



EU FOOD SYSTEM MONITORING FRAMEWORK

**Meeting with the Advisory group on
Sustainability of Food Systems**

14 November 2024

Outline

- Outline
 - Purpose and general structure of the presentation
 - Reminder (food system model, indicator types)
 - General comments and further work
 - Specific comments
 - EU Food System Monitoring dashboard (demonstration)

Purpose and general structure of the presentation

- **Purpose of the presentation**

- Inform the Advisory group about the developments of the EU Food System Monitoring Framework (before: F2F Monitoring Framework) and the upcoming publication of a first version of the monitoring dashboard and the accompanying technical report
- Provide feedback to the comments received in course of autumn 2023
- Present the EU Food System Monitoring Dashboard

- **General structure**

- Feedback is given to groups of questions related to general aspects or specific domains
- For the replies to a specific comment please refer to the consolidated table of comments that will be distributed after the meeting

To recall...

Process

Consultation with the Expert and Advisory groups (autumn 2023)

- List of proposed indicators presented
- More than 500 comments received

Reflections (fall 2023-spring 2024)

- Resolution of stakeholders' comments
- Collaboration with policy DGs - broader scope and orientation within the frame of the European Green Deal
- Step-wise development of the system: start from areas of strongest consensus

Interaction with the policy DGs

- Finalisation of the FS sustainability model
- F2F monitoring framework → EU food system monitoring framework
- First release of the dashboard: only core functionalities and headline indicators are included
- Technical report: include headline, secondary and placeholder indicators

Arrangements to continue the work

- Until the end of October 2026
- Explore elaboration of new indicators to fill knowledge gaps

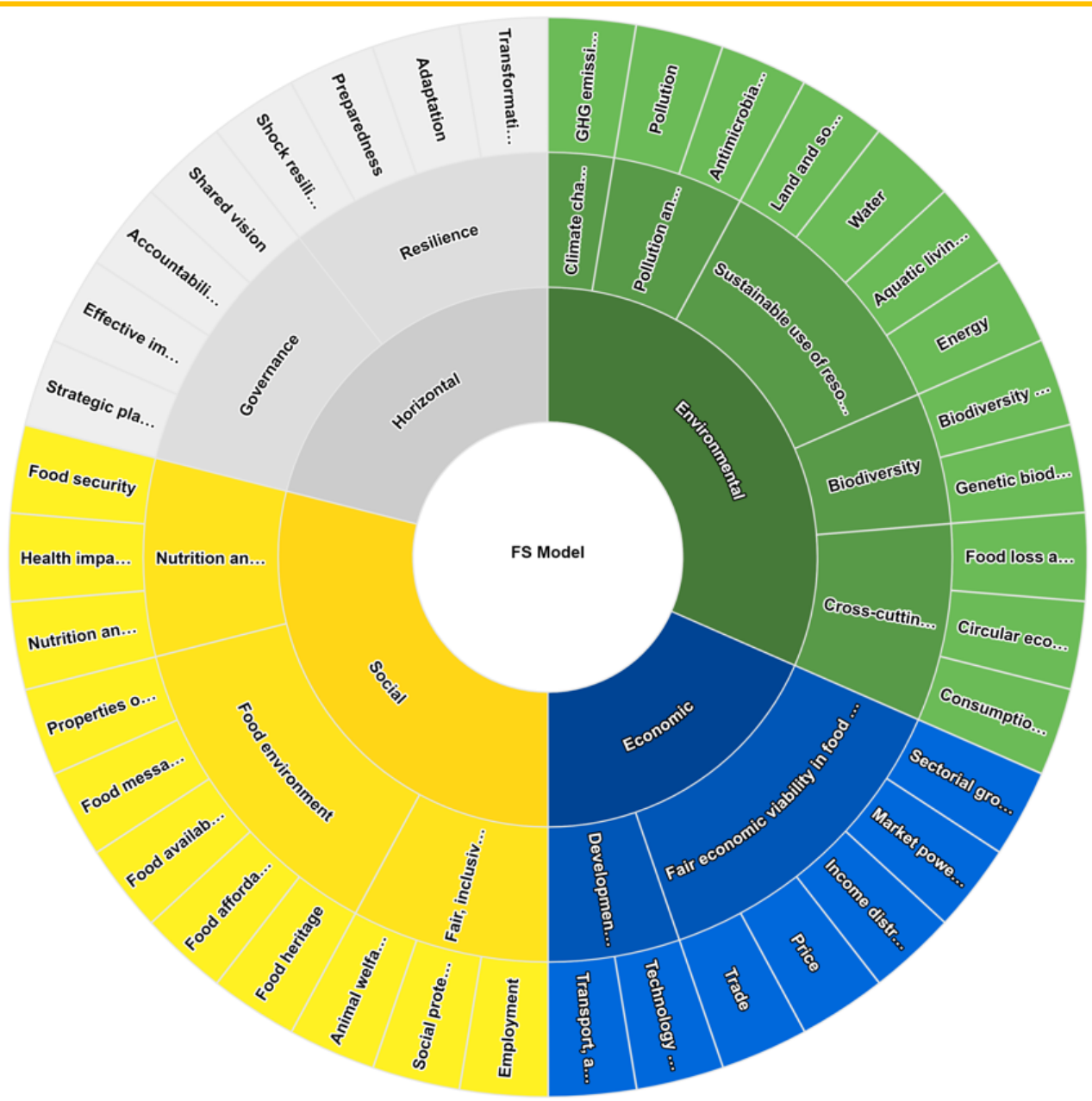
FOOD SYSTEM MODEL

- The conceptual FS model contains the following **components of the food supply chain**:

- primary food production
- food processing
- distribution
- consumption

- **Sustainability aspects** are organised in:

- 3 thematic dimensions (shown in green, blue and yellow) and one horizontal that overarches the three dimensions
- 12 thematic areas (middle ring) – out of those 2 are horizontal
- 38 domains (outermost ring)

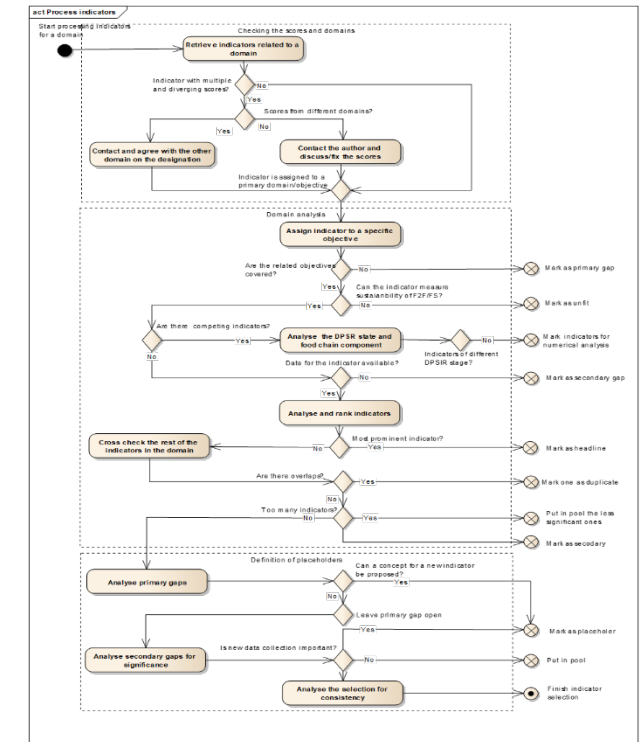


Classification and processing of indicators

- Indicator categories according to their role in the MF)
 - **Headline indicators**: measure the most important sustainability goals and targets related to the food system. They receive the highest visibility in the dashboard and are mostly policy driven.
 - **Secondary indicators**: provide further detail on headline indicators or additional, more specific, information. These indicators are selected for (a later) inclusion in the dashboard.
 - **Placeholder indicators**: are conceptually important indicators that might become part of the dashboard in the future. They also mark the gaps, where data collection, and/or conceptualisation of the indicator is needed.
 - **Pool indicators**: are indicators of insufficient quality and/or of lesser importance in the context of the EU FSMF. They can be activated when there is a new policy priority, or used to replace similar indicators when their quality improves.
 - **Duplicate indicators**: are indicators with different name, but build on the same methodology and report the same data. These indicators have been removed from the system.
 - **Unfit indicators**: indicators that are not specific to or relevant for assessing the sustainability of the food system. They have been removed from the system.
- Indicator categories according to their method of processing 
 - **Extensive**: the indicator is expressed in natural measurement units (kilograms, euro, etc.).
 - **Intensive** (or denominated): The indicator is expressed as a unit of natural measurement in relation to another internal property of the country; e.g. GDP (euro) per capita (population).

Selection of indicator

- Based on
 - Harmonised metadata and standardised workflow
 - Rigorous quality assessment framework (relevance, methodology, geographic and temporal characteristics)
- Proposals for headline, secondary and placeholder indicators – all documented in the technical report and shortly justified in the dashboard



Name:	Consumer food inflation
Dimension:	Economic
Thematic area:	Fair economic viability in food value chain
Domain:	Price
Definition:	Consumer food inflation for the EU and Member States
Unit of measurement:	All prices are expressed as indices and percentage changes (%) - % change Y/Y
Description:	This indicator reports on the increase rate in consumer food prices, expressed as % change over the same period in the previous year, as total food and for specific food groups. It is expressed as year-on-year variations, comparing the price of each month against the value of the same month in the previous year.
Justification of selection:	Monitoring consumer food inflation is essential to assess the access of the EU citizens to affordable food, which is one of the objectives of the European Green Deal. A negative trend is desirable as it makes food more affordable over time.

General questions and proposals on the monitoring framework

Scope and purpose

Comment / question	Resolution
What is the main purpose of the framework?	To measure the progress of the EU food system towards sustainability, as reflected in the European Green Deal (including the F2F strategy) and progressively include emerging requirements stemming from science and future strategies.
Reflect emerging EU acts, reports and scientific papers.	The suggested materials have been analysed and referred in the final version of the report. The JRC has also identified additional references. Indicators from emerging reporting obligations were included as placeholders.

Scope and purpose

Comment / question	Resolution
Why the targets and objectives of the F2F strategy have been linked to the food system model? The F2F should not be the basis of evaluating the MS.	The elements of the food system model come from the analysis of the scientific literature. The F2F objectives were mapped to this model to help prioritization (i.e. selection of headline indicators) and check its completeness from policy point of view. The purpose of the framework/dashboard is to capture key trigger points for changes and highlight sustainability outcomes. The F2F objectives/targets do not appear in the dashboard.
Level of details of indicators and relation with other MF.	To highlight the aspects of FS sustainability a reasonable number of indicators is needed. We do not wish to replicate other monitoring systems, rather present knowledge from a new angle. For very specific thematic indicators users should refer to dedicated MF. This also means that our MF may contain such indicators that are not available elsewhere.

Semantics

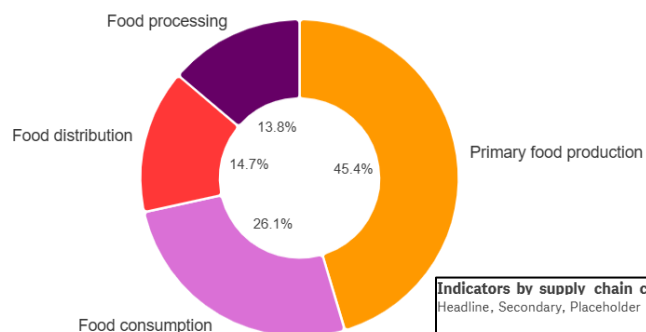
Comment / question	Resolution
Missing definition of FS sustainability .	To define FS sustainability and ensure completeness of the applied sustainability model a detailed review of relevant scientific literature took place. The formulation of UN has been adopted as working definition : <i>‘A sustainable food system delivers food security, nutrition and food safety for all without compromising economic, social and environmental sustainability to ensure food security, nutrition and food safety for future generations.’</i>
Semantic clashes with vocabularies of other frameworks – especially in naming the indicators .	We have screened around 300 existing indicators, but retained around 200 only, as many of them provided the same data under a different name, were overlapping, or were unfit (despite of the promising name) for FS monitoring. To tackle this, we used the following principles: • We reused the naming convention at the data source (from which we harvested the data) • In the description, we included references to other framework, where the indicator is also used.

Uneven coverage by the indicators - supply chain

Comment / question

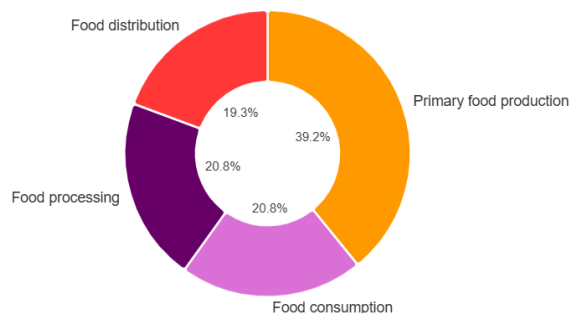
Uneven coverage of the food supply chain

Indicators by supply chain component
Headline, Secondary, Pool



Primary food production
Food consumption
Food processing
Food distribution

Indicators by supply chain component
Headline, Secondary, Placeholder



Primary food production
Food consumption
Food processing
Food distribution

Resolution

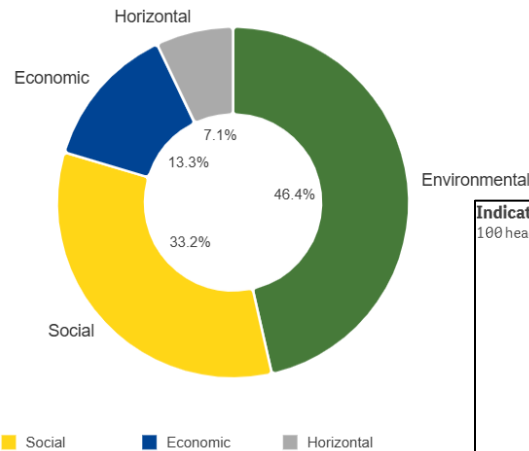
- The indicator offer for food processing and distribution is rather low in the public sources (components governed by private sector). → compensation measures:
 - Including indicators that describe the whole food supply chain
 - Identifying knowledge gaps (placeholder indicators) for priority development
- Plans to improve the situation
 - Investigate market intelligence data
 - Collaborate with DGs (EU agri-food chain observatory, Corporate sustainability reporting)
 - Use of modelled data of the JRC

Uneven coverage by the indicators – sustainability dimensions

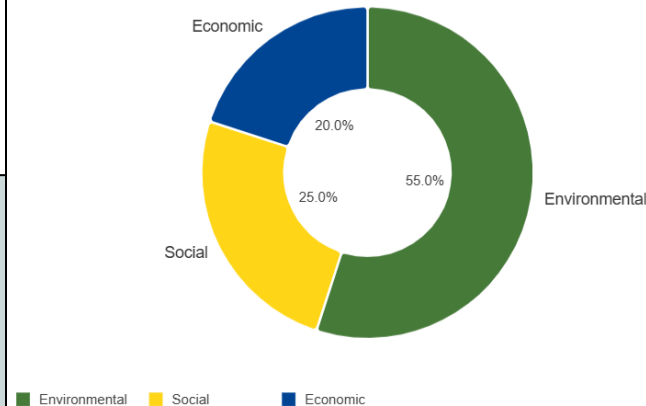
Comment / question

Uneven coverage of the sustainability dimensions

Indicators by dimension
211 headline, secondary, pool indicators



Indicators by dimension
100 headline, secondary, placeholder indicators



Resolution

- Environment is currently dominant – so far, the main sustainability concerns have been related to this dimension (most of the numeric targets of F2F relate to environment)
- Horizontal indicators will be assessed separately according to a dedicated methodology
- Social dimension looks better because of health indicators.
- Plans to improve the situation – as in case of supply chain components

Data

Comment / question	Resolution
Burden for MS	The "reuse of existing" principle has been applied since the very beginning of the development process. Data are retrieved from original sources via machine to machine communication using APIs. No parallel reporting or new data collection is planned due to this monitoring framework. Identified gaps will be filled by data from scientific models or commercial datasets.
Information on data	All indicators screened/developed has been/will be documented according to a harmonized metadata profile. Main metadata elements (definition, description, data source, geographic and temporal properties) are displayed in the dashboard. Full metadata profile of an indicator can be retrieved on demand.
What are the exact data sources of the indicators?	Data sources are documented in the metadata for every indicator and are accessible in the dashboard as information. Current data sources: • Statistics reported by the MS to ESTAT, • Datasets of the JRC and EU agencies (includes both reported and modeled data), • Datasets of international organisations (FAO, OECD), In the future, other sources (ex: market data will be also explored).

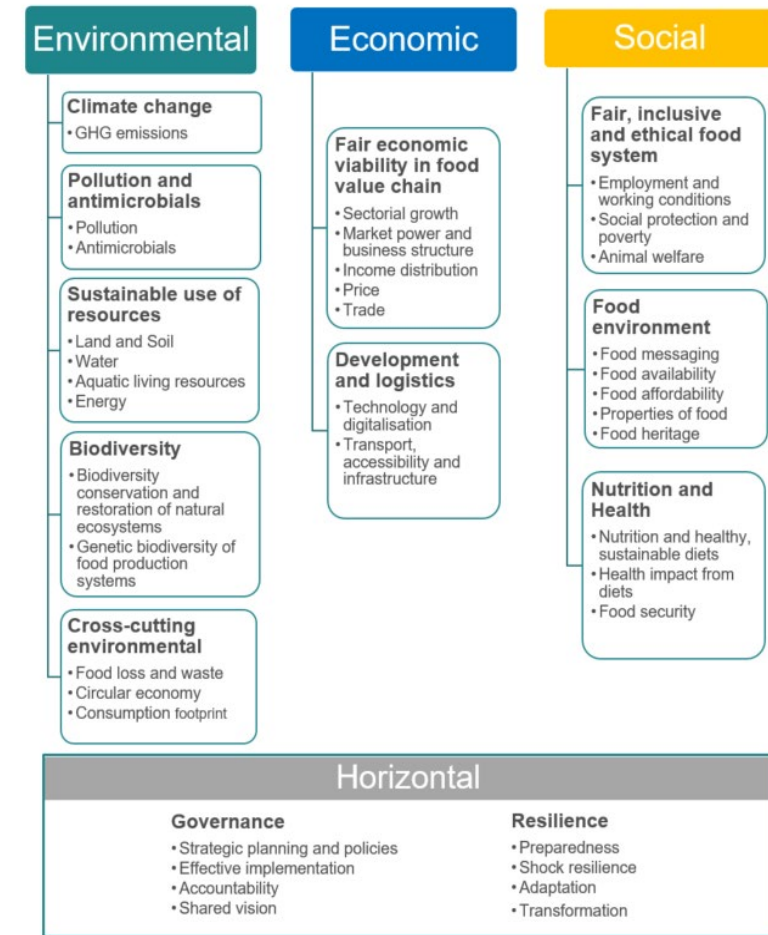
Data (cont.)

Comment / question	Resolution
Account for the different sizes of production systems in the MS.	When it's reasonable, indicators are denominated (e.g. size of utilised agricultural area, population, number of producers, etc.)
Frequency of data collection	In general, one year. However, if an indicator is reported at the source less frequently, no interpolation or additional data collection is carried out. Longer intervals between data points might be also justified by slowly evolving phenomena (like soil properties) too.

Food system model

Comment / question	Resolution
Clashing opinions on the classification and naming within the model	Every model is an abstraction of the universe of discourse that emphasizes features of interest. Most important requirement: must be intuitive enough to orient the users to find information. Independent testing of the dashboard (JRC SDG team and volunteers) was implemented and the good usability of the model was confirmed.
Reuse components of existing monitoring system	This has been one of the main principles of development since the beginning. However, the EU food system MF does not mirror any existing systems, rather harvests and groups components (sustainability aspects and indicators) to logically present them in its specific scope and allow an easy navigation of non-specialised users.
The model is linear, while should consider food systems' circularity (monitor the side streams)	Depending on what linear means, we propose • A separate domain for circular economy that will be filled with indicators in the next phase of the project. • If non-linearity means linking indicators to multiple domains: this aspect is highlighted in synergies and trade-offs, given in the “justification” metadata element of the relevant indicators that is displayed in the dashboard.

Changes in the FS sustainability model



Future work

- Development of the current placeholder indicators
- Assessment of additional placeholder indicators
- Review headline and secondary indicators to address gaps in the whole food value chain (mainly in food processing and distribution)
- In case of Governance and Resilience domains: refine/implement the methodology (see details in slide 46).

Specific comments

Sustainability dimensions



ENVIRONMENTAL



ECONOMIC



SOCIAL



HORIZONTAL

Environmental thematic areas and domains

Climate change	Pollution and antimicrobials	Sustainable use of resources	Biodiversity	Cross-cutting environmental
• GHG emissions	• Pollution • Antimicrobials	Land and Soil Water Aquatic living resources Energy	• Biodiversity conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems • Genetic biodiversity of food production systems	• Food loss and waste • Circular economy • Consumption footprint

Changes in the structure

- Food loss and waste → instead of separate thematic area put under Cross-cutting TA
- Blue food → renamed Aquatic living resources

Reflection on the comments (Env.1)

Climate change

Comment / question	Resolution
Climate change: • stronger focus on climate adaptation needed with indicators to measure progress in climate-proofing our food systems • lack of indicators to reflect progress in adaptation to climate change.	Selecting/elaborating such indicators is set in the agenda of the coming two years. Adaptation measures (like preserving grasslands and peatland) will be added later, as data become available. However, such indicators may appear in other domains (i.e. Sustainable use of resources).

Reflection on the comments (Env.2)

Pollution

Comment / question	Resolution
Doubts about the use of indicator HRI-1 (Harmonised Risk Indicator 1)	As reducing pesticide usage and toxicity is essential for a more sustainable and healthier food system within the EU, further work on these indicators is expected that may lead to their substitution in our MF. <i>New rules on the collection of agricultural statistics</i> [Regulation (EU) 2022/2379 on Agricultural Inputs and Outputs], mean that <i>farm level data</i> on <i>pesticides use</i> should become <i>available from 2028</i>. These new data could provide a basis for further <i>improvement of HRIs</i> or for the <i>development of new indicators</i>.

Reflection on the comments (Env.3)

Sustainable use of resources: Land and Soil

Comment / question	Resolution
No need for the Global deforestation index , given that Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 stipulates the end of imported deforestation caused by the main food products by 2025.	The existence of a legal act does not say anything about the degree of implementation that is subject of monitoring. The time series of this indicator inform on the progress towards this objective.
Overlapping land use/land cover indicators: • Land cover – agricultural areas • Utilised agricultural area • Land used for food, feed and biofuels	Land cover and land use deal with different semantics. The two first indicators , are auxiliary for technical purposes (sub-setting of earth information data, denomination of indicators) and do not appear in the dashboard . Land used for food, feed and biofuels highlights an important aspect of FS (competition for land), however, it is a placeholder only.
Include a more general indicator on soil erosion , not only from water.	Soil erosion by water is the dominant process in the Europe. More detailed and specific indicators are included in the EUSO Soil degradation dashboard : https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/esdacviewer/euso-dashboard/

Reflection on the comments (Env.4)

Sustainable use of resources

Comment / question	Resolution
Water Replace the Water quality – nitrates in groundwater indicator with the European Environment Agency's indicator on pesticides in surface and groundwater	Nitrates and pesticides are two different aspects of pollution, where both are relevant . We will assess if this indicator is robust enough and how should that be aligned with our monitoring framework.
Aquatic living resources Indicators are insufficient to measure comprehensively the real health of the target stocks , bycatch populations and the ecosystem as a whole .	The number of fish stocks accounted for in the CFP monitoring is in constant increase and covers a large majority of catches in volume. Research efforts are dedicated to increasing the knowledge on the ecosystem (incl. bycatch data) to better represent in the near future the ecosystem health in the fisheries indicators.
Energy Include indicator on renewable energy in different food system sectors	Indicators on renewable energy production are planned . Tracing renewable energy usage we would need studies in the energy sector that is beyond the scope and capacities of this MF.

Reflection on the comments (Env.5)

Comment / question	Resolution
Biodiversity Missing biodiversity indicators (e.g. Biodiversity Habitat Index, Protected Area Management Effectiveness, Biodiversity Intactness Index, Total area under restoration, Terrestrial Protected Area Coverage, etc.)	Although these indicators are important, the ultimate aim of the FSMF is to monitor the sustainability of food systems and not the biodiversity in all its dimensions. For biodiversity, please refer to the EU biodiversity strategy dashboard: https://dopa.jrc.ec.europa.eu/kcbd/EUBDS2030-dashboard/?version=1
Food loss and waste Include on-farm losses (animal deaths, unharvested crops).	Currently losses are excluded from the definition of food waste in EU legislation and thus, no EU reporting exists. Task will be considered in the future.
Consumption footprint Reformulate the Consumption footprint indicator to make it clearer.	The consumption footprint is an aggregate of 16 impact categories. Better metadata documentation had been prepared both for the aggregate (headline indicator) and the impact categories (secondary indicators).

Economic thematic areas and domains

Fair economic viability in food value chain

- Income distribution
- Sectorial growth
- Market power and business structure
- Price
- Trade

Development and logistics

- Technology and digitalisation
- Transport, accessibility and infrastructure

(Minor) changes in the structure

- Economic viability of businesses → renamed Fair economic viability in food value chain
- Food affordability is assigned to the social thematic area
- The indicator "Agricultural training of farm managers" moved from the social dimension to the development and logistic domain

Reflection on the comments (Econ.1)

Scope and definitions

Comment / question	Resolution
Unclear how the domains under the Fair economic viability in food value chain TA are interpreted.	Detailed descriptions of all domains and their relevance to the EU FS are given in the technical report, which is based on analysis of scientific literature and policy documents.
Take out “fair” from the name of the TA, as it is subject to interpretation.	The importance of fairness in the political agenda is reflected by the adoption of the European Pillar of Social Rights in 2017 and also by the Commission 2019-2024 priority: An economy that works for people . F2F also calls for fair value share and transition.

Reflection on the comments (Econ.2)

Fair economic viability in the food chain

Comment / question	Resolution
Indicator Value Added along the food chain : all participants of the food chain should be addressed. Food distribution sector must be described under the supply chain components.	Placeholders introduced to mark future work. Food distribution sector (wholesale and retailers) are included in the supply chain components.
Average salary by sector should include wholesale, food retail and food services.	We are developing these sub-indicators and planning to include average salary for every step of the chain where possible.
Market power and business structure domain - additional indicators should be introduced (e.g. the short-term capital influx or EBIT margin). More indicators should be available to expose process and margins in each part of the chain and for specific food chain actors	At the moment no complete times series of data can be obtained from public sources for all member states. New data sources will be explored in the future. Monitoring specific actors of the food chain goes beyond the scope of the MF, but data on distribution may come from the Agriculture and Food Chain Observatory - European Commission (europa.eu)

Reflection on the comments (Econ.3)

Fair economic viability in the food chain

Comment / question	Resolution
Monitor sectorial growth and labour productivity of the entire economy, not only in the food chain.	This goes far beyond the scope of the EU FSMF. General economic data are given in European statistics.
The Balassa index should be removed as it is outdated and does not consider sustainability.	The Balassa index measures the degree of specialisation of a country's export products. Hence, we select this indicator as a complementary trade indicator to reflect on EU's competitiveness.

Reflection on the comments (Econ.4)

Development and logistics

Comment / question	Resolution
Indicators on training of agricultural workers (level, type, access, uptake), in addition to the farm manager training, should be considered.	Currently, we have data for "agricultural training of farm managers" only. We will consider its extension when data become available.
Provide indicators on the role of new technologies - in the agri-food chain and in particular in the food sector.	This is placed on the list of items to be explored in the next phase of the project.
Transport, accessibility and infrastructure: besides road freight transport, other modes of transport, such as flights or shipping cargo, should be included.	The challenge lies in separating the food sector from other sectors within transport data. Currently, we only have comprehensive data for road transport across all member states.

Social thematic areas and domains

Fair, inclusive and ethical food system

- Employment
- Social protection and poverty
- Animal welfare

Food environment

- Food messaging
- Food availability
- Food affordability
- Properties of food
- Food heritage

Nutrition and health

- Nutrition and healthy, sustainable diets
- Health impact from diets
- Food security

Changes in the structure

- Inclusion and gender equity → split between Employment and Social protection and poverty
- Social protection and Poverty merged
- Equitable access to capital, technology, land vessels → Governance (if relevant in the EU)
- Food marketing and information to consumers → renamed Food messaging
- Food security → inserted in Nutrition and health (considered as an outcome)

Reflection on the comments (Soc.1)

Fair, inclusive and ethical food system

Comment / question	Resolution
Employment Insufficient indicators to monitor this dimension. Considered migrant/precarious workers, slave/child labour, very low wages, no/unfair contracts, bad housing conditions, vacant positions.	Many of these aspects fall in shadow economy that, by nature, is hidden and no robust data only proxies (if at all) are available.
Employment Accidents at work should be measured in all sectors of the food system, not just in “Agriculture, forestry, and fishing.”	Currently data at EU level are available for this sector only. We will investigate alternative sources.
Animal Welfare The two indicators on animal welfare (<i>organic production aquaculture and share of laying hens by farming method</i>) are totally insufficient to evaluate the animal welfare domain.	The related EU regulations do not prescribe any other reporting obligations than that on laying hens. We will explore proxy ways of monitoring animal welfare practices through, for instance, food labelling (EU organic, animal welfare standards are linked to improved animal welfare practices)



Reflection on the comments (Soc.2)

Food Environment – Food availability

Comment / question	Resolution
Add an indicator on whether Member States have integrated sustainability considerations in their Food Based Dietary Guidelines .	Relevant. Such indicator could be placed in the Governance thematic area . This will be assessed in the next phase of the project.
Ratio plant to total protein there is not sufficient scientific evidence that plant-based proteins are better for human health and have a lower impact on the environment	Ratio of plant to total protein provides a direction regarding the availability (for human consumption) of plant protein to total protein food sources reflecting transition towards more plant-based diets, central to sustainable food systems
Sustainability and nutritional quality of the supply of restaurants and food services should also be included .	While relevant, adequate monitoring in this area remains complex. At this stage, we will be exploring possibilities to monitor sustainable public procurement while we expect challenges in access to good quality data

Reflection on the comments (Soc.3)

Food environment – Food affordability

Comment / question	Resolution
To assess affordability of healthy diets European data sources should be used.	Provided by World bank and published by FAO annually in the State of Food Security Report. The World Bank regularly engages with countries (including EU countries) and has access to national food prices through national statistic offices. While the indicator has been developed to allow global comparisons a more EU context-specific approach (ex: national FBDGs from EU countries) is being explored

Reflection on the comments (Soc.4)

Food environment – Food messaging

Comment / question	Resolution
Specify what is covered by 'promotion' for the purpose of this indicator (only marketing and advertising, or also price promotions?).	<u>Promotions, labelling, marketing and advertising</u> are all aspects that can influence consumer information, preferences and purchase decisions. This is still a complex area for monitoring due to poor quality data. Some progress on the EU joint action Best-ReMaP to assess marketing of unhealthy foods targeted at children but achieving monitoring capacity remains limited. We will explore sustainability-related food labelling initiatives; ex: how new foods are displaying information related to their sustainability impact

Reflection on the comments (Soc.5)

Food environment – Properties of food

Comment / question	Resolution
It would be interesting to assess the proportion of healthy/less healthy foods in the market.	For this an agreed definition of healthy food would be needed, that we currently do not have but we explore an indicator for monitoring nutritional quality of food offer (see below).
Specify benchmark against which the nutritional quality of the food offer would be checked.	Exploratory research will be carried using FABLE https://food-labels-explorer.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en which hosts food composition data on branded food and beverage products across various EU countries and possibly using the WHO nutrient profile model to derive indicator of nutritional quality of food offer
Monitor (ultra)processed foods	Weak evidence and agreed definition are some challenges monitoring this area. Indicators of nutritional quality of food offer can focus on key nutrients for healthy diets, as highlighted by the WHO, such as sugars, salt and fats.

Reflection on the comments (Soc.6)

Food environment – Food heritage

Comment / question	Resolution
• What thematic area does it fit in? Link with FS sustainability is ambiguous. • Singling it out gives a disproportionate significance compared to other aspects of sustainability. • Change for food culture. Food has evolved over time and to achieve a sustainable food system, it is not necessary to eat as the previous generations but to adapt our diets.	Added due to its <u>relevance to EU policy</u>. The domain was classified in the Food environment thematic area as quality schemes aim to promote and inform consumers on unique product properties including geographic origin and traditional know-how – affecting food choices. The concept of food culture is not well defined. What could it mean in the context of sustainable food systems (?!)
• Should be complemented with an indicator on the number of operators registered, hectares covered and number of animals covered. • The sole number of EU quality schemes includes a bias to larger agricultural systems, providing a competitive disadvantage to smaller MS.	The relevance of the domain as well as the related indicators is still under exploration. We will consider these directions.

Reflection on the comments (Soc.7)

Nutrition and Health – Nutrition and healthy, sustainable diets

Comment / question	Resolution
We propose to consider adding indicators also for other nutrients in addition to protein, alcohol, fat to estimate their consumption in the total diet.	EFSA provides reliable estimates of food consumption across many EU countries. We are developing food consumption indicators adapting a new method to use EFSA food consumption data for monitoring purposes, focusing on relevant food groups as highlighted in key principles and recommendations of healthy, sustainable diets Data on nutrients including sugars, alcohol, proteins or fats not readily available but could be an area for collaboration in the future.
We draw attention to the lack of data on plant-based alternatives to dairy and meat. These foods play a vital role in the sustainable transition of the food system.	Relevant. While specific recommendations on plant-based alternatives for healthy diets are yet not agreed this is certainly an aspect to be explored. Legumes is already a key food group in the scope of the current work on food consumption indicators and often a main constituent of plant-based alternatives

Reflection on the comments (Soc.8)

Nutrition and Health – Health impact from diets

Comment / question	Resolution
Add indicators on non-communicable diseases (NCDs), for example, on colorectal cancer. Add indicators for children : prevalence of anemia (<5 years); food allergies (<10 years); food intolerance (<10 years).	We prioritise measuring the progress on the most relevant health outcomes driven by the food system in the EU: excess weight and obesity. Even though obesity acts as a gateway to a range of NCDs, these are also much affected by determinants outside the food system's influence. In the next round the inclusion of NCDs could be considered
Prevalence of overweight and obesity in (pre-teens) aged 10-18 should be also included.	We propose the age group (6-9 years) included comes from the WHO Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (regular collection of height/weight measurements across many EU countries). Extending the indicator for teens require involving self-reported data from the WHO Health Behaviour among school age children (comparability issue).
The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) collaborators themselves have now agreed that their 2019 estimates for the risks for unprocessed red meat were erroneous.	All modelled estimates are accompanied by uncertainties but the systematic work carried by the GBD has been central to support countries health-related decisions and useful to inform on trends. Total burden of disease attributable to dietary risks can track the progress on the health impact from diets.

Horizontal thematic areas

Governance

- Strategic planning and policies
- Effective implementation
- Accountability
- Shared vision

Resilience

- Preparedness
- Shock resilience
- Adaptation
- Transformation

- These thematic areas are relevant for all three sustainability (thematic) dimensions. The related indicators
 - may incorporate key elements from one or more thematic domains
 - Support a holistic approach
- Presenting Governance and Resilience as horizontal thematic areas helps to avoid masking knowledge gaps (absence of thematic indicators)
- No specific indicators were proposed in September 2023
 - Work was focused more on the methodology of indicator development (Resilience) and defining the best approach of indicator collection (Governance).

Reflection on the comments (Horizon.1)

Comment / question	Resolution
The envisioned Food System Sustainability Model indicates that it should present resilience and governance as a response according to the DPSIR framework.	Even if the classification of indicators according to DPSIR is not displayed in the dashboard, this is an element of the framework. Indeed, such indicators mostly belong to response, but also to the driver and state categories. This factor guided our selection of indicators for each horizontal thematic area, helping us avoid over-reliance on a single DPSIR category and ensuring a more balanced distribution.

Reflection on the comments (Horizon.2)

Comment / question	Resolution
Missing indicators (examples) • Number of environmentally harmful EU and/or national subsidies • food products with lower environmental standards • development of urban, regional and national food policies • Level and control of law enforcement in fisheries • Amount of subsidies, public investments in research and innovation	As the horizontal thematic areas have not yet been elaborated, the proposed indicators will be inserted in our list of placeholders to assess their fitness for the purpose and feasibility.

Reflection on the comments (Horizon.3)

Comment / question	Resolution
Indicator Direct agricultural loss attributed to disasters does not quantify the degree of resilience of the sector, rather the degree of exposure to natural disasters.	This indicator has been moved to the 'Food loss and waste' thematic domain and will serve as input to calculate resilience together with inputs on disaster prevention and management measures. The methodology is under preparation.

Future work (Horizontal thematic areas)

- **Development of the placeholder** indicators
- **Finalize the list of indicators** to be included in each thematic area to ensure comprehensive coverage of relevant issues.
- **Create a composite indicators** that combine the selected indicators for the Resilience TA
- **Establish and implement methodologies to quantify trends** within each thematic area, allowing for consistent measurement over time.

The EU Food System Monitoring Dashboard

EU food system monitoring dashboard

- Information system and communication tool created by the JRC
- First public edition: around 46 headline indicators (drawing on existing data sources in the EU and from international organisations)
- Link: https://datam.jrc.ec.europa.eu/datam/mashup/EU_FOOD_SYSTEM_MONITORING/
- Publication of the dashboard (November 2024)
- Evolutionary maintenance of the dashboard
 - Reflecting changes of political/policy priorities
 - Periodic health check (correlation analysis, balanced coverage)

Thank you



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