

Breeding goals for sustainable animal breeding: Views and expectations of stakeholders from the production chains and the general public

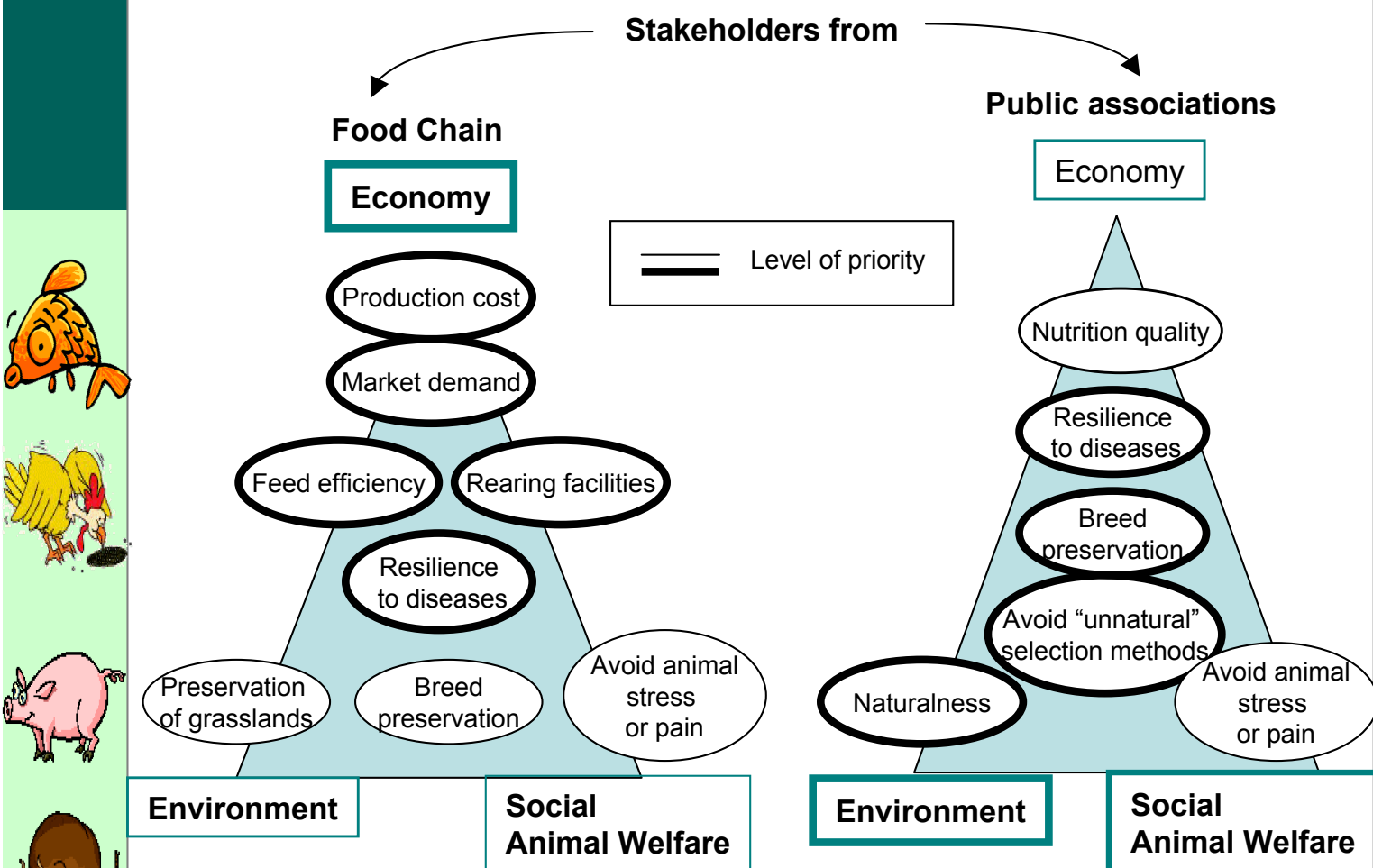
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Objective: To contribute to the management of European farm animal genetic resources in Europe, the project "COSADD" identified and ranked relevant sustainable breeding goals, according to the preferences of food chain and general public stakeholders. Four species - cattle, fish, pig and poultry - were studied, as representatives of the diversity of meat production systems and breeding schemes.

Methods: In 2008 and 2009, 45 semi-structured interviews were carried out with representatives of breeding schemes, food chain and public associations actors.

Main results: The food chain stakeholders emphasize the priority of the economic and marketing aspects, the necessity to produce animals easy to raise and resilient to sanitary risks. Environment and animal welfare are also important traits even if considered as external demands. Public associations share the view of natural farming and breeding systems, preserving environment, using local breeds, even if producing less meat, but with expectation of higher quality of products.



Discussion : The high diversity of the stakeholders views is related to their social position, but also to species' biological specificities or the kind of selection system in which they are involved. This aspect couldn't be developed in that poster but is an important finding of the "COSADD" project.