

# The Novo Nordisk Foundation

Strategy within sustainable agriculture - brief overview

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# It began with insulin...

*...when Nobel laureate physician August Krogh was given a royalty-free license to produce insulin promising to give back the profits to research and development to benefit society ...*



THE CLINICIAN  
**H.C. Hagedorn**



THE INVESTOR  
**August Kongsted**



THE SCIENTISTS  
**Marie Krogh and August Krogh**



THE ENTREPRENEUR  
**Thorvald Pedersen**



THE ENTREPRENEUR  
**Harald Pedersen**

# Facts about the Novo Nordisk Foundation

03

The world's  
third largest  
measured in grants

01

The world's  
largest  
measured in assets:  
EUR ~92 billion\*

## 2021 in numbers\*

Awarded ~DKK  
**8.8** billion  
EUR 1.2 billion

Paid out ~DKK  
**4.8** billion  
EUR 645 million

**617**  
Grants awarded

**2,771**  
Applications  
received

**~18%**  
Success rate for  
research applications  
among open calls

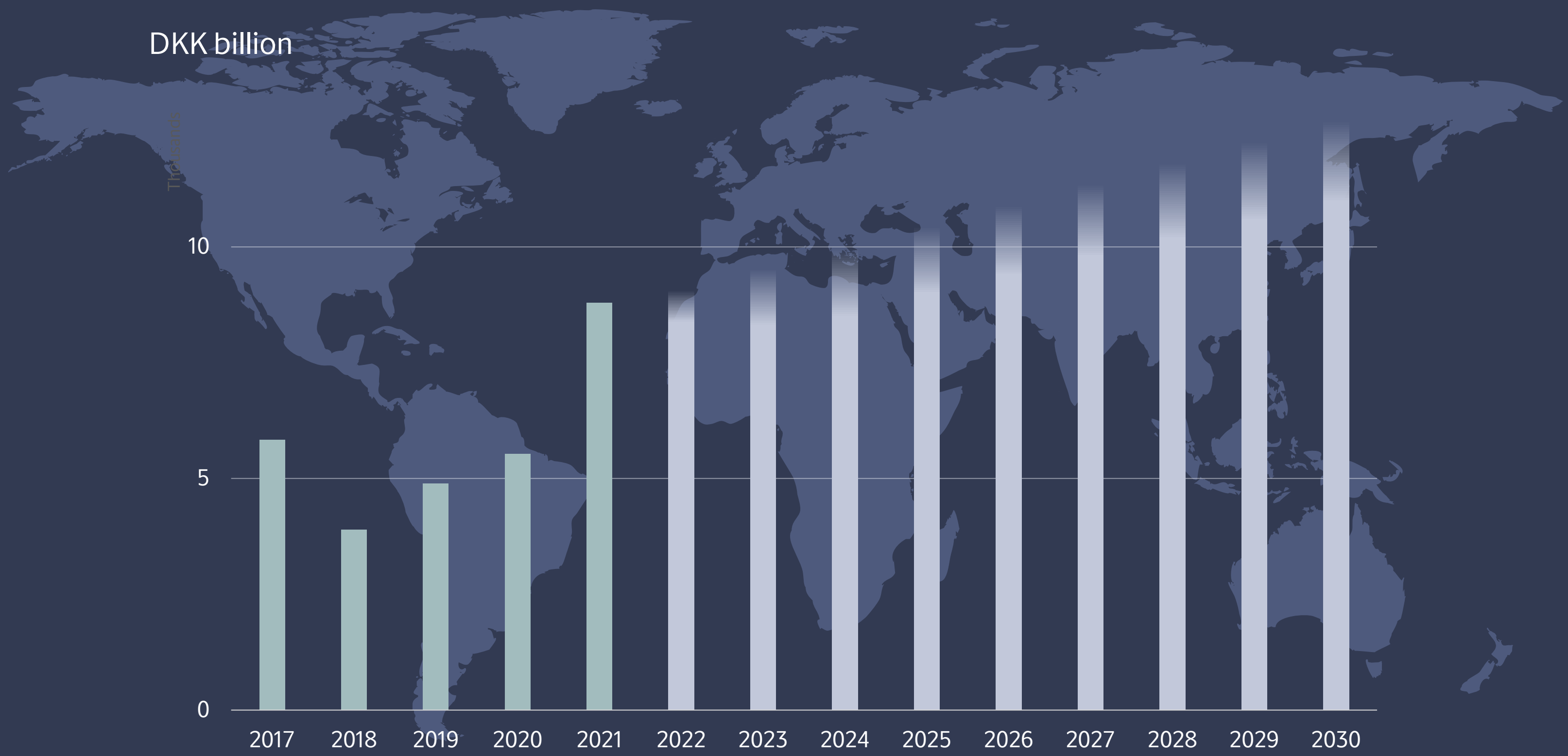
Investment result 2021  
**37** ~DKK billion  
EUR 5 billion

\*Preliminary numbers year-end 2021

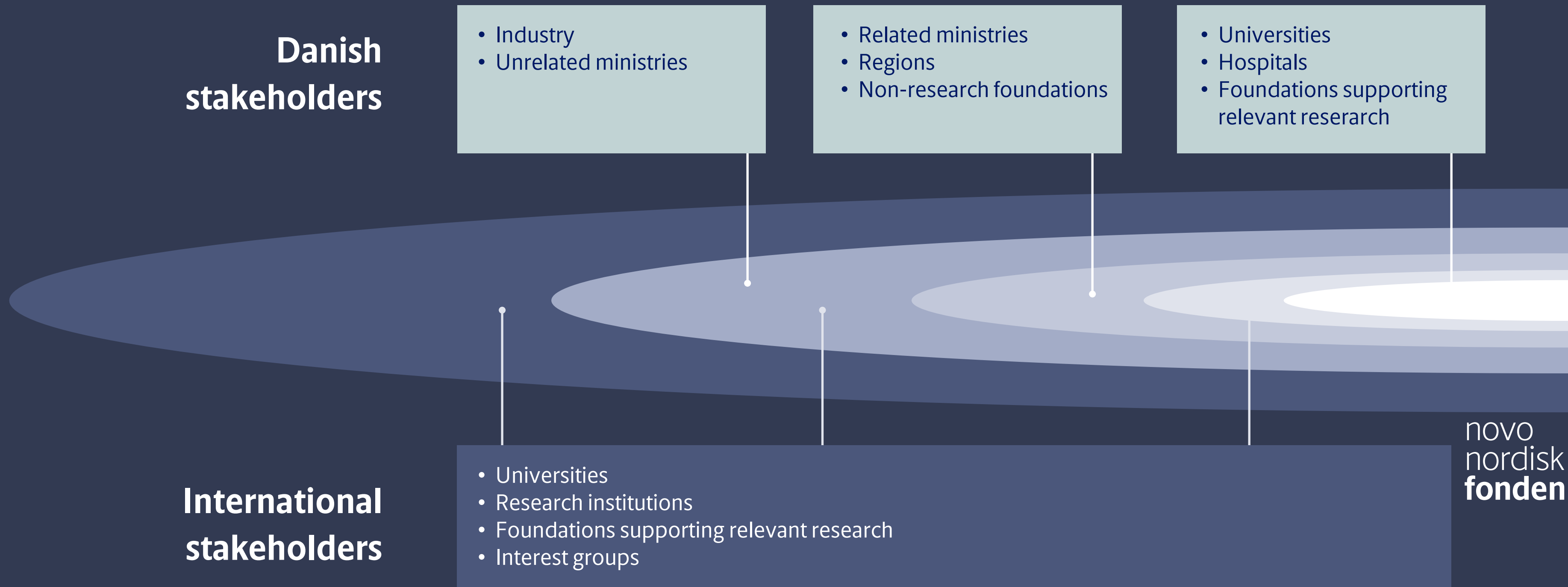
# The Novo Nordisk Foundation is an independent Danish enterprise foundation



# 2030 grant-awarding outlook



# Strategy 2030 – we are strengthening and expanding our relations to key stakeholders groups both nationally and internationally



# NNF will focus on 12 strategic themes across our 3 focus areas

**Mission:** Progress research and innovation in prevention and treatment of cardiometabolic and infectious diseases



**Theme 1: Preventing cardiometabolic disease**



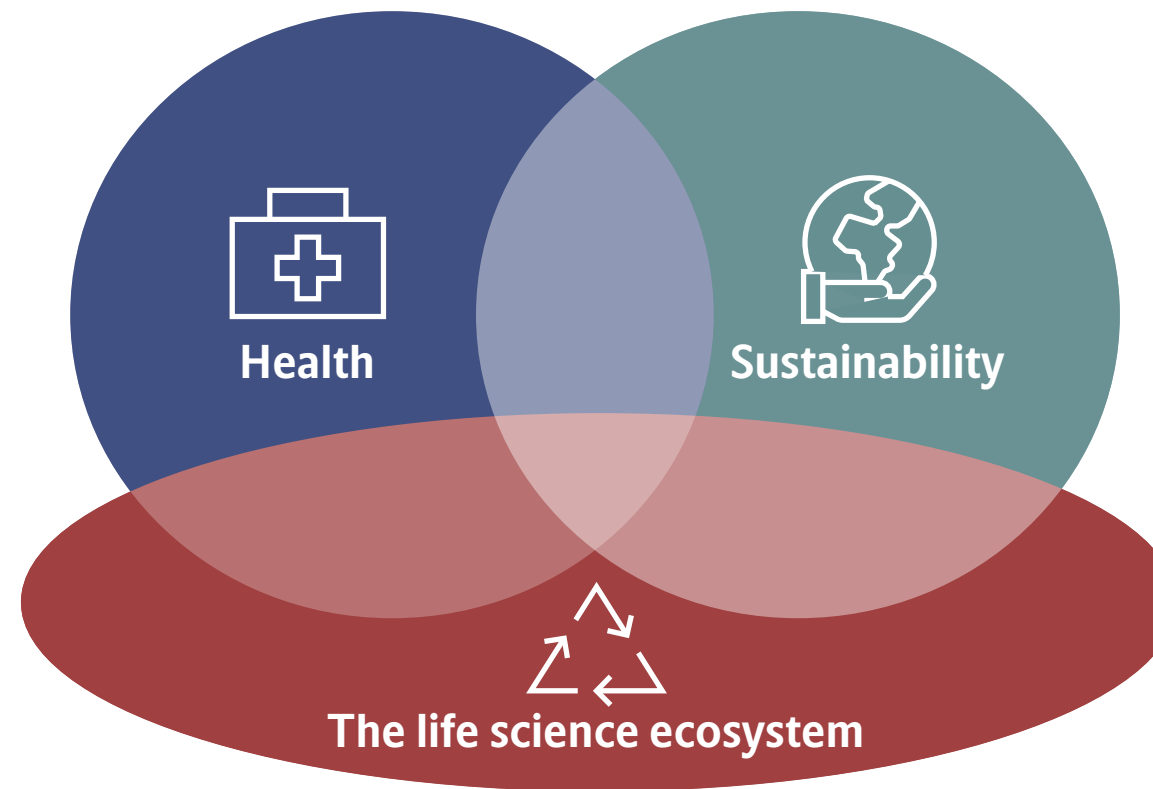
**Theme 2: Understanding and managing cardiometabolic disease**



**Theme 3: Fighting inequity in health**



**Theme 4: Strengthening epidemic preparedness**



**Mission:** Advance knowledge and solutions to support the green transition in society



**Theme 1: Sustainable and high-yield agriculture**



**Theme 2: Sustainable food for healthy diets**



**Theme 3: High-impact climate change mitigation technologies**



**Theme 4: Supporting society in the green transition**

**Mission:** Invest in scientific research, education and innovation to enable a world class life science ecosystem



**Theme 1: Fundamental research**



**Theme 2: Enabling research infrastructures and technologies**



**Theme 3: Translational capacity and societal impact**

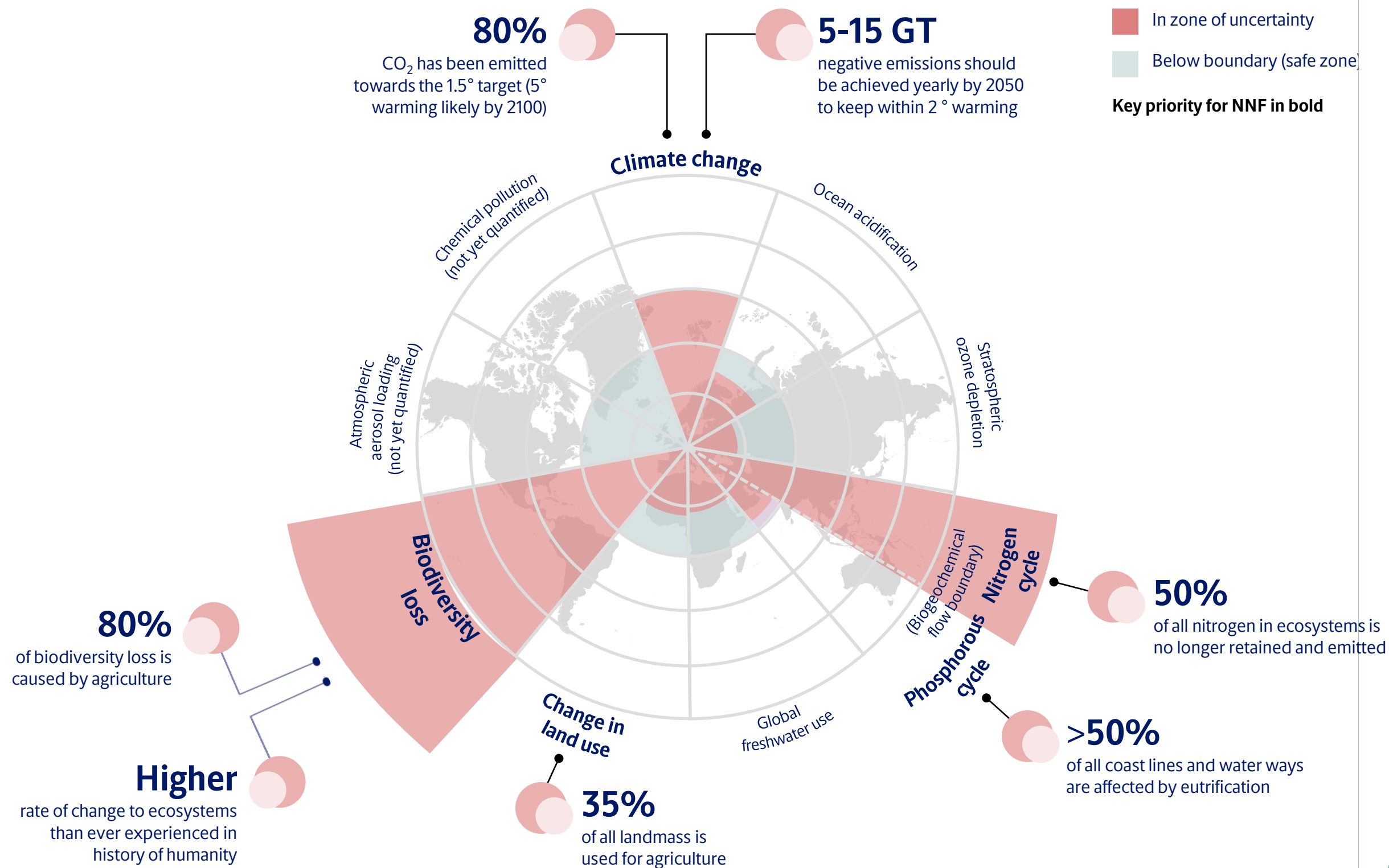


**Theme 4: Education and science capital**





# There is an urgent need to for change -a society inside Earth's planetary boundaries



*How do we change to keep us inside the planetary boundaries while allowing for a prosperous society?*

Our food systems are a main driver for transgressing the planetary boundaries



# There is an urgent need to tackle climate change and unsustainable food production



- We will tackle this complex global challenge through strategic partnerships and collaboration



## Sustainability mission

*Advance knowledge and solutions to support the green transition in society*

Agricultural share of GHG emissions will continue to grow in a BAU scenario

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Very timely conference

# A strategic theme for NNF is **sustainable and high-yield agriculture**



**Ambition:** Advance research and innovation for agricultural production within planetary boundaries by understanding, controlling, and utilising agricultural ecosystems.

## Three levels – similar focal points

**Landscape** → **Field** → **Plant**

Minimize GHG emissions and other environmental effects  
Crop resilience and resource utilization  
High productivity for the green transition  
Regeneration of ecosystem functions

## Guiding mindset

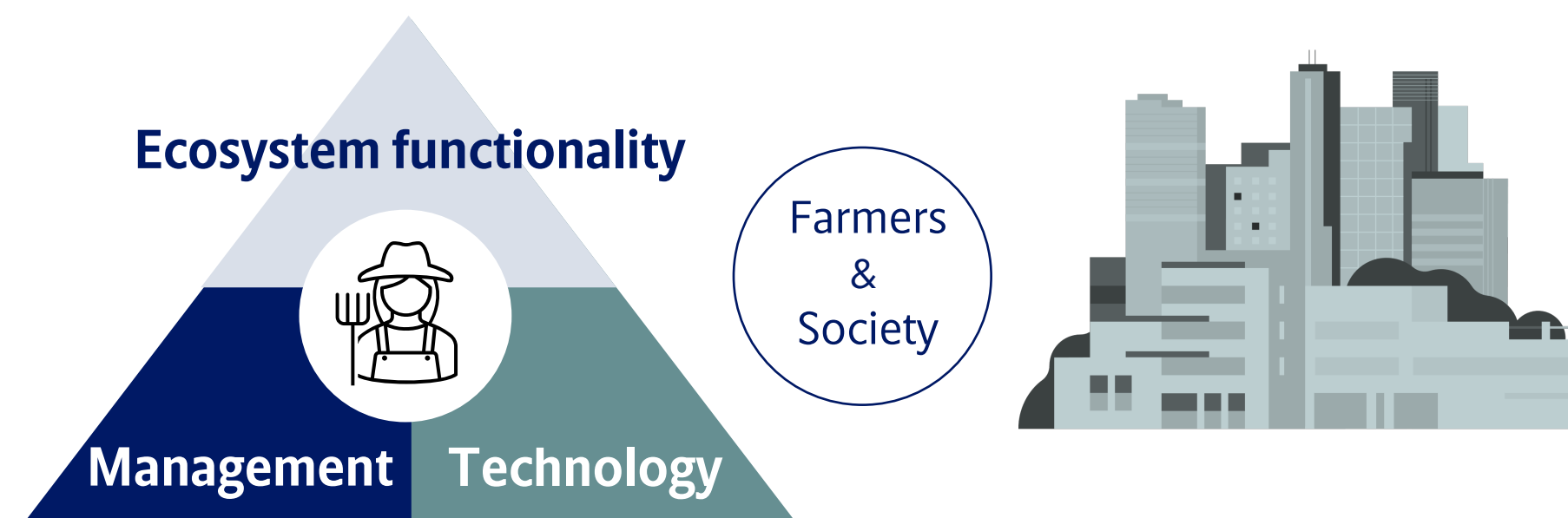
### Ecosystem-centric

Ecosystem functionalities are leveraged by technology and biology-based solutions to determine agricultural management practices.

.... As opposed to...

### “Transformation as usual”

Technology developments drives agricultural management practices which in turn determines ecosystem functionality.



# A strategic theme for NNF is **sustainable and high-yield agriculture**



**Ambition:** Advance research and innovation for agricultural production within planetary boundaries by understanding, controlling, and utilising agricultural ecosystems.

## Key objectives

### Landscape

Climate smart land-use that benefits biodiversity and has minimal environmental impact

- Measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) for farmers and legislators
- Landscape planning and monitoring for biodiversity and climate

### Field

Cropping systems that are environmentally benign, resilient, and high yielding

- High diversity in genetics, over time, and in space for resource efficiency and ecosystem services
- Digital agriculture, field sensing, and robotics for management and decision (support) systems
- Blue sky cropping systems

### Plant

Resilient crops supporting the green transition

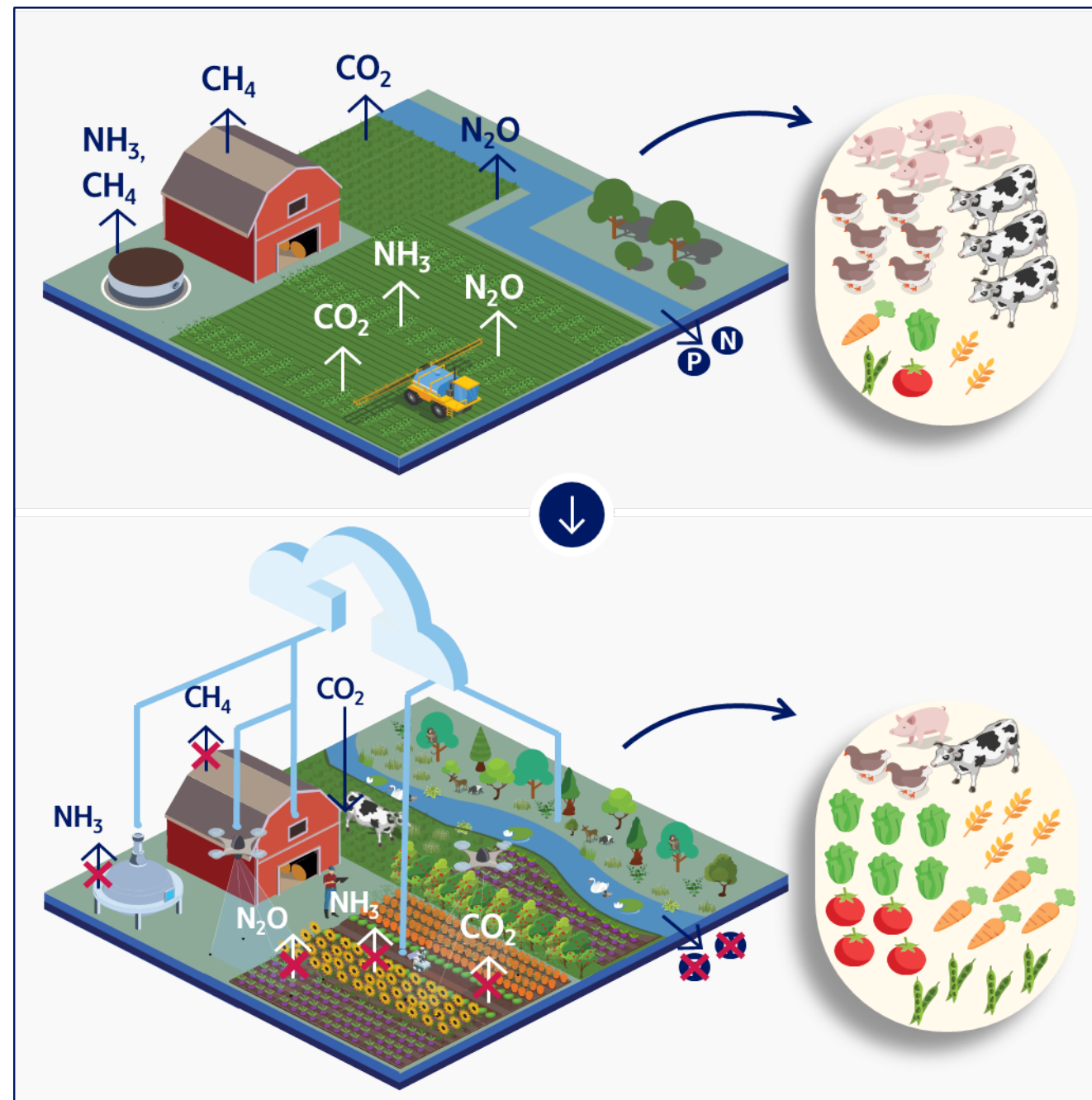
- Exploration of genetic diversity for plant-based foods and sustainability traits
- Plant science and plant breeding
- Biosolutions and new technologies for improved crop performance

### Translation and innovation

Accelerate adoption of sustainable agricultural practices

- Demonstration of best-practices and new technologies
- Understand barriers for adoption by farmers and legislators

Strategic choice  
not to support  
livestock research



# Thank you for the attention!

On behalf of the Novo Nordisk Foundation,  
I wish you all a fruitful conference