

System-scale sustainability assessment based on societal metabolism and scenario analysis

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Moving from “conventional” analyses
such as those emphasizing inputs and
outputs

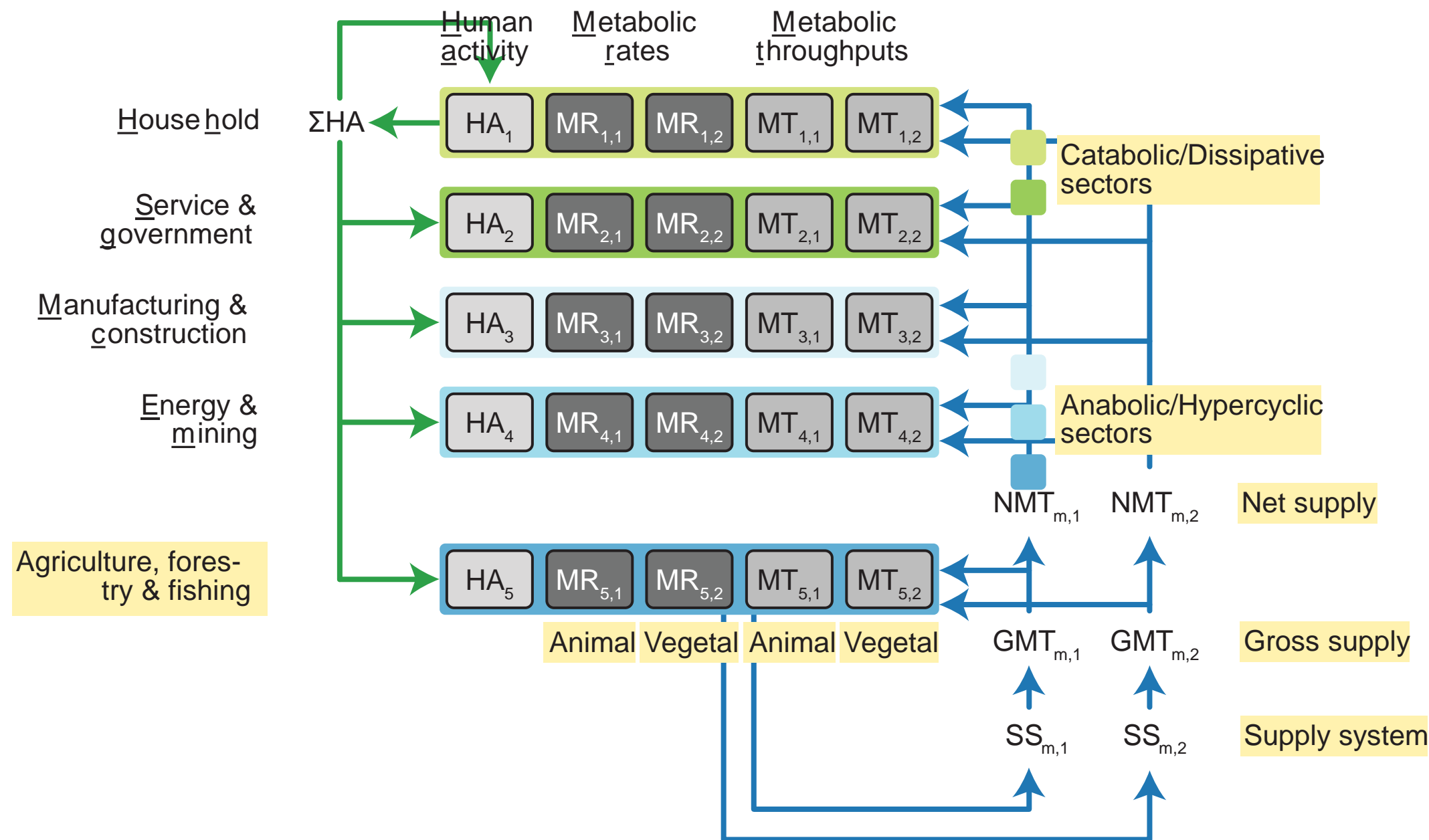
Moving from “conventional” analyses
such as those emphasizing inputs and
outputs towards accounting for societal
metabolism

The aim of the economy is not to
“produce goods and services”

The aim of the economy is not to “produce goods and services” but rather to “reproduce the fund elements required to both produce and consume goods and services”.

N. Georgescu-Roegen

Agricultural product end-use matrix for metabolic accounting



Considering the Netherlands

Agricultural exports h

17/01/2020 00:00



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Dutch exports of agricultural goods reached an estimated value of 94.5 billion euros in 2019, an increase of 4.6 percent on the previous year. This is reported by Wageningen Economic Research (WUR) and Statistics Netherlands (CBS) on the basis of joint research commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

Dutch agricultural exports worth €94.5 billion in 2019

News item | 17-01-2020 | 07:37

In 2019, the Netherlands exported €94.5 billion worth of agricultural goods. That is a 4.6% increase on the €90.4 billion export figure for

| MAGAZINE |

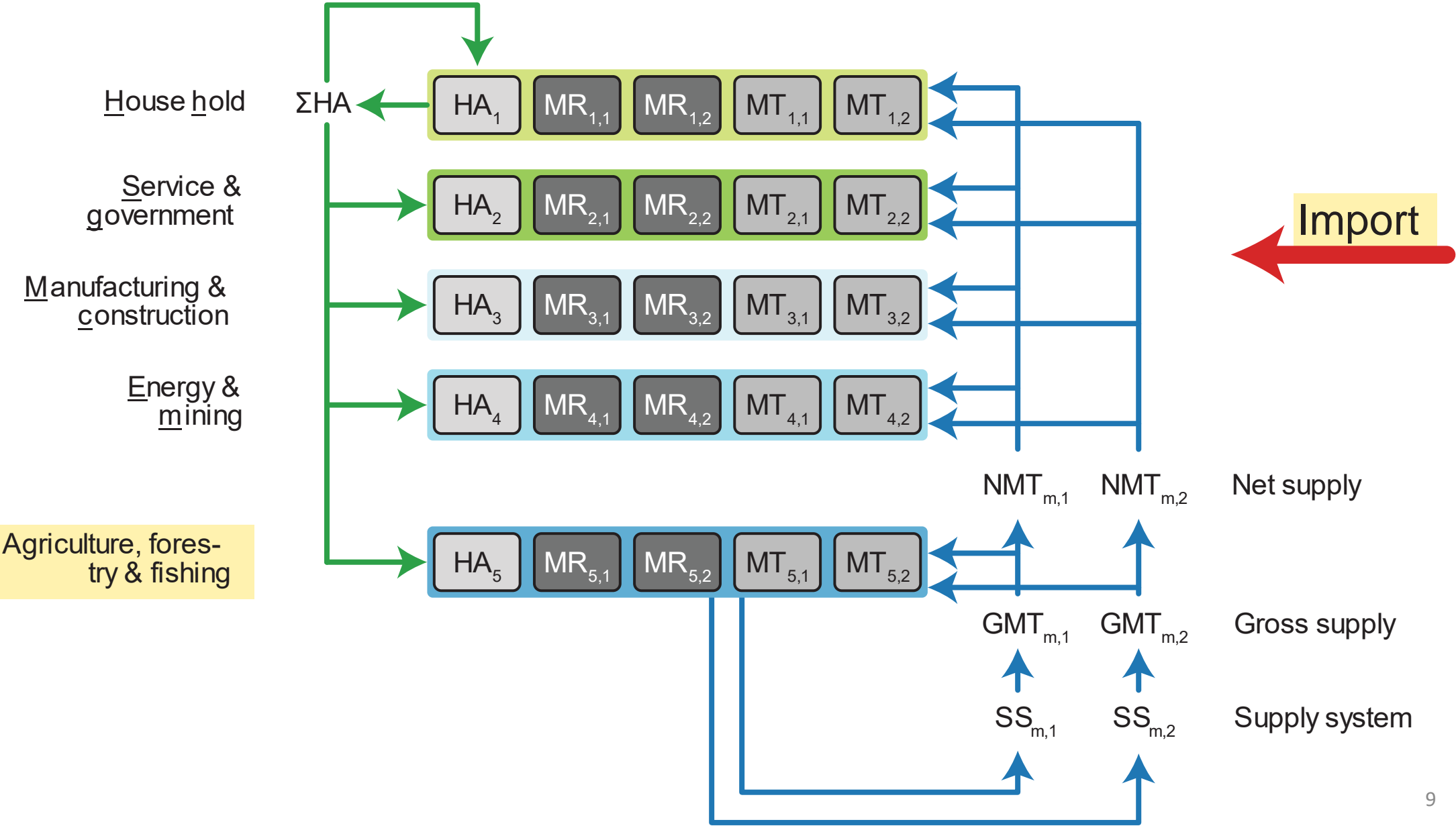
THIS TINY COUNTRY FEEDS THE WORLD

The Netherlands has become an agricultural giant by showing what the future of farming could look like.

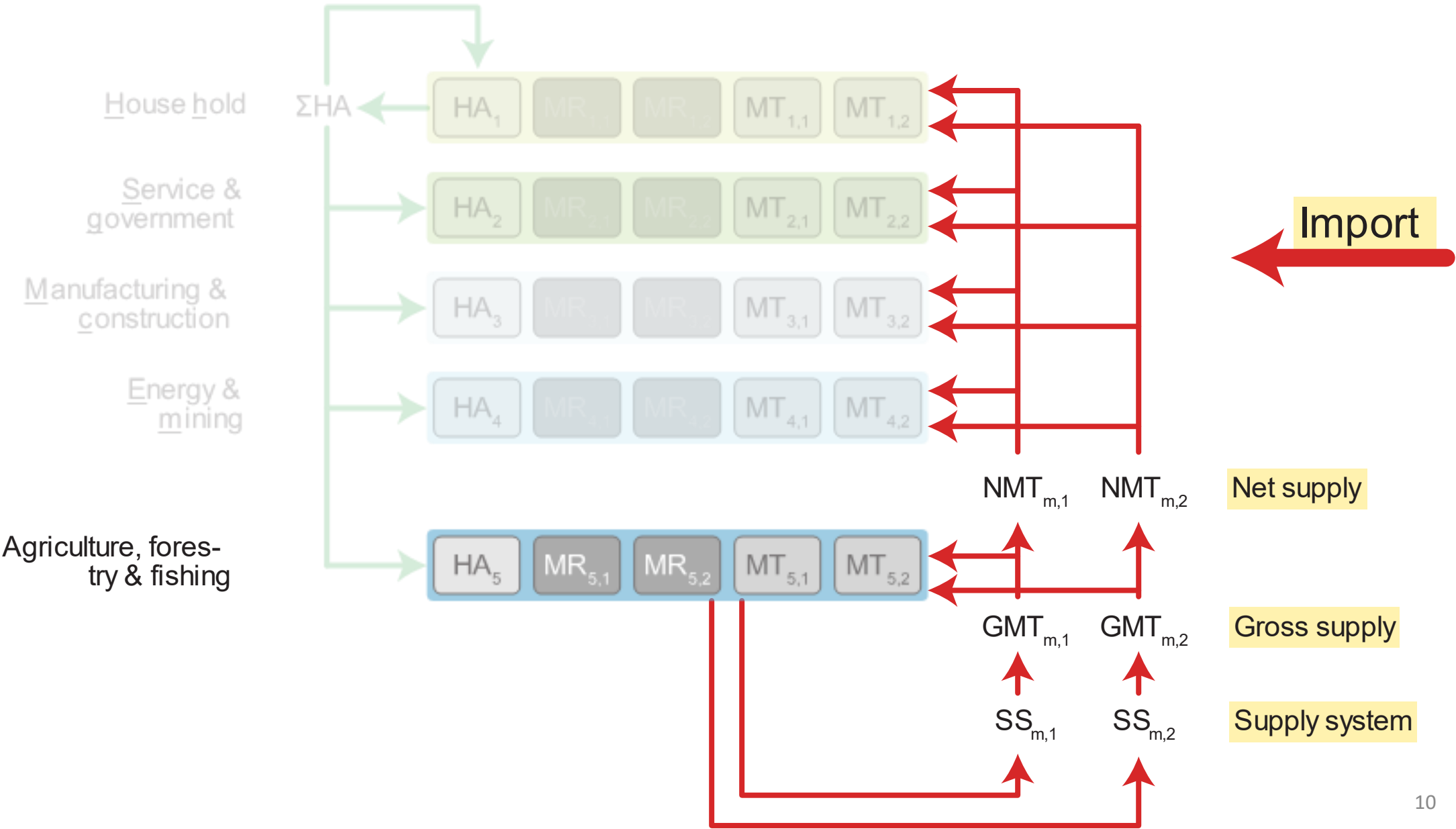
Food Quality.

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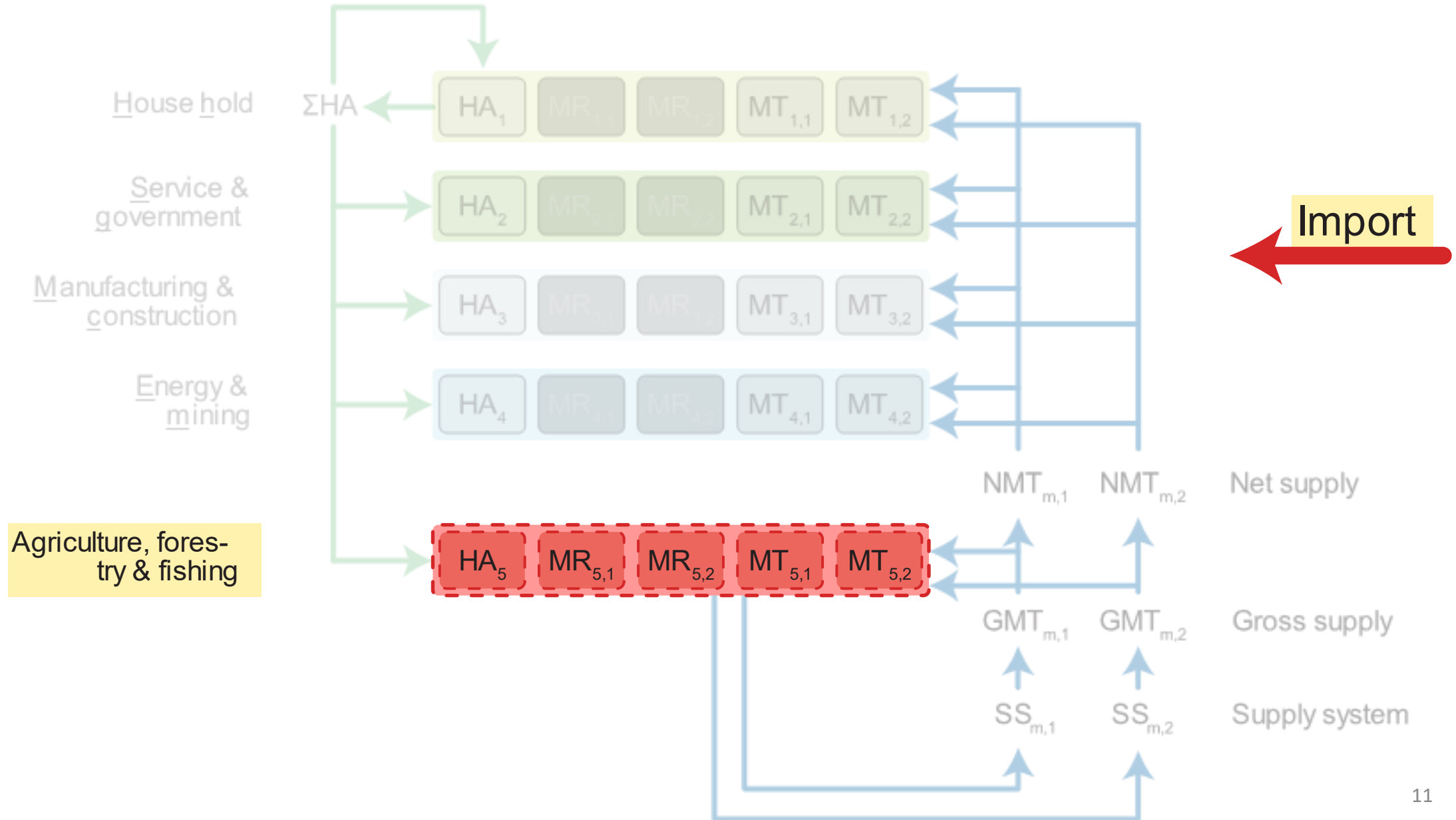
Why this situation is important to better understand



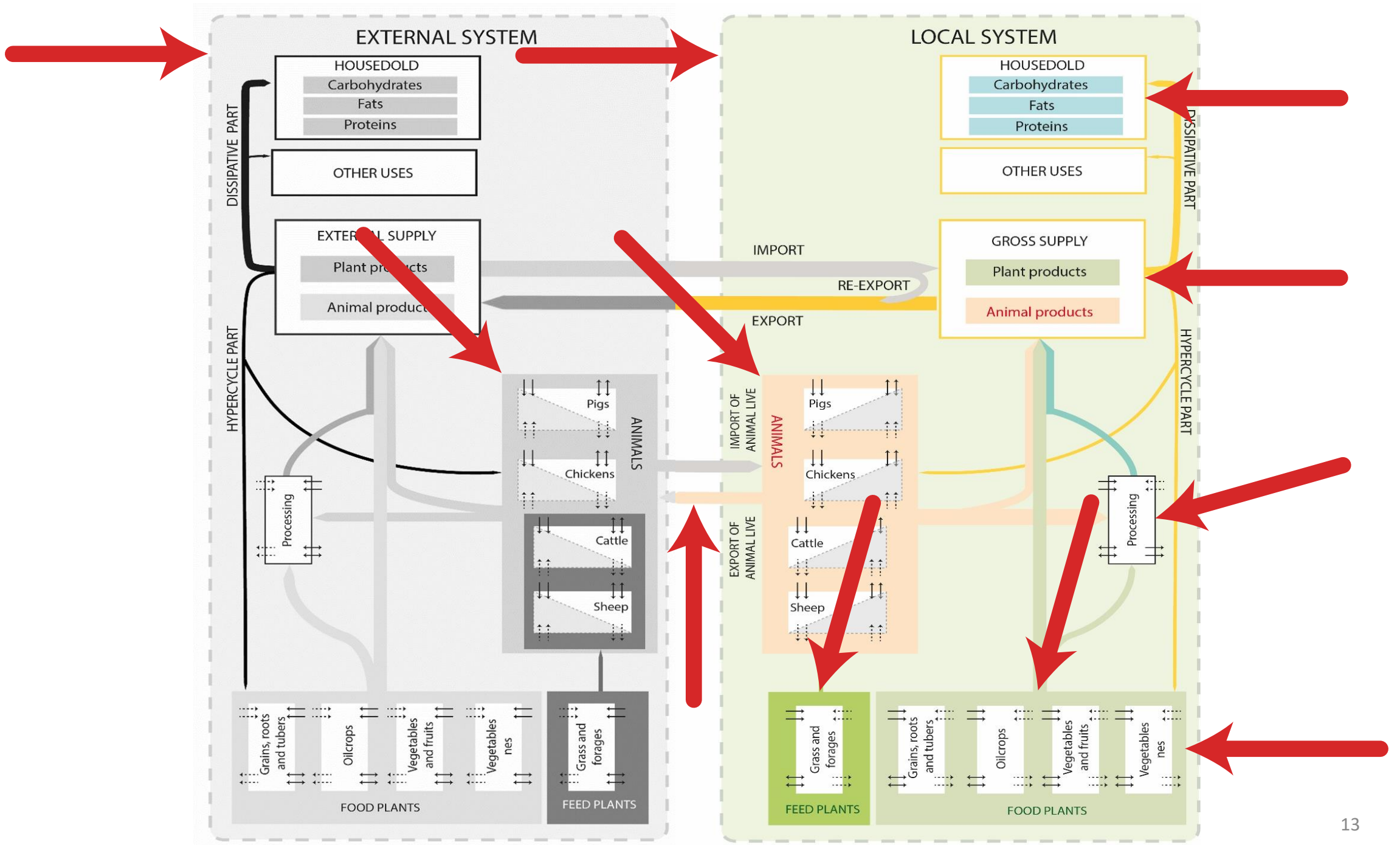
Why this situation is important to better understand

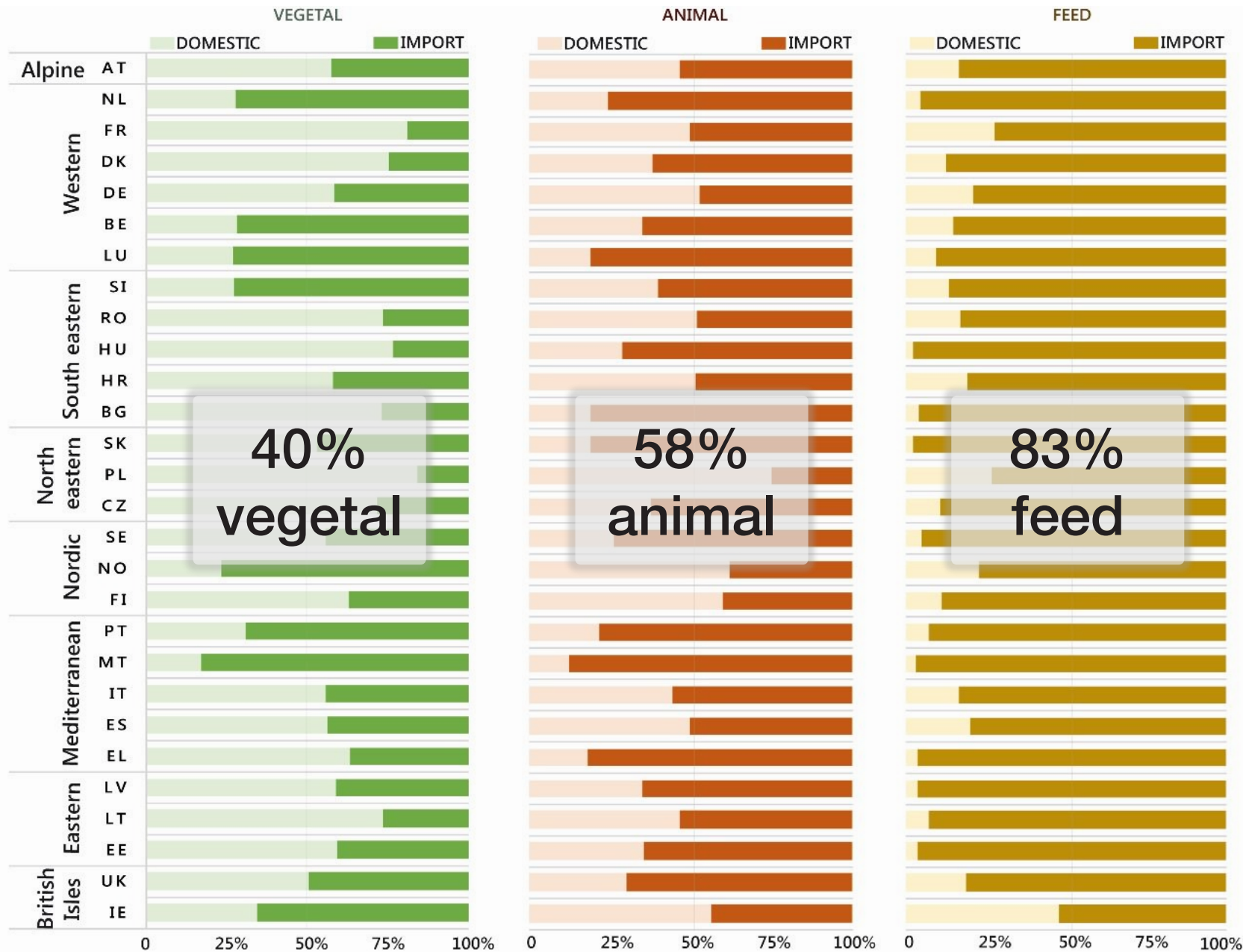


Why this situation is important to better understand



Discussing the biophysical, metabolic
logistics of the strategic autonomy of the
European food system






Key indicators derived from this assessment must focus on flow-fund ratios—contextualizing inputs and outputs against stable, biophysical referents, such as human activity or land use

The set of indicators considered must be multi-dimensional, multi-scale and multi-metric—the usefulness of scientific advice depends on the priority given by “the storyteller” to legitimate but contrasting perceptions, aspirations, purposes

The set of indicators considered most speak to concerns of feasibility, viability, desirability, addressing (1st) state and pressure variables for the social-economic system and its environment, (2nd) impacts and drivers



The diversity of information sources
and data needed to handle complex
operations...

Sorry it is complicated, but would you like to fly on this plane?

