Agricultural sustainability, role of pesticide risk indicators

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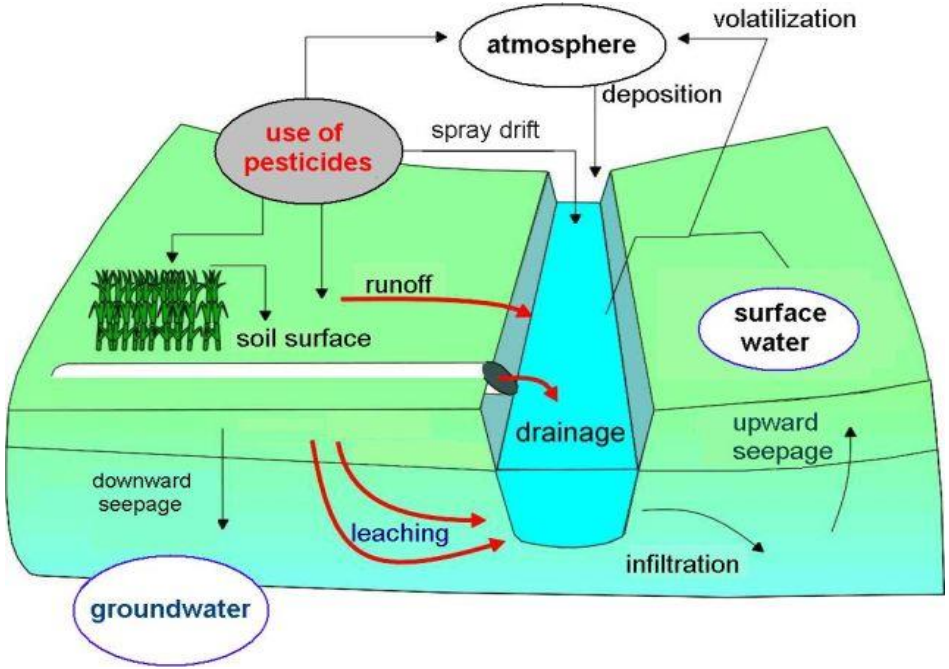
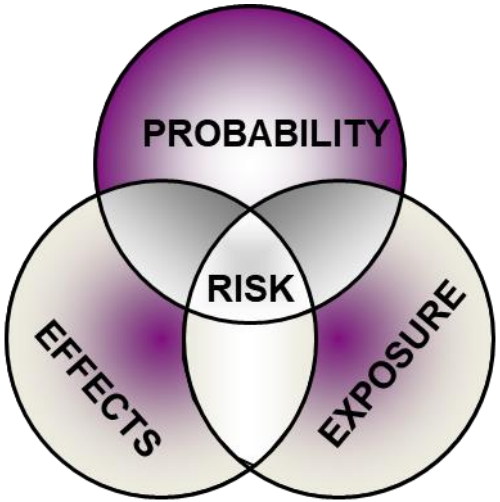
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

European Parliament Public Hearing "Agricultural sustainability: past, present and future - the role of data and indicators", 19 September 2023 Brussels

Environmental risks of pesticides

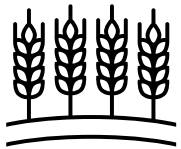




Environmental Risk indicators

- Indicators can be helpfull to support the political and societal debate about the sustainabity and health impacts.
- They inherently reduce complexity to support decision making
- Purposes:

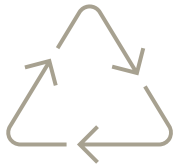
Track progress of agricultural policies



Sustainable Pest management

Prospective risk assessment

Certification schemes



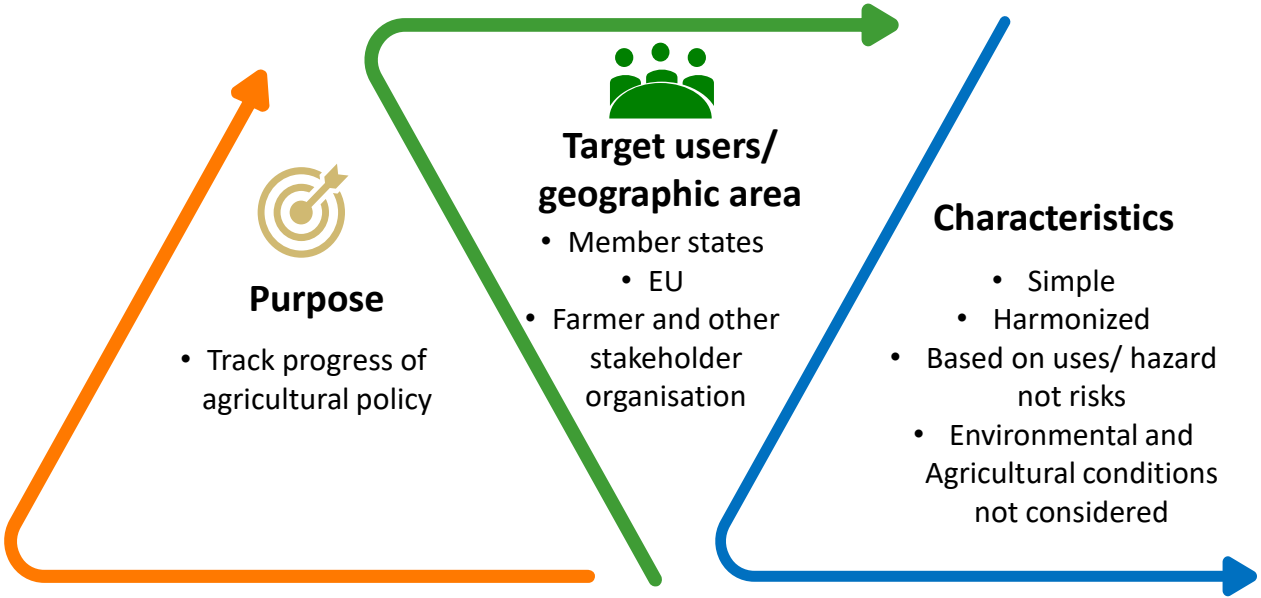
As part of life cycle analysis

Harmonized Risk Indicator I

- To monitor progress realization of F2F strategy objectives for crop protection 2030 at MS and EU Level.
- Based on the annual volume put on the market per chemical active substance in the plant protection products

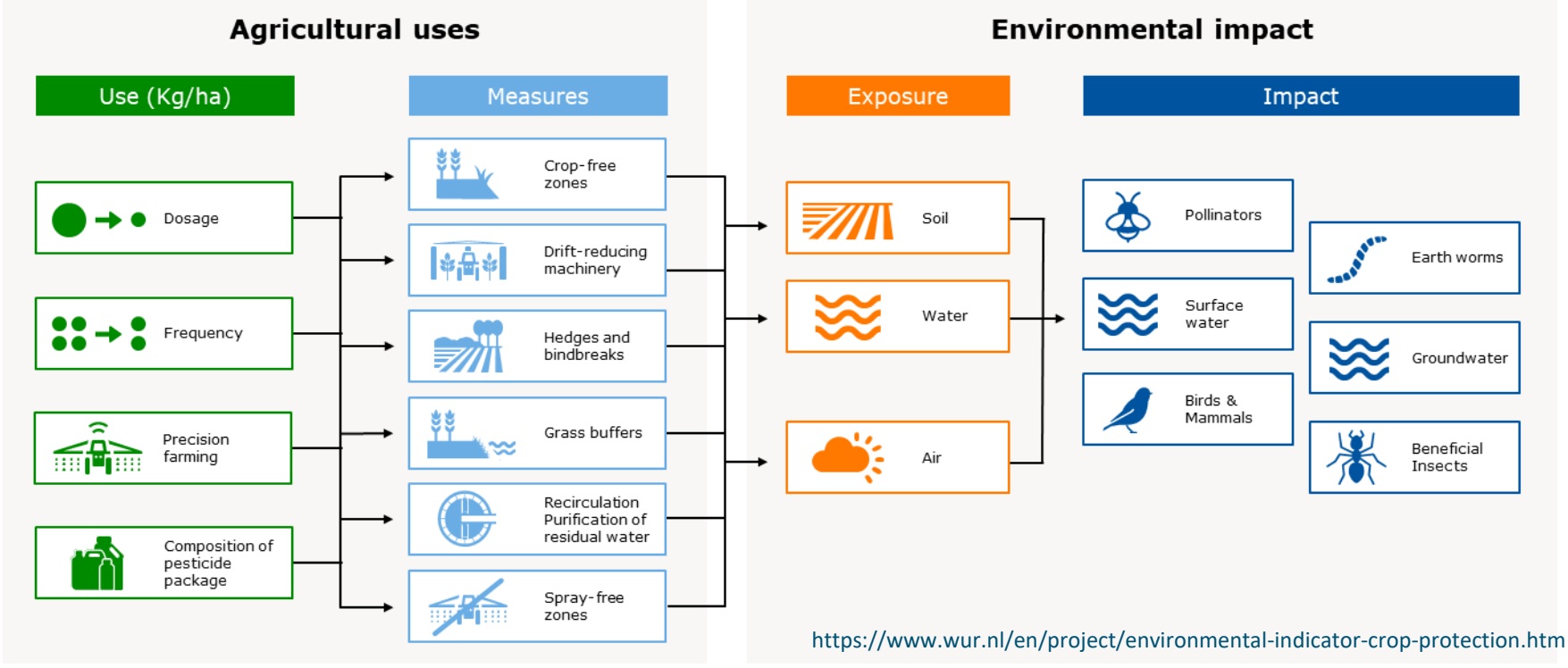
Groups			
1	2	3	4
Low-risk chemical active substances	Approved chemical active substances	Approved as candidates for substitution	Chemical active substances which are not approved
Hazard weighting factor applicable to quantities of chemical active substance placed on the market			
1	8	16	64

Harmonized Risk Indicator I



Indicator for environmental impact of pesticides

- Environmental indicator crop protection (EICP)



https://www.wur.nl/en/project/environmental-indicator-crop-protection.htm

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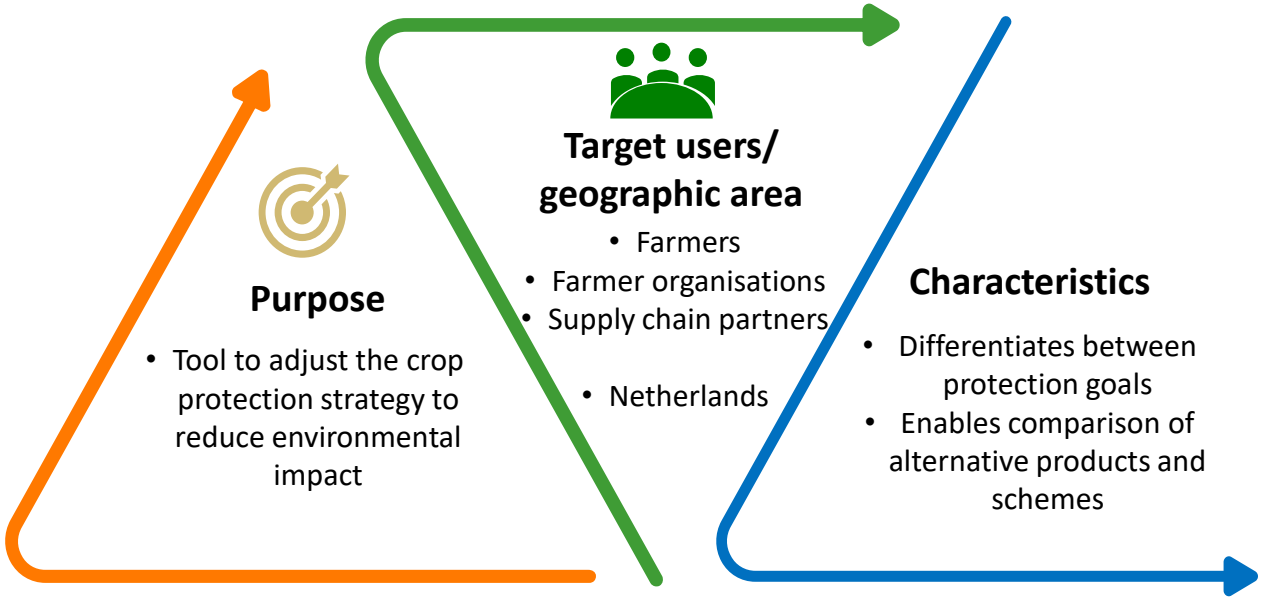
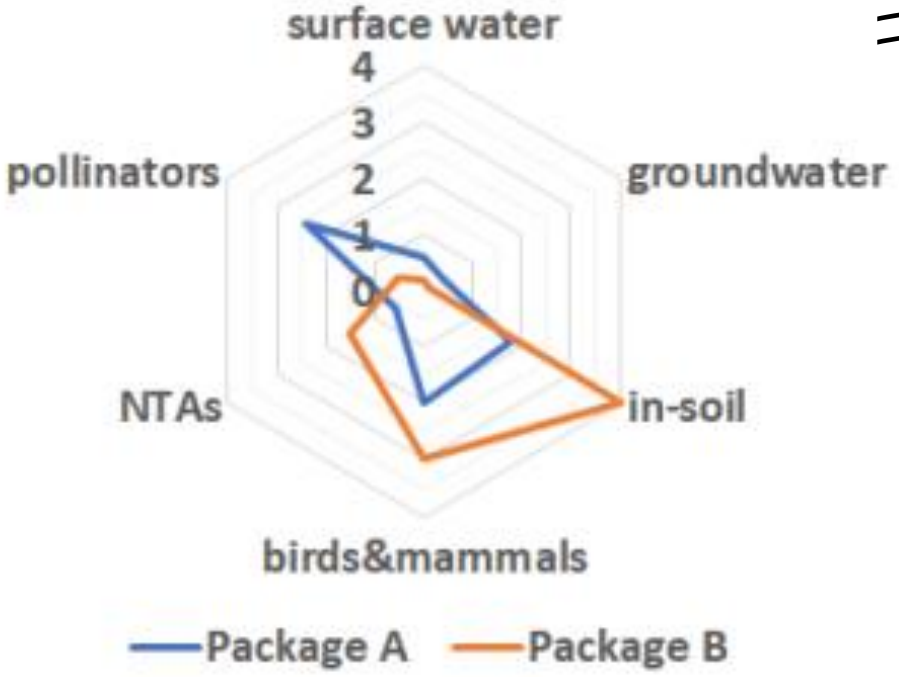


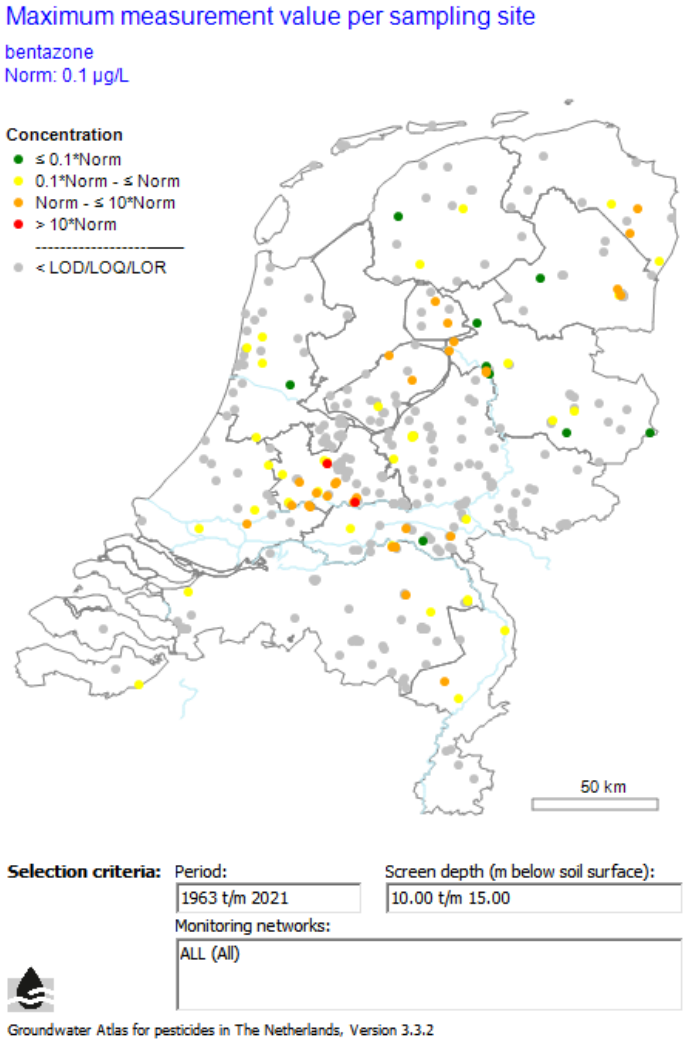
Indicator for environmental impact of pesticides

- Multidimensional risk indicator



Monitoring indicator

- Groundwater Atlas for Pesticides in the Netherlands



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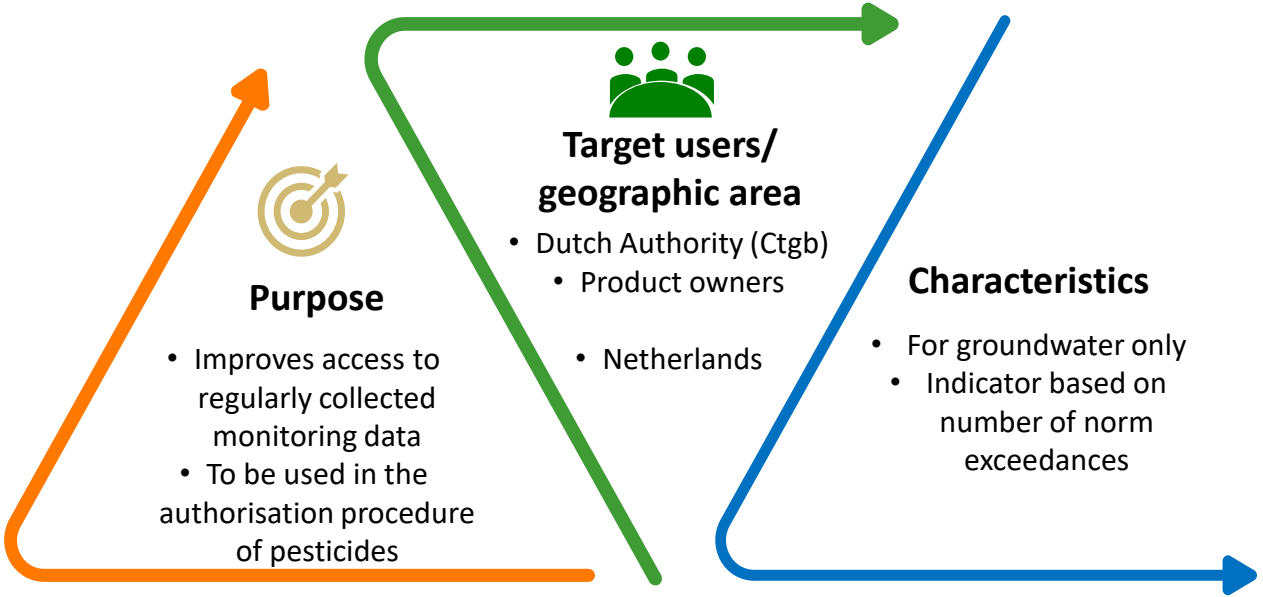

Take away

- Indicators reduce complexity to enable comparison between growing options or trends. Results should be put in context.
    - They can be used to identify specific substances with major contribution to the indicator score. These specific substances will need close attention
- Consider the risks and distinguish between protection goals
- Indicators need ownership. Who takes care that the indicator is supported with data that is regularly updated? And in line with reg. 1107/2009