



**Camelina und Crambe:
Nachhaltige Alternativen für die Landwirtschaft?**

Dr Guido Reinhardt

C.A.R.M.E.N.-Symposium 2019: Energie- &
Ressourcenwende: Impulse aus dem ländlichen Raum

Straubing, 1 – 2. Juli 2019

IFEU - Institute for Energy and Environmental Research Heidelberg, since 1978

- **Independent scientific research institute**
- **organised as a private non profit company with currently about 80 employees**
- **Research / consulting on environmental aspects of**
 - **Energy (including Renewable Energy)**
 - **Transport**
 - **Waste Management**
 - **Life Cycle Analyses**
 - **Environmental Impact Assessment**
 - **Renewable Resources**
 - **Environmental Education**



IFEU focuses regarding the topic of biomass

- **Research / consulting on environmental aspects of**
 - **transport biofuels**
 - **biomass-based electricity and heat**
 - **biorefinery systems**
 - **biobased materials**
 - **agricultural goods and food**
 - **cultivation systems (conventional agriculture, organic farming, etc.)**
- **Potentials and future scenarios**
- **Technologies / technology comparisons**
- **CO₂ avoidance costs**
- **Sustainability aspects / valuation models**

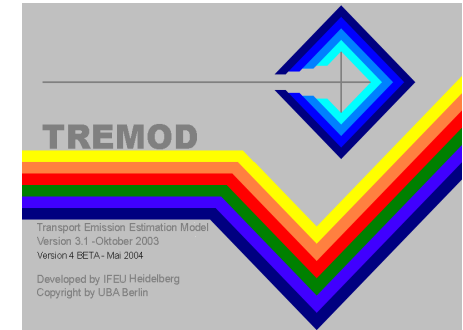


IFEU - Institute for Energy and Environmental Research Heidelberg, since 1978

- **Our clients (on biomass studies)**

- World Bank
- UNEP, GTZ, UNIDO, FAO, UNFCCC etc.
- European Commission
- National and regional Ministries
- Associations (national and international)
- Local authorities
- WWF, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth etc.
- Companies (Daimler, German Telekom, etc.)
- Foundations (German Foundation on Environment, British Foundation on Transport etc.)



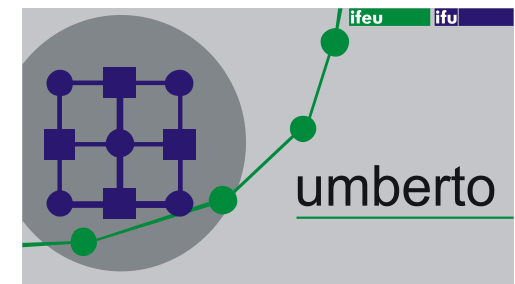


TREMOD: Transport Emission Model

- Modelling emissions of road vehicles, trains, ships and airplanes
- Official database of the German Ministries for emission reporting

Life cycle analyses (LCA) and technology impact assessments since 1990:

- Biofuels (all biofuels, all applications)
- Alternative transportation modes
- Renewable Energy



25 + years of experience

F + E-Vorhaben des Umweltbundesamtes
Nr. 104 08 508/02

Endbericht

Energie- und CO₂-Bilanz von
Rapsöl und Rapsölester
im Vergleich
zu Dieselkraftstoff

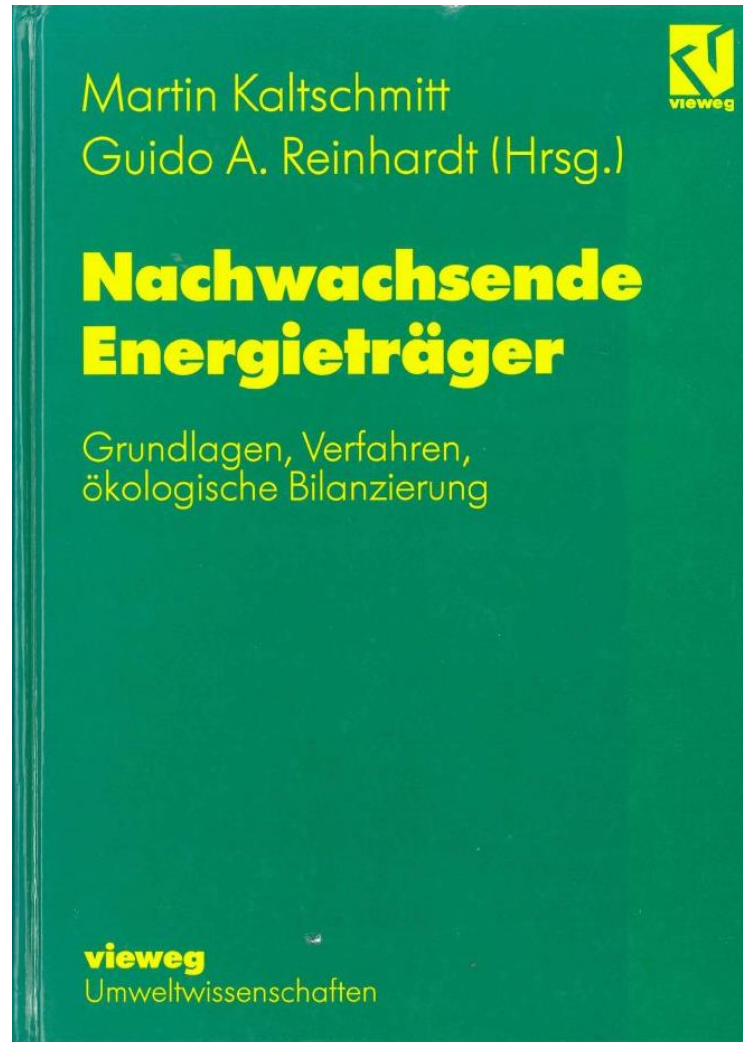
ifeu – Institut für Energie- und
Umweltforschung Heidelberg
Fachbereich „Verkehr und Umwelt“

Dezember 1991

**First full life cycle balance on
biodiesel in Europe**

1991

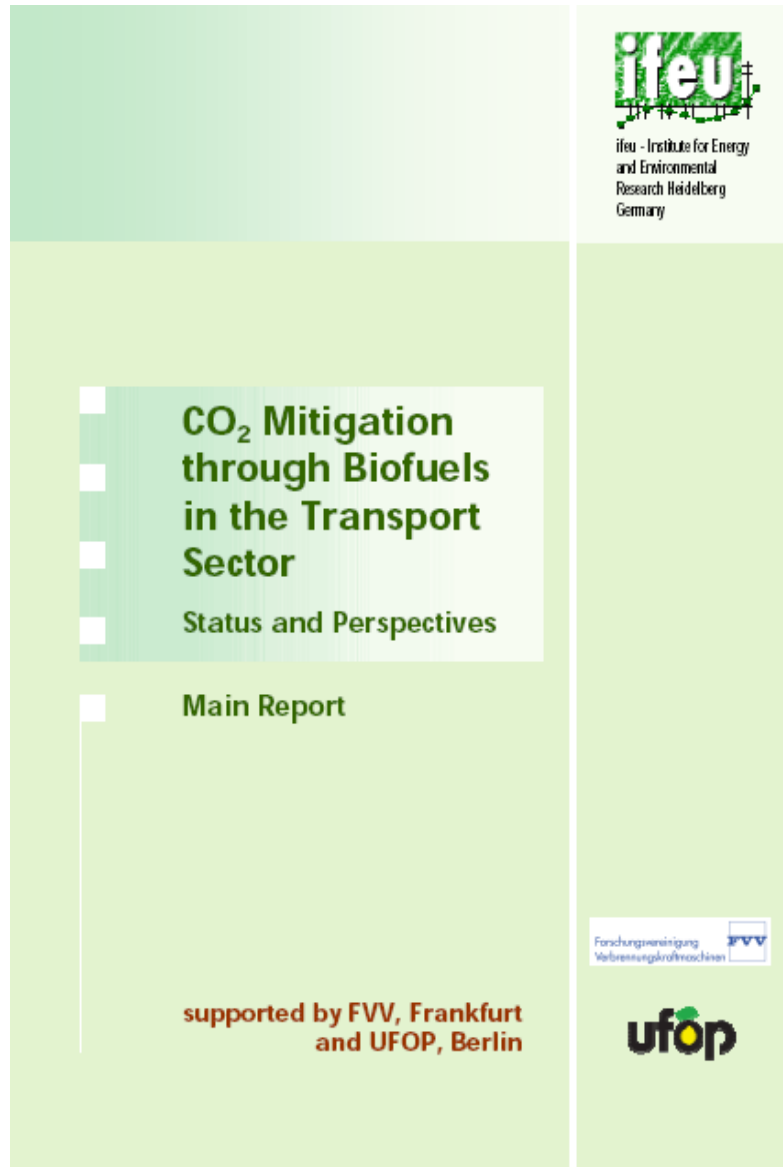




**First conclusive life cycle
assessment for biofuels in
Europe:**

Ca. 20 biofuels for:

- **Transportation**
- **Green heat**
- **Green electricity**



Study on 28 different biofuels

Authors:
M. Quirin, S.O. Gärtner, M. Pehnt, G.A. Reinhardt

Guido Reinhardt
Sven Gärtner
Julia Münch
Sebastian Häfele



Ökologische Optimierung regional erzeugter
Lebensmittel:
Energie- und Klimagasbilanzen



Heidelberg 2009

“Ökologische Optimierung regional erzeugter Lebensmittel: Energie- und Klimagasbilanzen“

Autoren:

Guido Reinhardt,
Sven Gärtner,
Julia Münch,
Sebastian Häfele

Gefördert durch das Ministerium für
Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und
Verbraucherschutz (BMELV)



„Industrielle stoffliche Nutzung nachwachsender Rohstoffe“

Bericht angefertigt vom Büro für Technikfolgen-Abschätzung des Deutschen Bundestages (TAB).

TAB-Autorin:
Dagmar Oertel

IFEU-Beitrag:
„Zukünftige Nutzung nachwachsender Rohstoffe“
(Kapitel IV)

IFEU-Autoren:
Guido Reinhardt, Sven Gärtner
& Andreas Patyk



Camelina und Crambe: Nachhaltige Alternativen für die Landwirtschaft?

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Ressourcenwende: Impulse aus dem ländlichen Raum

Straubing, 1 – 2. Juli 2019

Two “new” oil crops: Brassicaceae family

Camelina sativa (*Leindotter*)



© Courtesy of
Linnaeus Plant
Sciences



© Wageningen

Crambe abyssinica
(*Meerkohl, Krambe*)



Background

- Oleochemical industry relies predominantly on tropical oils: coconut, palm, palm kernel, castor.



Medium-chain fatty acids



C12:0, C14:0

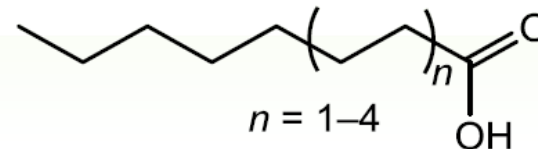
Palm kernel & coconut markets

- Oleochemical industry relies predominantly on tropical oils: coconut, palm, palm kernel, castor.



- No **European** alternatives for tropical **medium-chain fatty acids** (MCFA):

C8, C10, C12, C14



- Prices of MCFA are higher and more volatile than those from more common oilseed crops

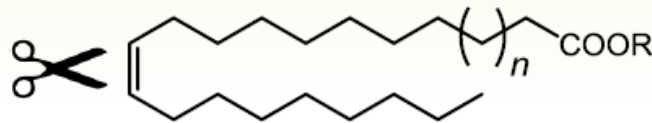
Camelina sativa and Crambe abyssinica

- **Agronomic advantages:**
 - Suitable for growth in Europe
 - Limited nutrient requirements
 - Resistance to common *Brassica* pests and diseases
 - Tolerance to drought and low temperature
- **Contain special MUFA*:** interest to oleochemical industry

Camelina



© Courtesy of Linnaeus
Plant Sciences



$n = 1$: gondoic acid (C20:1n9)

$n = 3$: erucic acid (C22:1n9)



Crambe



© E.N. van Loo,
Wageningen UR

* MUFA = monounsaturated fatty acid, i.e. with only one C=C bond

Camelina and Crambe cultivation

Poland



Italy



Greece





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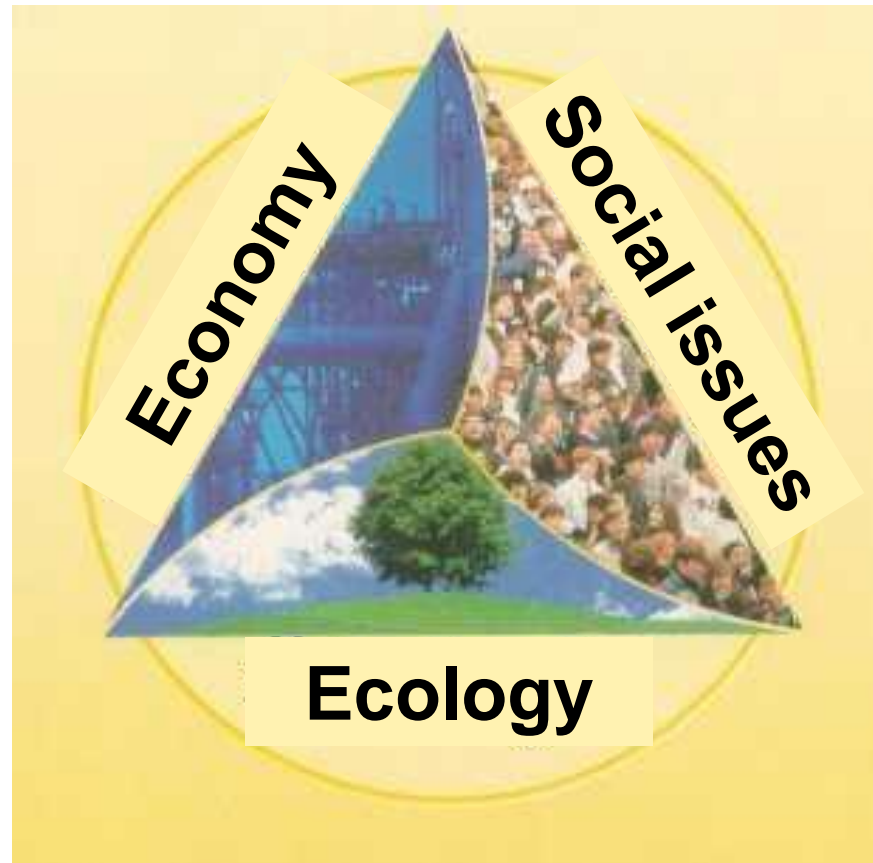
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Definition

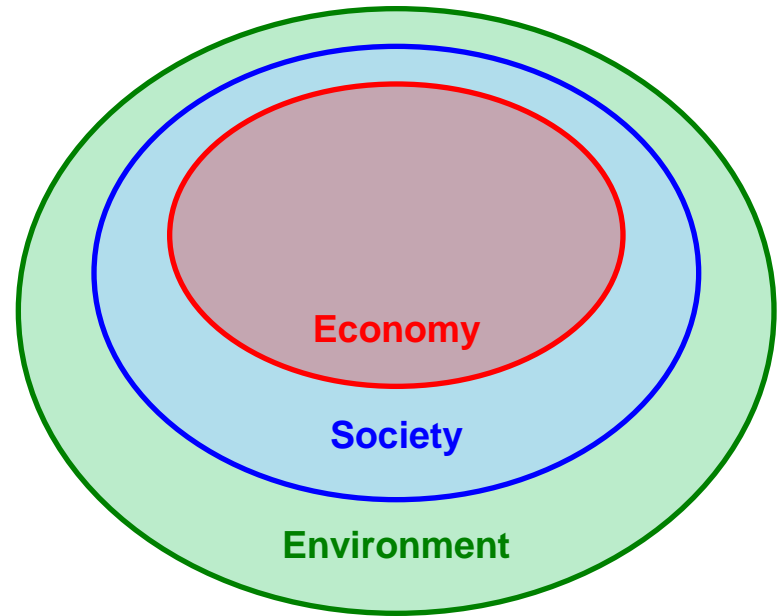
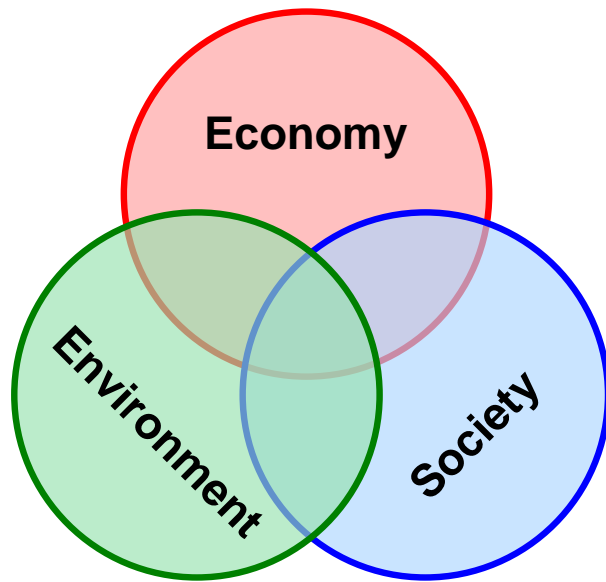
"Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

Brundtland Commission 1987

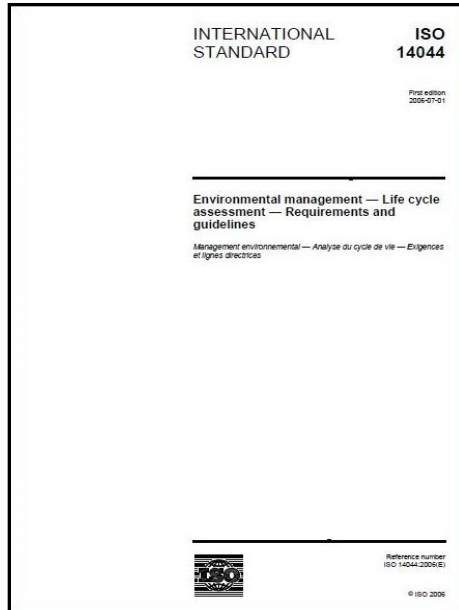
The principle of sustainability



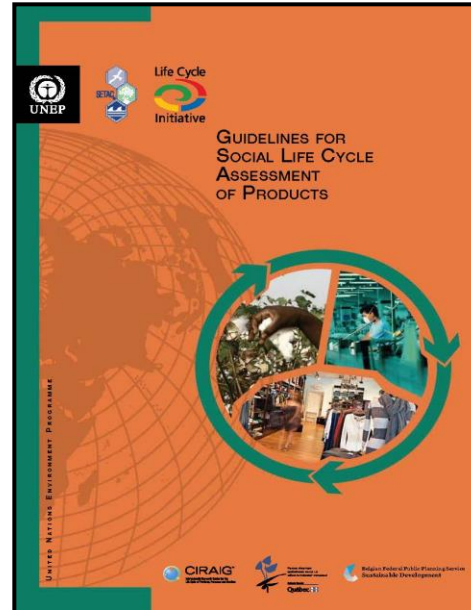
The principle of sustainability



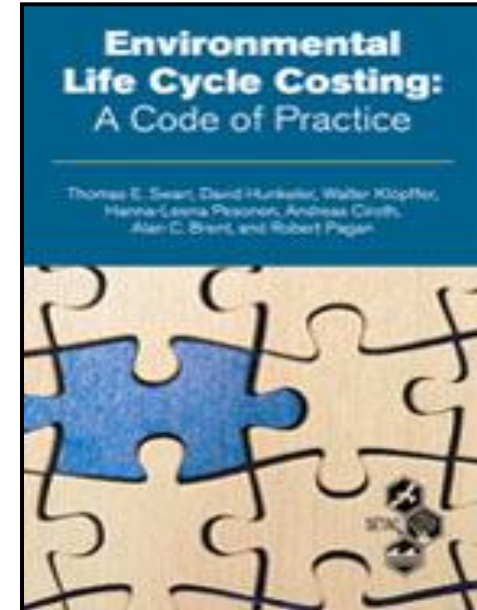
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)



Social Life Cycle Assessment (sLCA)



Environmental Life Cycle Costing (eLCC)



➔ Not sufficient: e. g. technological, legal and political issues are not addressed sufficiently.

Sustainability assessment

TA

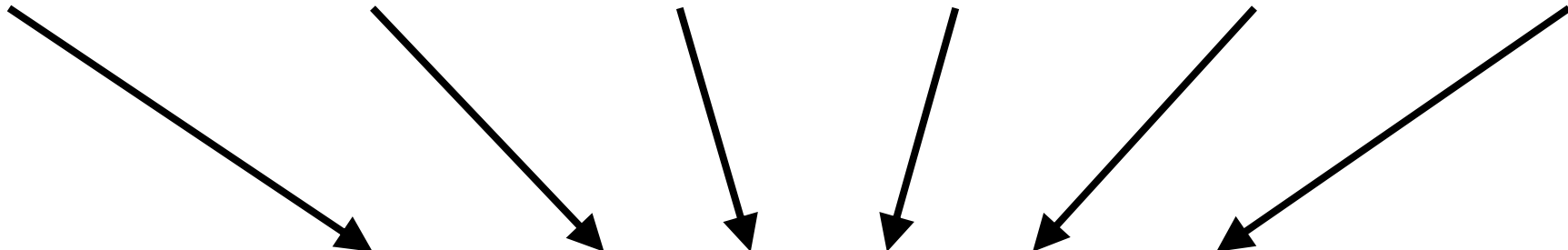
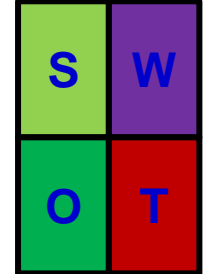
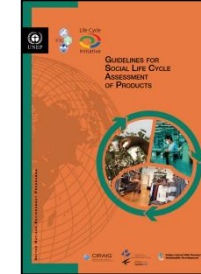
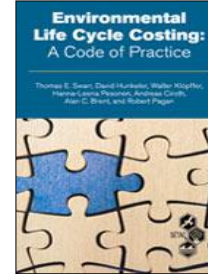
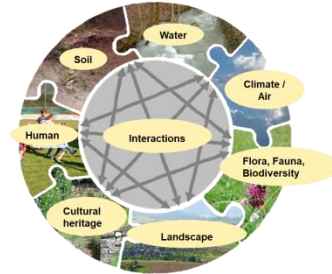
LCA

LC-EIA

LCC

sLCA

Policy Ass.



Integrated life cycle sustainability assessment

Crambe and Camelina pathways



Camelina



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Cultivation

Idle land
Double cropping
Productivity



© Andrei Merkulov / Fotolia

Oil use

MCFA
PA 11
PUFAs



Crambe



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Cake use

Feed
Insects



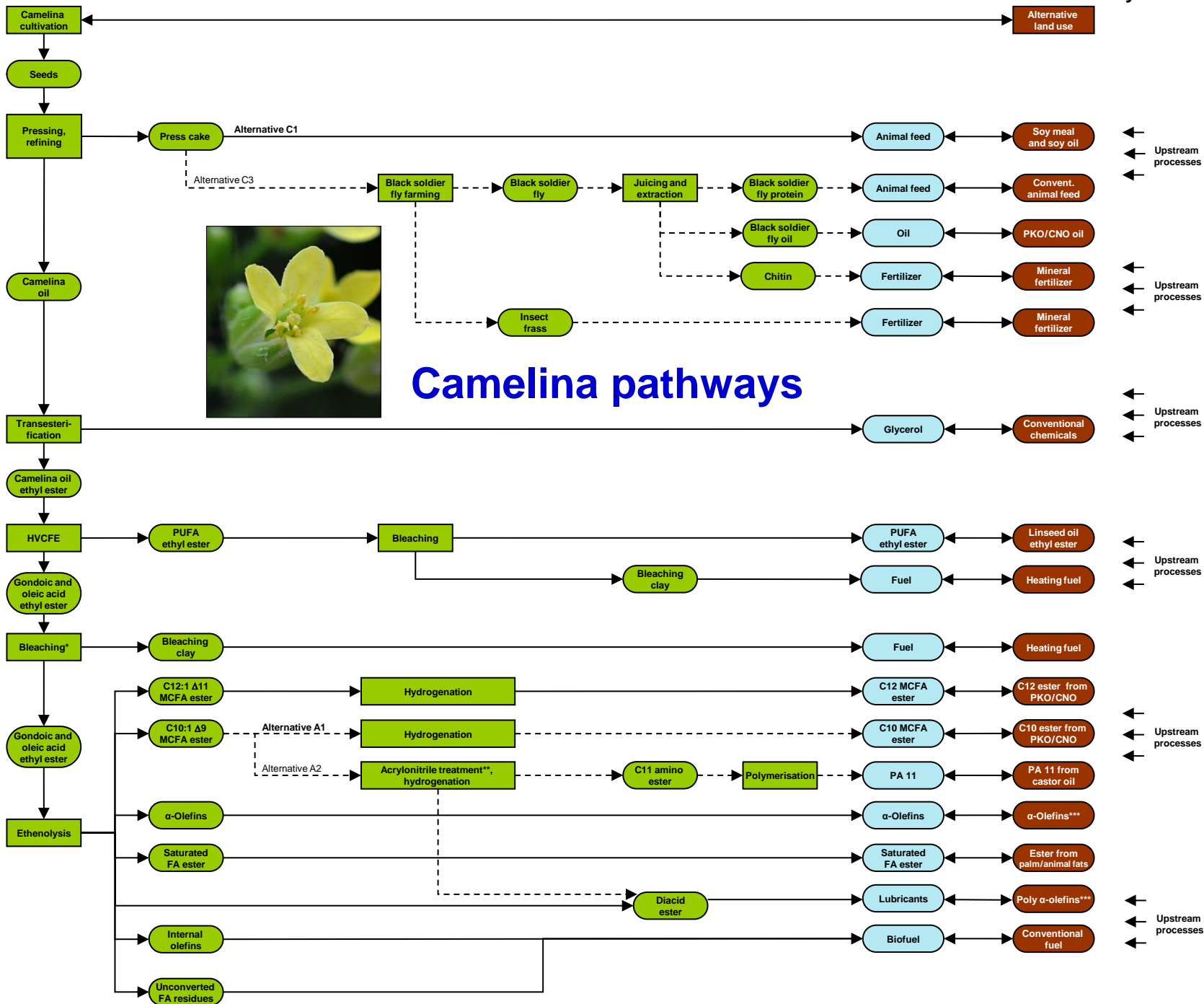
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Crambe hulls

No use
Bioenergy
Fertiliser

COSMOS: Camelina

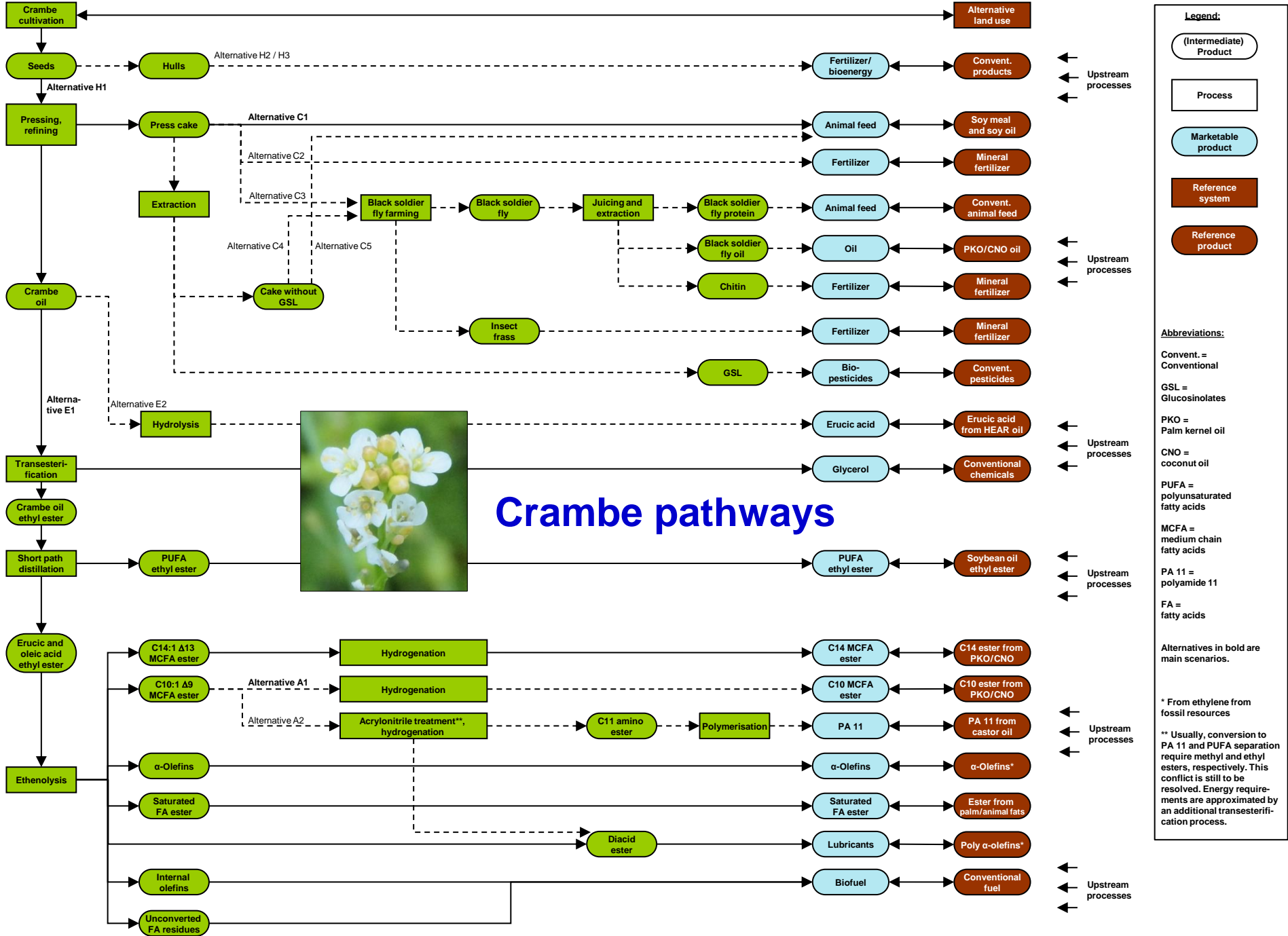
Reference System



Camelina pathways

COSMOS: Crambe

Reference System



Crambe and Camelina pathways



Camelina



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Cultivation



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Oil use



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Cake use



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Crambe hulls



Idle land
Double cropping
Productivity

MCFA
PA 11
PUFAs

Feed
Insects

No use
Bioenergy
Fertiliser

> 40
scenarios

Sustainability assessment

TA

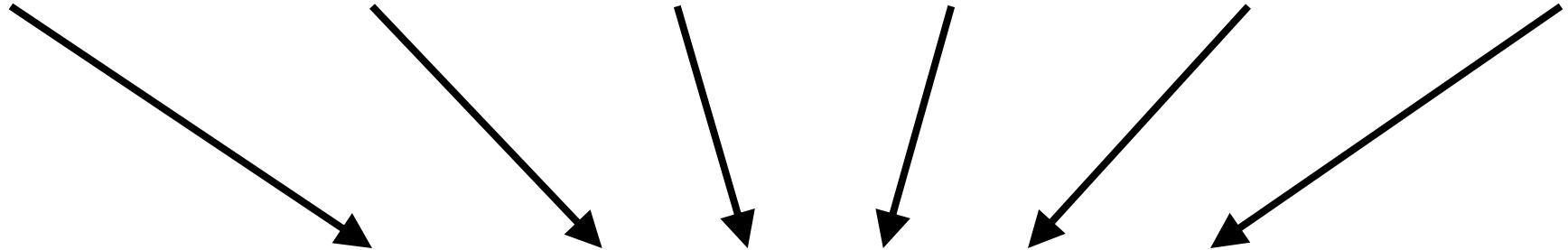
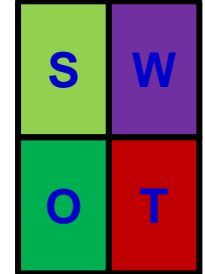
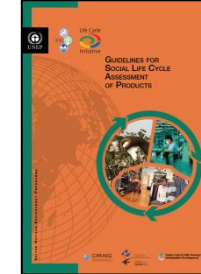
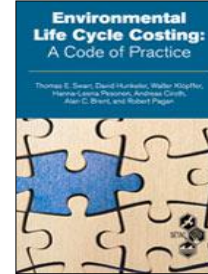
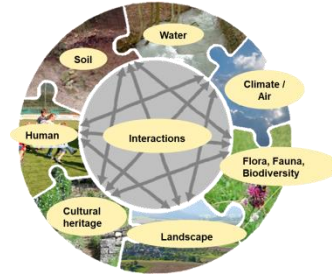
LCA

LC-EIA

LCC

sLCA

Policy Ass.



Integrated life cycle sustainability assessment

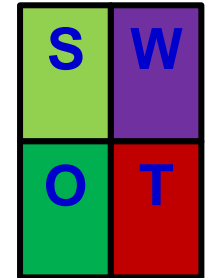
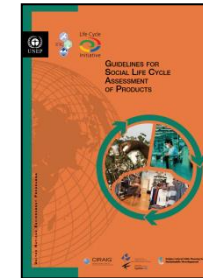
Technological assessment (TA)

TA-parameters under investigation

Process	pessimistic				optimistic			
	base	1c	1d	1f	base	1c	1d	1f
membrane	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
centrifuge	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
electrolysis	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
drier	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
azCO ₂	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
solvent	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
HPOCC	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
HRUC	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
average	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0
total	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40

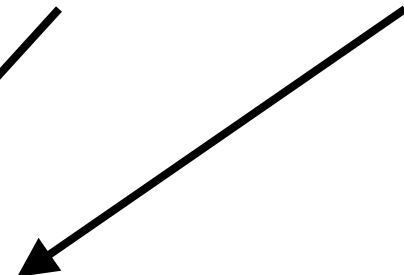
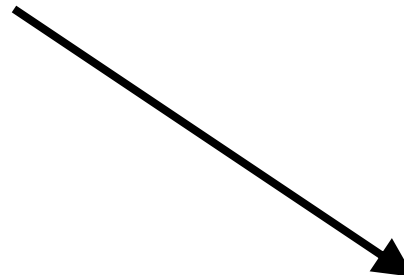


processes	pessimistic				optimistic			
	base	1c	1d	1f	base	1c	1d	1f
membrane	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
centrifuge	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
electrolysis	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
drier	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
azCO ₂	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
solvent	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
HPOCC	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
HRUC	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
average	6,4	6,8	7,1	6,2	6,8	7,1	7,3	6,7
total	51	55	58	56	55	57	61	60



processes	pessimistic				optimistic			
	base	1c	1d	1f	base	1c	1d	1f
membrane	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
centrifuge	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
electrolysis	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
drier	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
azCO ₂	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
solvent	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
HPOCC	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
SMR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HRUC	7	7	7	7	9	9	9	9
average	7,7	8,3	8,3	7,9	8,6	8,9	8,9	8,6
total	54	58	58	63	60	62	62	68

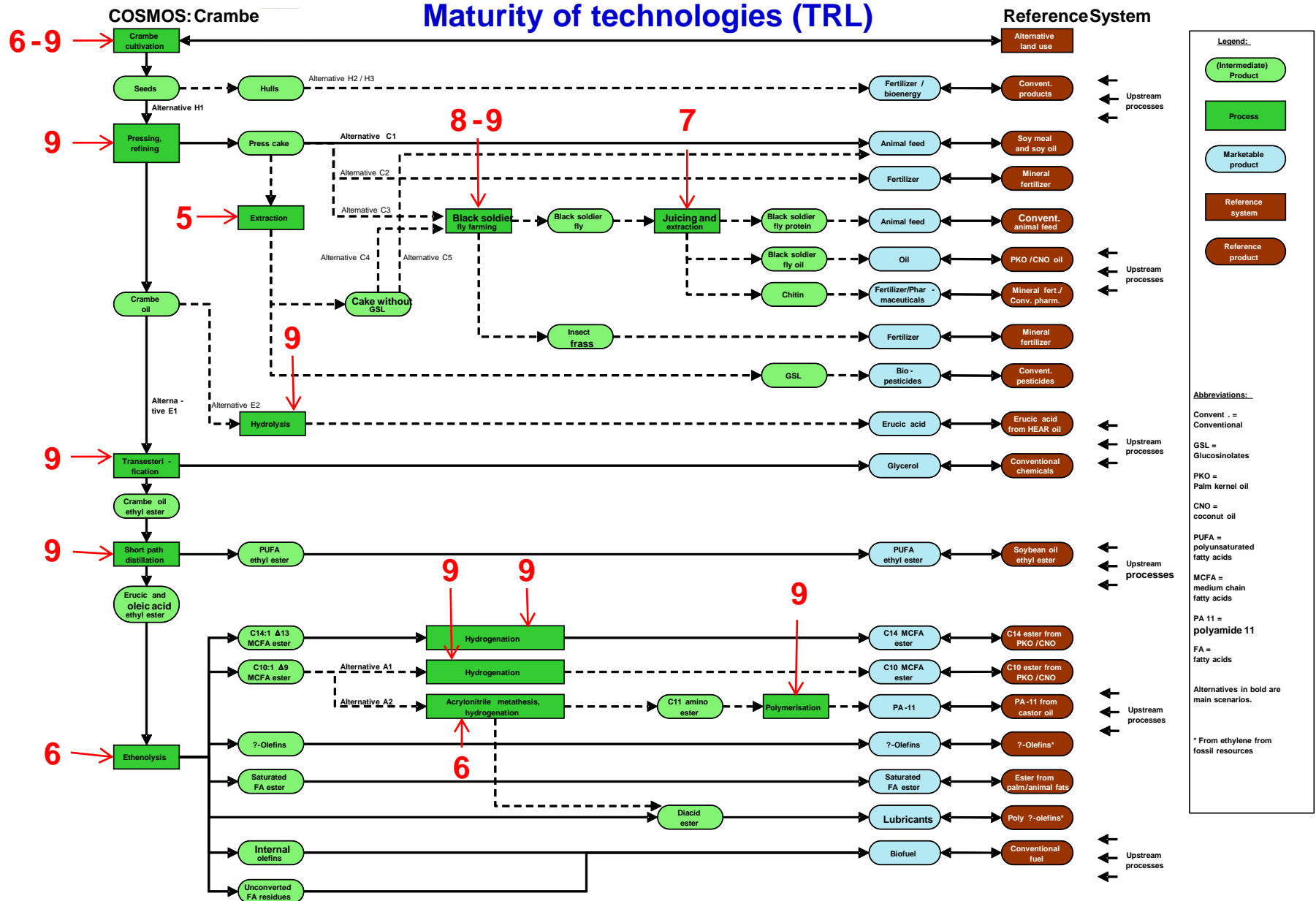
ment



Selected indicators

Indicator	Short description
Maturity	Technical maturity of involved processes on EC's technology readiness level (TRL) scale.
Vulnerability	Risk of not reaching expected performance because of downtimes etc.
Technological risk: Hazardous substances	Risk of product contaminations by e.g. toxic substances (hazard risk).
Technological risk: Explosions and fires	Risk of explosions and fires within industrial facilities like biorefineries (hazard risk).
Use of limited feedstock	Dependence on e. g. by-products of other processes as main feedstock (potential barrier).
Legislative framework and bureaucratic hurdles	Existing regulation that are hard to fulfil (potential barrier).
Availability of infrastructure	Availability of required storage, plants, installations and facilities (potential barrier).

Technological Assessment

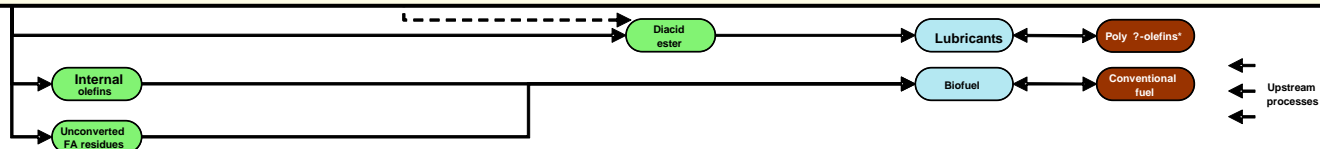


Technological Assessment



Exemplary results

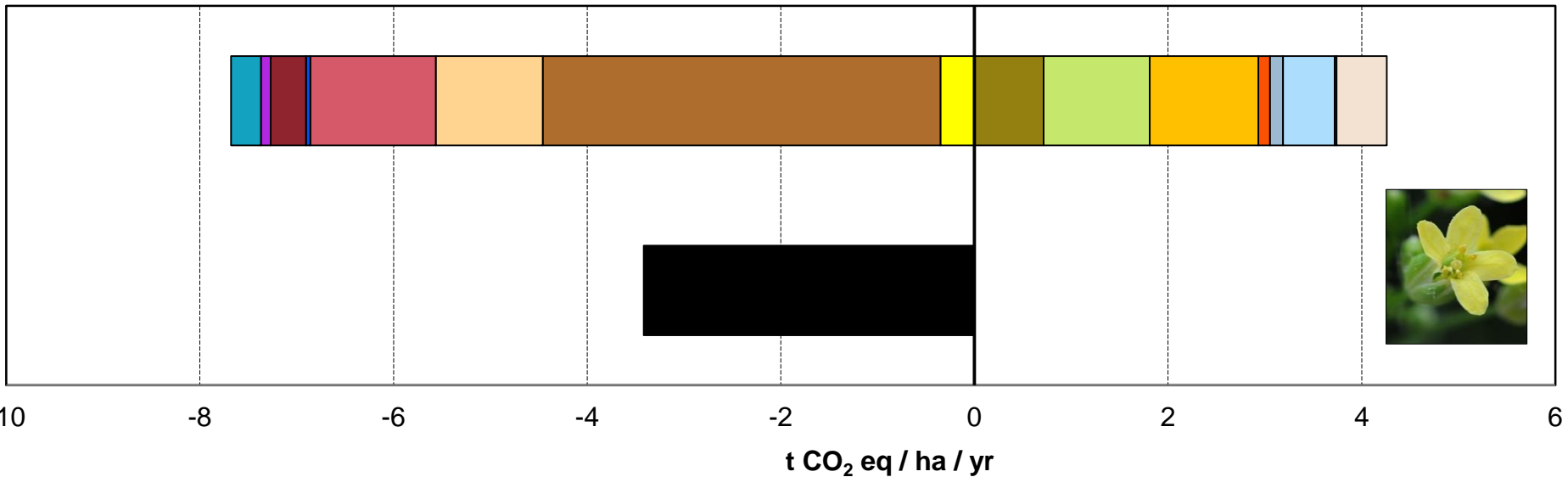
- Technology readiness levels of the processes of the main pathway configuration already well-established (TRL 9), except for ethenolysis (TRL 6).
- Harvest technology especially for Crambe seeds needs further development.
- Separation technology for hulls not yet mature.
- ...



Greenhouse gas balance – Camelina, main scenario

← Advantages

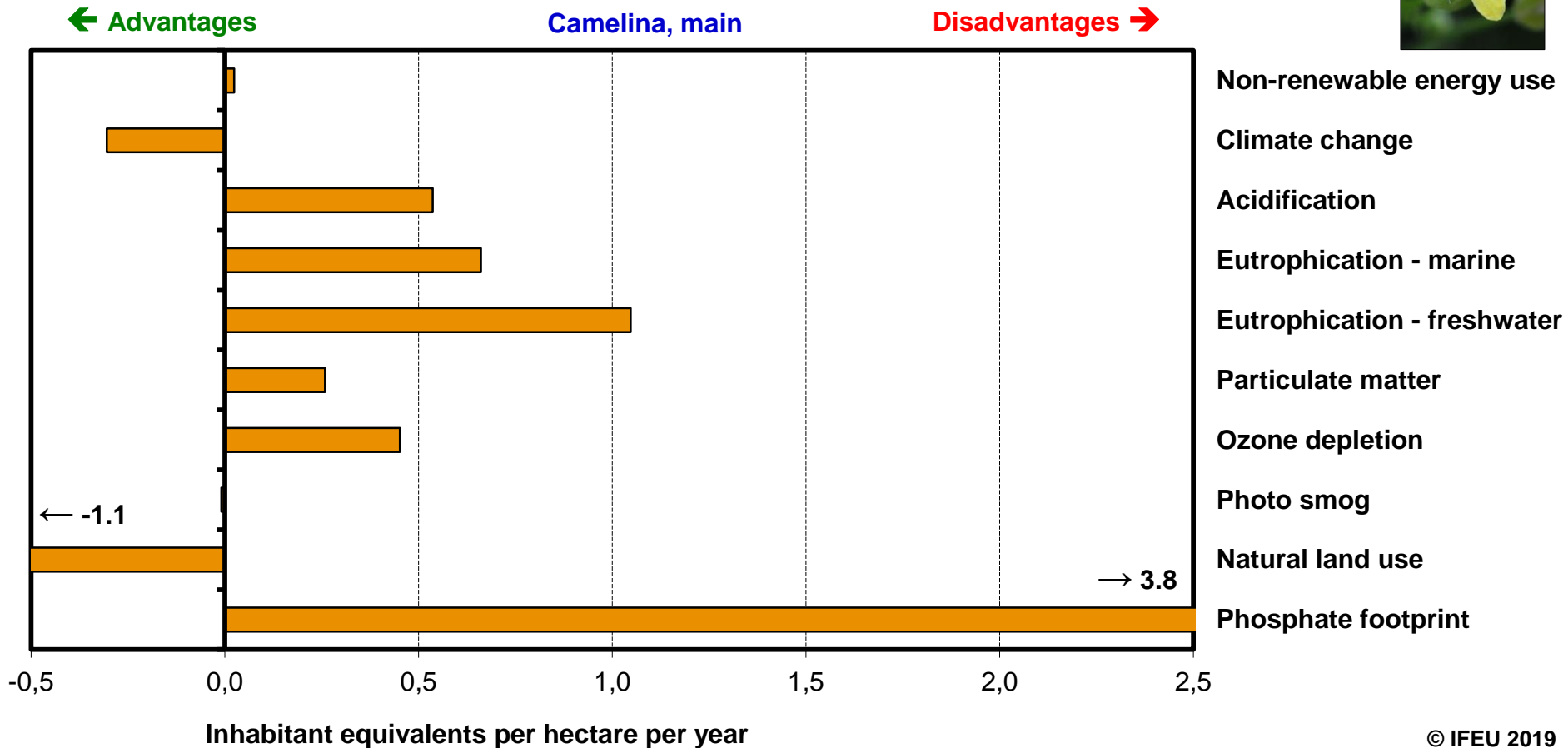
Disadvantages →



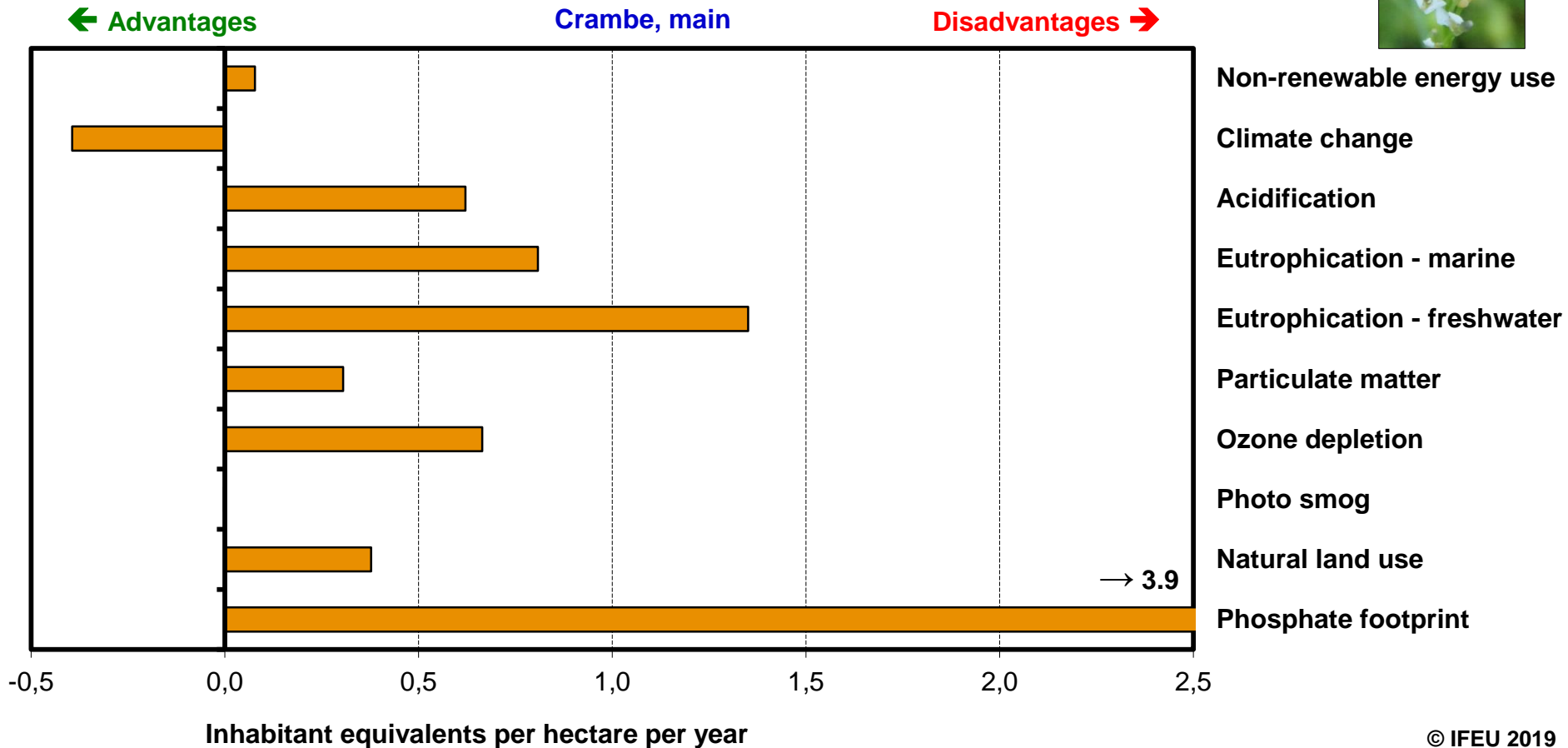
- Agriculture: diesel and others
- Agriculture: land use change
- Pressing, refining
- Credits: glycerol
- Conversion: ethenolysis and hydrogenation
- Credits: polyunsaturated fatty acid esters
- Credits: lubricants
- Credits: saturated fatty acids
- Net result

- Agriculture: fertiliser
- Transports and pre-treatment
- Conversion: transesterification
- Conversion: HVCFE
- Credits: cake as animal feed
- Credits: medium chain fatty acid esters
- Credits: α-olefins
- Credits: internal olefins and long chain fatty esters

LCA results for **camelina**, all impact categories



LCA results for **crambe**, all impact categories

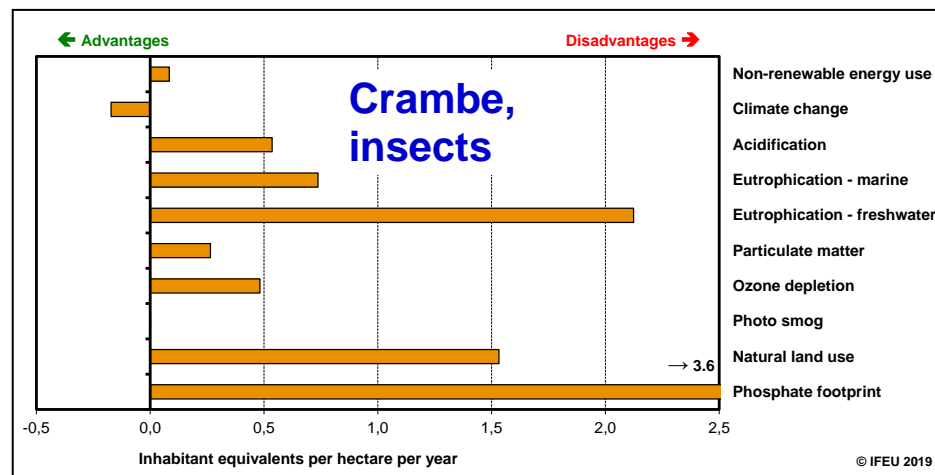
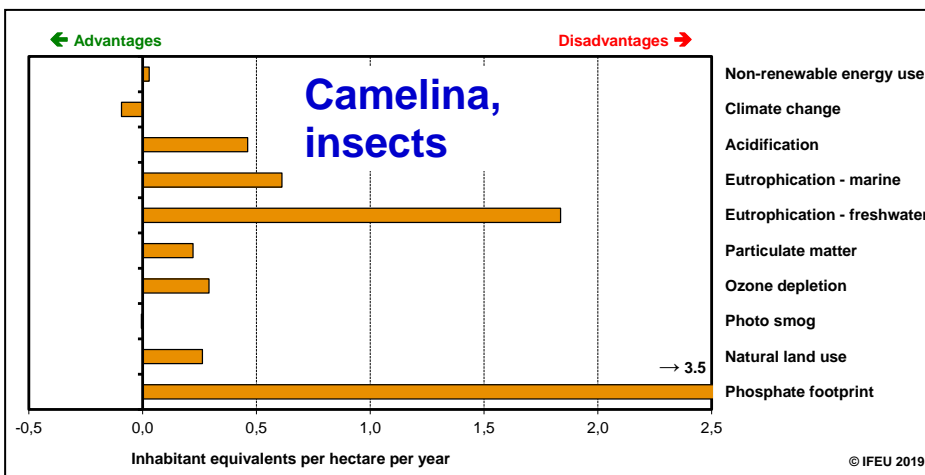
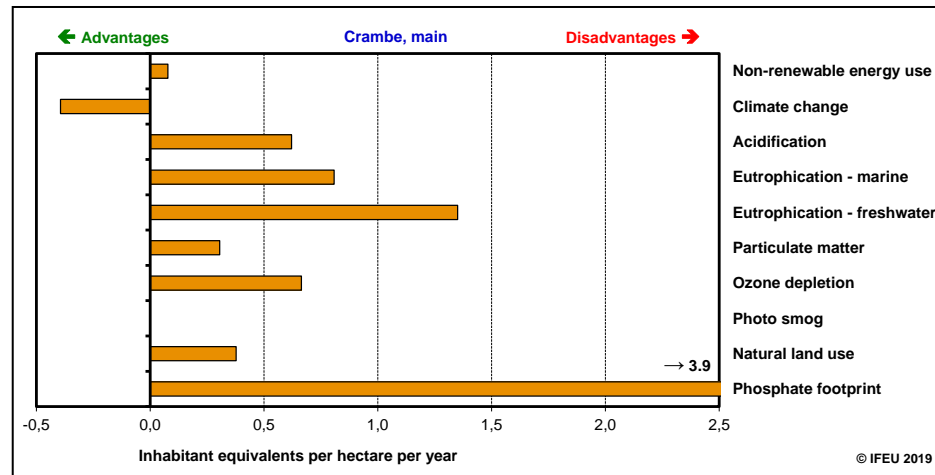
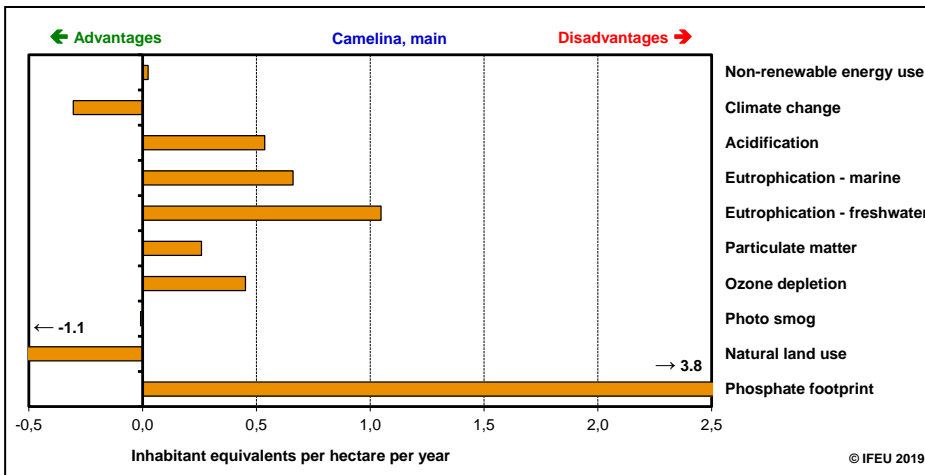


Environmental Assessment: Results

Camelina



Crambe



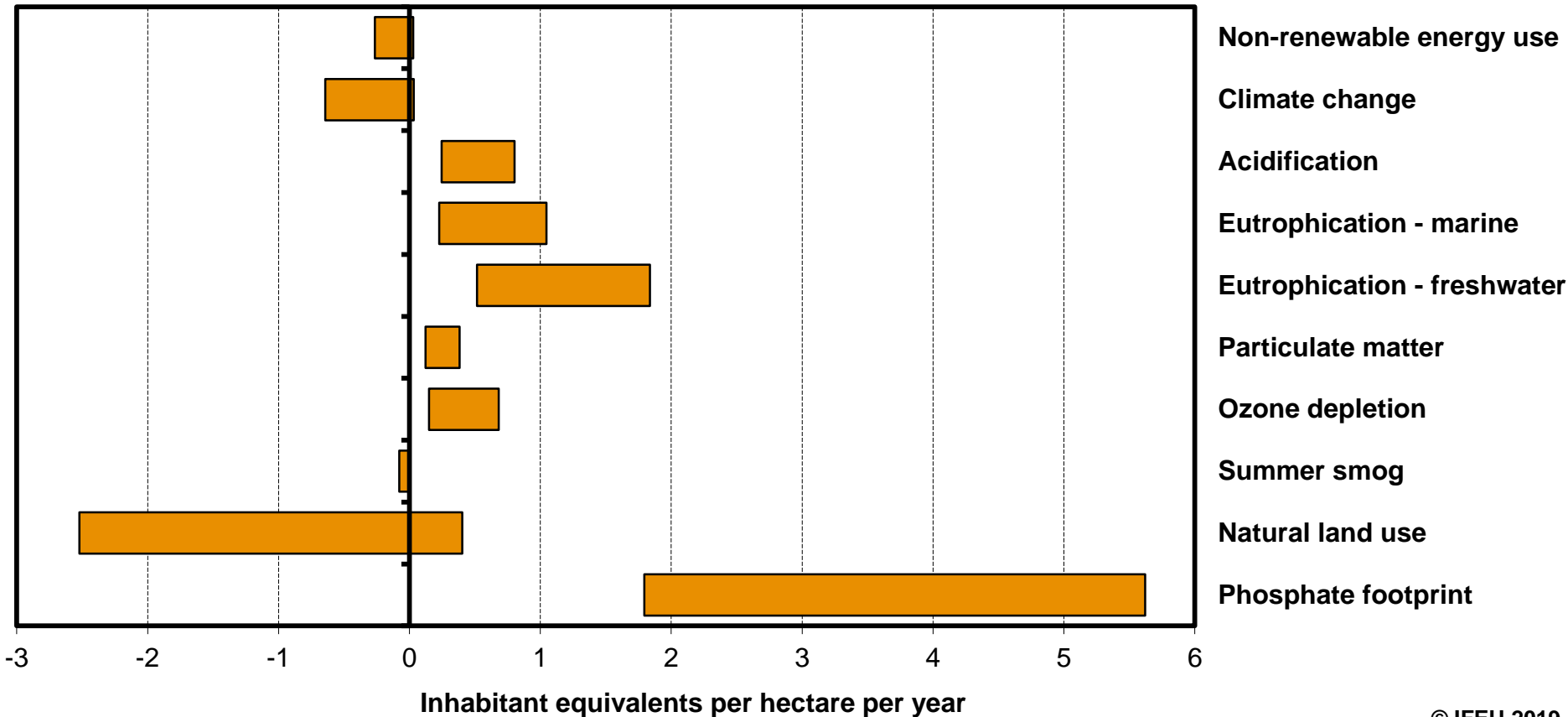
LCA results for **camelina**, all impact categories



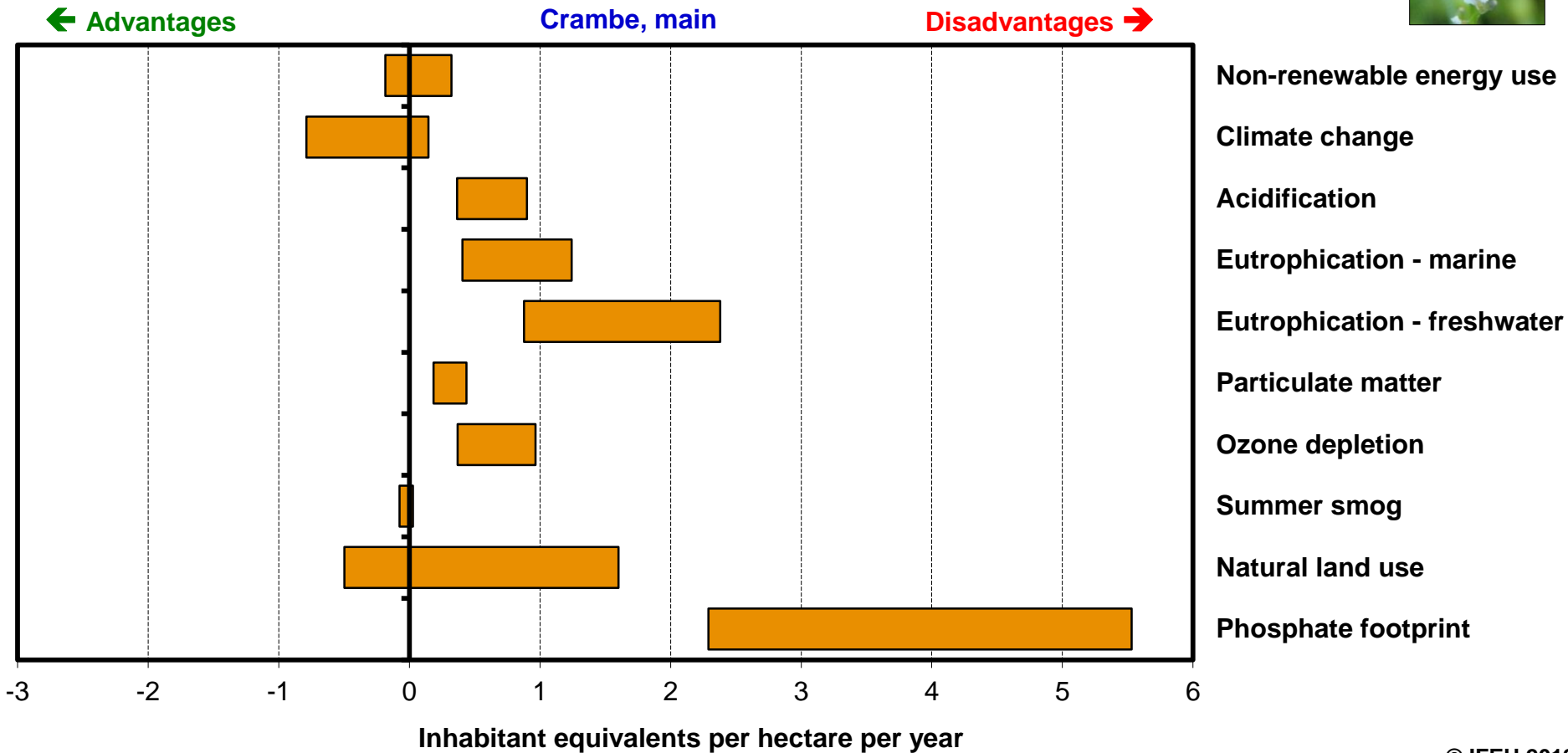
← Advantages

Camelina, main

Disadvantages →



LCA results for **crambe**, all impact categories



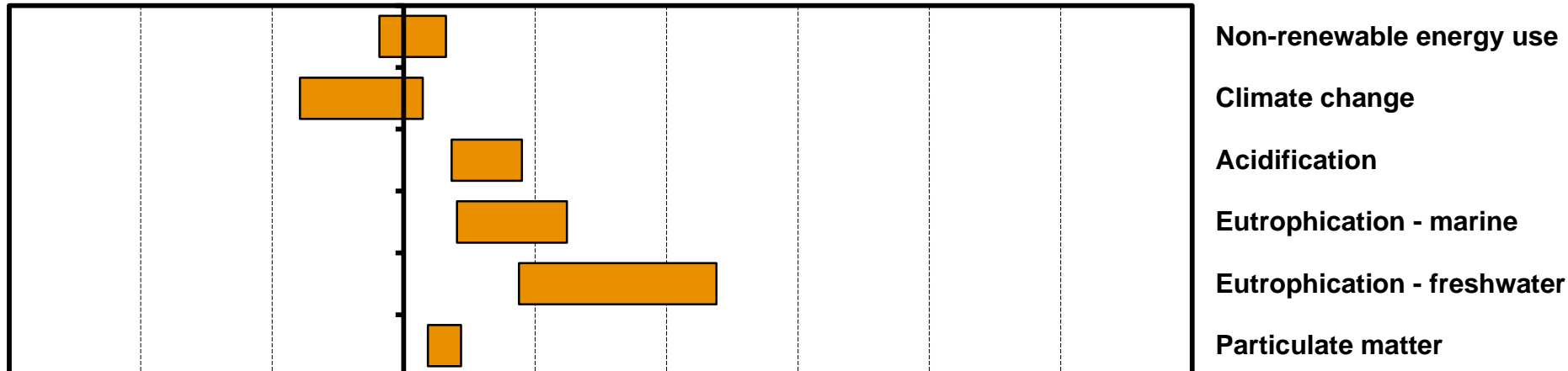
LCA results for **crambe**, all impact categories



← Advantages

Crambe, main

Disadvantages →



→ Big result bandwidths depending on pathway configuration and specific conditions

→ Many options to optimise the benefits and minimise the burdens.

Environmental Assessment: Results

LC-EIA, exemplary results

Technology / Product	COSMOS			Reference system		
	Oil mill	Biorefinery		Oil mill	Biorefinery (65% - 75%)	Oil refinery / chemical plant (35% - 25%)
	Animal feed	Oleochemicals	Bioenergy/ biofuel	Animal feed	Oleochemicals	Industrial chemicals, fuel
	Impacts resulting from construction phase					
Construction works	C	C	C	C	C	C
	Impacts related to buildings, infrastructure and installations					
Buildings, infrastructure and installations (size and height)	A ¹ / E ²	A ¹ / E ²	A ¹ / E ²	A ¹ / E ²	A ¹ / E ²	A ¹ / E ²
	Impacts resulting from operation phase					
Emission of noise	B	D	D	C	D	D
Emission of gases and particulate matter	B	C	C	C	C	D
Emission of light	B	C	C	C	C	C
Drain of water resources for production	A	D	D	B	D	D
Waste water production and treatment	A	D	D	B	D	D
Traffic (collision risk, emissions)	D / E	D / E	D / E	D / E	D / E	C ³
Disposal of wastes / residues	B	B	B	B	B	C
Risk of accidents (explosion, fire in the facility or storage areas, release of GMO)	C	C	C	C	C	E ^{3,5,6}

Environmental Assessment: Results



LC-EIA, exemplary results

Technology / Product	COSMOS		Reference system		
	Oil mill	Biorefinery	Oil mill	Biorefinery	Oil refinery / chemical plant
Crop / Land use reference system	COSMOS		COSMOS reference system		
	Camelina	P	Soy bean	Linseed	
Type of risk	Crop / Land use reference system Type of risk	COSMOS		COSMOS reference system	
Soil erosion		Crambe	P	Soy bean	
Soil compaction		idle land	r	rain forest	Cerrado
Loss of soil organic matter			E	E	E
Eutrophication		B	E	E	E
Water demand		A	E	E	E
Weed control / pesticides		B	E	E	E
Loss of biodiversity		A	E	E	E
Traffic (collision risk, emissions)		B	E	E	E
Disposal of wastes / residues		B	E	E	E
Risk of accidents (explosion, fire in the facility or storage area, release of GMO)	C	E	E	E	

LC-EIA, exemplary results

Technology /	COSMOS		Reference system	
			Biorefinery	Oil refinery /

Exemplary results

- Overall biodiversity conservation is possible with some pathways, especially with crambe, though also with camelina to a lesser extent.
- Especially, savings of tropical forests are possible.
- For crambe: more land is occupied than saved. But strong benefits per hectare of saved land (biodiversity, habitats, ...).
- Very promising results for double cropping of camelina.
- ...

Crop rotations

Crop rotations of camelina and winter wheat



Crop rotations of camelina and winter wheat



→ **Most sustainable option: double cropping
(though for camelina only)**



Key results

- **Overall environmental advantages for camelina or crambe pathways cannot be stated for all options.**
- **Chance for considerable savings of greenhouse gases and rain forests with benefits for local biodiversity.**
- **The results are dominated by the use of the press cake. The substitution of palm / coconut / castor oil is of minor relevance.**
- **Promising results for double cropping of camelina.**

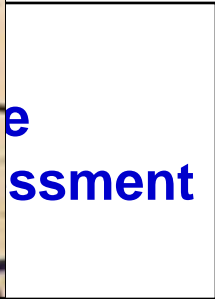
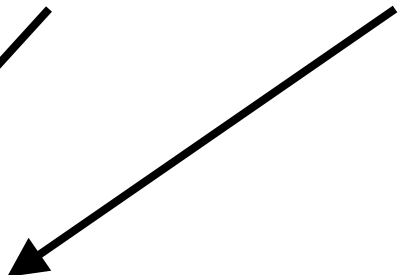
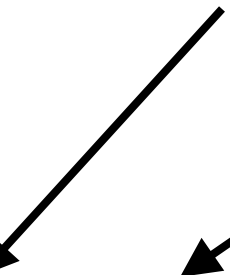
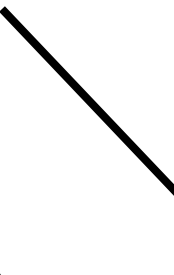
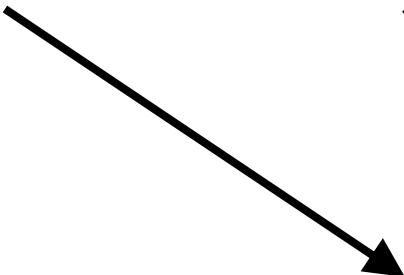
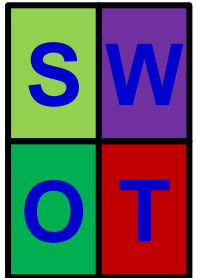
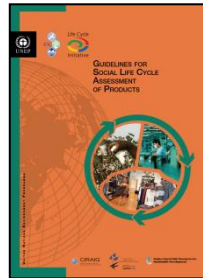
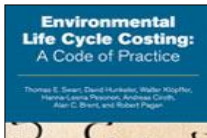
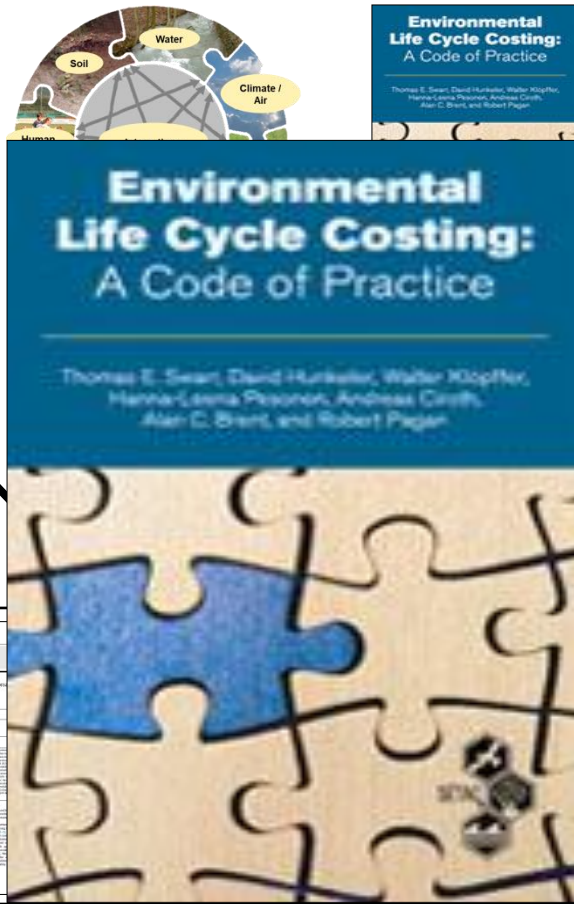


Recommendations

- **The numerous co-products should each undergo their best use options.**
- **A displacement of other crops should be avoided.**
- **Double cropping of camelina should be further developed, e.g. by testing adapted crop rotations and publishing concrete guidelines for farmers.**

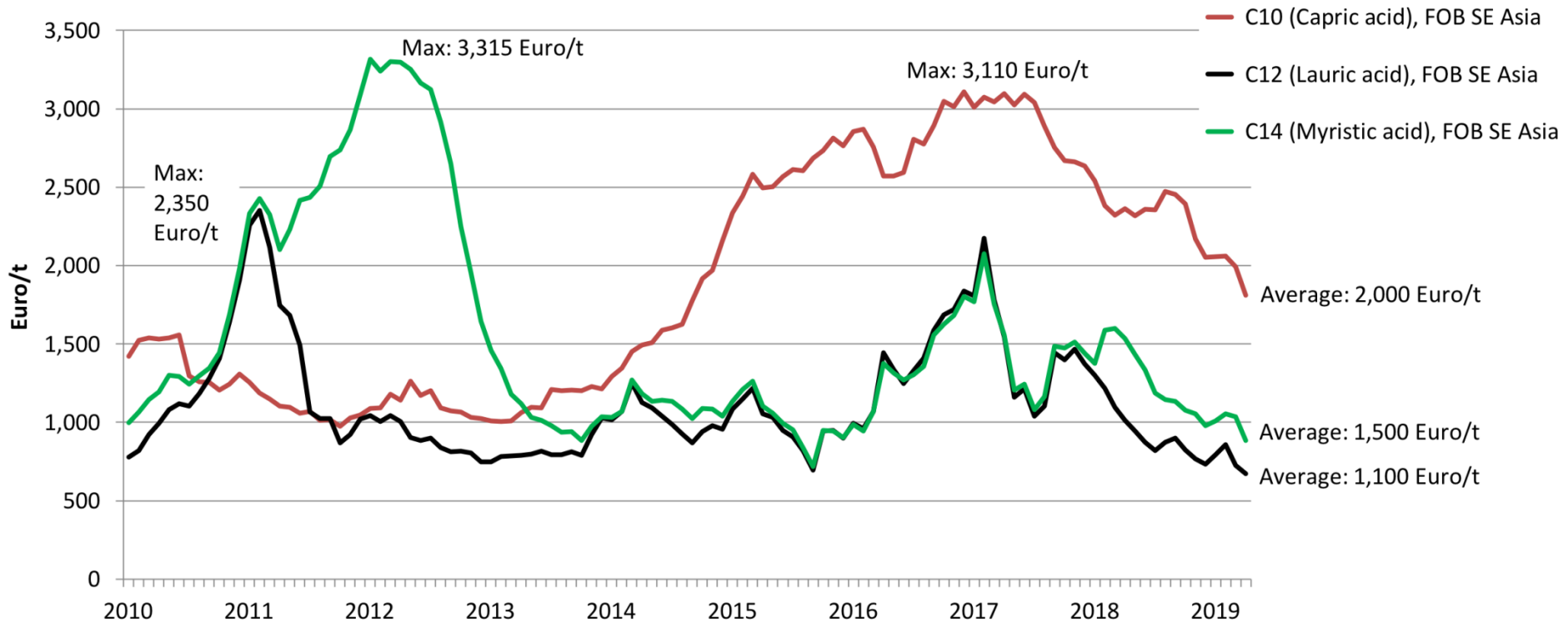
Life cycle costing (LCC)

Environmental impact	Environmental impact				Environmental impact			
	Soil	Water	Air	Climate	Soil	Water	Air	Climate
Construction	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Use	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
End of life	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Overall	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1



Selected results

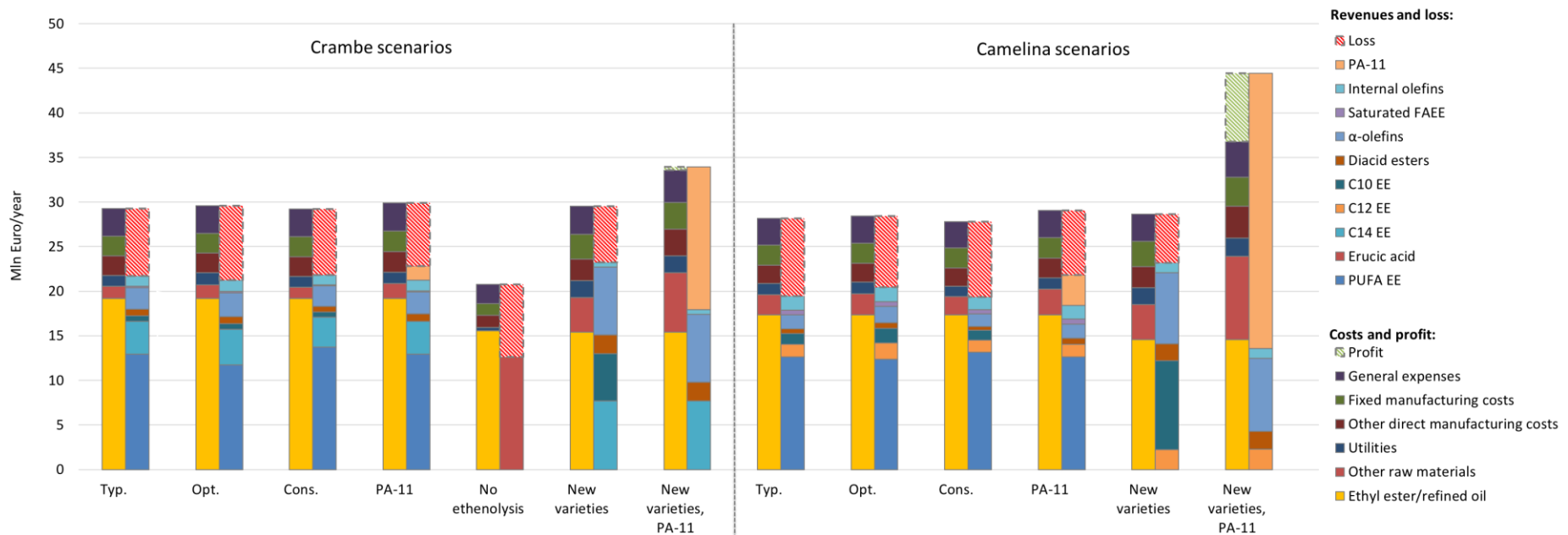
Prices for C10-C14 fatty acids, 2010-2019



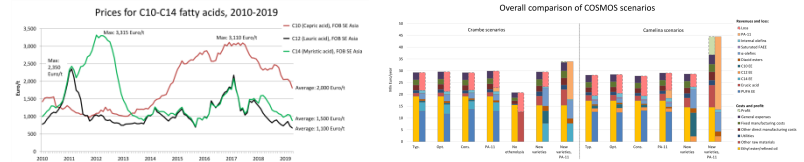
Source: ICIS

Selected results

Overall comparison of COSMOS scenarios



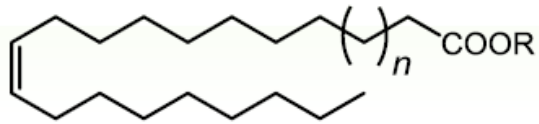
Selected results



- **Today, Camelina and Crambe, respectively, are not competitive for large scale cultivation and use.**
- **Main bottlenecks are**
 - **comparably high costs for agricultural production**

Crambe abyssinica

- Seed yield 1.500 – 4.000 kg / ha
- Oil content > 38 %
- Oil yield 600 – 900 kg / ha
- Erucic acid (C22:1): 60 - 65 %



$n = 3$: erucic acid (C22:1n9)

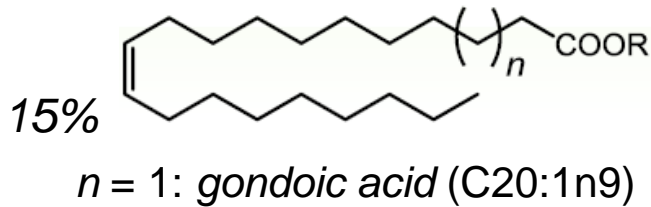
- Too much C18:2 + C18:3
- **Too much glucosinolates**



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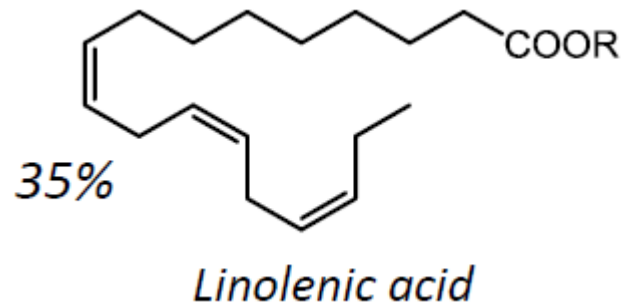
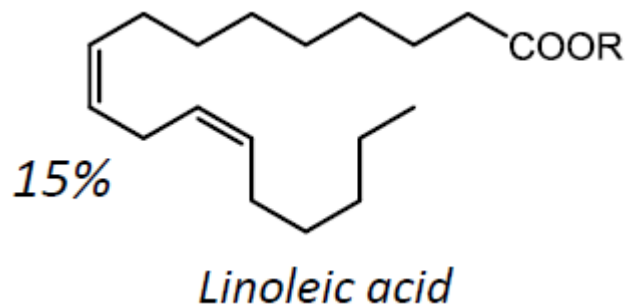
Camelina sativa

- Seed yield 1.500 – 3.500 kg / ha
- Oil content > 40 %
- Oil yield 600 – 900 kg / ha
- Gondoic acid (C20:1): 15 %

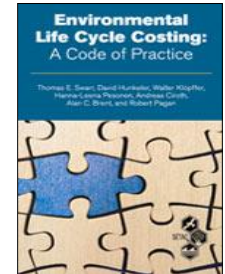


- (Too) high in C18:2 + C18:3 (linoleic+ linolenic acid): 50 %

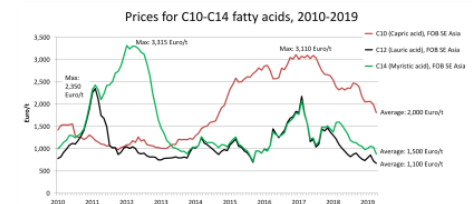
Source: www.cosmos-H2020.eu



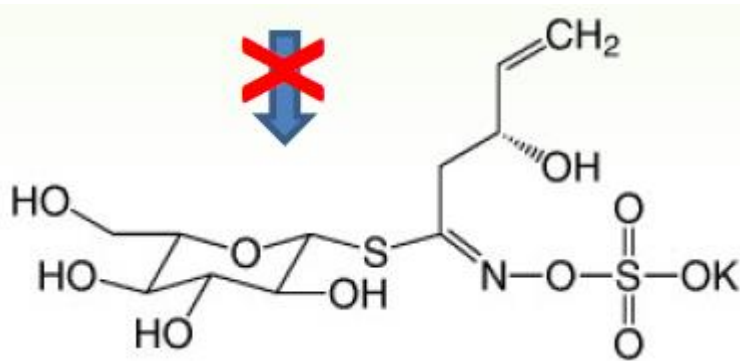
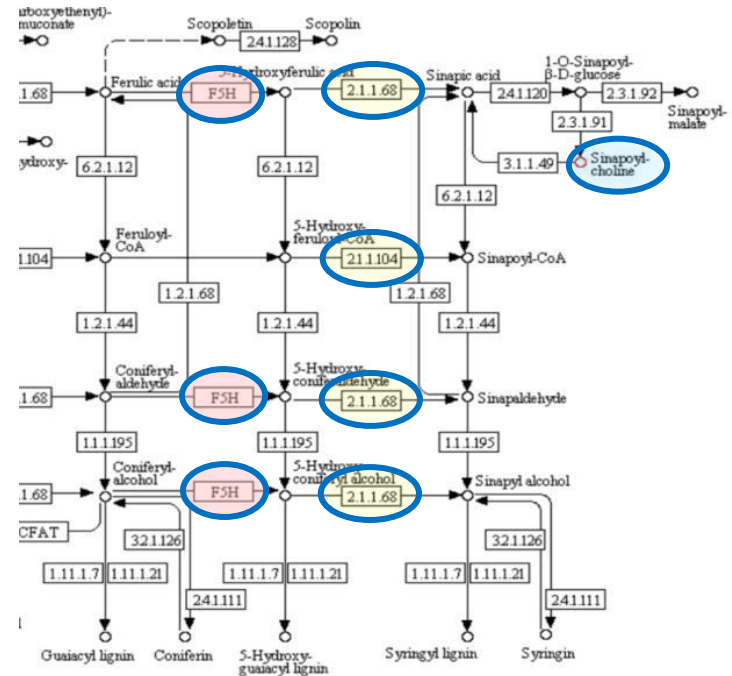
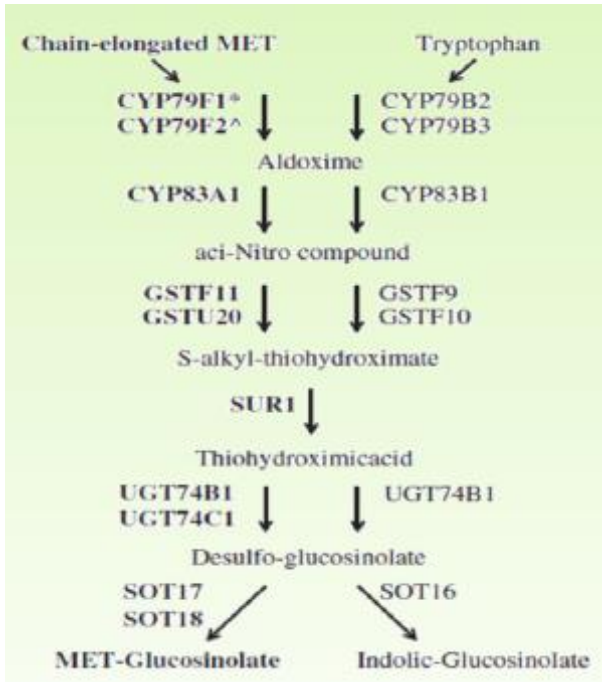
Selected results



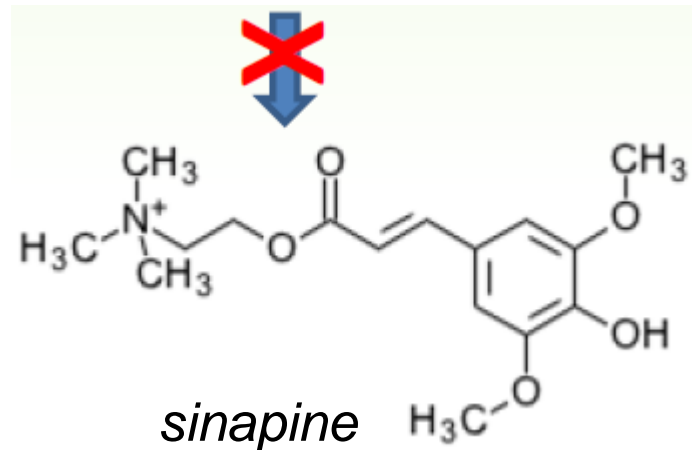
- Today, Camelina and Crambe, respectively, are not competitive for large scale cultivation and use.
- Main bottlenecks are
 - comparably high costs for agricultural production
 - comparably low revenues for the oil cake
 - high fluctuation in revenues for the oil components



Knocking out **glucosinolates** in crambe, and **sinapine** in camelina



epi - progoitrin



sinapine

- **“Classical” breeding**

- Find natural mutants (forward or reverse screens)
 - Look at the trait (forward screen) or find natural mutations in the gene itself
 - Often no such mutants present in nature
 - (Back)crossing, selection and selfing

- **Induce mutations**

- Chemically (e.g. EMS to get single nucleotide changes rendering the target gene non-functional)
- Radiation
- All allowed without regulation although considered GM in EU, USA, Australia, Asia
- In Canada: regulated through novel plant trait regulation

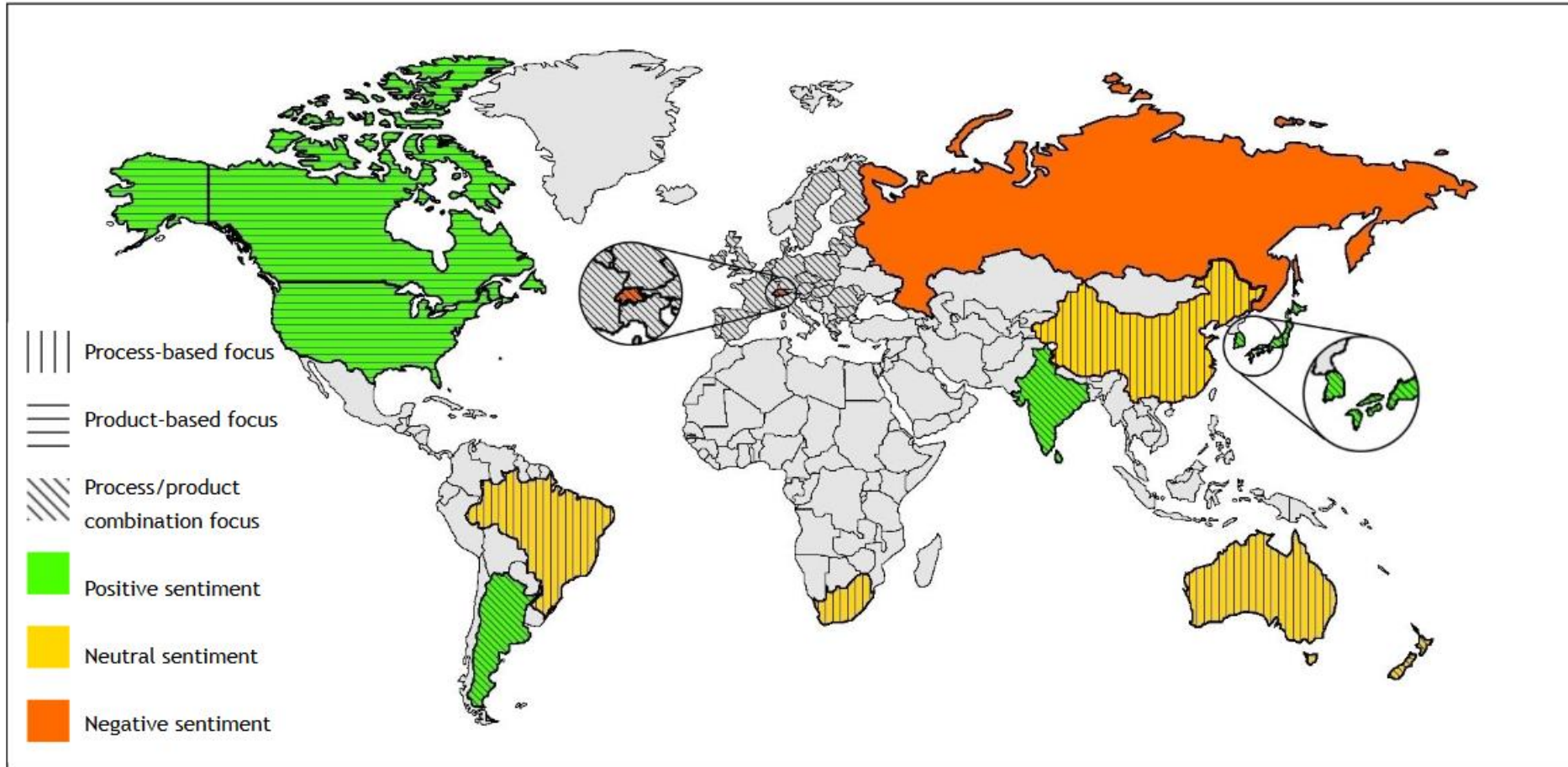
- **Transgenesis** (genetic modification) / **Cisgenesis**

- Introduction of new DNA into the genomes of organisms
- “trans” = from other species (‘hardcore’ genetic modification)
- “cis” = from the same species (some people argue that less regulation is needed)
- Process based regulation in EU, China, Australia, Brazil
- Product-based (more case-by-case) regulation in USA, Canada, Argentina (mixed)
- Knock-outs/downregulation e.g. using RNAi

- **“Classical” (random) mutation breeding** (e.g. EMS, radiation):
 - Europe and USA: no GMO regulation,
 - Canada: same regulation as GMOs; novel plant traits to be evaluated
- **Gene-editing or targeted mutation breeding**
 - Zinc fingers/TALENs, CRISPR mutants: safety same as EMS mutants, but regulated as GMO in EU
 - CRISPR without transformation (example in Sweden in potato) → some EU countries want to allow this using rules for non-GMO
- **Oligonucleotide-directed mutagenesis:** still regulated as GMO in EU

Attitude towards gene editing / CRISPR

Annex E: Figure 'World map showing sentiment towards NBTs and regulatory focus, based on interviews and collected information' (updated May 2015)



Source: Annex D

<https://www.nbtplatform.org/background-documents/rep-regulatory-status-of-nbts-oustide-the-eu-june-2015.pdf>

- **What will happen if USA approves a CRISPR crop without labelling and extensive safety approval?**
- **Will EU block the import?**
- **How would the EU “see” a crop was “CRISPR-ed”?**
 - **Virtually impossible if target genes are not revealed**
 - **YIELD10 is an example of approved camelina with target genes not revealed!**
- **WTO may forbid EU to block the import!**
 - **Massive production of CRISPR crops in China and USA will flood EU markets?**

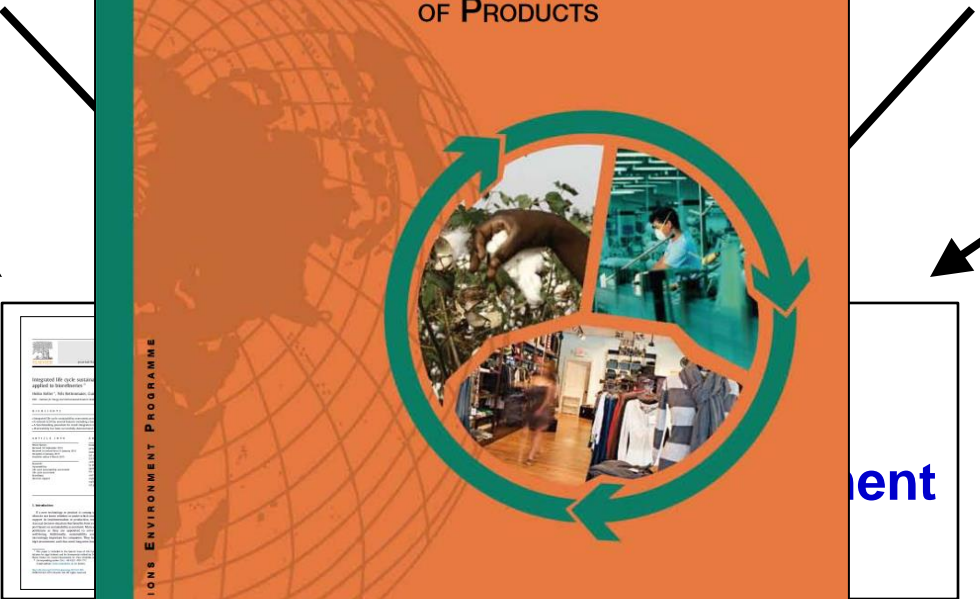
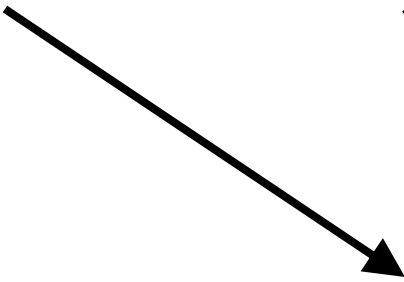
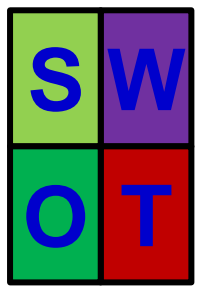
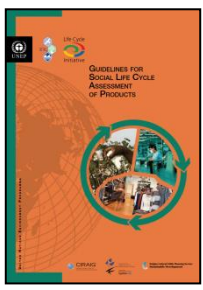
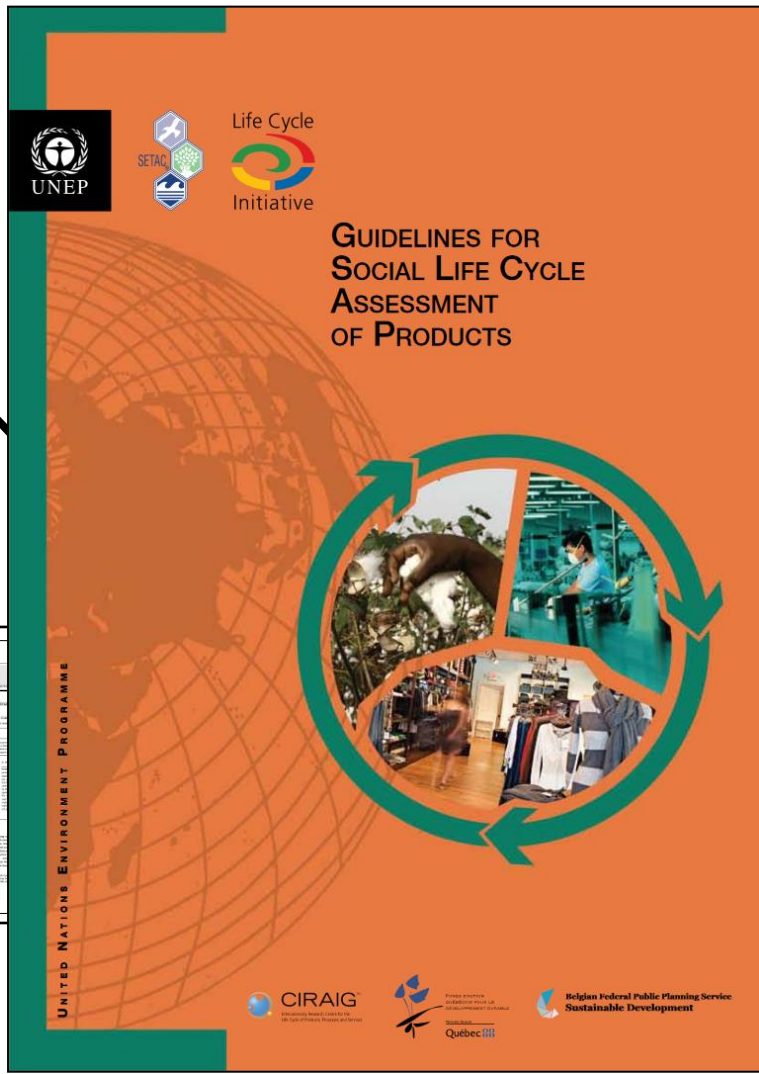


Conclusions

- **Camelina and Crambe not yet competitive**
- **Bottlenecks can be solved**
- **Transition phase necessary**

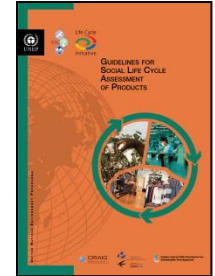
Social life cycle assessment (sLCA)

Environmental impact category	Reference scenario			Reference scenario		
	Score	SI	SI	Score	SI	SI
Global warming potential	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Acid equivalent	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Ozone depletion potential	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Photochemical ozone creation potential	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Human toxicity potential	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Ecotoxicity potential	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Land use	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Water use	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Mineral resource use	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Carbon footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Energy footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Water footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Land footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Material footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Waste footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
SO ₂ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
NO _x footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PM ₁₀ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PM _{2.5} footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CO ₂ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CH ₄ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
N ₂ O footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CO footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
SO ₂ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
NO _x footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PM ₁₀ footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PM _{2.5} footprint	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0 </tr		



ment

Key findings



- **Main social impacts in Europe is expected on development of rural areas: big benefit.**
- **Also, diversification can lead to a more stable social security.**

Integrated life cycle sustainability assessment (ILCSA)

Sustainability	LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)			SOCIAL LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (SLCA)			LIFE CYCLE COSTING (LCC)		
	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	ECONOMIC	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	ECONOMIC	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	ECONOMIC
Goal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Methodology	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Output	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Integration	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36



Integrated life cycle sustainability assessment – A practical approach applied to biorefineries[☆]

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Integrated life cycle sustainability assessment provides ex-ante decision support.
- It extends LCSA by several features including a barrier analysis.
- A benchmarking procedure for result integration is presented.
- Practicability has been successfully demonstrated in five large EC-funded projects.

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ABSTRACT

Politics and industry increasingly request comprehensive ex-ante decision support from a sustainability perspective in complex strategic decision situations. Several approaches have been introduced in the last years to increase the comprehensiveness of life cycle based assessments from covering only environmental aspects towards covering all sustainability aspects. This way, (environmental) life cycle assessment (LCA) has been extended towards life cycle sustainability assessment (LCSA). However, a practical application in ex-ante decision support requires additional features and flexibility that do not exist in the newly devised frameworks. Our methodology of integrated life cycle sustainability assessment (ILCSA) builds upon existing frameworks, extends them with features for ex-ante assessments that increase the value for decision makers and introduces a structured discussion of results to derive concrete conclusions and recommendations. At the same time, the flexibility allows for focusing on those sustainability aspects relevant in the respective decision situation using the best available methodology for assessing each aspect within the overarching ILCSA. ILCSA has so far been successfully applied in five large EC-funded projects. We discuss our methodology based on a concrete application example from these projects.
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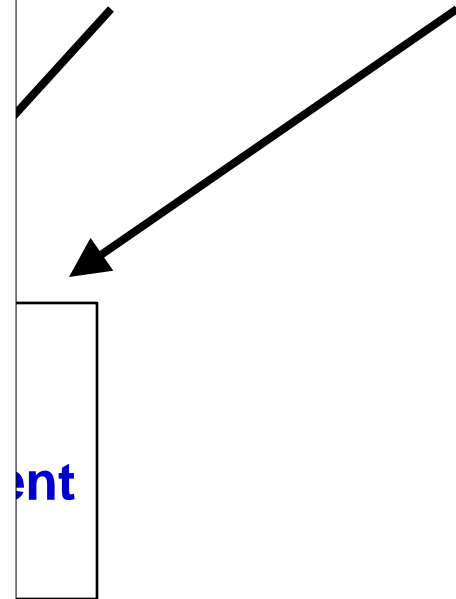
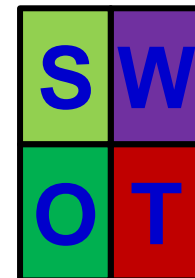
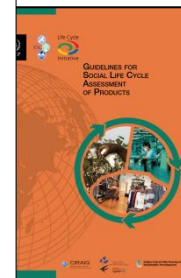
1. Introduction

If a new technology or product is coming up, decision makers often do not know whether or under which conditions they should support its implementation or production, respectively. This is a classical decision situation that benefits from ex-ante decision support based on sustainability assessment. Main addressees are often politicians as they are appointed to serve long-term public well-being. Additionally, sustainability assessment becomes increasingly important for companies. They have to decide about high investments and thus need long-term business perspectives,

which are more and more influenced by sustainability-related legislation and public perception. Therefore, the proactive interest of companies in their impacts on sustainability and in potential pitfalls is rising.

Several approaches for comprehensive sustainability assessments of products or processes along their whole life cycles have been suggested in the last years [1–3]. The term life cycle sustainability assessment (LCSA), which is used in this context, was introduced as a combination of (environmental) life cycle assessment (LCA), life cycle costing (LCC) and social life cycle assessment (sLCA) [1]. The suggested LCSA approaches extend existing methodologies and often also provide options how to integrate results into one or few scores [4]. Heijungs et al. discuss options of modelling and integrating the assessment procedure and Finkbeiner et al. highlight possibilities of integrating the results obtained for different sustainability aspects [2,3]. The UNEP/

[☆] This paper is included in the Special Issue of Life Cycle Analysis and Energy Balance for algal biofuels and for biomaterials edited by Dr. Kyriakos Maniatis, Dr. Mario Trelići, Dr. David Chazamone, Dr. Vitor Verdeho and Prof. Van.
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 E-mail address: heiko.keller@ifeu.de (H. Keller).



ILCSA, exemplary results

Conservative performance												Optimistic performance									
COSMOS scenarios												COSMOS scenarios									
Scenario 1 Crambe main	Scenario 2 Camelina main	Scenario 3 Crambe hulls as fertiliser	Scenario 4 Crambe hulls to energy	Scenario 5 Crambe Cake as fertiliser	Scenario 6 Crambe cake for insects	Scenario 7 Crambe GSL extraction	Scenario 8 Camelina cake for insects	Scenario 9 Crambe PA 11	Scenario 10 Crambe erucic acid	Scenario 11 Camelina PA 11	Scenario 1 Crambe main	Scenario 2 Camelina main	Scenario 3 Crambe hulls as fertiliser	Scenario 4 Crambe hulls to energy	Scenario 5 Crambe Cake as fertiliser	Scenario 6 Crambe cake for insects	Scenario 7 Crambe GSL extraction	Scenario 8 Camelina cake for insects	Scenario 9 Crambe PA 11	Scenario 10 Crambe erucic acid	Scenario 11 Camelina PA 11

Indicator	Unit
Technology	
Maturity	-
Legislative framework and bureaucratic hurdles	-
Availability of competent support systems	-
Vulnerability	-
Complexity	-
Biological risk	-
Technological risk:	-
Hazardous substances	-
Environment	
Global warming	t CO ₂ eq. / ha/yr
Energy resources	GJ / ha/yr
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO ₂ eq. / ha/yr
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq. / ha/yr
Freshwater eutrophication	g P eq. / ha/yr
Photochemical smog	kg ethene eq. / ha/yr
Ozone depletion	g CFC-11 eq. / ha/yr
Human toxicity (respiratory inorganics)	kg PM10 eq. / ha/yr
Distance-to-Nature-Potential	m ² artificial land eq. / yr / ha/yr
Water (local)	-
Soil	-
Fauna	-
Flora	-
Landscape	-
Economy	
Target price for harvested seeds *1	€/t seeds
Market price for harvested seeds	€/t seeds
Target price for refined oil *2	€/t refined oil
Market price for refined oil	-
Capital expenditure oleochemistry *3	Million €
Net Present Value for oleochemistry *5	Million €
Required investment / annual subsidies for	Million €/year oder Million €
Society & Policy	
Unemployment	-
Gender equity	-
Governance (fragility of legal system)	-
Health and Safety	-
Labour rights (breach of NMW and excessive working time)	-
Substituted (sub-)tropical oil products	-
Policy issues	-

- Partly conflicting results across pillars of sustainability
- Suitable tool to identify
 - best performing pathways
 - important trade-offs
 - major aspects for decision support



- **Background**
- **Sustainability of cramelina and crambe**

➔ Summary and conclusions



Promising benefits for camelina and crambe:

- Next to greenhouse gas savings, overall biodiversity conservation is possible with some pathways, especially with crambe, though also with camelina to a lesser extent.**
- Especially, savings of tropical forests are possible.**
- Very promising benefits for double cropping of camelina.**
- Socio-economic impacts tend to be positive, e.g. rural development, diversification in several sectors in Europe, and reduced import dependancy.**



Hurdles exist, but can be overcome:



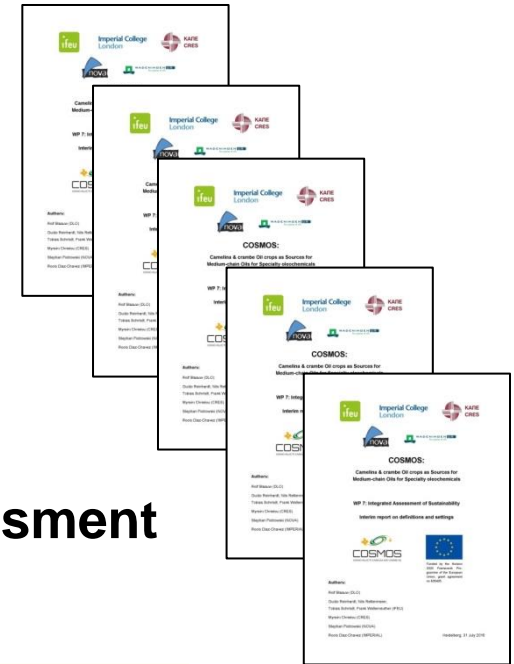
- Financial hurdles quite dominant: Actions needed also on long term.
- Harvest technology especially for Crambe seeds needs further development.
- Separation technology for hulls not yet mature.
- Crop rotations scheme including double cropping have still to be optimized for different soil and climatic conditions.
- Breeding issues (especially CRISPR/Cas) have to be solved.

- **Camelina and crambe are very promising oil crops for Europe to meet sustainability goals especially in the environmental and socio-economic sector.**
- **Not yet mature for full implementation.**
- **Needs some support for the transition phase if society / policy decides to realize the opportunity.**
- **Use the transition phase efficient and parallel in all sectors: technology development, legal aspects etc.**
- **For identification the most efficient optimization options and steer policy, integrated life cycle sustainability assessment (ILCSA) needs to be applied.**



Further reading:

- Final report on technological assessment
- Final report on economic assessment
- Final report on environmental assessment
- Final report on policy and social assessment
- Final report on integrated sustainability assessment



➔ All reports are public !

➔ Download from: www.cosmos-H2020.eu

➔ Available in about 2 months.



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