













# Tools for participatory application on the farm level

The Impact Matrix Tool

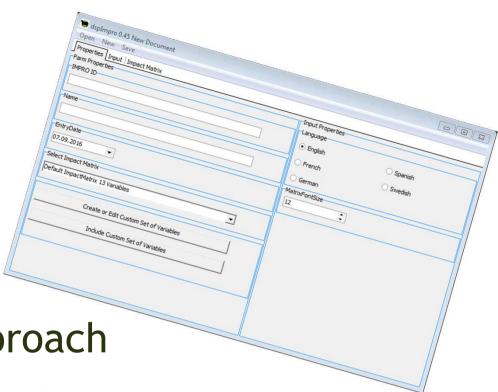
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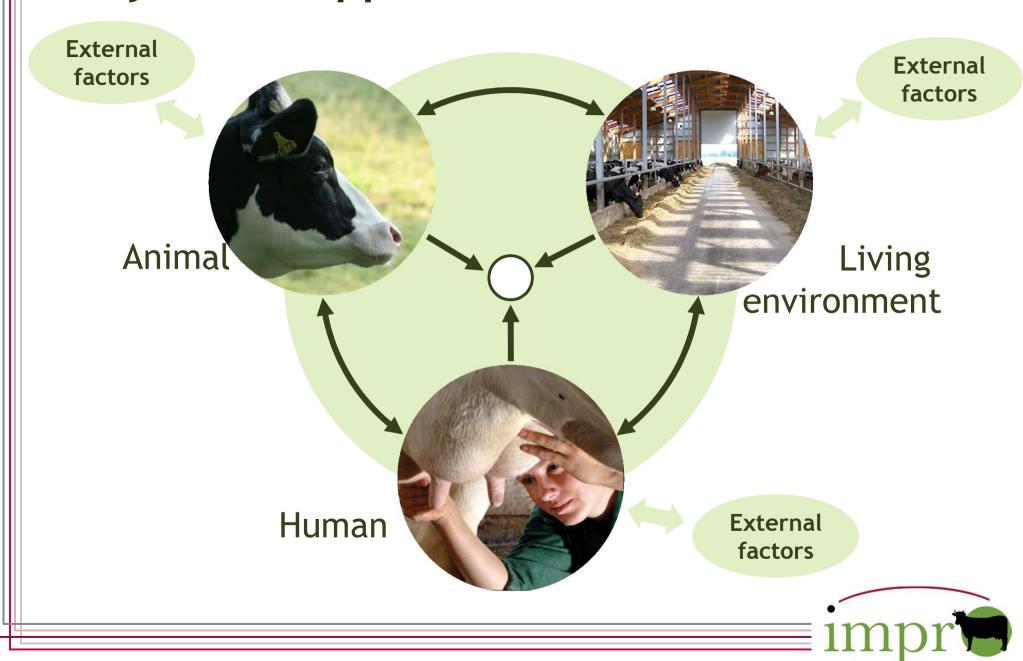
#### **Outline**

- Starting point
- Components of the approach
- Impact Matrix assessments
- Results and experiences





### Systemic approach on animal health



#### **IMPROving animal health**

Identification of measures to manage certain problems in a farm

#### Challenge:

- Efficacy depends on context
- Current approaches often fail to adress complexity
- Integrate different perspectives and levels

Open up possibilities for adaptation and change



#### System analysis with an Impact Matrix

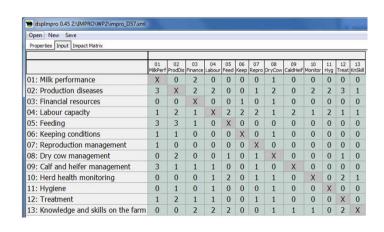
- Approach based on ,Papiercomputer' used by Vester & Hesler (1980) (regional planning, environmental problems etc.)
- Three steps:

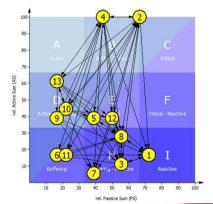
Identification of factors

Scoring interaction

Identification of systemic roles







## Scoring interaction, sharing perspectives



0 ⇒ Negligible influence

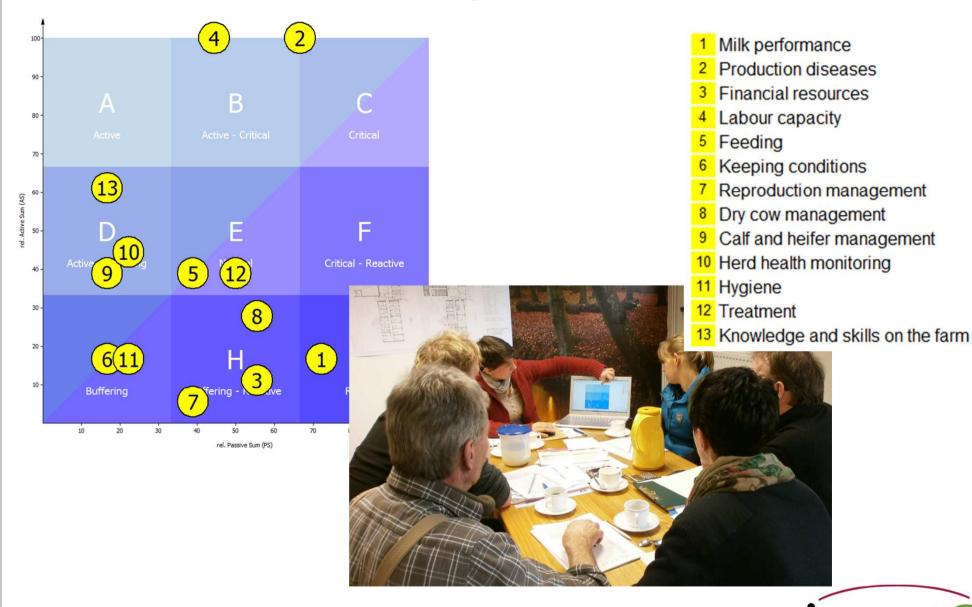
1 ⇒ Low influence

2 ⇒ Medium influence

3 ⇒ High influence

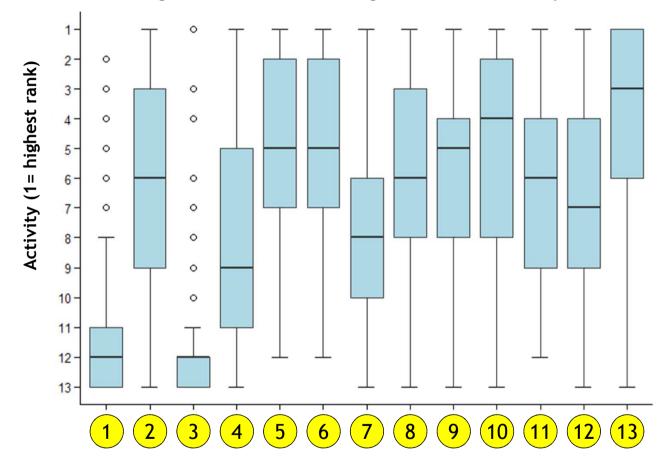


#### Identification of systemic roles



#### Variation in systemic roles of variables



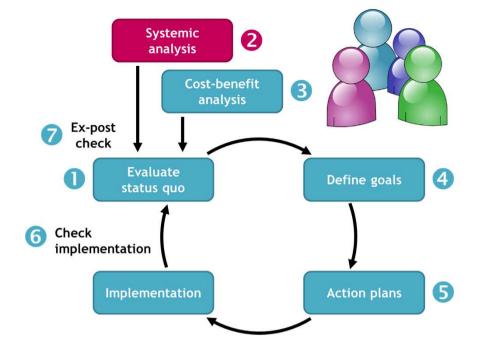


- 1 Milk performance
- 2 Production diseases
- 3 Financial resources
- 4 Labour capacity
- 5 Feeding
- 6 Keeping conditions
- 7 Reproduction management
- 8 Dry cow management
- 9 Calf and heifer management
- 10 Herd health monitoring
- 11 Hygiene
- 12 Treatment
- 13 Knowledge and skills on the farm



#### Action plans

- Action plans
  - in 92% of the farms
  - 1 22 measures per farm (M\*=8)
- Implemented
  - 0 17 measures per farm (M=4)
  - 94% of farms implemented at least one measure



Implementation rates

- France: 82%

- Germany: 67%

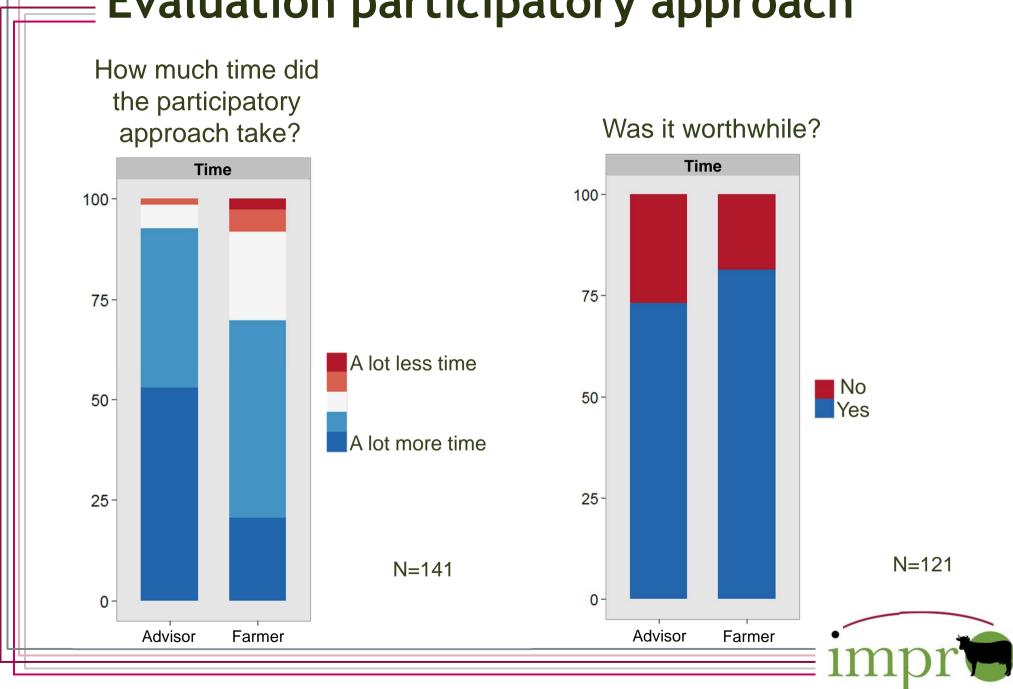
- Sweden: 65%

- Spain: 18%

\* Median



#### Evaluation participatory approach



# take home message

- The role of variables in the farm system varied widely between farms  $\rightarrow$  Systemic approach
- Structured assessment fosters unbiased analysis of the farm system and shared perspectives.
- Less aggregated variables might ease the assessment and interpretation.
- No evidence of effect on animal health status
  - → approach was valued by participants

