

Enhancing Transparency and Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains

The Leather Sector

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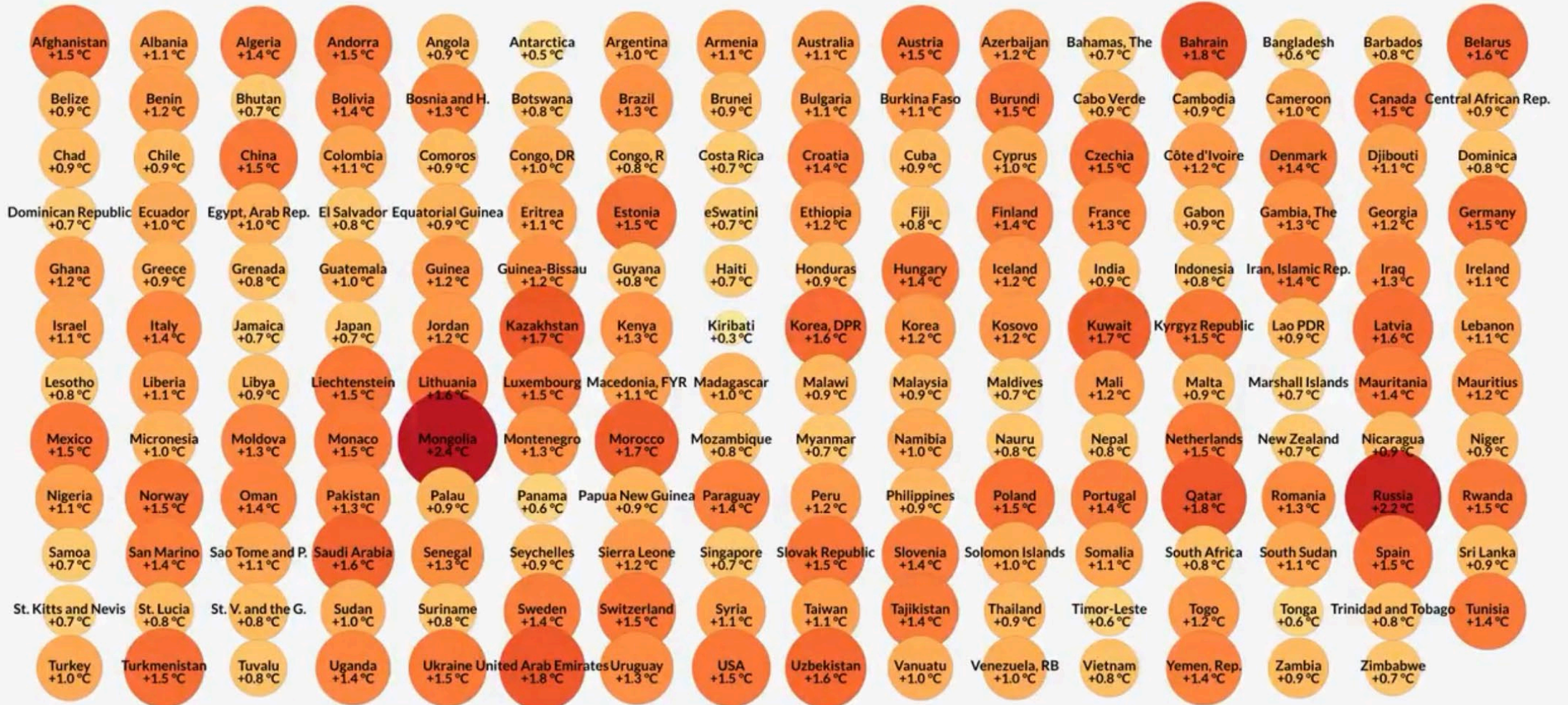
Researcher, Fashion Supply Chain Sustainability

30.10.2019, London



Temperature Anomalies by Country Years 1880 - 2017

2017



Data Source:
 NASA GISS, GISTEMP Land-Ocean Temperature Index (LOTI), ERSSTv5, 1200km smoothing
<https://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/>
 Average of monthly temperature anomalies. GISTEMP base period 1951-1980.

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 Antti Lipponen (@anttilip)



Setting the Scene

TRANSPARENCY & TRACEABILITY

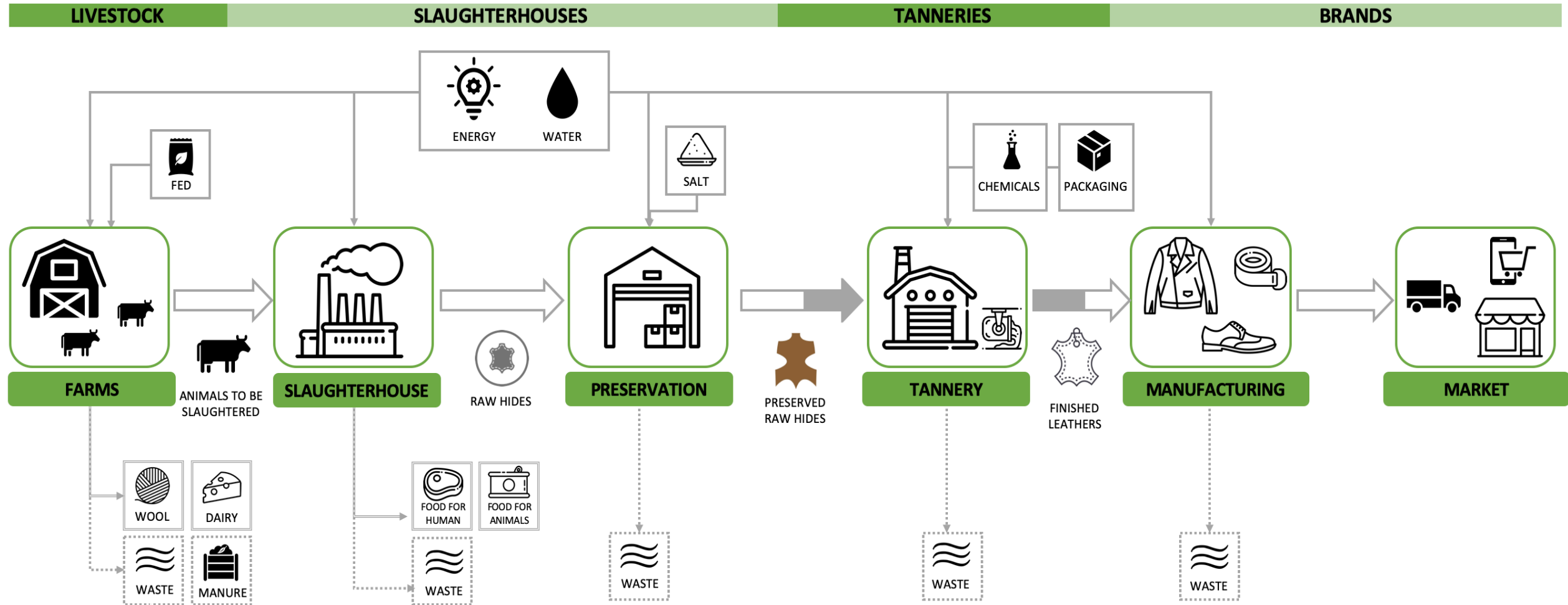
- Companies must know what is happening in their supply chains because sustainability risks are located at **lower tier suppliers**¹
- The most significant **GHG emissions** are mostly generated in raw material production stages²
- There are **trade-offs** between environmental and social sustainability practices³
- Consumers seek the **truth!**
- **Environmental** and **social management** are needed throughout the value chain



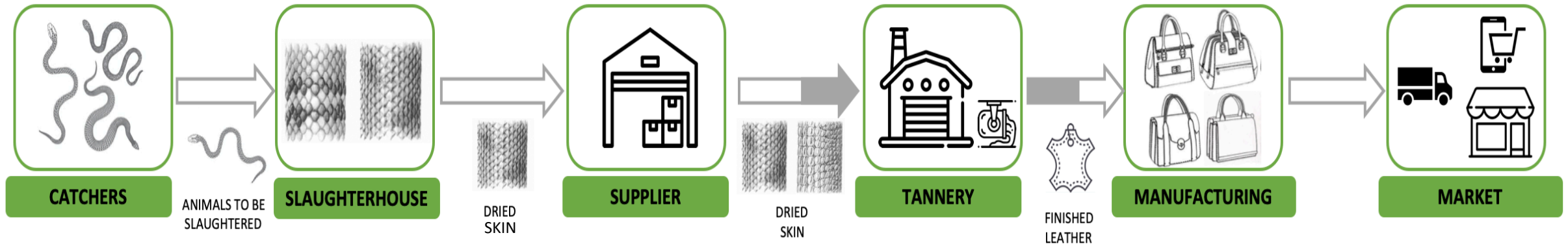
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1. Karaosman, H. et al. (2018) *Behind the runway: Extending sustainability in luxury fashion supply chains*
2. Sadowski, M. et al. (2019) *Apparel and footwear sector, Science-based targets guidance*
3. Marshall, D. et al. (2015) *Production Planning & Control*, 26(8), pp. 673–690

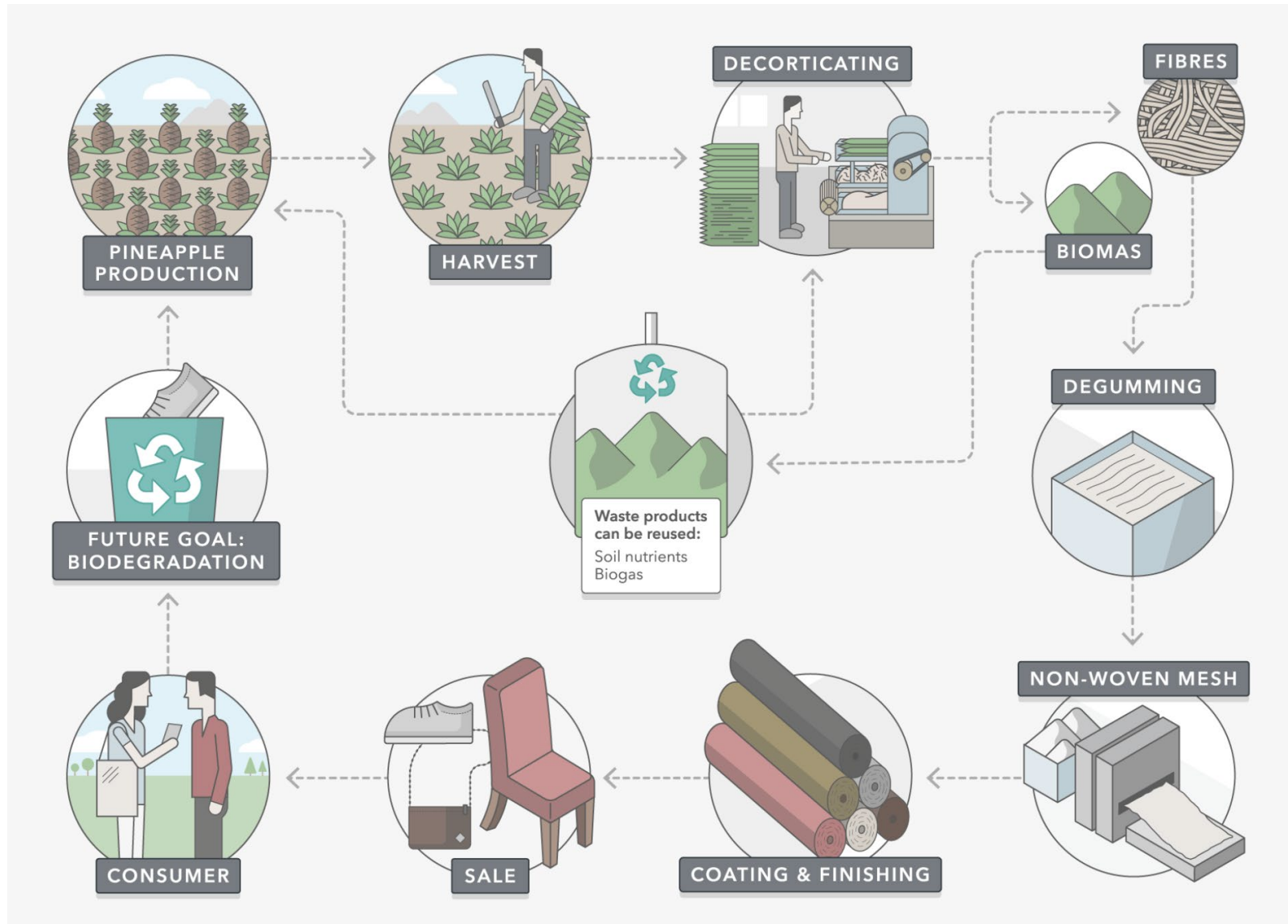
A Leather Value Chain – *Livestock Animals*



A Leather Value Chain – *Wild Animals*



A Leather Value Chain – *Vegan Alternatives*





A Leather Value Chain – *Conventional Leather*

Criticalities

- **Tanneries** in Europe are normally **family-owned**, SMEs with strong regional concentration¹
- Although **pollution prevention** and **cleaner production** techniques can result in financial benefits in the long term, tanneries face financial difficulties

Risks

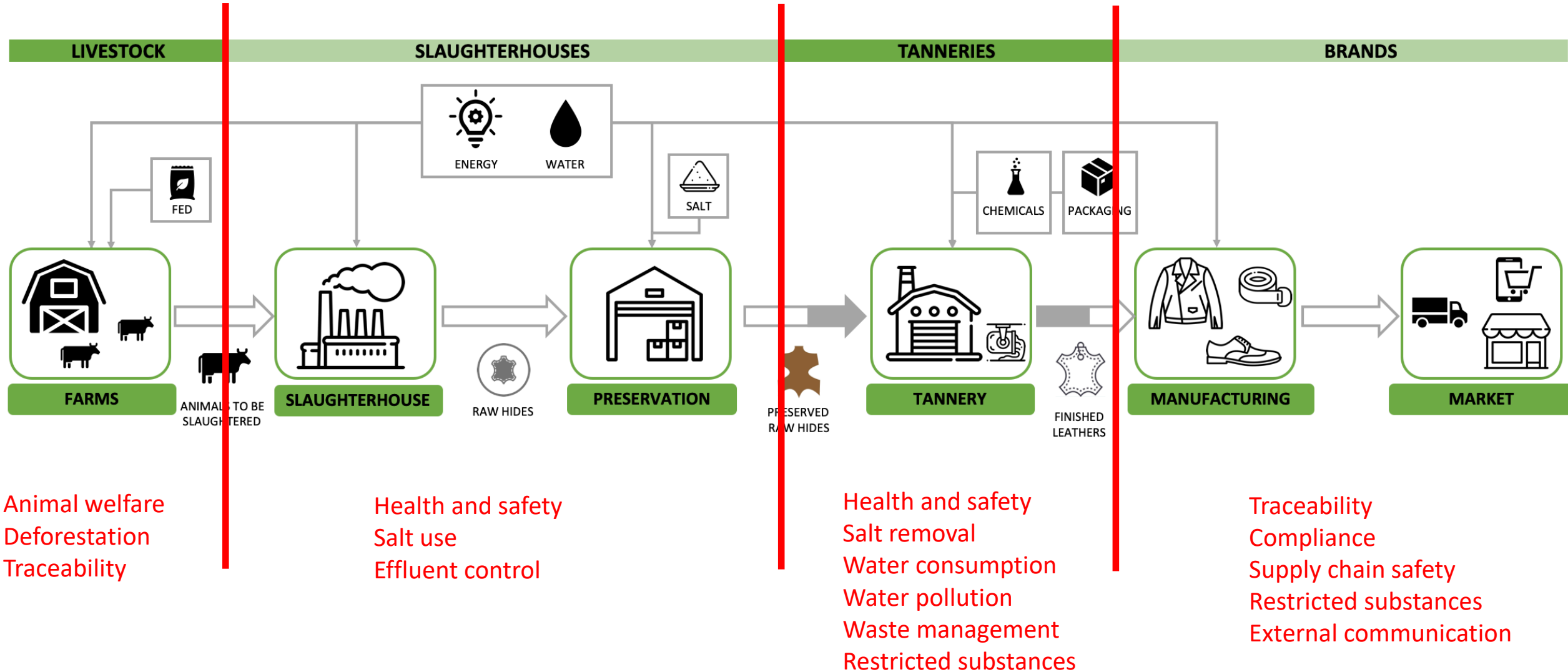
- Fashion is a very secretive business¹ and has quite complex, dispersed and **fragmented** supply chains²
- Fashion supply chains are **characterized** by power imbalance, downward price pressure, lack of supply chain integration and trust issues
- The leather industry is heavily dependent upon the **meat industry**
- Lack of **traceability** of hides and skins!
- Heavy use of **chemicals**

1. European Commission (2019) *The leather industry in the EU, Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs*

2. Newbold, A. (2018) *Why we need to talk about transparency in fashion*, Vogue

3. BOF and McKinsey (2019) *The State of Fashion 2019*

A Leather Value Chain – *Critical Issues*



A Leather Value Chain – *Regulations*

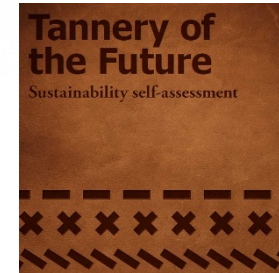
There is no specific EU legislation for the leather industry. The leather sector has different measures in terms of the environment, the use of chemicals, the use of certain dangerous substances and the use of animal by-products¹

Regulations

- **Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006** on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemical substances (**REACH**)
- **CITES** (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)
- **Directive 2010/75/EU** on industrial emissions
- **Regulation (EC) 1069/2009** and **Commission Regulation (EU) 142/2011** on animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption

A Leather Value Chain – *Measures*

LIVESTOCK **SLAUGHTERHOUSES** **TANNERIES** **BRANDS**



THE FIVE FREEDOMS

- 1 GOOD LIFESTYLE**
Freedom to express normal patterns of behaviour, sufficient space, suitable facilities and the company of its fellow sheep
- 2 GOOD NUTRITION**
Freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition
- 3 GOOD ENVIRONMENT**
Freedom from discomfort through shelter and provision of a comfortable environment
- 4 GOOD HANDLING**
Freedom from fear, through good care and handling
- 5 GOOD HEALTH**
Freedom from pain, injury and disease



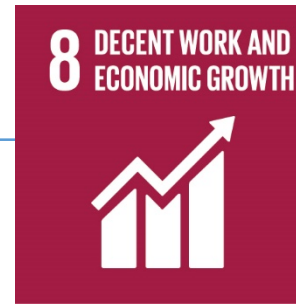
Status Quo – *Some Encouraging Practices for Traceability*

- *Industrial symbiosis in regional tanning districts – India, Italy*
- *Robust animal welfare standards and open source methodologies – Kering*
- *Process innovation to ensure traceability through licensed salt-free hides – Litehide*
- *Credit trading system – Textile Exchange Responsible Leather Roundtable*
- *DNA marking (molecular tagging for leather) – Stahl*

Science, collaboration and capabilities (technical, relational and financial) are needed to ensure transparency and traceability across leather value chains



Think Tank



Agenda

- Instructions & Group compositions

Roundtable 1 (1 hour) - 40 min discussion + 20 min reporting in plenary

- *Break & Networking (15.30 – 16.00)*

Roundtable 2 (1 hour) - 40 min discussion + 20 min reporting in plenary

- *Conclusion & Remarks & The Way Forward (17.00)*

Think Tank

The Structure

Textile

- *Group 1 working on Natural plant based fibers (cotton, linen)*
- *Group 2 working on Synthetic fibers*
- *Groups 3 working on Man-made cellulosic and bio-synthetic fibers, and Natural animal based fibers (wool)*

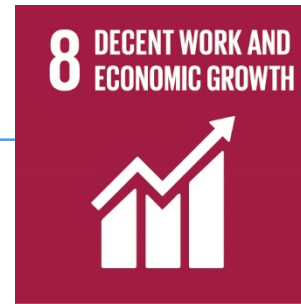
Leather

- *Groups 4 working on exotic, livestock animal based and innovative leather*

Roundtable: Who does what?

Q1. *Which are the key fibers within each sub-group of identified fibers to be covered under the project?*

Q1. *What are the key sustainability hotspots, KPIs and relevant standards and certificates?*





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Thank you!