International Workshop on Food Waste Accounting and Monitoring

National Approaches for Quantification, Reporting and Assessment

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SDG 12.3 and priorities for food loss and waste reporting

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Outline

1. Sustainable Development Goals and food waste
2. What makes a good SDG indicator?
3. SDG Food Loss Indicator
4. SDG Food Waste Indicator
5. Conclusions

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

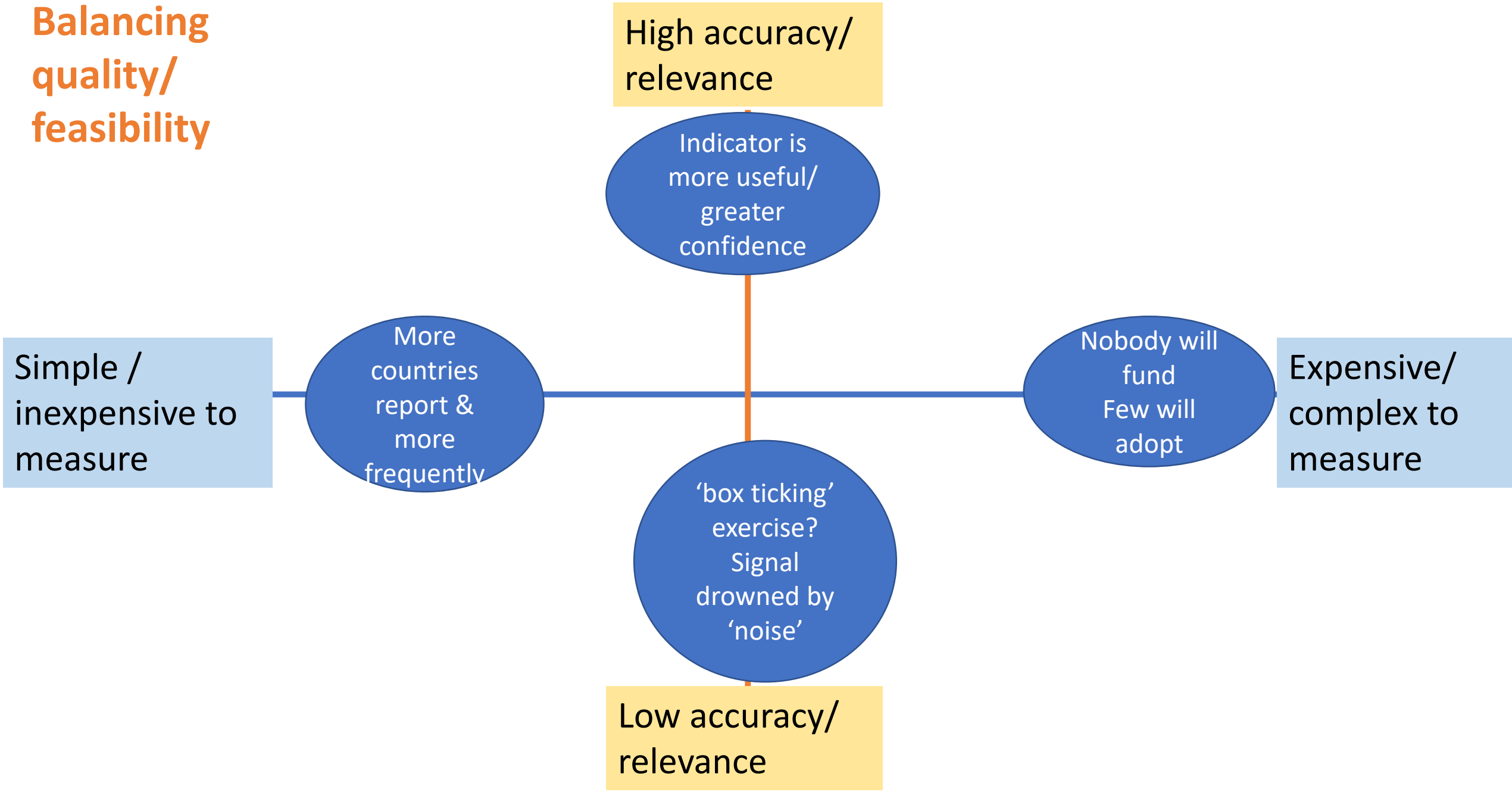
SDG 12.3

By 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses

What makes a good SDG indicator?

- Coverage versus accuracy – need certainty in relation to monitoring ‘direction of travel’
- Need for flexibility for countries to begin implementation, without being too burdensome
- Ideally based on data elements that already exist/ are reported on
- Potential for use of proxy values for countries with no data

Balancing quality/ feasibility



Indicator Tier Classification

- **Tier 1:** Indicator is conceptually clear, **internationally established methodology and standards are available**, and **data are regularly produced for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region** where the indicator is relevant.

- **Tier 2:** Indicator is conceptually clear, has an **internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced** by countries.

- **Tier 3:** **No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available** for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.

SDG12.3.1 = Supply side + demand side

"By 2030, …

12.3

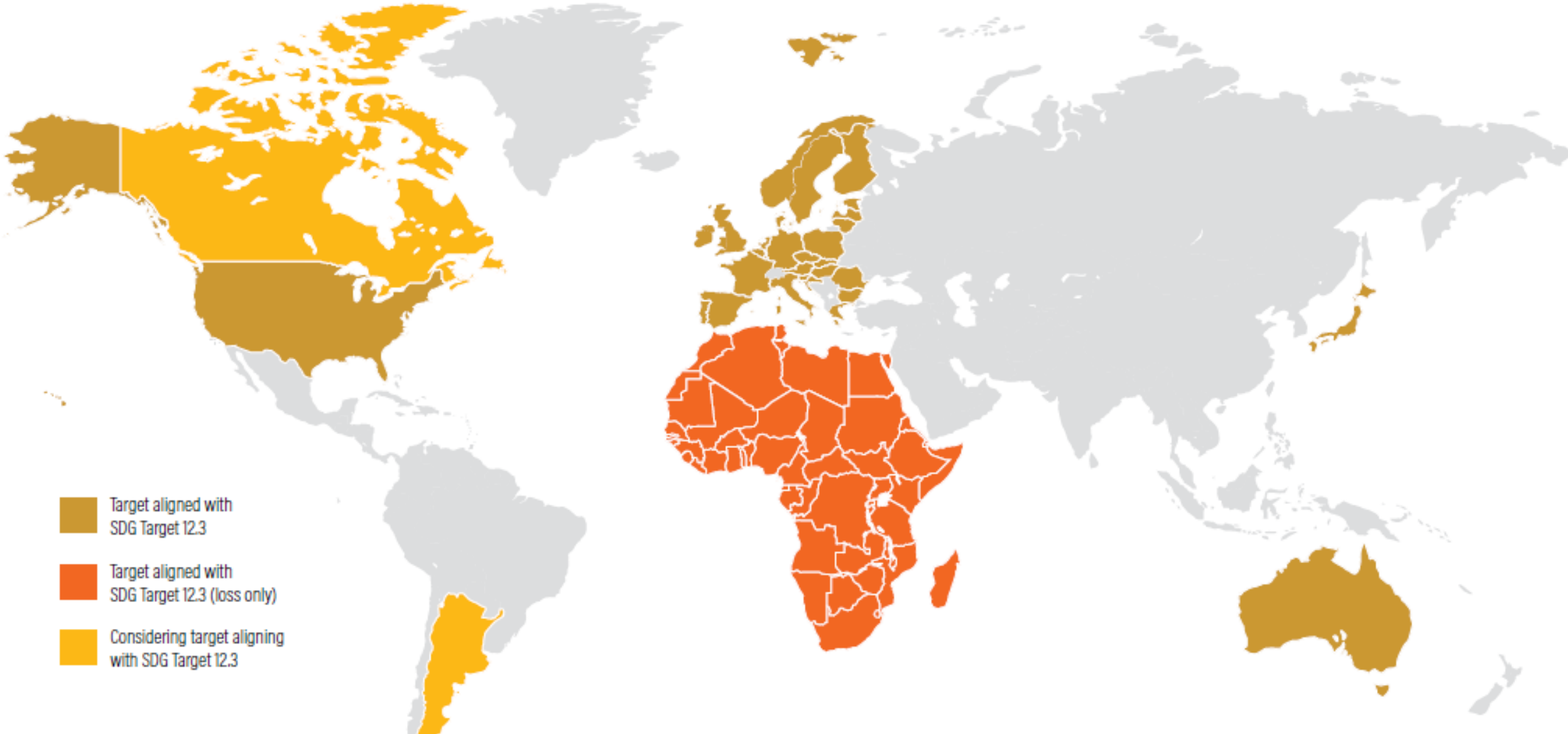
12.3.1b Food Loss Index

"…reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses."

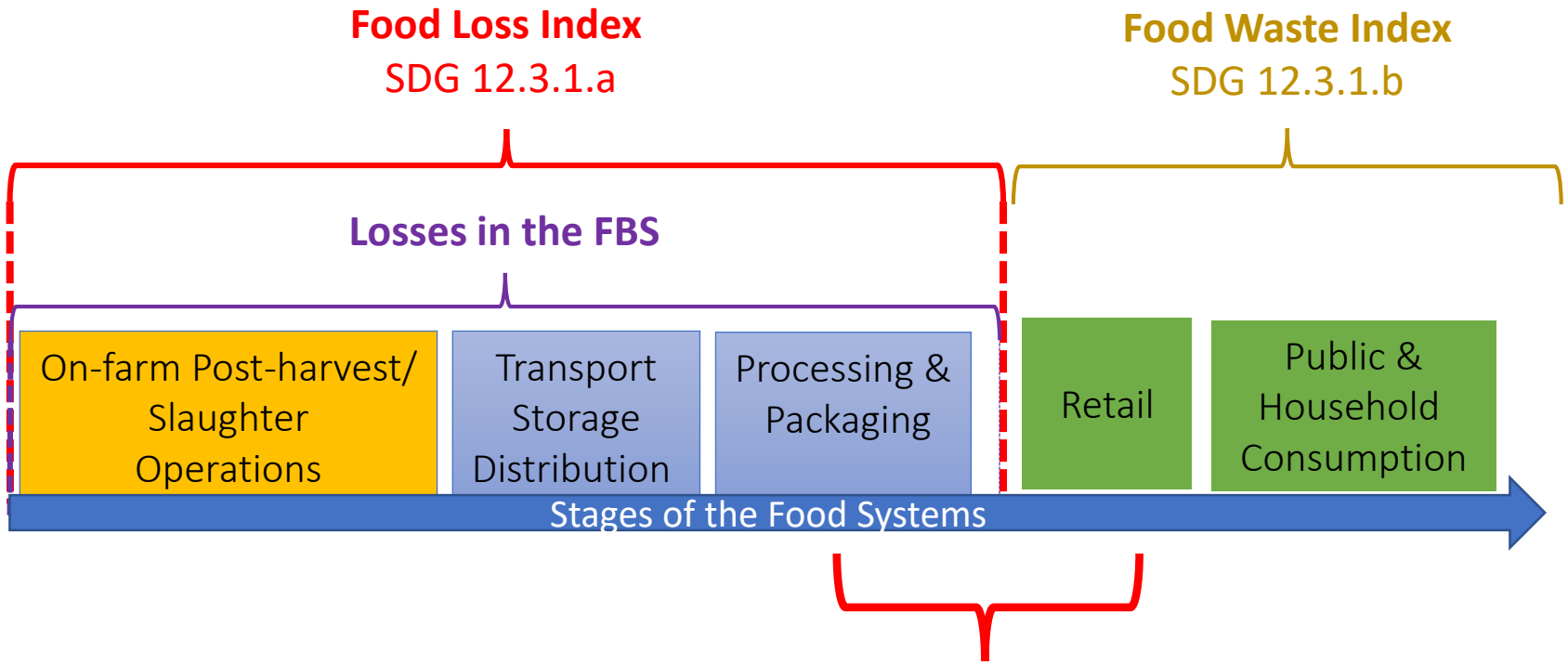
12.3.1a the 'per capita' Food Waste Index

"…halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels."

National / Regional Governments with food loss/ waste reduction targets aligned to SGD 12.3 (September 2018)



Where does the supply-side end and the demand-side begin?

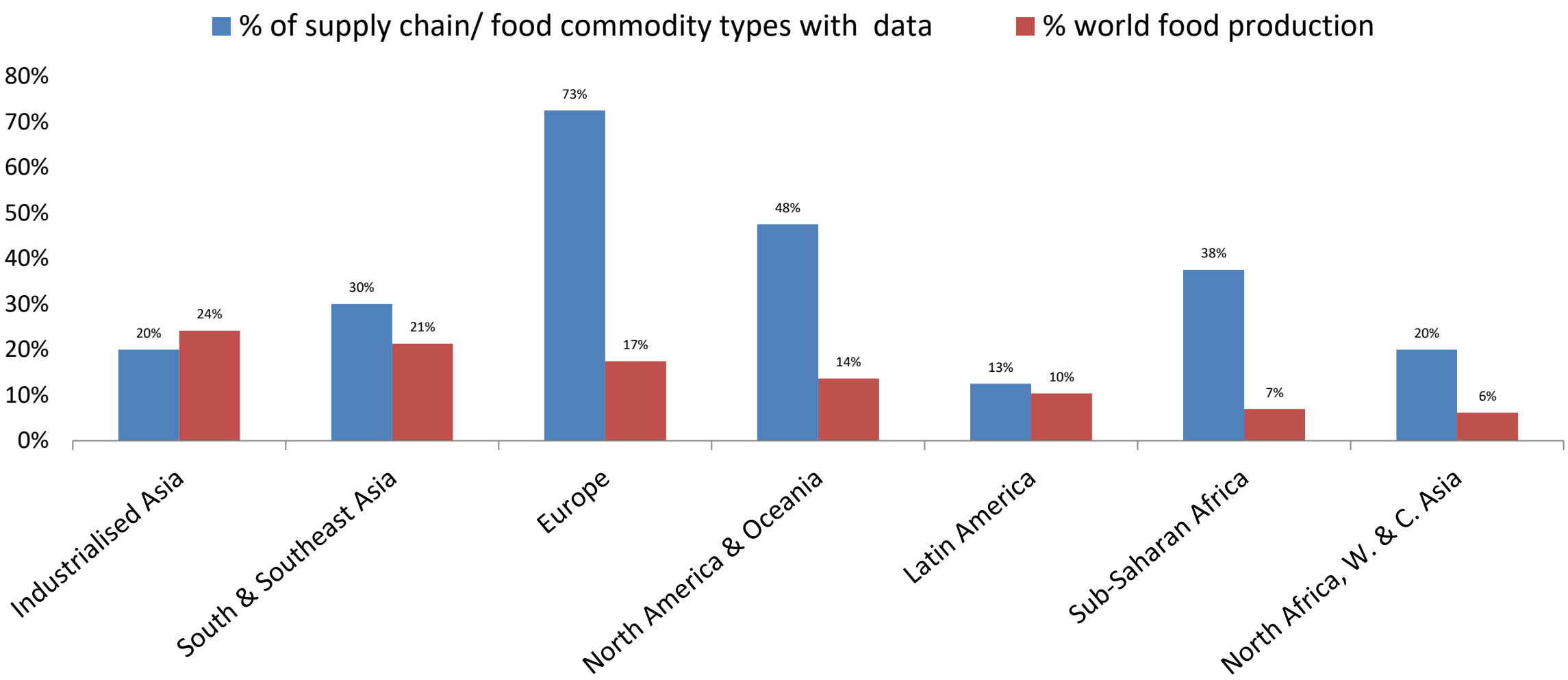


Discretionary boundary with potential overlaps

Food Loss Index: main features

- Covers the same section of the supply chain as the FAO Food Balance Sheets
- Focuses on 10 key commodities in 5 main groups
- Measures Food Loss Percentages (FLP) - not total losses
- A Food Loss Percentage (FLP) is the percentage of supply that does not reach the retail stage, by commodity, monitored over time
- Based on nationally representative loss percentages along the supply chain
- The Food Loss Index has been recently re-classified from Tier III into Tier II, but key issue remains the lack of consistent national food loss estimates covering the relevant supply chain stages

Assessment of FAO global food waste statistics: coverage of supply chain & commodity groups



Construction of the Food Waste index

$$\textbf{Food waste per capita} = \frac{\textbf{Total food waste}}{\textbf{Population}}$$

A measurement approach: too ambitious for many countries– although clearly preferable!

Proxy values for those without primary data?

- Modelling linked to MSW data, depending on availability of municipal solid waste data and metadata globally? Overlaps SDG 11.6.
- FAO data: subtracting food consumption estimates from supply?
- How to estimate consumption?

Food Waste Indicator options - Supply chain stage specific studies – e.g. UK

Stage	Year	Method	Amount (million tonnes)
Manufacture	2015	Site visits to sample and scaled to total, use of regulatory datasets and data from industry voluntary reporting	1.85
Retail (& Wholesale)	2015	Reported data collected via surveys and scaled to industry total. Data reported voluntarily – SKU level.	0.3
Hospitality and Food Service	2013	Site visits to sample and waste audits	1.0
Household	2015	Weighted average of waste composition analysis to collection estimate	7.1

Conclusions

- SDG 12.3 – more primary food waste data needed at country level
- Split between 12.3.1a/ b – is there scope for a combined indicator, despite important qualitative differences between ‘loss’ and ‘waste’?

- Allocation of resources to data collection – seriously lacking for key global regions

- Parallels between current situation with EU reporting at MS level and dilemmas in developing SDG 12.3.1a & 12.3.1b indicators