



UNIVERSITÄT
HOHENHEIM



Challenges in reforming EU animal welfare legislation

GEWISOLA Pre-Conference Session

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Agenda

1. “Repurposing” EU animal welfare legislation

1.1 The on-going reform process

1.2 Conceptual challenges

1.3 Data availability: challenges and hope



2. Repurposing CAP support for animal welfare

2.1 Current CAP policies

2.2 Potential entry points for repurposing



1. “Repurposing” EU animal welfare legislation

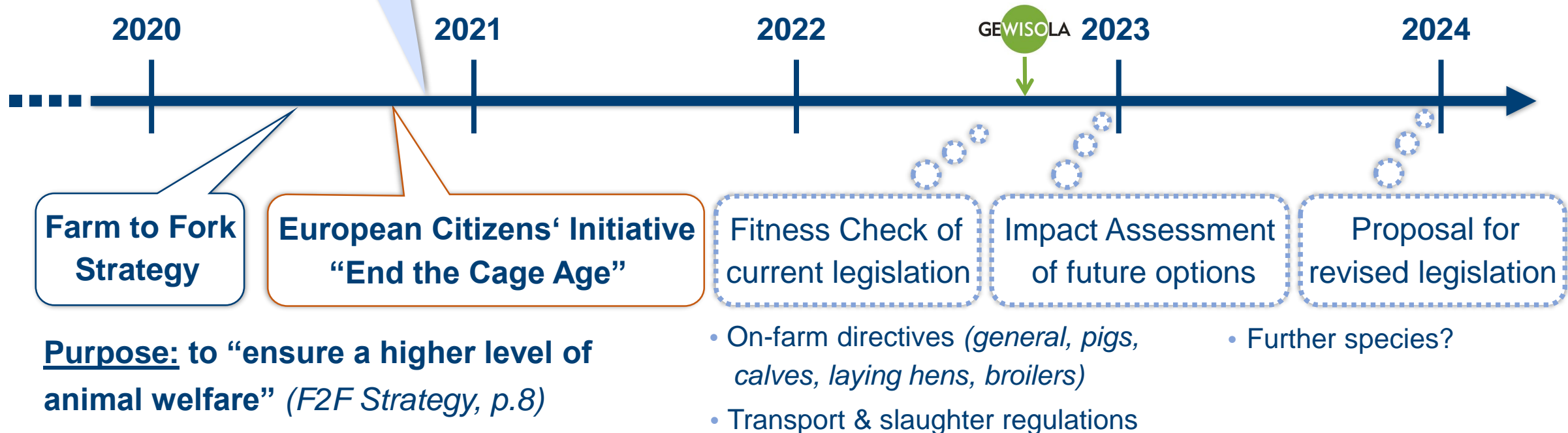


1.1 The on-going reform process



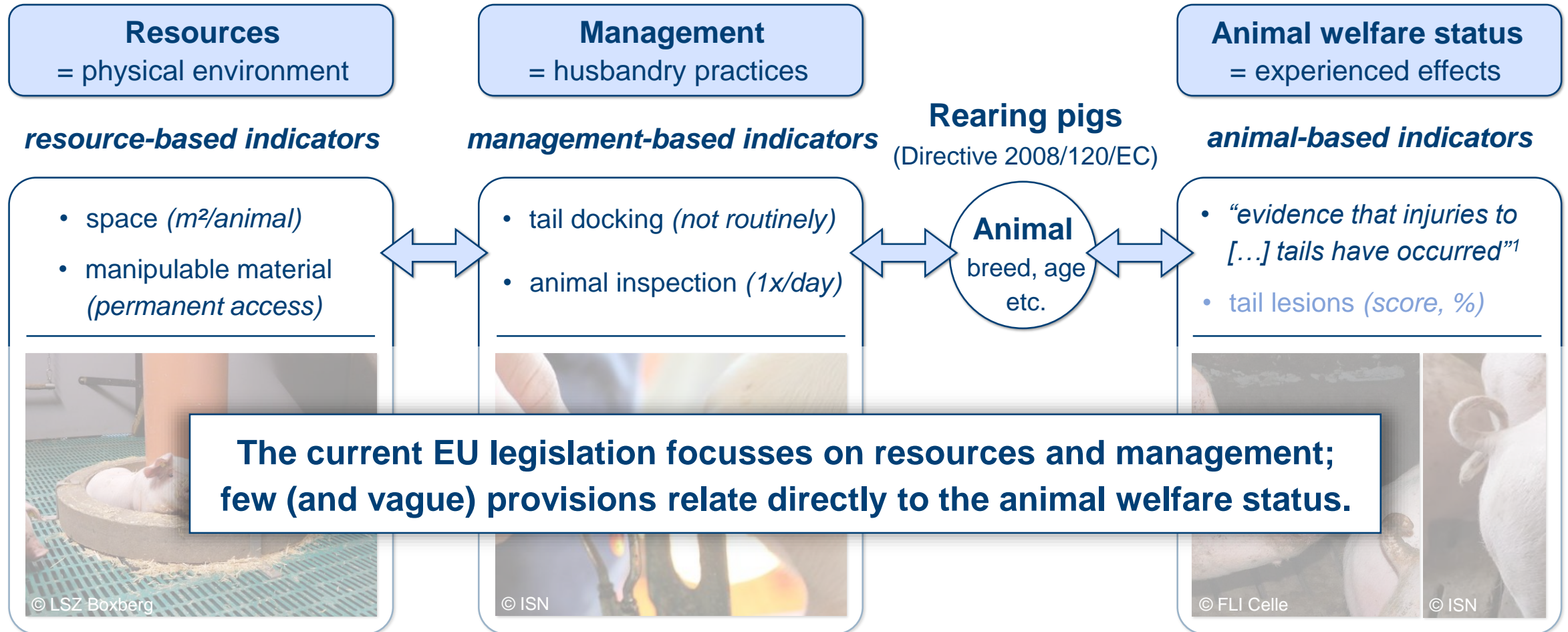
“The coming years will be busy but also decisive for animal welfare.”

- Commissioner Stella Kyriakides, 3 November 2020 at the EU Platform on Animal Welfare -



Why is it challenging to achieve the purpose
— a higher level of animal welfare —
with the on-going legislative reforms?

1.2 Conceptual challenges of AW legislation



Adapted from EFSA (2012, p. 9) by including links to Directive 2008/120/EC.

¹Directive 2008/120/EC, Point 8, Chapter 1, Annex 1.

1.3 Data availability: Challenges

Harmonised and comprehensive data on resources, management and the animal welfare status is not regularly available.

- **desk research** for publicly available harmonised data: EU statistics, grey literature (EU commissioned studies, EFSA), scientific literature
- **scope: 27 provisions** (on-farm n=16, transport n=5, slaughter n=6)

Resources

Pigs: manipulable material

- litter-based systems: **Agricultural Census** (sample survey)
- wide-spread slatted systems: **expert assessments** on EU level (EFSA 2007)

Laying hens: husbandry systems

- **Common Market Organisation**: cages **3**, barn/aviary **2**, free-range **1**, organic **0** (EC Statistics)

Management

Pigs: tail docking

- **expert assessments** on member-state level (Briyne et al. 2018; EFSA 2007)

Animal welfare status

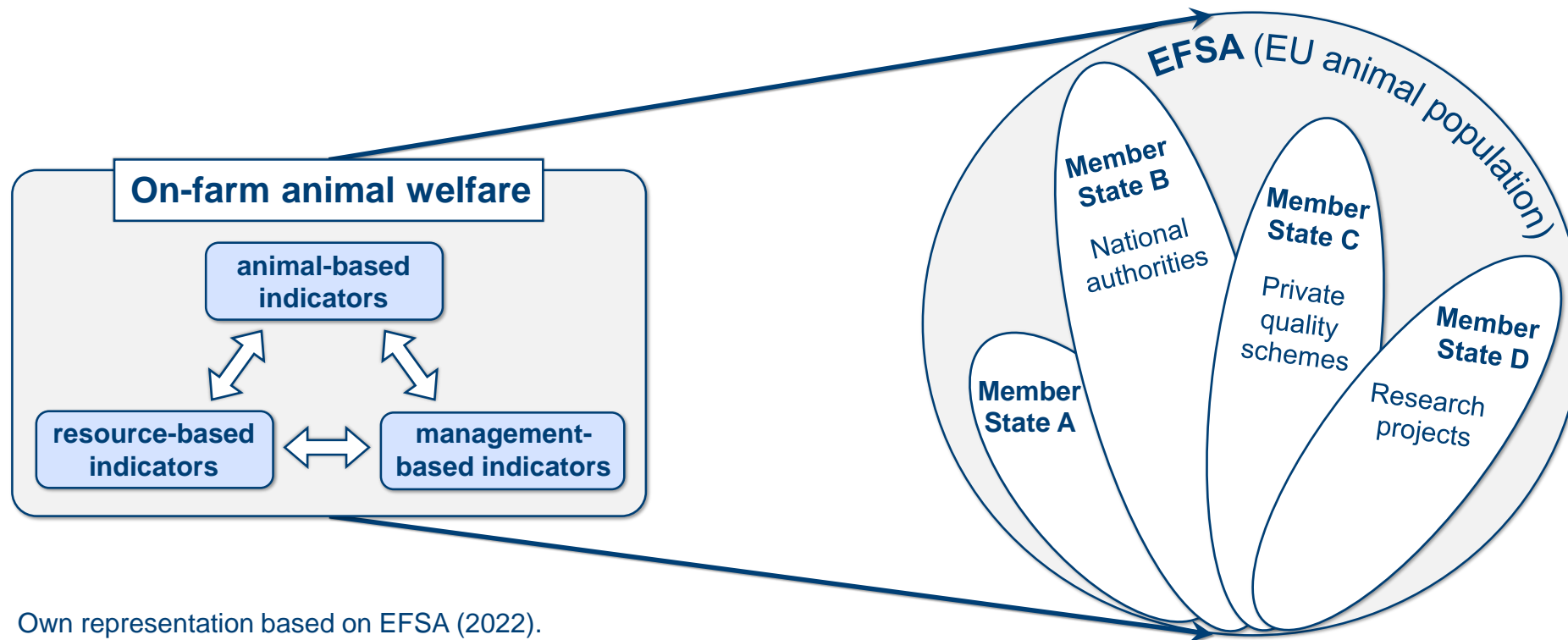
Broilers: slaughterhouse data

- records are not accessible

1.3 Data availability: Hope

The European Commission (DG SANTE 2022)

- **acknowledges** the **need** for better data (resource-, management- and animal-based indicators)
- **gathers input** on *how* this data could be collected and *at what cost*
- **could include** better data collection in the upcoming **legislative proposals**



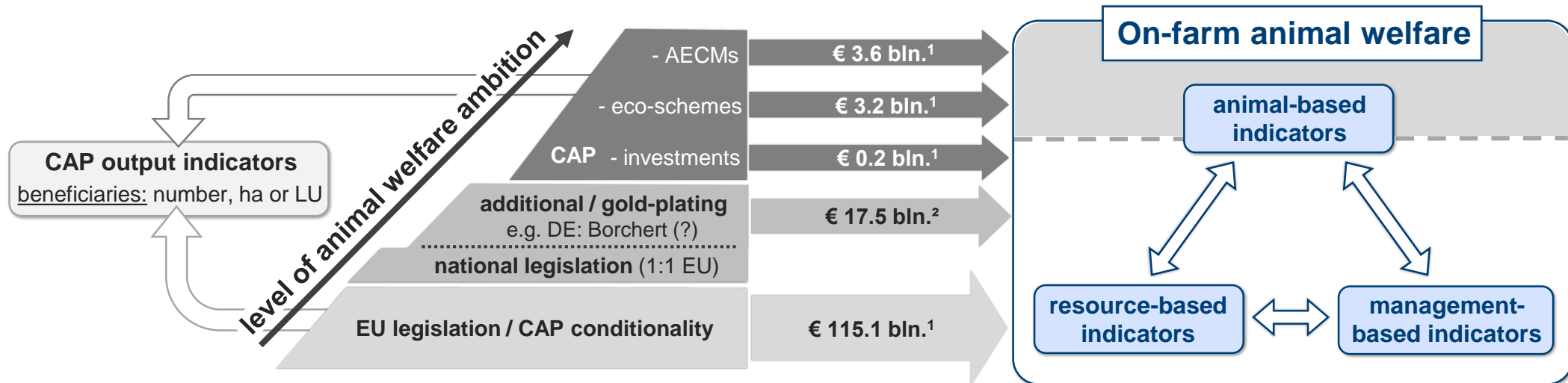
Own representation based on EFSA (2022).

2. Repurposing CAP support for animal welfare



2.1 Current CAP policies (2023-2027)

How does the CAP 2023-2027 connect to the current EU animal welfare legislation?



Own representation. Excluding CAP support for organic agriculture.

¹Calculated from Becker et al. (2022), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

²Calculated from Deblitz et al. (2021), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

CAP result indicators

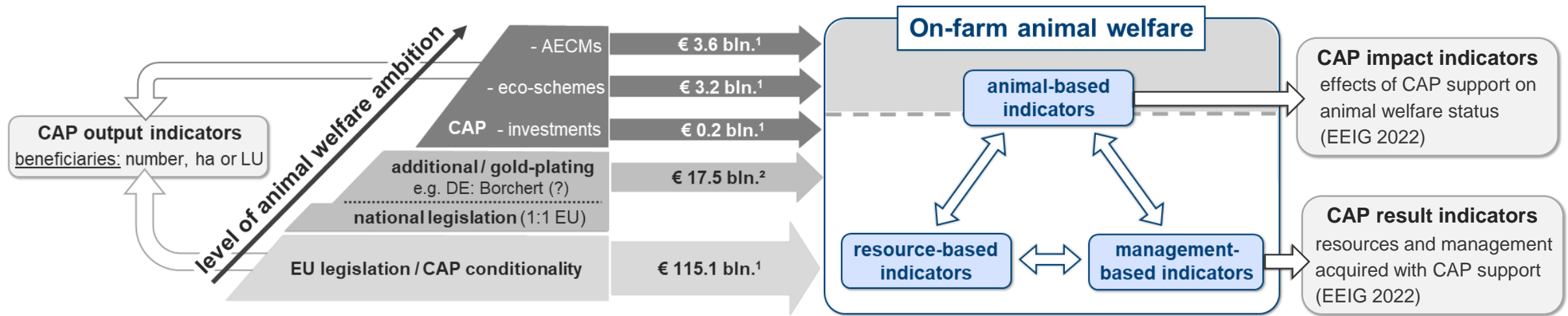
share of livestock units (LU)
covered by actions target-
ing animal welfare or anti-
microbial use

CAP impact indicators

value of production under
EU quality schemes and
organic production
sales/use of antimicrobials

2.2 Potential entry points for CAP repurposing

- align **CAP indicators** with concept of AW legislation (EEIG 2022) or establish **links to EFSA** monitoring



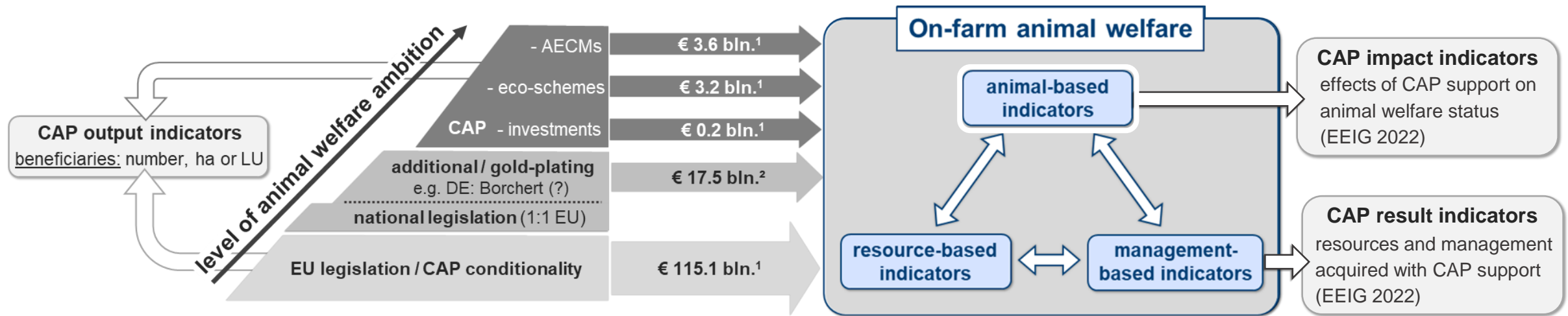
Own representation. Excluding CAP support for organic agriculture.

¹Calculated from Becker et al. (2022), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

²Calculated from Deblitz et al. (2021), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

2.2 Potential entry points for CAP repurposing

- make CAP payments **conditional** on animal welfare status (animal-based indicators) **challenging!**



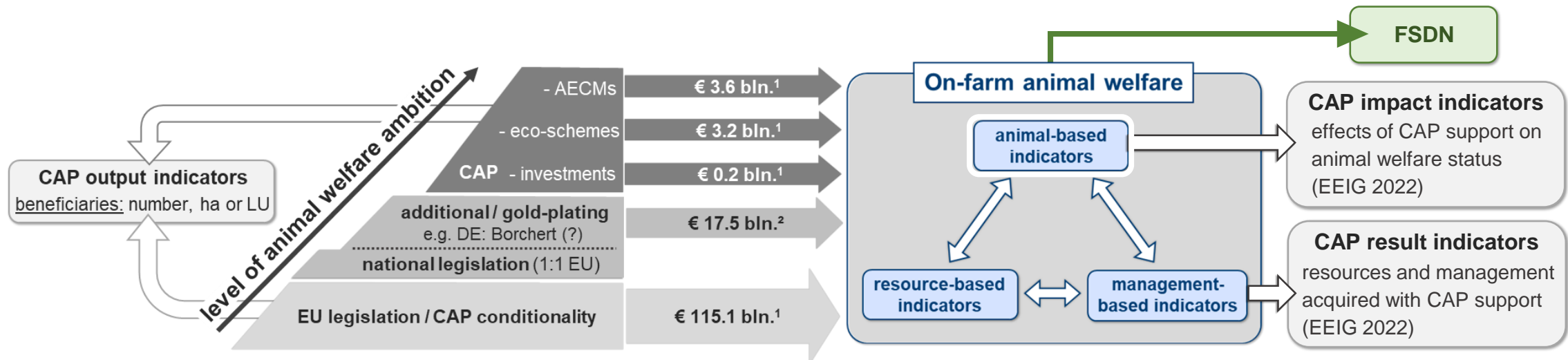
Own representation. Excluding CAP support for organic agriculture.

¹Calculated from Becker et al. (2022), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

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2.2 Potential entry points for CAP repurposing

- make CAP payments **conditional** on animal welfare status (animal-based indicators) **challenging!**
 - **freedom** to choose means **vs.** additional **risk** for farmers (PES: Engel 2016);
→ **pilot study** pig tails: perceived risk can be prohibitive, **risk premiums** (Bergschmidt 2019)
 - determine appropriate **levels of payments**: payment **differentiation** e.g. according to provision costs?
(PES: Engel 2016; Stygar et al. 2022; Niemi et al. 2021)
 - determine animal welfare **thresholds** (Bergschmidt et al. 2021)

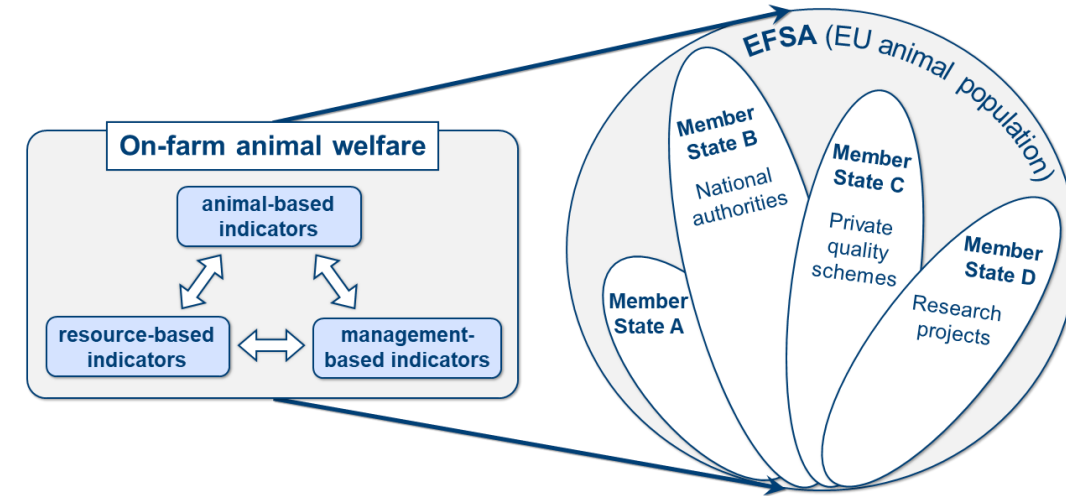


Own representation. Excluding CAP support for organic agriculture. ¹Calculated from Becker et al. (2022), EU-level sum for 2023-2027. ²Calculated from Deblitz et al. (2021), EU-level sum for 2023-2027.

Conclusions

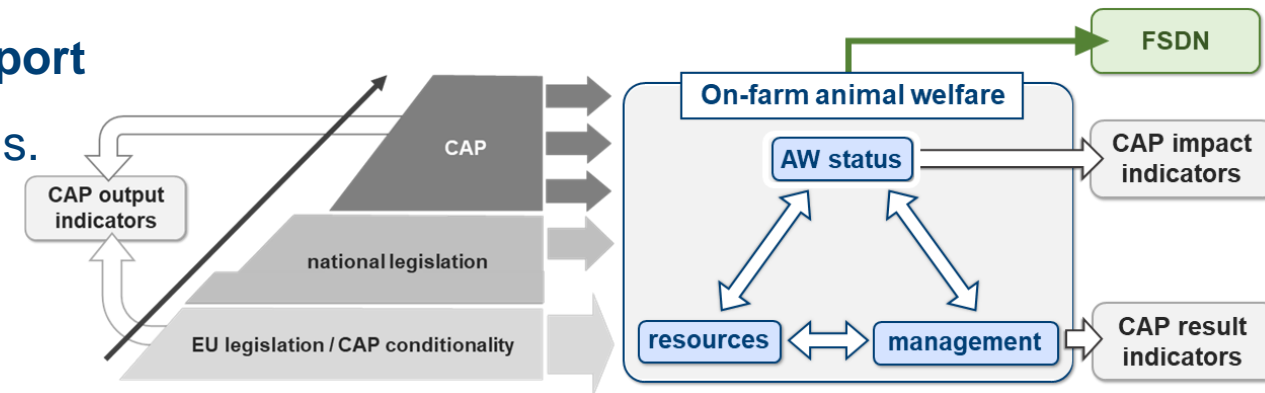
Part 1: “Repurposing” EU animal welfare legislation

- Animal welfare is a **challenging concept**: Legislation has to account for resources, management and effects on animals.
- Harmonised** EU animal welfare **data** is not regularly available but the window for improvement is open.



Part 2: Repurposing CAP support for animal welfare

- The CAP 2023-2027 does **not align financial support** with resources, management and effects on animals.
- Potential entry points** for CAP repurposing:
 - CAP performance indicators
 - payments conditional on animal welfare status



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Image references

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