

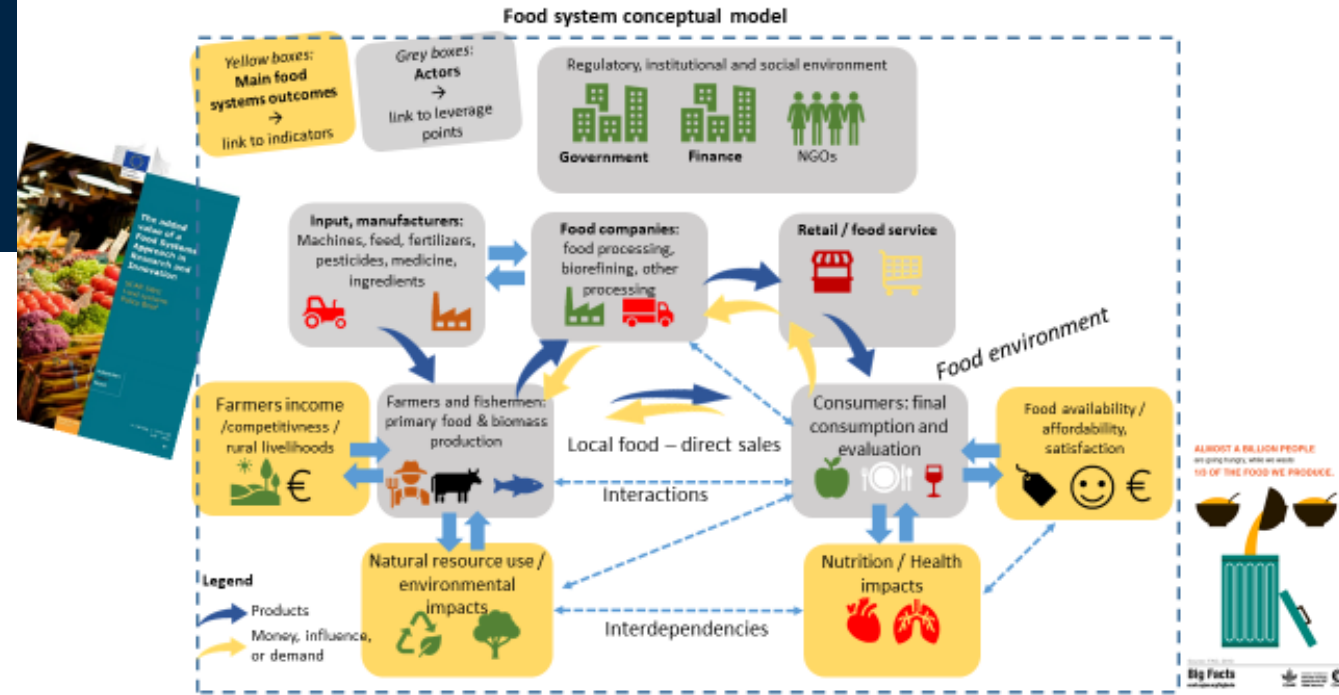
PREPARATION FOR THE ONLINE SEMINAR

SCIENCE-BASED POLICY ADVICE IN AGRICULTURE, FOOD, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

16-17 MARCH 2021

**ORGANIZED BY AARHUS UNIVERSITY (DCA & DCE)
AND THE EUROPEAN SCIENCE ADVISORS FORUM (ESAF)**

BACKGROUND

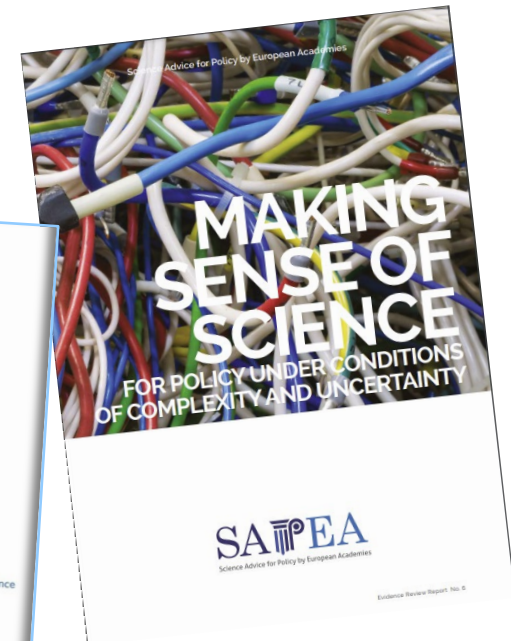


- ❖ Governments in Europe has adopted ambitious goals on – among others
 - reducing climate impact and environmental pressure from agriculture and food production and
 - improving healthy diets as well as animal health and welfare and reducing AMR
- ❖ Decisions for regulation and innovation are complicated and sometimes conflicting.

BACKGROUND II

❖ Science-based policy advice is in high demand, but often also subject of heated debates.

- ❑ Scientific advice has never been in greater demand; nor has it been more contested.
 - ❑ From climate change to ..., food technologies .. the questions being asked of scientists, engineers and other experts by policymakers, the media and the wider public continue to multiply.
 - ❑ At the same time, the authority and legitimacy of these experts is under increasing scrutiny, particularly in areas that often spark intense debate, such as climate change, energy choices and genetically-modified crops.
- Science Advice to Governments: Diverse systems, common challenges. Ingsa, 2014.*



WHAT IS SCIENCE-BASED POLICY ADVICE?

Policy making in the twenty first century requires robust evidence, impact assessment and adequate monitoring and evaluation.

High quality scientific advice, provided at the right time in the policy cycle, will improve the quality of EU legislation, and therefore contribute directly to the better regulation agenda.

Scientific advice needs to be independent of political or institutional interests, bring together evidence and insights from different disciplines and approaches, and ensure adequate transparency.

European Commission, 2015: Strengthening Evidence Based Policy Making through Scientific Advice

Evidence-based scientific policy advice gives weight to hard empirical facts and restrictions.

Klaus F. Zimmermann, 2014; IZA Policy Paper No. 90, Bonn University



BACKGROUND III

- ❖ The organization, funding and responsibility for providing science-based policy advice differs between countries and across subject areas/sectors.
- ❖ Regardless of the type of organisation, science policy advice should be based on a number of principles to ensure quality and trustworthiness.
- ❖ **There is a need for a European forum for sharing experiences between the providers of science-based policy advice in the nexus of agriculture, food, climate and environment.**

Therefore: Focus of webinar is on the meta-perspective of science advice, - not on technical/scientific content of specific advice

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF WEBINAR

- ❖ Exchange of information on national/institutional practices:
 - ❖ good experiences w procedures vis-à-vis basic principles for science advice ,
 - ❖ Identification of most pertinent challenges to address and points to improve
 - ❖ mutual learning in areas of governance, procedures for ensuring integrity, transparency & scientific rigour,
 - ❖ Best-practice processes vis-à-vis basic principles - including processes for quality assurance, consistency of advice over time, recruitment and training
- ❖ Building stronger networks among peers and organizations across Europe
- ❖ Ideas for continued collaboration between interested institutions

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

13:00	Opening session
13:30	Session 1: Principles and organisations
15:15	Break
15:30	Session 2: Procedures and methods
17:00	End of day 1

DAY 2

09:00	Session 3: Cross-institutional learnings
10:30	Break
10:45	Session 4: Purpose and potentials for future collaboration
11:45	Feedback
12:00	End of seminar

Hashtags

#AUpolicyadvice
@DCAAarhusUni

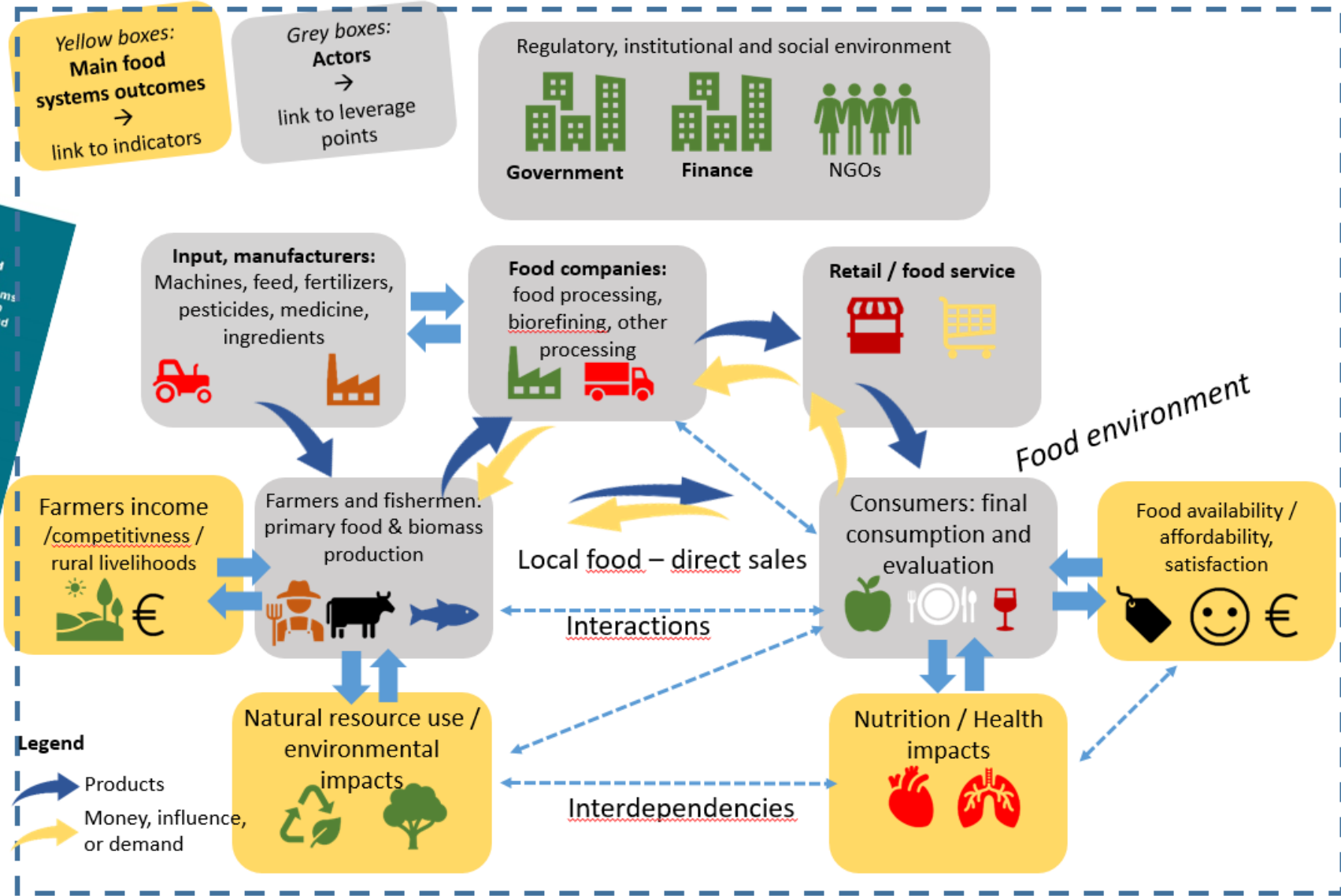
SESSION 1: PRINCIPLES AND ORGANISATIONS

- 13:30** **Principles of Science Policy Advice and their Application in Different Organizational Settings: Advantages and Challenges for Evidence-Informed Policy Approaches.** Prof. David Budtz Pedersen, Aalborg University, Denmark
- 13:45** **From research to policy: how to provide scientific insights to policy makers dealing with controversial issues.** Prof. Frank O'Mara, Director of Research, Teagasc, Ireland.
- 14:00** **Motives and challenges for engaging in science-based policy advice in modern knowledge institutions.** Dr. Patrick Flammarion, Deputy Director General in charge of Expertise and Public Policy Support, NRAE, France
- 14:15** **Motives and challenges for engaging in science-based policy advice in modern knowledge institutions.** Dr. J.A. (Bram) de Vos, Managing Director, Environmental Sciences Group, Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands
- 14:30** **The Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) of the EC: its principles and working practices.** Head of Unit Renzo Tomellini, Scientific Advice Mechanism, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission
- 14:45** **Group session**



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Food system conceptual model



Source: FAO, 2013
Big Facts
 ccsl.org.uk/bigfacts