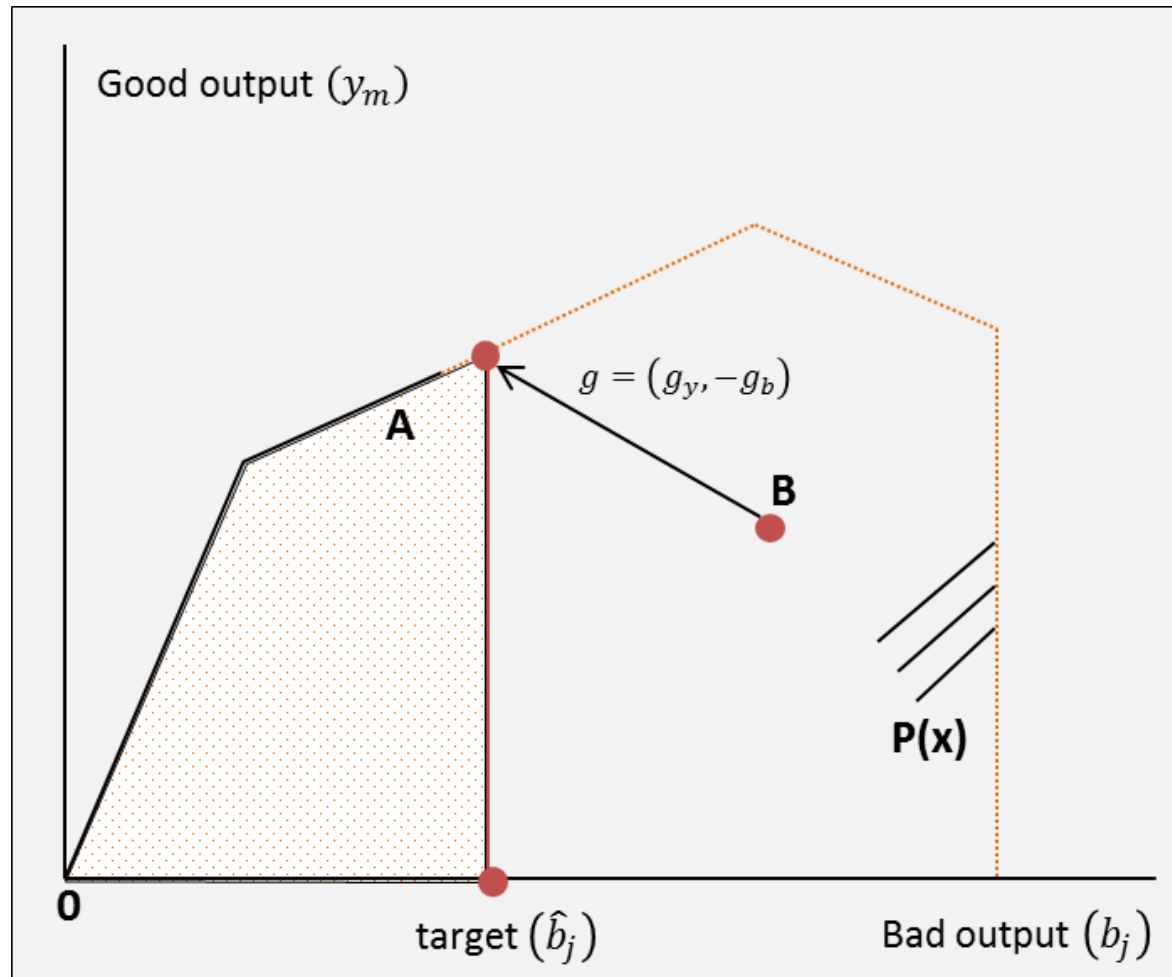
In terms of  $P(x)$ , the directional output distance function is defined as

$$\vec{D}_0(x, y, b; g_y, g_b) = \max \left\{ \left( \beta : (y + \beta g_y, b - \beta g_b) \in P(x) \right) \right\}$$

- ❖ Directional vector used to include societal preferences with regard to sustainability aspects (Are the economic, social and environmental dimension of sustainability equally important?)



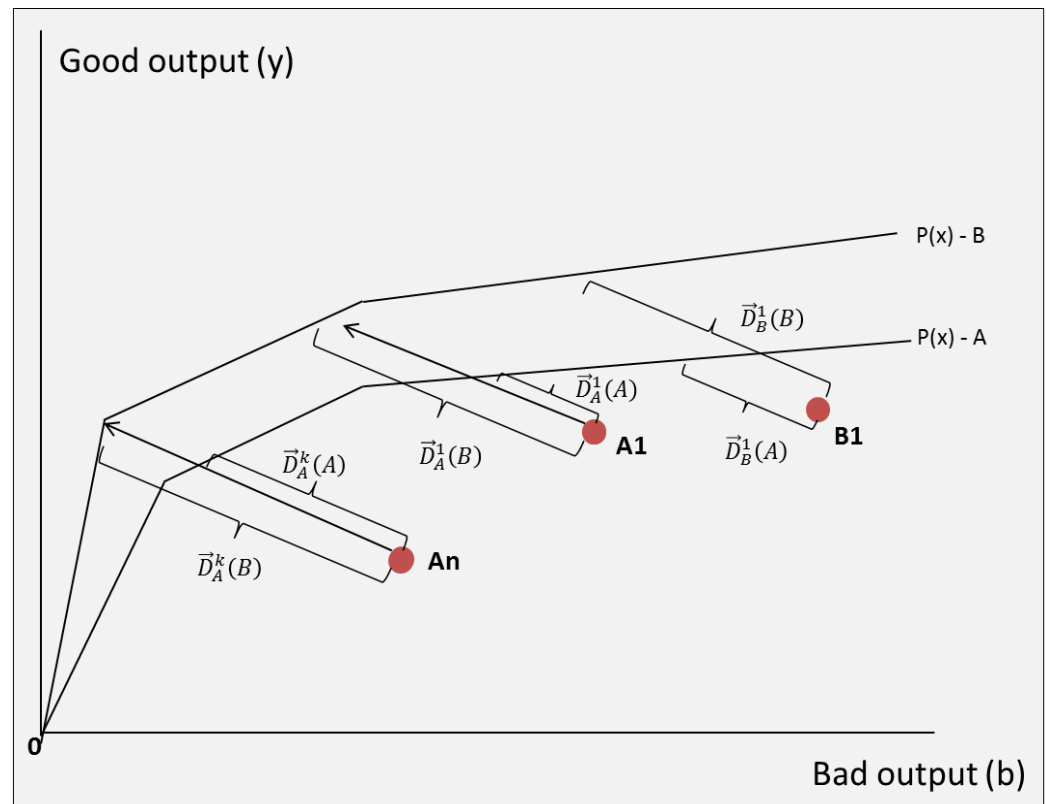
# PERFORMANCE EVALUATION



# CROSS-COUNTRY PERFORMANCE ESTIMATION

Adjusted Luenberger indicator defined as

$$SL(.) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \begin{aligned} & [D_B(x_A, y_A, b_A; g_y, g_b) - D_B(x_B, y_B, b_B; g_y, g_b)] + \\ & [D_A(x_A, y_A, b_A; g_y, g_b) - D_A(x_B, y_B, b_B; g_y, g_b)] \end{aligned} \right\}$$



# ADJUSTED LUENBERGER INDICATOR

## Advantages

- ❖ Does not require information
- ❖ Inputs, bad outputs and other social outputs can be changed according to institutional regulations, targets, sustainable use levels or relative importance of each sustainability aspect (directional vector)

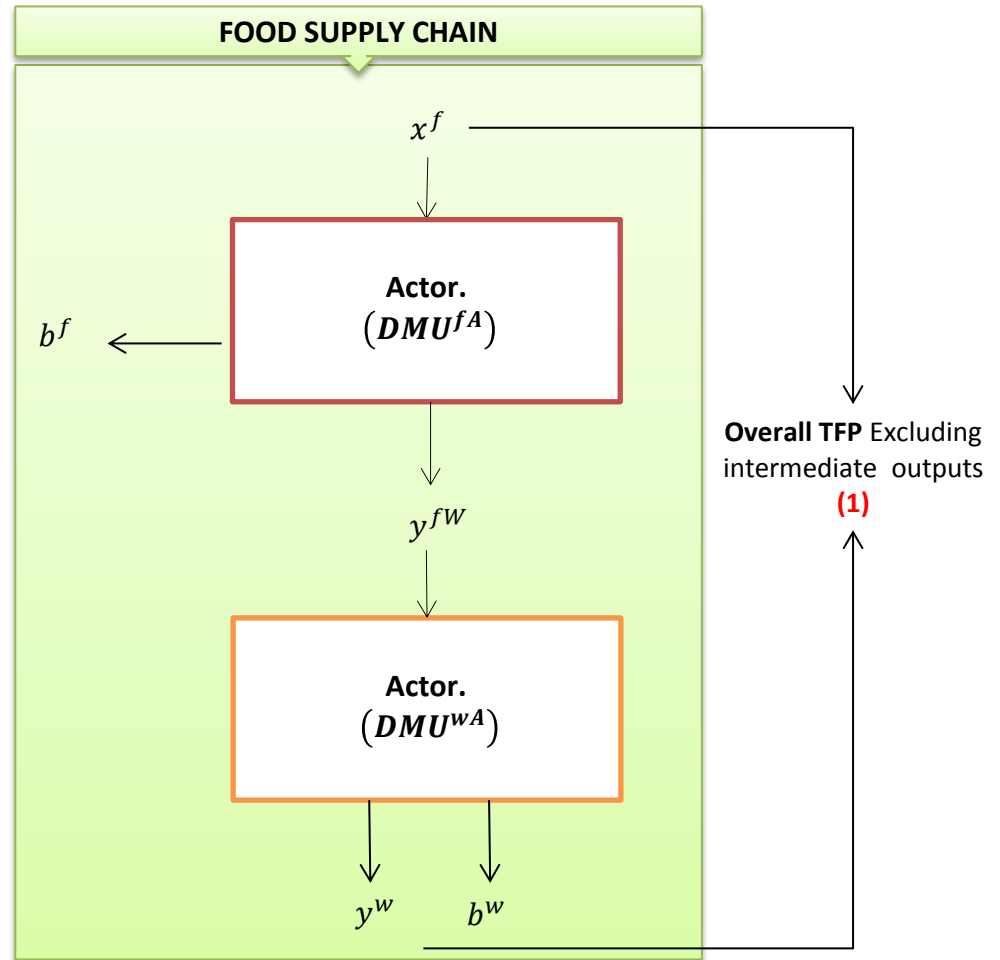
## Disadvantages:

- ❖ Require extensive data
- ❖ Large number of input and output variables will affect the DEA results, implying higher probability of efficient *DMUs*
- ❖ The determination of the weights is problematic and has a high degree of subjectivity

# OVERALL FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN PERFORMANCE

1) Bad outputs can be added since “bads” are not used as inputs through stages of the chain

Previous approach ignoring intermediate outputs  $y^f$

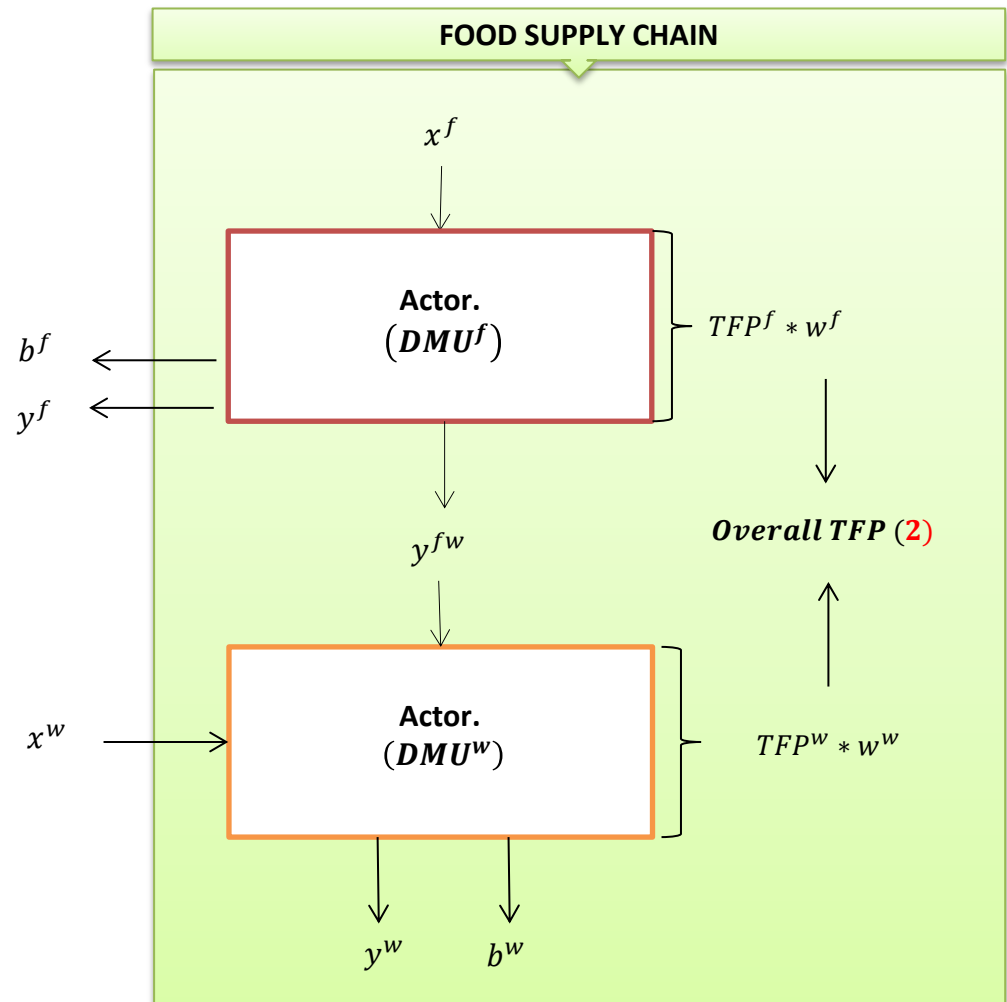


# ADJUSTED INDICATORS IN A CHAIN CONTEXT

2) Weighted sum of individual TFP measures where weights ( $w^f$  and  $w^w$ ) represent the relative importance of individual actors to the overall performance.

Proportion of the total input used at each stage of the chain

$$w^k = \frac{(DMU^k \text{ input})}{(\text{Total input along the chain})}$$



# CONCLUSIONS

By providing reliable information about the extent to which commodities are sustainably produced

- ❖ Adequate solutions to disputes in the interest of the majority of stakeholders
- ❖ Avoiding costs, time and reputation damage
- ❖ Will allow imposing trade preferences for sustainable commodities
- ❖ Could be the base of Corporate Social Responsibility reporting

# Further work...

- ❖ Selection of sustainability aspects and indicators
- ❖ Application of the adjusted Bennet indicator in conventional, organic and Genetically Modified soy chains in Brazil.
- ❖ Application of the adjusted Luenberger indicator in potato chains in the European context
- ❖ Comparison of both indicators based on data availability (data poor and data rich situations)



Traditional supply chain - supply push

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



WAGENINGENUR  
For quality of life