

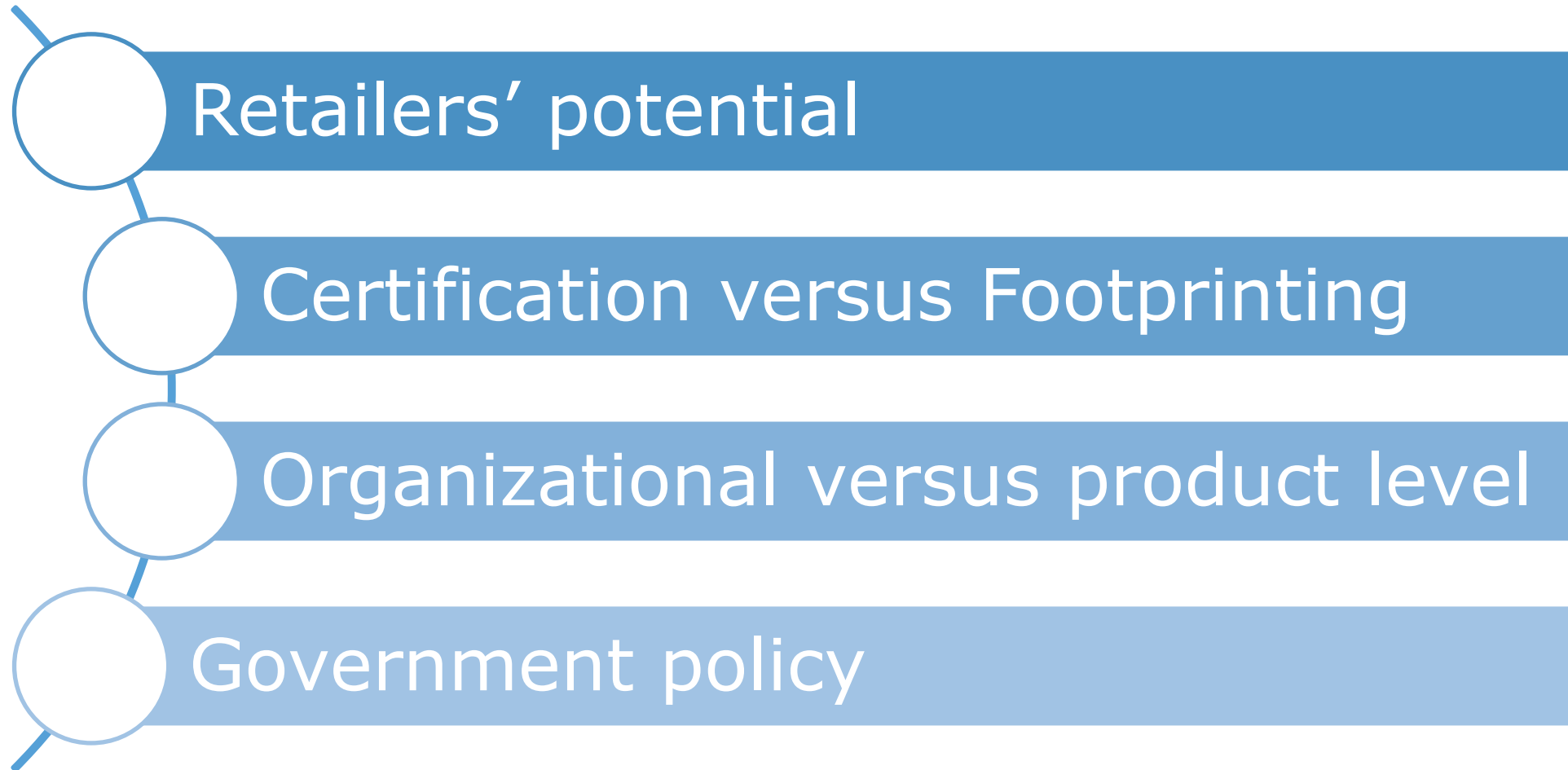
From certification to footprinting

Koen Boone, WUR/TSC, 29 February 2024

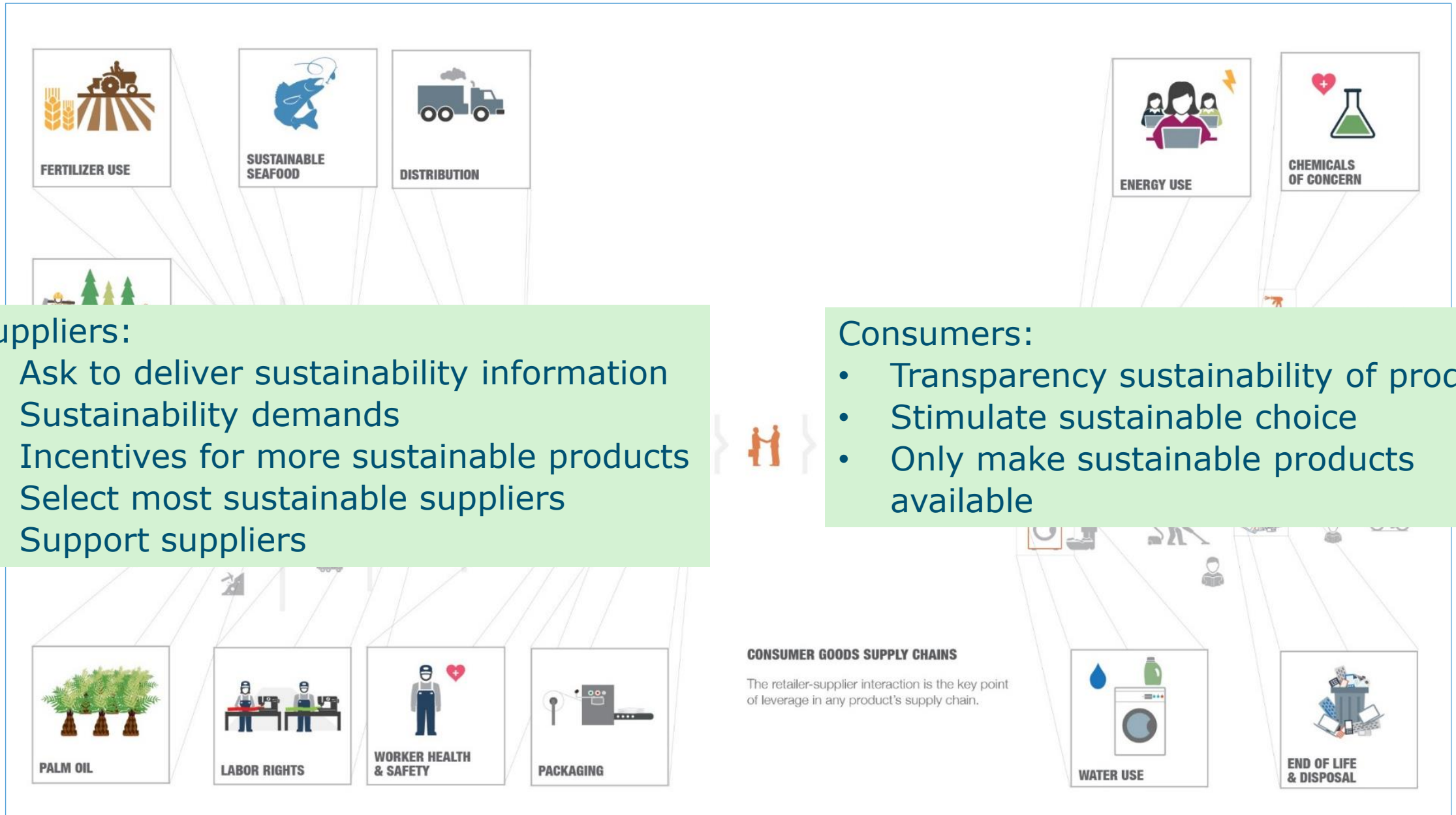
Cleverfood/WUR webinar: Sustainable Procurement of Food



Agenda



Retailers' potential in transforming supply chain



Certification versus Impact indicators



Advantages

Guaranteed minimum level
Simple communication to consumers
Verification
Simple data exchange

Process instead of impact
Inflexible (prescribes what to do; yes/no)
Limited incentive for continuous improvement
Aggregate on corporate level?
Limited coverage of themes and products
Proliferation

Disadvantages

Why shift to footprinting (external)?



- “Companies can only be sustainable in a sustainable world” / Fair share / Thresholds
- Paris agreement
- Absolute impact comparison between products/companies /sectors

Life Cycle Assessment

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA):

The systematic analysis of the potential environmental impacts of products or services during their entire life cycle.



Footprinting of organisations



Footprinting of organisations

- Carbon Disclosure Project
 - Originally Carbon. Now also water and deforestation
- Science Based Target Initiative
 - Carbon reduction targets and reporting
 - Specific FLAG methodology and targets per commodity
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
 - Mandatory reporting for 50.000 companies starting in 2024
 - Extensive set of indicators including scope 3 ghg
 - Still lot's of freedom in methodologies so limited comparibility
 - Retailers in Netherlands and UK started joined projects



Footprinting products



LCA method: Product Environmental Footprint










Application PEF

- Only available for limited number of products
- No comparison between product categories
- High cost, limited tools and implementation



Product level footprinting and Eco rating labels

Eco-Score	Planet-Score	EnviroScore	Eco Impact	Coop Sweden Sustainability Declaration	Made Green in Italy	French initiative
						



- Nutriscore for environment: LCA based score for all food
- Start with product category average databases for all food
- First ecolabels mainly based on EU PEF and French Agribalyse database
- New private ecolabels develop their own methodologies and private databases
- Limited recognition of sustainable (e.g. farming) practices



European Union product level policies

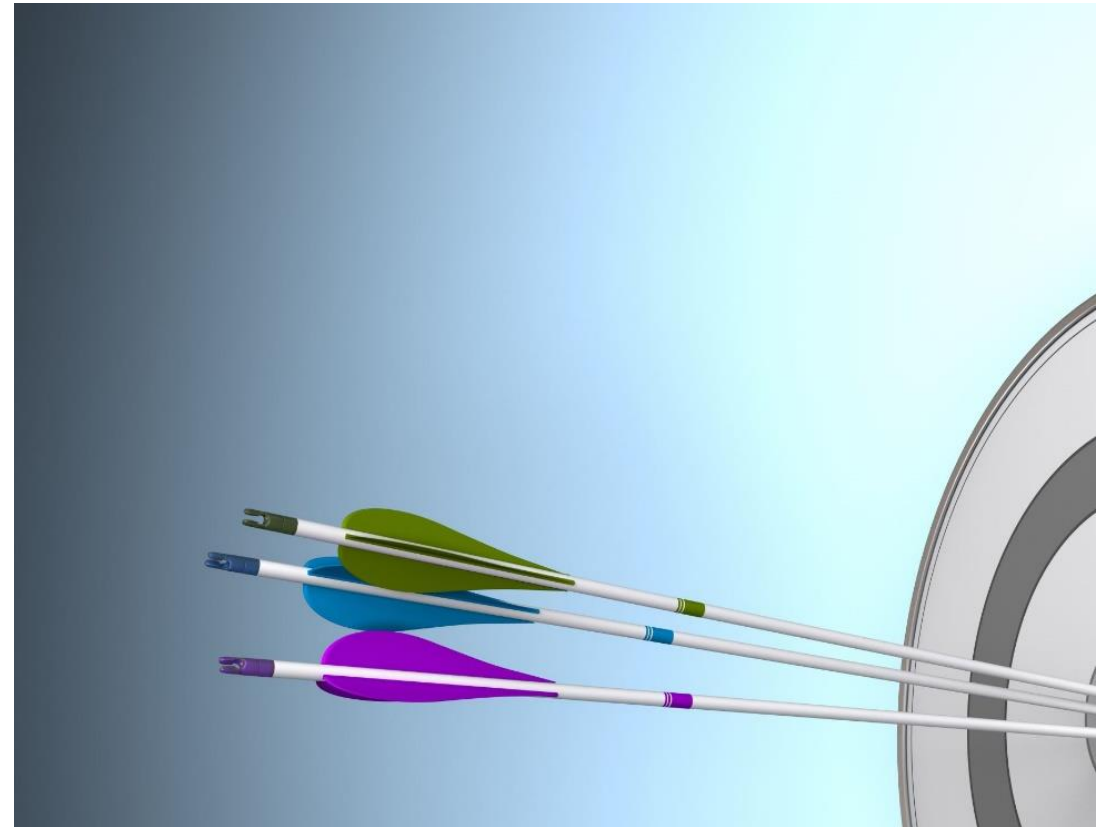


March 2023

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Conclusions

- Footprinting is introduced by private and public sector
- Great potential but lack of data
- Methodologies still in development and lack of alignment between product and company level
- Limited recognition of sustainable practices
- Focus on GHG. Limited activity in other domains



Thanks for your attention

Questions?

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