



**LCA XIII– Orlando – Septembre 30th 2013**  
***Anne-Marie Boulay and Stephan Pfister***

# **ISO 14046**

## **Water Footprinting and Water Impact Assessment in LCA**

***Adjusted from UNEP training materials on water  
footprint (Pfister and Boulay 2013)***

# AGENDA TODAY

- Introduction 20 min
    - WULCA Presentation
    - Why a water footprint?
  - Water and LCA 15 min
  - ISO 15 min
    - Process
    - Standard content
  - Structure and types of WF 10 min
  - Inventory and example 40 min
- Break 20 min*
- 
- Overview of methods and examples 1h15
  - Tools 10 min



## Water Use in LCA (WULCA)

- International initiative for LCA founded in 2007 under the UNEP-SETAC Life Cycle Initiative



Goal:→ Recommendations for:

- Science
- Practitioners (incl. industry)



Output (no officially endorsed documents):

- **Phase 1:** Proposed a framework to evaluate water in LCA (Bayart et al. 2009)
- **Phase 2:** Review of different methods (Kounina et al. 2012)
- **Phase 3:** Quantitative comparison (Boulay et al A and B, submitted)



[www.wulca-waterlca.org](http://www.wulca-waterlca.org)

- Transition into Phase 3 and official acceptance from Life Cycle Initiative in Spring 2013
- New chairs, new strategy, new speed!
- Water was identified in Glasgow as a Flagship category from the Global Guidance Flagship categories from UNEP SETAC Life Initiative and WULCA received the mandate to lead the project

*Anne-Marie Boulay*  
*Project Manager*



*Stephan Pfister*  
*Deputy Manager*







- Phase 3 Main goals:
  - Guide the scientific development of a **consensual and operational method** which shall be in line with both the **ISO Water Footprint Standard** and the **LCA principles**
  - Provide **guidance to practitioners** and **researchers** in their understanding of comprehensive water footprinting.
  - **Represent the scientific voice on water footprinting**
    - Provide scientific support and guidance to the ISO 14046 TR
    - Influence international initiatives (e.g. CEO Water Mandate, WRI activities etc.) + conferences and trainings



***We are currently forming a group of sponsors to support the advancement of this project .***

***Contact us if you are interested to join!***

**[Anne-marie.boulay@polymtl.ca](mailto:Anne-marie.boulay@polymtl.ca)**



# WHY A WATER FOOTPRINT?



Aral Sea, Source: Wikipedia







Cotton for export



Former Aral Sea, Central Asia

Source





## Endangered Indus River Dolphin

[Photo: WWF]

Source WFN, 2012





FN, 2012



Devecser, Hungary, Oct. 5, 2010





# THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER AND SANITATION

- UN assembly acknowledged this explicitly in 2010:
  - 64/292. The human right to water and sanitation

United Nations

A/RES/64/292



General Assembly

Distr.: General  
3 August 2010

Sixty-fourth session  
Agenda item 48

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.63/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

### 64/292. The human right to water and sanitation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling its resolutions 54/175 of 17 December 1999 on the right to development, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015,*



Source: UN: [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/292](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/292)



# MOTIVATION FOR ASSESSING A WATER FOOTPRINT

- Water scarcity is one of the most important environmental problems
- Increasing population is aggravating water problems
- Sustainability has become a key marketing factor
- Public pressure and operational risk make it relevant for business to assess the following risks (beyond “green pioneers”):
  - Physical
  - Regulatory
  - Reputational

# WATER FOOTPRINT – CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENTS

- Water footprint is agreed to be a life-cycle based assessment (UNEP 2012):
  - Water use of total supply chain, use and disposal is assessed
- Water footprint is accounting for quantity and quality issues of water use (ISO 14046 draft) related to products, services or whole economies
- Advanced water footprint assessment needs to be largely based on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) methodology for assessing impacts of pollution

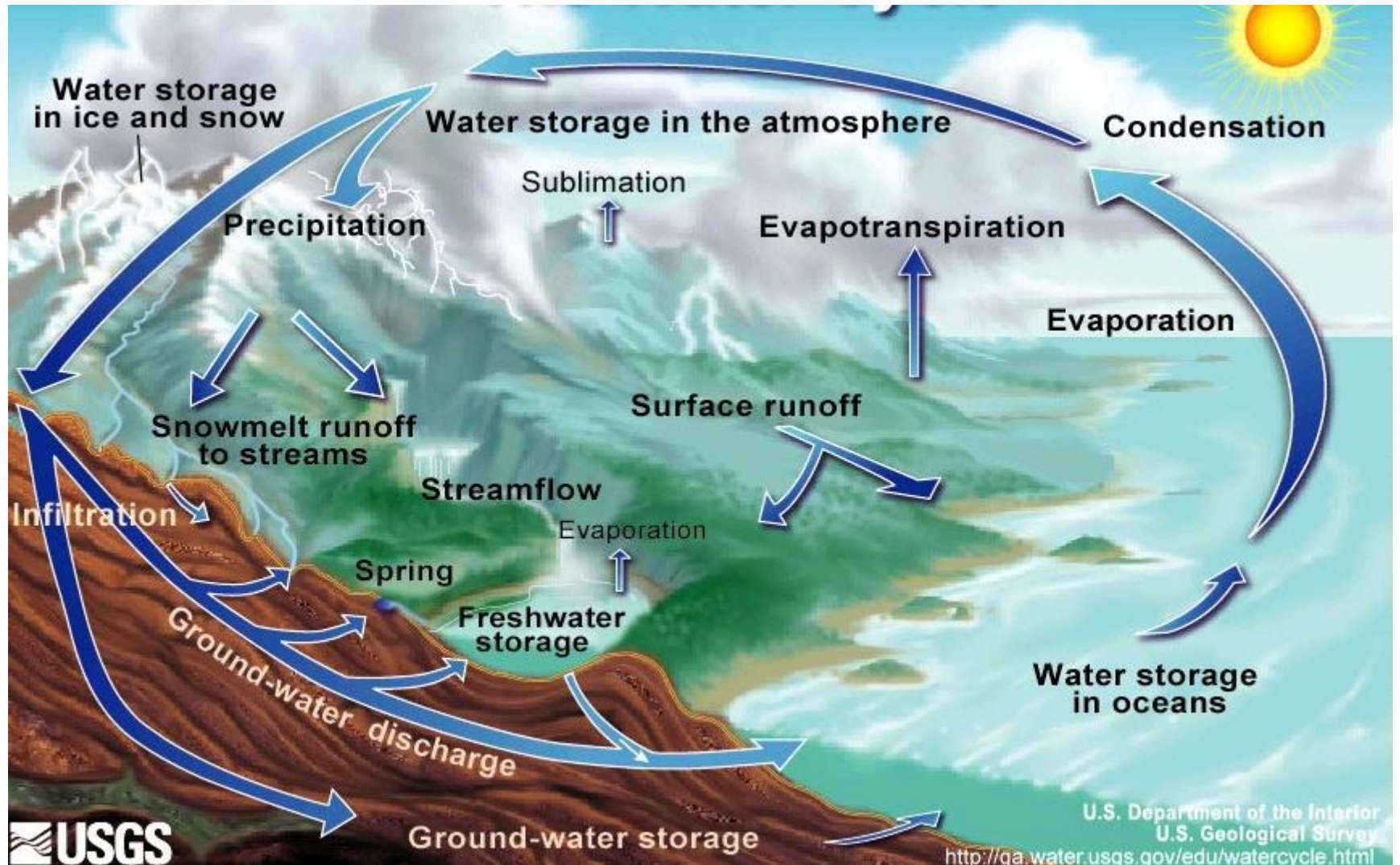
# **WATER RESOURCES**



Natural cycle and man-made issues



# THE WATER CYCLE

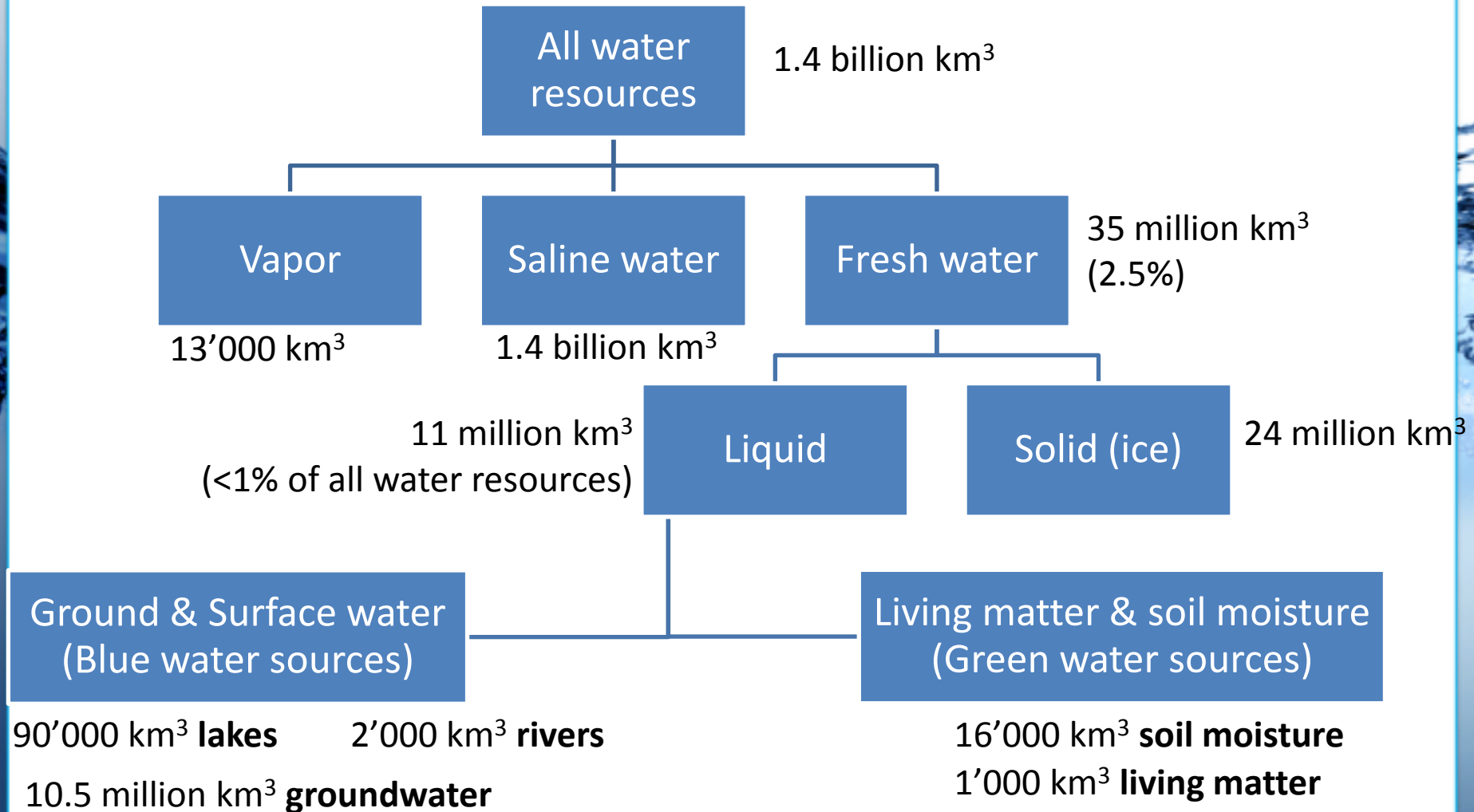


Source: [U.S. Department of the Interior | U.S. Geological Survey](http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/watercycle.html)

URL: <http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/watercycle.html>



# HYDROSPHERE - VOLUMES



# GLOBAL AVERAGE RENEWAL RATES

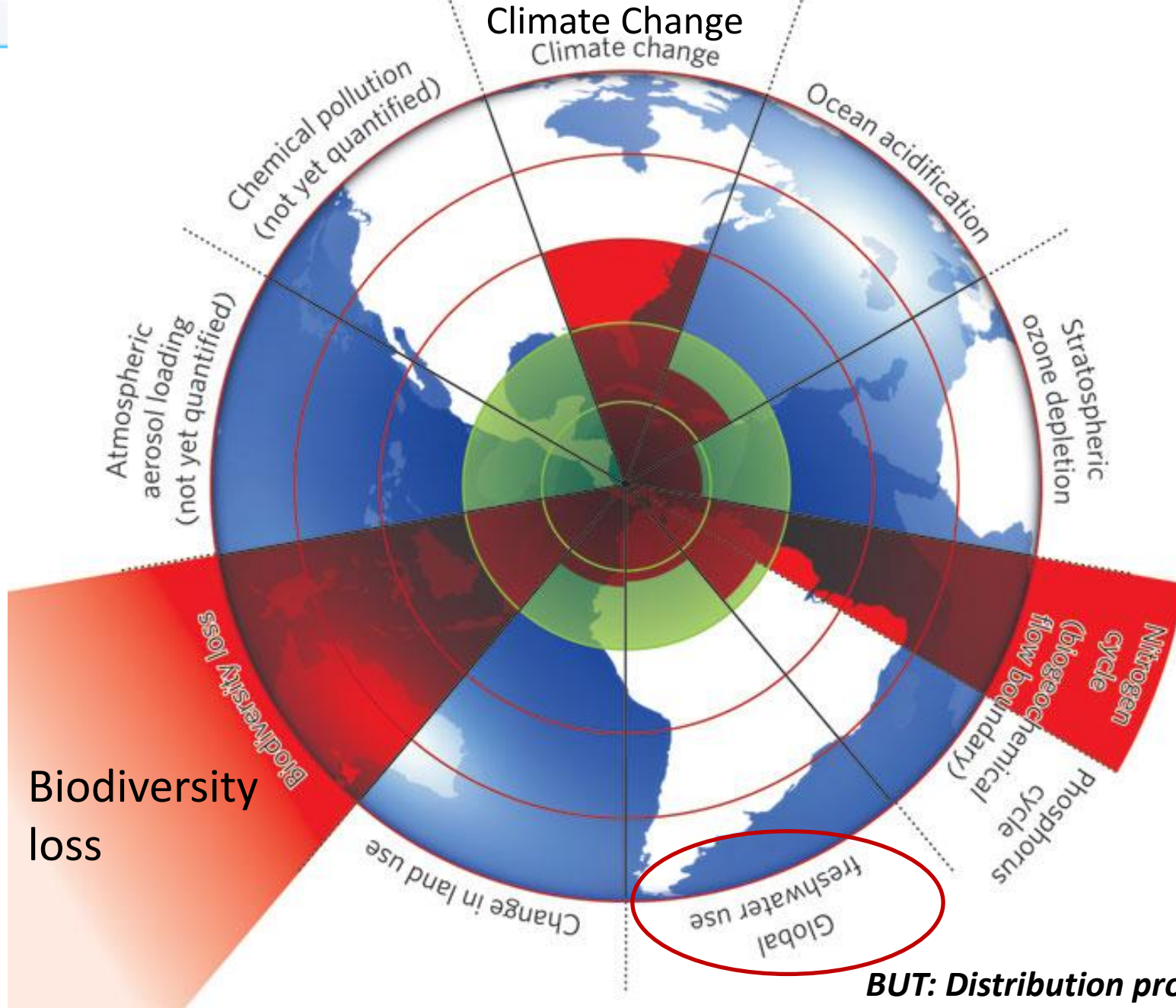
Table 1.14. *Periods of renewal of water resources on the Earth*

Water of hydrosphere	Period of renewal
World Ocean	2 500 years
Ground water	1 400 years
Polar ice	9 700 years
Mountain glaciers	1 600 years
Ground ice of the permafrost zone	10 000 years
Lakes	17 years
Bogs	5 years
Soil moisture	1 year
Channel networks	16 days
Atmospheric moisture	8 days
Biological water	several hours

Flow resource  
(renewable)

# GLOBAL ANNUAL WATER FLOWS

- ▶ **Precipitation** on land: **100'000** km<sup>3</sup> / year
- ▶ **Unproductive evaporation** on land: 23'000 km<sup>3</sup> / year
- ▶ Available water (**runoff & transpiration**): **77'000** km<sup>3</sup> / year (Alcamo et al 2003)
  - ▶ **Transpiration** (plants): **40'000** km<sup>3</sup> / year (Rost et al. 2008)
    - ▶ In crops 6'000 km<sup>3</sup> / year
  - ▶ **Runoff**: **35'000** km<sup>3</sup> / year (Rost et al. 2008)
- ▶ **Human water use**: **3'600** km<sup>3</sup> / year (Alcamo et al 2003)
- ▶ **Irrigation** water consumption: 1'000-**2'000** km<sup>3</sup> / year

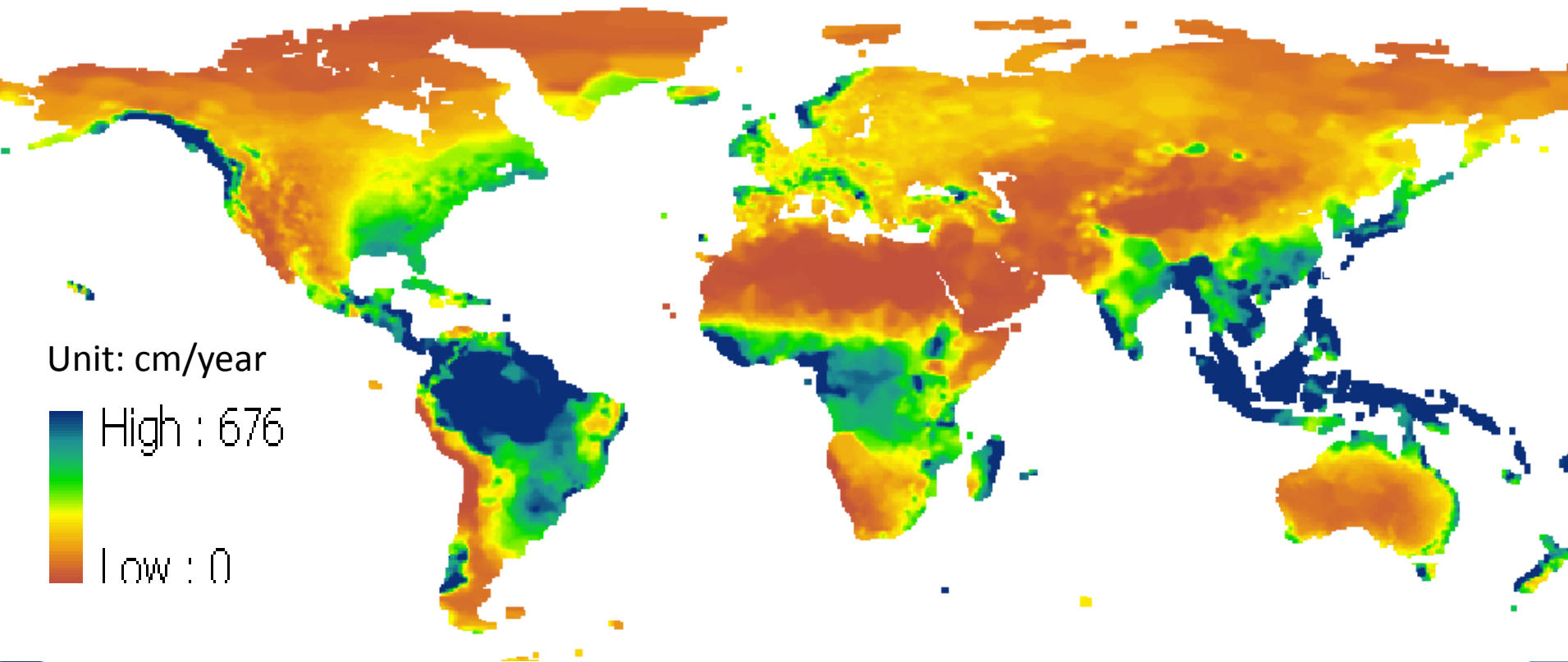


Nitrogen



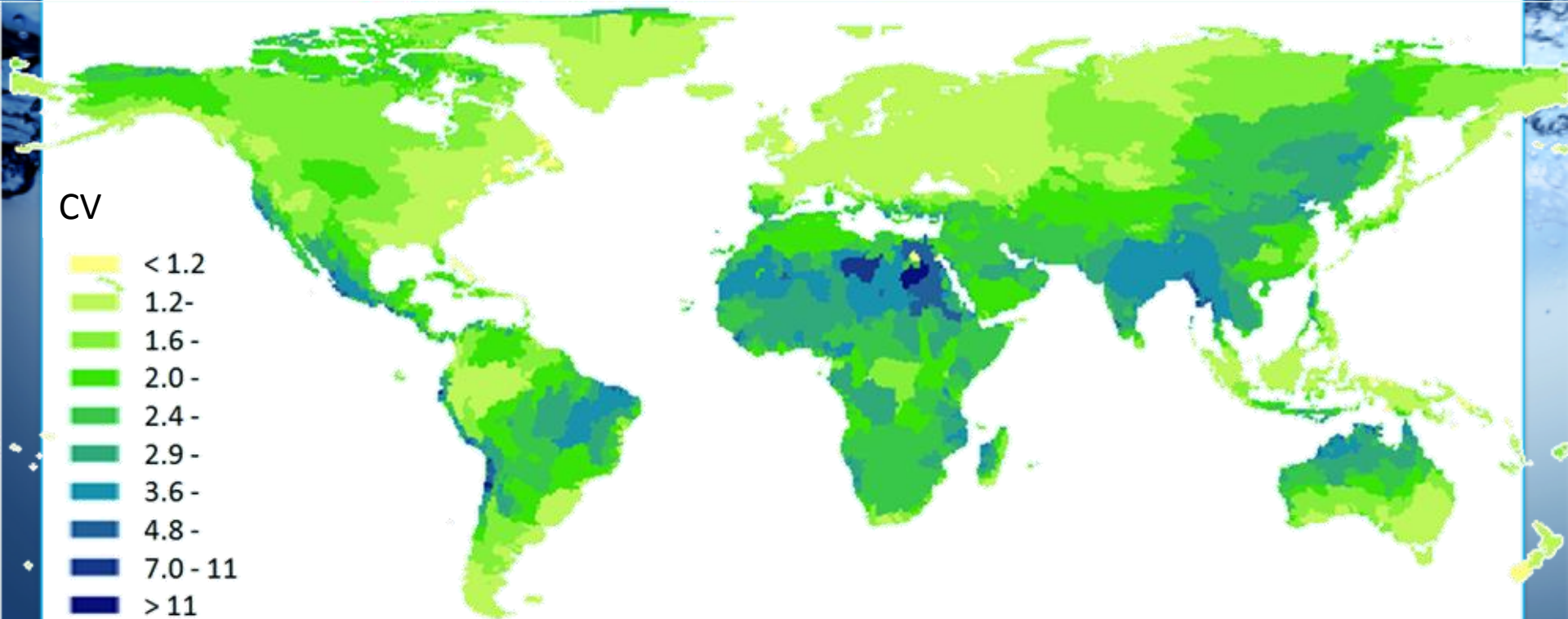
# PRECIPITATION DISTRIBUTION

Relevance of location



# PRECIPITATION VARIABILITY (TEMPORAL DISTRIBUTION)

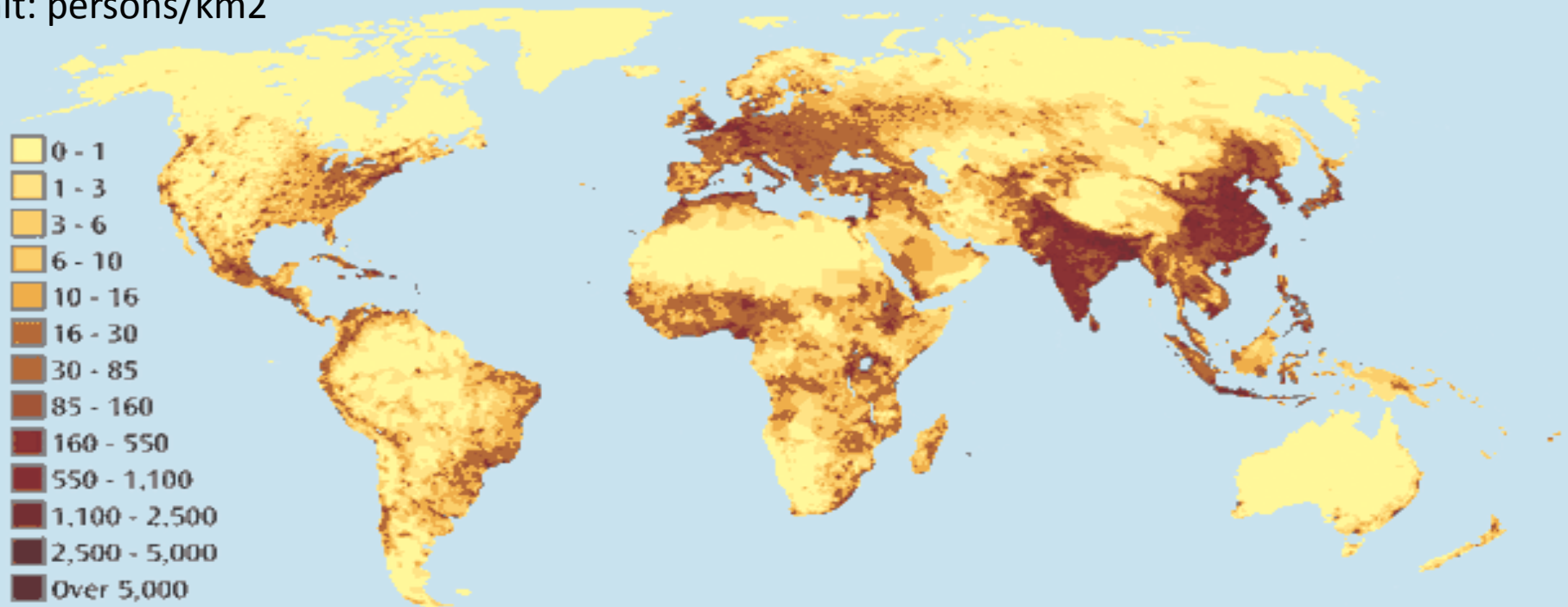
Coefficient of Variation (STD/mean) of monthly precipitation



# POPULATION DENSITY

Intensity of water use somewhat related to population

Unit: persons/km<sup>2</sup>

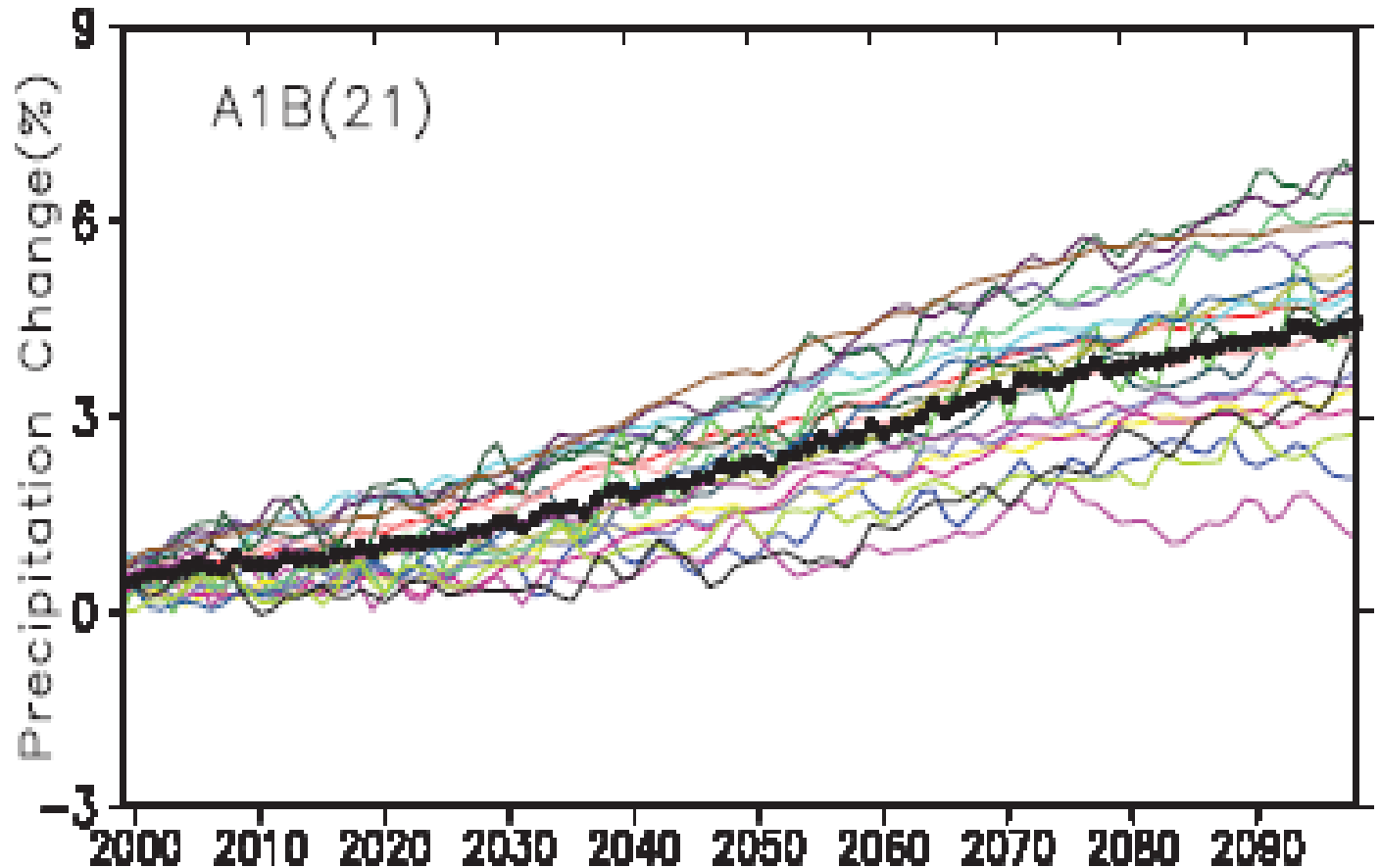


Source: Center for International Earth Science Information Network, Columbia University, "Gridded Population of the World"

# FUTURE PRECIPITATION

Different model predictions for IPCC's A1B scenario (different model runs)

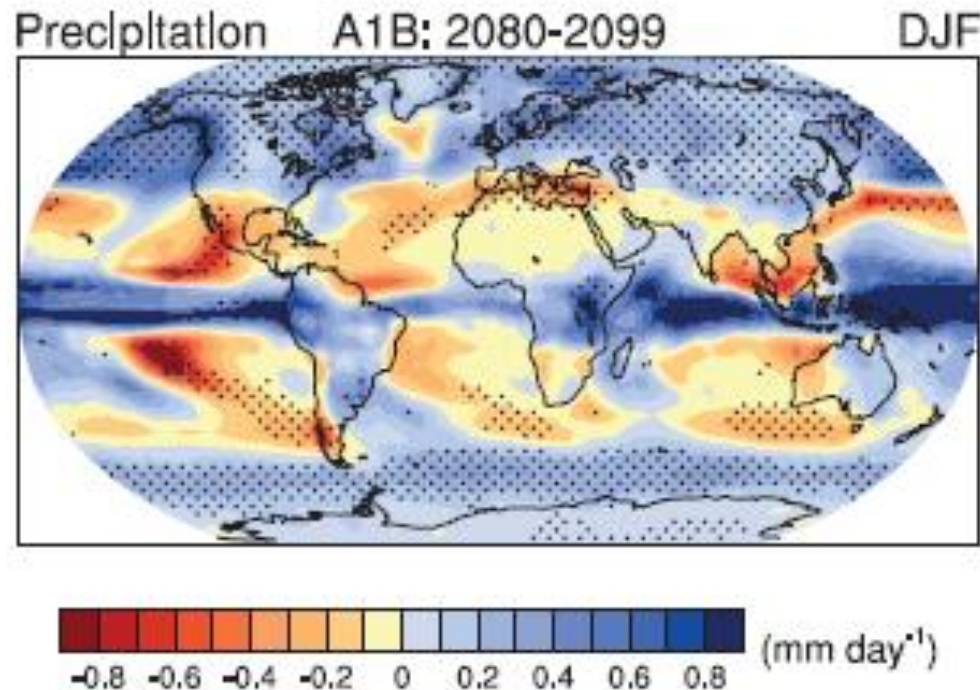
**Globally  
increased  
precipitation**





# SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHANGE IN PRECIPITATION BY 2090

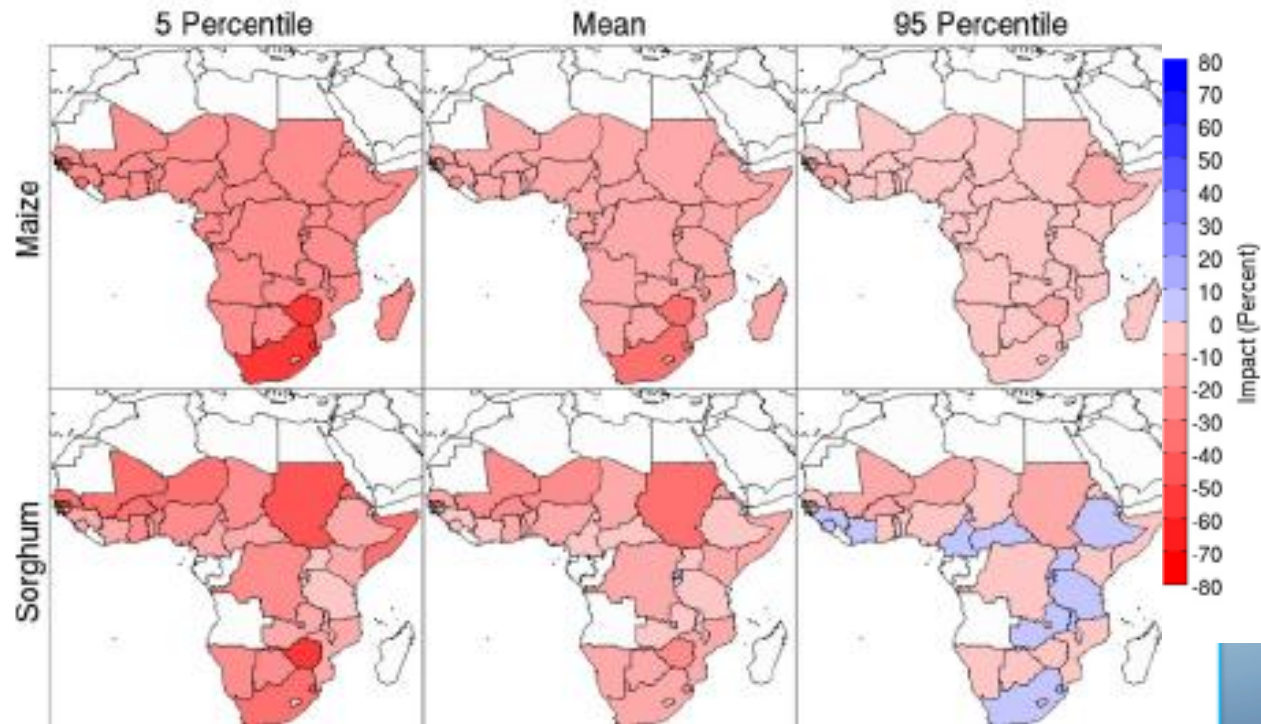
- A1B scenario (IPCC 2007)



**Less  
precipitation  
in many arid  
regions**

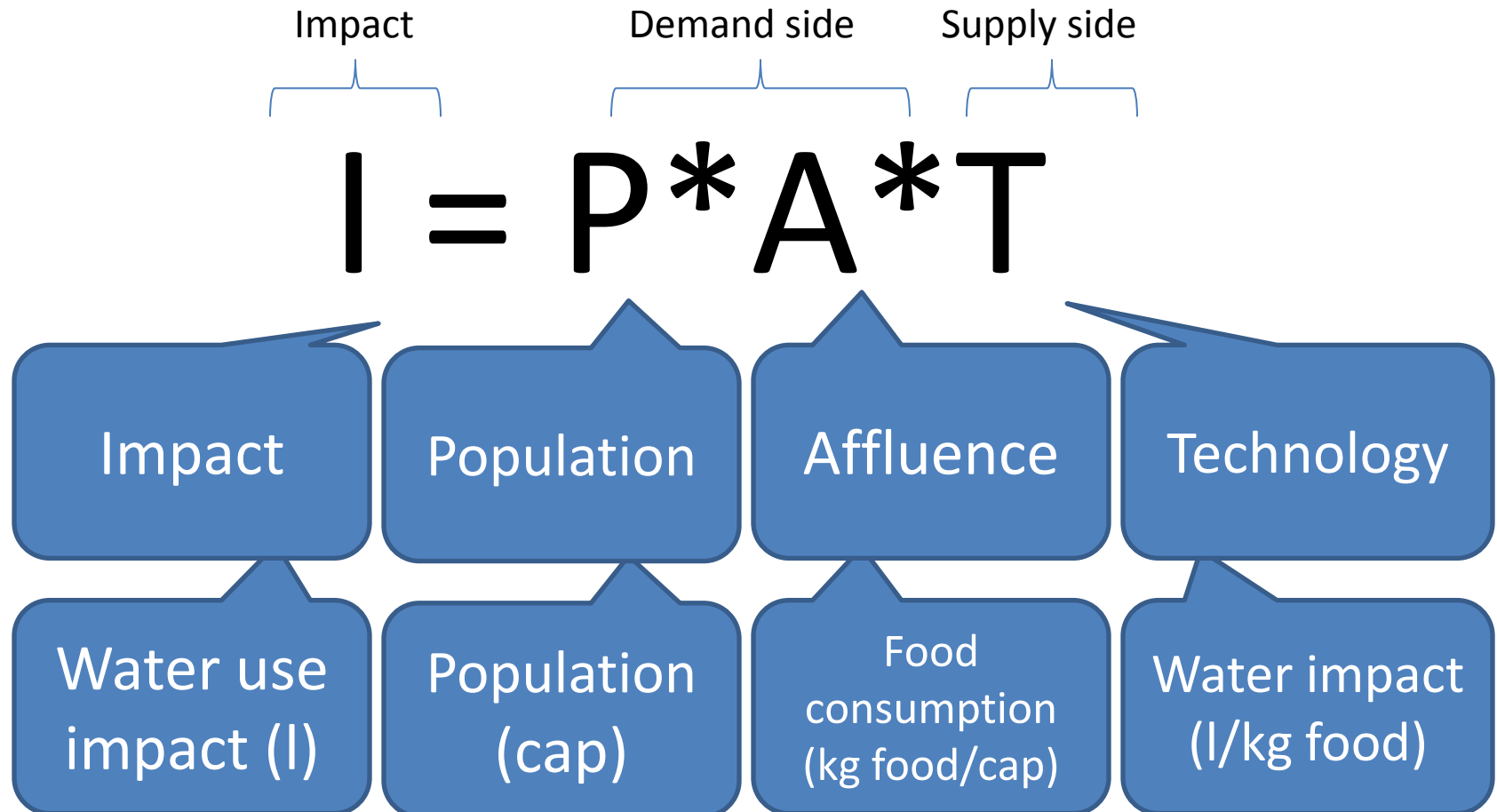
# CLIMATE CHANGE - UNCERTAINTIES

- Temperature induced yield changes by 2050: Roughly 20% yield losses
- Changed irrigation demand (usually neglected)



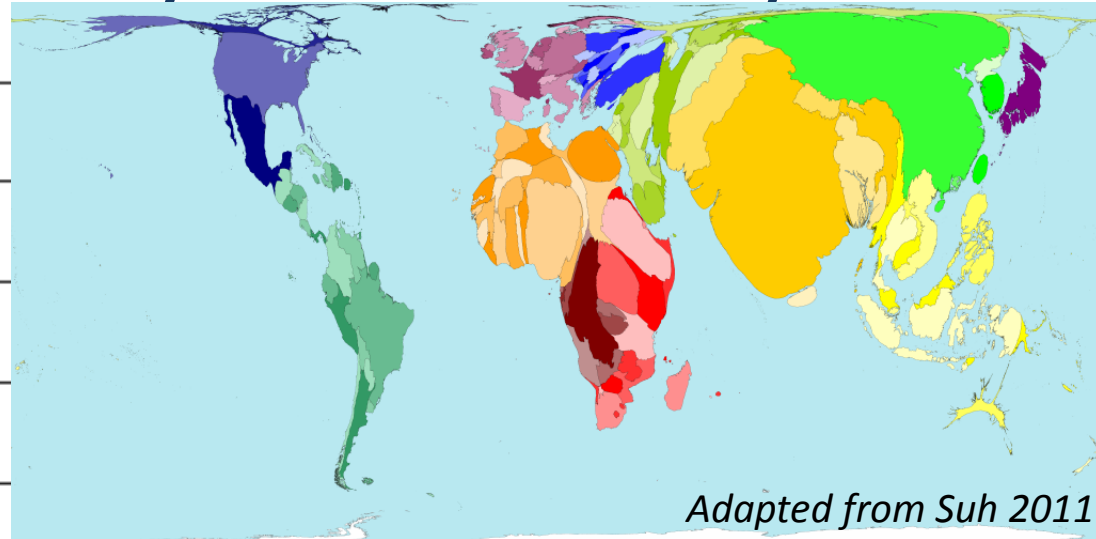
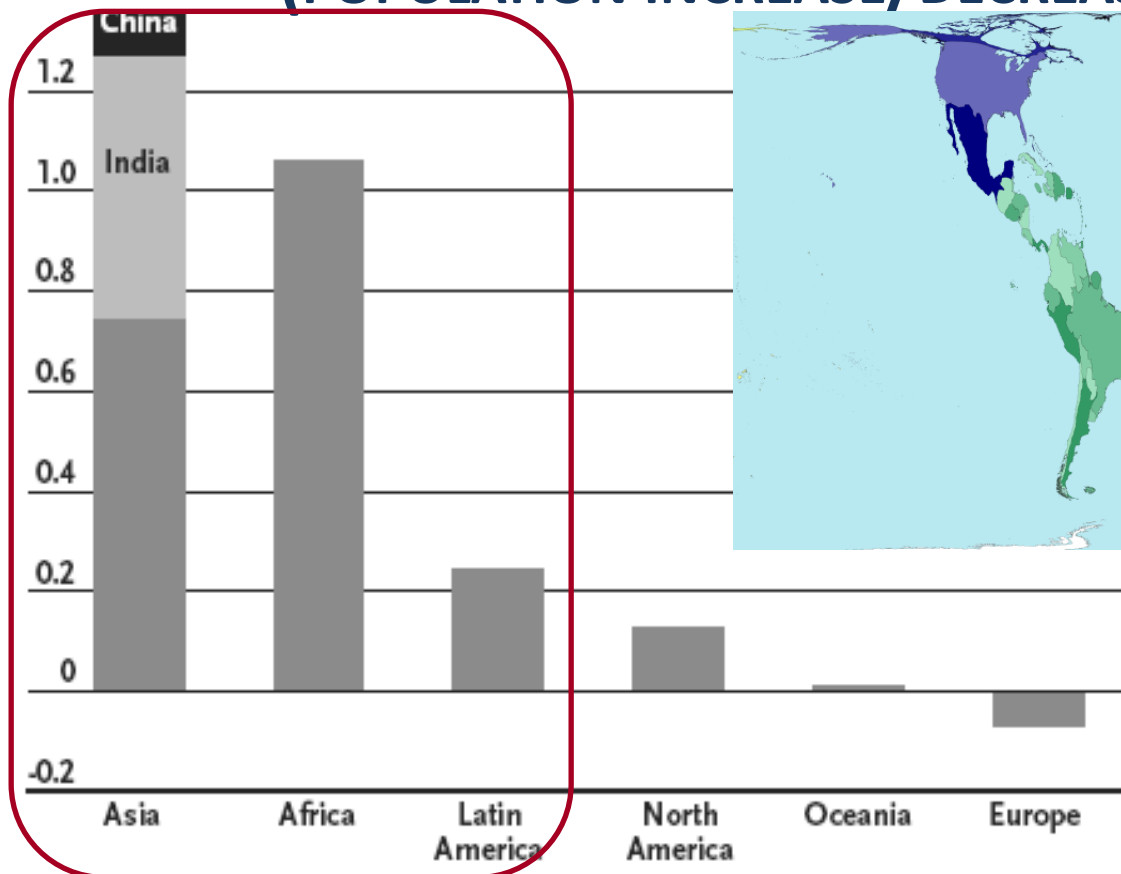
**W Schlenker and D B Lobell**  
Environ. Res. Lett. **5** (2010) 014010

# FUTURE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



# PROJECTED POPULATION CHANGE BY REGION, 2005-2050

(POPULATION INCREASE/DECREASE IN BILLIONS)



*Adapted from Suh 2011*

Source: Haub, C. 2005. World Population Data Sheet - 2005.



# FUTURE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Impact                      Demand side                      Supply side

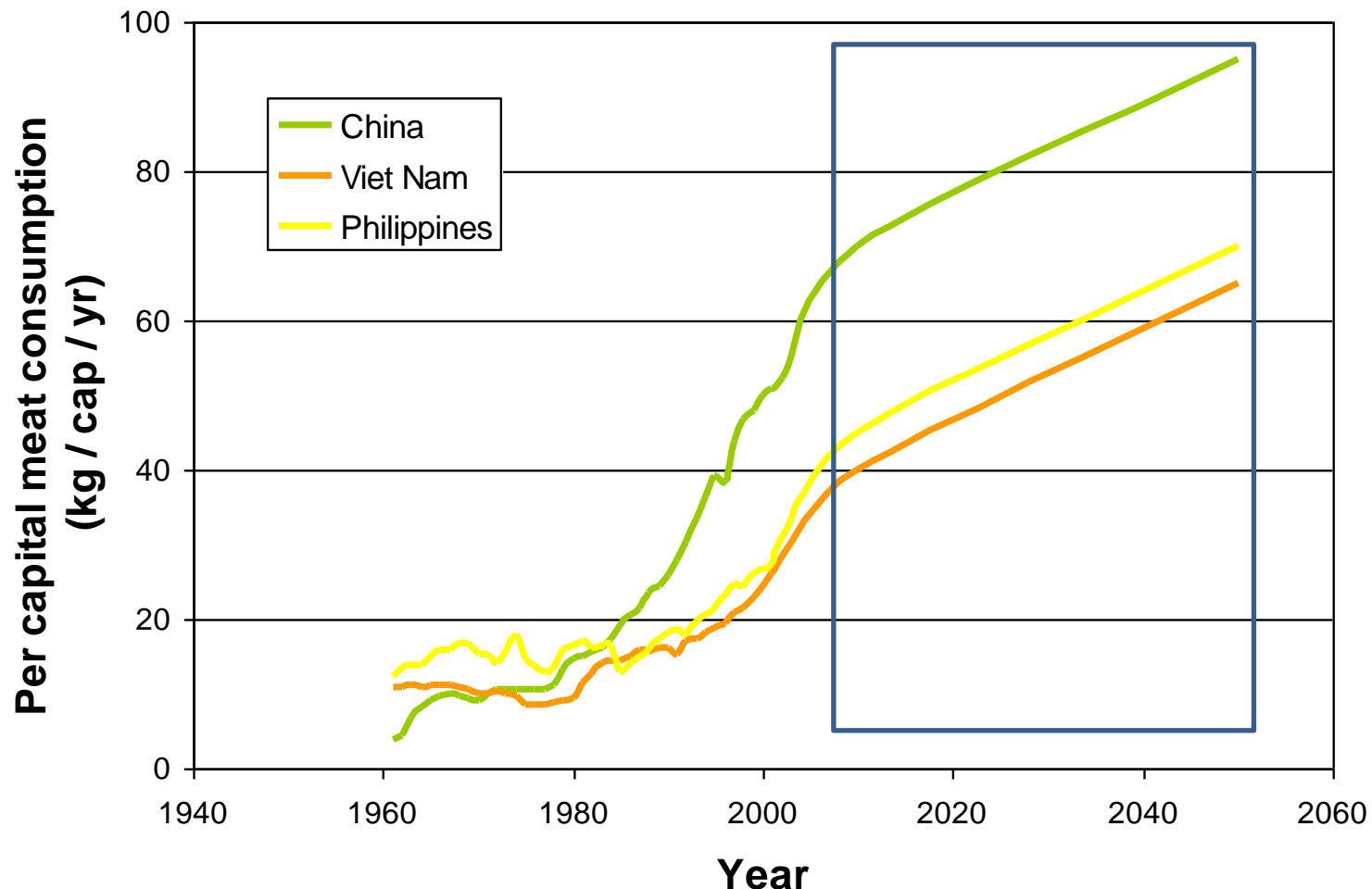
$I = P * A * T$

Affluence

The diagram shows the equation  $I = P * A * T$  where  $I$  is labeled 'Impact',  $P$  is labeled 'Demand side', and  $T$  is labeled 'Supply side'. A blue callout box labeled 'Affluence' points to the variable  $A$ .

# AFFLUENCE:

## E.G. MEAT CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA



Data: 1960 - 2002 from FAO, China current from Liu and Savenije (2008), the rest is projection from Suh 2011





USA



Chad

Courtesy: Peter Menzel and Faith D'aluisio: Hungry planet: what the world eats  
Adapted from Suh 2011



Ecuador

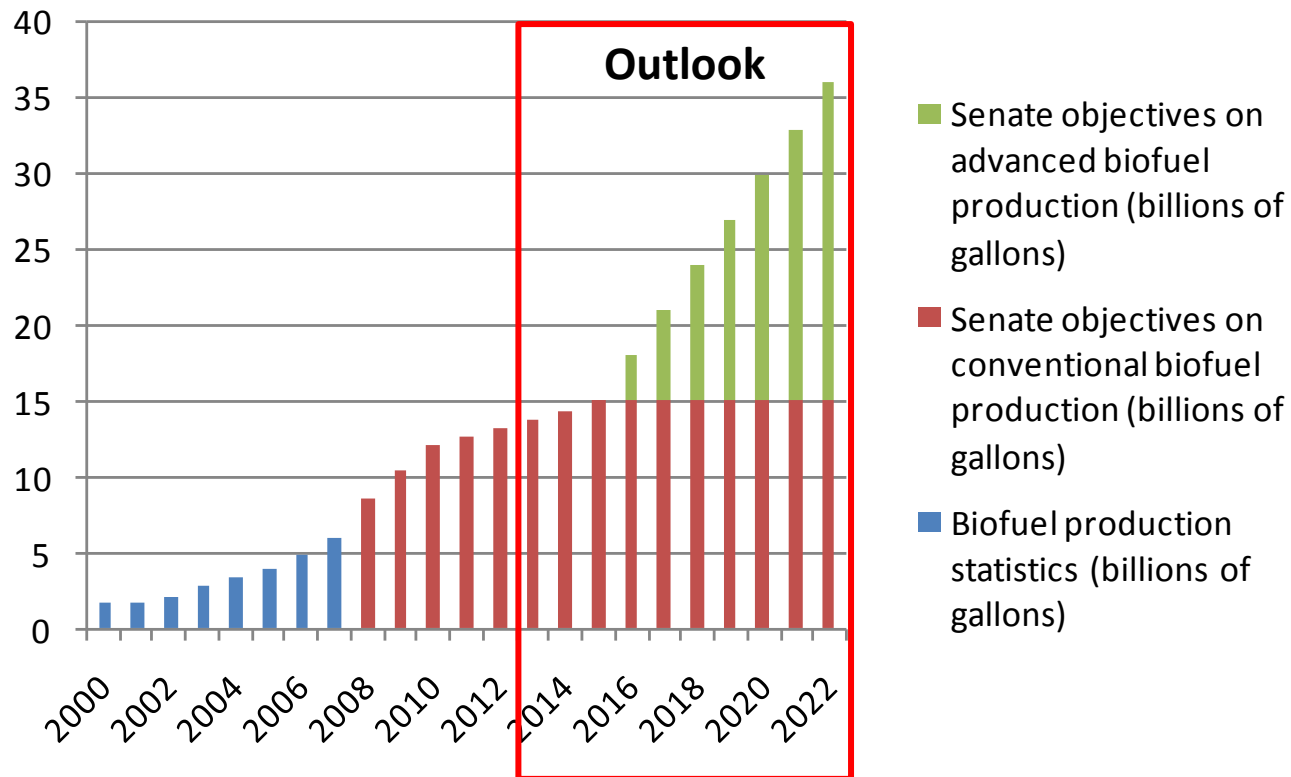


Bhutan



# BIOFUEL PRODUCTION

- United States energy objectives

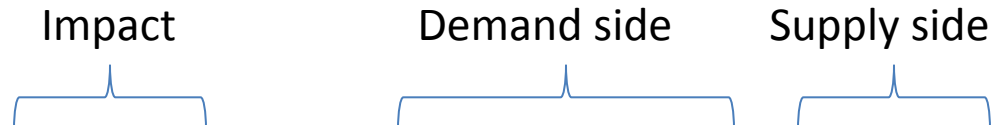


*Adapted from Suh 2011*



# FUTURE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Impact                      Demand side                      Supply side


$$I = P * A * T$$

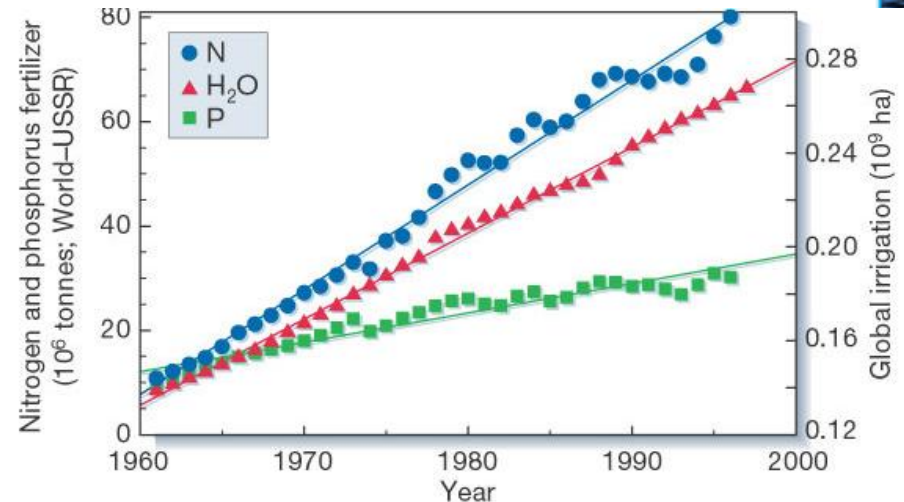
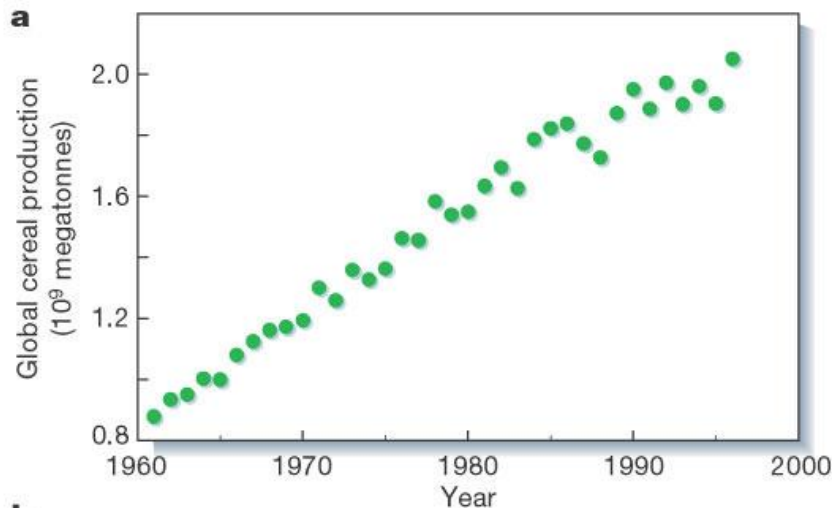
Technology

# RELEVANT INDUSTRIAL SECTORS

- Agricultural production
  - (~85% of total water consumption)
- Power production
  - Especially hydropower
  - Also thermal power
- Other industrial sectors
  - Feedstock efficiency
  - Power consumption
  - Water recycling / **emissions**

# AGRICULTURE: GREEN REVOLUTION?

Water and fertilizer are key parameters



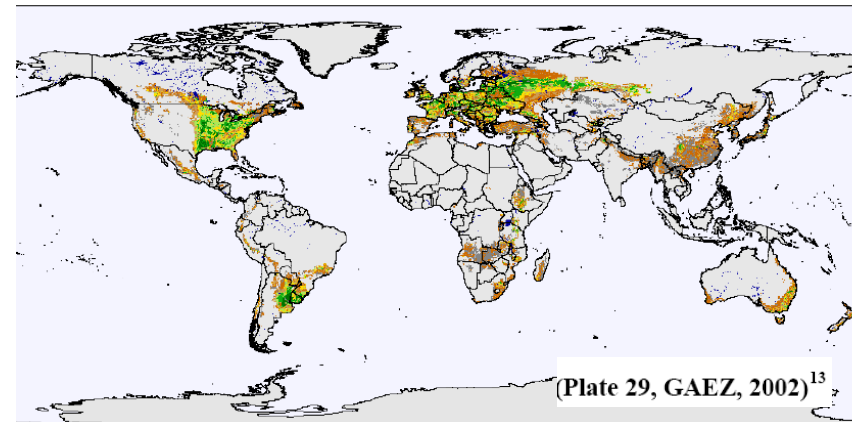
Tilman, D., et al. (2002): Agricultural sustainability and intensive production practices, *Nature*, 418. 671-677



# BIOPHYSICAL CONDITIONS

- Intensification
  - Yield gap (improvement potential)
- Expansion
  - Suitability for crop production
    - Soils
    - Climate
    - Proximity to existing cropland
  - Land availability
    - Other cropland
    - Pastures
    - Forests / natural areas

Suitability for rain-fed wheat



# ADDITIONAL IRRIGATION WATER CONSUMPTION IN 2050

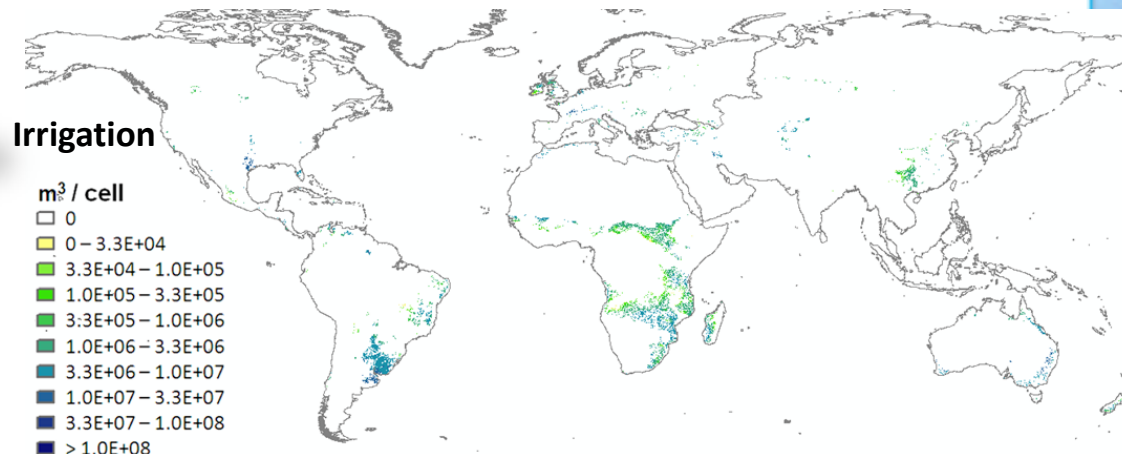
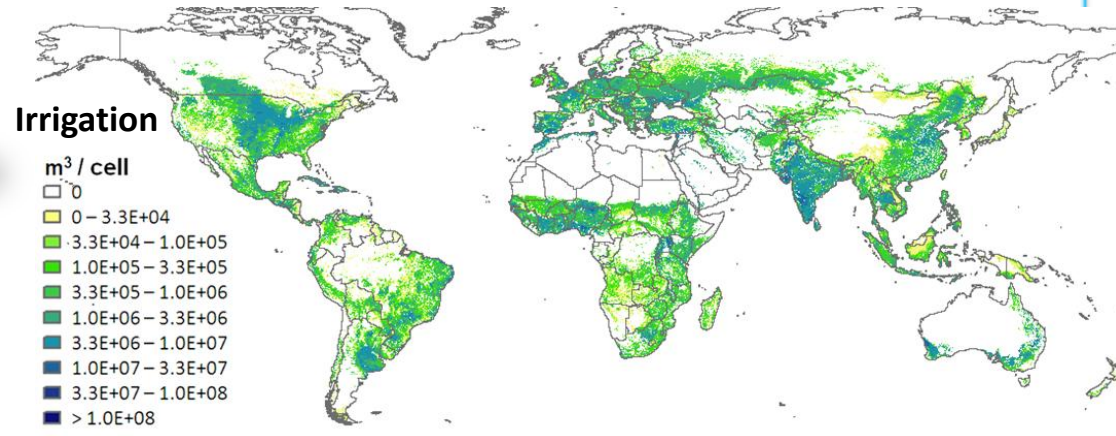
Strategies:

- Intensification & food waste reduction

Irrigation:  
+ 1125 km<sup>3</sup>/yr  
(64%)

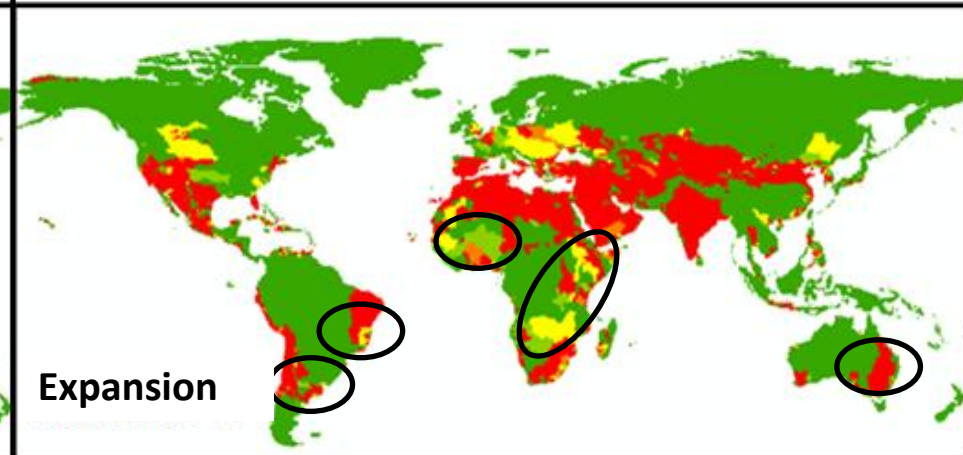
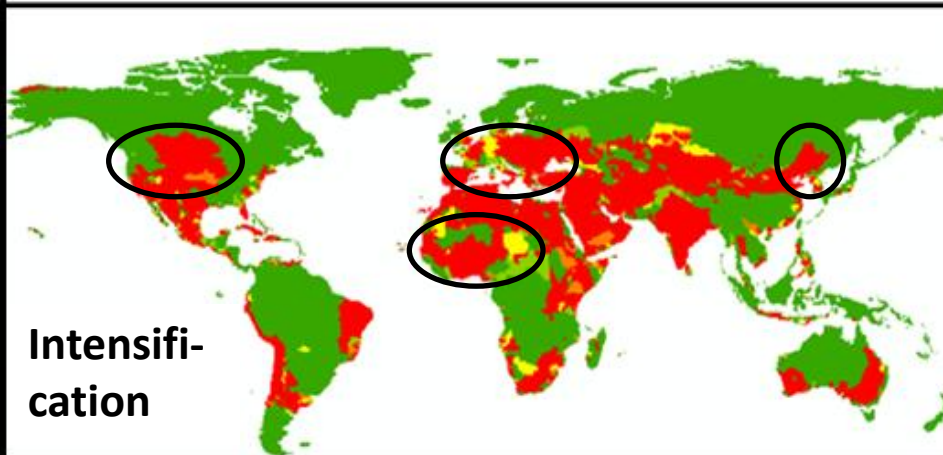
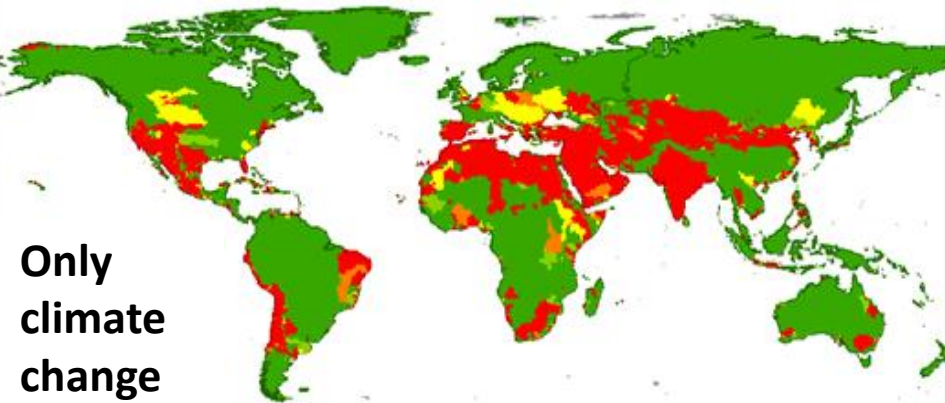
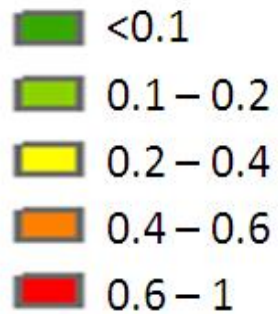
- Expansion on pastures

Irrigation :  
+169 km<sup>3</sup>/yr  
(10%)



# WATER STRESS INDEX IN 2050

Water Stress Index (WSI):





# **WATER AND LCA**

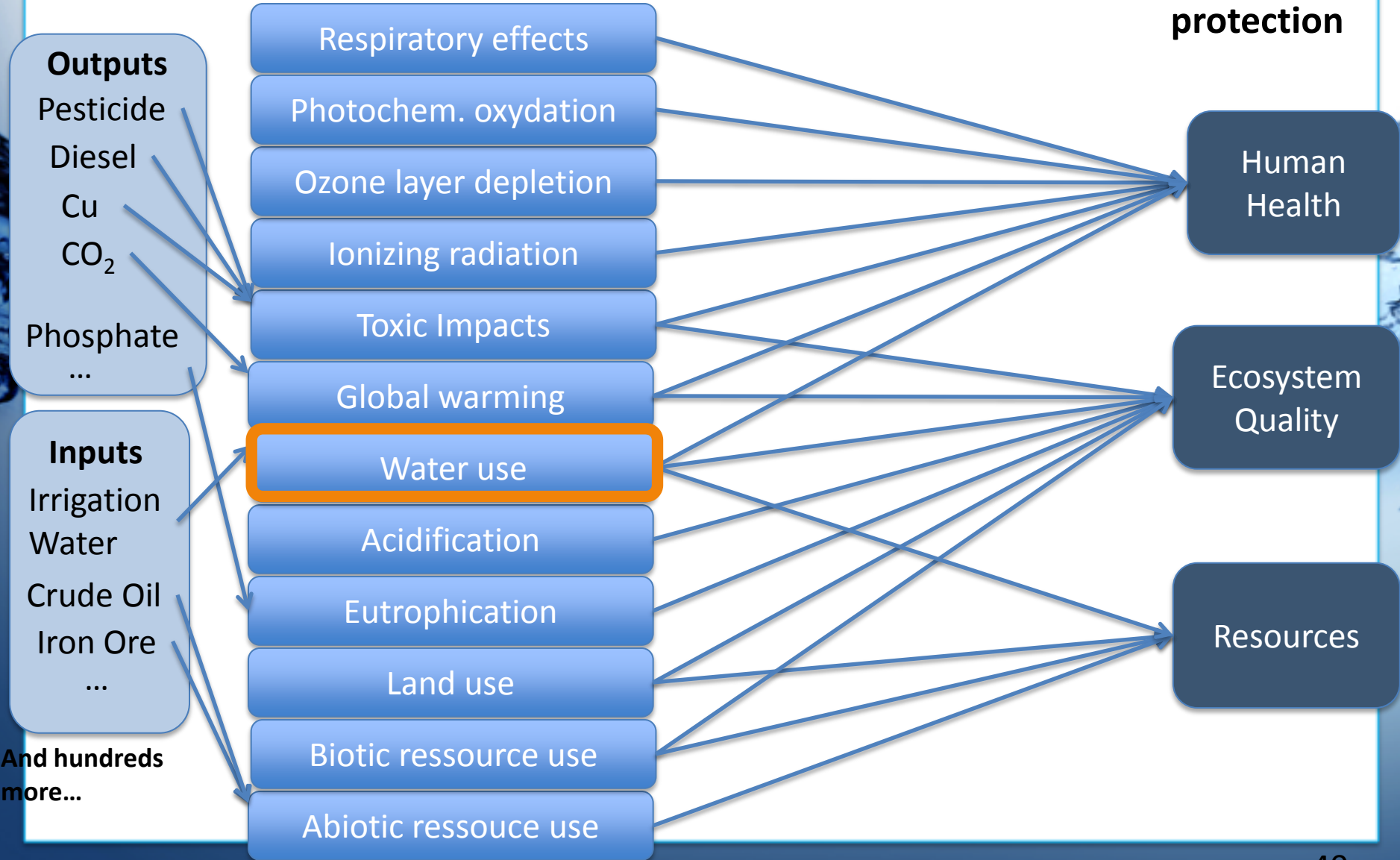


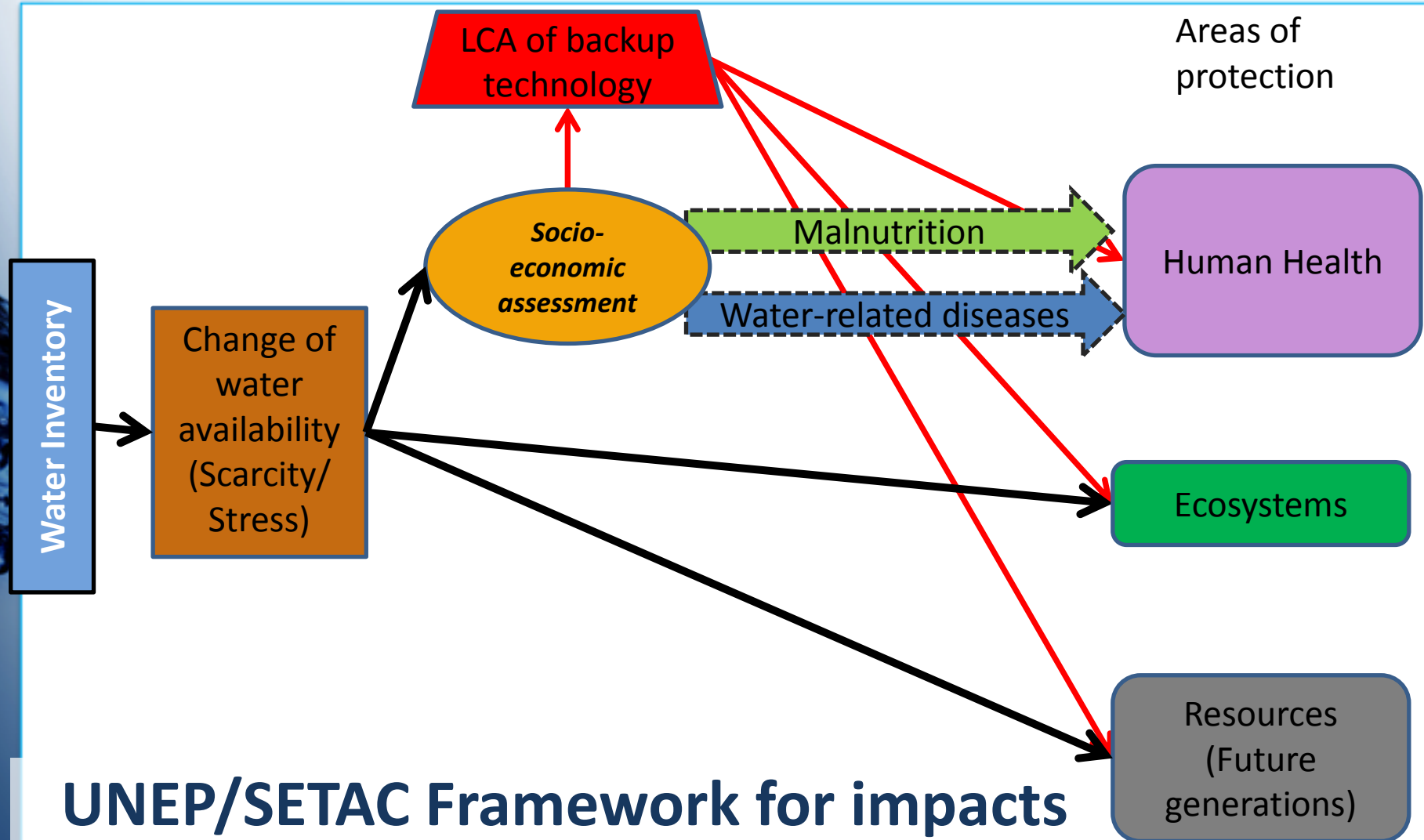
WULCA Working Group and Framework

# TRADITIONAL FRAMEWORK OF LCA IMPACT PATHWAYS OF THE LIFE CYCLE INITIATIVE

## Problems

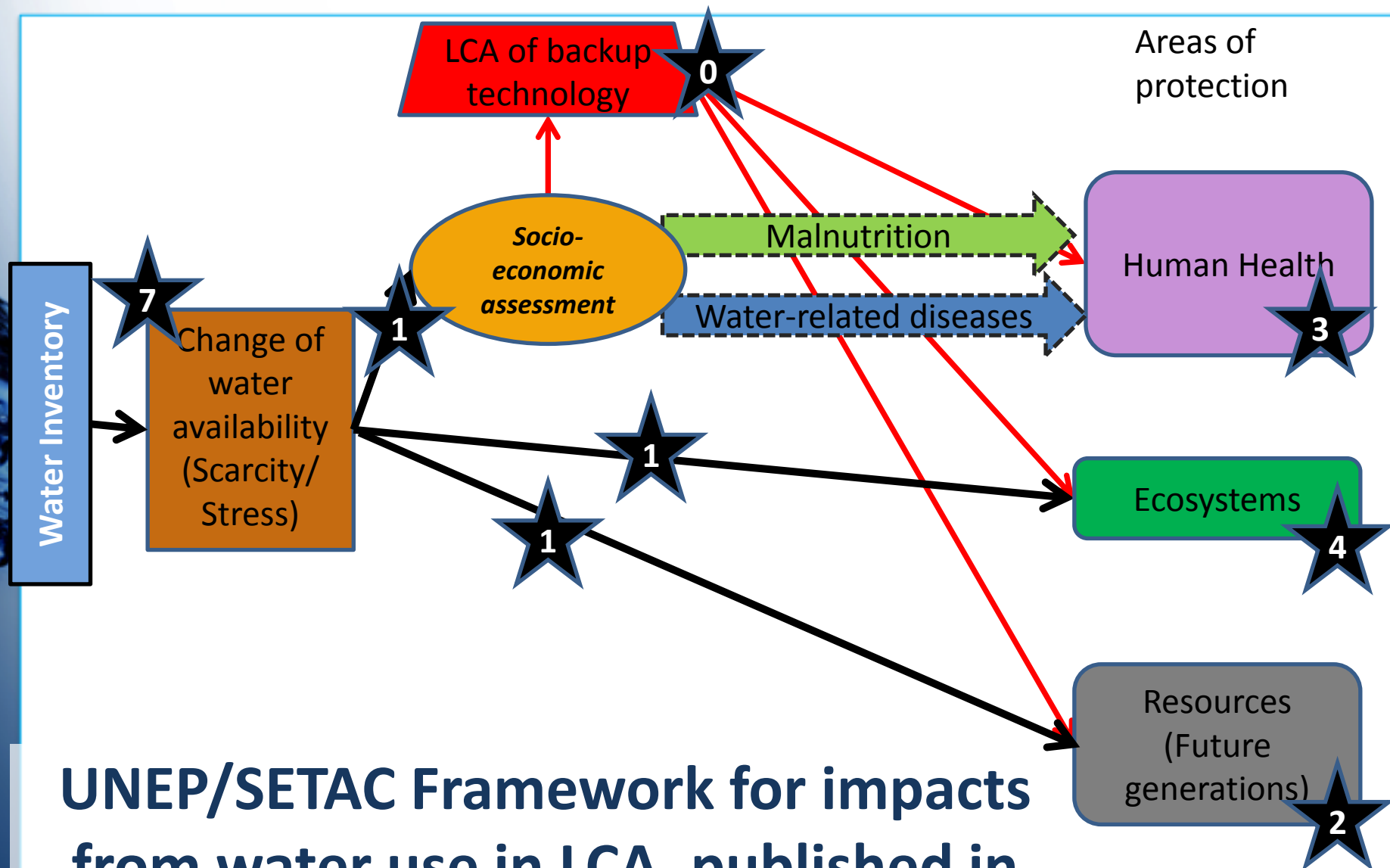
## Areas of protection





**UNEP/SETAC Framework for impacts  
from water use in LCA, published in  
Bayart et al. 2010**





**UNEP/SETAC Framework for impacts  
from water use in LCA, published in  
Bayart et al. 2010**

## Midpoint

### Single indicators

Frischknecht

Pfister

Boulay (simpl.)

Veolia

Hoekstra

Boulay

Midoult Pfister

### Category indicators

#### Human health

Bayart

Humantox

#### Ecosystem quality

Mila-I-Canals

Ecotoxicity

Acidification

Eutrophication

#### Resources

Mila-I-Canals

Legend

quality

quantity

### Category indicators

## Endpoint

#### Human health

Pfister

Motoshita a

Motoshita b

Boulay

Humantox

#### Ecosystem quality

Pfister

Hanafiah

Van Zelm

Verones

Ecotoxicity

Acidification

Eutrophication

#### Resources

Pfister

Boesch

Based on Kounina et al. 2012

(Adjusted from Quantis - do not re-use without prior permission)

# WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH

## WATER?

### Problems

### Areas of protection

#### Outputs

Pesticide  
Diesel  
Cu  
CO<sub>2</sub>  
Phosphate  
...

#### Inputs

Irrigation  
Water  
Crude Oil  
Iron Ore  
...

Respiratory effects

Photochem. oxydation

Ozone layer depletion

Ionizing radiation

Toxic Impacts

Global warming

Water use

Acidification

Eutrophication

Land use

Biotic ressource use

Abiotic ressource use

**Water  
Footprint**

Human  
Health

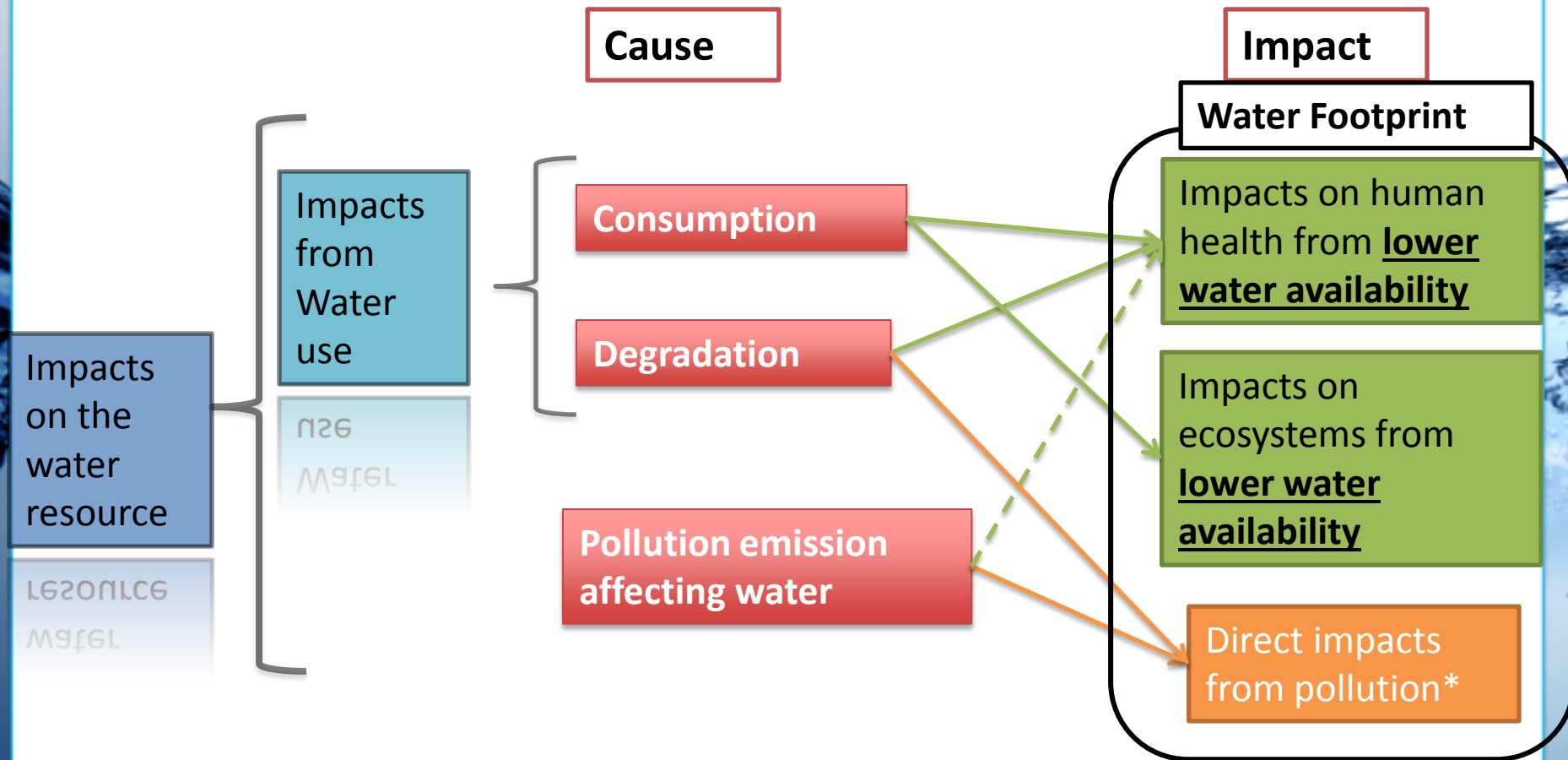
Ecosystem  
Quality

Resources

And hundreds  
more...

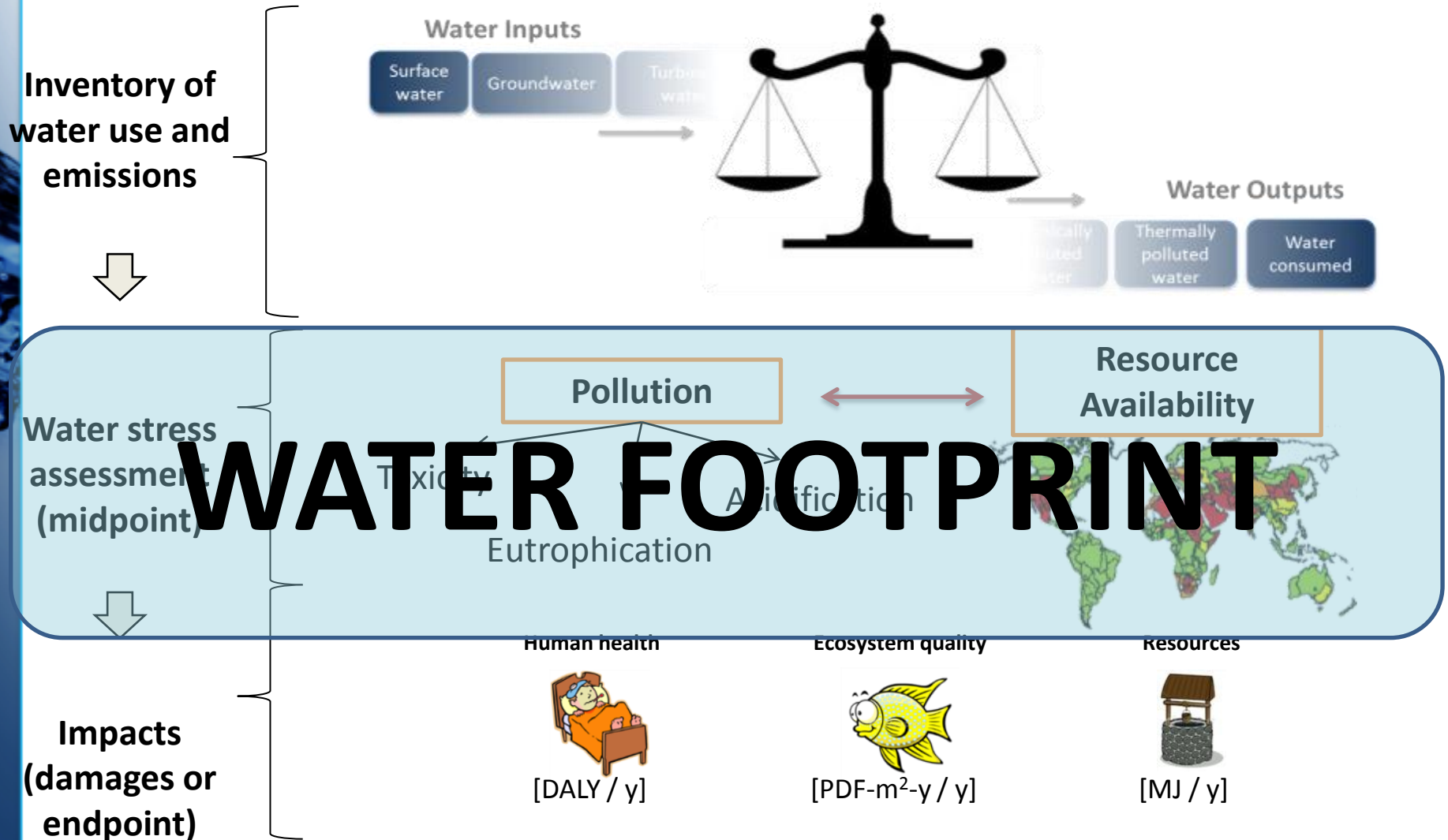


# DISTINCTION IN WATER IMPACT MODELING



\* From traditional LCA models including eutrophication, ecotoxicity, thermal, etc.

# FROM INVENTORY, TO RISK, TO IMPACTS...



# WATER FOOTPRINT PROFILE

*Water Availability* + *Impacts from water pollution*

## Water Footprint Assessment Profile



*Ionizing  
radiation*

*Eutrophication*

*Toxicity*

*Land Use*

*Acidification*

Ex: 100 m<sup>3</sup> eq



# WATER FOOTPRINT PROFILE

*Water Availability* + *Impacts from water pollution*

**Water Footprint Profile**

Human  
Health

Ecosystems

Ressources

# WATER FOOTPRINT AS PART OF LCA

Water  
Availability  
Footprint



Impacts from water pollution

Water Footprint impacts

## Water Footprint Assessment Profile

All other LCA impacts not  
related to water

Human  
Health

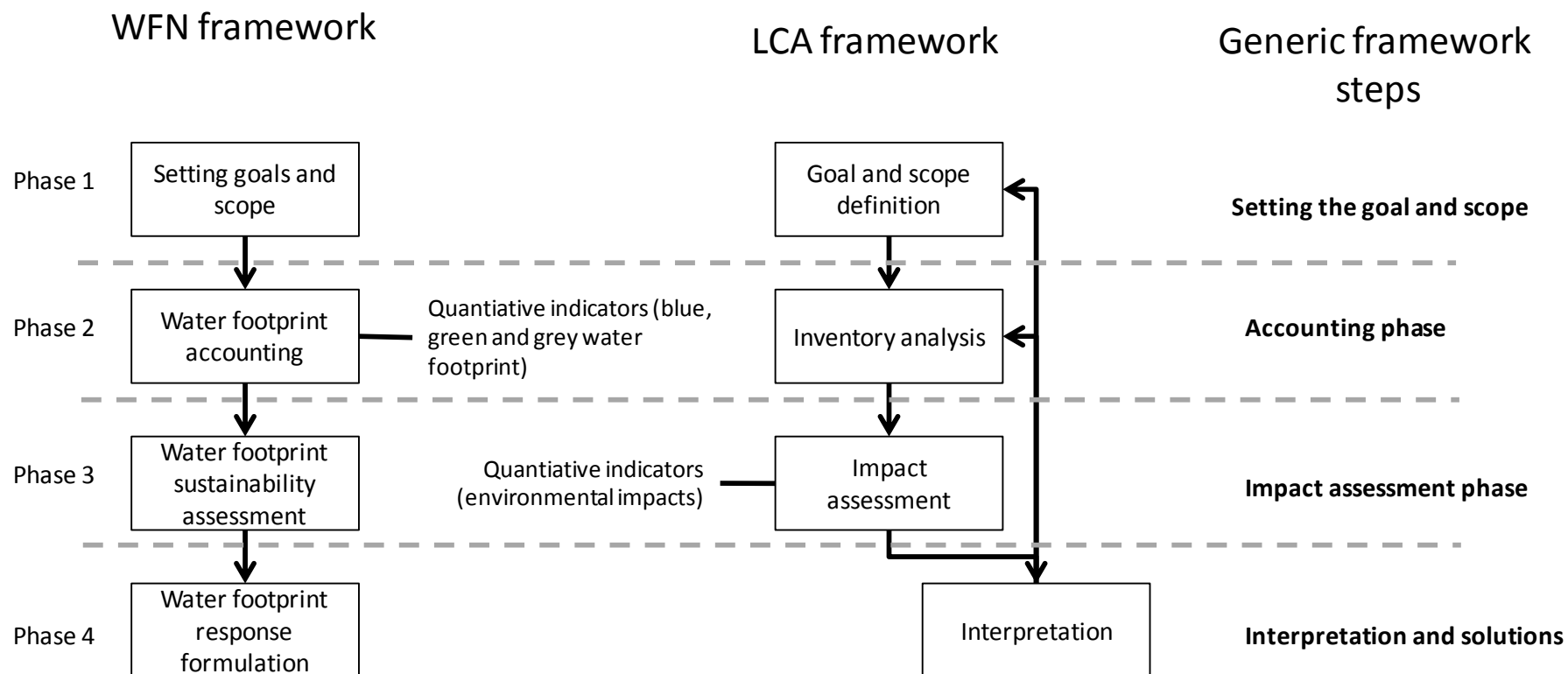
Ecosystems

Resources



Water Footprint  
NETWORK

# WATER FOOTPRINT NETWORK vs LCA



Source: Boulay, Vionnet et Hoekstra, 2013



# ISO STANDARDISATION PROCESS



ISO 14046, Water footprint –  
Requirements and guidelines

# DIS ISO 14046 WATER FOOTPRINT



International  
Organization for  
Standardization

## REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

WG 8 set up by ISO/TC 207 subcommittee SC 5, *Life cycle assessment*.

### **Proposer & Secretariat:**

SNV, Swiss Association for Standardization  
Barbara Mullis, [barbara.mullis@snv.ch](mailto:barbara.mullis@snv.ch)  
(formerly Marcel Schulze)

### **Convener:**

Sebastien Humbert, Quantis, Lausanne,  
Switzerland, [sebastien.humbert@quantis-intl.com](mailto:sebastien.humbert@quantis-intl.com), +41-79-754-7566

### **Co-convener:**

Nydia Suppen Reynaga, Centro de analisis de  
cyclo de vida y disenio sustentable, Mexico,  
[nsuppen@centroacv.com.mx](mailto:nsuppen@centroacv.com.mx)

### **Participants:**

15 – 30 Countries

35 – 80 experts

- Launch of the project:
  - 09.Mar.2009: NWIP Circulated in ISO/TC 207/SC 5
  - 09.Jun.2009: NWIP Submitted to vote
  - 26.Jun.2009: Cairo: NWIP Accepted as a Preliminary Working Item (PWI)
  - 25+.Sep.2009: List of P and O participants

Meeting every 6 months since 2009

[illegible]



# ISO 14046: IN SUMMARY



International  
Organization for  
Standardization

- “Water Footprint: Principles, Requirements and Guidelines”
- International standard for water footprinting
  - ***This International Standard specifies requirements and guidelines to assess and report water footprint based on LCA***
    - Terminology
    - Important stages to consider
    - Consistency with carbon footprinting and other LCA impact categories
      - Scope, system boundary, etc.
    - Review/Validation
    - Reporting
- Began 2009, ends 2013/14
- Towards industry and practitioners

Standard development steps:

**1- NP:** New Proposal

**2- WD:** Working Draft

(PWD = preliminary WD)

**3- CD:** Committee Draft

**4- DIS:** Draft International Standard

**5- IS:** International Standard

# NWIP ACCEPTED IN CAIRO

## (JUNE 2009)

The proposed International Standard will deliver

**principles, requirements and guidelines**

for a water footprint metric of

**products, processes and organisations,**

based on the guidance of

**impact assessment** as given in **ISO 14044**.

It will define how the different types of water sources (for example ground, surface, lake, river, green, blue, gray, etc.) should be considered, how the different types of water releases should be considered, and how the local environmental conditions (dry areas, wet areas) should be treated.

For products, it will apply the life cycle approach and will be based on the same product system as specified in ISO 14040 and ISO 14044.

At the organisation level, it will consider the guidance given by ISO 14064 for greenhouse gases.

The standard will also address the

**communication issues linked to the water footprint**

# DIS ISO 14046 WATER FOOTPRINT



International  
Organization for  
Standardization

## REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

- 19-21.Nov.2009: First **working meeting**
  - (Stockholm, Sweden)
  - Title, Scope; Draft structure PWD
- 11-18.Jul.2010: Second **working meeting**
  - (Leon, Mexico)
  - Detailed sections PWD (Discussion on PWD1)
- 24-26.01.2011: Third **working meeting**
  - (Lausanne, Switzerland)
  - Finalization of draft PWD (Discussion on PWD2)
- 26.06-02.07.2011: Fourth **working meeting**
  - (Oslo, Norway)
  - Acceptance of NWIP as WD1
- 28.11-02.12.2011: Fifth **working meeting**
  - (Sao Paulo, Brazil)
  - Discussion on WD2, Acceptance to go for CD (TBC)
- 24-30.Jun.2012: Sixth **working meeting**
  - (Bangkok, Thailand)
  - Result for CD1 vote; Discussion on CD1
  - Decision to go for a CD2
- 9-12.Dec.2012: Seventh **working meeting**
  - (Padova, Italy)
  - Discussion on CD2
  - Decision to go for a DIS
- 23-26.Jun.2013: Eighth **working meeting**
  - (Gaborone, Botswana)
  - DIS vote rejected
  - Decision to go for DIS2

Vote passed from the Participating countries but was rejected by the Observer countries, often caused by misunderstanding of the DIS  
Clarifications were made to the DIS and DIS2 will be sent around for voting again



## **WATER FOOTPRINT - ACCEPTED CONCEPTS**

- 1- Should be life-cycle based
- 2- Could be “stand-alone” or part of a full Life Cycle Assessment
- 3- Results should include impact assessment (volumes not sufficient) and address regional issues
- 4- Both quantity and quality should be considered
- 5- Comprehensive impact assessment related to water (not only water use but all impacts related to water)
- 6- Can result in one or several indicators

# TECHNICAL REPORT



International  
Organization for  
Standardization

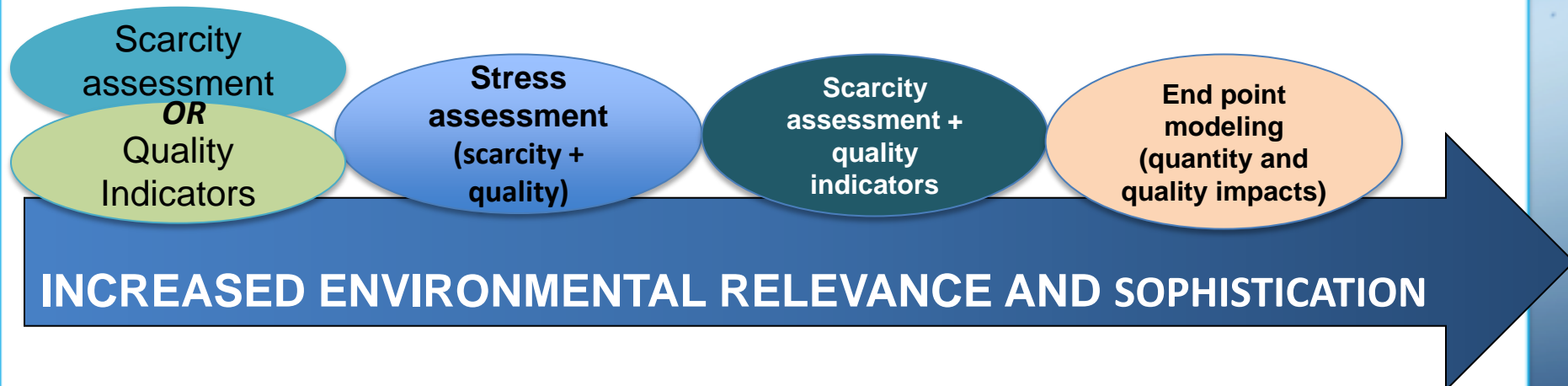
- To provide examples of application to guide practitioners
- To give examples of different methodologies and how they fit within the standard
- The next meeting to be concentrated on this document (if DIS accepted)
- Examples are still welcome

# **TYPES OF WATER FOOTPRINT METRICS AND ASSESSMENTS**



# TYPES OF METRICS RELATED TO WATER

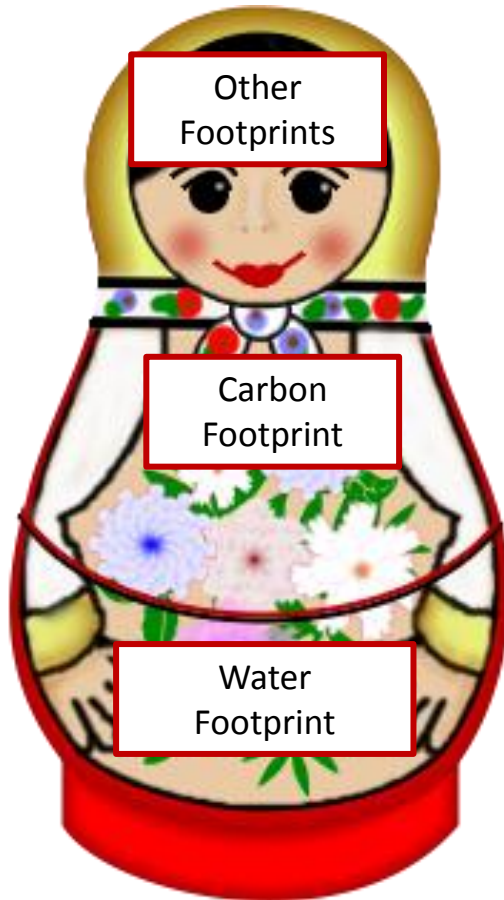
- Scarcity Indicators – ex: Pfister et al., Boulay et al (simplified version)
- Stress Indicator – ex: Boulay et al., Veolia method
- Quality indicators: Eutrophication, ecotoxicity, acidification, etc.
- Endpoint Modeling: Human health, Ecosystems and Resources



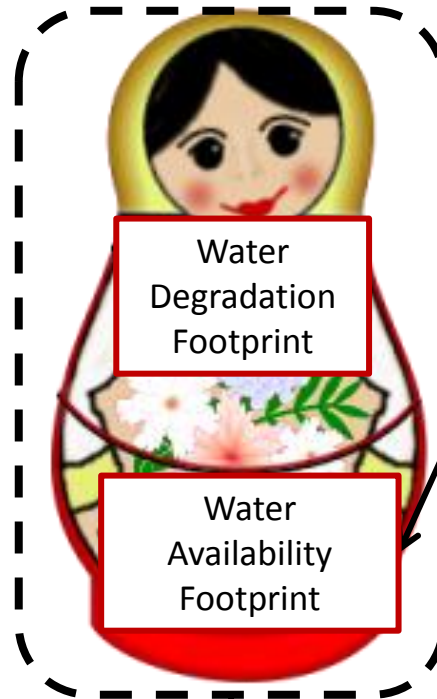


# TYPES OF WATER FOOTPRINTS

**LCA**



**Water Footprint**



Reduced water availability from consumption and degradation + direct pollution impacts

**Water Availability Footprint**



**Water Scarcity Footprint**



# WATER FOOTPRINT TYPES AS PER DIS ISO 14046

	Water availability	Water degradation
<b>MIDPOINT</b>		
Profile of midpoint indicators	-Water scarcity footprint OR - Water availability footprint	-Human toxicity -Ecotoxicity -Eutrophication -Acidification
<b>ENDPOINT</b>		
Human health	- Malnutrition and/or water related diseases	Human toxicity
Ecosystems	- Terrestrial ecosystems - Aquatic ecosystems	-Ecotoxicity -Eutrophication -Acidification

- “qualified” water footprint (ex: “degradation” WF, “scarcity” WF, etc)
- Water footprint

# INVENTORY



# FRESHWATER REQUIREMENT FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

Food type	$\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$	$\text{m}^3 \cdot 1,000 \cdot \text{kcal}^{-1}$
Cereals	1.5	0.47
Starchy roots	0.7	0.78
Sugarcrops	0.15	0.49
Pulses	1.9	0.55
Oilcrops	2	0.73
Vegetable oils	2	0.23
Vegetables	0.5	2.07
Average		0.53
Used in paper		0.5
Meat		4
Dairy products		>6

















# WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

- Total water consumption over the complete production chain
  - Includes
    - naturally available water from soil moisture / precipitation (**green water**)
    - irrigation and process water consumption (**blue water**).
    - Water consumption is consumptive water use: It is the water used but not returned to the watershed (mainly evaporation and product integration)
- Missing information:
  - **Source** of water (natural / irrigation)
  - **Influence** on water cycle (water scarcity)
  - Polluted water (degradative use)
  - Impact on environment

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## REGIONALIZATION MATTERS

### Example 1: Cup of coffee

- Waterfootprint.org
  - Virtual water: **140** litre/cup
- Regionalised calculations
  - Virtual water : **157** litre/cup
  - Irrigation water: **46** litre/cup
  - Scarcity weighted irrigation water: **6** litre/cup



**➡ Footprint = 4% of virtual water**

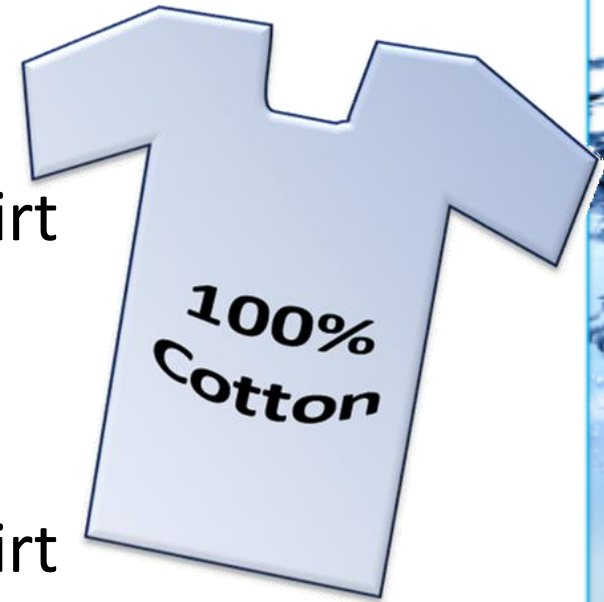


# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

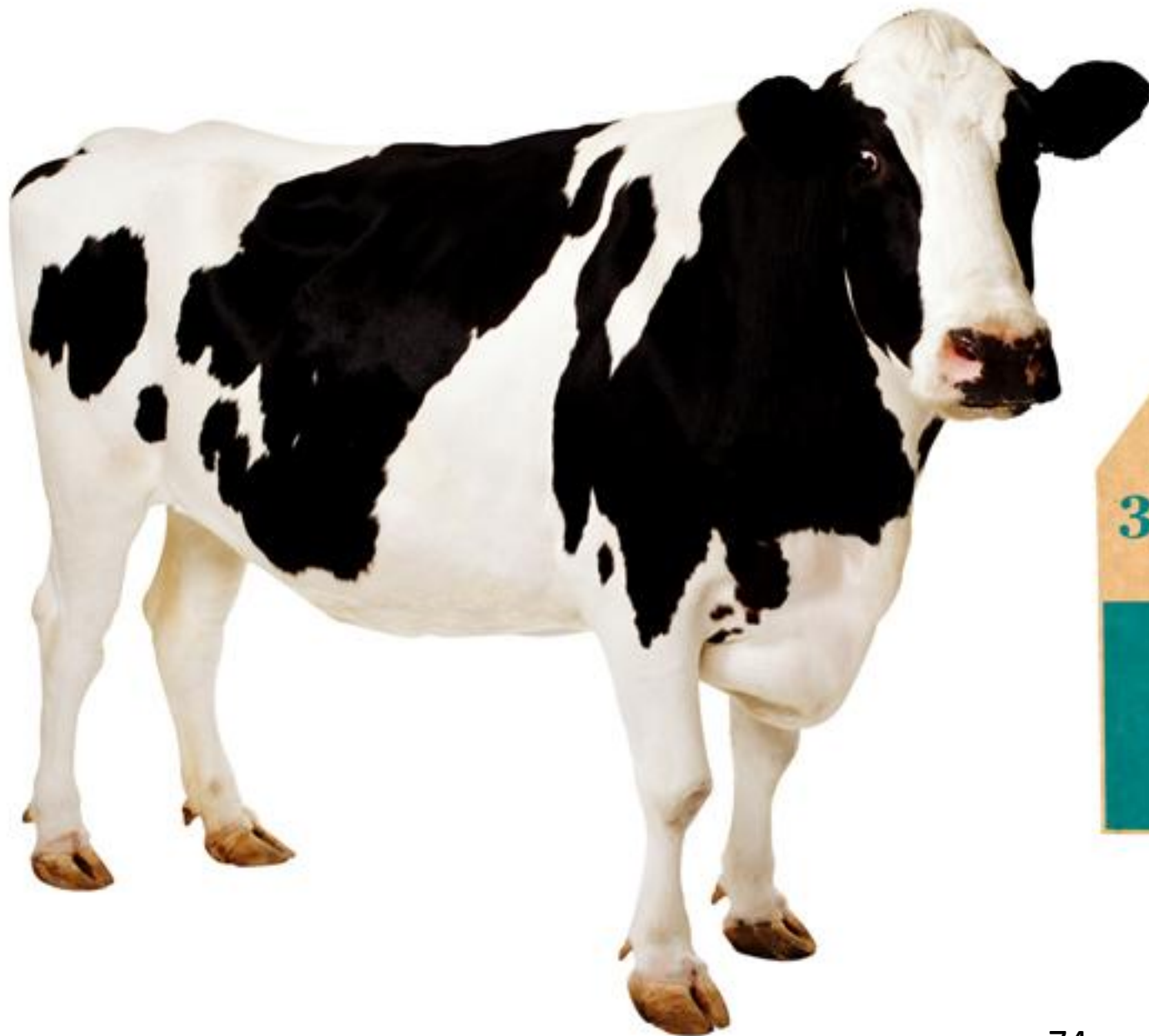
## REGIONALIZATION MATTERS

### Example 2: Cotton T-shirt

- Waterfootprint.org
  - Virtual water : 2700 litre/shirt
- Regionalised calculations
  - Virtual water : 3086 litre/shirt
  - Irrigation water : 1668 litre/shirt
  - **Scarcity weighted irrigation water : 1193 l/shirt**



➡ Footprint = **44%** of virtual water



**3,100,000  
litres**

**200 kg of  
boneless beef**



# THE WATER FOOTPRINT OF A COW

## Food

- ▶ 1300 kg of grains (wheat, oats, barley, corn, dry peas, soybean, etc)
- ▶ 7200 kg of roughages (pasture, dry hay, silage, etc)

99%

## Water

- ▶ 24000 litres for drinking
- ▶ 7000 litres for servicing.

1%









# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## WHERE IS REGIONALISATION IN ALL THAT???

1 m<sup>3</sup> of Water in TUNISIA

≠

1 m<sup>3</sup> of Water in UK

WATER FOOTPRINT

WATER FOOTPRINT



≠



Tunisian beef steak

UK beef steak

## WHAT ABOUT WATER QUALITY???

# MEAT VERSUS VEGETARIAN DIET

	Meat diet		Vegetarian diet	
	kcal/day	litre/day	kcal/day	litre/day
Industrial countries	3400	3600	3400	2300
Developing countries	2700	2050	2700	1750

# VEGETARIANS ALL OVER THE PLACE?



Source: <http://www.alaskannature.com/inuit2.jpg>



Photo by substack under the Creative Commons Attribution License 2.0:  
<http://m.flickr.com/#/photos/substack/3131586597/>

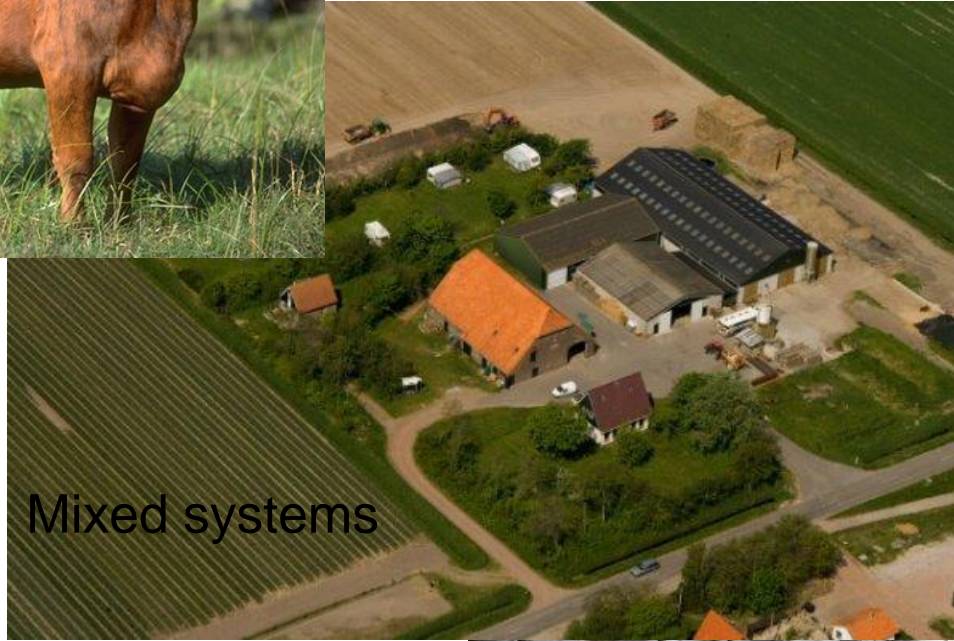


Grazing systems



## Relevance of production system

Mixed systems

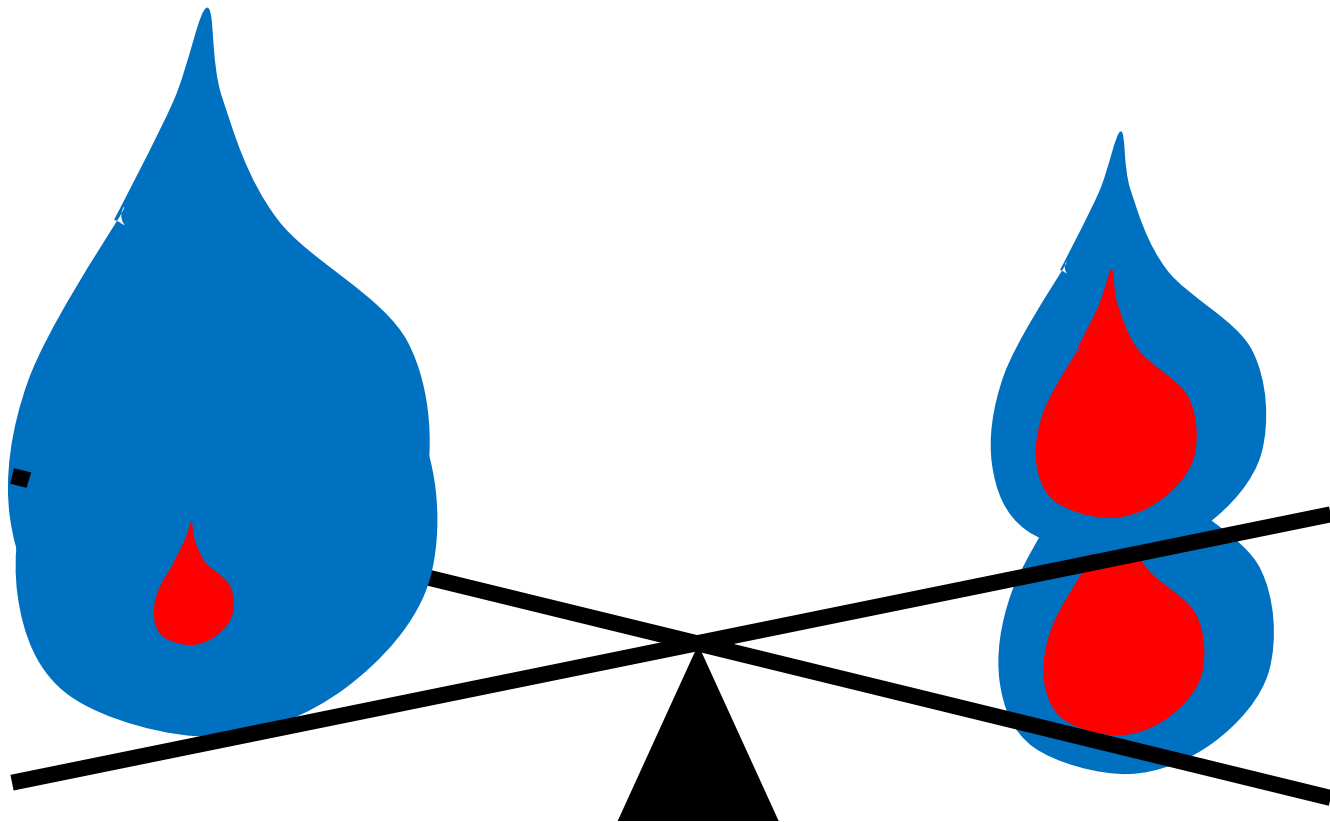


Industrial systems



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

A VOLUMETRIC INVENTORY IS INSUFFICIENT FOR ASSESSING A WATERFOOTPRINT BECAUSE RESULTS OF SUCH INVENTORY AND THE IMPACTS RELATED TO WATER ARE OFTEN NOT CORRELATED



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Useful definitions

### **Drainage basin:**

Area from which direct surface runoff from precipitation drains by gravity into a stream or other water body (ISO DIS 14046)

### **Water Withdrawal:**

Anthropogenic removal of water from any water body or from any drainage basin , either permanently or temporarily (ISO DIS 14046)

### **Water Consumption**

Water removed from but not returned to the same drainage basin (ISO DIS 14046)

### **Elementary water flow**

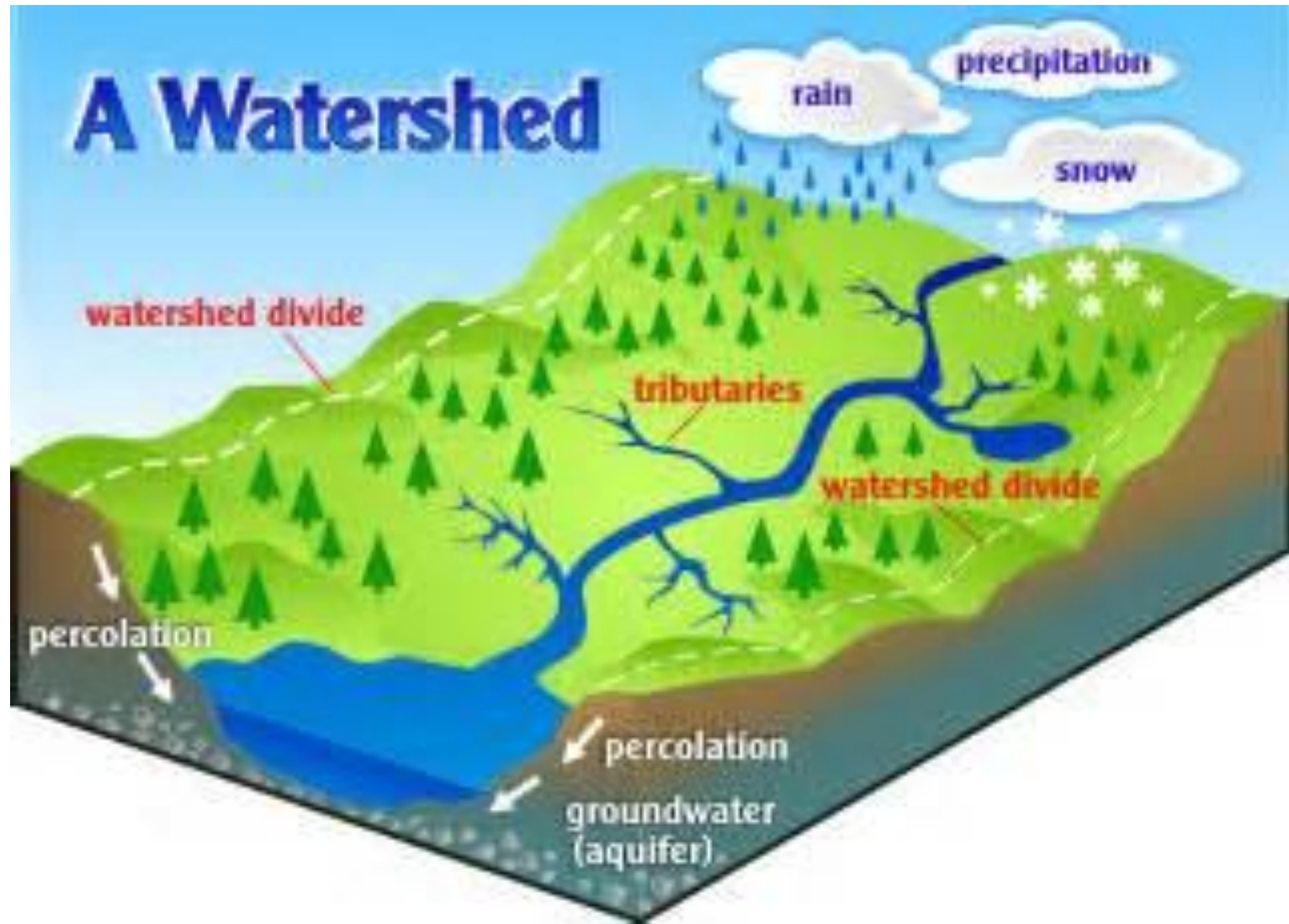
Water entering the system being studied and that has been drawn from the environment, or water leaving the system being studied that is released into the environment (ISO DIS 14046)

### **Technosphere water flow**

Water embedded in the system being studied and that has been drawn from the environment at some previous stage in the product system



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY



Area from which direct surface runoff from precipitation drains by gravity into a stream or other water body (ISO DIS 14046)



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Regionalized Inventory

I  
N  
V  
E  
N  
T  
O  
R  
Y

### Type and quantity of water resources used;

Precipitations, Surface water, Ground water, Fossil water, Brackish water, Sea water.

### Water Quality parameters (Physical, chemical, bacteriological, qualitative)

PH, TDS, SS, TN, E-coli count, Temperature, Color, Turbidity, Fe, .....

### Forms of consumptive water use;

Evaporation, transpiration, integration in product, discharge to sea, discharge into another water basin.

### Forms of non consumptive water use,

Discharge to another water resource type within the same drainage basin,  
In stream use

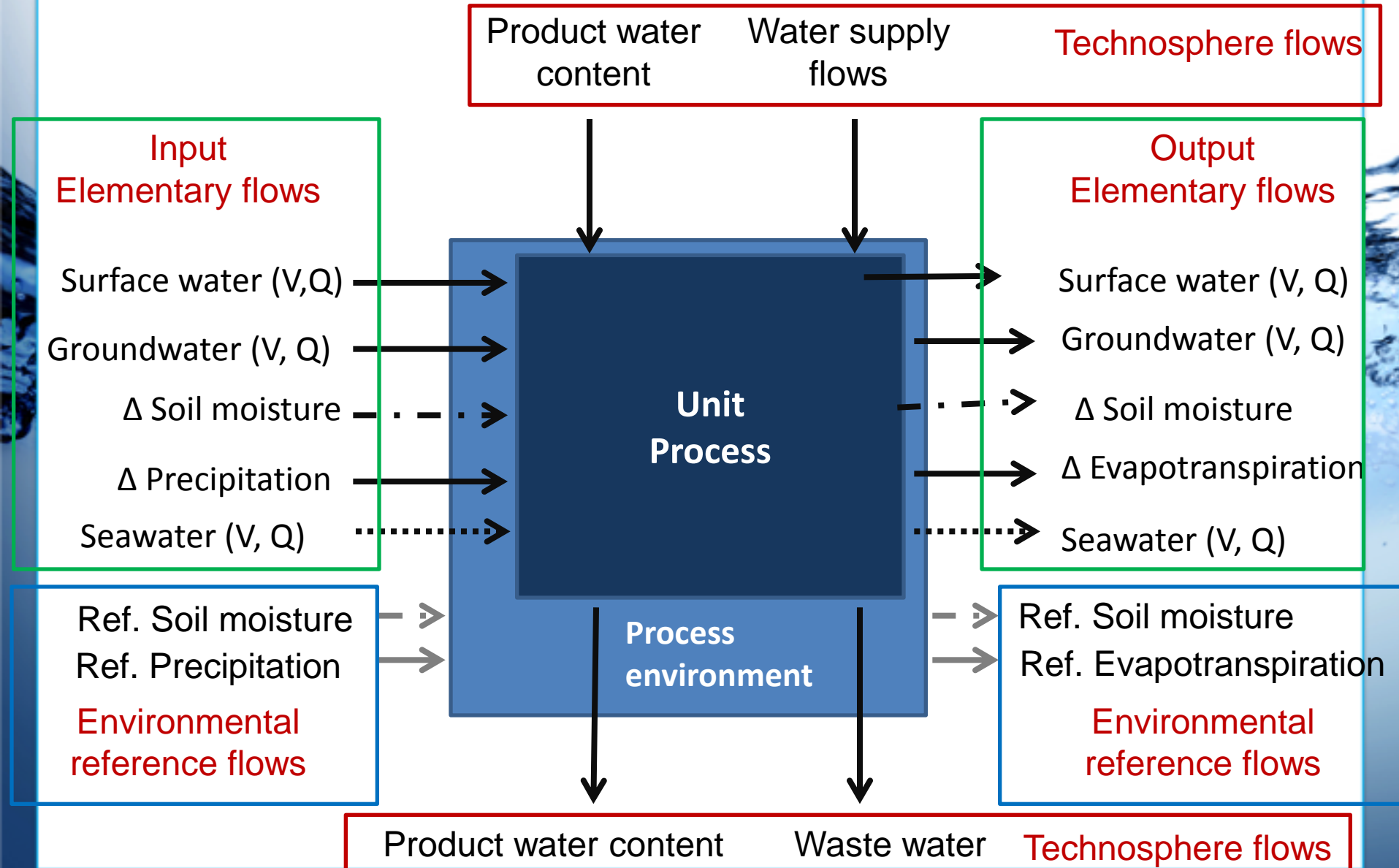
### Emissions to air water and soil where these are relevant;

SO<sub>2</sub>, Vn, Radioactivity, N, P, K, Bacteriology

Water scarcity indices and any other data that may be relevant.....

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Unit process water inventory

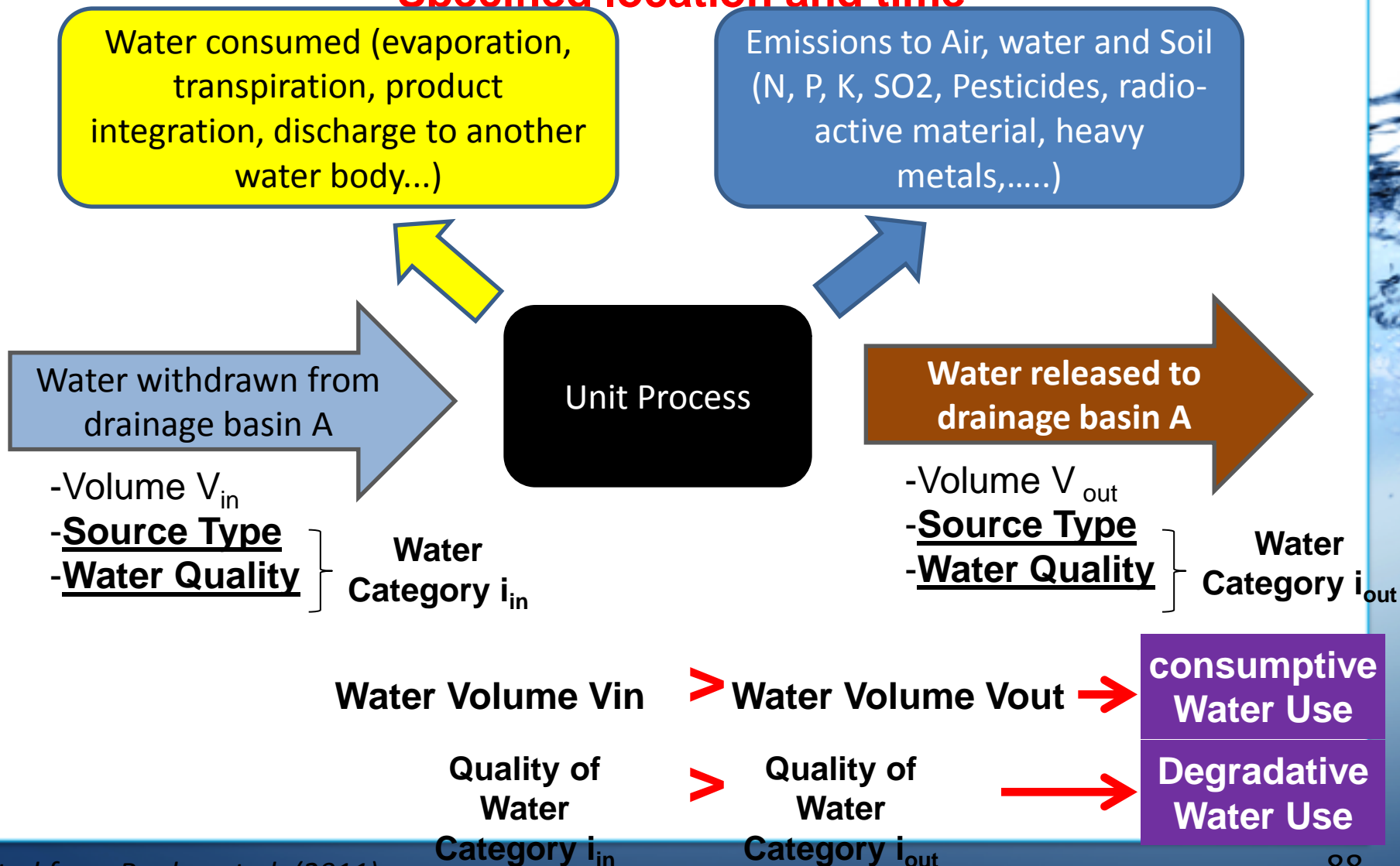


# INVOLVED CHALLENGES (COMPARED TO CARBON FOOTPRINT)

- Increased complexity (time requirements for LCA)
- Regionalized inventory data
- Regional supply chains
  - Connected with socio-economic circumstances
- Uncertainties (inventory & impacts)
  - New problem: picking the wrong location
- Software implementation & applicability
  - So far no LCA software can handle regionalized LCA

# UNIT PROCESS WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

**Specified location and time**





# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## WATER QUALITY (FUNCTIONALITY)

Water Categories and Dij		Excellent	Good	Average	Average - Tox
		i = 1	i = 2a	i = 2b	i = 2c
Contamination		low coliforms, low toxic	low coliform, medium toxic	Medium coliform, medium toxic	Low coliform, higher toxic
PARAMETERS	Units				
General parameters					
Fecal coliforms	UFC/100ml	20	200	2000	200
Microcystin-LR	mg/l	0.001	0.001	0.001	
True color	Color unit (CU)	15	50	50	100
Suspended Solids	mg/l	25	25	100	25
Total Dissolved Solids)	mg/l	500	500	500	2000
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mgO <sub>2</sub> /l	5	5	5	5
Total Nitrogen	mg N/L	30	30	30	30

- Quality assessments are more accurate with better data on water quality, but not all parameters are necessary (potential consistency problem)
- Categories describe water input and output of a process
- Water category data are provided by Boulay et al. for most watersheds worldwide.

# ECOINVENT 3

- Focus on industrial processes incl. transport and energy
  - Only physical water flows are recorded
    - Water input from sea, surface water, groundwater and from air (precipitation)
    - Water output to sea, to surface and ground water and to air (evaporation)
    - Product integration (inputs and outputs)
  - Quality issues are addressed by emission to water and resource use from water
  - Regional information attached as shapefile information
    - So far not beyond country level

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY EXAMPLE

The Water footprint of Swiss Pizza  
Inventory issues in regionalization and allocation



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

Pizza Margherita, the Swiss case

## Main Ingredients

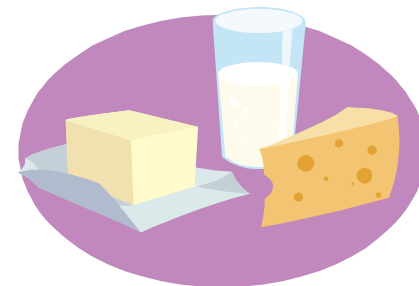
Tomato, vegetables (raw crops)



Wheat flour, olive oil (processed crops)



Mozarella, ham, mortadella (animal products)

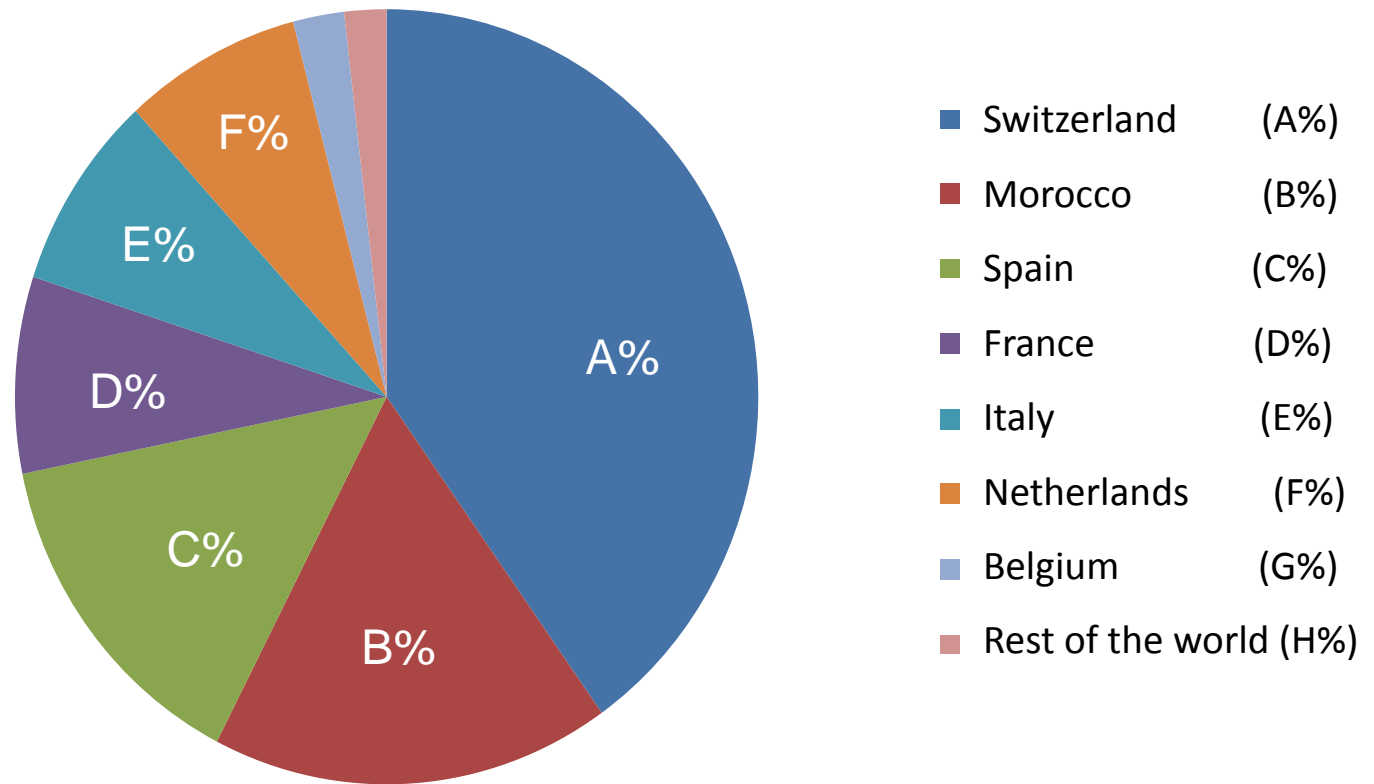




# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Origin of Tomatoes

Analysis of Swiss trade

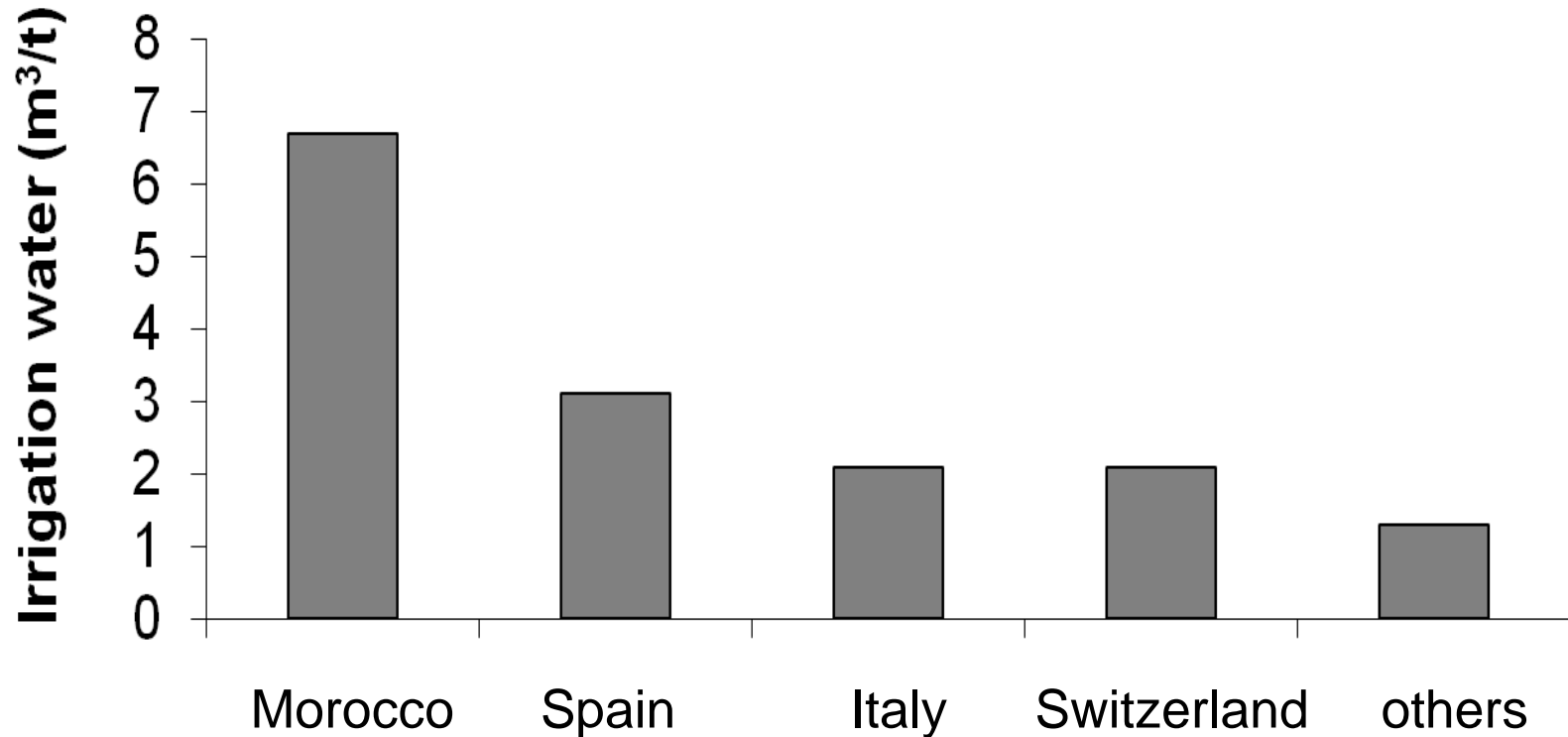


# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

Irrigation water consumption of  
tomato supply mix in Switzerland

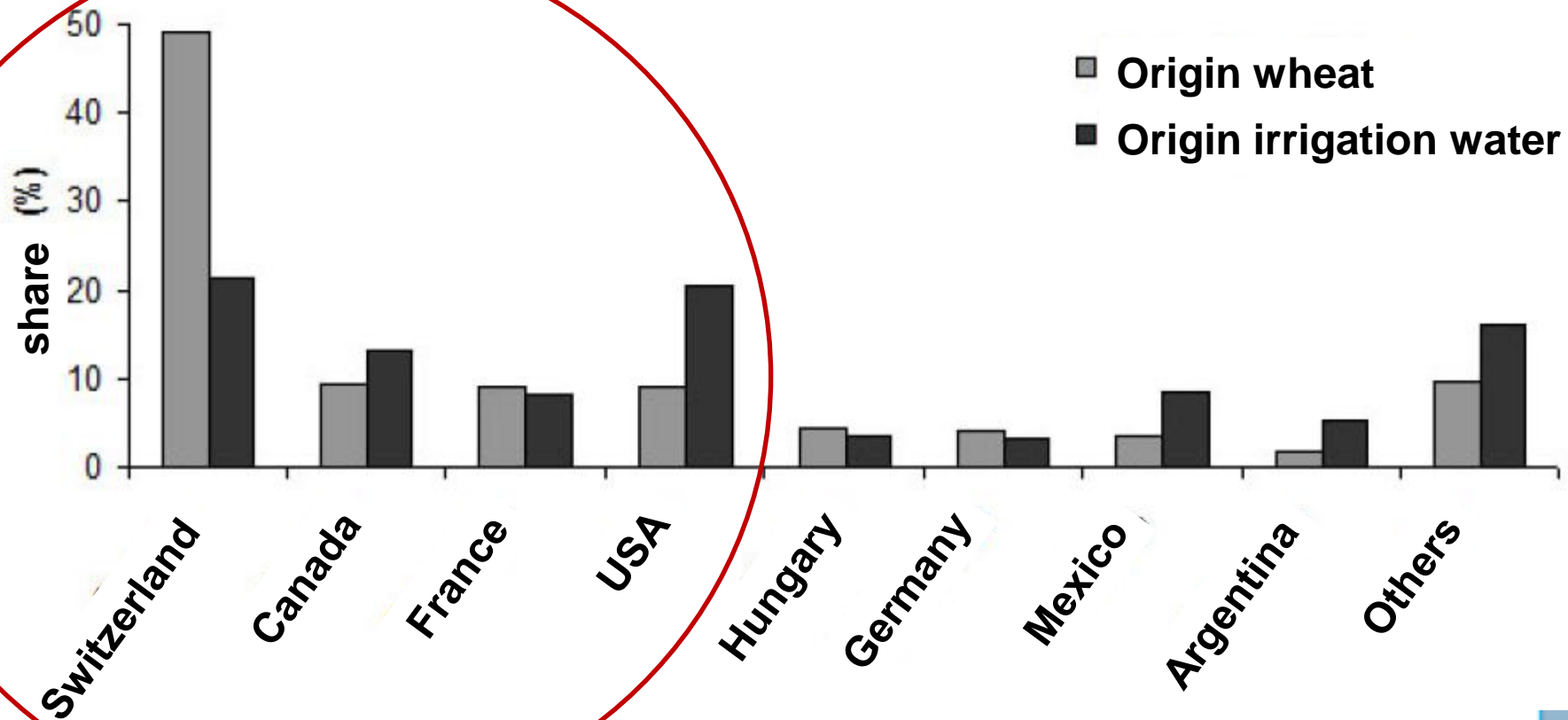
Weighted average water consumption:

$$= 6.8 \cdot B\% + 3.1 \cdot C\% + 2.5 \cdot E\% + 2.5 \cdot A\% + 1.2 \cdot (D\% + F\% + G\% + H\%) \text{ m}^3/\text{t}$$



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

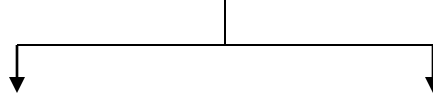
Comparative Irrigation water consumption  
for wheat supply in Switzerland



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Flour production

Wheat (harvested whole grains)



Flour

Husks

**Ca. 90%  
economic value  
Ca. 80% product  
fraction**





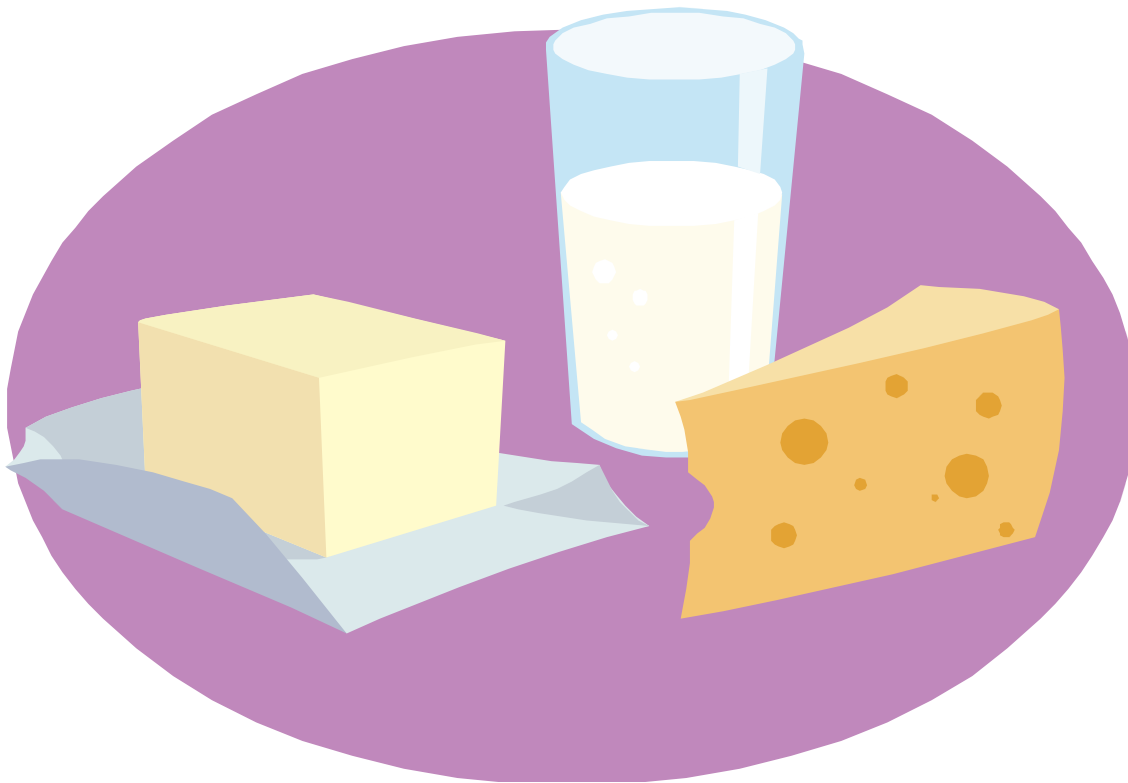
# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Irrigation water allocation to flour

Average Irrigation water consumption	Value fraction flour	Allocated irrigation flour
$235 \text{ m}^3 / \text{t Wheat}$	$\frac{0.89}{0.79 \text{ t Flour} / \text{t Wheat}}$	$= 264 \text{ m}^3 / \text{t Wheat}$
	Product fraction flour	

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Animal Products



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY



Maize  
22 t/Cow  
79 m<sup>3</sup>/t



Grasslage:  
20 t/Cow  
16 m<sup>3</sup>/t



Hay  
4.6 t/Cow  
40 m<sup>3</sup>/t



Others:  
8.4 t/cow  
54 m<sup>3</sup>/ton



2842 m<sup>3</sup>/Cow



Drinking water  
146 m<sup>3</sup>/Cow

2842 m<sup>3</sup>/Cow

6 Calves  
1736 m<sup>3</sup>/t

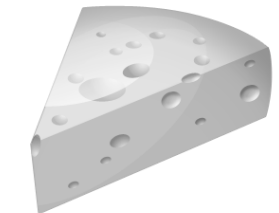


Cow  
(meat)  
618 m<sup>3</sup>/t



25 Tons milk  
190 m<sup>3</sup>/t

Whey  
54 m<sup>3</sup>/t

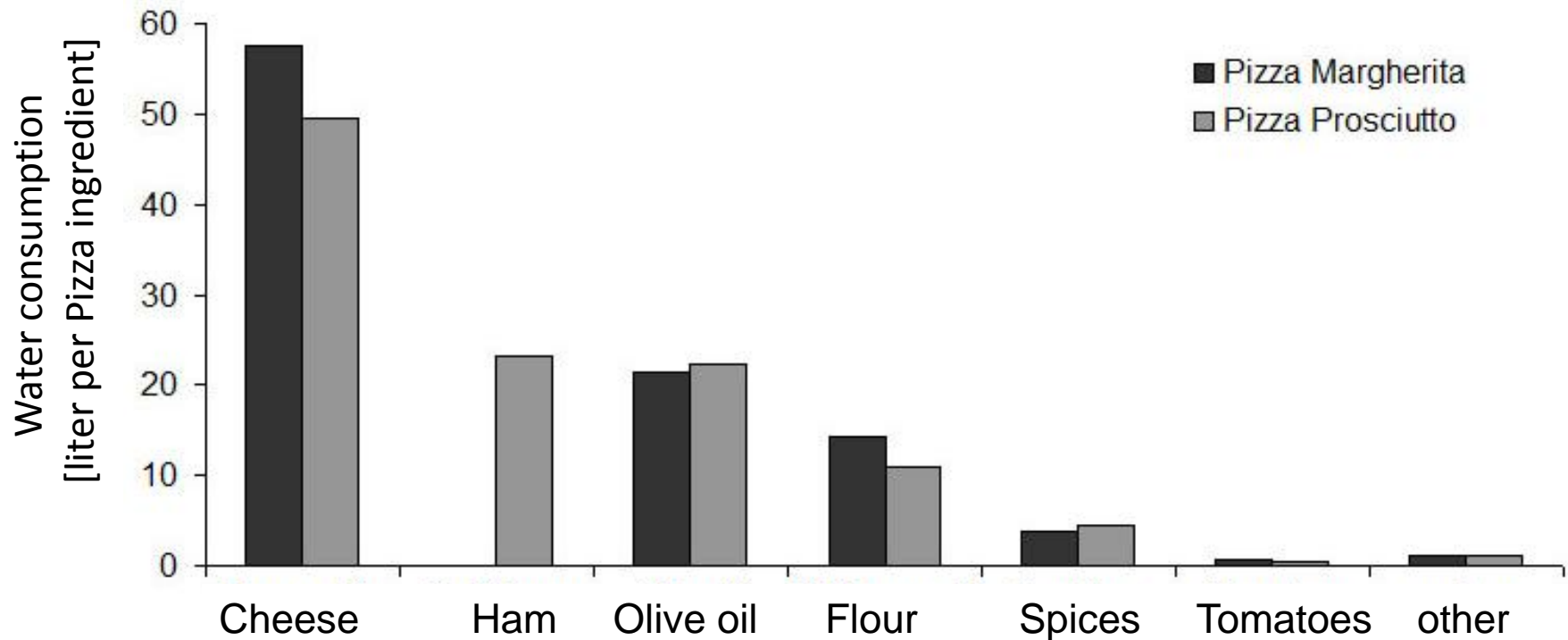


Mozzarella  
1377 m<sup>3</sup>/t



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

Ingredients contribution to water consumption  
of Swiss Pizza



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

Data base development



# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Data base development

- **Ecoinvent (ecoinvent center 2007)**

Withdrawal, source, spatial differentiation

Partly regionalized

No release flow, no quality

- **ETH water data (ESD 2012)**

Regionalized

- **Gabi (PE 2010):**

Water input and output,

Partly regionalized

No quality, some background systems missing (ex: mining)

- **GEMStat: Database for water quality**

Regionalized

- **WaterStat (WFN 2012)**

Assesses the inventory of consumption and degradation of crops and products derived from crops, farm animals and animal products according to the method WFN (Hoekstra et al. 2011)

- **Quantis Water Database (Vionnet et al. 2012):** Complete sets of inventory flows based on ecoinvent

Partly regionalized

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Data base development

### Ecoinvent 3

- Only physical water flows are recorded
  - Water input from sea, surface water, groundwater and from air (precipitation)
  - Water output to sea, to surface and ground water and to air (evaporation)
  - Product integration (inputs and outputs)
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- Regional information attached as shapefile information
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# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Regionalization challenges

- Increased complexity (time requirements for LCA)
- Regionalized inventory data
- Regional supply chains
  - Connected with socio-economic circumstances
- Uncertainties (inventory & impacts)
  - New problem: picking the wrong location
- Software implementation & applicability
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# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

## Uncertainties

- Uncertainty
  - Inventory
  - Impact assessment
  - Spatial

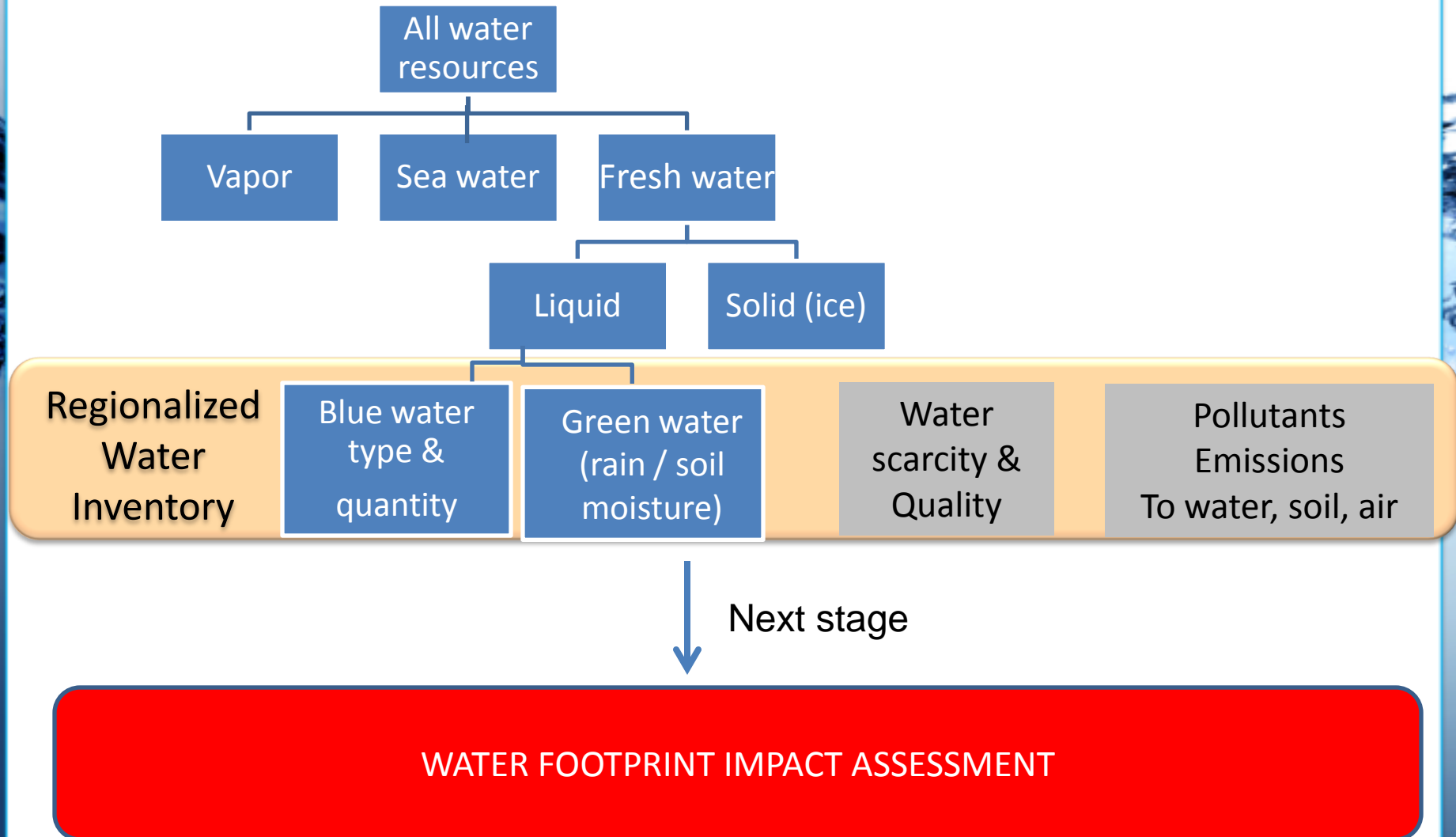
Any LCA

Regionalized LCA
- Variability
  - Technology
  - Climate
    - Regional
    - Temporal

Adds to uncertainty of LCA using spatially aggregated inputs

# WATER FOOTPRINT INVENTORY

Towards impact assessment

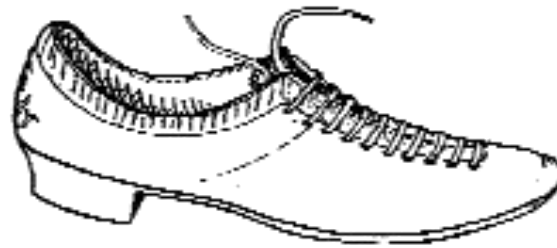


**BREAK!**

**20 MIN**



# IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODS



**weight**





# METHOD OVERVIEW

- Water indices and midpoint assessments
  - Water indices
  - Water availability assessment – methods
  - Midpoint impact category assessment methods
  - Examples
- Endpoint assessment
  - Human health
  - Ecosystems
  - Resource depletion

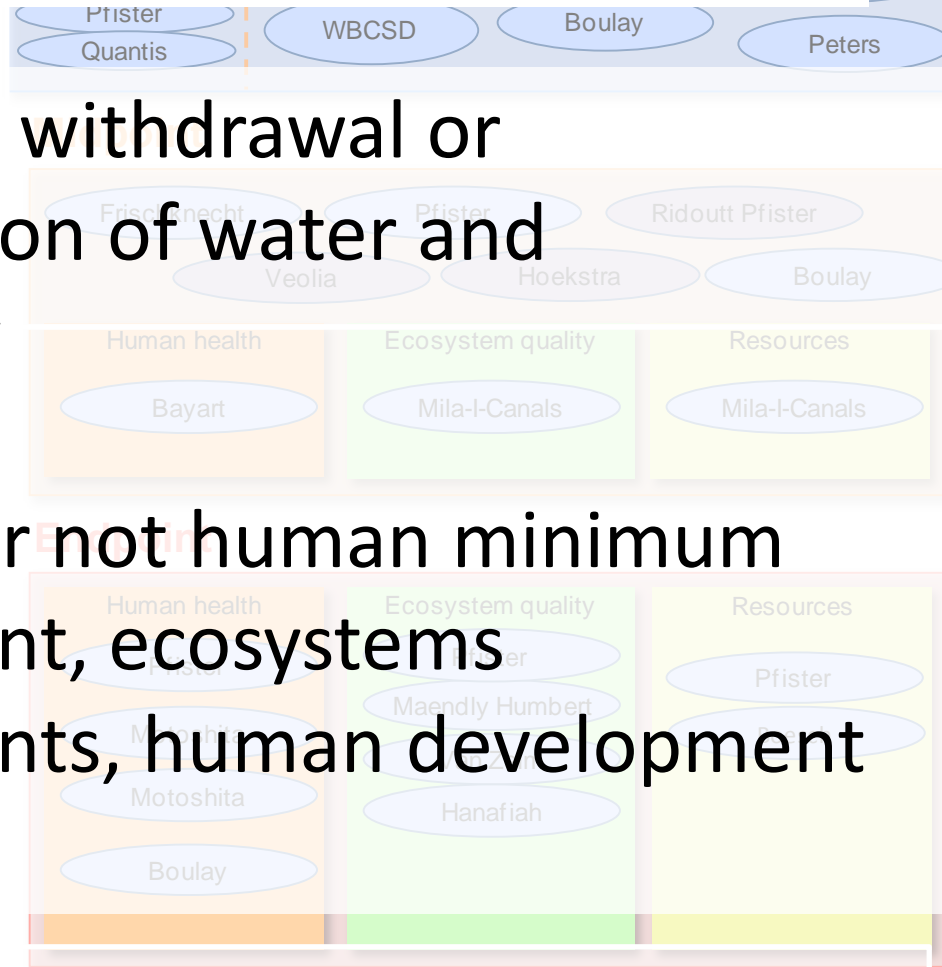


# **WATER SCARCITY INDEXES AND MIDPOINT ASSESSMENT**



# WATER SCARCITY INDEXES

- Based on withdrawal or consumption of water and availability
- Include or not human minimum requirement, ecosystems requirements, human development level



## Water indexes

Water resource per capita

Falkenmark

Water resource per capita and HDI

Ohlsson

Basic water needs

Gleick

Withdrawal to availability

Smakhtin

Alcamo

Raskin

Seckler

Pfister

Frischknecht

Veolia

Consumption-to-availability

Hoekstra

Boulay

Water Poverty Index

Sullivan

Method / index

Method

Index

Index

Methods or water index addressing water use

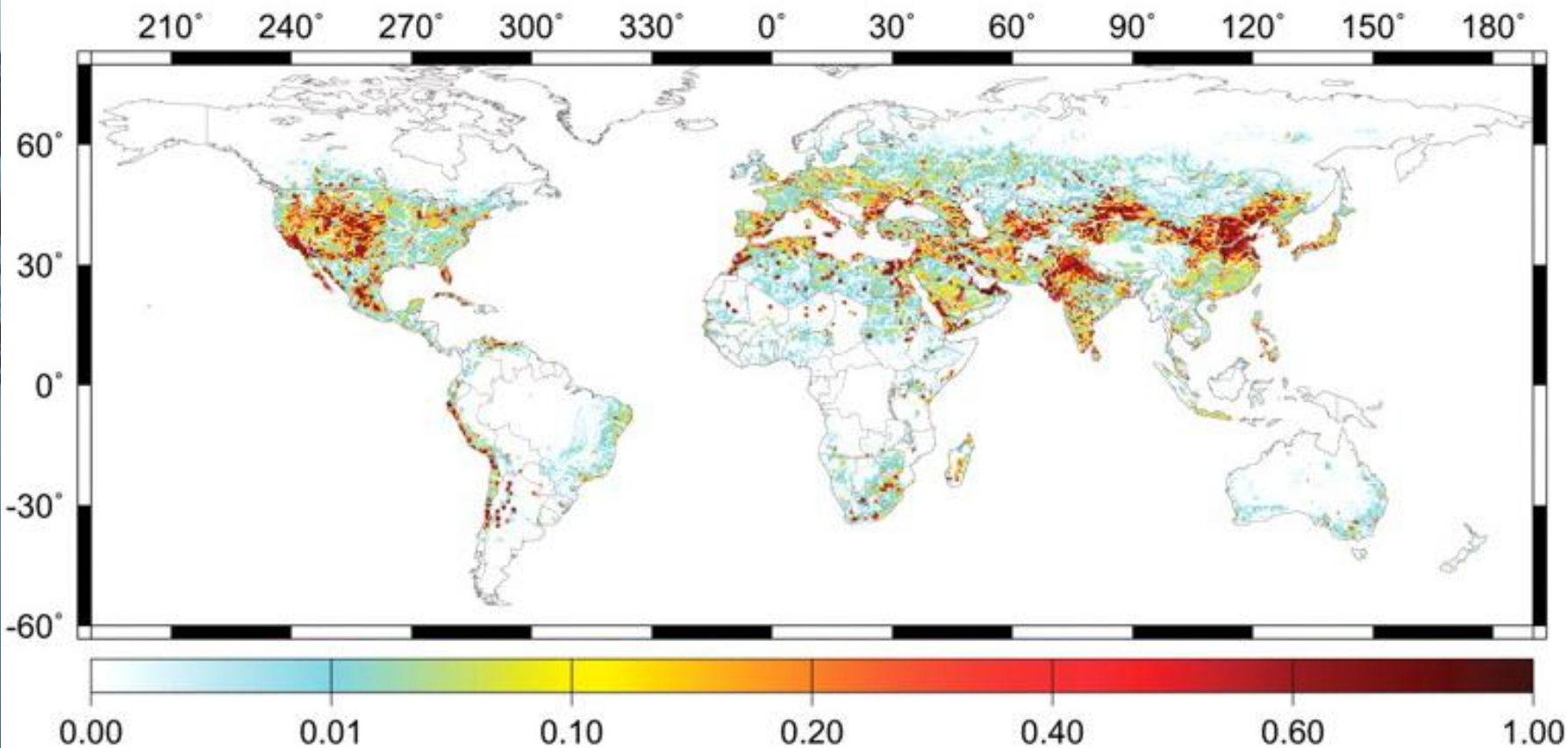
Methods addressing water pollution additionally to water use:

Water index *human health* oriented addressing water use

Water index *ecosystem quality* oriented addressing water use

# USE-TO-AVAILABILITY RATIO (CRITICALITY RATIO)

## Water Scarcity Index



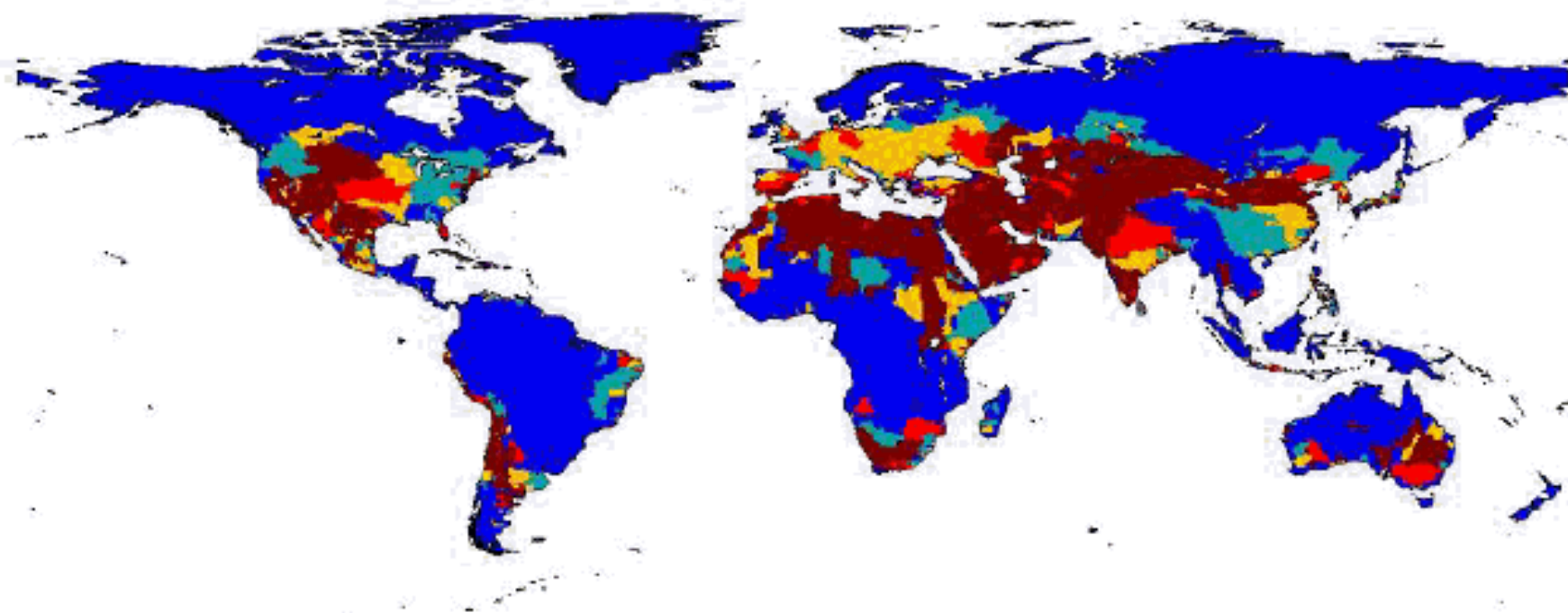
Source: T Oki, S Kanae (2006)

Published by AAAS

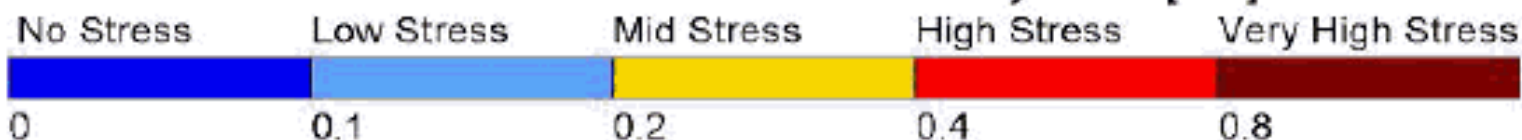


# USE-TO-AVAILABILITY RATIO (CRITICALITY RATIO)

On watershed level: Calibration, upstream/downstream



Water Stress Indicator: Withdrawal-to-Availability Ratio [CR]

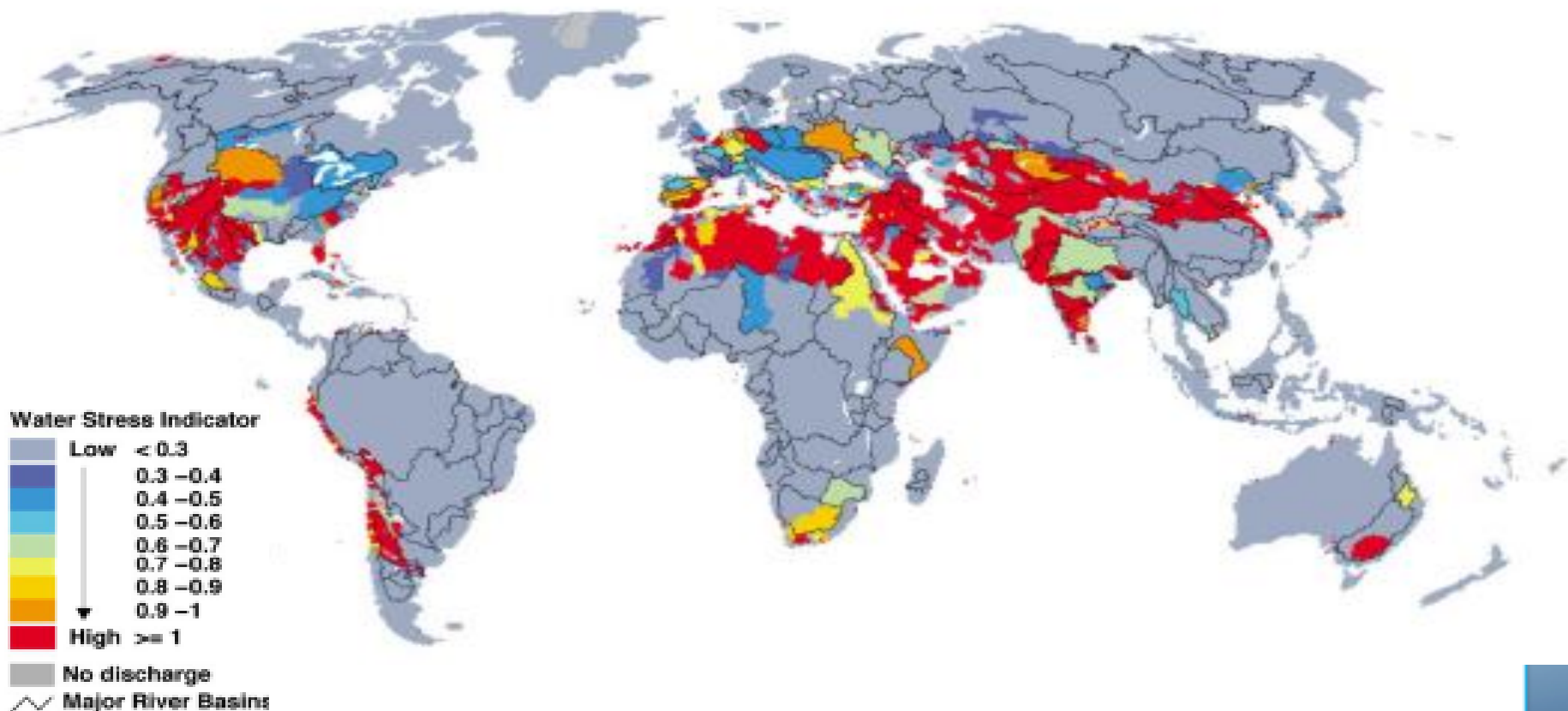


WaterGAP 2.0 - December 1999



# ENVIRONMENTAL WATER SCARCITY

- Includes river flow requirements of ecosystem

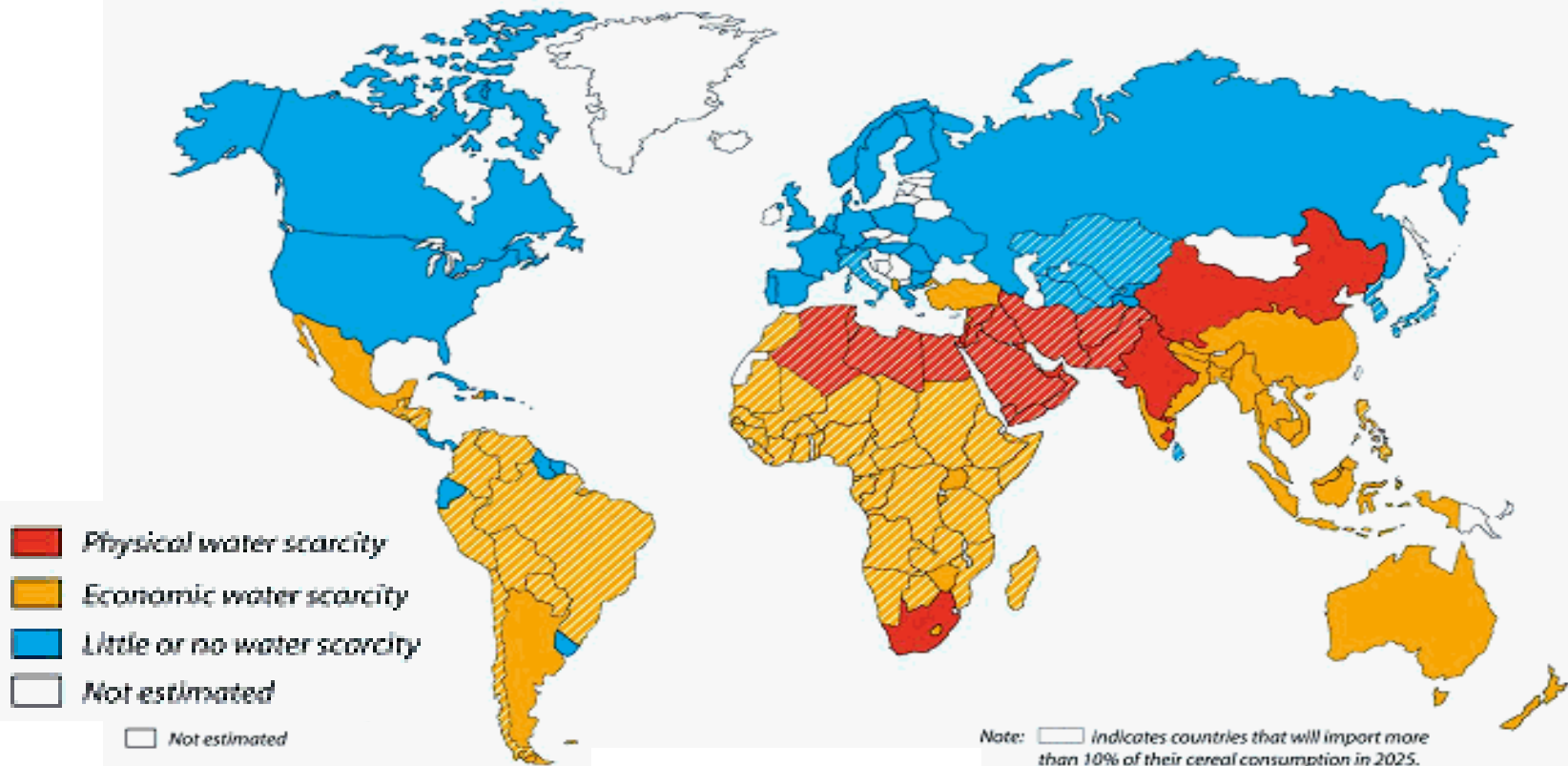


Source: Smakthin et al. 2004

# IWMI: ECONOMIC WATER SCARCITY

- Includes lack of infrastructure

*Projected Water Scarcity in 2025*



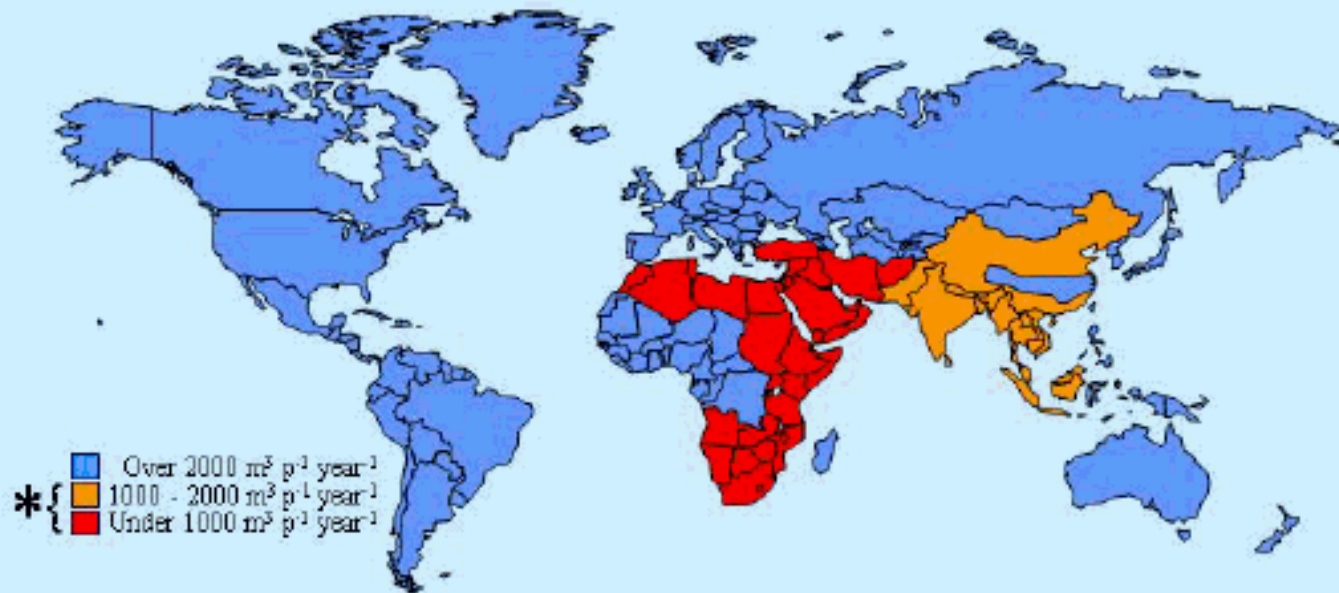
Source: IWMI 2007

# FALKENMARK INDEX

- Water availability per person  
(Threshold  $1700 \text{ m}^3/\text{cap}\cdot\text{yr}$ )

## Global water scarcity - 2030

62%\* of world population



Data from Fischer and Heilig (1997)

# WATER AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENTS

## Midpoint

### Single indicators

Frischknecht

Pfister

Boulay (simpl.)

Veolia

Hoekstra

Boulay

Midoutt Pfister

### Category indicators

#### Human health

Bayart

Humantox

#### Ecosystem quality

Mila-I-Canals

Ecotoxicity

Acidification

Eutrophication

#### Resources

Mila-I-Canals

## Endpoint

### Category indicators

#### Human health

Pfister

Motoshita a

Motoshita b

Boulay

Humantox

#### Ecosystem quality

Pfister

Hanafiah

Van Zelm

Verones

Ecotoxicity

Acidification

Eutrophication

#### Resources

Pfister

Boesch

# AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT

- Can be associated with a midpoint assessment in LCA
  - Most methods are related to a water scarcity index
    - **Withdrawal to availability ratios** (Pfister et al. 2009; Ridoutt and Pfister 2010b; Frischknecht et al. 2006; Veolia 2011; Milà i Canals et al. 2009)
    - **Consumption to availability ratios** (Boulay et al. 2011; Hoekstra et al. 2011).
- Are used as a Characterization Factor (CF) to assess impacts from:
- **Water withdrawal** (Ridoutt and Pfister 2010b; Frischknecht et al. 2006; Veolia 2011),
  - **Water consumption** (Boulay et al. 2011; Pfister et al. 2009; Hoekstra et al. 2011; Milà i Canals et al. 2009)
  - **Water Degradation** (Hoekstra et al. 2011; Veolia 2010; Boulay et al. 2011).



# SWISS ECOSCARCITY 06

## (FRISCHKNECHT ET AL. 2008)

Water use (Total water withdrawals except for hydropower)

Distance-to-target approach

$$\left[ \frac{\text{Water use}}{\text{Water availability}} \right]^2 = \left[ \frac{\text{Water use}}{\text{Water availability}} \right]^2 \left[ \frac{1}{20\%} \right]^2$$

Critical value: 20%

**6 classes, 3 orders of magnitude**

**-> Used in biofuel LCA for tax exemption (official regulation) in Switzerland**

Water scarcity	UBP (points/m3 used)
Low	24
Moderate	220
Medium	880
High	2'400
Very high	6'200
Extreme	22'000

Source: [http://www.oebu.ch/oebu/downloads/oekofaktoren\\_sr28.pdf](http://www.oebu.ch/oebu/downloads/oekofaktoren_sr28.pdf)

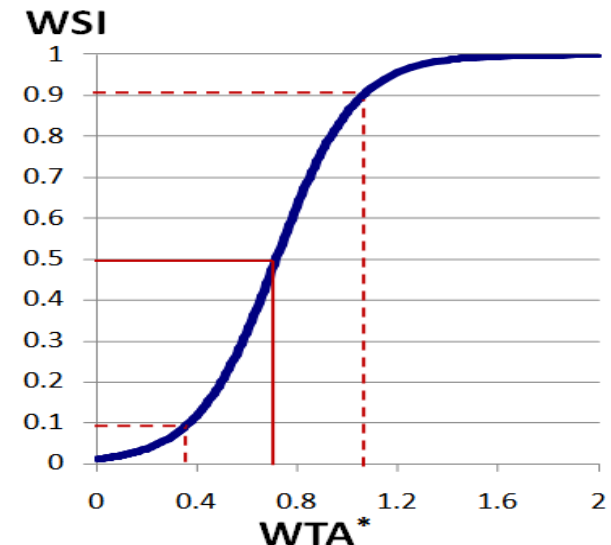
# PFISTER ET AL 2009: WATER STRESS INDEX (WSI)

- Includes:
  - Withdrawal to availability (WTA)
  - Variability in precipitation (VF)
  - Flow regulation (highly regulated = **SRF**)

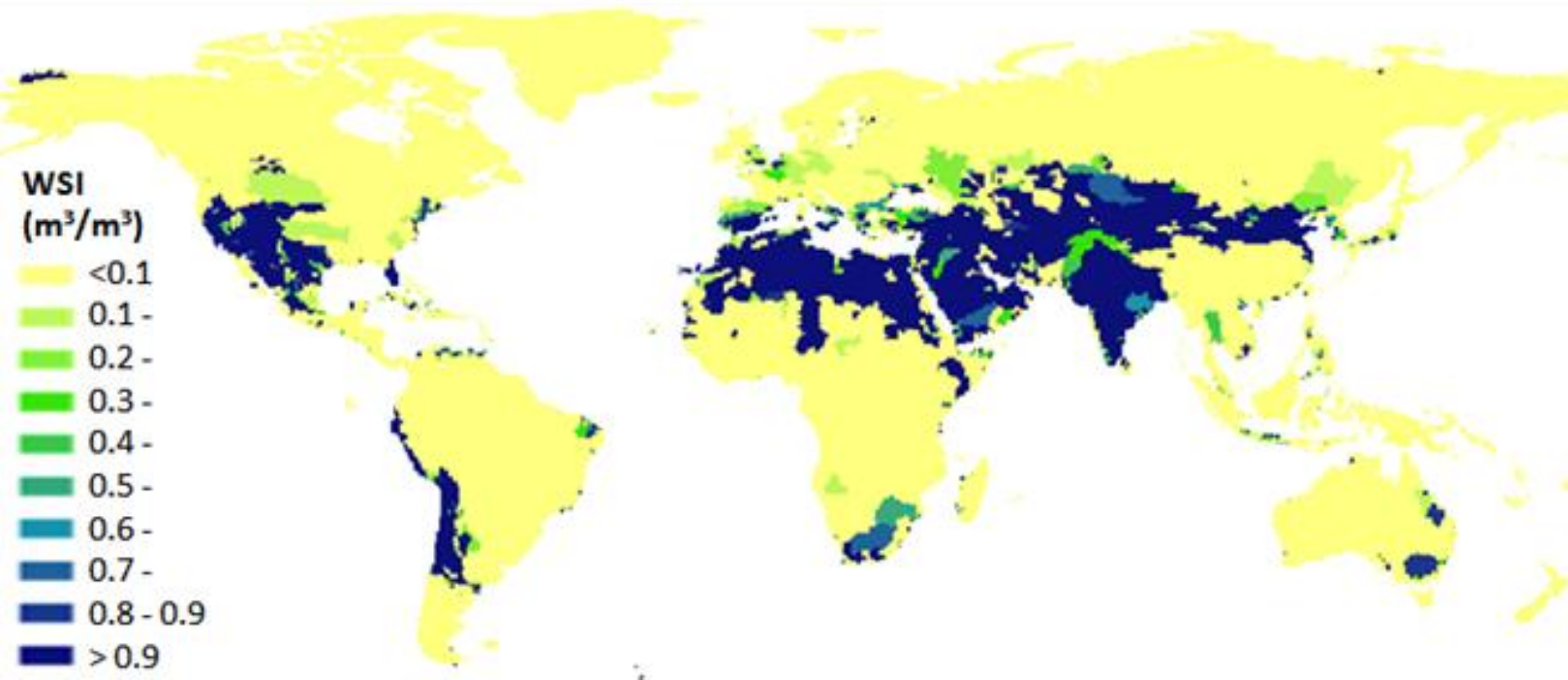
$$WTA^* = \begin{cases} \sqrt{VF} \times WTA & \text{for SRF} \\ VF \times WTA & \text{for non-SRF} \end{cases}$$

- Index following logistic function:

$$WSI = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-6.4 \cdot WTA^* \left( \frac{1}{0.01} - 1 \right)}}$$



# PFISTER ET AL. 2009: WSI AS CHARACTERIZATION/WEIGHTING FACTOR

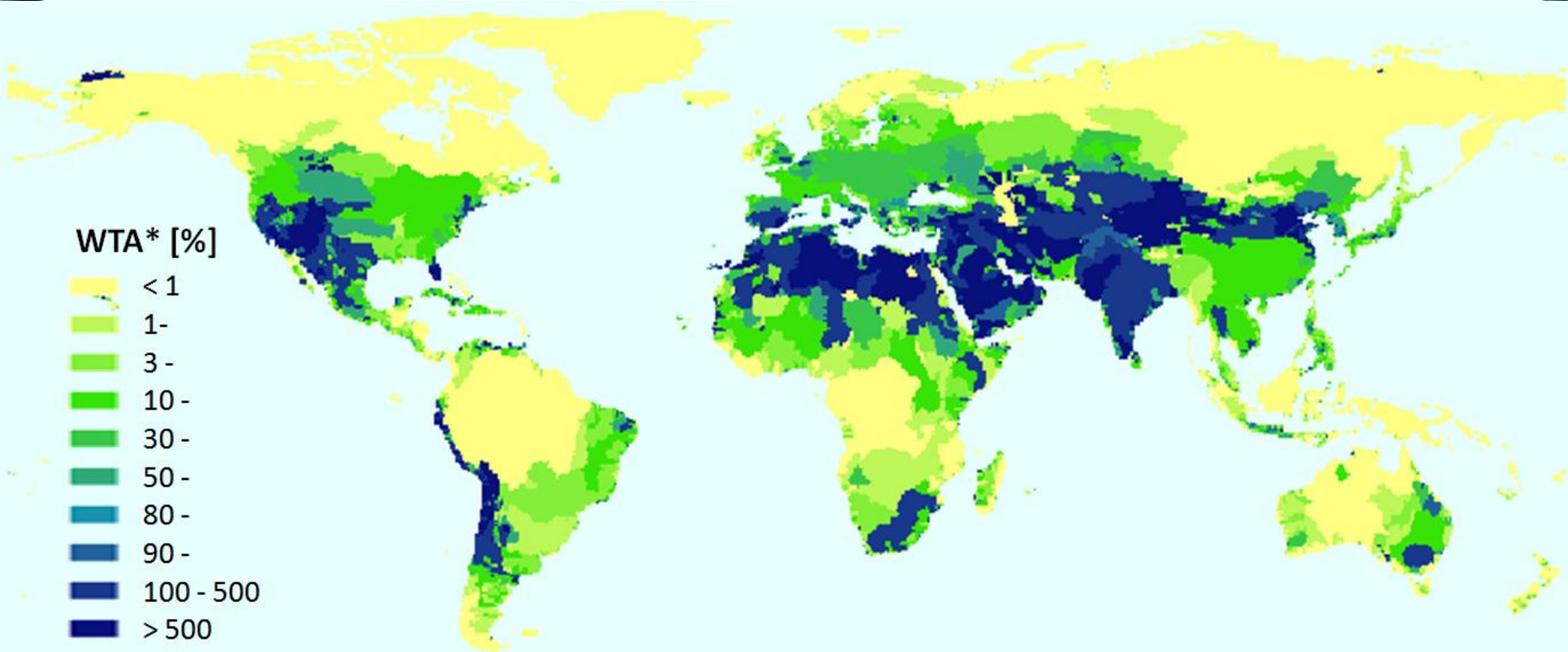


*Pfister, Koehler & Hellweg (2009), ES&T 43(11): 4098–4104*

# FOR MIDPOINT

Water scarcity

WATERSHED



# THE WATER IMPACT INDEX, VEOLIA 2011

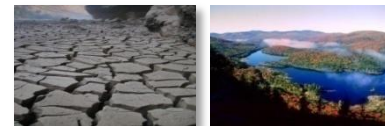
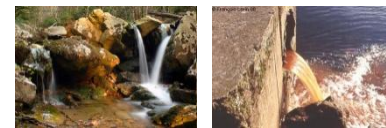
## The Water Impact Index accounts for...

*... the reduction of water resources availability generated by a human activity. It allows evaluating how other water users (both humans and ecosystems) would potentially be deprived from this resource.*

**... expressed in “m<sup>3</sup> – Water Impact Index - equivalent**

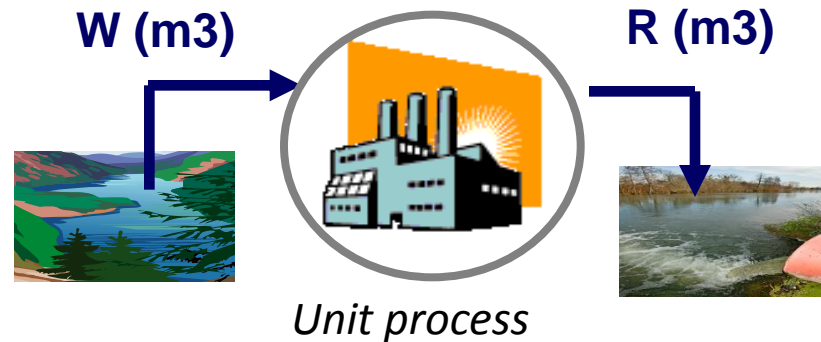
**Following parameters are finally considered :**

- Volume of water used
  - Water abstracted
  - Water released
- Water quality
  - Water abstracted
  - Water released
- Local hydrological context
  - Freshwater scarcity
- *Resource type*





# WATER IMPACT INDEX: MODEL



$$\text{Water Impact Index} = (W \times Q_w \times WSI_w) - (R \times Q_R \times WSI_R)$$

Volume of water  
withdrawn /  
discharged

Quality  
index

Water  
scarcity  
index

# BOULAY ET AL: SCARCITY INDICATOR -

COMPREHENSIVE

$$\alpha_i^* = \frac{\text{Consumed water}_i}{\text{Available water}^1_i}$$

*i* = specific water category

Surface water

Ground water

General  
(if unknown)

Excellent  
quality

Good  
quality

Medium  
quality

Etc...

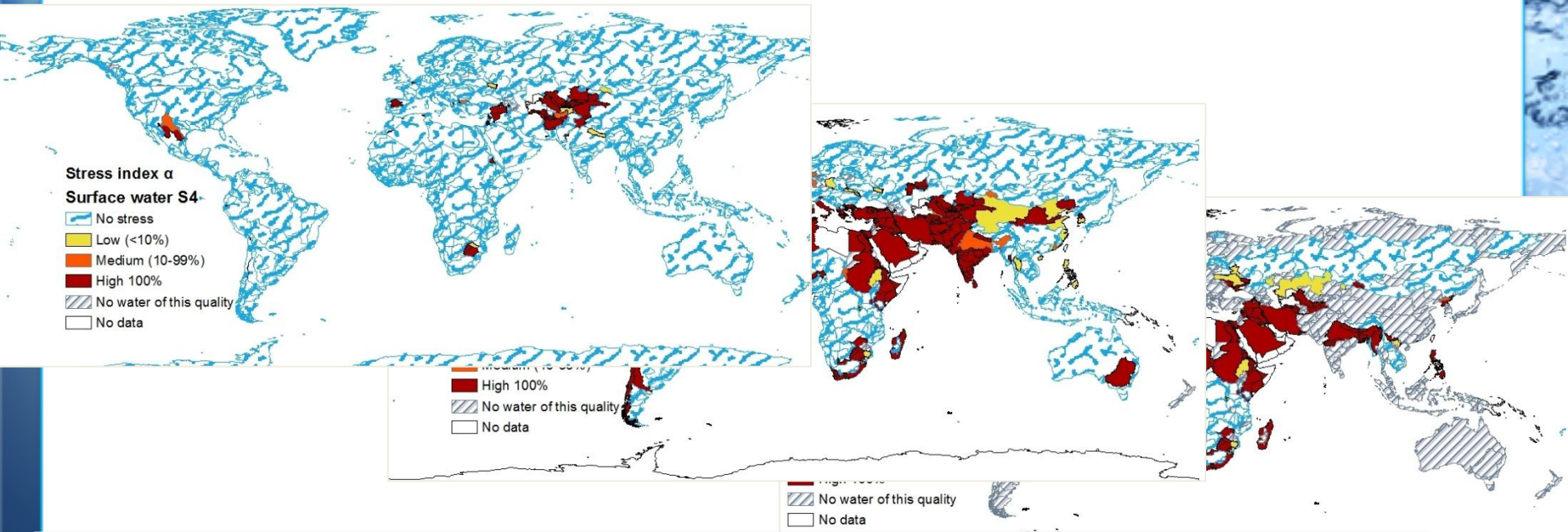
**Simplified:** assesses  
consumptive use only  
**Comprehensive:** assesses  
degradative+consumptive use

<sup>1</sup> Corrected for Seasonal variations

# SCARCITY INDICATOR -

COMPREHENSIVE

$$\alpha^*_{\text{i}} = \frac{\text{Consumed water}_{\text{i}}}{\text{Available water}^1_{\text{i}}}$$



➤ Lower quality water is more abundant than higher quality water

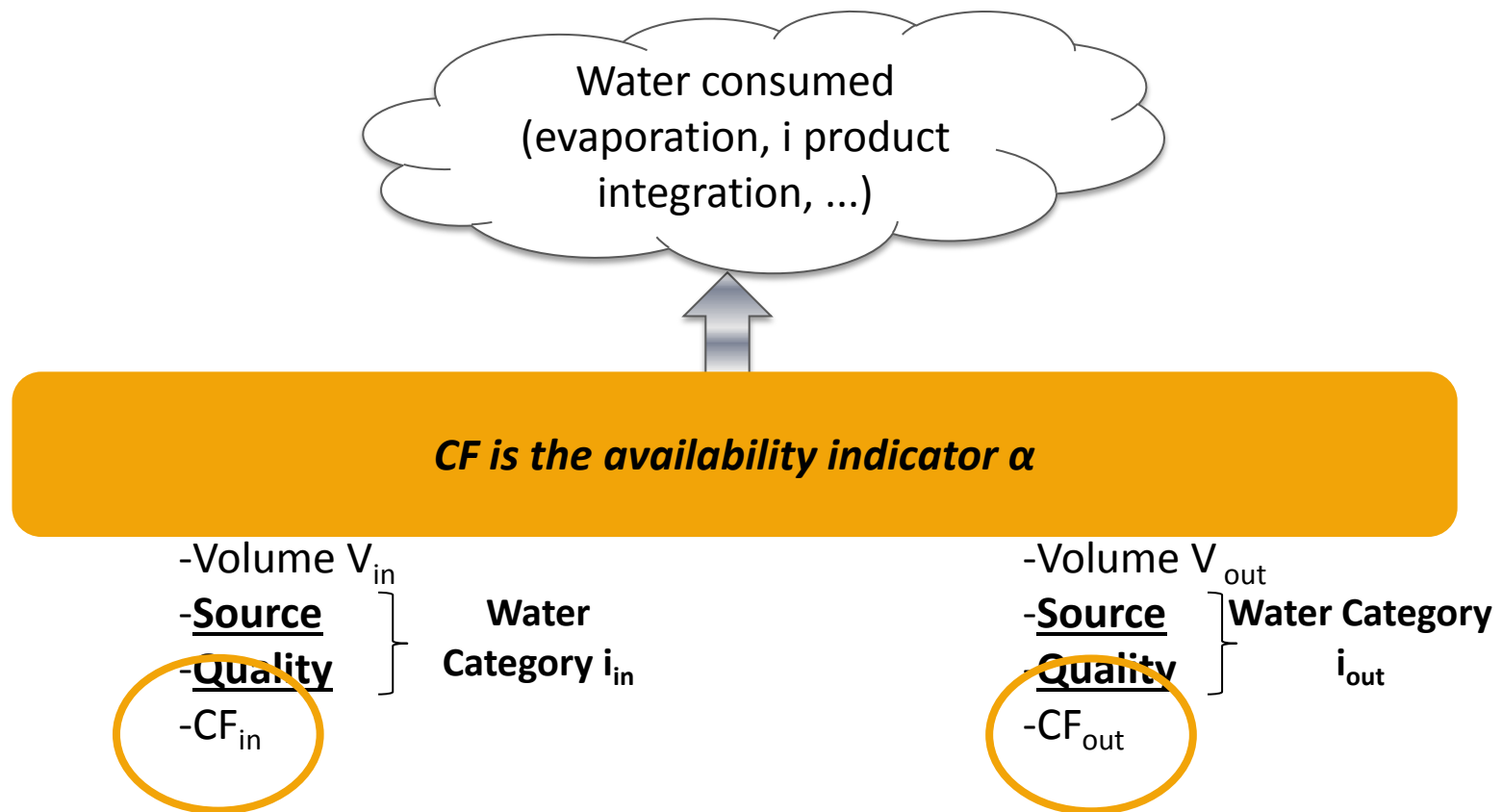
# BOULAY ET AL: MODELING OF AVAILABILITY INDICATOR

- $\alpha$  is modelled from  $\alpha^*$
- Indicator between 0 and 1
- Based on accepted water stress thresholds:
  - Low  $\longrightarrow$  Set to 0
  - Medium  $\left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \text{Medium} \\ \text{high} \end{array}} \right\}$  S-Curve
  - high  $\left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \text{Medium} \\ \text{high} \end{array}} \right\}$  in between
  - very high  $\longrightarrow$  Set to 1

*$\rightarrow$  consumption of 1 m<sup>3</sup> of water will not affect other users when water is abundant*

*$\rightarrow$  1 m<sup>3</sup> of water consumed will eventually deprive other competing users of 1 m<sup>3</sup>*

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT



$$\text{Impact} = (\text{Volume}_{in} \times \text{CF}_{in}) - (\text{Volume}_{out} \times \text{CF}_{out})$$

Note: CF= Characterization Factor

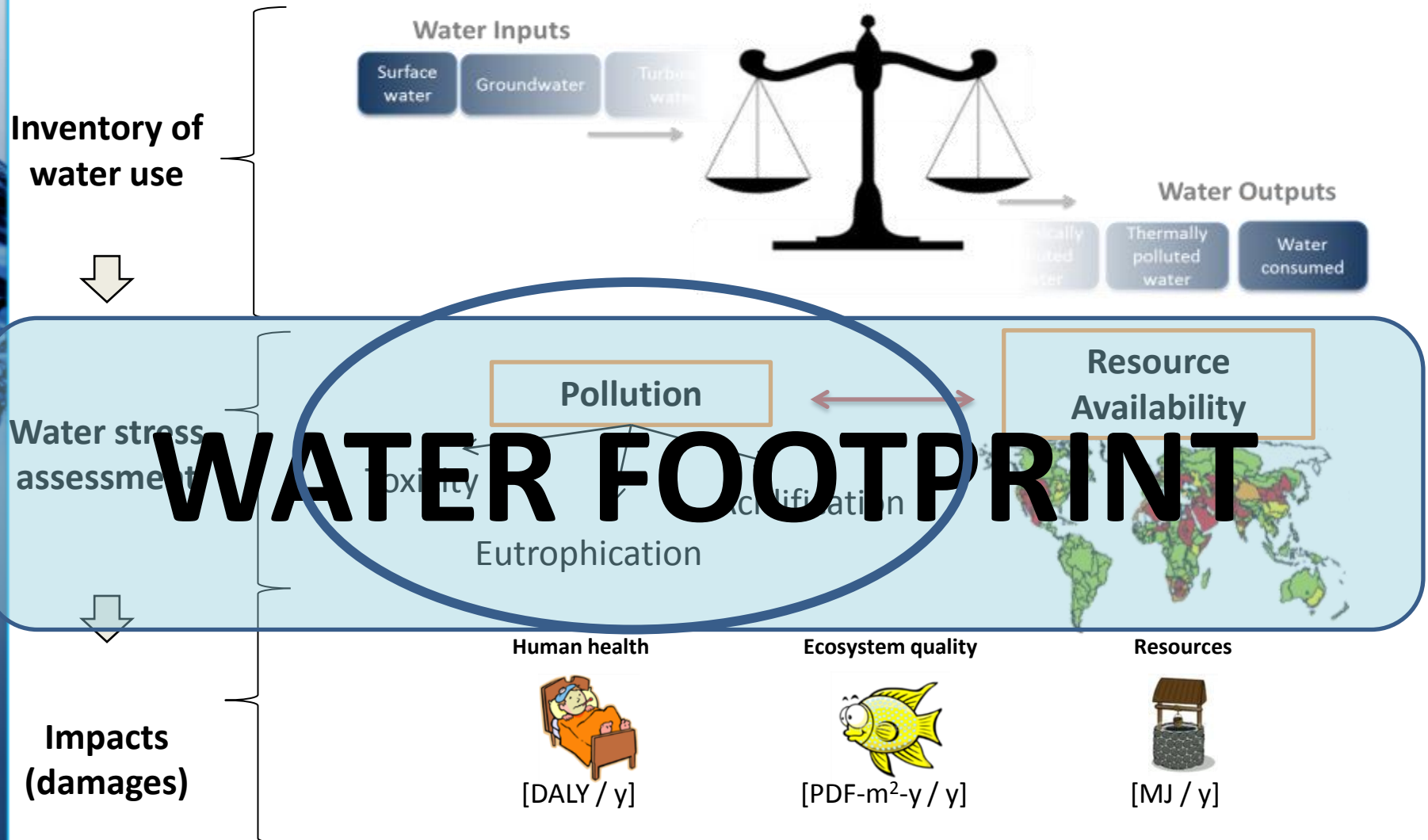
*Boulay et al. (2011), ES&T 45(20): 8948–8957*



# QUALITY INTEGRATION FOR WATER FOOTPRINT AS STAND-ALONE INDICATOR

- Grey water: accounts for dilution volume of pollutants to comply with environmental standards
  - Chapagain et al. 2006
- Quality classes to account for water scarcity of different qualities
  - Boulay et al. 2011
- Apply also a water scarcity index to grey water if aggregated at all
  - Ridoutt and Pfister 2010
- Multiply a scarcity index by a quality index based on environmental regulations
  - Veolia Water Impact Index (under review)
- Calculate volume equivalents for water pollution by using endpoint impact assessment in LCA (see later for details)
  - Ridoutt and Pfister 2012

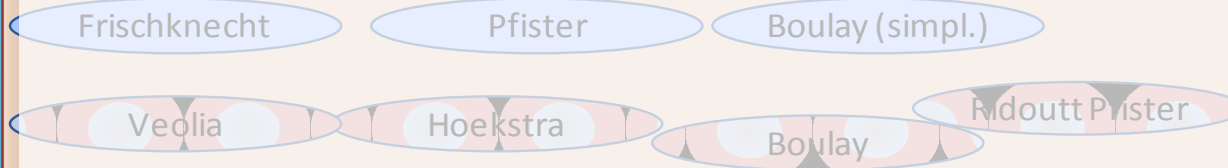
# FROM INVENTORY, TO RISK, TO IMPACTS...



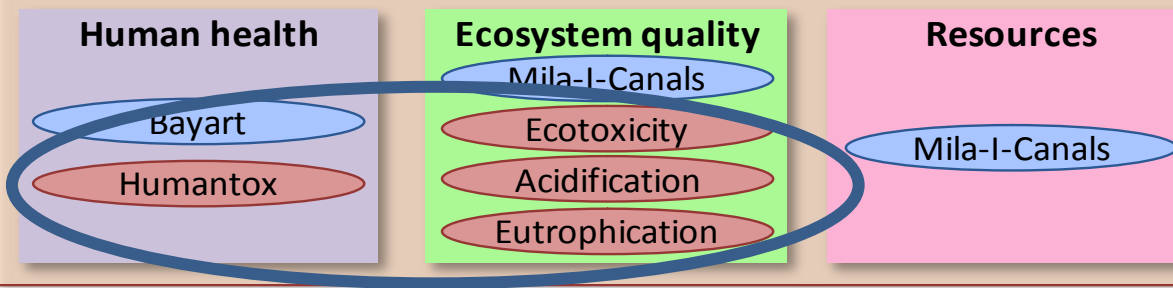
Adjusted from Quantis (do not re-use without prior permission)

## Midpoint

### Single indicators



### Category indicators



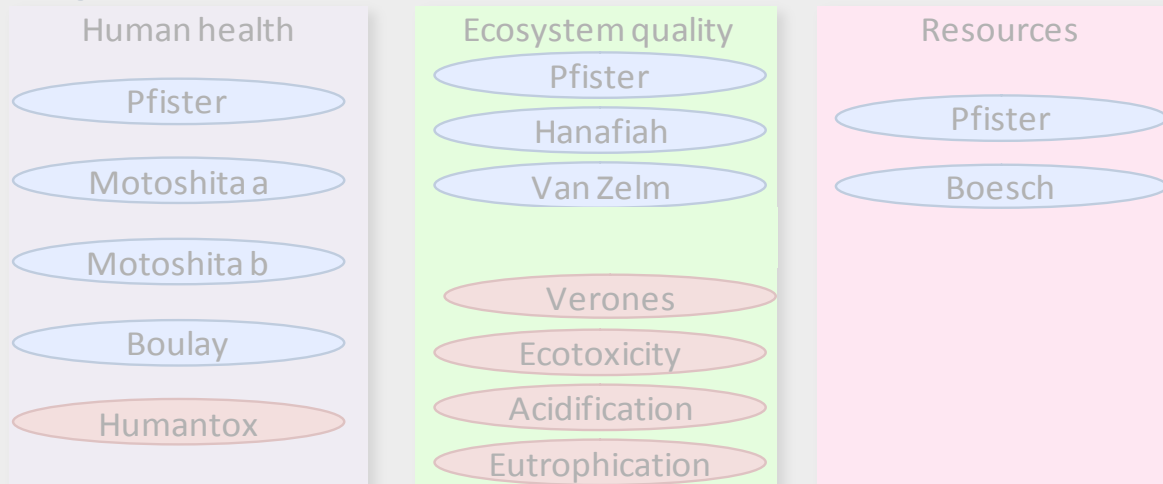
Legend

quality

quantity

## Endpoint

### Category indicators



# HUMAN TOXICITY

## USETOX (ROSENBAUM ET AL. 2008)

- **Description:** Quantifies the potential impact on human health from carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic diseases due to pollutant emissions to air, water and soil at the midpoint level. ***For a Water Footprint, only the fate in water is considered.***
- **Unit:** Cumulative Toxic Units (CTU) for humans
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized by default, could be regionalized
- **Advantages:** more than 3'000 substances with complex cause-effect chain modeling (fate, exposure, intake effect), consensus method internationally recognized and published
- **Disadvantages:** Does not yet cover all range of substances, cannot be compared with other indicators affecting ecosystem quality (only midpoint level), it is a consensus and therefore simplified compared to other models
- **Alternative Methods:** ReCiPe (Huijbregts and van Zelm 2009)

# AQUATIC ACIDIFICATION

## CML 2001 (NOT RECOMMENDED)

- **Description:** Estimates the acidification potential and critical load of the ecosystem
- **Unit:** kg H<sup>+</sup>-equivalent
- **Regionalization:** not operationalized in CML 2001
- **Advantages:** LCA impact indicator with user experience
- **Disadvantages:** Not recommended by JRC and further developments needed (ongoing)
- **Alternative Methods:** EDIP97 (Wenzel *et al.* 1997)



# FRESHWATER EUTROPHICATION

## ReCiPe (GOEDKOOP ET AL. 2008)

- **Description:** Quantifies the decrease of freshwater aquatic biodiversity from eutrophication from nutrients emissions into air, water and soil.
- **Unit:** kg Phosphorous-equivalent (kg N-equivalents for marine eutrophication)
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized, could be regionalized
- **Advantages:** Well-established LCA impact indicator
- **Disadvantages:** Eutrophication potential depends on the ecosystem type and location of emission and should be regionalized (here only global average), addressing both fate and effect aspects

# ECOTOXICITY

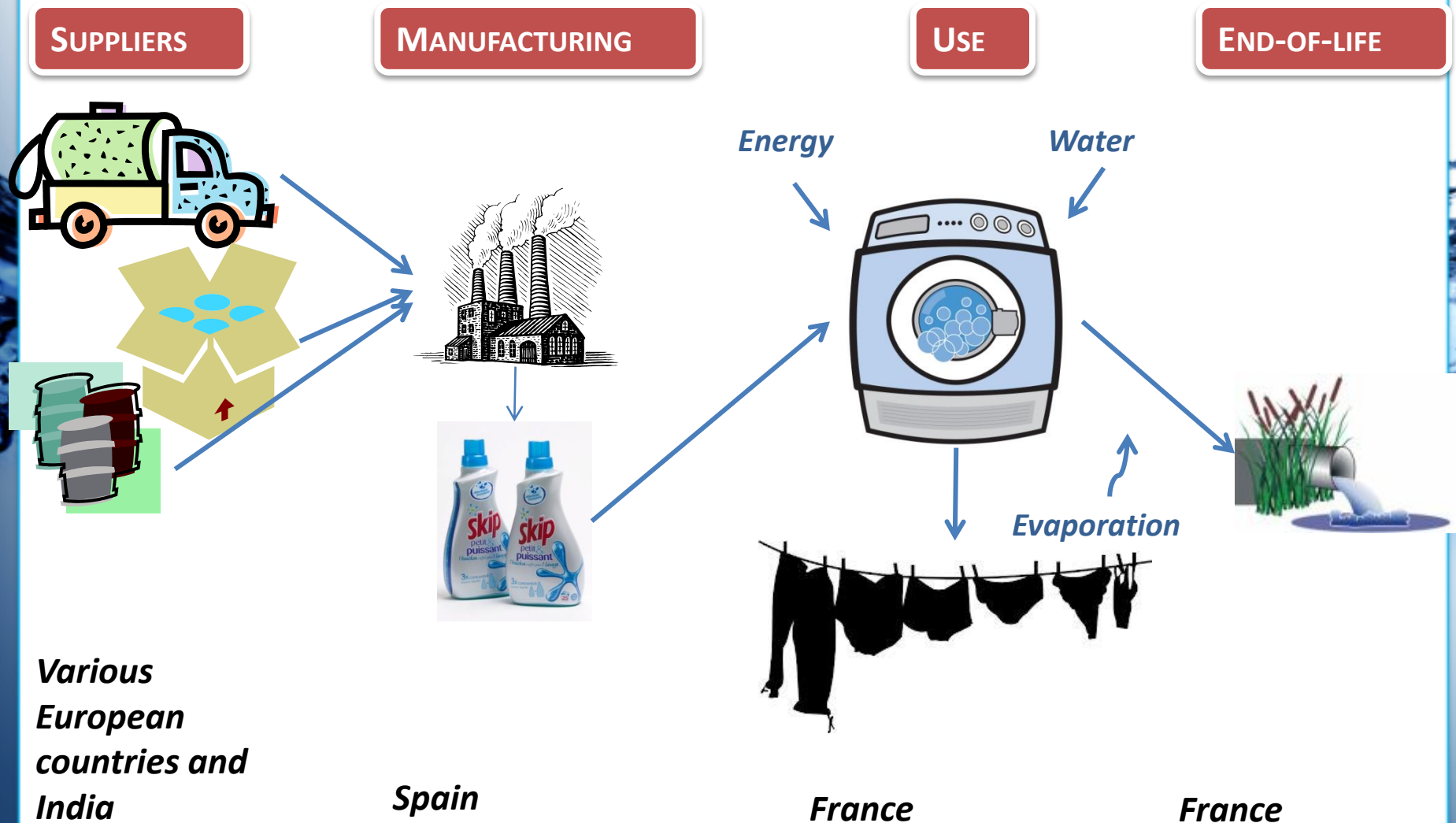
## USETOX (ROSENBAUM ET AL. 2008)

- **Description:** Quantifies the potential impact on ecosystems due to pollutant emissions to air, water and soil at the midpoint level.
- **Unit:** Cumulative Toxic Units (CTU) for test species
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized by default, could be regionalized
- **Advantages:** more than 3'000 substances with complex cause-effect chain modeling (fate, exposure, intake effect), consensus method internationally recognized and published, can distinguish impacts on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems
- **Disadvantages:** Does not yet cover all range of substances, cannot be compared with other indicators affecting ecosystem quality (only midpoint level), it is a consensus and therefore simplified compared to other models
- **Alternative Methods:** ReCiPe (Huijbregts and van Zelm 2009)

Water Footprint at the midpoint

# EXAMPLES

# WATER FOOTPRINT OF A LOAD OF LAUNDRY



Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

# METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW - MIDPOINT

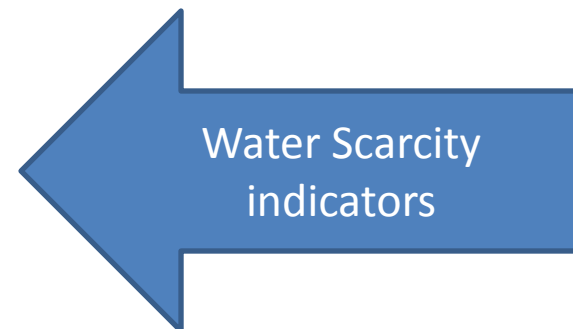
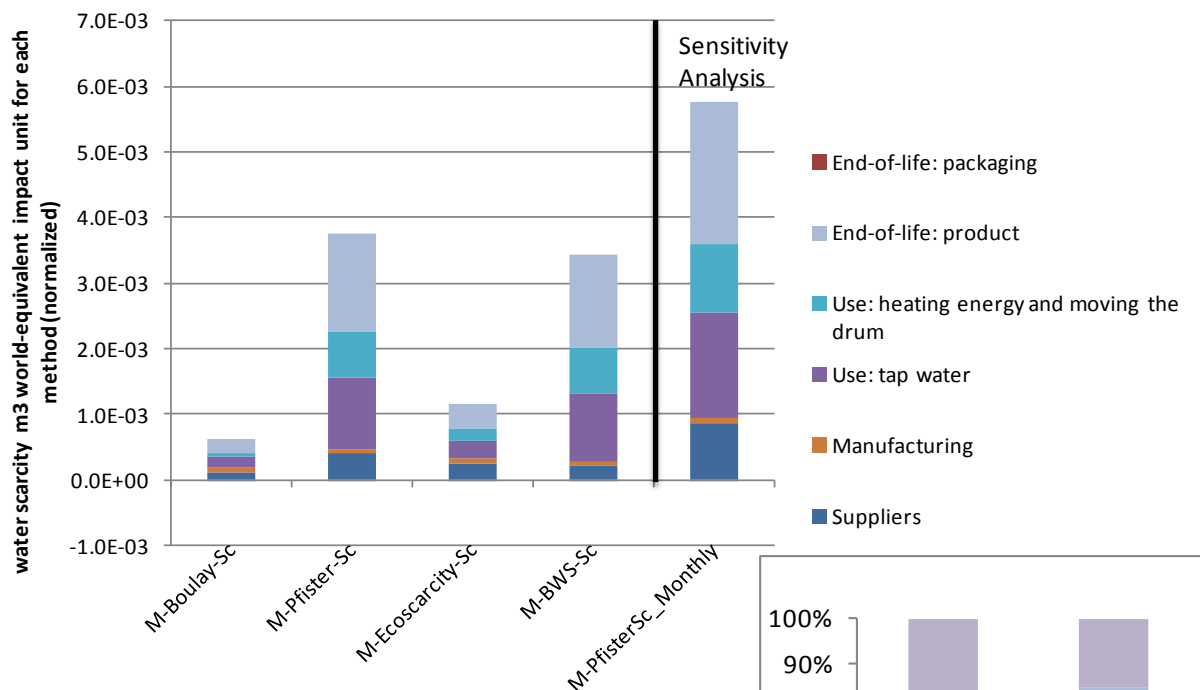
**Water  
Footprint  
profile at  
midpoint:  
Water  
availability  
and water  
degradation**

	Indicator	Reference
	Water Availability	
1	Scarcity	Pfister et al.
1		Boulay et al.
1		Swiss Eco-Scarcity
1		WFN, Hoekstra et al.
1a	Availability	Boulay et al.
1a		Veolia Impact Index, Bayart et al.
	Water Degradation	
2	Eutrophication	ReCIPe
3	Acidification	Impact 2002+
4	Ecotoxicity	Usetox
5	Human Toxicity	Usetox

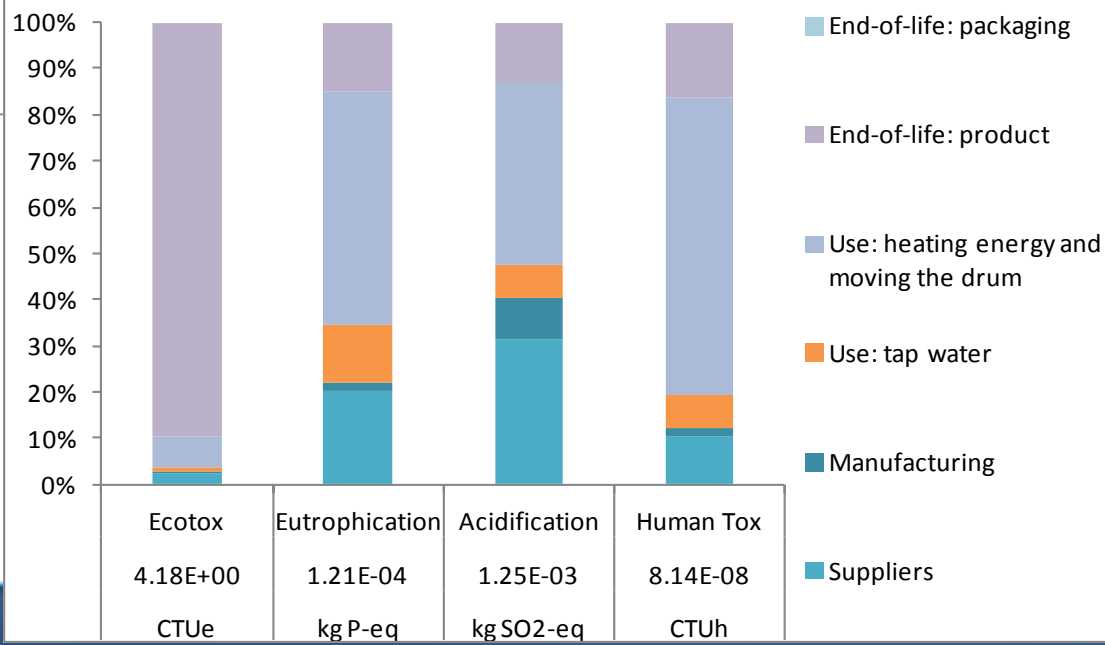
→ Only  
one  
method  
needed



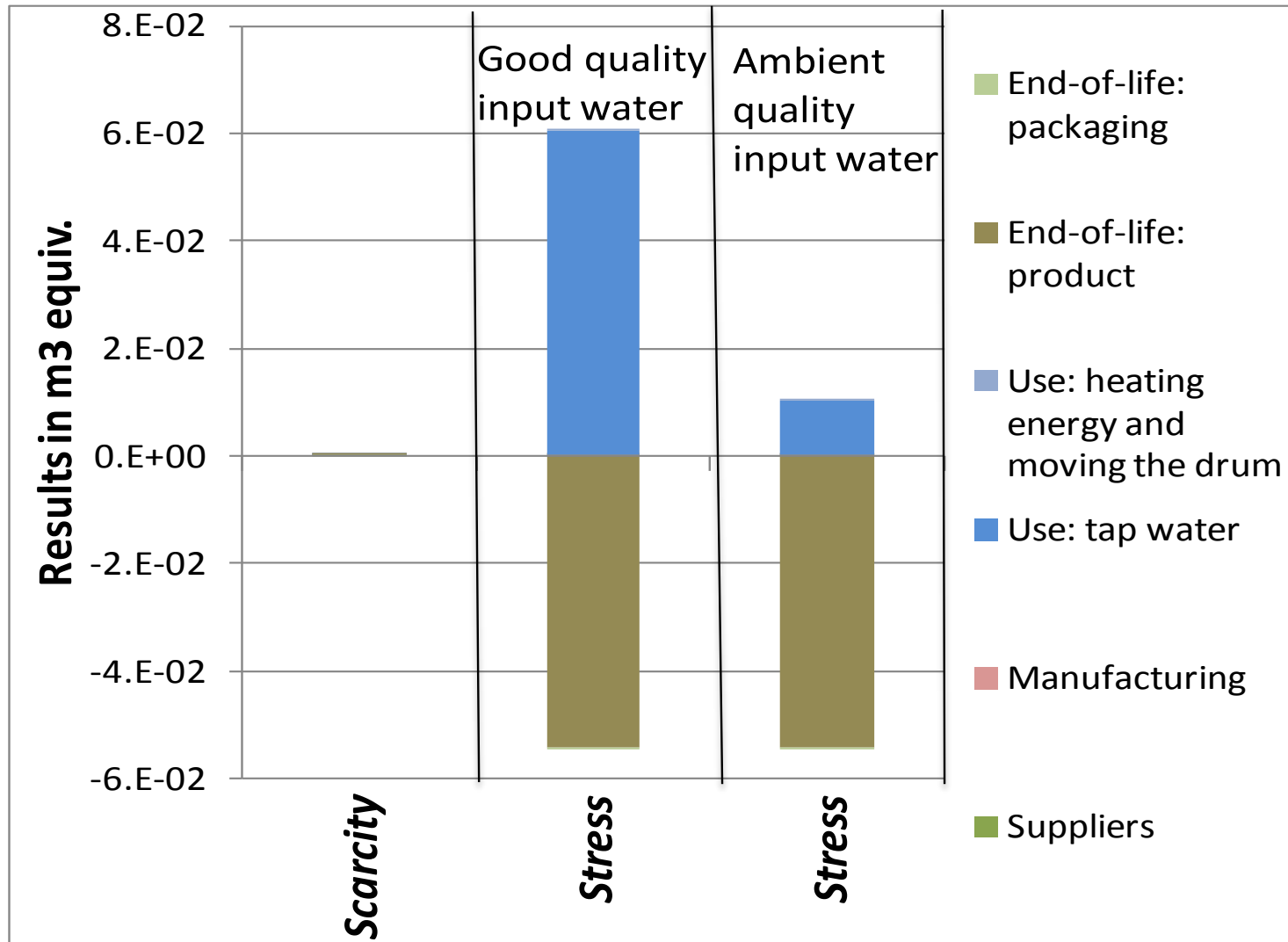
# MIDPOINT WATER FOOTPRINT PROFILE



Water degradation indicators



# SCARCITY VS STRESS



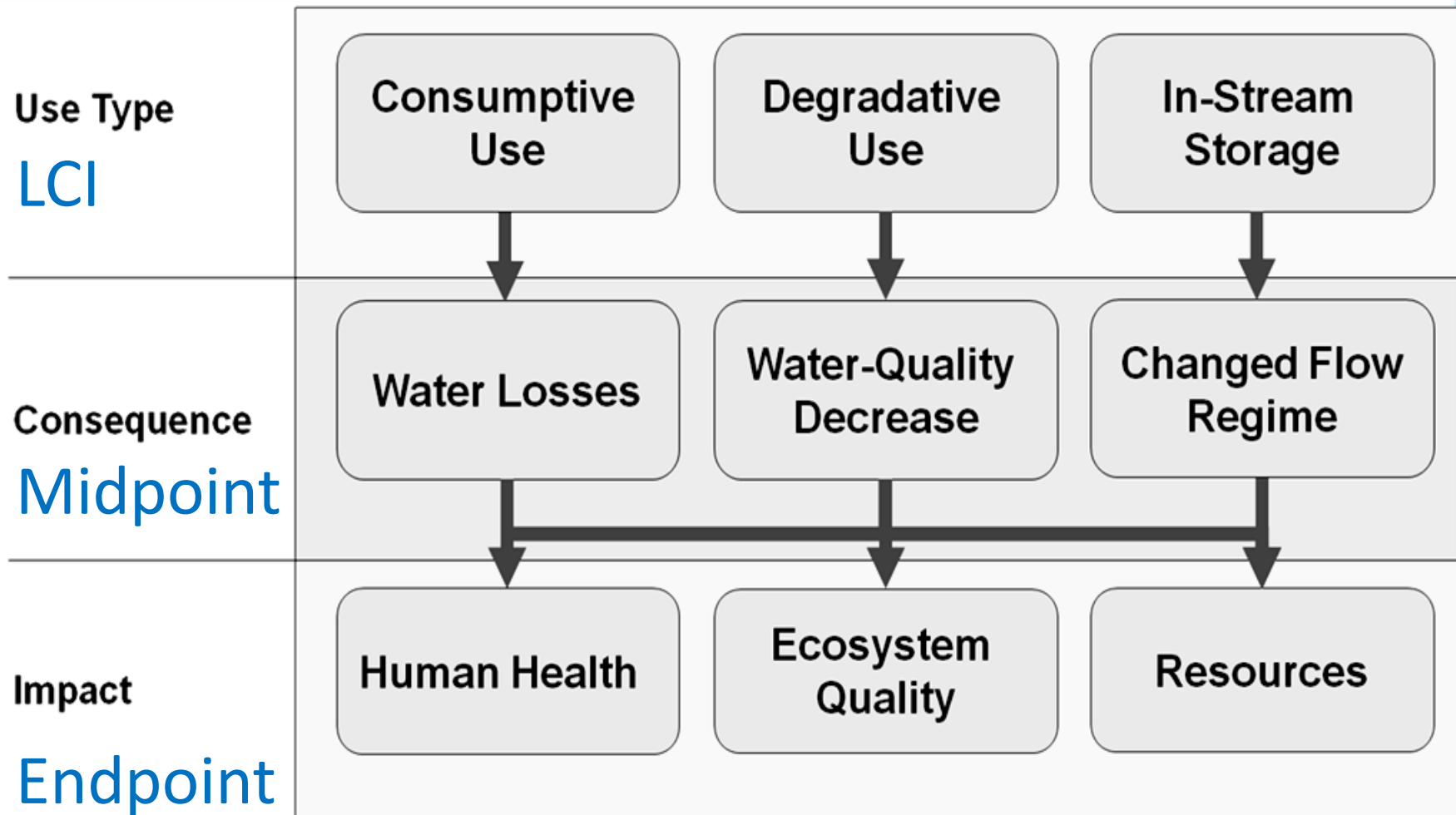
Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

# METHOD OVERVIEW

- Water indices and midpoint assessments
  - Water indices
  - Water availability assessment – methods
  - Midpoint impact category assessment methods
  - Examples
- Endpoint assessment
  - Human health
  - Ecosystems
  - Resource depletion

# **ENDPOINT ASSESSMENT (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS)**

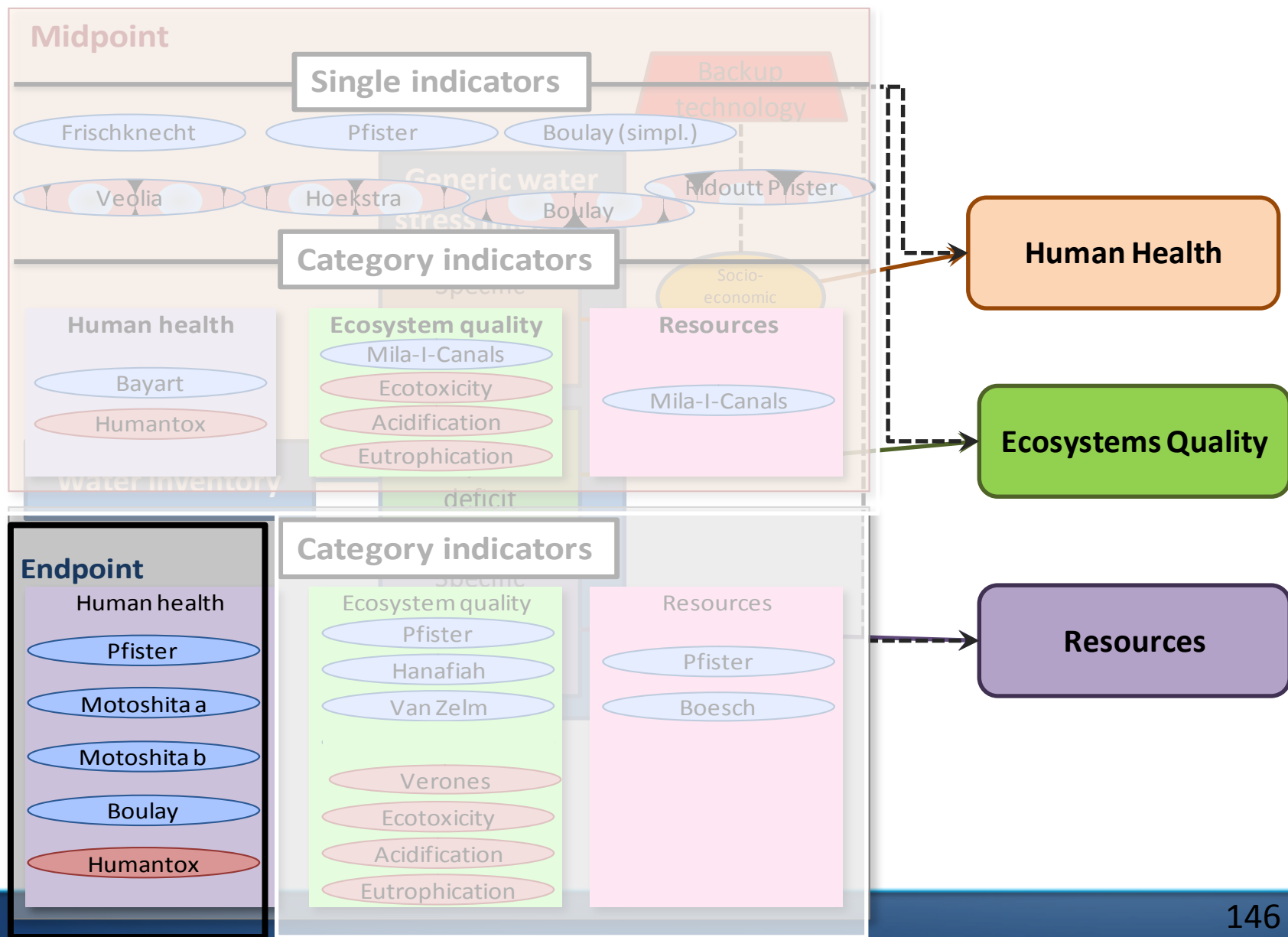
# LCIA METHODS FOR WATER USE



Pfister, Koehler & Hellweg (2009), ES&T 43(11): 4098–4104



# WATER IMPACTS ENDPOINT MODELING



# HUMAN HEALTH

**Dependent on the level of human development and economic welfare**

Water use ultimately leads to an aggregated impact on human health, generally expressed in disability-adjusted life years (DALY)

- Lack of freshwater for hygiene and ingestion (spread of communicable diseases) (Motoshita et al. 2010b; Boulay et al. 2011)
- Water shortages for irrigation resulting in malnutrition (Pfister et al. 2009; Motoshita et al. 2010a; Boulay et al. 2011)
- Water shortage for freshwater fisheries resulting in loss of productivity and food supply (Boulay et al. 2011).

# PFISTER ET AL 2009: IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH

Main pathway is malnutrition due to lack of freshwater and diminished agricultural yields

$$\Delta HH_{\text{malnutrition},i} = \underbrace{WSI_i \cdot WU_{\% \text{agriculture},i}}_{WDF_i} \cdot \underbrace{HDF_{\text{malnutrition},i} \cdot WR_{\text{malnutrition}}^{-1}}_{EF_i} \cdot DF_{\text{malnutrition}} \cdot WU_{\text{consumptive},i}$$

$CF_{\text{malnutrition},i}$

$HH_{\text{malnutrition},i}$ : human health damage (DALY)

$WSI$ : physical water stress index (-)

$WU_{\% \text{agriculture}}$ : fraction of agricultural water use (-)

$WDF_i$ : water deprivation factor (m3 deprived/m3 consumed)

$HDF_{\text{malnutrition},i}$ : human development factor (-)

$WR_{\text{malnutrition}}$ : per-capita water requirement to prevent malnutrition (m3/yr\*capita)

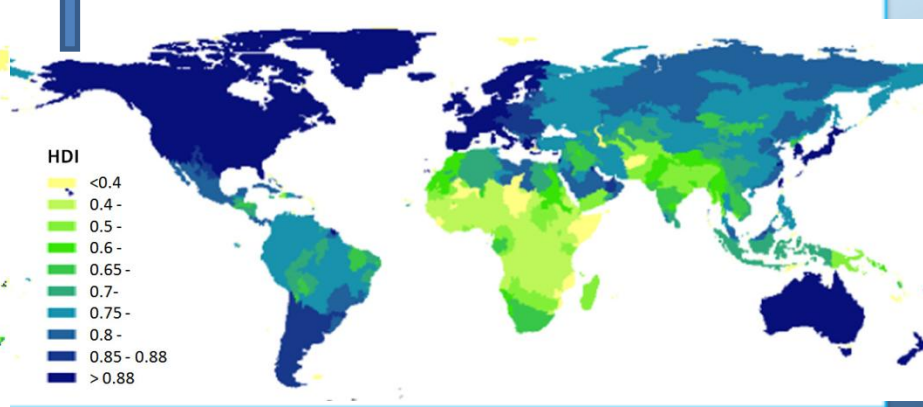
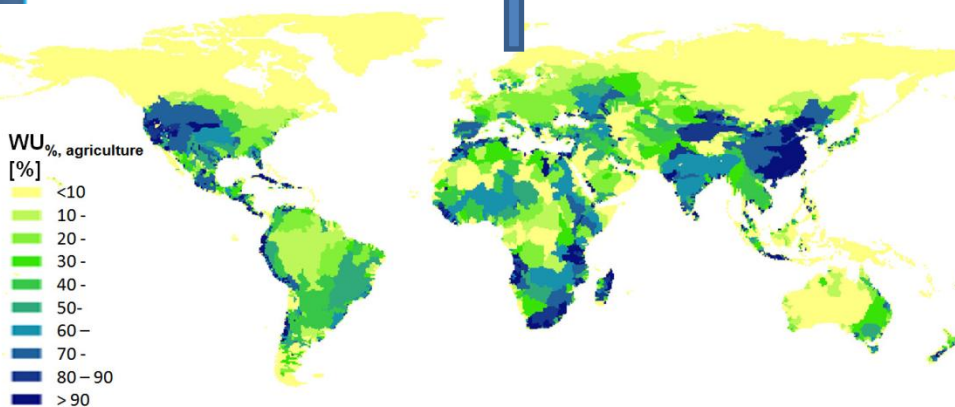
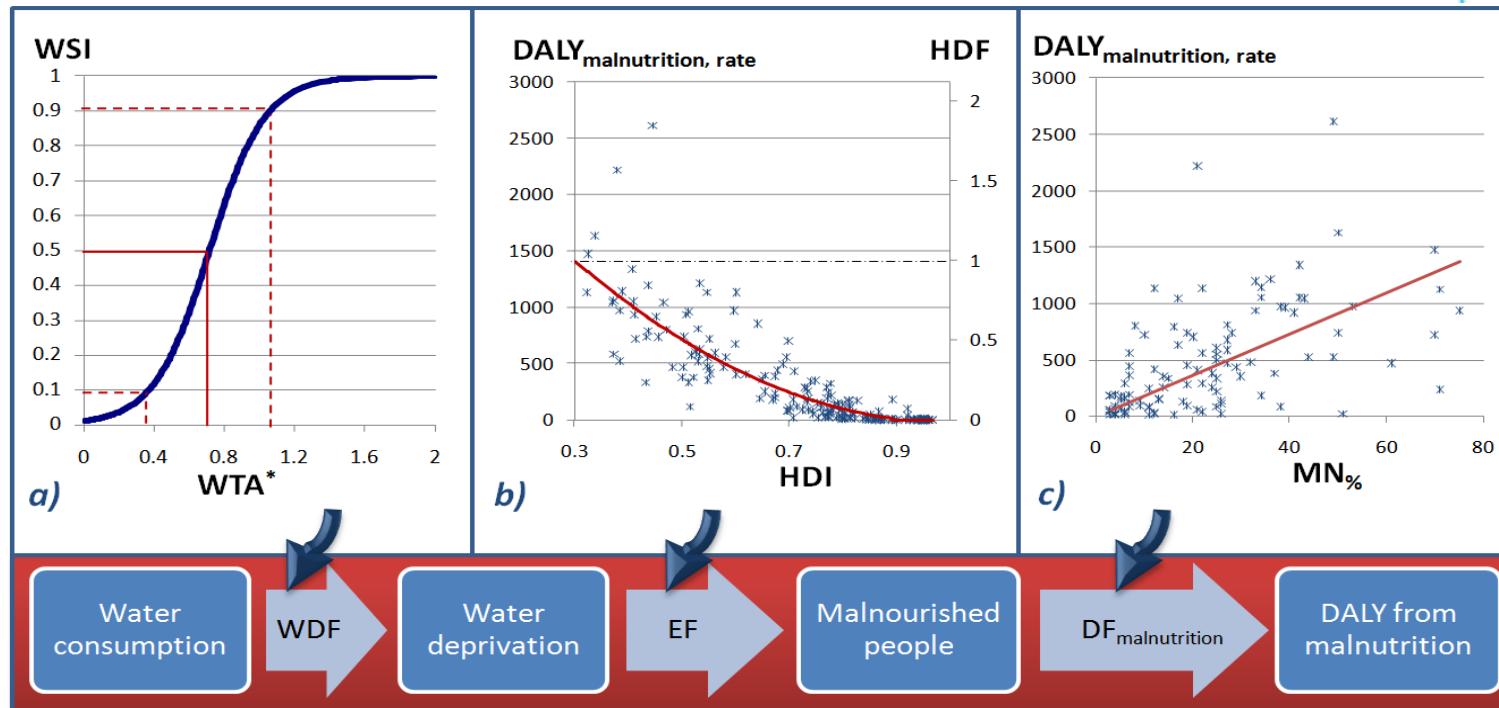
$EF_i$ : effect factor (capita \*yr/m3 deprived) → Annual number of malnourished people per water quantity deprived

$DF_{\text{malnutrition}}$ : damage factor (DALY/yr\*capita) → Damage caused by malnutrition

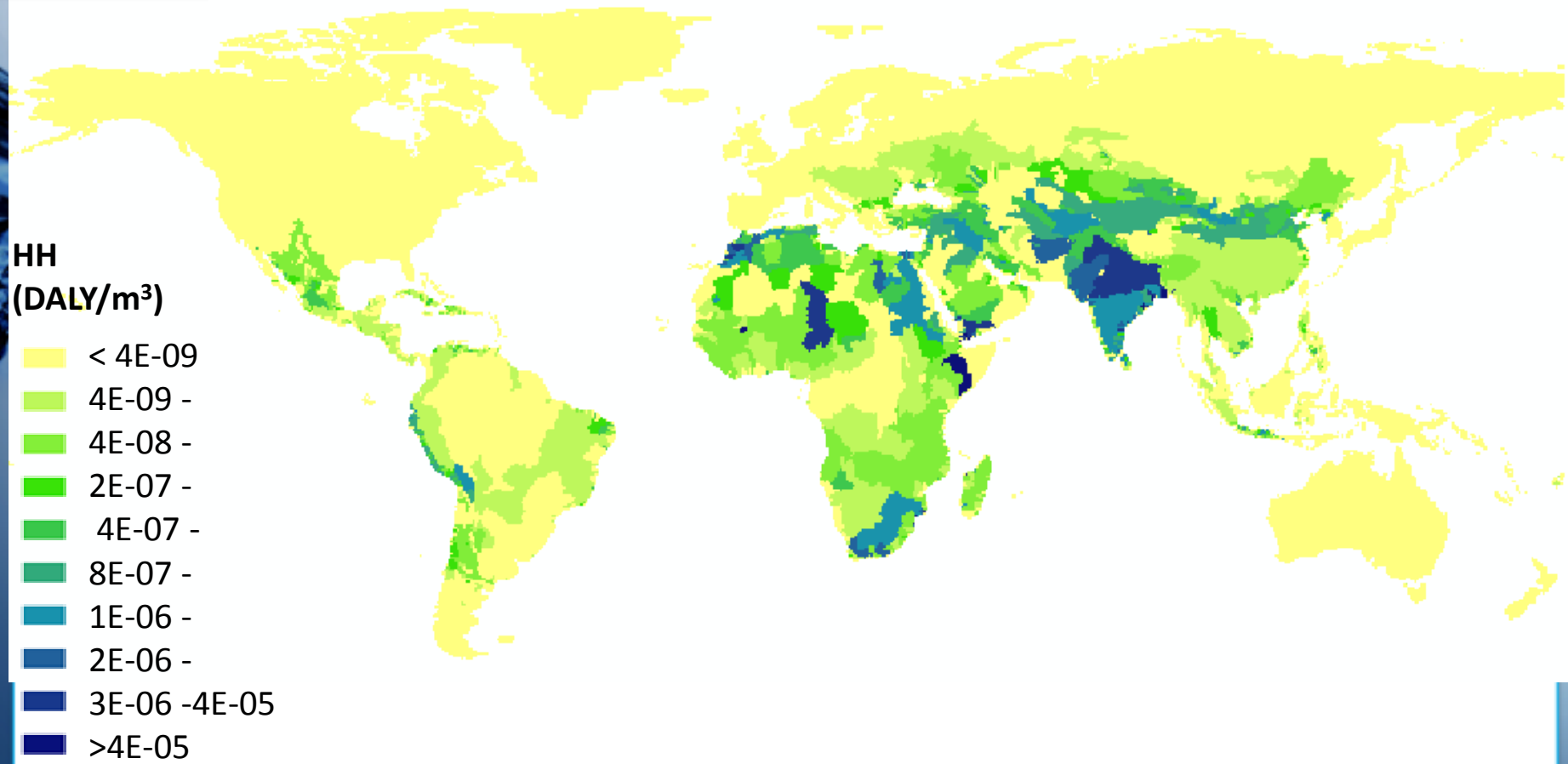
$WU_{\text{consumptive}}$ : consumptive water use (m3)

$CF_{\text{malnutrition}}$ : specific damage per unit of water consumed (DALY/m3 consumed)

# PFISTER ET AL 2009: IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH

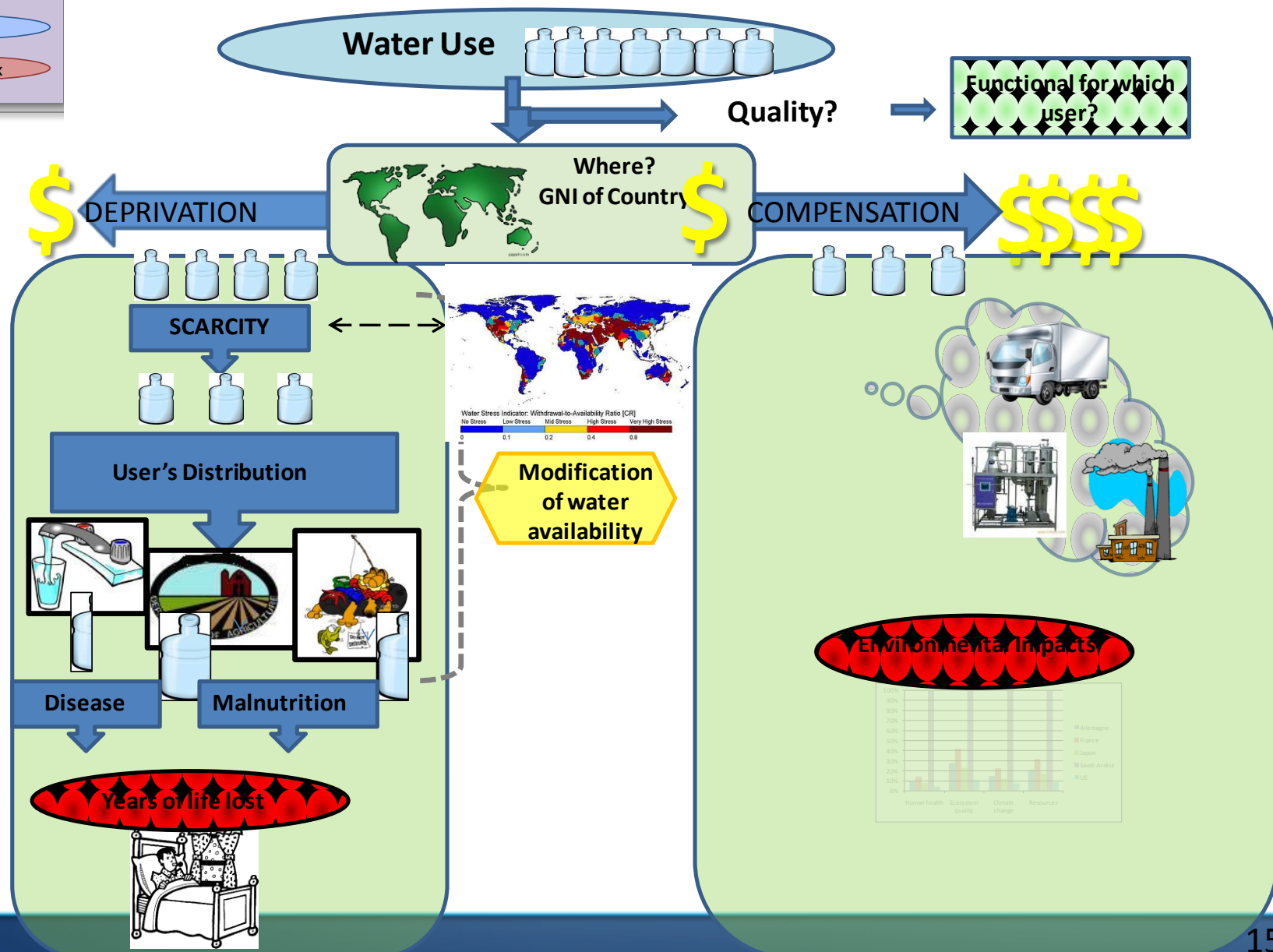


# PFISTER ET AL 2009: IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH

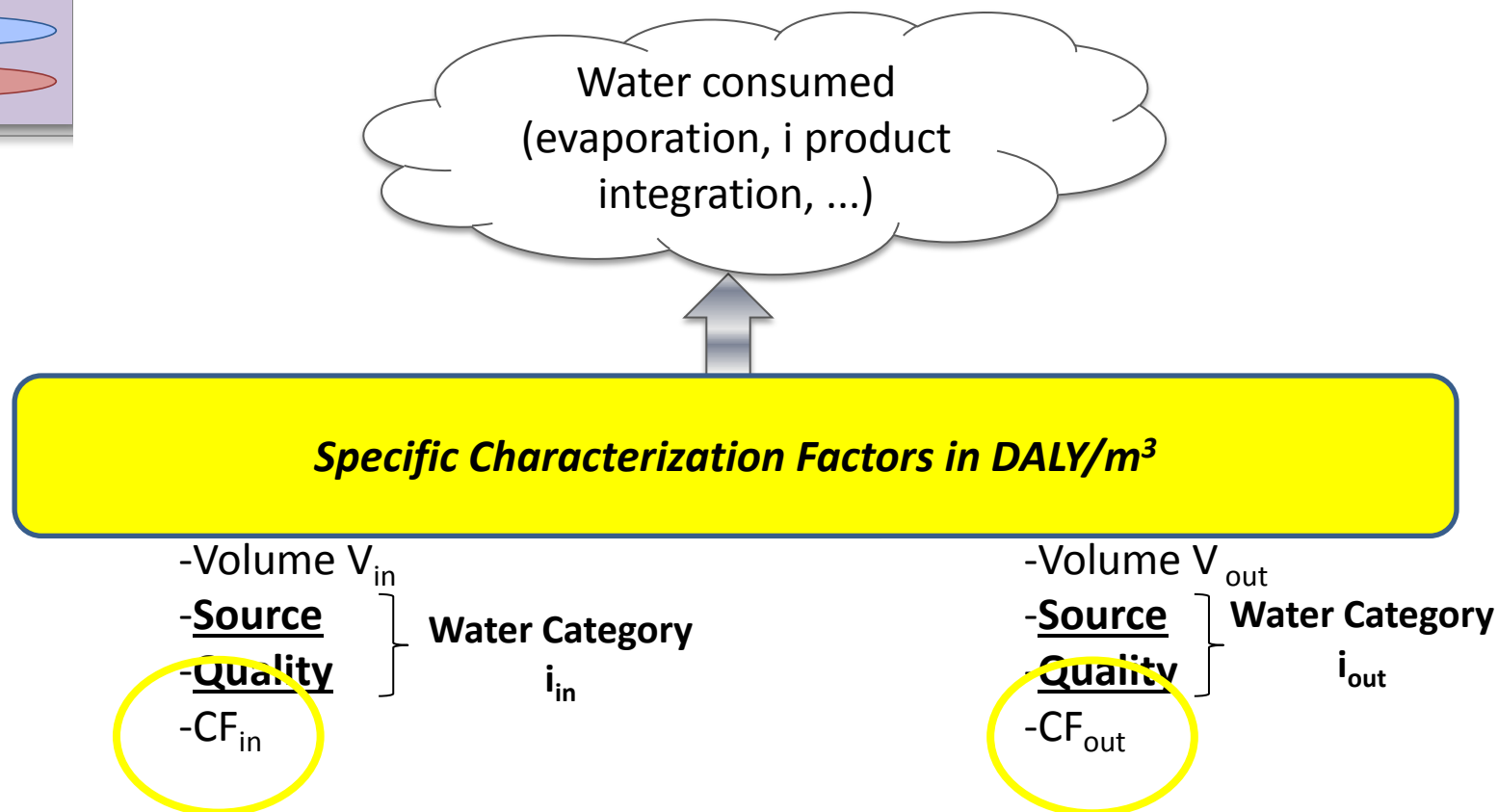




# BOULAY ET AL 2011: IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH



# BOULAY ET AL 2011: IMPACT ASSESSMENT

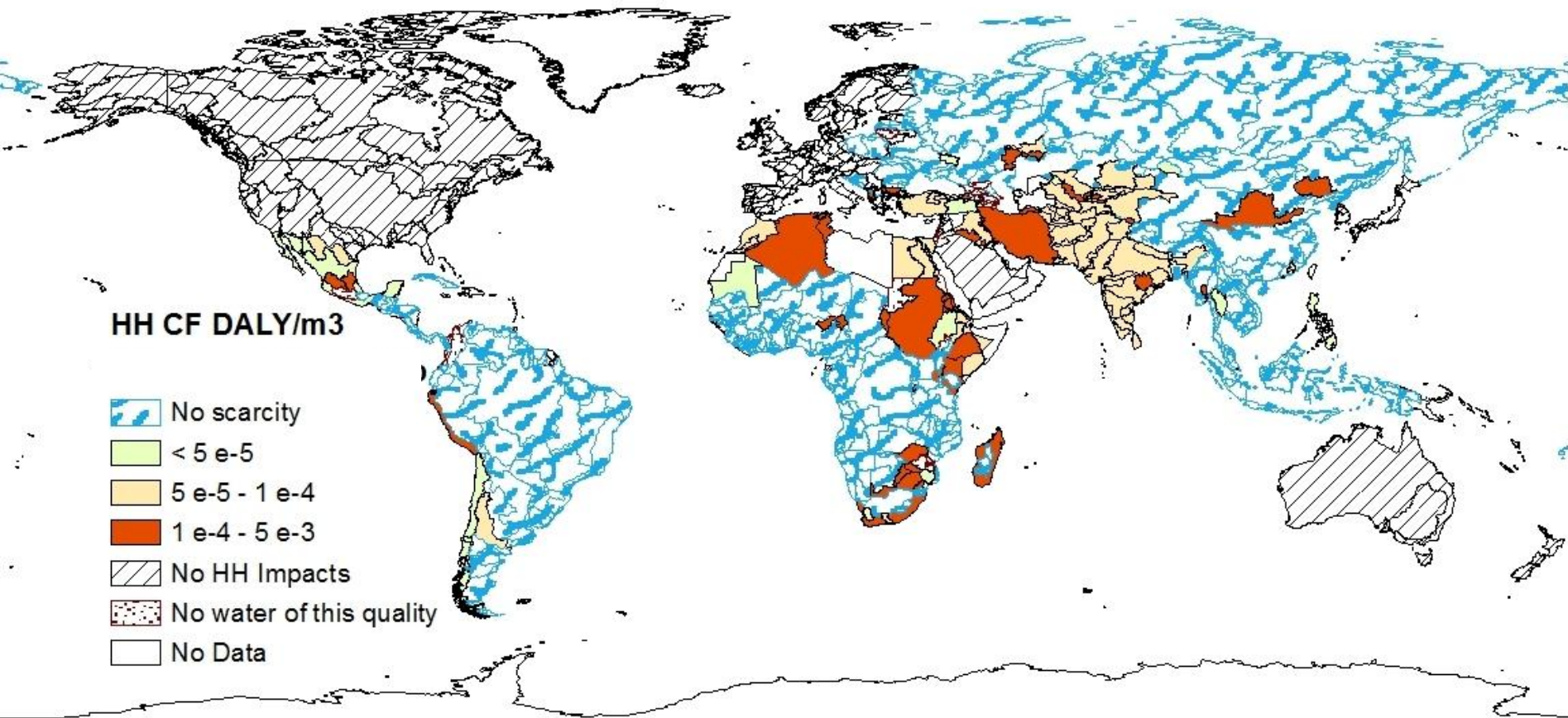


$$\text{Impact} = (\text{Volume}_{\text{in}} \times \text{CF}_{\text{in}}) - (\text{Volume}_{\text{out}} \times \text{CF}_{\text{out}})$$

Note: CF= Characterization Factor

# BOULAY ET AL: IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH

*Characterization Factors in DALY/m<sup>3</sup> for average quality water*



# MOTOSHITA ET AL. 2010: HUMAN HEALTH DAMAGE

## ASSESSMENT

### Water withdrawal and consumption

Availability loss for downstream user

<Consideration of influential factors>

Agricultural use

Domestic use

Economic adaptability

Food production loss

Availability loss to safe water

<Ripple effect>

International food trade

Food consumption

Nutritional deficiency

<Consideration of influential factors>

Climate, Nutritional gap, Medical treatment

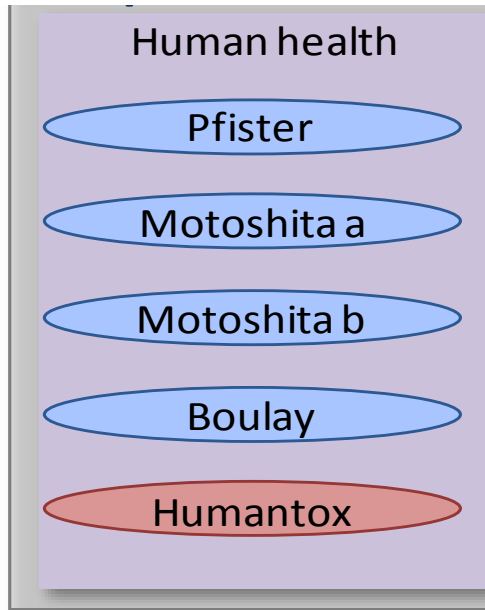
Human health damage

Undernourishment,  
Diarrhoea, Intestinal diseases

Motoshita et al 2010a/b

Statistical modeling on country scale

# IMPORTANT NOTE



***These methods are addressing the SAME impact pathways, hence they are redundant and a consensual method is needed***

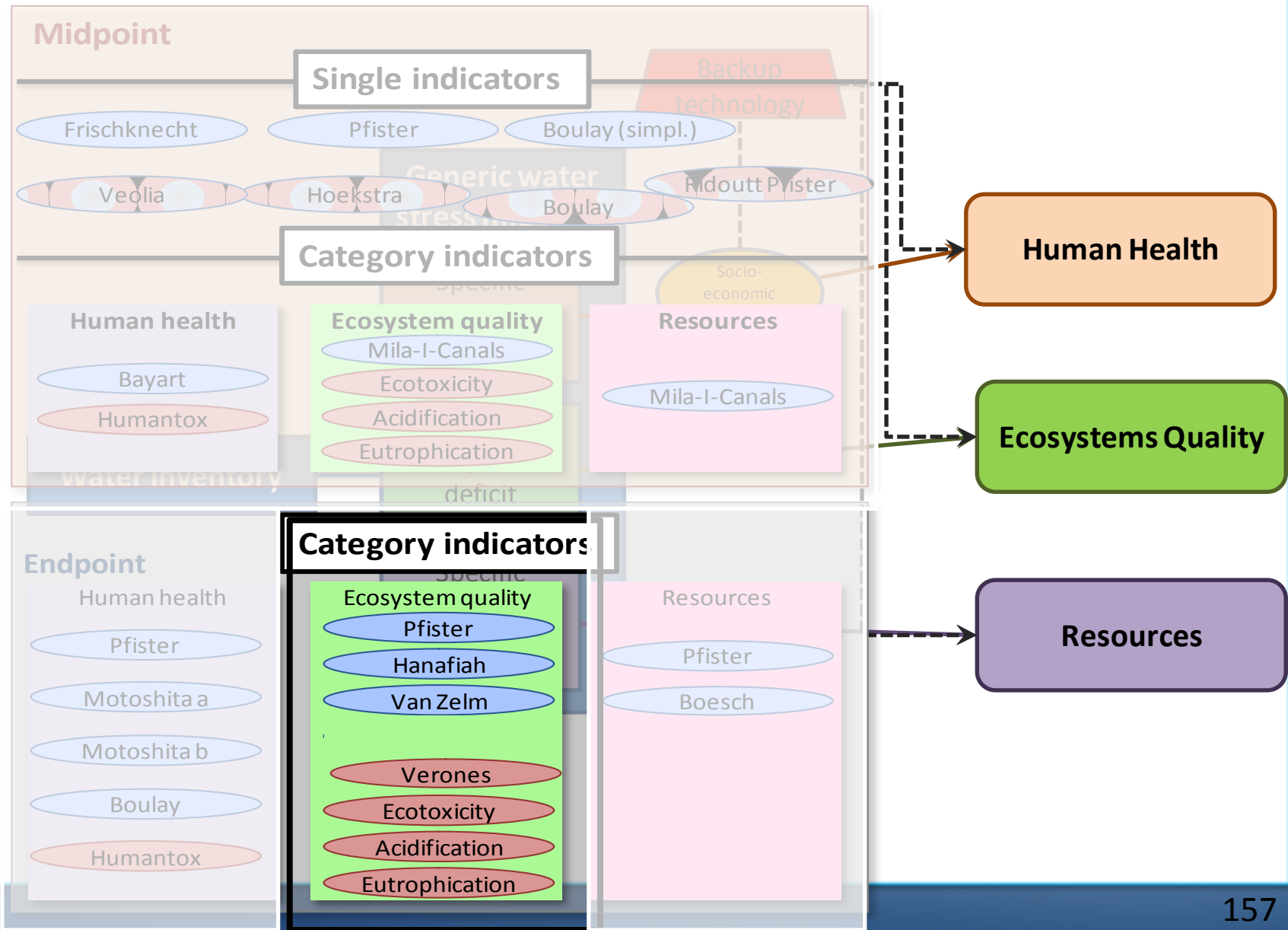


# HUMAN TOXICITY

## USEtox (ROSENBAUM ET AL. 2008)

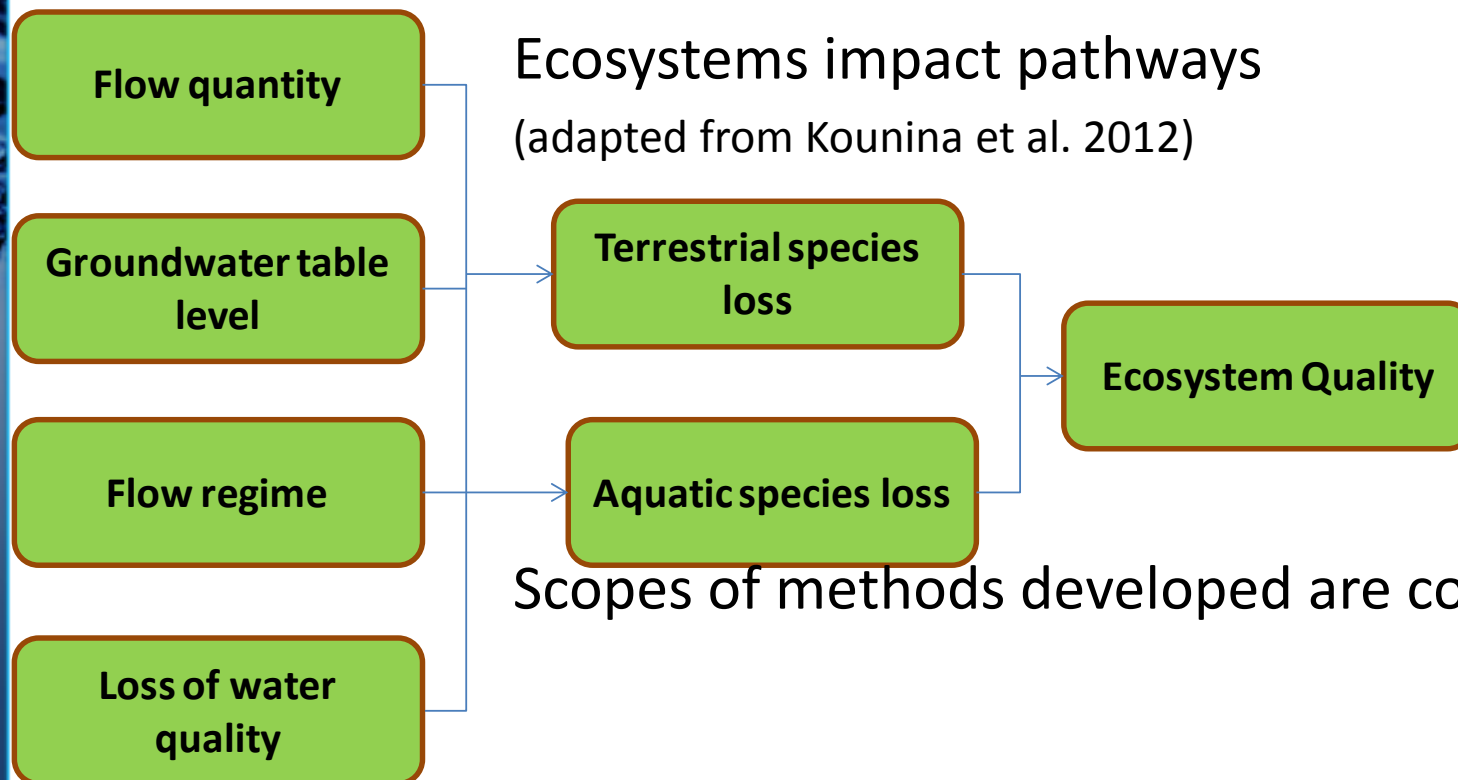
- **Description:** Estimates the potential impact on human health from carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic effects due to emissions to air, water and soil at the endpoint.
- **Unit:** Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY) lost
- **Reference:** Rosenbaum et al. 2008
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized but could be regionalized
- **Advantages:** Method that assesses more than 3'000 substances with complex cause-effect chain modeling, consensus method internationally recognized and published
- **Disadvantages:** **Not recommended by JRC.** Does not cover all range of substances, no regionalized characterization factors are available.
- **Alternative:** ReCiPe (Huijbregts and van Zelm 2009)

# WATER IMPACTS ENDPOINT MODELING



# WATER AVAILABILITY METHODS

# WATER QUALITY METHODS



Scopes of methods developed are complementary

# WATER AVAILABILITY METHODS

- 1- Decrease of terrestrial biodiversity due to the reduction of freshwater availability (Pfister et al. 2009)
- 2- Disappearance of terrestrial plant species due to groundwater extraction and related lowering of the water table (van Zelm et al. 2010)
- 3- Effects of water consumption on freshwater fish species (Hanafiah et al. 2011)

# 1- PFISTER ET AL. 2009: IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEM QUALITY

Adverse effects on ecosystem services/functions and biodiversity

$$\Delta EQ = CF_{EQ} \cdot WU_{consumptive} = \underbrace{NPP_{wat-lim}}_{PDF} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{WU_{consumptive}}{P}}_{A \cdot t}$$

**EQ:** ecosystem quality damage (m2\*yr)

**CF(EQ):** ecosystem damage factor/potential (m2\*yr/m3)

**WU(consumptive):** consumptive water use (m3)

**NPP(wat-lim):** fraction of net primary production limited in growth by reduced precipitation/water availability (-)  
 → water shortage vulnerability of ecosystem

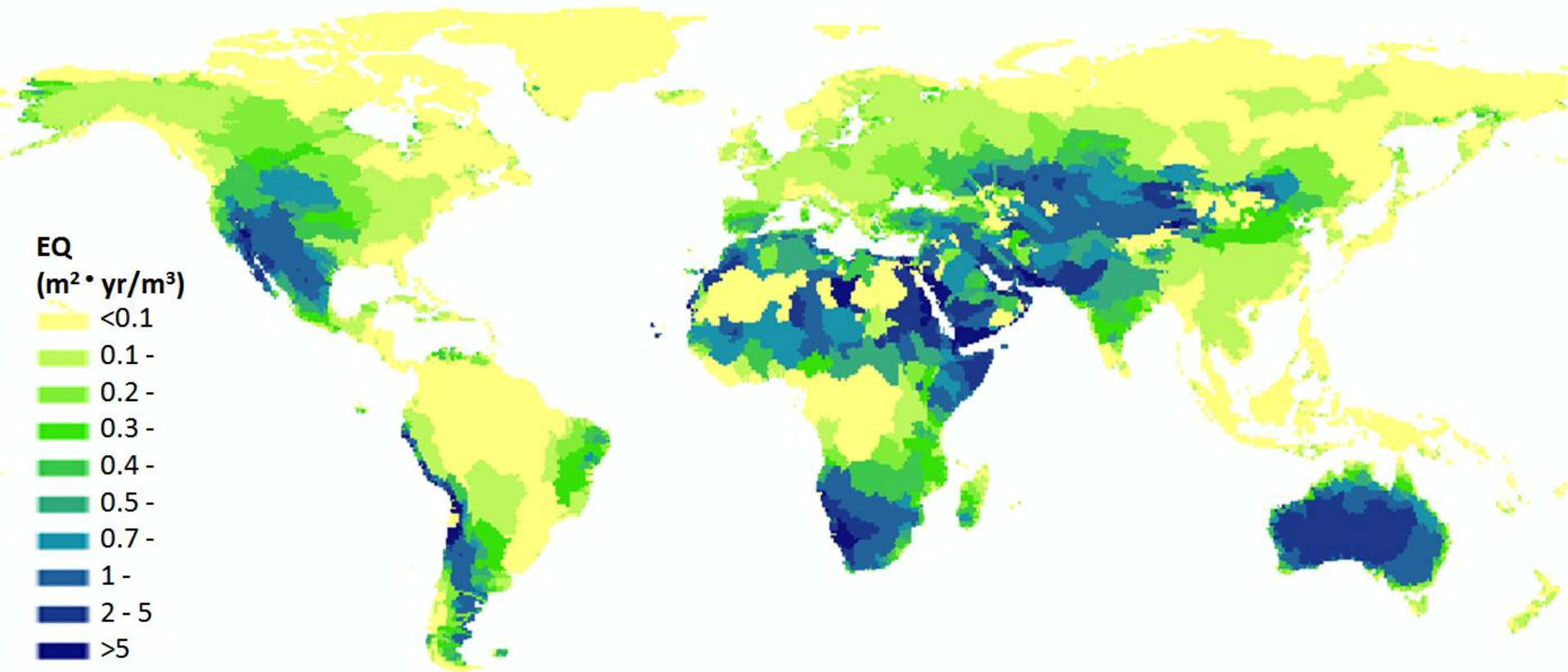
**PDF:** potentially disappeared fraction (of vegetation)

**P:** precipitation (m/yr)

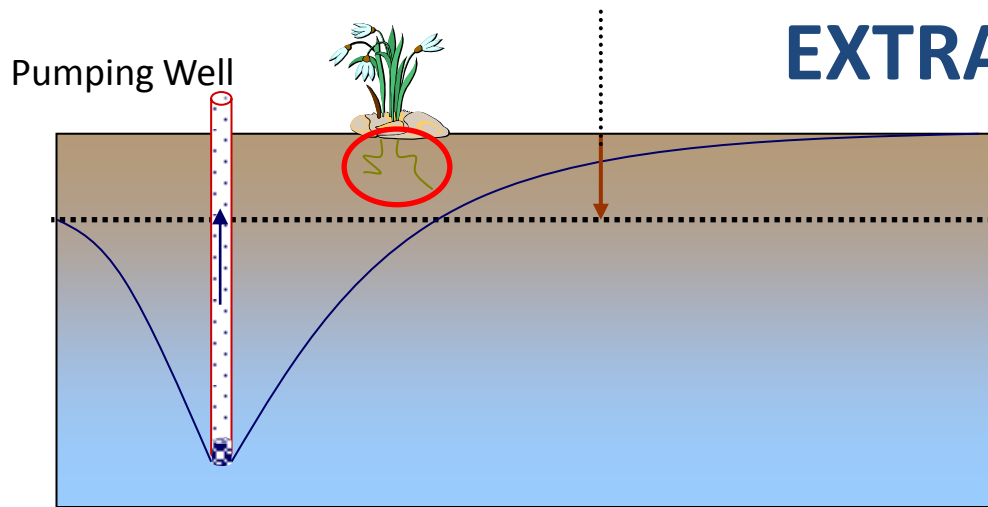
**A\*t:** theoretical area-time equivalent needed to recover the amount of water consumed by natural precipitation



# 1- PFISTER ET AL: IMPACTS ON ECOSYSTEM QUALITY



## 2- VAN ZELM ET AL: GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION



Potentially Not  
→ Occurring Fraction  
of Plant Species (PNOF)

Extraction → Lowering water level → Damage to environment

Fate  $A_i * \Delta AG_i / \Delta Q_i$   
Groundwater model  
based on MODFLOW

Effect  $dPNOF_i / dAG_i$   
Multiple regression curves  
(MOVE model)

$AG$  = Average Groundwater  
level (m)

$Q$  = Extraction rate ( $m^3/yr$ )

$D$  = Damage (-)

- Data available for the Netherlands
- 625 terrestrial plant species; 141 on red list
- Endpoint level

### 3- HANAFIAH ET AL. 2011

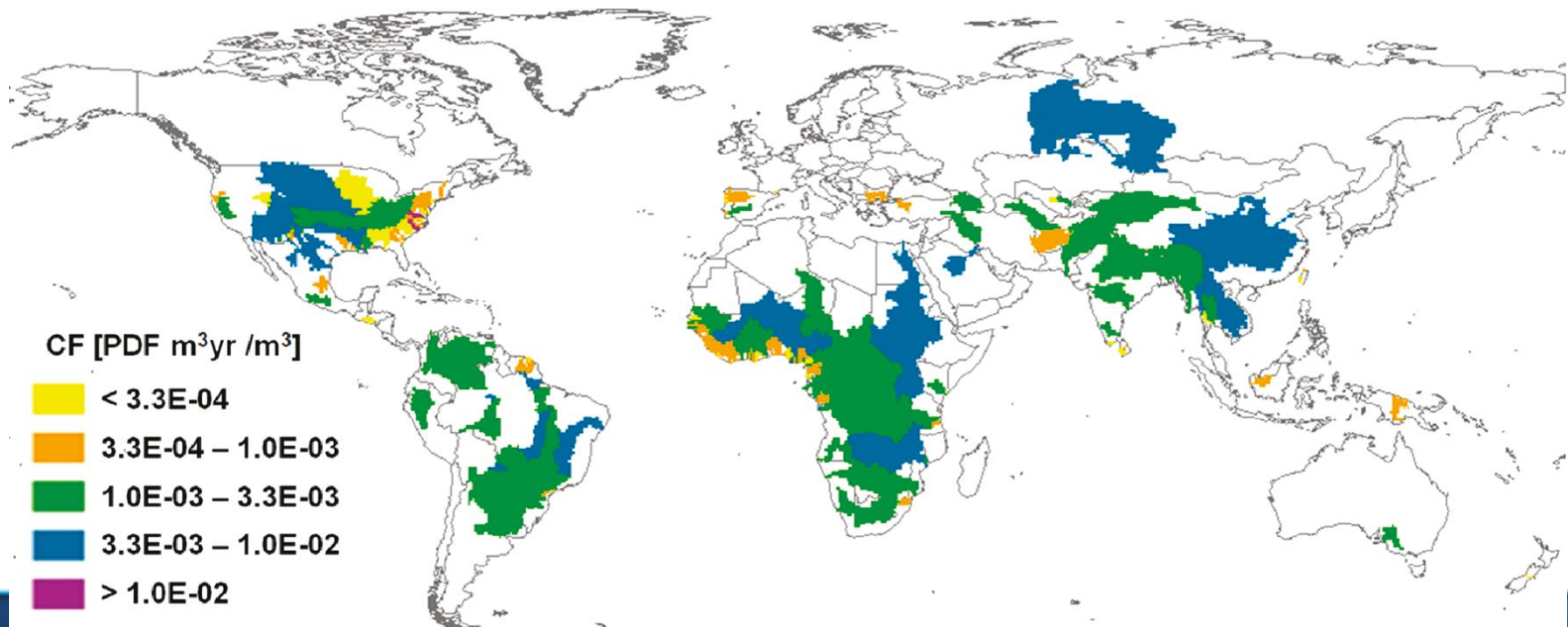
- Reduced fish species as a function of reduced river flow (Q)

W = water consumption

PDF = potentially disappeared fraction of species

V = river volume

$$CF_{wc,i} = FF_i \cdot EF_i = \underbrace{\frac{dQ_{mouth,i}}{dW_i}}_{fate} \cdot \underbrace{\left( \frac{dPDF_i}{dQ_{mouth,i}} \cdot V_i \right)}_{effect}$$



# IMPORTANT NOTE

Ecosystem quality

Pfister

Hanafiah

Van Zelm

***These methods are NOT addressing the same impact pathways, hence they can be used in parallel***

# WATER QUALITY METHODS

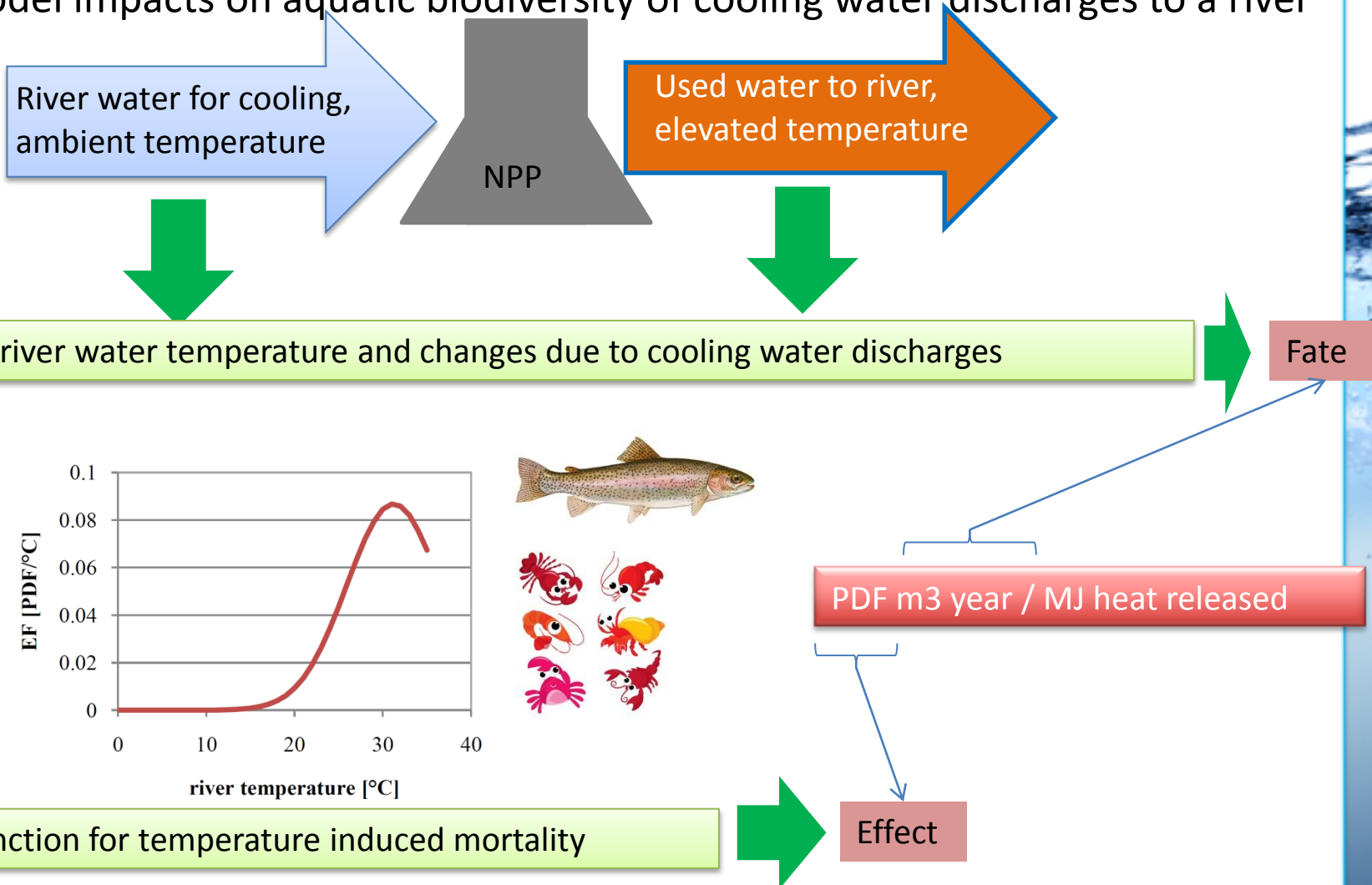
- 1- Heat emissions
- 2- Ecotoxicity
- 3- Acidification
- 4- Eutrophication



# HEAT EMISSIONS

## (VERONES ET AL. 2010)

**Aim:** model impacts on aquatic biodiversity of cooling water discharges to a river



# ECOTOXICITY

## USETOX (ROSENBAUM ET AL. 2008)

- **Description:** Estimates the potential toxic impact on freshwater aquatic biodiversity from emissions to air, water and soil at the endpoint level.
- **Unit:** Potentially Disappeared Fraction of species on an area during a time (PDF m<sup>2</sup> yr)
- **Reference:** Rosenbaum et al. 2008
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized, could be regionalized
- **Advantages:** Method that assesses more than 3'000 substances with complex cause-effect chain modeling, consensus method internationally recognized and published.
- **Disadvantages:** **Not recommended by JRC.** Does not cover all range of substances, no regionalized characterization factors are available.
- **Alternative:** ReCiPe (Huijbregts and van Zelm 2009)

# AQUATIC ACIDIFICATION

## CML 2001 PLUS MIDPOINT-ENDPOINT CONVERSION (NOT RECOMMENDED)

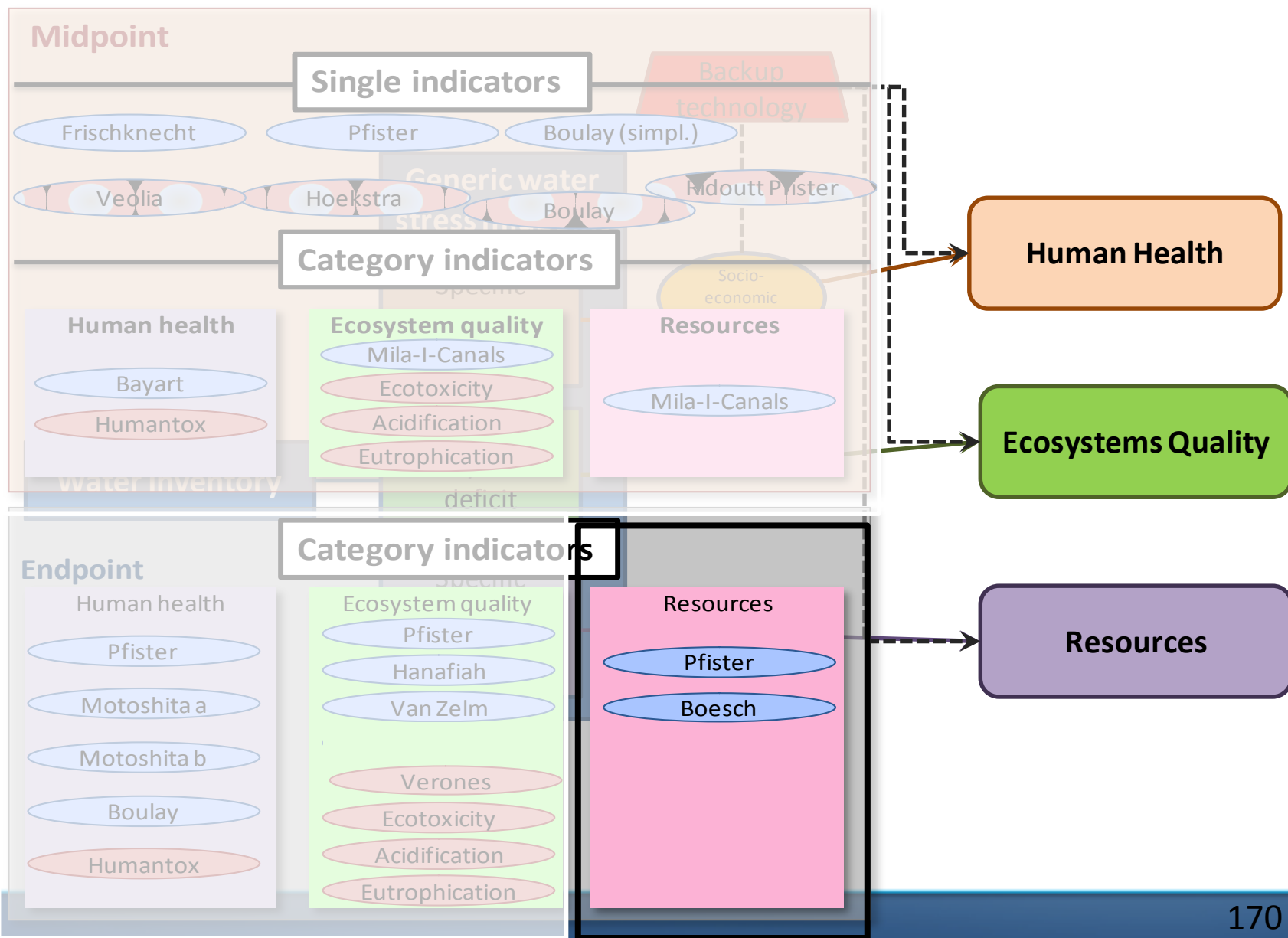
- **Description:** Estimates the acidification potential and critical load of the ecosystem
- **Unit:** kg H<sup>+</sup>-equivalent (to be transposed to endpoint)
- **Regionalization:** not operationalized in CML 2001
- **Advantages:** LCA impact indicator with user experience
- **Disadvantages: No endpoints.** Not recommended by JRC and further developments needed (ongoing)
- **Alternative Methods:** EDIP97 (Wenzel *et al.* 1997)

# FRESHWATER EUTROPHICATION

## ReCIPE (GOEDKOOP ET AL. 2008)

- **Description:** Estimates the decrease of freshwater aquatic biodiversity from eutrophication from P emissions at the endpoint level
- **Unit:** Potentially Disappeared Fraction of species in Volume during time (PDF m<sup>3</sup>yr).
- **Reference:** Goedkoop et al. 2008
- **Regionalization:** not regionalized
- **Advantages:** Well-established LCA impact indicator
- **Disadvantages:** **Not recommended by JRC.** Eutrophication potential depends on the ecosystem type and, soils and water quality and should be regionalized (not done).

# WATER IMPACTS ENDPOINT MODELING





# RESOURCES

Overuse of renewable water bodies depends on the water renewability rate

Quantify the impact on future freshwater availability

## Methods:

- Amount of energy needed by seawater desalination to compensate the fraction of present freshwater depletion (Pfister et al. 2009)
- Exergy content of the freshwater resource (Boesch et al. 2007).

# PFISTER ET AL: IMPACTS ON RESOURCE QUANTITIES

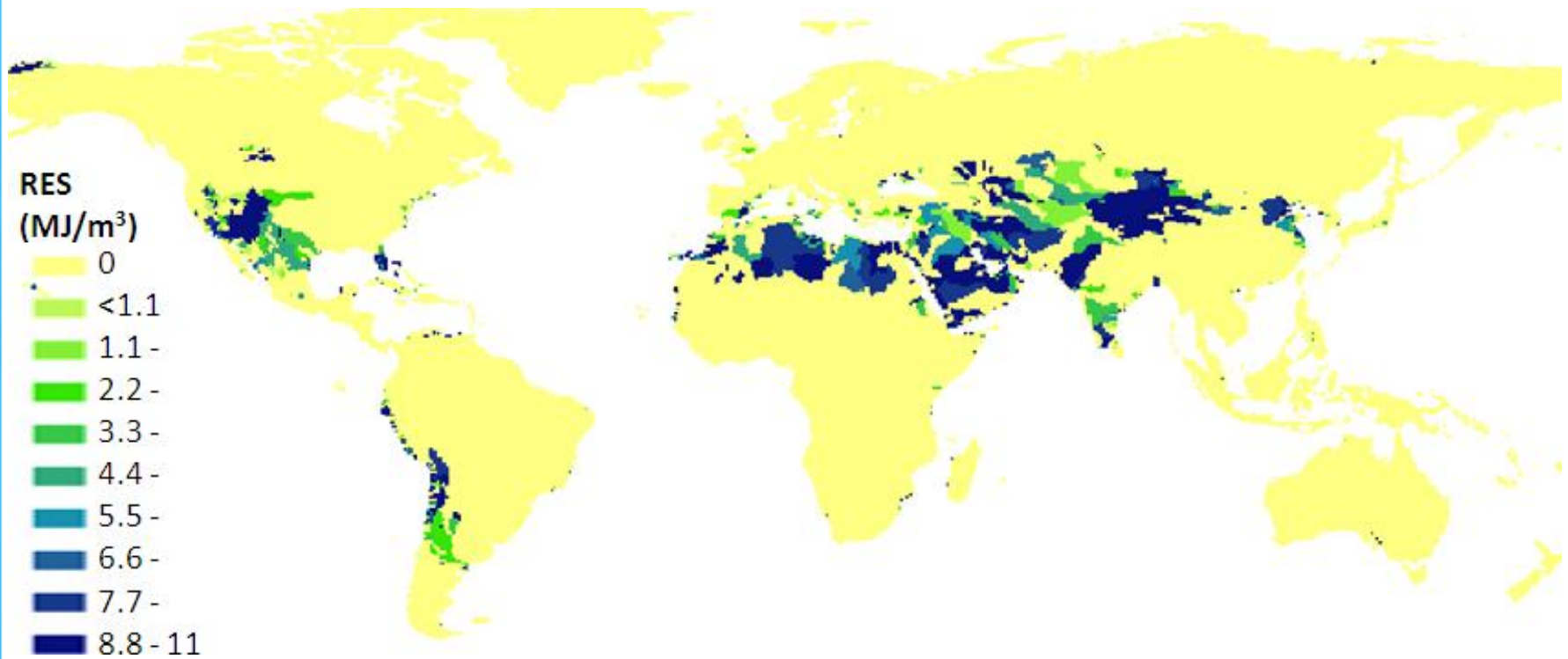
- Depletion of water stocks: overuse

$$F_{depletion,i} = \begin{cases} \frac{WTA - 1}{WTA} & \text{for } WTA > 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } WTA \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

- Desalination as backup technology

$$\Delta RD = F_{depletion} \cdot MJ_{surplus} \cdot WU_{consumptive}$$

# IMPACTS ON RESOURCES



Pfister, Koehler & Hellweg (2009), ES&T 43(11): 4098–4104

# EXERGY BASED RESOURCE INDICATOR

## Exergy

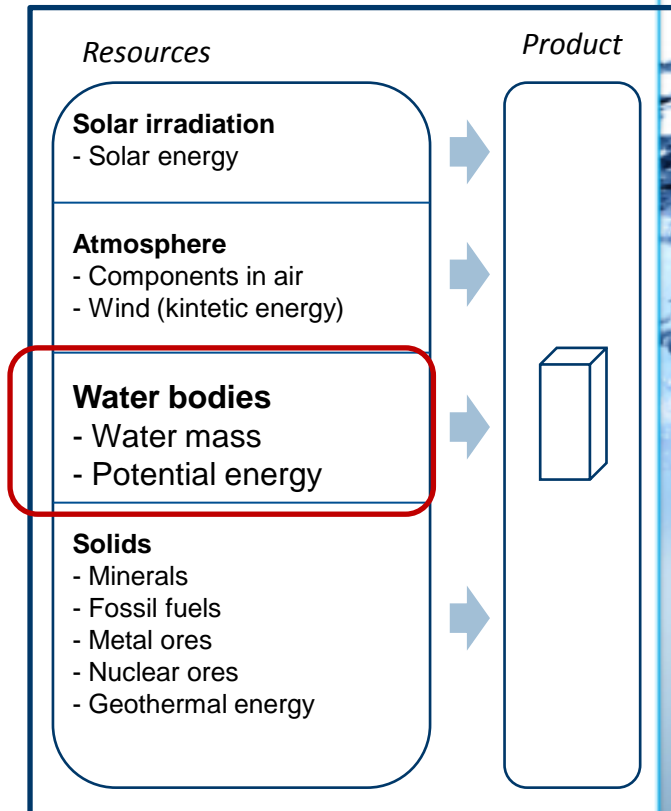
- Concept from the second law of thermodynamics describing 'maximum useful work' or 'available energy'
- As resource indicator, exergy can be defined as available energy when bringing resources to their most common state in the environment
- Concept applicable to all kinds of resources

## Advantages of the exergy-based indicator

- Consistent framework
- No value choices
- No assumptions on future availability needed (recovery, substitution)
- All resources can be assessed

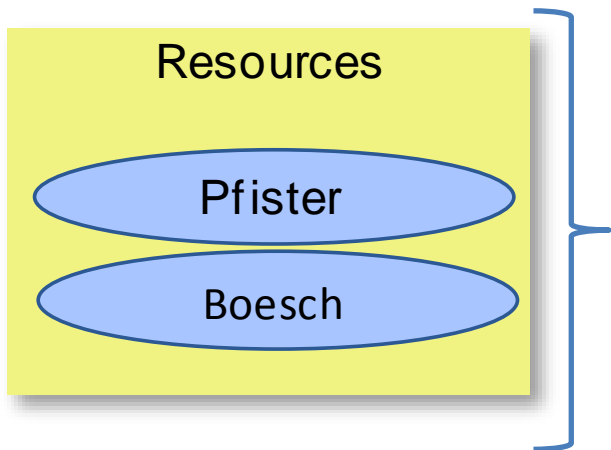
**Potential energy of water and water mass is assessed**

*Resources and products in LCA database*



Boesch et al. (2007)

# IMPORTANT NOTE



***There is no consensus yet on the use of these methods in this impact category, more research is needed***

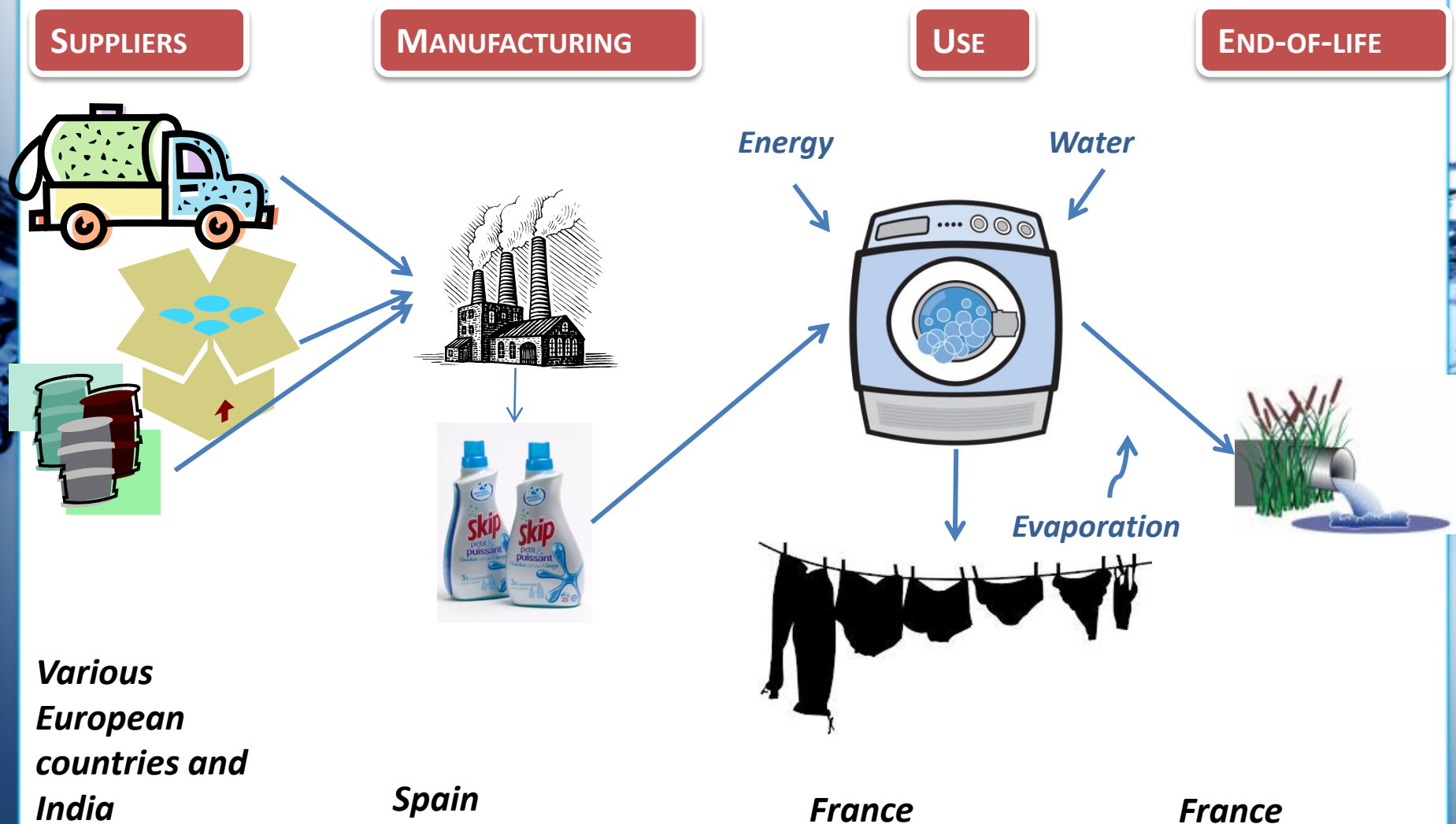


# EXAMPLES



Water Footprint at the endpoint

# WATER FOOTPRINT OF A LOAD OF LAUNDRY



**Various  
European  
countries and  
India**

**Spain**

**France**

**France**

Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

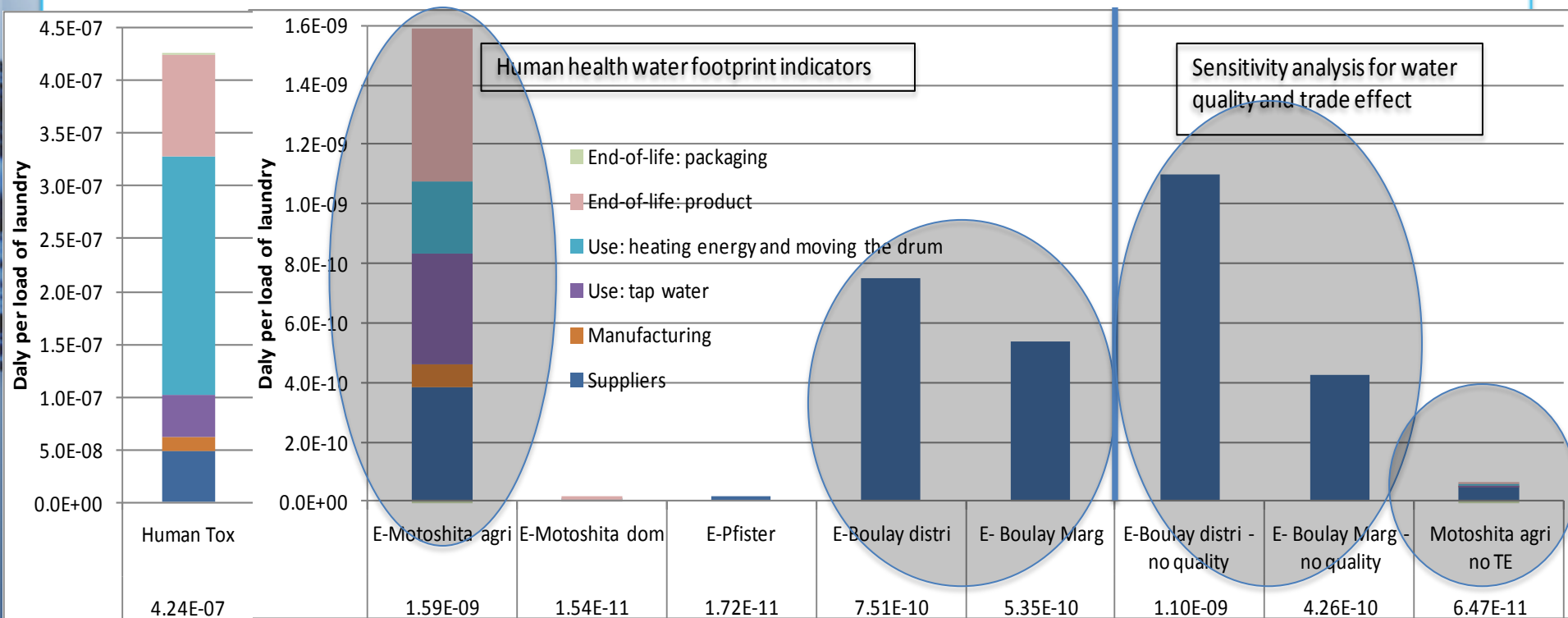
# METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW - ENDPOINT

**Water Footprint  
profile at  
endpoint:  
Ecosystems and  
human health  
impacts**

Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

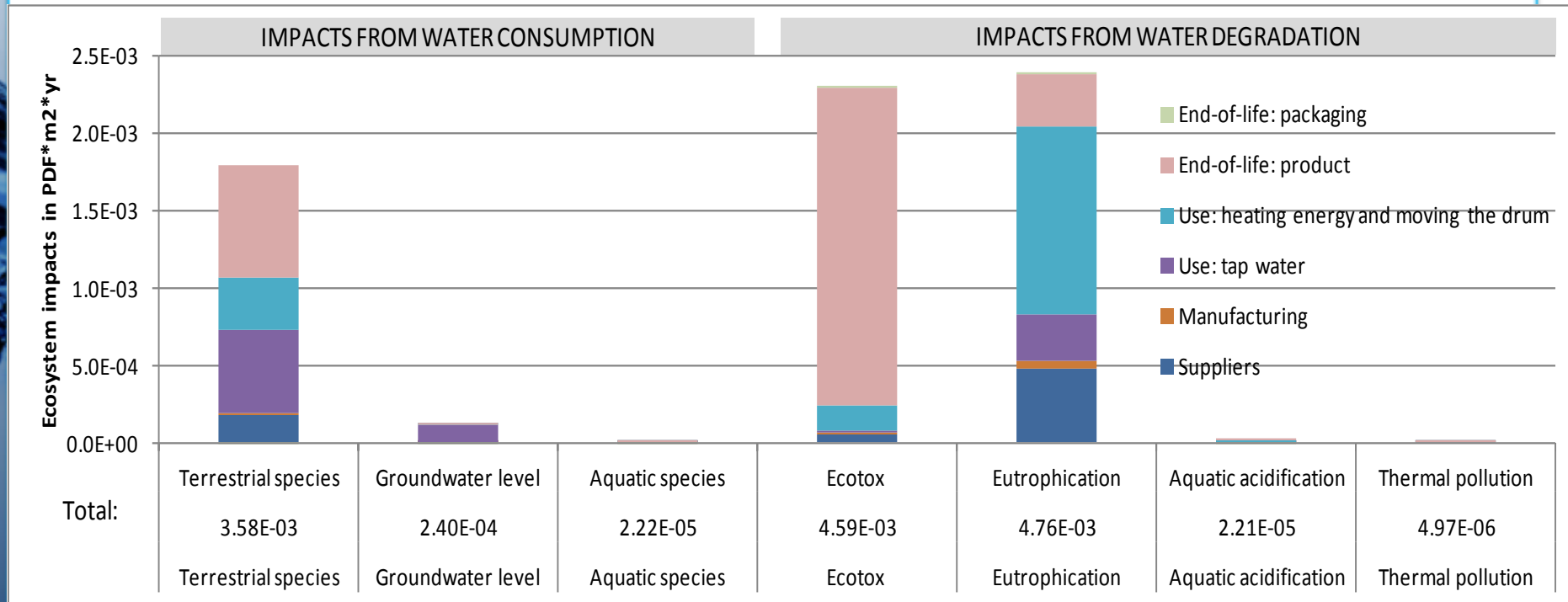
	Indicator	Reference
	Water Availability	
6	Human Health (DALY)  → ONLY ONE METHOD NEEDED	Pfister et al.
6		Motoshita et al.
6		Boulay et al.
6		Boulay et al.
7	Ecosystems Quality (PDF*m2*yr)	Pfister et al.
8		Hannafiah et al.
9		Van Zelm et al.
	Water Degradation	
10	Ecosystems Quality (PDF*m2*yr)	Thermal pollution, Verones et al.
11		Eutrophication, Goedkoop et al.
12		Acidification, Impact 2002+
13		Ecotoxicity, Usetox
14	HH: Human Health (DALY)	Human Toxicity, Usetox

# ENDPOINT WF PROFILE HUMAN HEALTH



Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

# ENDPOINT WF PROFILE ECOSYSTEMS



Boulay, A.-M., Bayart, J.-B., Bulle, C., Franceschini, H., Motoshita, M., Muñoz, I., Pfister, S., et al. (2013). Water impact assessment methods analysis (Part B): Applicability for water footprinting and decision making with a laundry case study. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

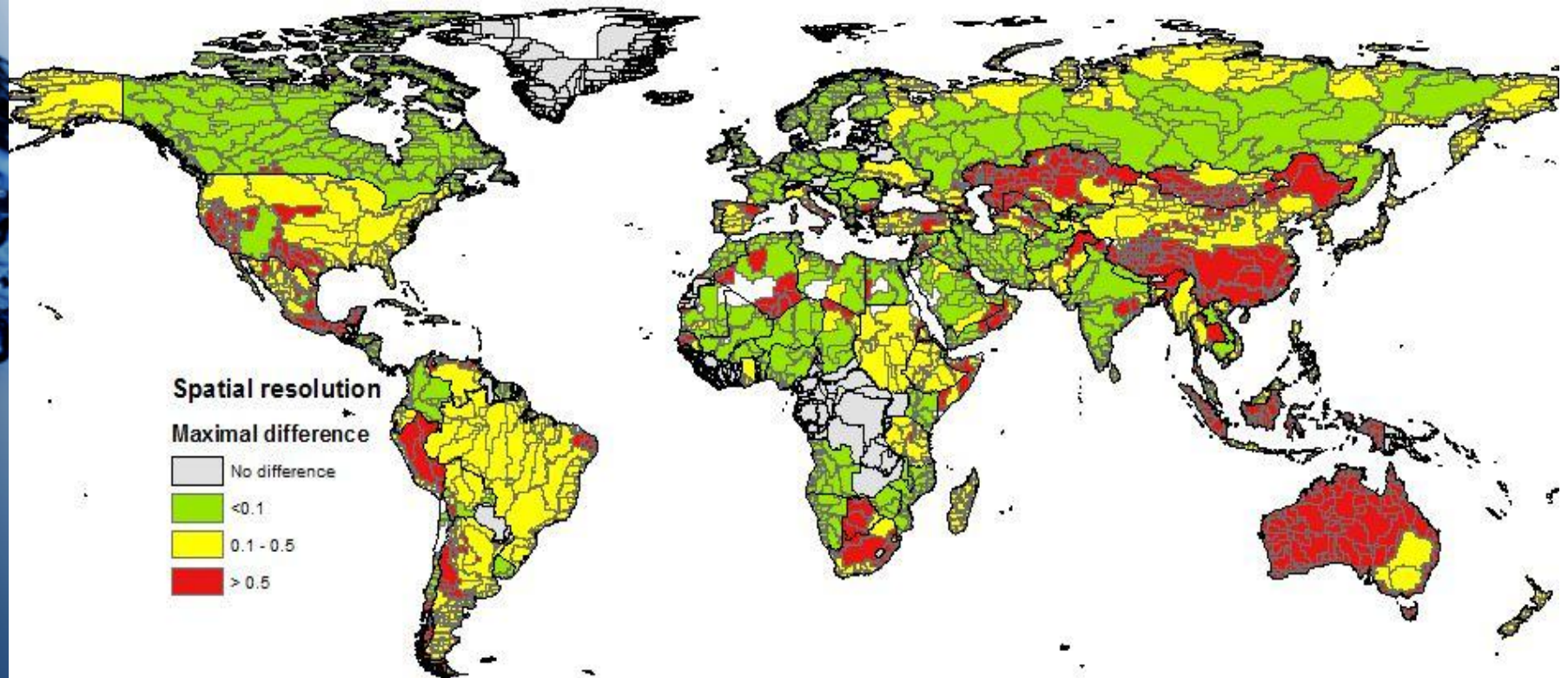


# **UNCERTAINTY AND VARIATION**



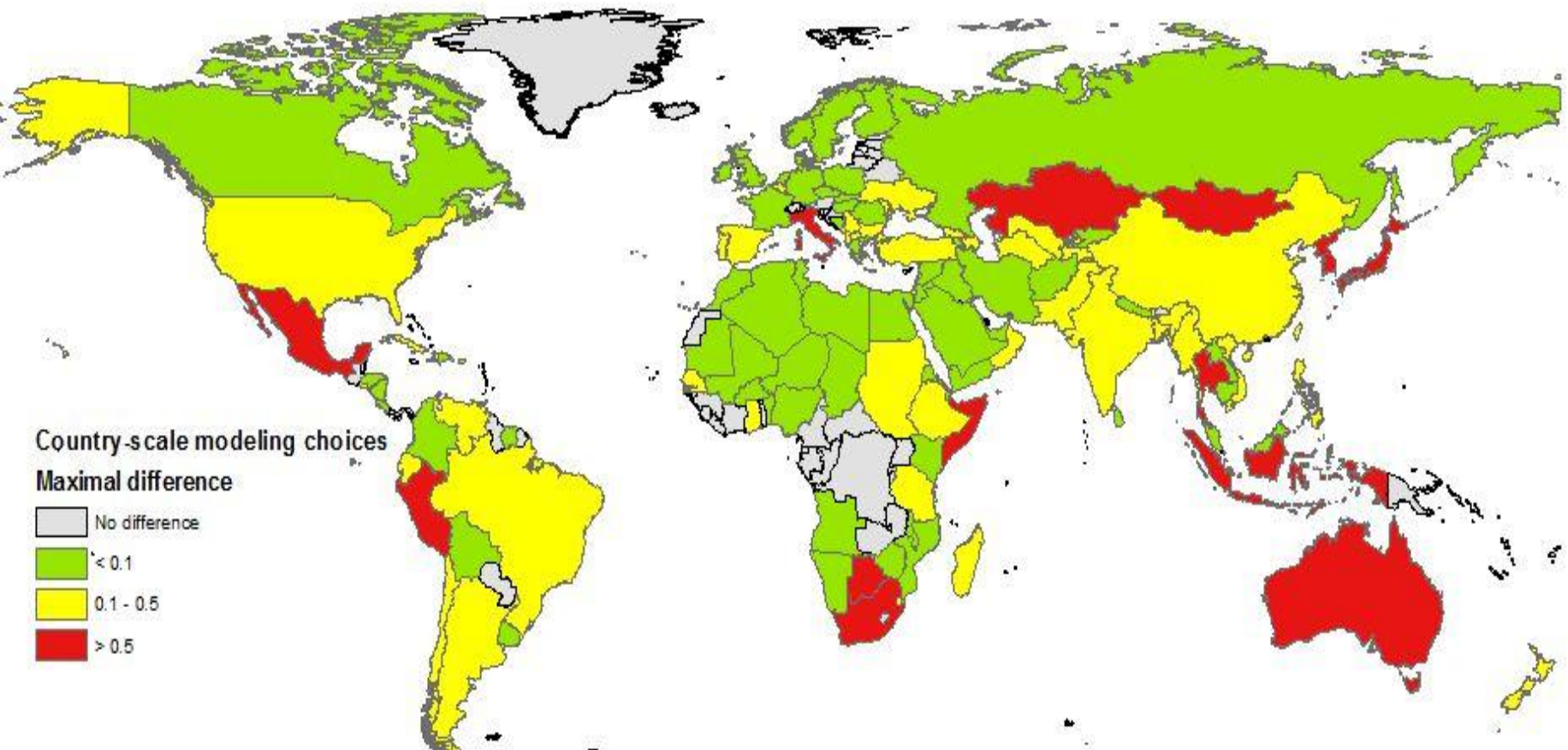
***TIME AND GEOGRAPHICAL  
RESOLUTION***

# MAXIMAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUB-WATERSHED AND COUNTRY SCARCITY



Source: Boulay, A.-M., Motoshita, M., Pfister, S., Bulle, C., Muñoz, I., Franceschini, H., & Margni, M. (2013). Water use impact assessment methods (Part A): Methodological and quantitative comparison of scarcity and human health impacts models. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

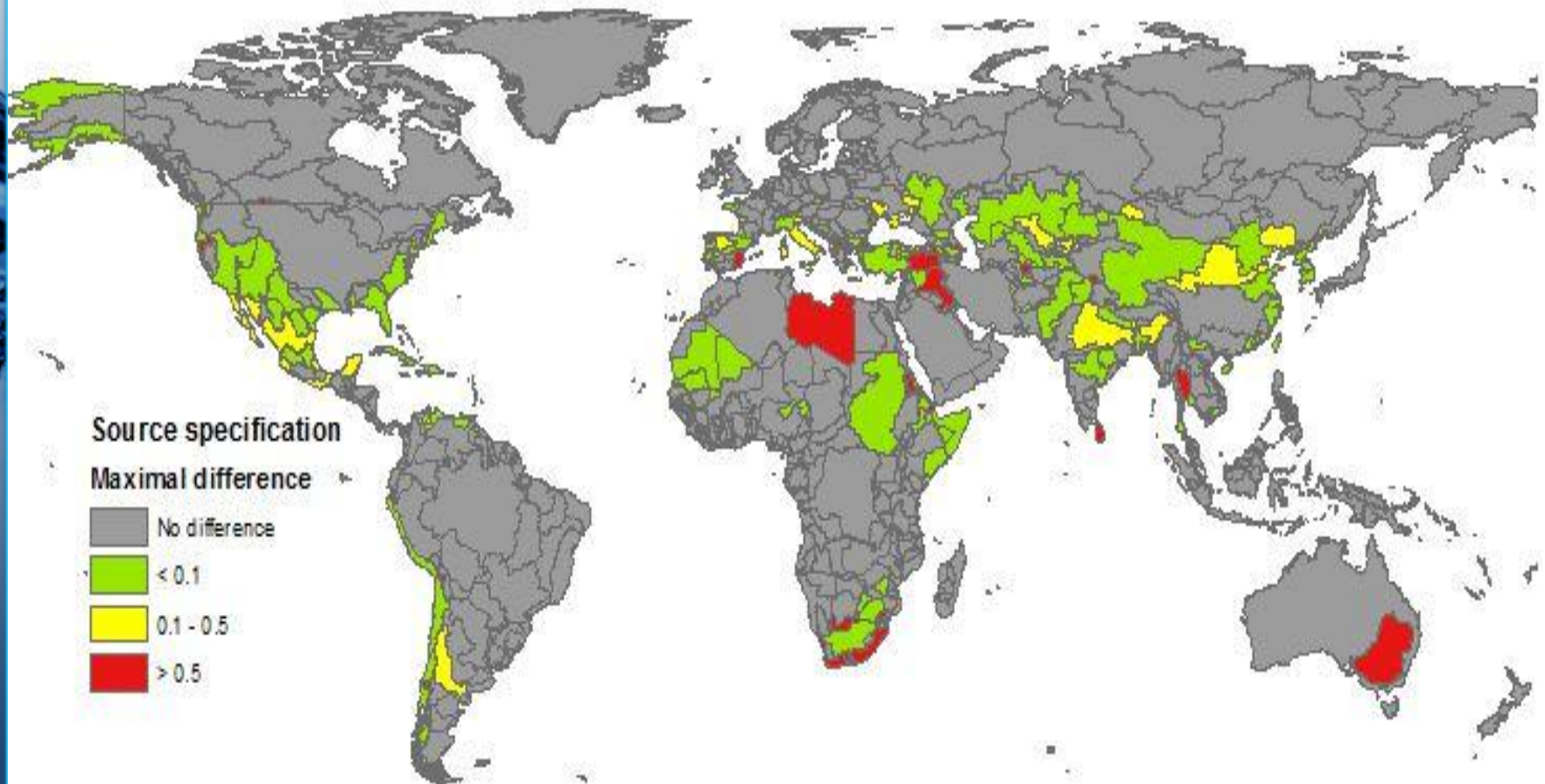
# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COUNTRY SCALE SCARCITY VS WEIGHTED-AVERAGE SCARCITY FROM SUB-WATERSHEDS



Source: Boulay, A.-M., Motoshita, M., Pfister, S., Bulle, C., Muñoz, I., Franceschini, H., & Margni, M. (2013). Water use impact assessment methods (Part A): Methodological and quantitative comparison of scarcity and human health impacts models. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, Submitted*.

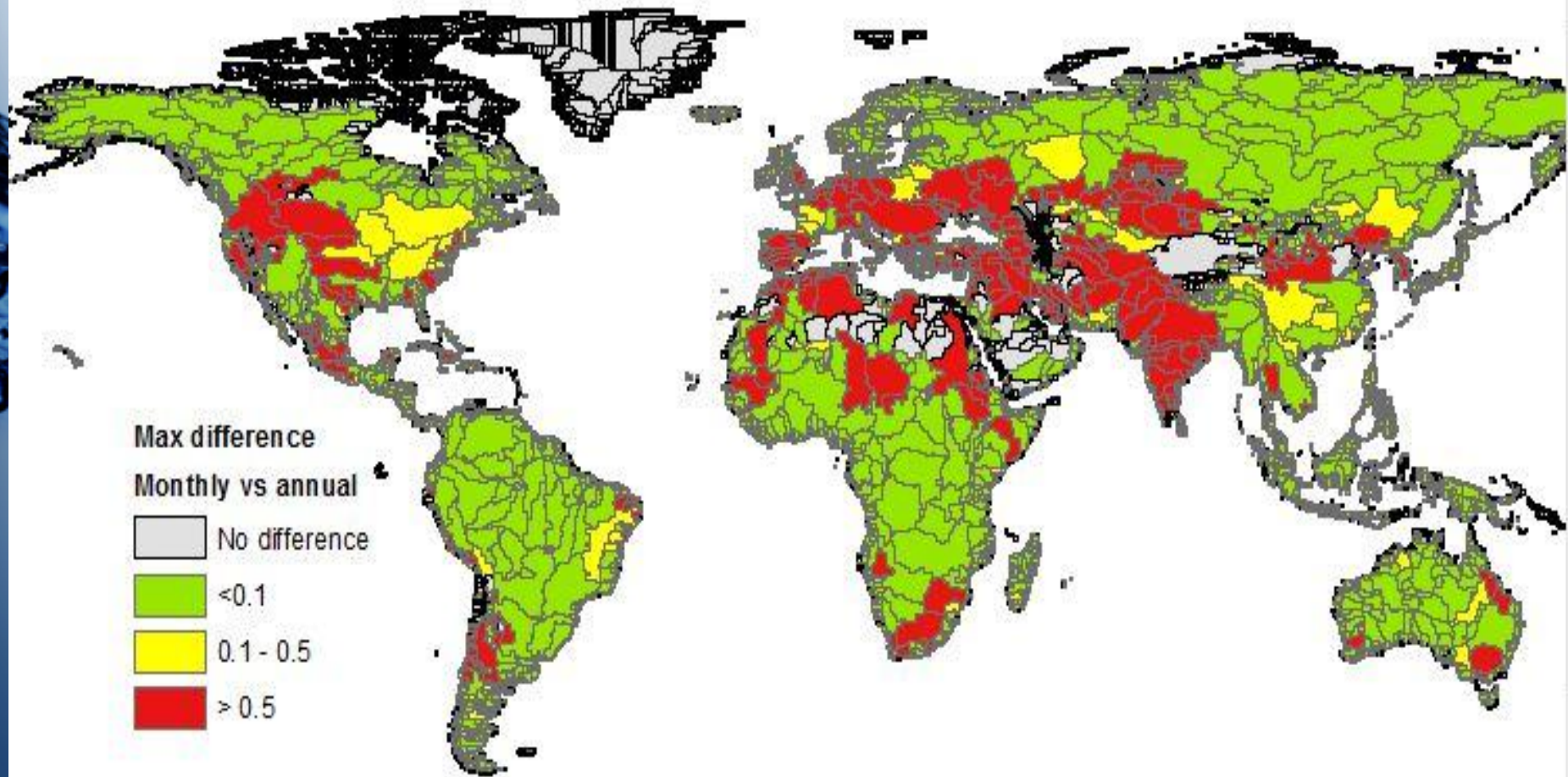


# MAXIMAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOURCE-SPECIFIED WATER SCARCITY AND UNSPECIFIED



Source: Boulay, A.-M., Motoshita, M., Pfister, S., Bulle, C., Muñoz, I., Franceschini, H., & Margni, M. (2013). Water use impact assessment methods (Part A): Methodological and quantitative comparison of scarcity and human health impacts models. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.

# MAXIMAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ANNUAL SCARCITY AND THE WETTEST/DRIEST MONTH



Source: Boulay, A.-M., Motoshita, M., Pfister, S., Bulle, C., Muñoz, I., Franceschini, H., & Margni, M. (2013). Water use impact assessment methods (Part A): Methodological and quantitative comparison of scarcity and human health impacts models. *International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, Submitted.



# CONCLUSIONS

- Temporal resolution is relevant
  - Mainly for foreground process (global picture does merely change)
  - Different cultivations have different seasons
    - Crop choice / plantation dates
- Annual average maps (sector-specific)
  - For background processes
  - Based on withdrawal/consumption for sectors

# HOW TO DO WATER FOOTPRINTING



# STEPS (BASED ON ISO 14044)

1. Define goal of the study
2. Define the system
  1. Functional unit (product or service)
  2. System boundaries (background processes to be included): generally as scope 3 carbon footprints
  3. Define what flows and corresponding impacts are addressed
3. Gather inventory data
  1. From databases and literature for background processes (supply chain)
  2. Real data for foreground process
4. Apply impact assessment methods to inventory and compare results of applying different methods
5. Perform sensitivity analysis and improve data situation for most relevant processes
6. Draw conclusions including uncertainties of the results
7. Get an independent review of the study and address raised issues

# RESULTS FROM WATER FOOTPRINT STUDY

- LCA based water footprint is mainly useful for **understanding the system** and options for most effective improvement of the total system under study
- It **quantifies** and **localizes** potential environmental issues in the **whole system over the life cycle**
- It is difficult to use it for absolute comparison as done for **EPD** (environmental product declaration) as uncertainties are high and consistencies among studies is generally poor
- Product category rules (**PCR**) will contribute to address this problem

# EXAMPLE

## Aluminum industry

*1000 kg of  
aluminum*

- *Bauxite mining*
- *Alumina production*
- *Anode production*
- *Electrolysis*
- *Ingot casting*



## Problems

## Areas of protection

### Outputs

Pesticide  
Diesel  
Cu  
CO<sub>2</sub>  
Phosphate  
...

### Inputs

Irrigation  
Water  
Crude Oil  
Iron Ore  
...

Respiratory effects

Photochem. oxydation

Ozone layer depletion

Ionizing radiation

Toxic Impacts

Global warming

Water use

Acidification

Eutrophication

Land use

Biotic ressource use

Abiotic ressource use

Human  
Health

Ecosystem  
Quality

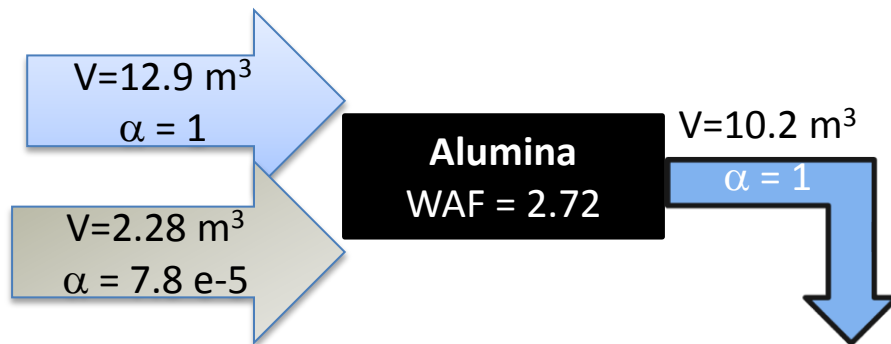
Resources

And hundreds  
more...

# CALCULATION FOR EACH PROCESS STEP AND RESULTING WATER AVAILABILITY FOOTPRINT (WAF)

$\alpha$  = stress CF

$$\text{WAF} = (12.9 \times 1) + (2.28 \times 7.8\text{e-}5) - (10.2 \times 1)$$

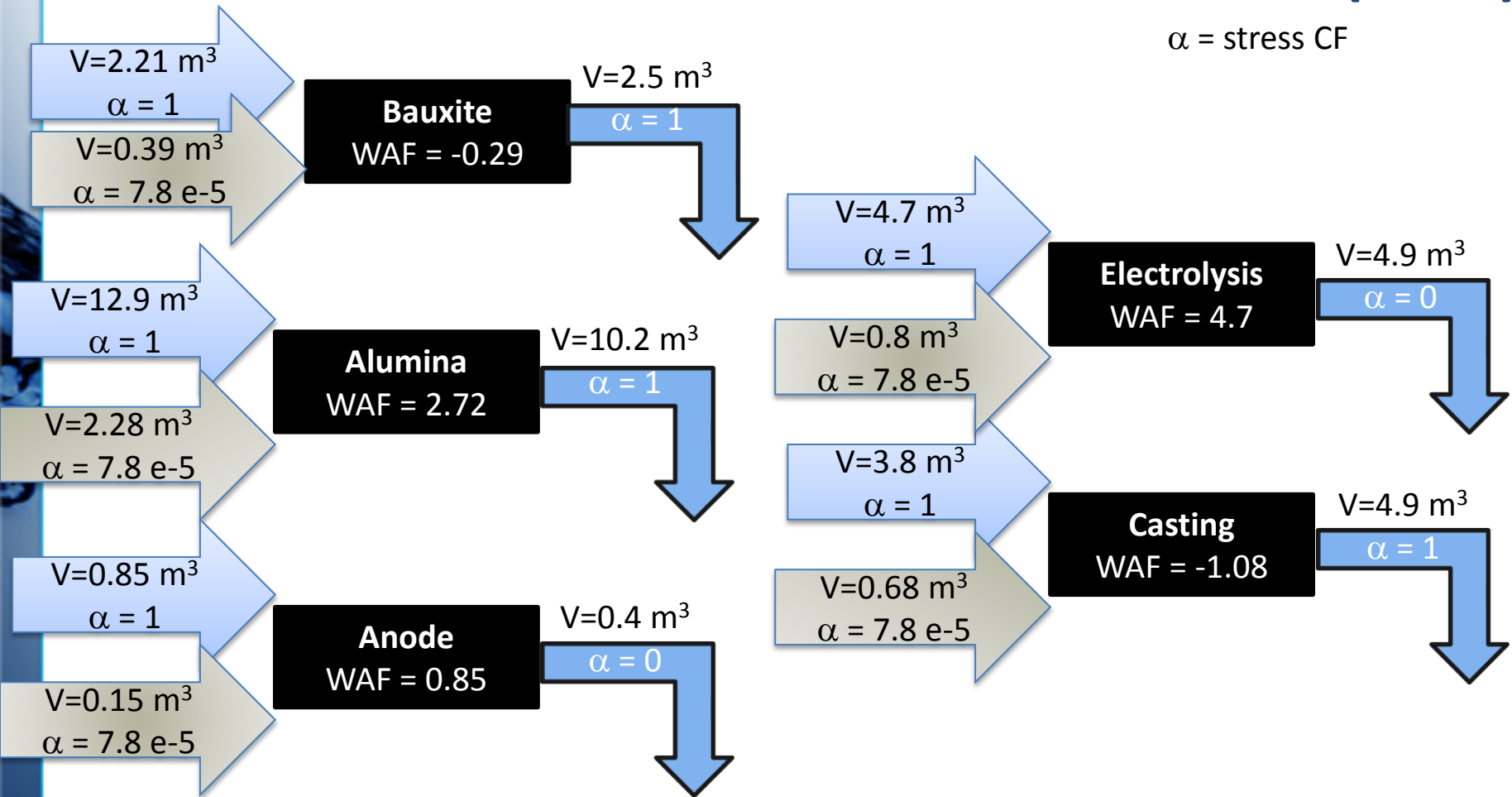


**WAF = 2.72**

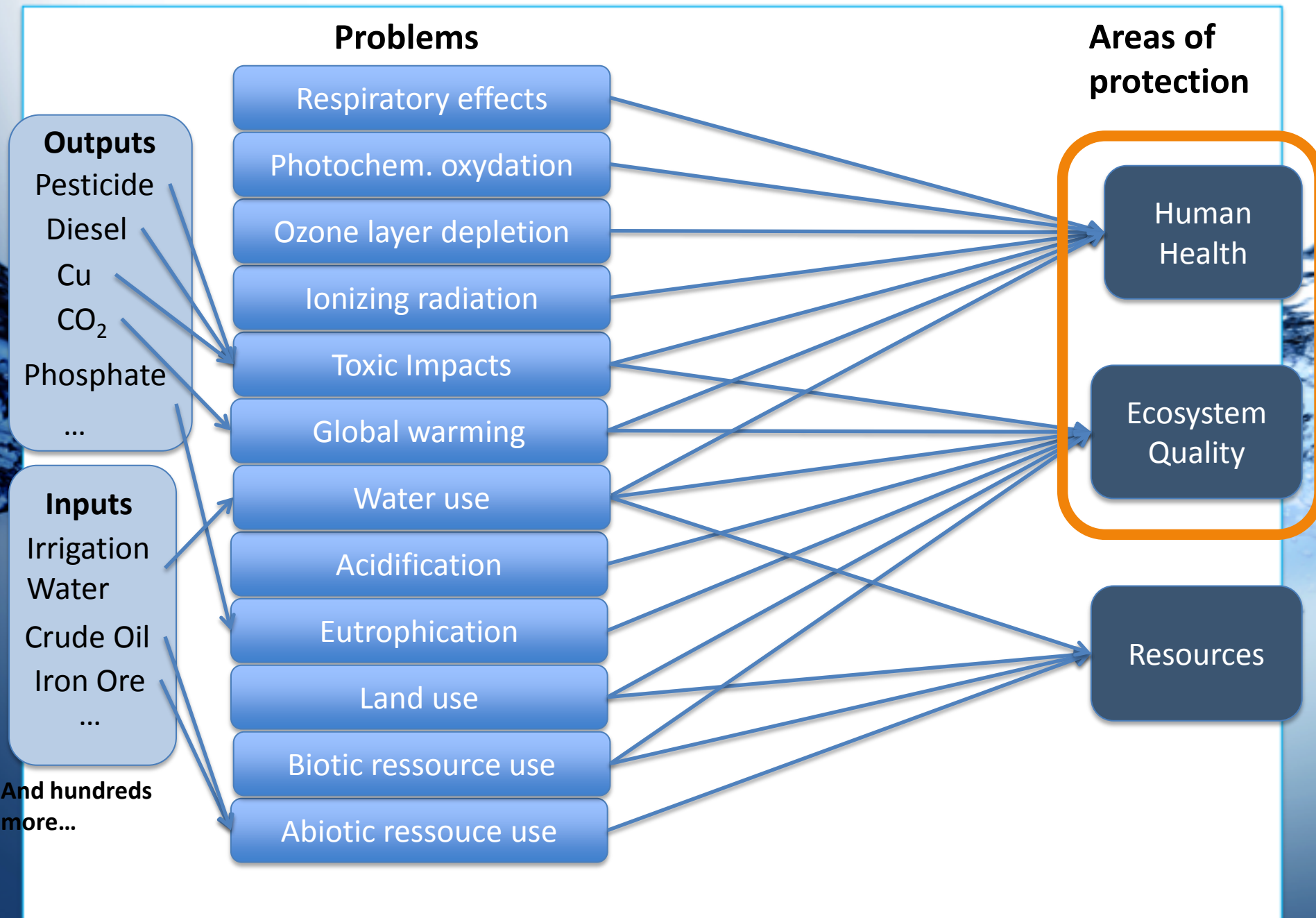
# CALCULATION FOR EACH PROCESS STEP

## AND RESULTING WATER AVAILABILITY FOOTPRINT (WAF)

$\alpha$  = stress CF



$$\text{WAF} = 2.72 - 0.29 + 0.85 + 4.7 - 1.08 = 6.91 \text{ m}^3 \text{ eq.}$$



# WATER FOOTPRINT PROFILE CALCULATIONS USING IMPACT WORLD + (ALL METHODOLOGIES BELOW INCLUDED)

**Ecosystems WF**



**Human  
Health WF**

**Impacts from resource availability**

(e.g. Pfister et al. + Hannafiah et al.+ Van Zelm et al.)

**Impacts from resource  
availability**

(e.g. Boulay et al, 2011)



**Impacts from pollution emissions:**

Aquatic eutrophication, aquatic ecotoxicity, aquatic ionising radiation, aquatic thermal pollution and aquatic acidification, as well as other impacts influencing water recharge and filtration related to land use



**Impacts from pollution  
emissions:**

Ionising radiation and human toxicity (only through aquatic routes of exposure)



# WATER FOOTPRINT FRAMEWORK

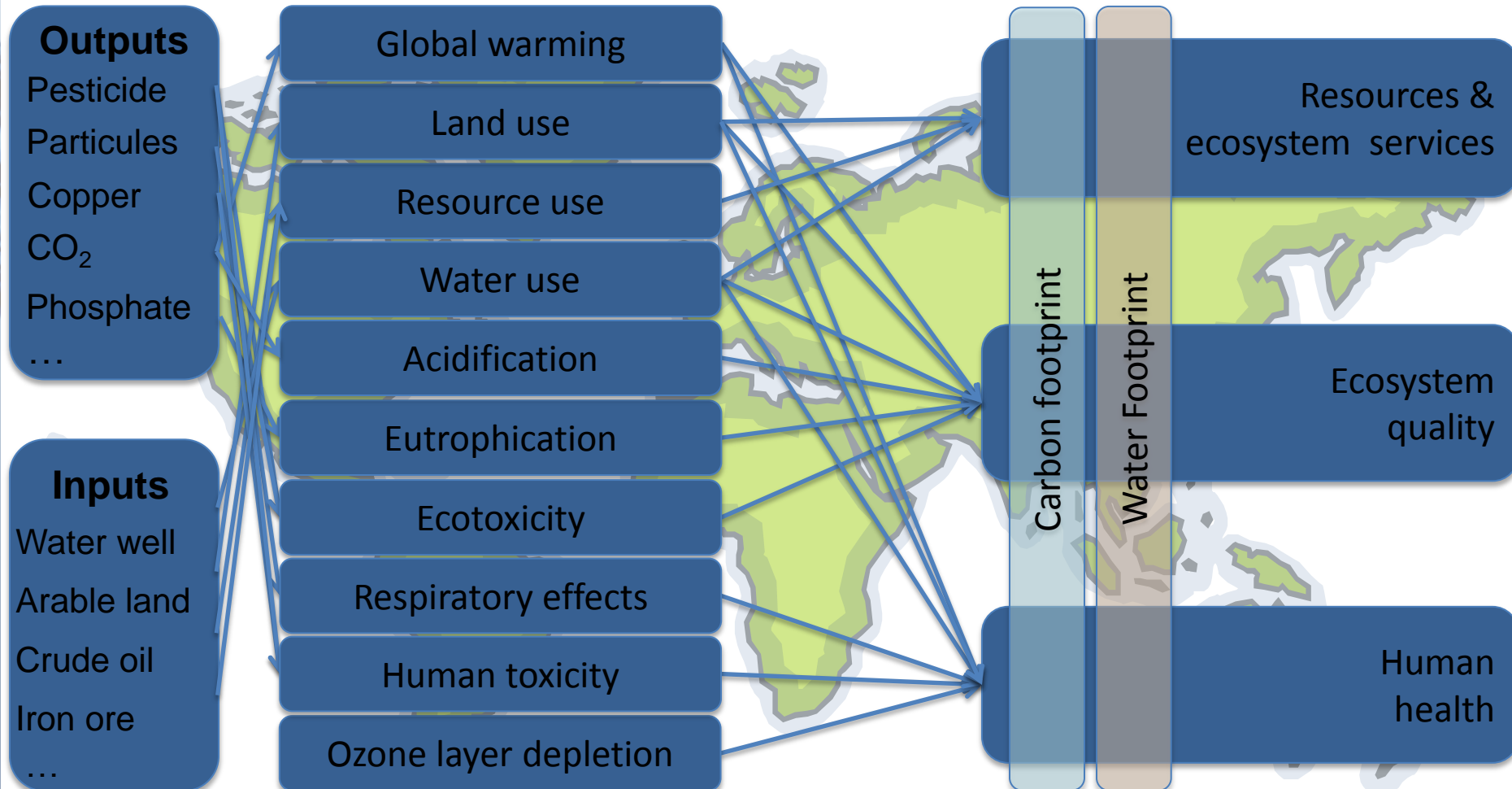


IMPACT World+™

## Groups of midpoint categories

(optional reporting categories)

## Damage or endpoint

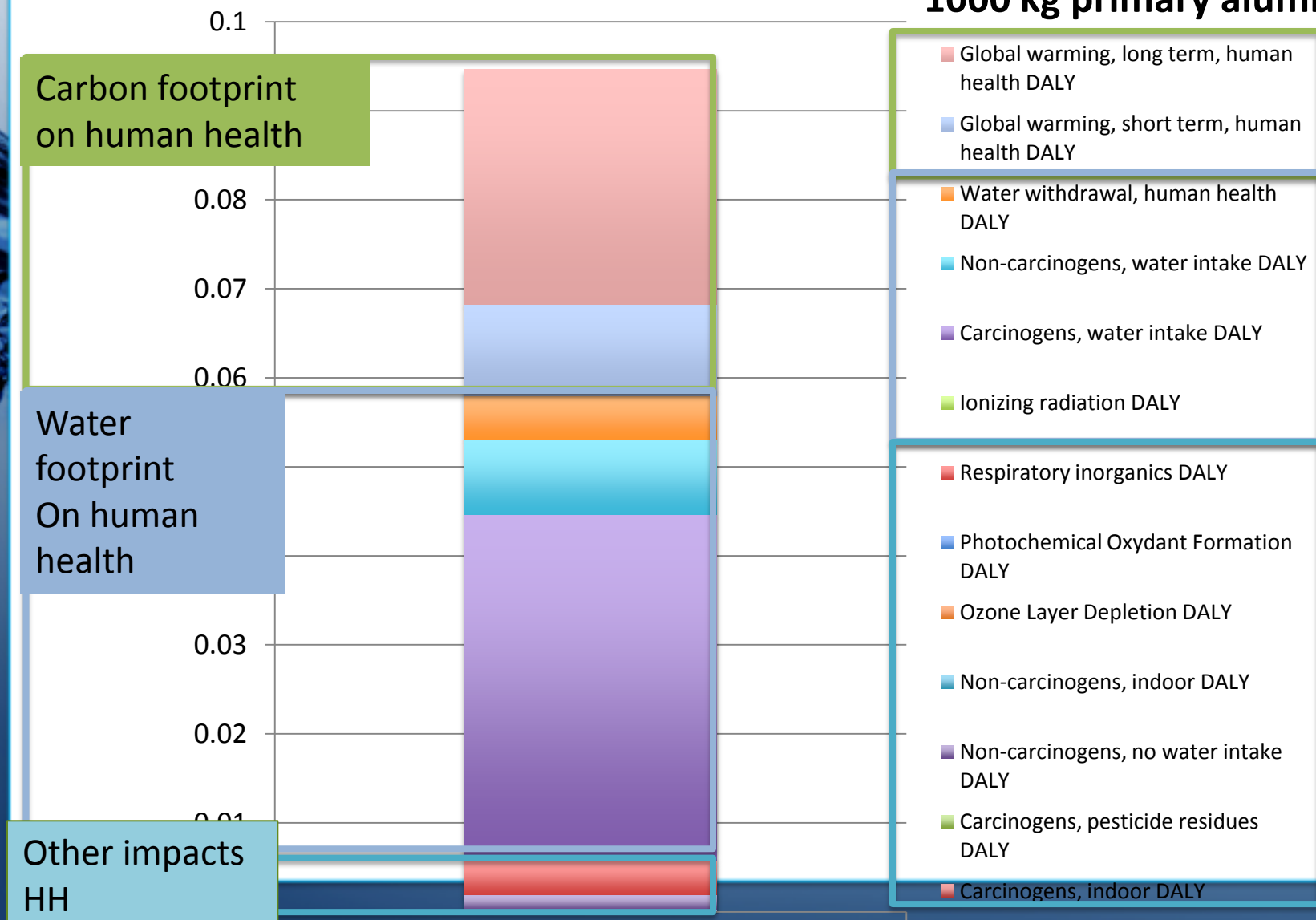


And hundreds more...

# WATER FOOTPRINT AS PART OF AN LCA:

## HUMAN HEALTH IMPACT CATEGORY

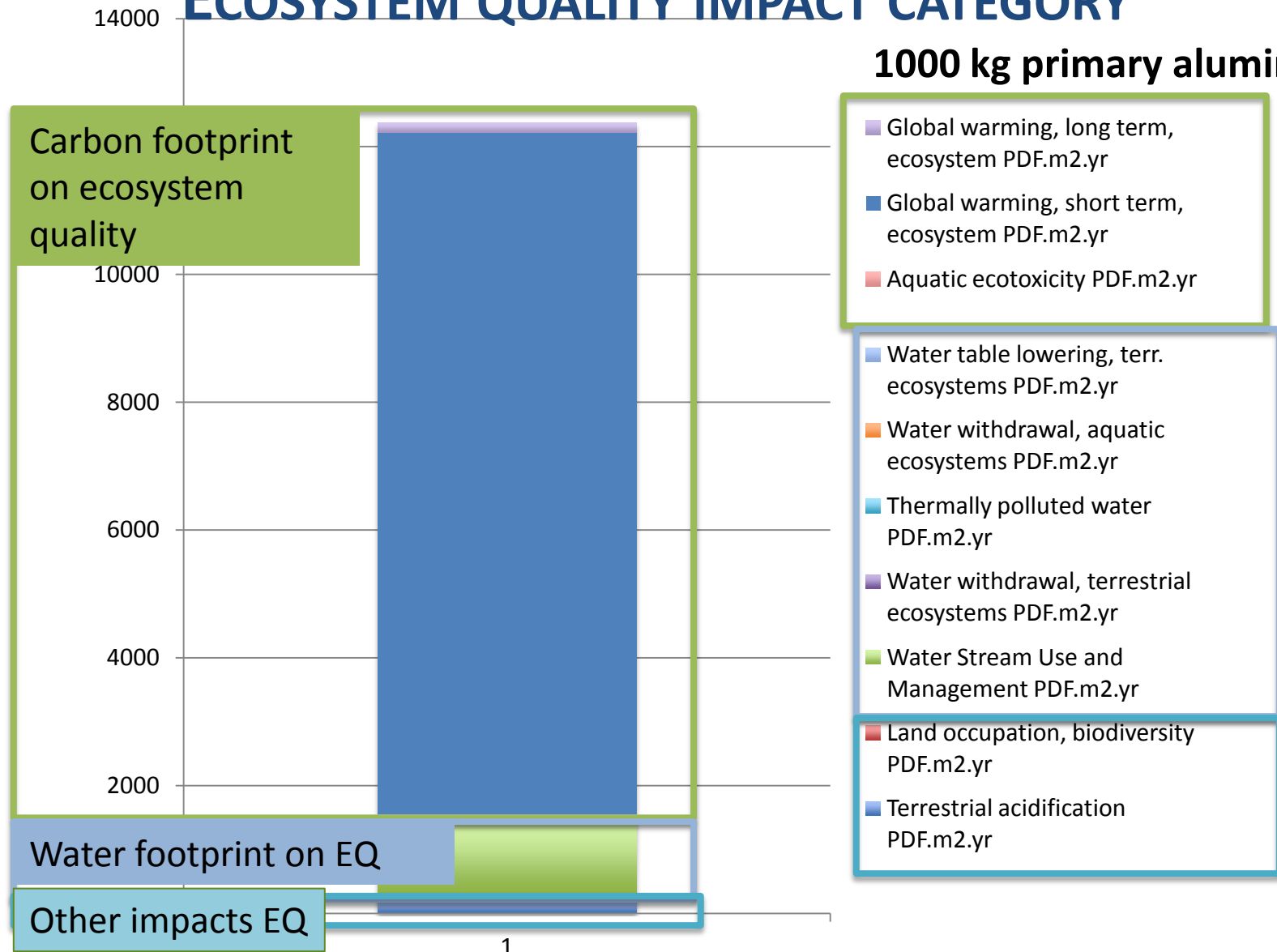
1000 kg primary aluminium



# WATER FOOTPRINT AS PART OF AN LCA:

## ECOSYSTEM QUALITY IMPACT CATEGORY

1000 kg primary aluminium



# **IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODS**

## **AVAILABILITY AND REFERENCES**

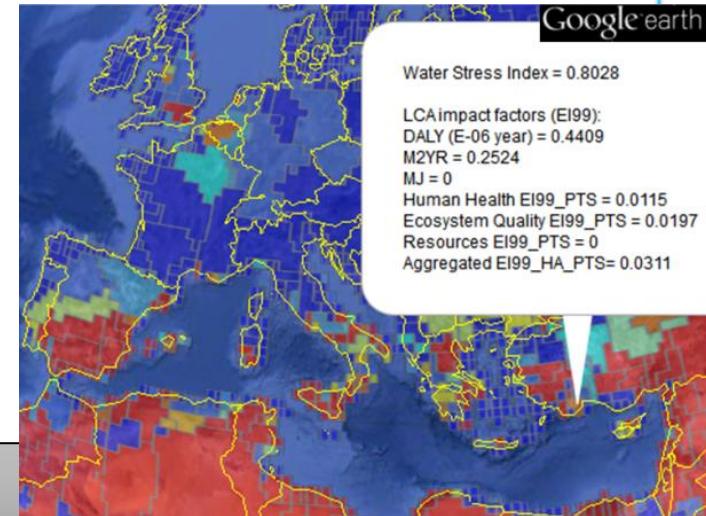


# PFISTER ET AL. 2009

- Midpoint and endpoint factors
  - compatible with Eco-indicator 99 (EI99)
- More than 11'000 watersheds characterized(global coverage)
- Publicly available:

Google Earth layer:

<http://www.ifu.ethz.ch/ESD/downloads/EI99plus>



- Monthly WSI factors (Pfister and Baumannn 2012):  
[http://www.ifu.ethz.ch/ESD/downloads/reports/Monthly\\_WSI\\_LCA\\_FOOD.pdf](http://www.ifu.ethz.ch/ESD/downloads/reports/Monthly_WSI_LCA_FOOD.pdf)



# BOULAY ET AL. 2011

- Impact Assessment method including quality aspects

Boulay A-M, Bulle C, Bayart J-B, Deschênes L, Margni M (2011b) Regional characterization of freshwater use in LCA: modeling direct impacts on human health. Environmental Science and Technology

Results and more data/tools



[www.ciraig.org/wateruseimpacts](http://www.ciraig.org/wateruseimpacts)



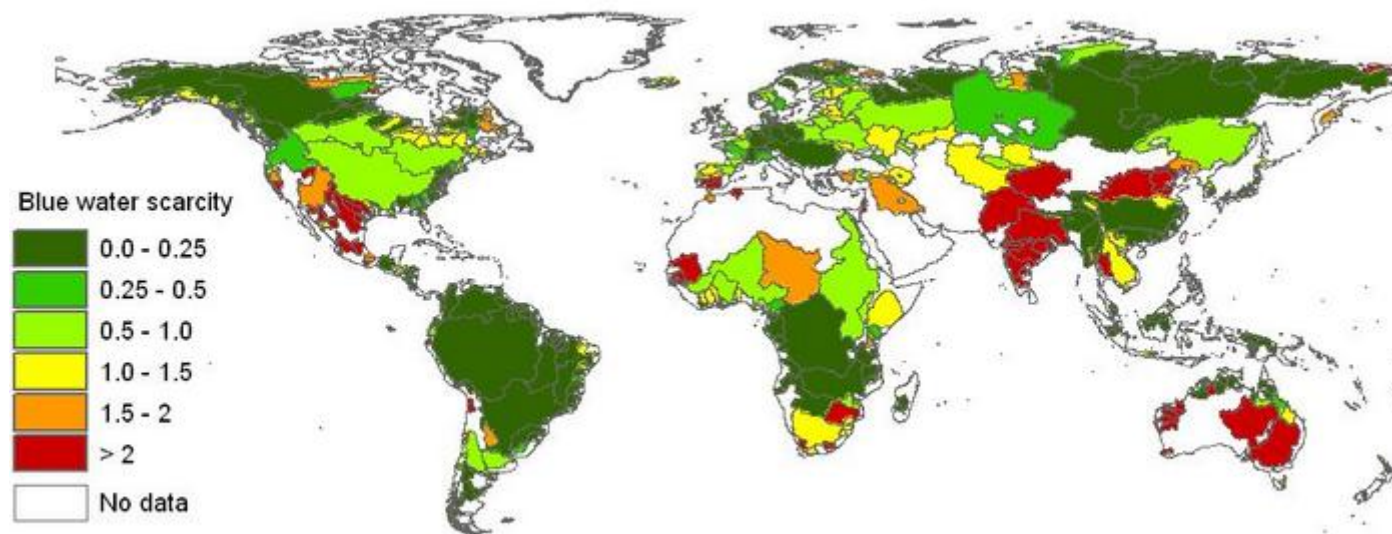
# WFN BLUE WATER SCARCITY

Spreadsheet and shapefile available online (for 405 watersheds);  
Hoekstra et al. (2012)

[www.waterfootprint.org](http://www.waterfootprint.org) (Covers also the data available from Mila I Canals et al. (2009))

Training material:

<http://www.waterfootprint.org/?page=files/Presentations>



*Annual average monthly blue water scarcity in the world's major river basins (1996-2005)*

Figure: Hoekstra et al. (2012)

# OUTLOOK

- Quantis Water Database
- Ecoinvent 3
- IMPACT WORLD +
- SimaPro 8



**QUESTIONS**



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# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DISCLAIMER**



# Results from Water Footprint study

- LCA based water footprint is mainly useful for **understanding the system** and options for most effective improvement of the total system under study
- It **quantifies** and **localizes** potential environmental issues in the **whole system over the life cycle**
- It is difficult to use it for absolute comparison as done for **EPD** (environmental product declaration) as uncertainties are high and consistencies among studies is generally poor
- Product category rules (**PCR**) will contribute to address this problem



WULCA  
A LIFE CYCLE  
INITIATIVE PROJECT



# END OF MATERIAL

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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



**CIRAIG** MC/TM

# **ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**



# Authors of Training material

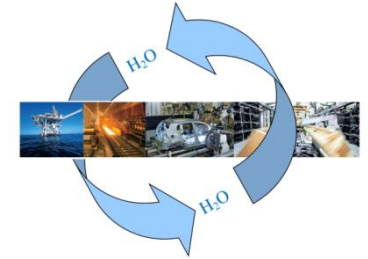
- **Stephan Pfister** is a senior research associate at ETH Zurich, focusing on the impact assessment of water consumption in Life cycle Assessment (LCA) of agriculture and power production and advancing water footprinting concepts including future assessments and international trade. For his PhD thesis he was honored by the "SETAC Europe LCA Young Scientist Award" and the "ETH Zurich Medal". Stephan is member of the "ecoinvent Editorial Board" focusing on water data collection and associated editor for The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment.
- **Anne-Marie Boulay** recently finished (2013) her PhD on development, comparison and applications of water use impact assessment methods in LCA at Ecole Polytechnique of Montreal, Canada. She is chairing the WULCA working group on water use in LCA, of the UNEP-SETAC Life Cycle Initiative and is participating as the Canadian representative to the ISO Water Footprinting (14046) standard development.

Water Footprint at the endpoint

# EXAMPLES

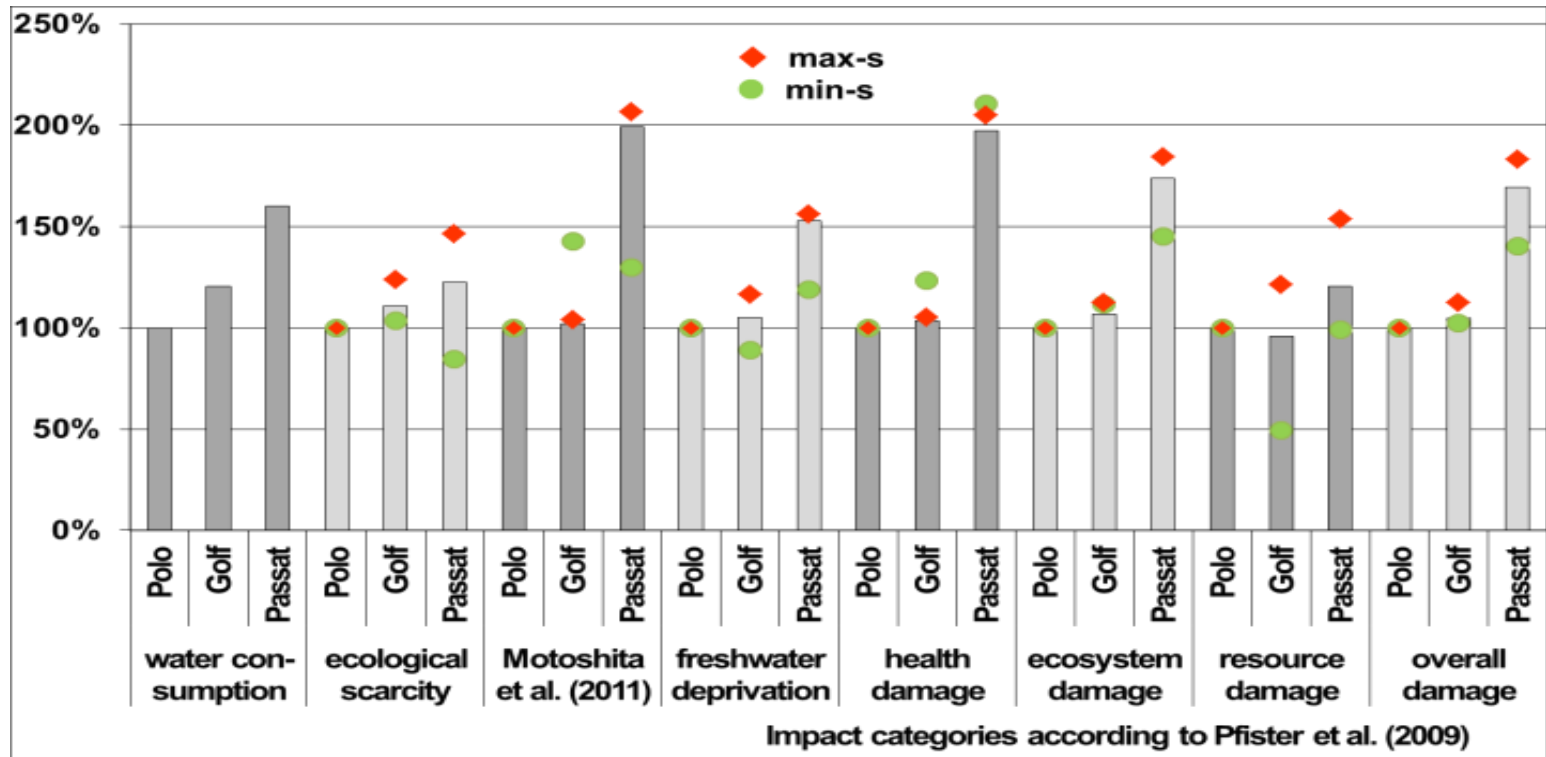
# Comparing indicators: Car case study

- Water footprinting in the automotive industry
  - How much water is consumed in a car's life cycle?
  - What is the impact of this water consumption?
- Procedure
  - Determine water consumption on an inventory level by means of LCA software and Volkswagen's LCI data bases
  - Geographical differentiation of water consumption according to Import mixes, location of production sites, etc.
  - Selection of methods for impact assessment & determination of regional characterization factors
  - Impact assessment
  - Interpretation



# Case study results

- 50 - 80 m<sup>3</sup> freshwater consumption along the life cycle, less than 10 % consumed onsite
- Ranking of cars changes for different impact assessment, as water consumptions in different countries is assessed differently
- Damages resulting from water consumption relatively low (1-7% of total LCA damage)



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- Sangwon Suh
- Thomas Sonderegger

## Official review:

- Claudia Pena
- Yiwen Chiu
- Jean-Baptiste Bayart
- Francesca Verones
- Bruce Vigon
- Masaharu Motoshita
- Elan Theeboom
- Reinout Heijungs