

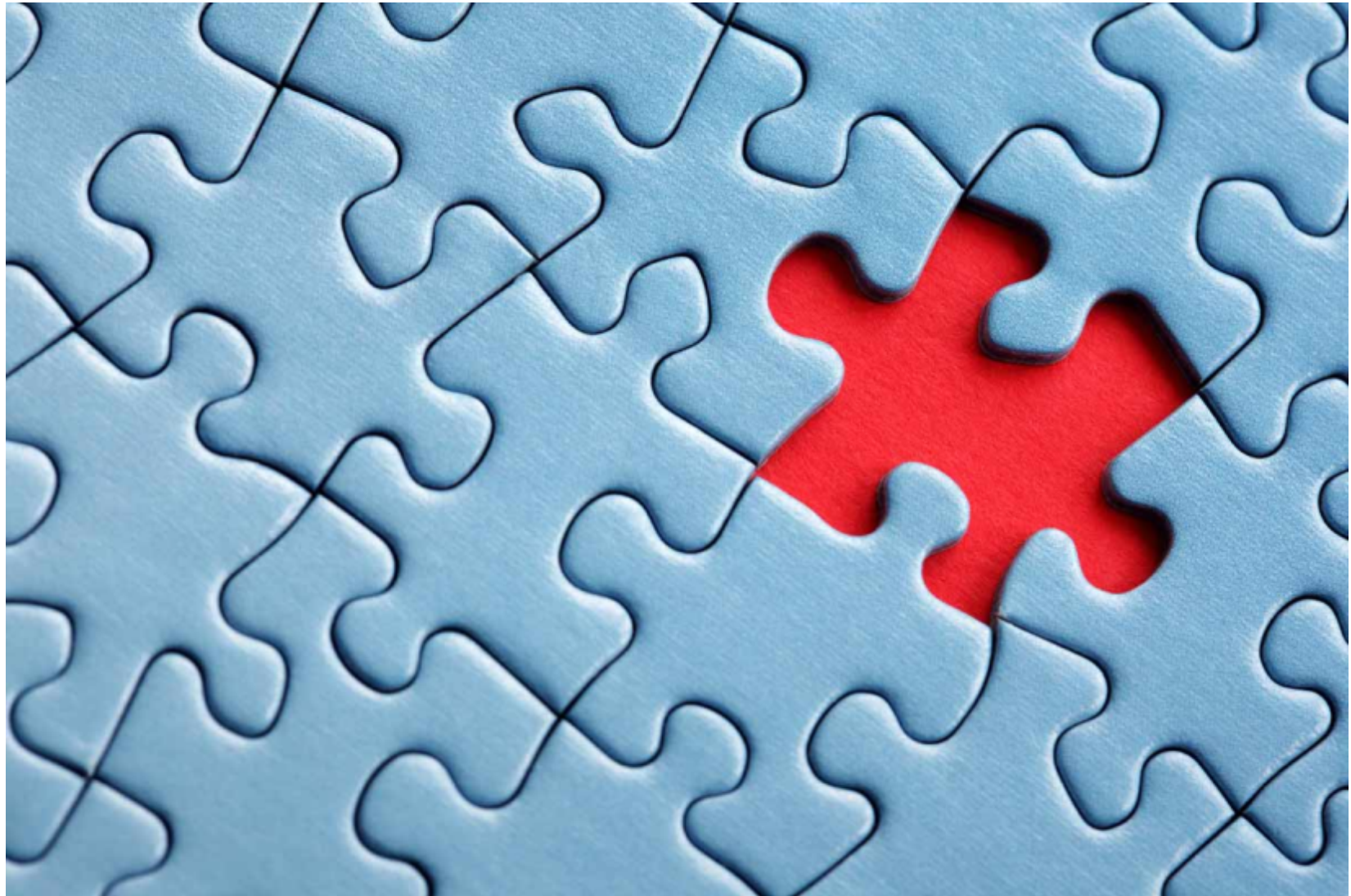


3 March 2020, Brussels

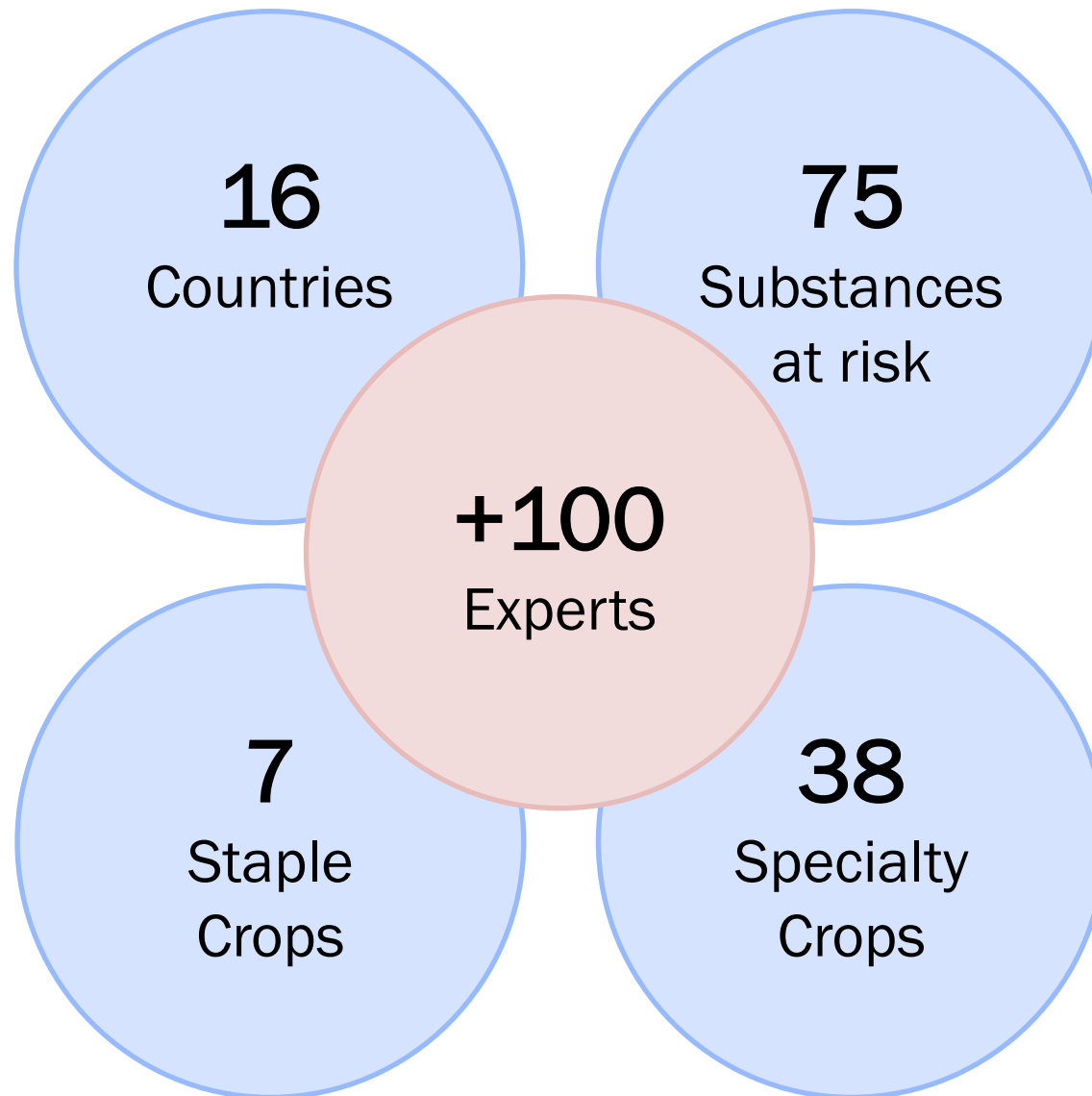
Less Pesticides, Less Food?

Socio-economic effects of hazard-based
legislation on crop protection products in the EU

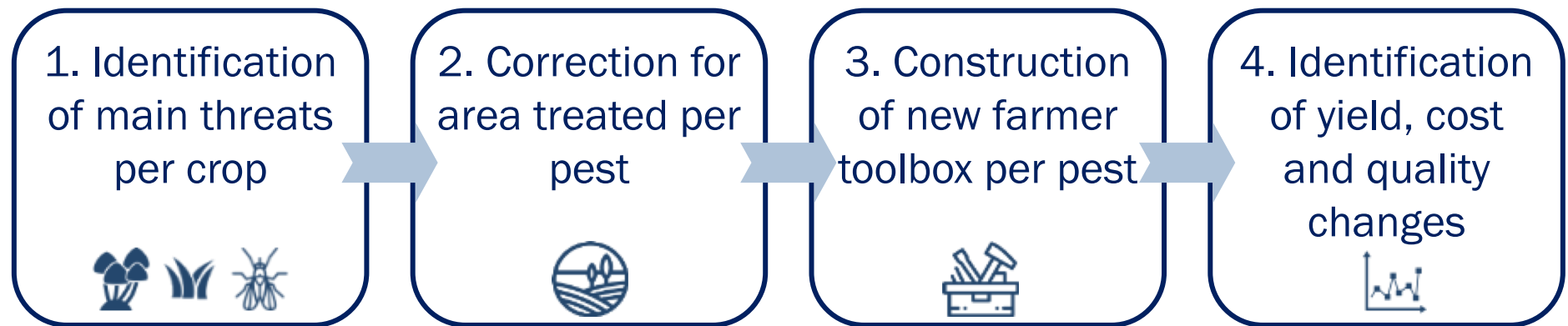
Objective: Obtain *Economic* insights in addition to *environmental* and *health* impact assessments



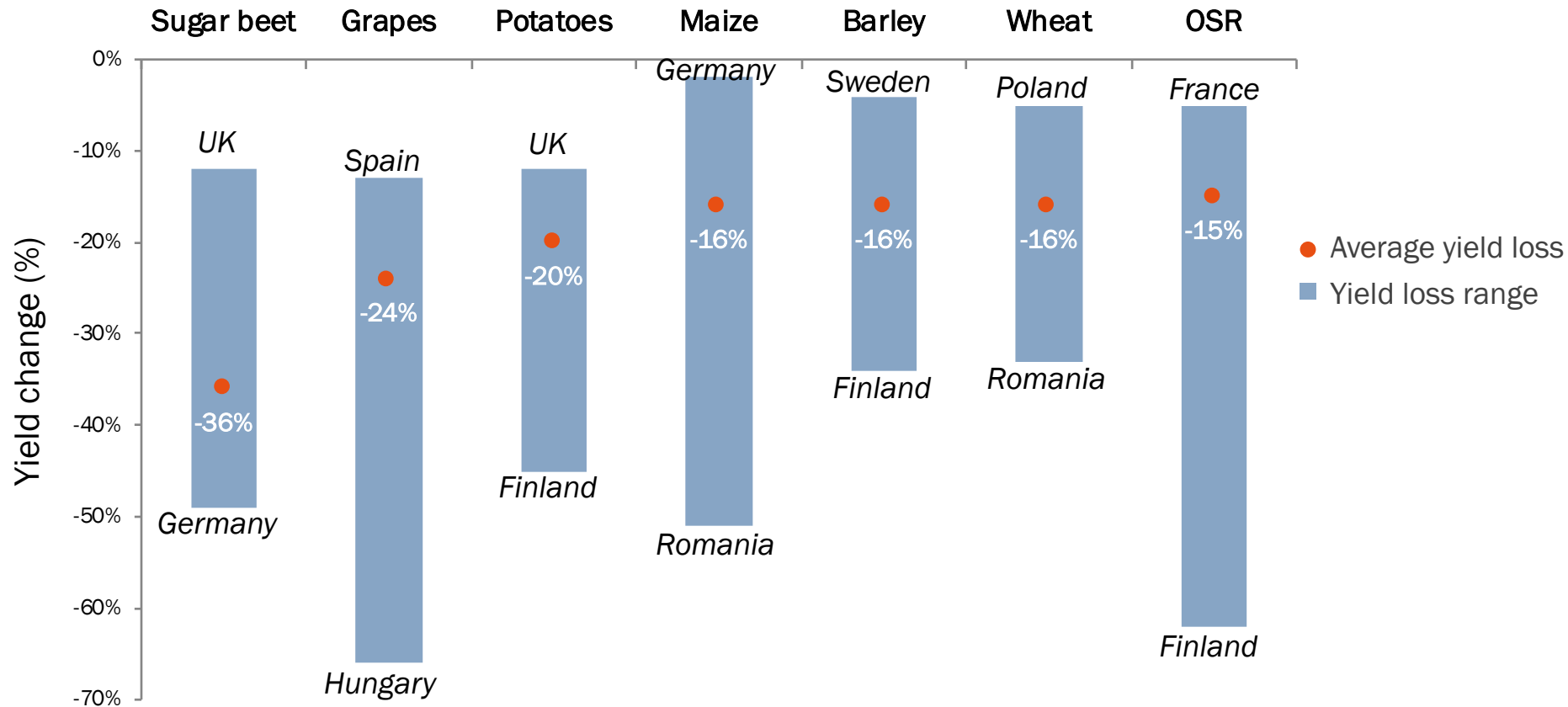
One study with two reports in 2016 and 2019



The basis of the analysis is the immediate yield and production cost effects that result from a restricted farmer toolbox

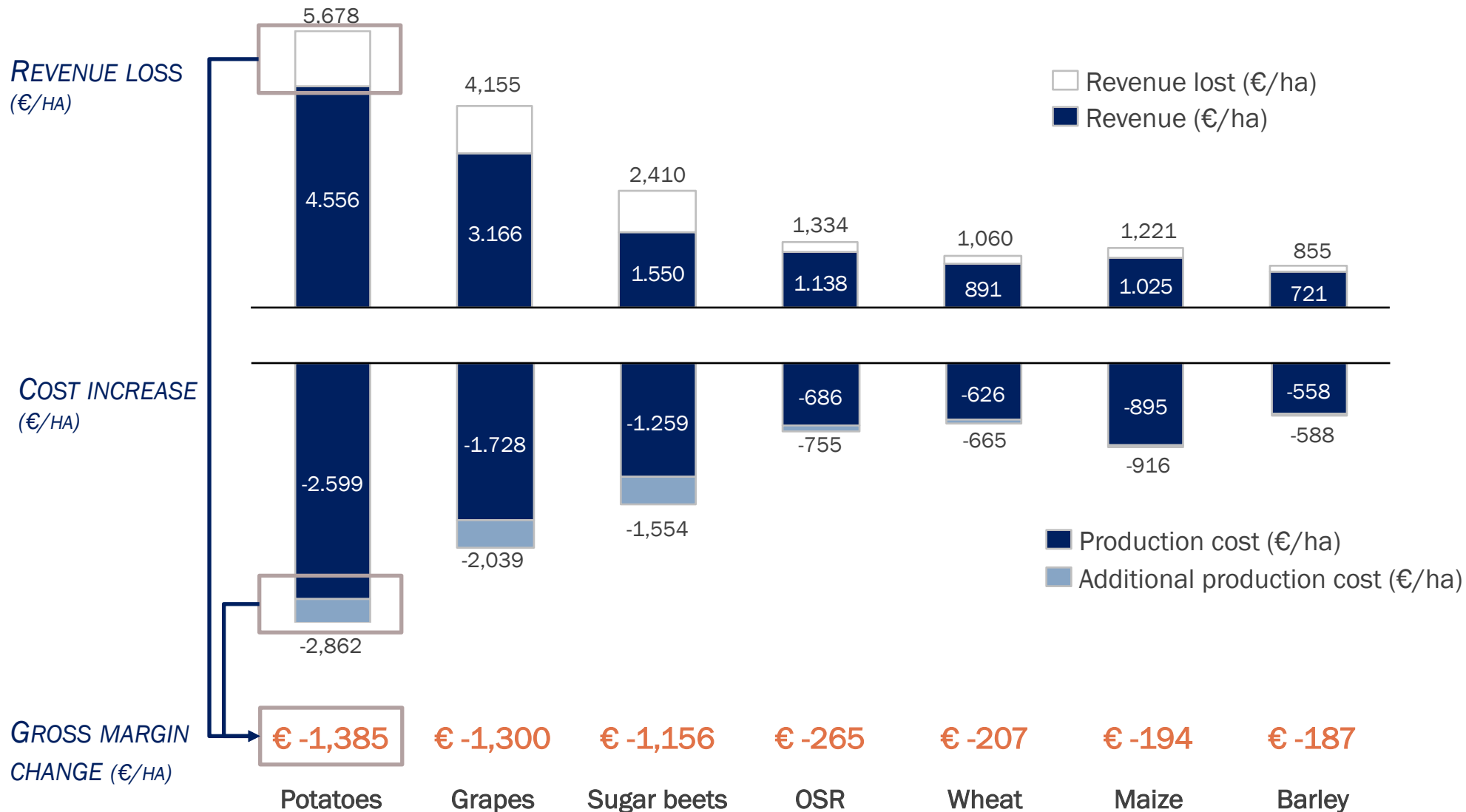


Staple crops in the EU face average yield losses ranging from 15% to 36%



The loss of 102 million tonnes of staple crops is equal to € 14 billion (-17%)

Lower yields and higher production costs cause lower gross margins and thus lower incomes for farmers



EU would lose employment and food self sufficiency

Across the 16 countries some 1.3 million jobs are at risk of being lost

The EU would no longer be self-sufficient in *Wheat, Barley, Potatoes, Sugar Beets and Grapes* and staple crop imports would increase from 11 MT to 75 MT

To make up for the lower yield, an additional 8.4 million hectares would need to be brought into cultivation (which is impossible given availability of arable land)

- Equal to the area cultivated in Sweden, Finland and Austria
- Biodiversity and environmental impacts would be considerable

Speed of regulatory change must be in sync with speed at which Society, Agriculture and CPP Industry can change

Current agricultural systems are productive and efficient but do rely on chemical crop protection products

Speed of phasing out substances is higher than the rate at which new products reach the market

Disease and pest pressures are likely to increase due to climate change

Rate of regulatory change must be synchronized with the speed at which:

1. Agricultural production systems can change
2. Society can change expectations on food
3. Substances with superior environmental profiles can be introduced



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Annex 1: Overview of expert organisations

