



# A holistic and practical approach for assessing sustainability criteria in farming and along supply chains

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# Who is Soil & More?

- Soil fertility management
- Assessments
  - Soil (carbon)
  - CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Water
  - Sustainability
  - IT-Solutions
- Carbon Credits through sustainable farming



Healthy Soils – Healthy Plants – Healthy People





Sustainability = Ability to Sustain



## Everything is sustainable?!

What to consider when assessing sustainable performance?

- Everything in detail?
- Only part of it but which part?
- ...

Actually we already know more or less what needs to be done

→ Why collect data/make assumptions which result in an estimated sustainable performance: **qualitative, quantitative...**



- The objective of assessing sustainable performance (normally) is:
  - to improve = actually do something
- This requires:
  - Real/honest/authentic data
    - Makes necessity/benefit of change obvious
  - Support from the team (diff. departments & management)



# An approach

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and FAO (SAFA) recommend:

- To start the process of sustainability reporting with a so called „Materiality Analysis“ or Relevance Check (Wesentlichkeitsanalyse)
- Be honest and transparent about imperfection
  - Setting priorities is NOT against a holistic approach



This does not replace all what you have done already or planned to do

It is a healthy tool and process to re-align goals and strategies and motivate people to participate



# What really matters?

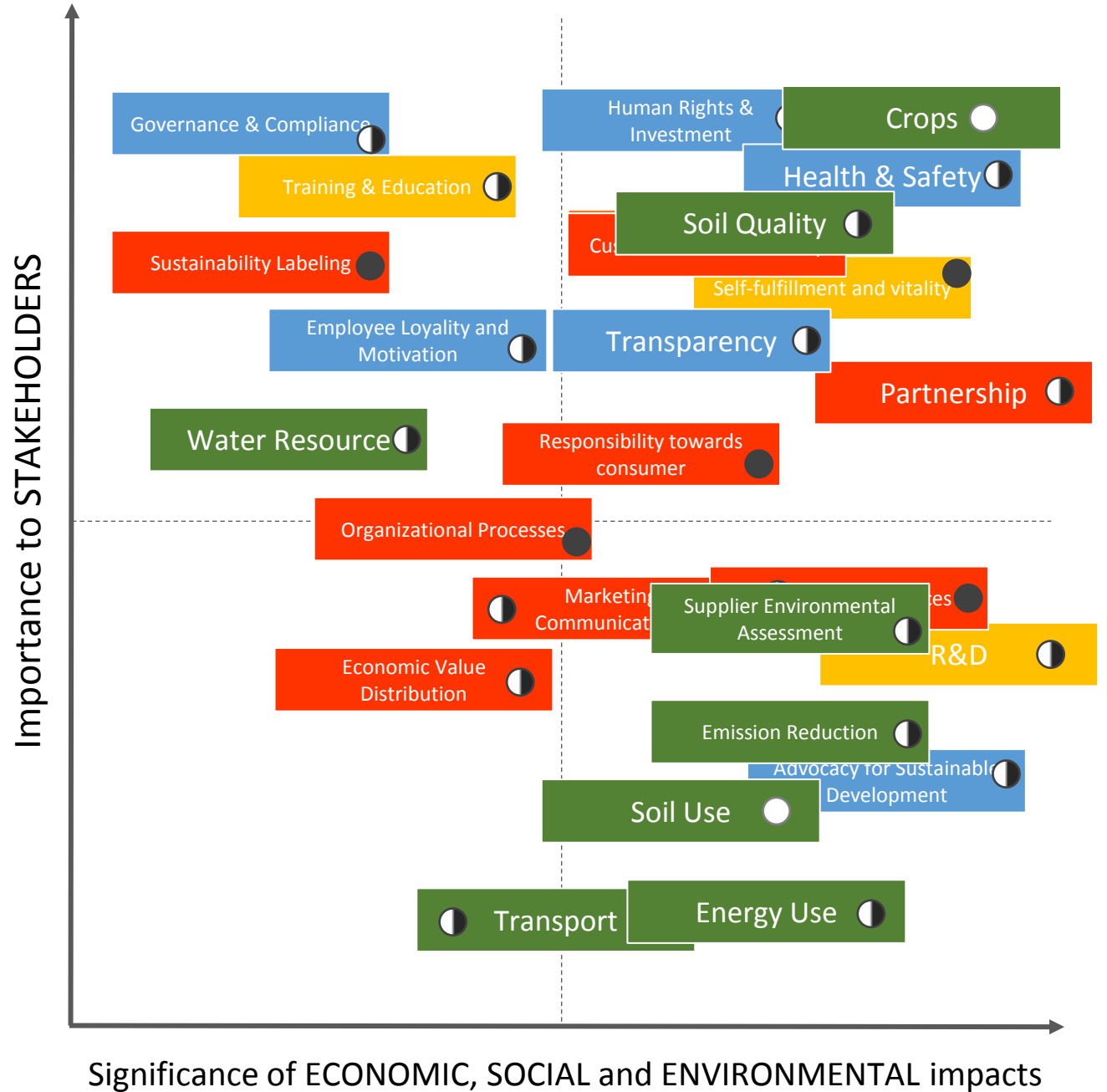
Suggestion:

- focus on what is reportable?
  - transparently/honestly exclude the rest
- for whome/why are we doing this?
- what really has an impact/makes a change
- discuss and agree with involved people (internal/external/controversial)
  - agree upon a materiality/relevance matrix as a roadmap for your journey of sustainable development



Published list of exclusions, „not relevant“ & explanation why!

- Labor Rights
- Supplier Assessment for Labor Practices
- Supplier Human Rights Assessments
- Anti-Corruption
- Diversity
- Innovation
- Materials
- Product Portfolio
- Water Use
- Animal Husbandry
- Energy Source



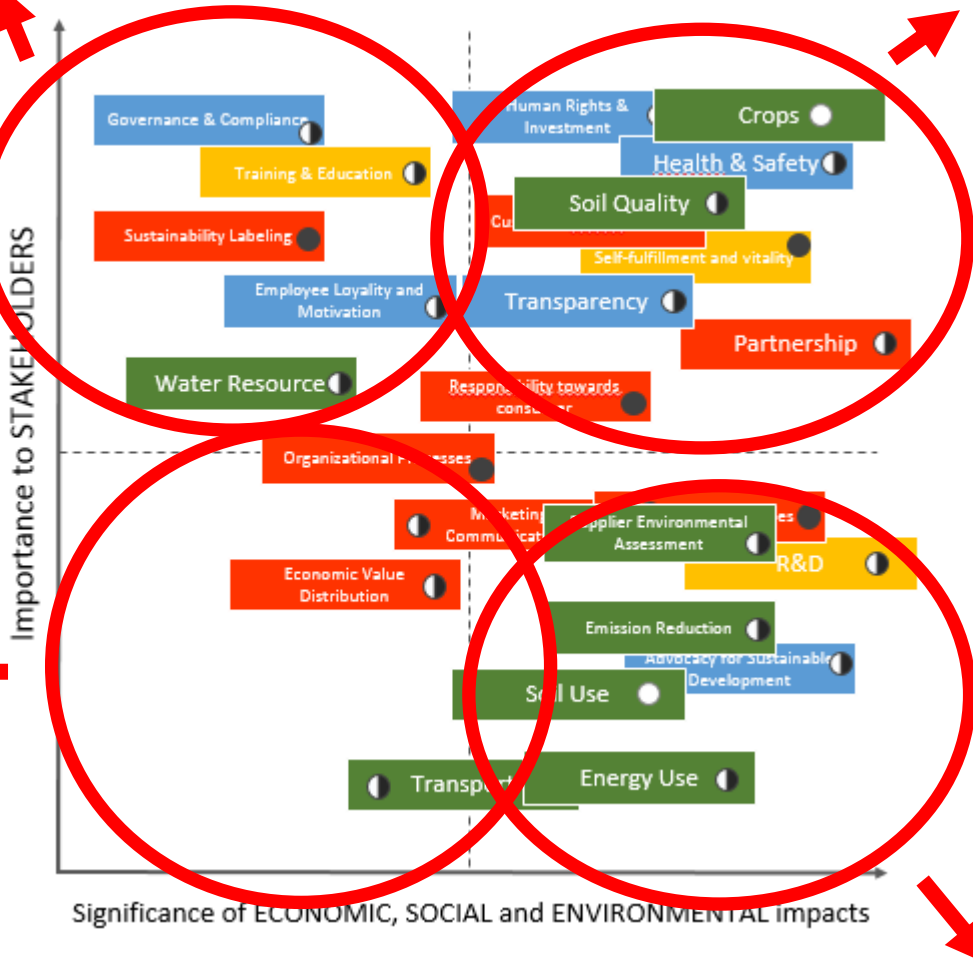
Evaluation, external reporting

define targets/ indicators, follow-up, reporting

Published list of exclusions, „not relevant“ & explanation why!

- Labor Rights
- Supplier Assessment for Labor
- Supplier Assessment for Human Rights
- Anti-Corruption
- Divestment
- Innovation
- Materiality
- Product Portfolio
- Water Use
- Animal Husbandry
- Energy Source

„Integration Plan“



define targets/indicators, follow-up, (only) internal reporting



# Assessment and monitoring of sustainability indicators

Developed by:



International Association for Partnership

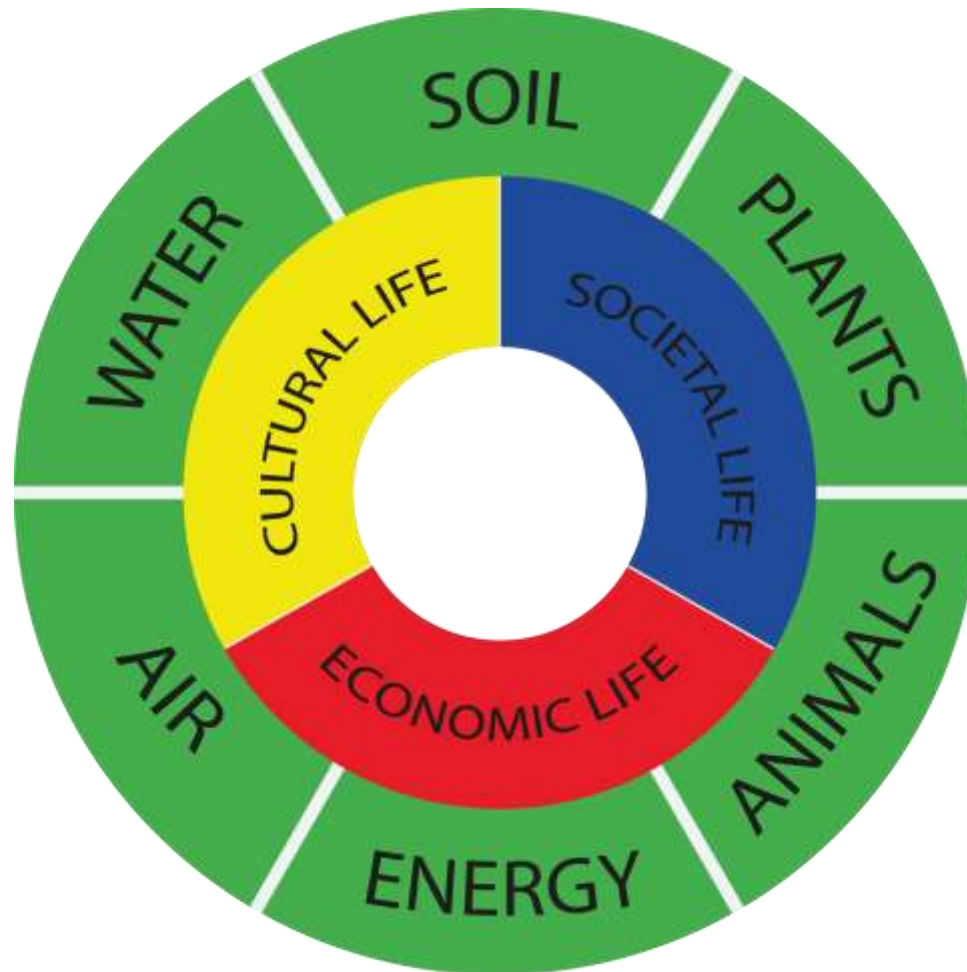
With the support of:



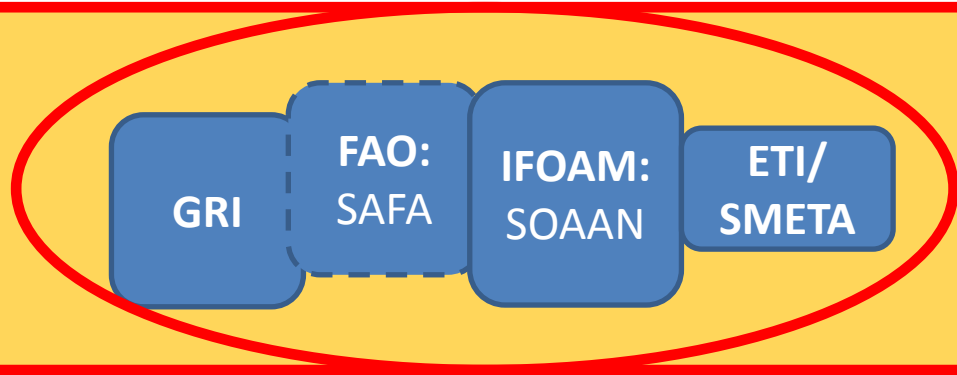
The objective:

- A management tool to continuously assess, **improve** and communicate sustainability performance
- Comprehensive but practical
- Focus on assessment not on communication

## The 9 Dimensions of the “Sustainability Flower”



Standards,  
Guidelines



Operators,  
Tools



# The Quick Assessment Questionnaire

Ca. 145 questions along the 9 dimensions of the Sustainability Flower incl. lots of space for comments

Designed to be answered within 3-4 hours online or offline;  
Fill out one questionnaire per data set for one year

Powerful tool to learn about the holistic approach of sustainable development and to identify hot spots

Economic value distribution

**What is the average organic matter content in your soils?**

**What is the prevailing texture of your soil?**

**How deep do you till your soils?**

no till

<10cm deep

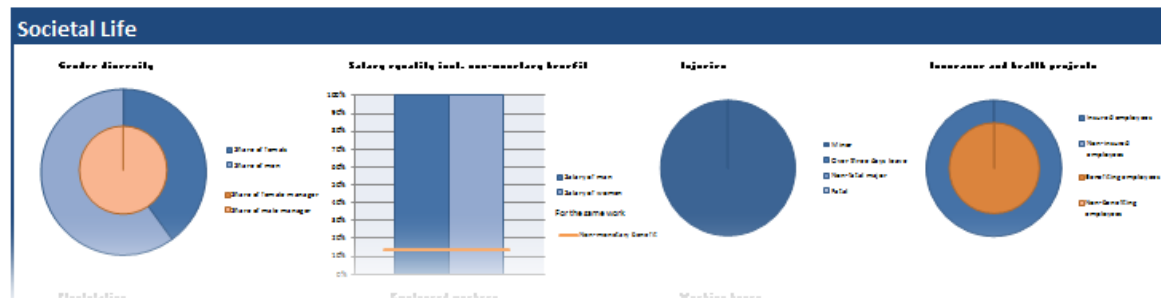
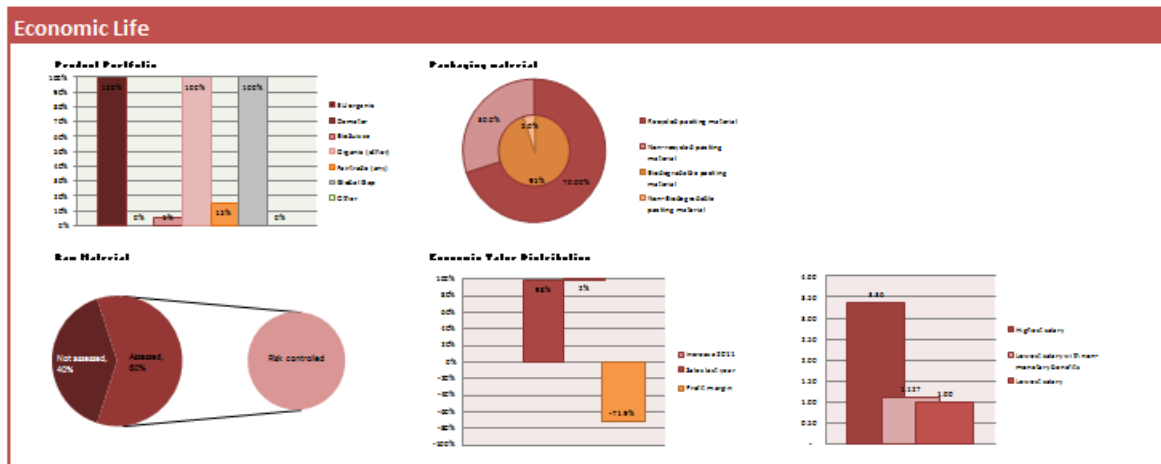
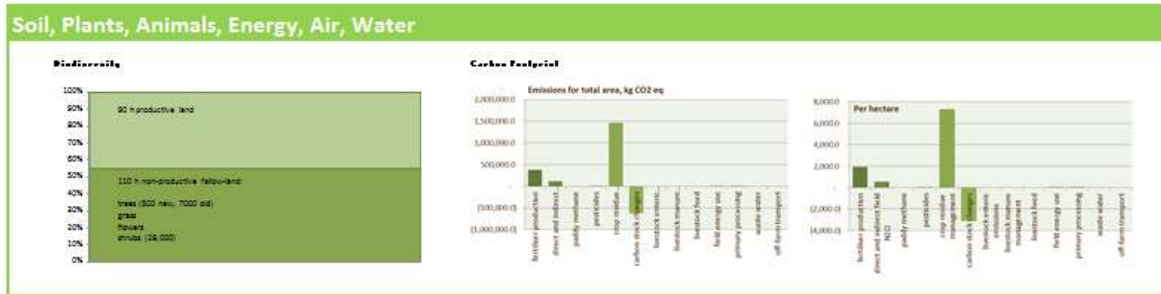
>10cm deep

**What is the prevailing moisture content of your soil?**

**How is the average drainage of your soil?**

# Dynamic Reporting/Benchmarking

→ farm/supply-chain mgmt, grower assessments



# The Quick Assessment Report Types

## Multipager

For single entities or as summary of many:


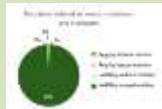
### Executive Summary

Includes:

- Evaluation of company performance according to the nine dimensions of the Sustainability Flower
- Carbon and Water Footprint\*
- Visualization of data for better understanding\*\*
- Hot spot analysis incl. suggestions for next steps
- Basis for target formulation
- Annual update possible

Evaluation of company performance according to the nine dimensions of the Sustainability Flower. Visualization of data for better understanding (depends on data quality and amount of reported years). Hot spot analysis incl. suggestions for next steps; Basis for target formulation. Annual update possible.

Visualization of data for better understanding according to the nine dimensions of the Sustainability Flower. Visualization of data for better understanding (depends on data quality and amount of reported years).

Hot Spots	Suggestions
High commuting emissions	Offer bus transfer for employees or reduced public transport tickets
Mainly plastic waste that gets burned	Find alternatives for packaging of your raw material together with your suppliers

Multipager on all dimensions with graphs, incl. written executive summary and recommendations

## Database

For single and many entities:




Database with all data visualized and contextualized, incl. charts with executive summary and recommendations

AND / OR





# Thank You

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