



SUMMER SCHOOL

**FROM AUGUST 30TH
TO SEPTEMBER 3RD**

This project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 773330 (GAIN)



LCA HANDS-ON SESSION

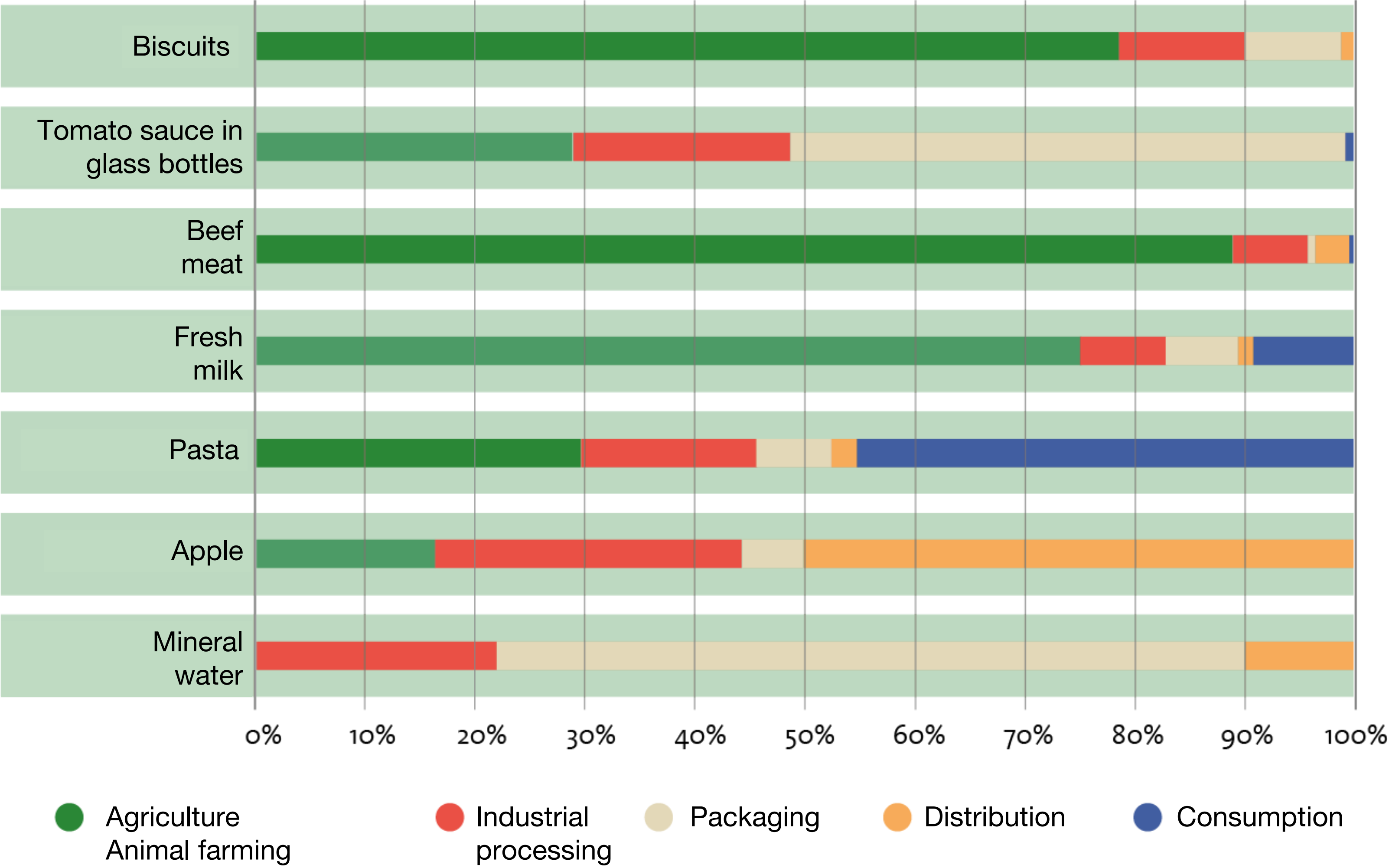
DR. SILVIA MAIOLO

PERFECTFOOD

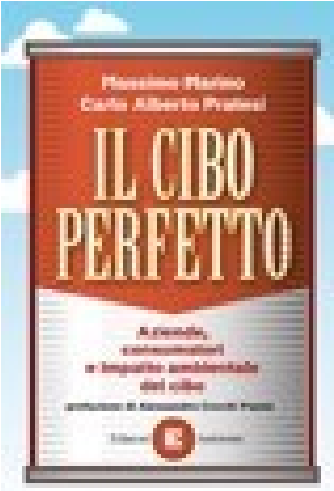
(PERFECT FOOD is a spin-off of LCE-Life Cycle Engineering)

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA) - USAGE

To measure and compare

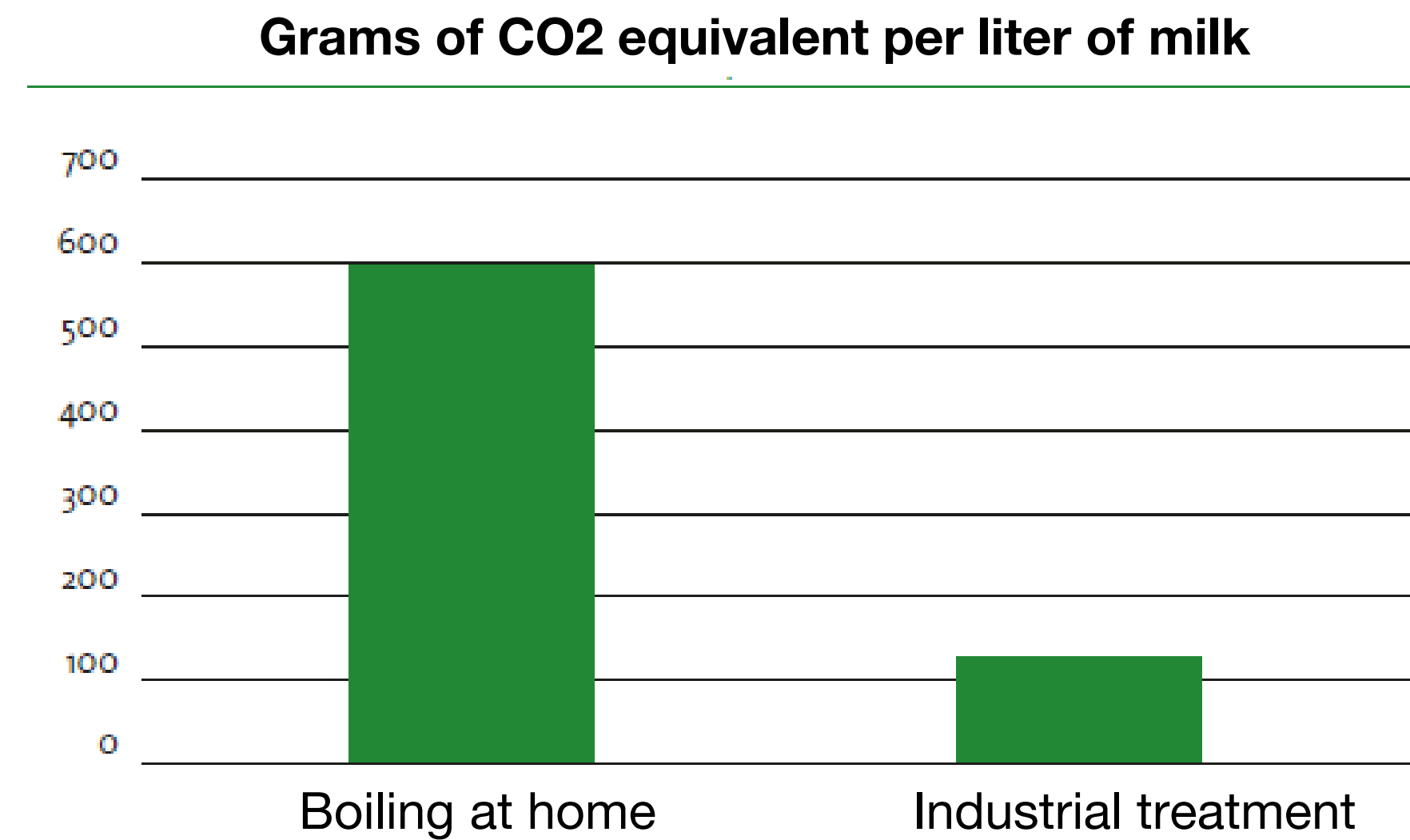


Source:

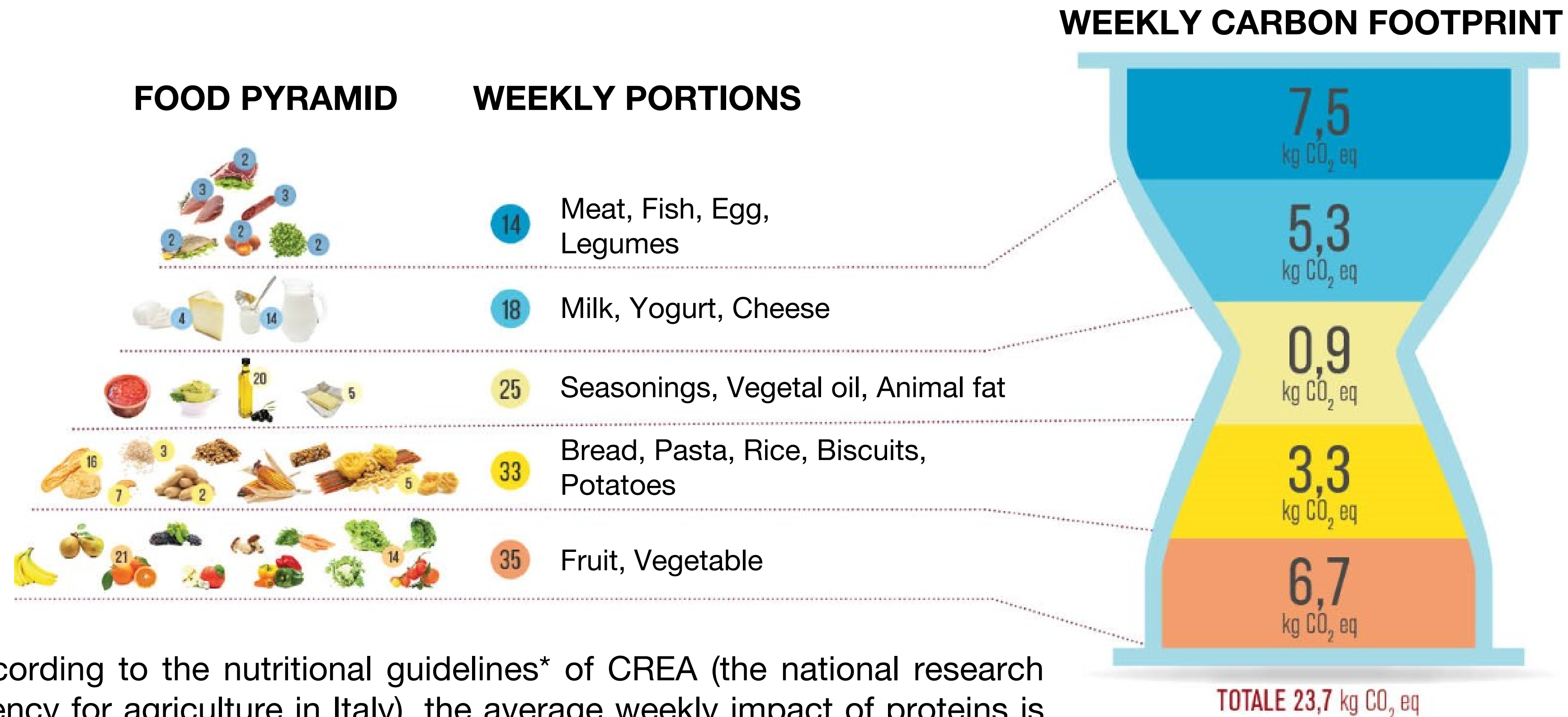


... But be careful to make **meaningful** comparisons. The **function** must be the same!
I cannot compare 1 kg of lettuce with 1 kg of meat: they have totally different nutritional values!

For example, it is ok to compare:



SPEAKING OF FOOD....



According to the nutritional guidelines* of CREA (the national research agency for agriculture in Italy), the average weekly impact of proteins is in line with that of other types of food.

In fact, for the latter the impact per kg of product is lower but the quantities consumed are much higher.

*CREA – Linee guida per una sana alimentazione (Italian version)

<https://www.crea.gov.it/documents/59764/0/LINEE-GUIDA+DEFINITIVO.pdf/28670db4-154c-0ecc-d187-1ee9db3b1c65?t=1576850671654>


SPEAKING OF FEED....

Feed4Future carbon neutral offering now available for Skretting customers



SKRETTING
a Nutreco company

[Feed & services for aquaculture](#)[Transparency & trust ▾](#)[Sustainability ▾](#)[Innovation ▾](#)



**4Feed
Future**

[Sustainability](#)[Carbon footprint](#)

21 September 2020

With food production accounting for around a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, carbon footprint reduction is one of the most effective ways that supply chains can address the climate change challenge.

— First-to-market low impact feed now available for Italian farmers, taking Italian aquaculture to new levels of sustainability

LCA - HOW DOES IT WORK?

Pasta LCA, from field to plate



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OiOlboxowvY&t=4s>

LCA - HOW DOES IT WORK?

It all depends on the **GOAL!**

Examples on Biscuits

I am asked to provide:

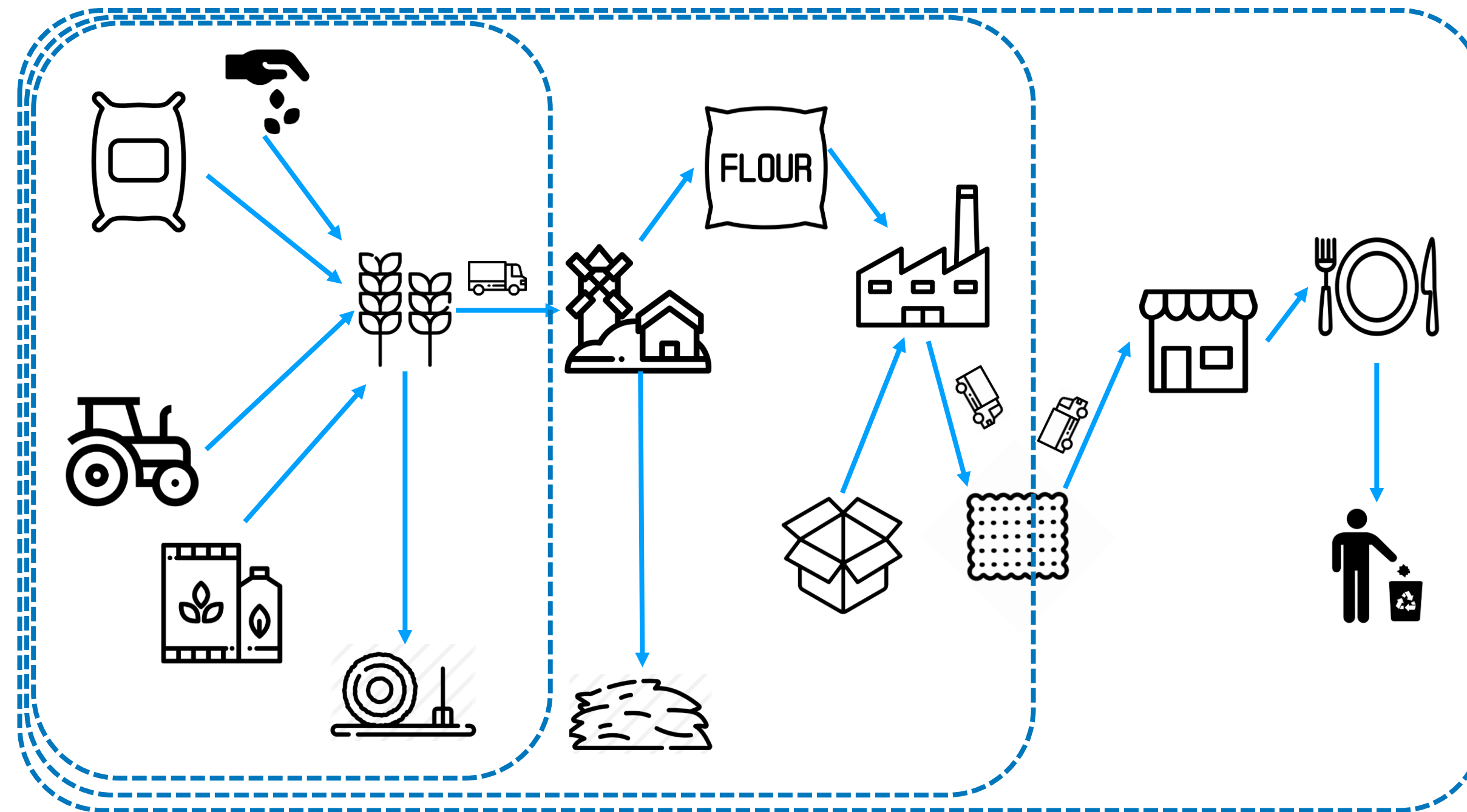
- On average, the Carbon Footprint (CF) of a biscuit produced in the World → very quick review of scientific references
- On average, the CF of a biscuit produced in Europe → integration of previous data with information taken from technical reports on European products *
- On average, the CF of biscuits produced by THIS specific company → integration of previous data with a quick LCA on the company (collection of primary data from the company)
- the CF of THIS biscuits, produced by THIS company, in THIS year, in THIS plant → in-depth analysis on the product, collecting all the primary data necessary to correctly describe that specific production process.

* For instance: <https://www.environdec.com/library>

Once I have chosen the goal, I can define the **SCOPE**

Keeping to use the examples on Biscuits

- what is the object to measure? → [QUANTITY] of the biscuits [NAME], produced in [YEAR] by the company [BRAND]
- How? → Define the impact assessment **METHOD** and the **impact CATEGORIES** to use
- How many pieces of the supply chain should I consider? → Define the **system BOUNDARIES**
- Which data should I collect? How accurate should I be? → make a detailed **INVENTORY** of the processes involved and, if possible, identify those that can certainly be overlooked (because of their negligible contribution to impact)
- ...





EXERCISE



Journal of Cleaner Production

Volume 289, 20 March 2021, 125155



From feed to fork – Life Cycle Assessment on an Italian rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) supply chain

Silvia Maiolo ^a  , Andrea Alberto Forchino ^a, Filippo Faccenda ^b, Roberto Pastres ^a

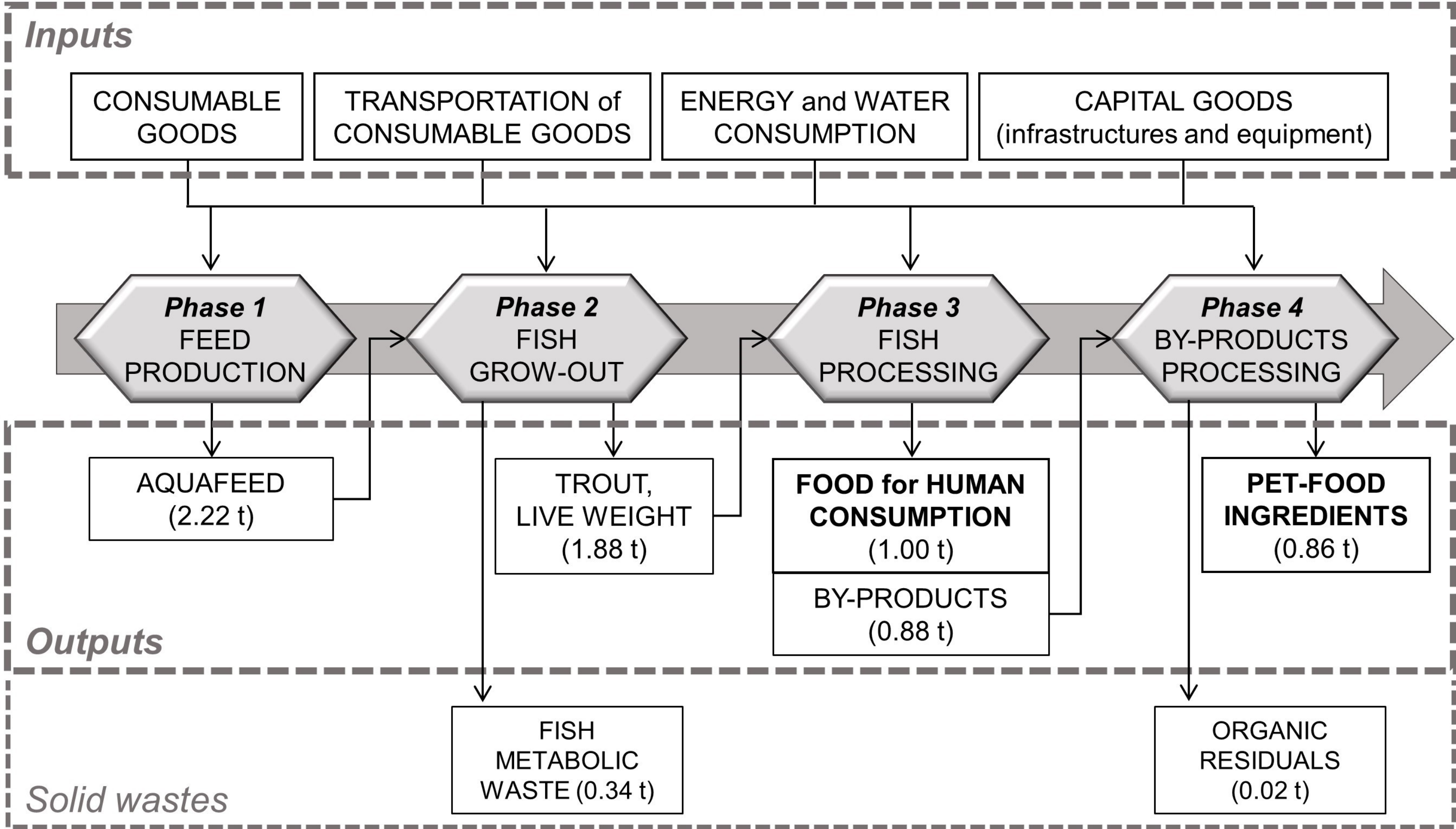
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.125155>

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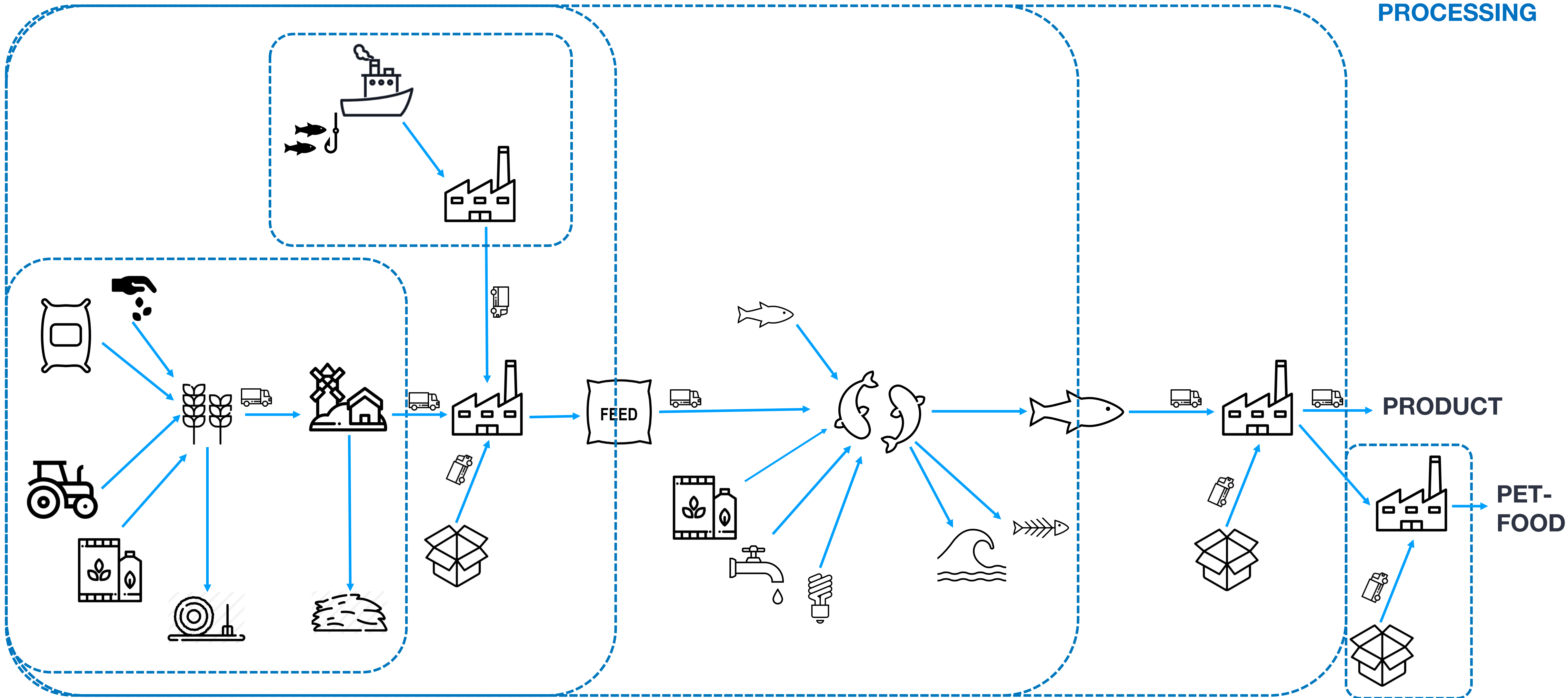
Mass balance



FEED PRODUCTION

FISH GROW-OUT

FISH PROCESSING


BY-PRODUCT
PROCESSING

1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT of FISH GROW-OUT

FISH GROW-OUT	INPUTS	INVENTORY	➔	IMPACT ASSESSMENT	
	Aquafeed	1.100,00 kg			kg CO2 eq. to air
	Road transport of inputs (aquafeed, chemicals)	294.800,00 kg km			kg CO2 eq. to air
	Electricity (Country energy grid)	300,00 kwh			kg CO2 eq. to air
	Diesel	28,63 l			kg CO2 eq. to air
	Water (from river)	213.725,61 m3			kg CO2 eq. to air
	Dead biomass (incinerated)	226,99 kg			kg CO2 eq. to air
	OUTPUTS				
	Product: trout at marketable size (live weight)	1.000,00 kg		kg CO2 eq. to air	


DATABASE			
1 kg	Feed	=	2,0000 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 kg km	Transport (lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO3)	=	0,0001 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 Kwh	Electricity (Country energy grid, low voltage)	=	0,3900 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 Kwh	Diesel, burned in agricultural machinery	=	0,2900 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 m3	Water (from river)	=	0,0000 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 m3	Tap water (European average)	=	0,2200 kg CO2 eq. to air
1 kg	treatment of biowaste, municipal incineration	=	0,0370 kg CO2 eq. to air
	Diesel, energy content		10,45 kWh/l

2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT of FISH PROCESSING

FISH PROCESSING	INPUTS	INVENTORY		IMPACT ASSESSMENT
	Trout at marketable size (live weight)	1.877,61 kg		kg CO2 eq. to air
	Road transport of trout	93.880,39 kg km		kg CO2 eq. to air
	Road transport of the other inputs	24.387,69 kg km		kg CO2 eq. to air
	Electricity (Country energy grid)	766,06 kwh		kg CO2 eq. to air
	Water (from water supply system)	30,60 m3	kg CO2 eq. to air	
	OUTPUTS			
Product: food for human consumption	1.000,00 kg		kg CO2 eq. to air	
By-products: a mix of viscera, heads and frames	880,00 kg			

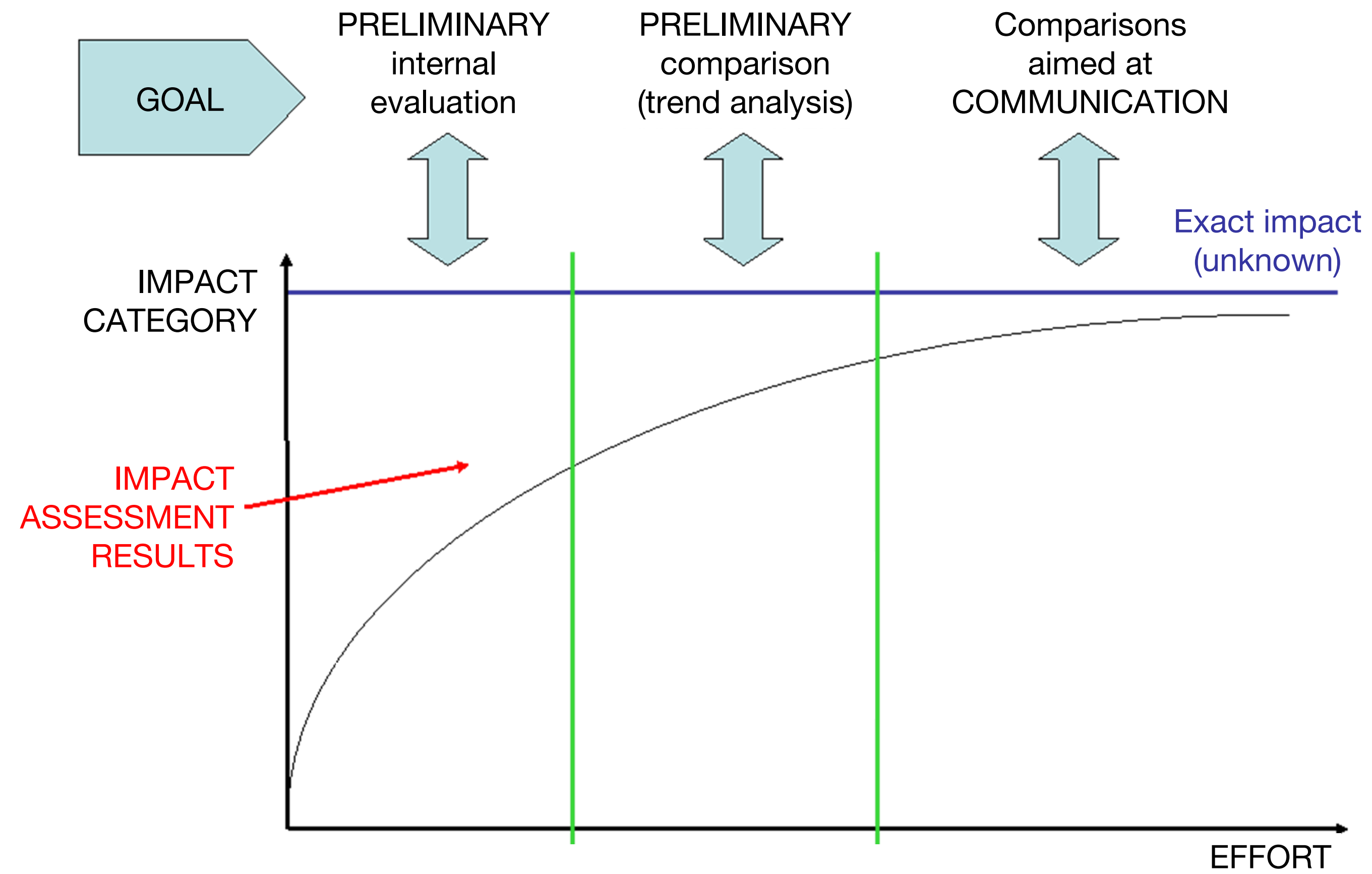
3 IMPACT ALLOCATION

The impacts of the whole supply chain is scaled to 1'000 kg of food for human consumption plus 880 kg of by-products produced alongside
How can I split the impact between the two?

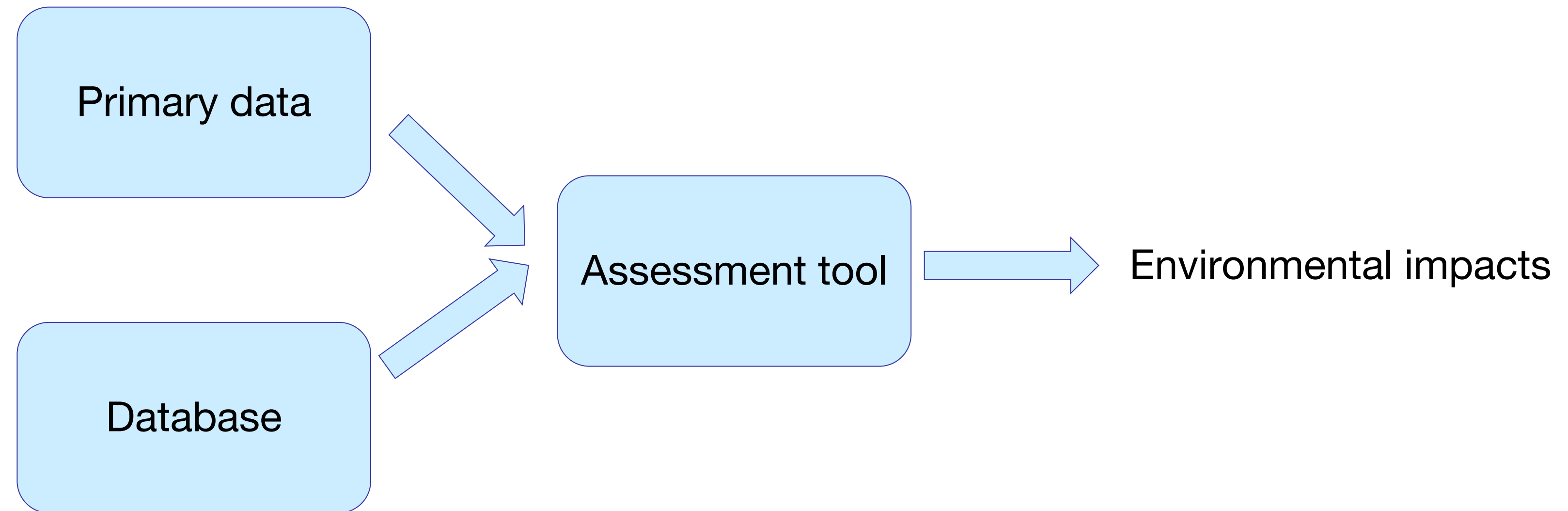
Product: food for human consumption	1.000,0	%	7.000,0	%		<table><tr><th colspan="2">ALLOCATION</th></tr><tr><th>MASS</th><th>ECONOMIC</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	ALLOCATION		MASS	ECONOMIC			kg CO2 eq. / kg of product
ALLOCATION													
MASS	ECONOMIC												
By-products: a mix of viscera, heads and frames	880,0		44,0			kg CO2 eq. / kg of product							
Total	1.880,0		7.044,0										

SOURCE	ECONOMIC VALUE
BMTI S.c.p.A (2018). Wholesale prices of trout fillet (Figure D)	7 €/kg
my estimate	0.05 €/kg

HOW MUCH EFFORT?



A QUICK RECAP



DATABASES

Huge and internationally accepted databases, each containing thousands of processes.

Some of them are free, some are not.





Ecoinvent is internationally recognized as the largest and most consistent database on the market. Its data covers most industrial sectors, is presented transparently and well documented. Ecoinvent was created by the non-profit association of the same name, founded by various Swiss public bodies (including the Polytechnic of Zurich, the Polytechnic of Lausanne and the Federal Center of Excellence for Agricultural Research - Agroscope). <https://www.ecoinvent.org/>



Agri-footprint is entirely dedicated to the agri-food sector. Given the complexity of the sector, the database offers a range of alternative models for each reference (allocation methods) and a high level of detail relating to fertilizers and the impact related to land use. The database is a project of Blonk Consultants, a leading Dutch consultancy firm in the environmental, nutrition and health sectors. <https://www.agri-footprint.com/>



Agribalyse

This database is entirely dedicated to the agri-food sector. The database is a French project born from a broad partnership between public and private research institutes, coordinated by ADEME (Agency for the Environment and Energy) and INRAE (the National Institute of Agronomic Research) <https://www.ademe.fr/en/agribalyse-program>



The GFLI database, created by the association of the same name (Global Feed LCA Institute), is part of a project launched in 2015 in the United States. Free and transparent, it was created to provide tools to support a correct assessment of the impact of feed production. The project (and the database) are promoted by various associations of feed producers (Europe, America, Canada and the international federation) and by international companies in the sector. <https://globalfeedlca.org/gfli-database/database-and-tool/>

ASSESSMENT TOOL

There are 3 main software that help us model the processes (they automatically convert them into the desired environmental impacts).

PS: **openLCA** is completely free, without any license cost.





File Edit Calculate Tools Window Help			
LCA Explorer			
Wizards	Name	Unit	Project
Wizards	Wheat grain, market mix, at regional storage/PL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint - mass allocation
Goal and scope	Wheat grain, market mix, at regional storage/PT Mass	kg	Agri-footprint - mass allocation
Description	Wheat grain, market mix, at regional storage/RO Mass	kg	Agri-footprint - mass allocation
Libraries	Wheat grain, market mix, at regional storage/UK Mass	kg	Agri-footprint - mass allocation
Inventory	Barley grain, market mix, at regional storage/IE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Processes	Barley grain, market mix, at regional storage/NL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Product stages	Barley grain, market mix, at regional storage/RER Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
System descriptions	Barley grain, market mix, at regional storage/US Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Waste types	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/DE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Parameters	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/FR Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Impact assessment	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/IE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Methods	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/IT Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Calculation setups	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/NL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Interpretation	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/PL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Interpretation	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/RER Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Document Links	Maize, market mix, at regional storage/US Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
General data	Oat grain, market mix, at regional storage/BE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Literature references	Oat grain, market mix, at regional storage/IE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Substances	Oat grain, market mix, at regional storage/NL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Units	Oat grain, market mix, at regional storage/RER Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
Quantities	Oat grain, market mix, at regional storage/US Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rice, market mix, at regional storage/CN Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rice, market mix, at regional storage/NL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rice, market mix, at regional storage/RER Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rice, market mix, at regional storage/US Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rye grain, market mix, at regional storage/DE Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation
	Rye grain, market mix, at regional storage/NL Mass	kg	Agri-footprint 5 - mass allocation

Average production of organic RYE GRAIN for feed purposes, in Switzerland			
(Database: Ecoinvent v.3)			
Products	Rye grain, feed, organic {CH} production	1	kg
Resources – Land	Occupation, construction site	2E-06	m²a
	Occupation, industrial area	5E-05	m²a
	Transformation, from unknown	1E-06	m²
	Transformation, to industrial area	1E-06	M²
Materials/fuels	Building, multi-storey {RER} construction	8E-06	m³
	Rye grain, organic {GLO} market for	1E+00	kg
	Tap water {CH} market for	6E-02	kg
Electricity/heat	Electricity, low voltage {CH} market for	3E-02	kWh
	Heat, district or industrial, natural gas {CH} market for heat	1E-01	MJ
Emissions to air	Water/m3	5E-05	m³
Waste to treatment	Wastewater, average {CH} treatment of, capacity 1.1E10l/year	4E-05	m³

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PERFECTFOOD

<https://perfect-food.eu/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/perfectfoodconsulting/>

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