

EU wide overview of phosphorus flows & data quality

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Overview

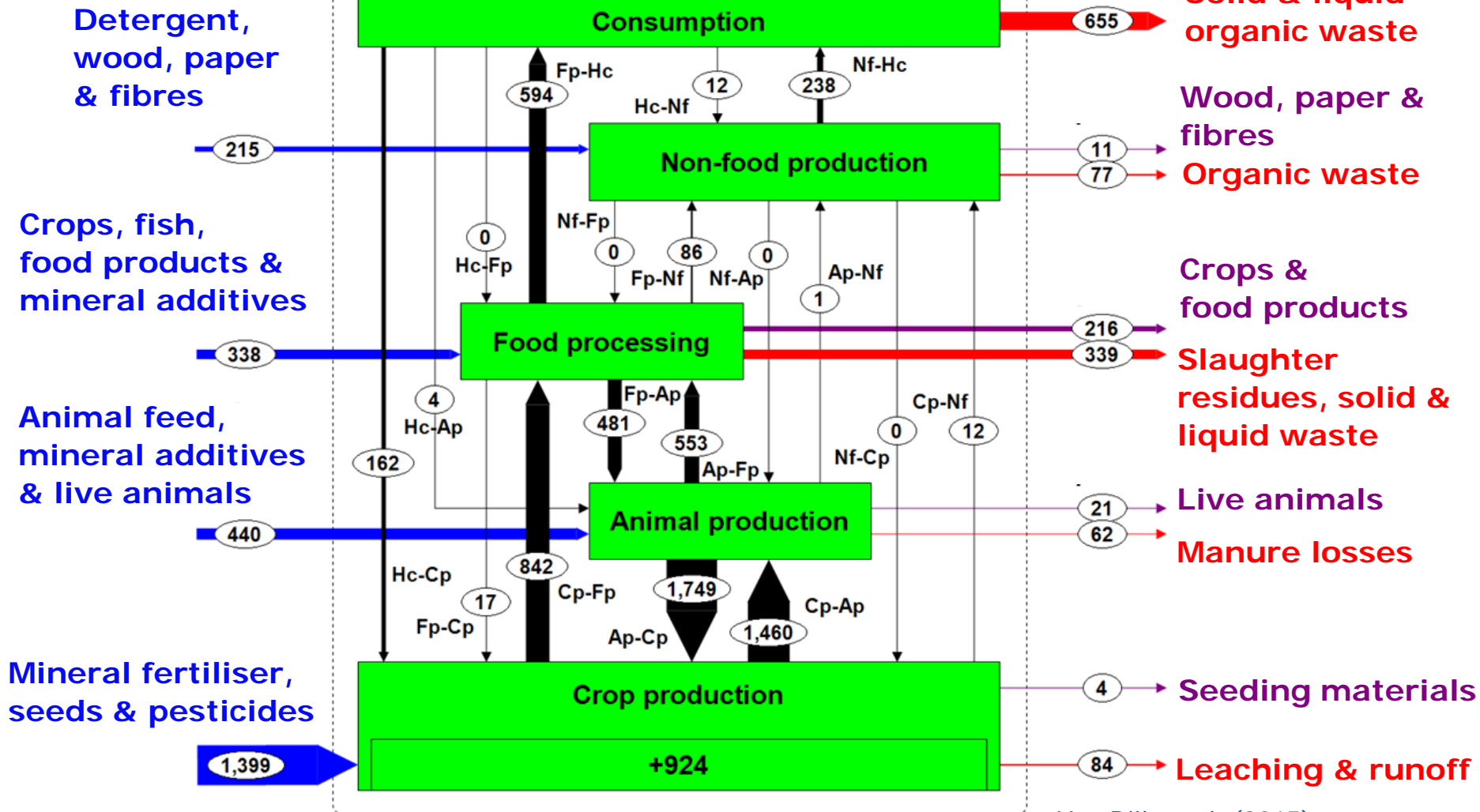
- Phosphorus (P) flows and balances in the EU-27 Member States
- Data & methods used
- Data quality & monitoring challenges

Phosphorus use in the EU-27 in 2005

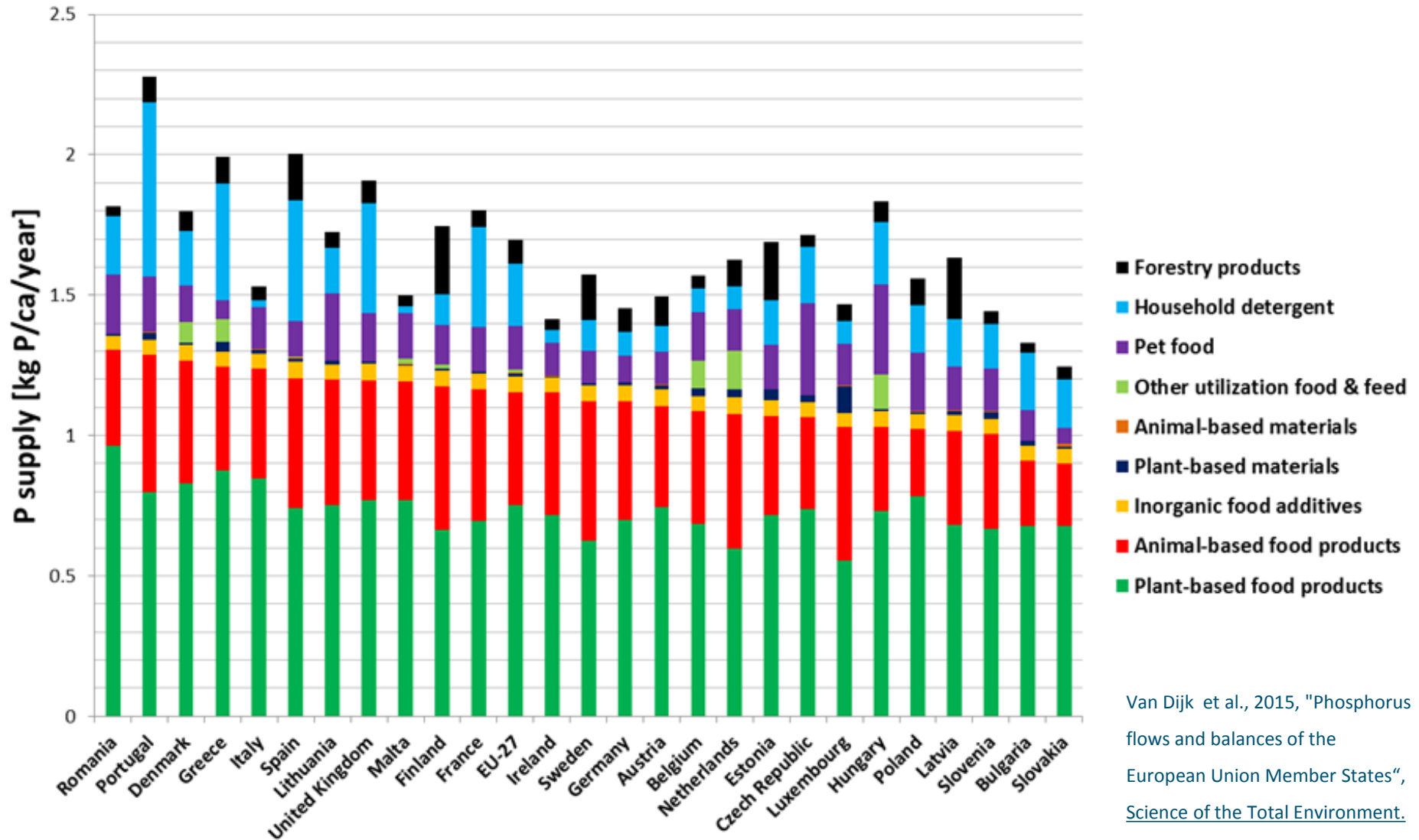
Input
2392

Flows & stocks in Gg = Mkg = kton P per year

Output
1468

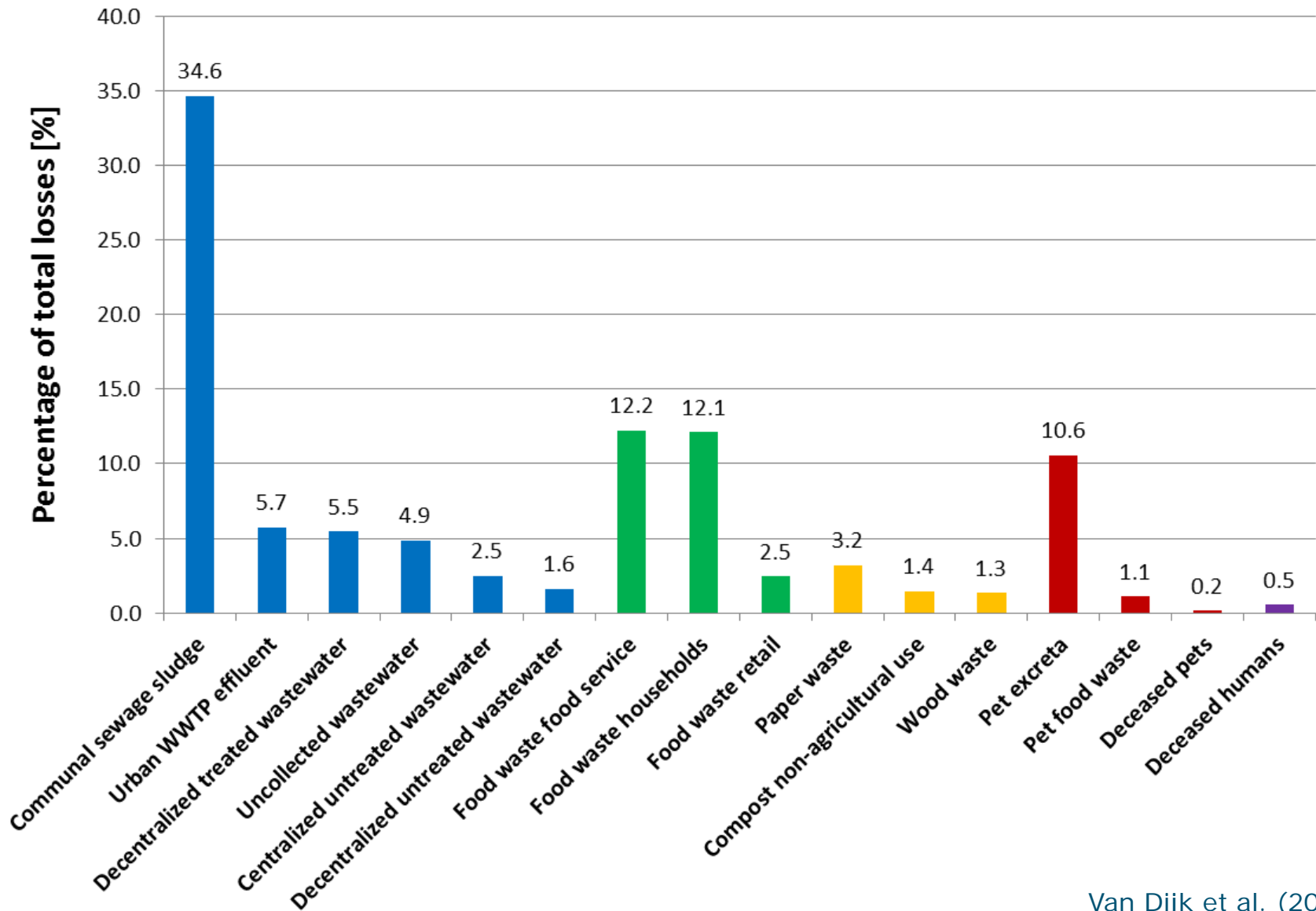


Per capita P supply per country in 2005

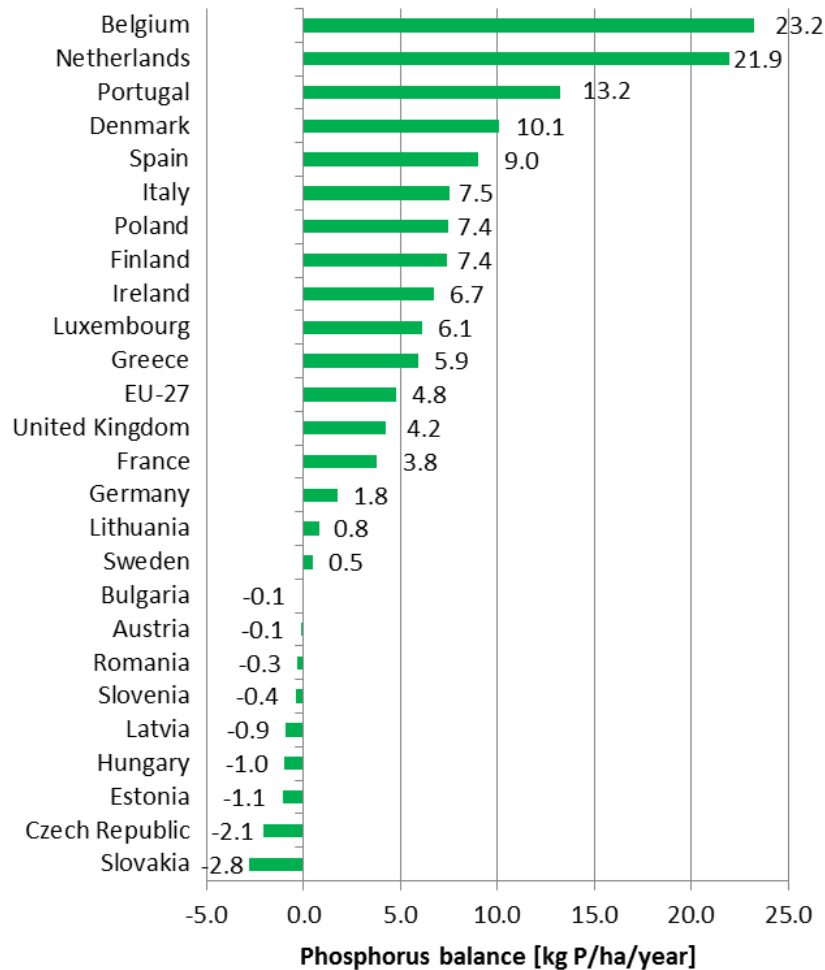


Van Dijk et al., 2015, "Phosphorus flows and balances of the European Union Member States", [Science of the Total Environment](#).

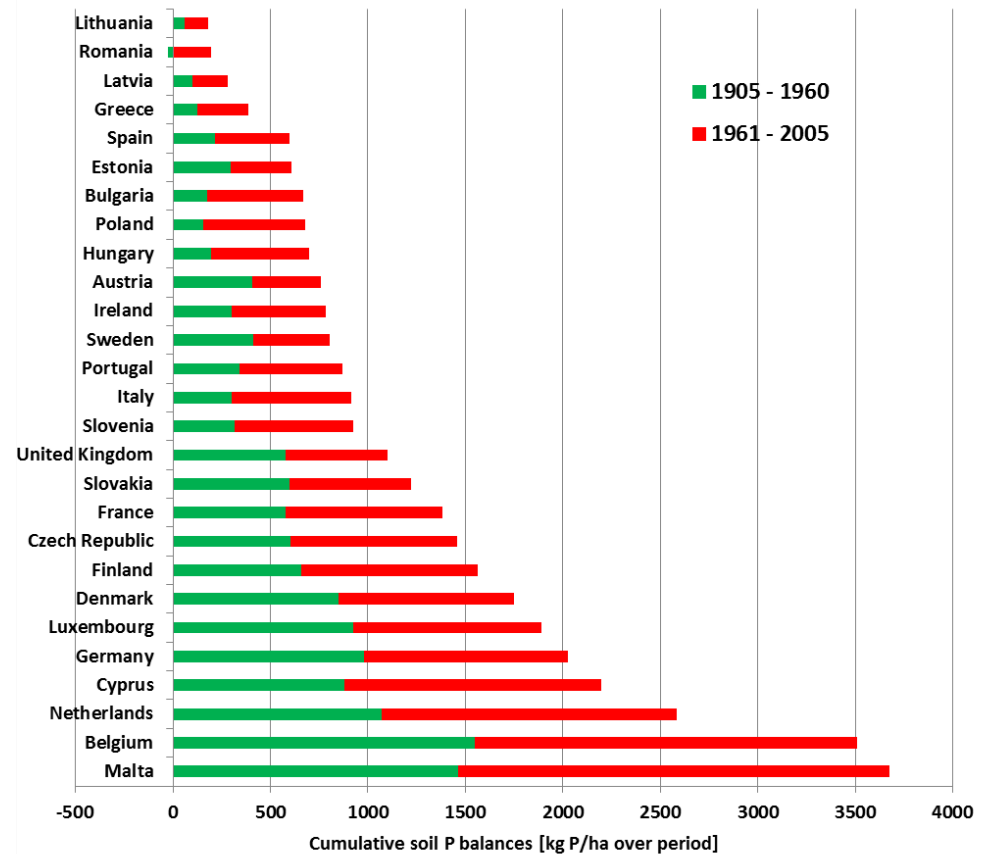
EU-27 consumption sector P losses in 2005



Agricultural P balances per country for 2005 & period 1905 - 2005



128 Mtons P accumulated
in agricultural soils between 1905 -2005



Data & methods used

- For EU-27 and individual Member States
- As detailed as data allows: 93 sub flows
- Imports, exports, losses and internal flows
- Entire food system + non-food
(e.g. forestry, detergents, pet food, etc.)
- Main data sources: Miterra-Europe, CAPRI, FAOSTAT, Eurostat, reports, articles and experts
- Time series if present in data (e.g. FAOSTAT, Eurostat)
- Data for 2005 complete and checked, other base years possible with additional data input
- Raw data is balanced based on mass balance principle
- EU-27 corrections for intra/extra trade

Data quality & monitoring challenges

- Data quality: trade > production > consumption > recycling
- Unclear definitions & not enough detail in data
- Eurostat data is incomplete and inconsistent
- Data gaps for waste flows & (new) recycling flows
- Literature data mostly not recent and only specific base years
- Trade databases not available for all products/materials
- Data gaps requires data filling procedures & flow balancing
- Industry data not publically available, sometimes commercially, but no peer reviewed
- Uncertainties for most data unknown
- Nutrient concentrations not monitored
- From quantity to quality, from theory to practise

Thank you for
your attention



Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

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Extra additional slides as background

EU-27 system & primary P flows in 2005

	Absolute quantity [Gg P/year]			Relative fraction of total system import, export & losses [%]			Primary P import		
	Import	Export	Losses	Import	Export	Losses	Gg P/year	% of total system primary import	% of total sector import
CP	1399	4	84	58	1	7	1391	78	99
AP	440	21	62	18	9	5	250	14	57
FP	338	216	339	14	86	28	27	2	8
NF	215	11	77	9	4	6	110	6	51
HC	-	-	655	-	-	54	-	-	-
Total	2392	251	1217	100	100	100	1777	100	

EU-27 lost P destination per sector in 2005

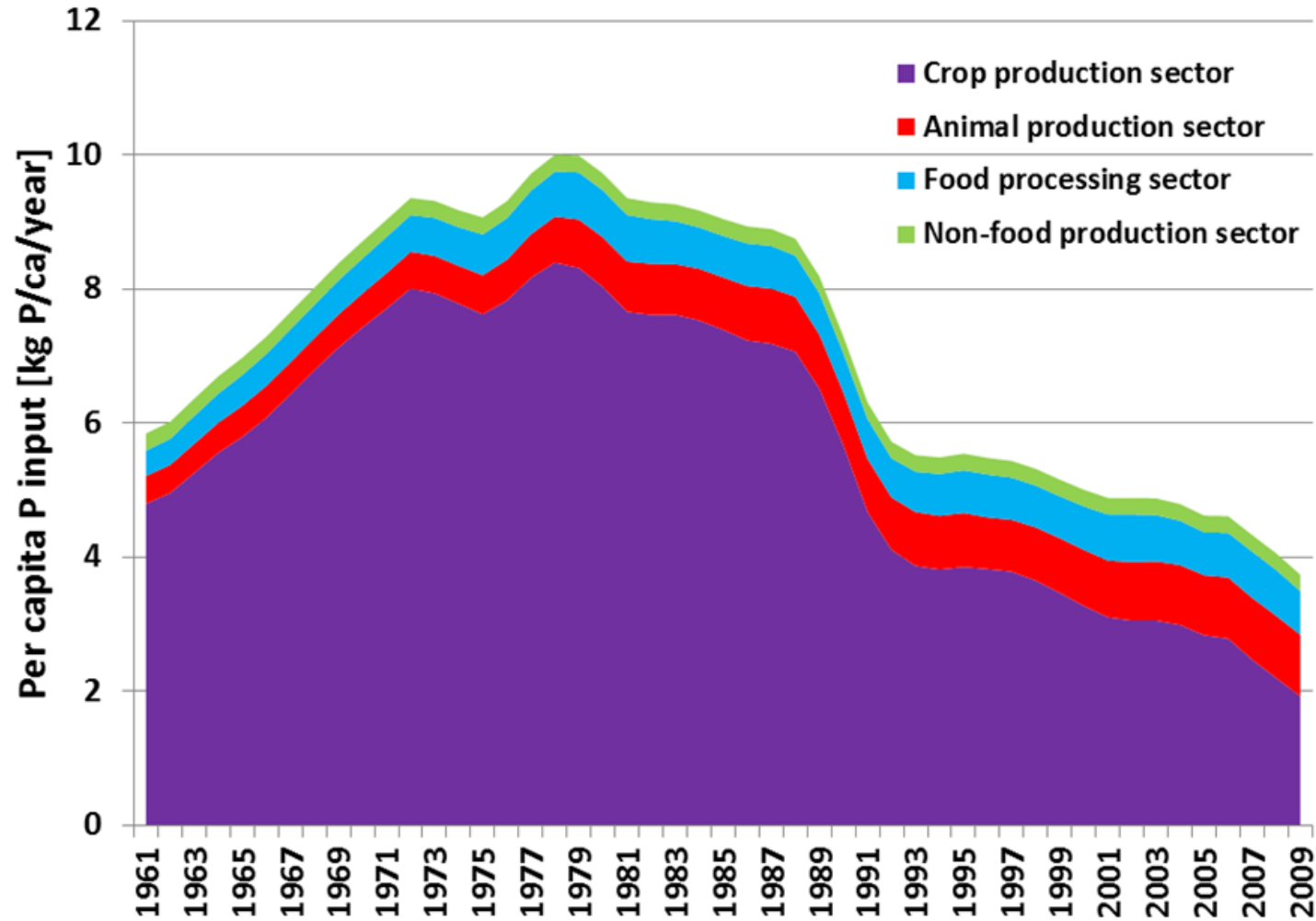
	Ashes	Landfills	MSW	Hydrosphere	Lithosphere	Undefined	Total losses
CP	0	0	0	84	0	0	84
AP	0	0	0	62	0	0	62
FP	294	0	0	2	1	41	339
NF	10	0	0	1	0	66	77
HC	104	59	221	54	74	143	655
Total	408	59	221	204	76	250	1217
Relative share [%]	34	5	18	17	6	21	

EU-27 P use efficiency per sector in 2005

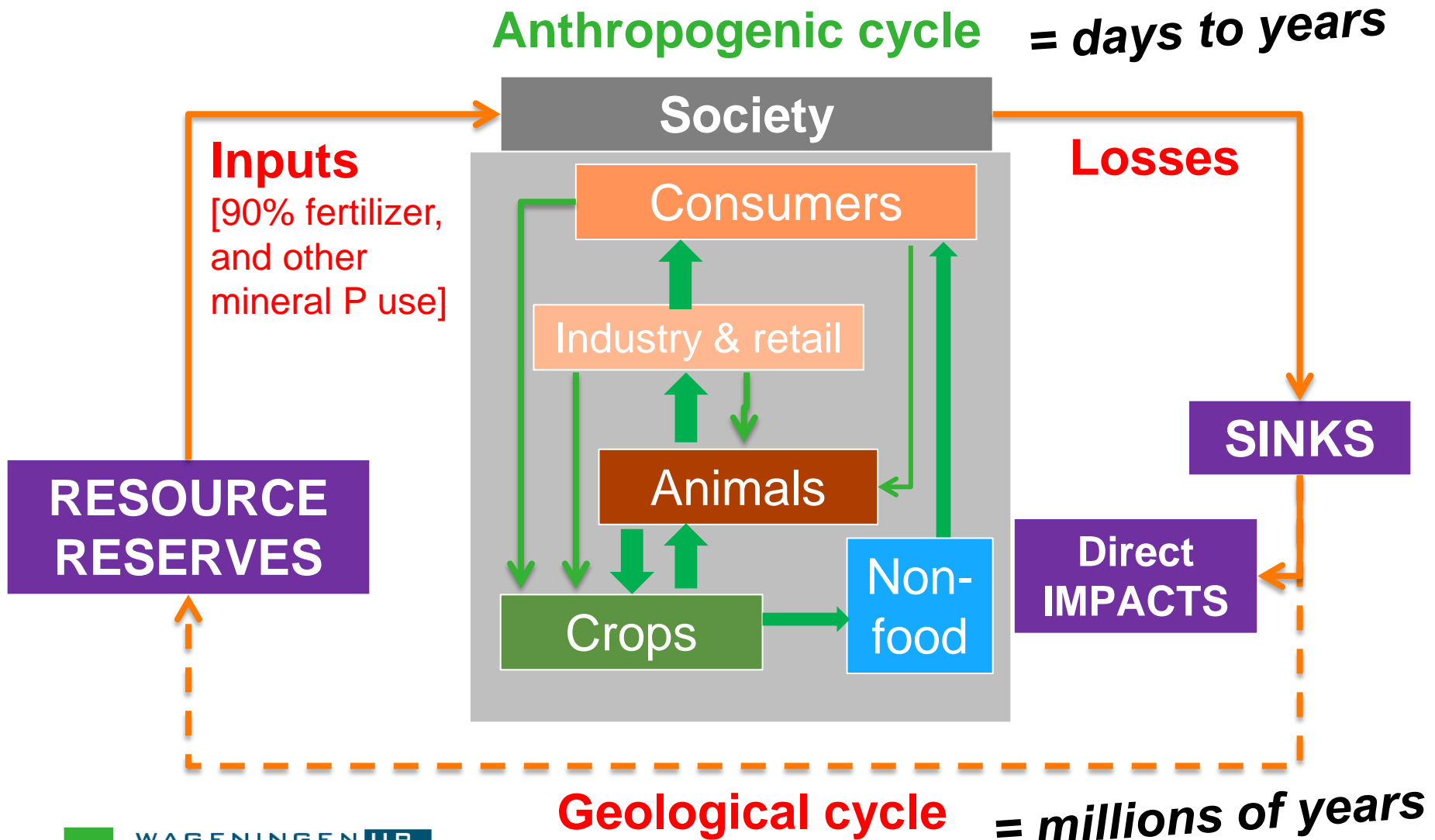
	CP	AP	FP	NF	HC
PUE-1 Output flows minus losses	70	97	80	76	21
PUE-2 Upward output flows plus export	70	24	52	76	-

$$PUE_{sector} = \frac{Output_{effective}}{Input_{total}} * 100$$

Changes in EU-27 P inputs 1961-2009

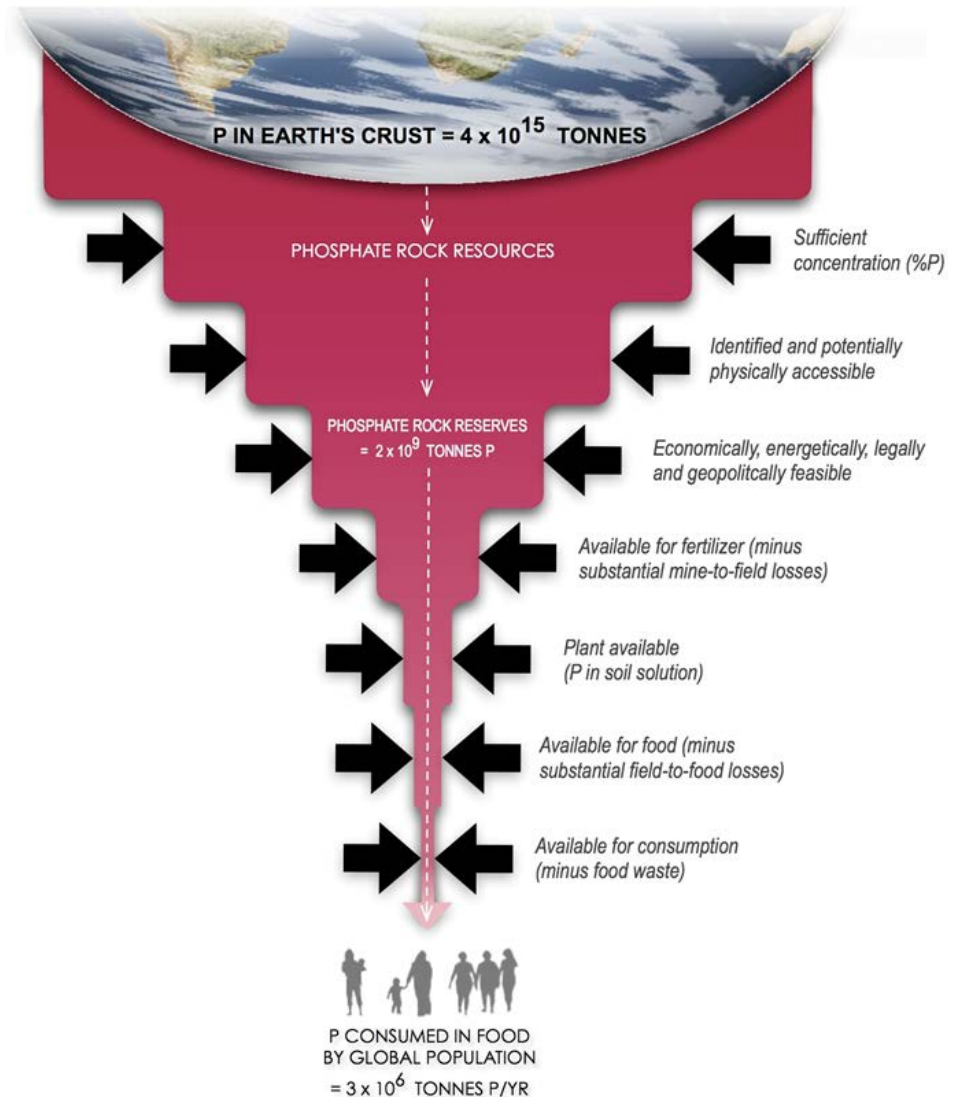


Geological versus anthropogenic cycles

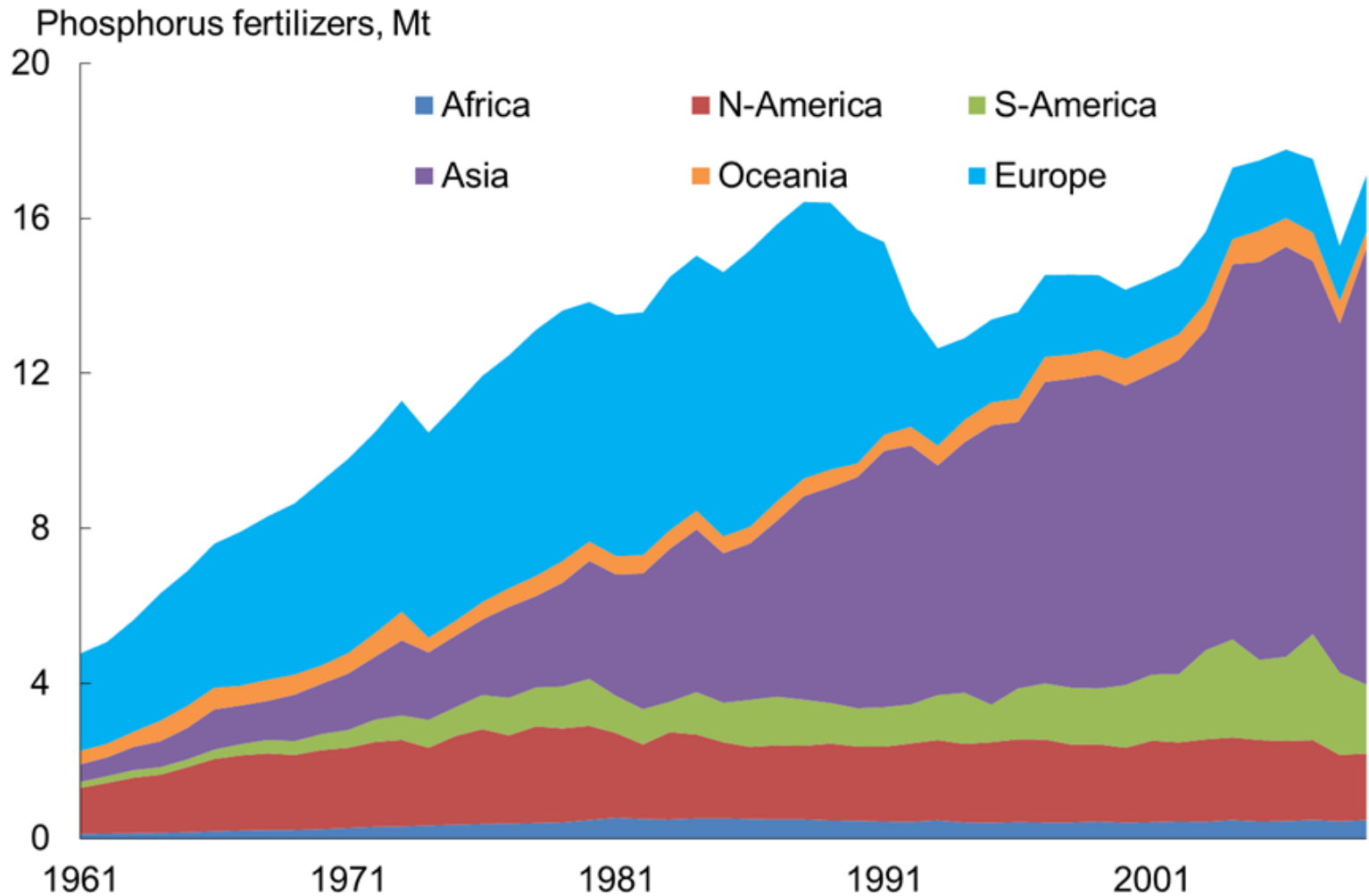


Phosphorus challenge

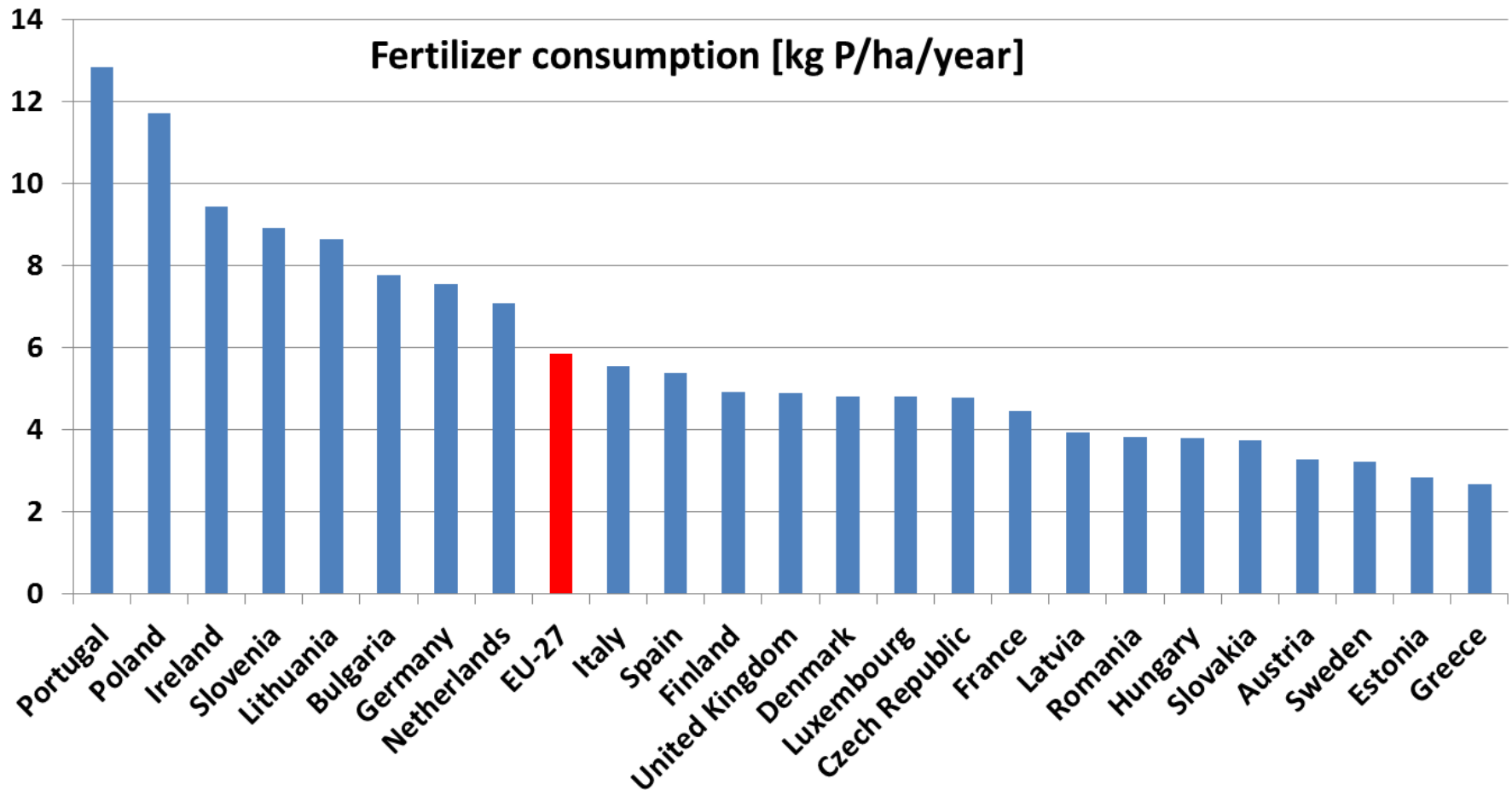
- Non-renewable at human time scale
- Spatially concentrated: geopolitical dependency and tension
- Relatively low price, but price volatility (2008 case)
- Lower P-rock quality:
 - decreasing P content
 - impurities (e.g. cadmium, uranium)
- Pollution and eutrophication



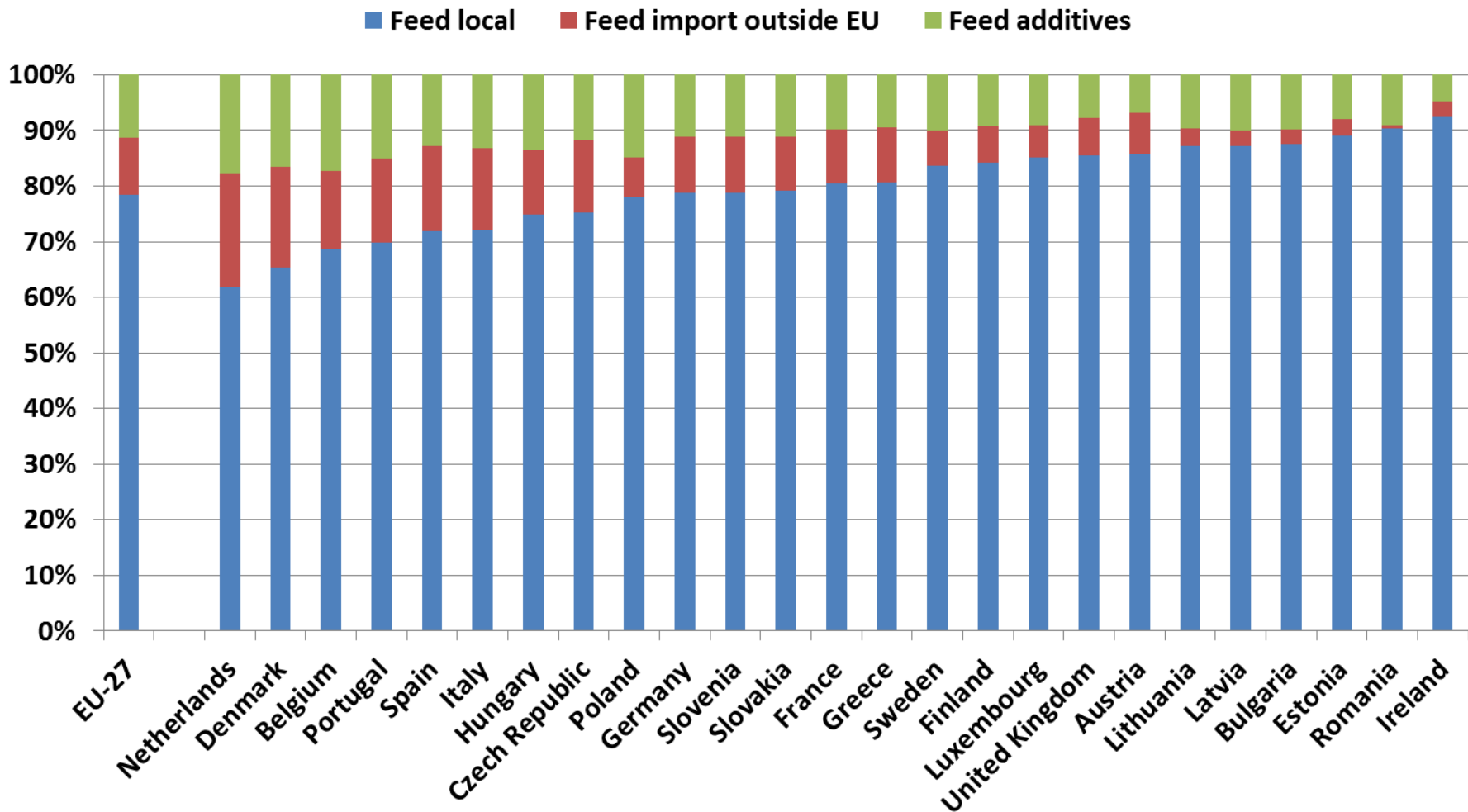
Global fertilizer P consumption 1961-2010



Fertilizer P consumption in EU-27 in 2010

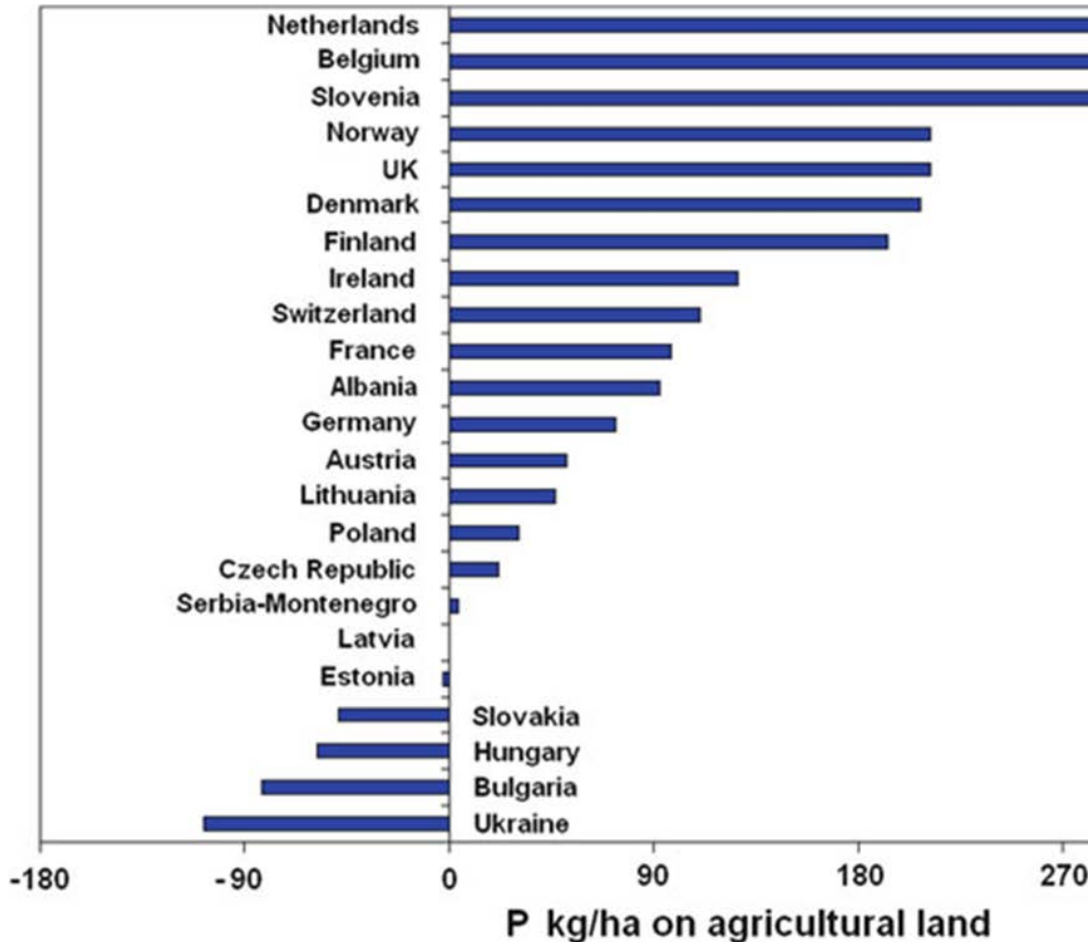


Animal feed P origin in EU-27 in 2005

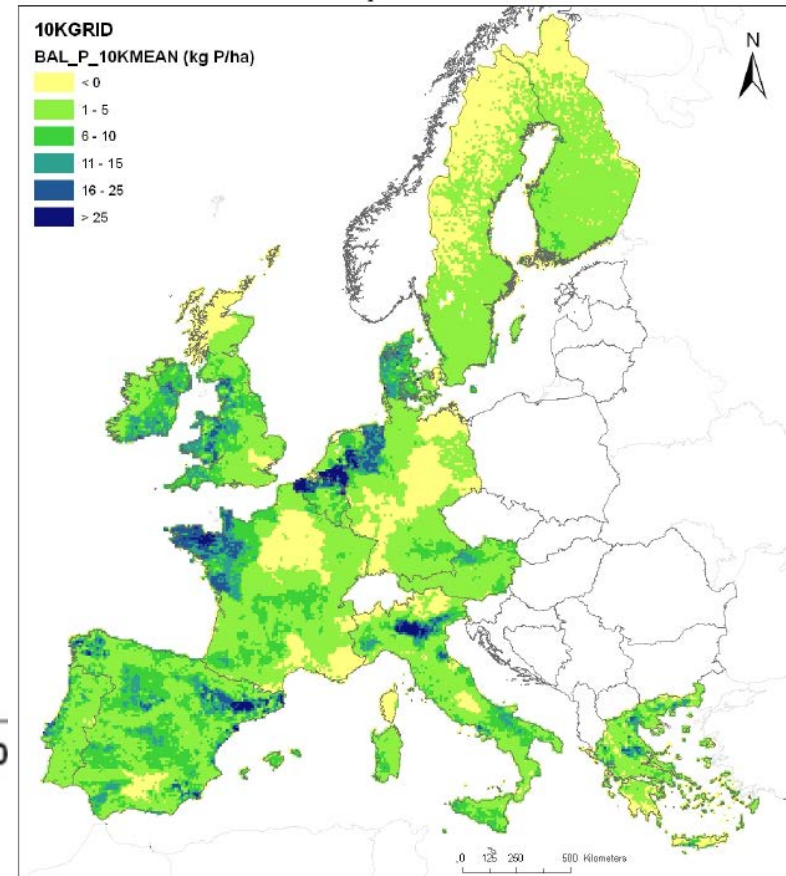


Agronomic P balances in the EU

Source: Csathó & Radimsky 2012



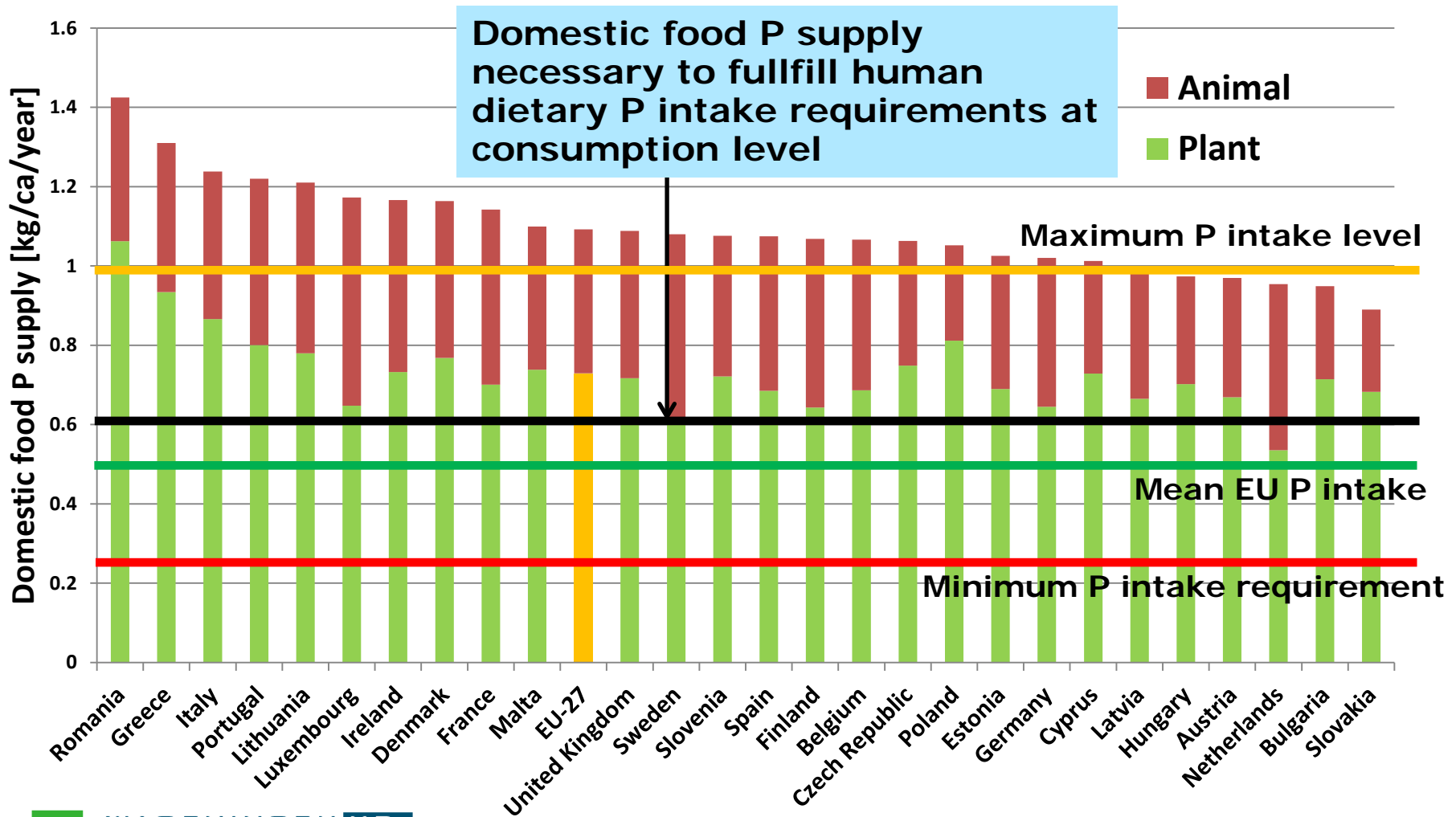
Estimated cumulative P balances [kg P/ha] of EU countries during 1991–2005



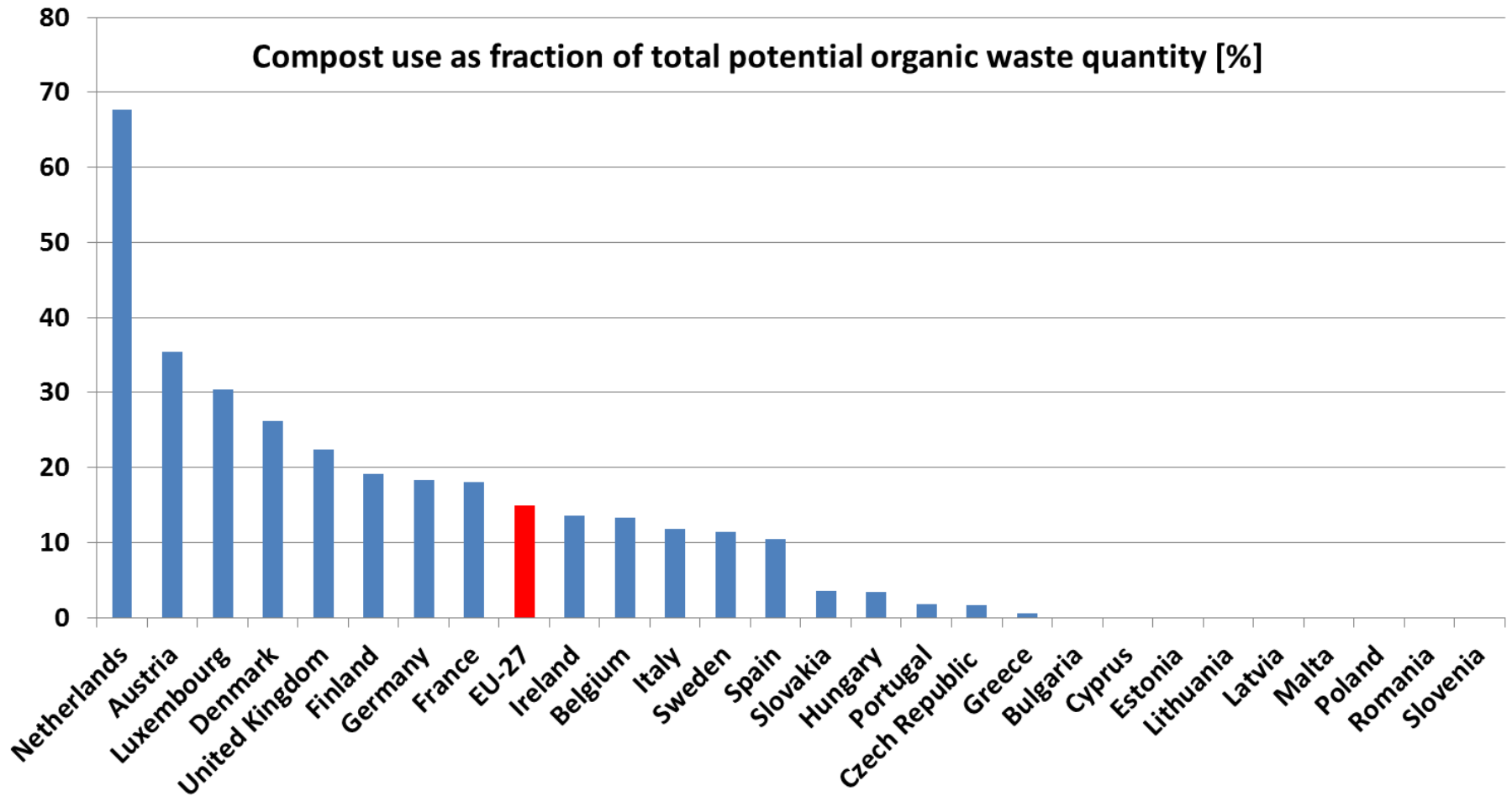
Annual regional agricultural P balances [kg P/ha] for EU-15 in 2000

Source: Csathó & Radimsky 2012

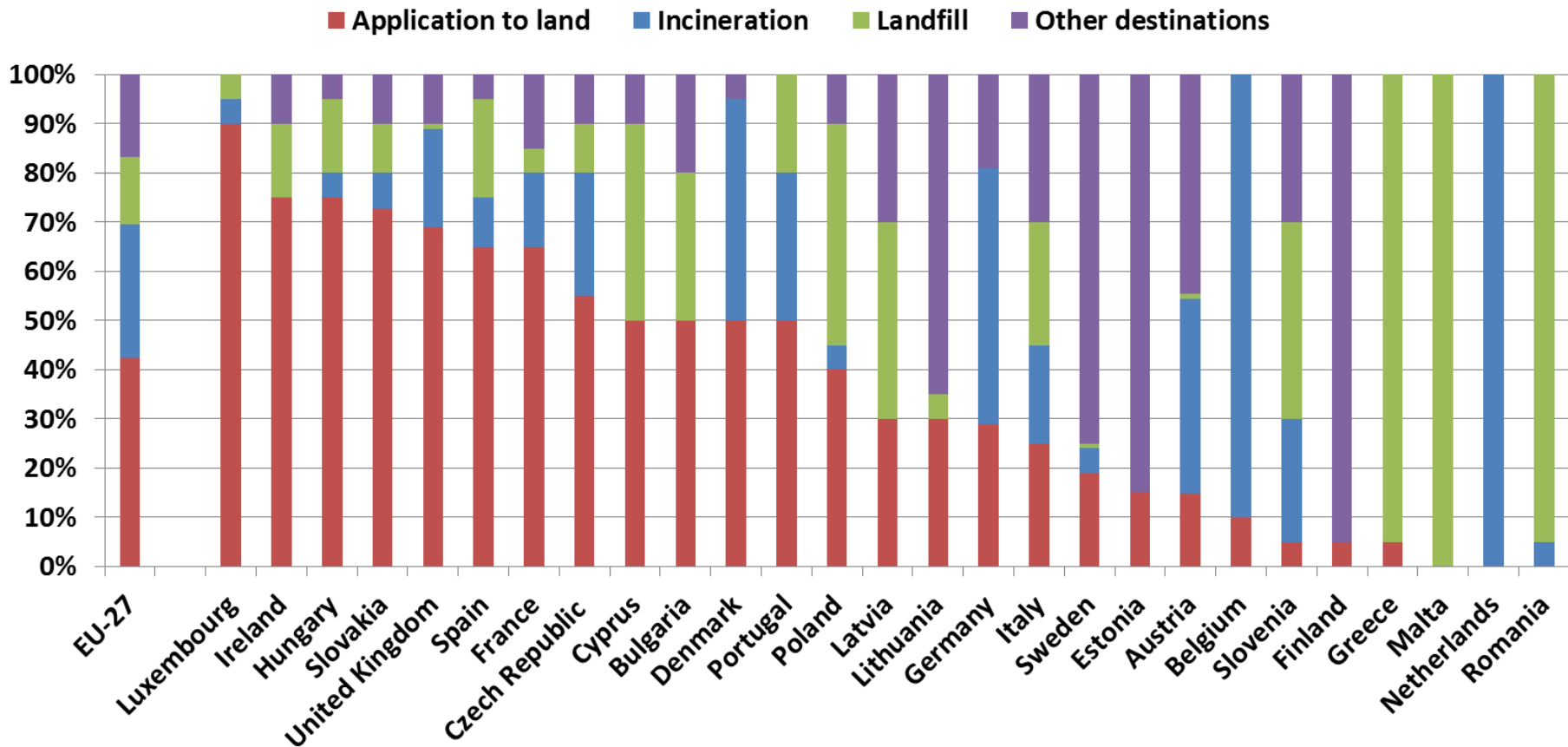
Domestic food P supply in EU-27 in 2005



Reuse of organic waste in EU-27 in 2005



Sludge destinations in EU-27 in 2010



P concentrations in rivers and lakes in EU regions, period 1990 - 2005

