

# What is the Best Use of Sustainable and Available Biomass in several ASEAN countries



# What is Biomass?

*“The biodegradable fraction of products, waste and residues of biological origin from agriculture (including vegetal and animal substances), forestry, and related industries including fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the biodegradable fraction of industrial and municipal waste (including municipal solid waste)”.*

*(Adapted from European Commission Agriculture and Rural Development, 2010)*

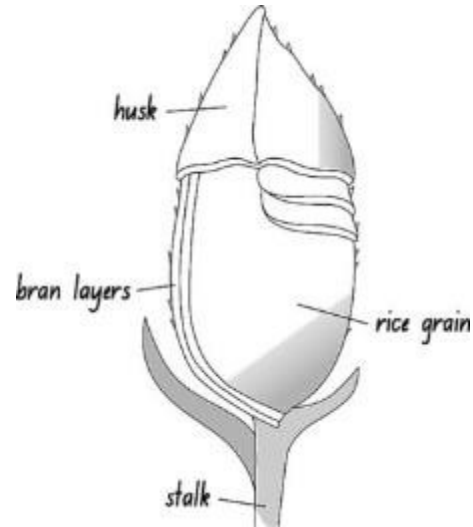
*“Biomass is organic material that comes from plants and animals, and it is a renewable source of energy”.*

*([www.eia.gov](http://www.eia.gov))*

# Agri-Residues and By-Products

- *Agri-residues are the parts of the crop or animal that are not the main purpose of growing the plant or keeping the animal.*
- *The agricultural operation would **not** occur **only** to produce the agri-residue.*
- *Most agri-residues are by-products that have an existing use.*

# Category of agri-residues











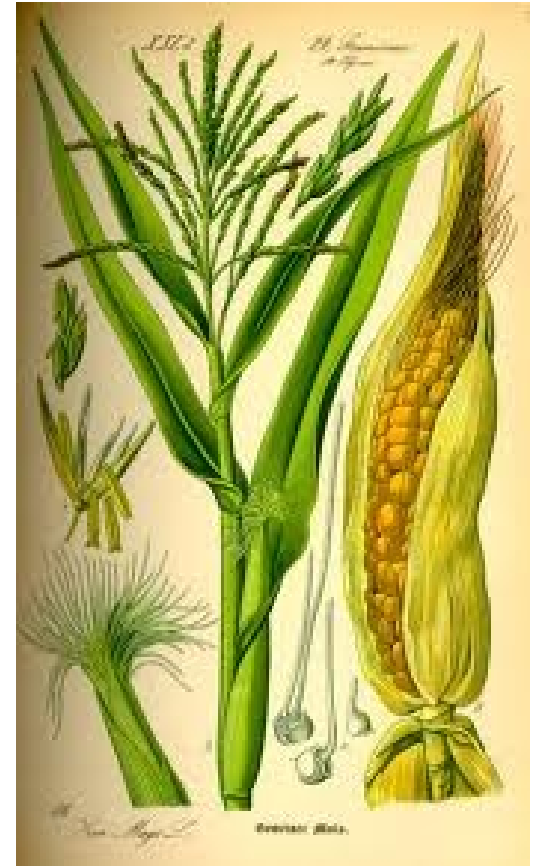




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# Residue-Product Ratio (RPR)

- The amount of residue (air dried weight) relative to the main product (grain, corn seed, tuber, sugar cane juice extract, etc.)

$$\text{RPR} = \frac{\textit{Residue mass}}{\textit{product mass}}$$

- Since many crops have more than a single residue, there is a separate RPR for each residue type.

# Residue-Product Ratio (RPR)

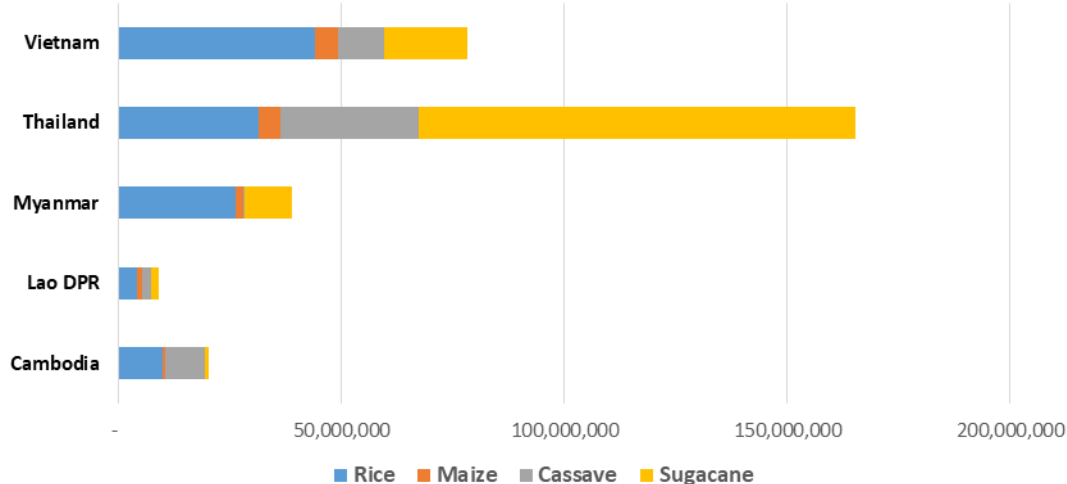
| Variable         | Country  | Value |
|------------------|----------|-------|
| RPR - Husk       | Cambodia | 0.240 |
|                  | Lao DPR  | 0.200 |
|                  | Myanmar  | 0.240 |
|                  | Thailand | 0.230 |
|                  | Vietnam  | 0.225 |
| RPR - Rice Straw | Cambodia | 1.222 |
|                  | Lao DPR  | 1.000 |
|                  | Myanmar  | 1.222 |
|                  | Thailand | 0.447 |
|                  | Vietnam  | 1.000 |
| RPR - Bran/Mash  | Cambodia | 0.110 |
|                  | Lao DPR  | 0.110 |
|                  | Myanmar  | 0.110 |
|                  | Thailand | 0.075 |
|                  | Vietnam  | 0.075 |

| Variable      | Country | Value |       |
|---------------|---------|-------|-------|
| RPR - maize   | Stalks  | All   | 2     |
|               | Cob     | All   | 0.273 |
|               | Husks   | All   | 0.2   |
| RPR - Stalks  | All     | 0.062 |       |
| RPR-Sugarcane | Tops    | All   | 0.3   |
|               | Bagasse | All   | 0.29  |

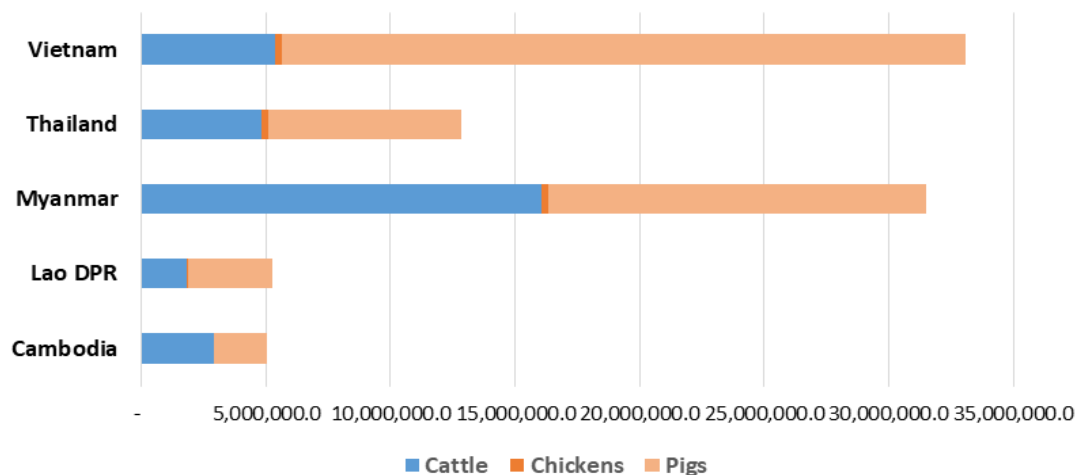
| Country  | Manure/head of...(kg/head/day) |     |         |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----|---------|
|          | Cattle                         | Pig | Chicken |
| Cambodia | 8.0                            | 2.0 | 0.08    |
| Lao DPR  | 8.0                            | 2.0 | 0.08    |
| Myanmar  | 8.0                            | 2.0 | 0.02    |
| Thailand | 5.0                            | 2.0 | 0.03    |
| Vietnam  | 10.0                           | 2.5 | 0.2     |

# Average main agri. production (2013-2017)

Average main agri-residues in GMS (2013-2017)

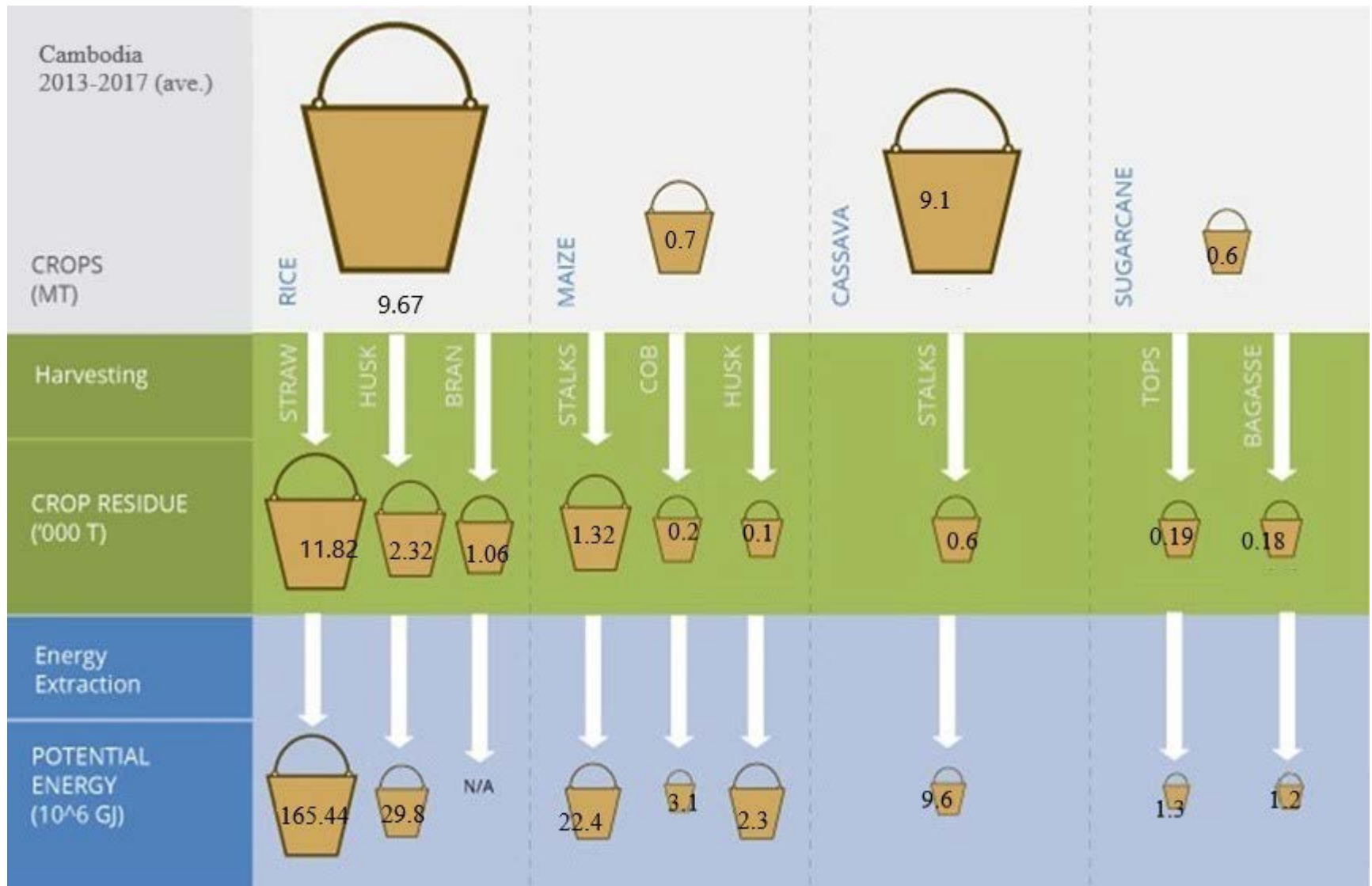


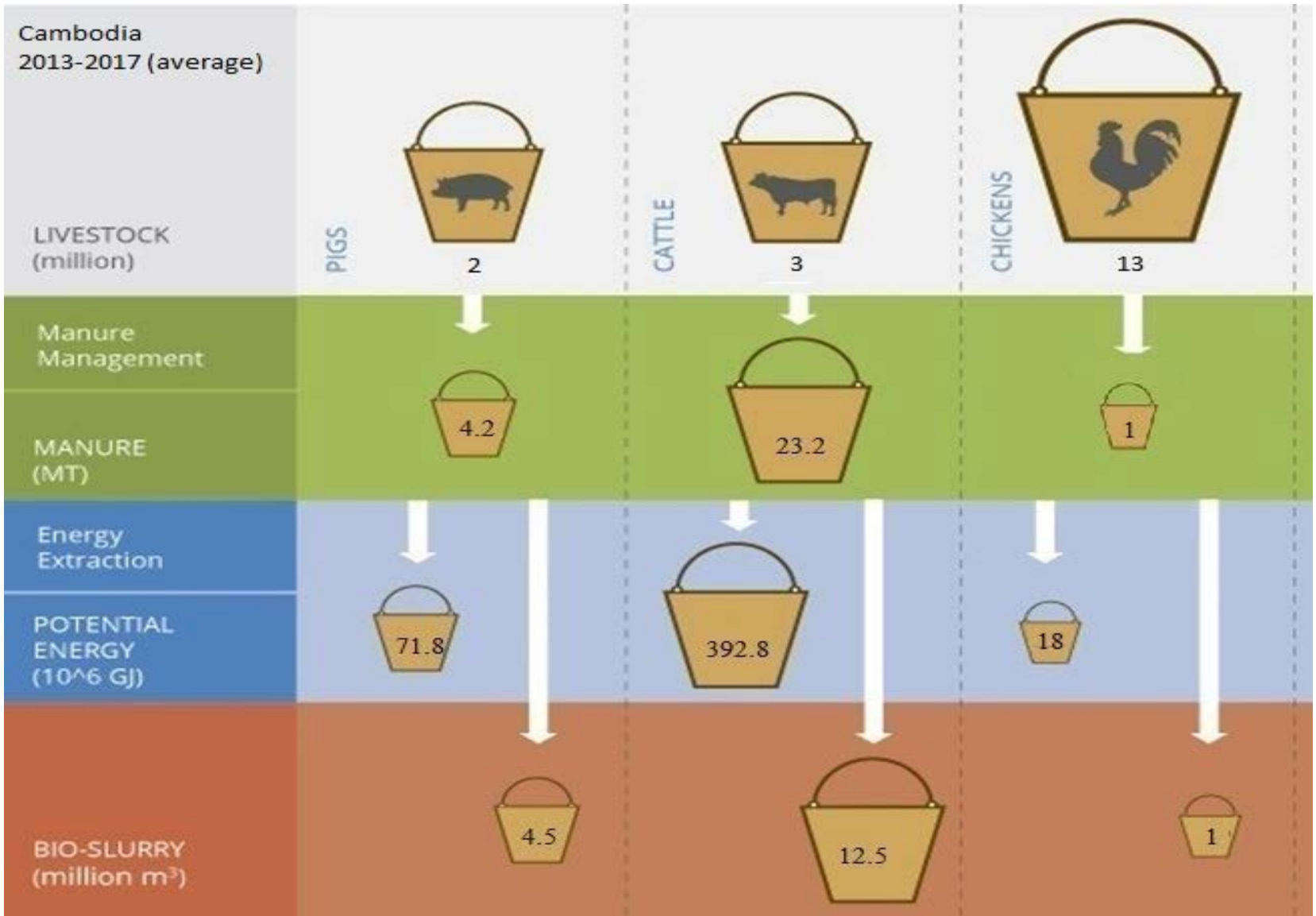
Average main live animals in GMS (2013-2017)

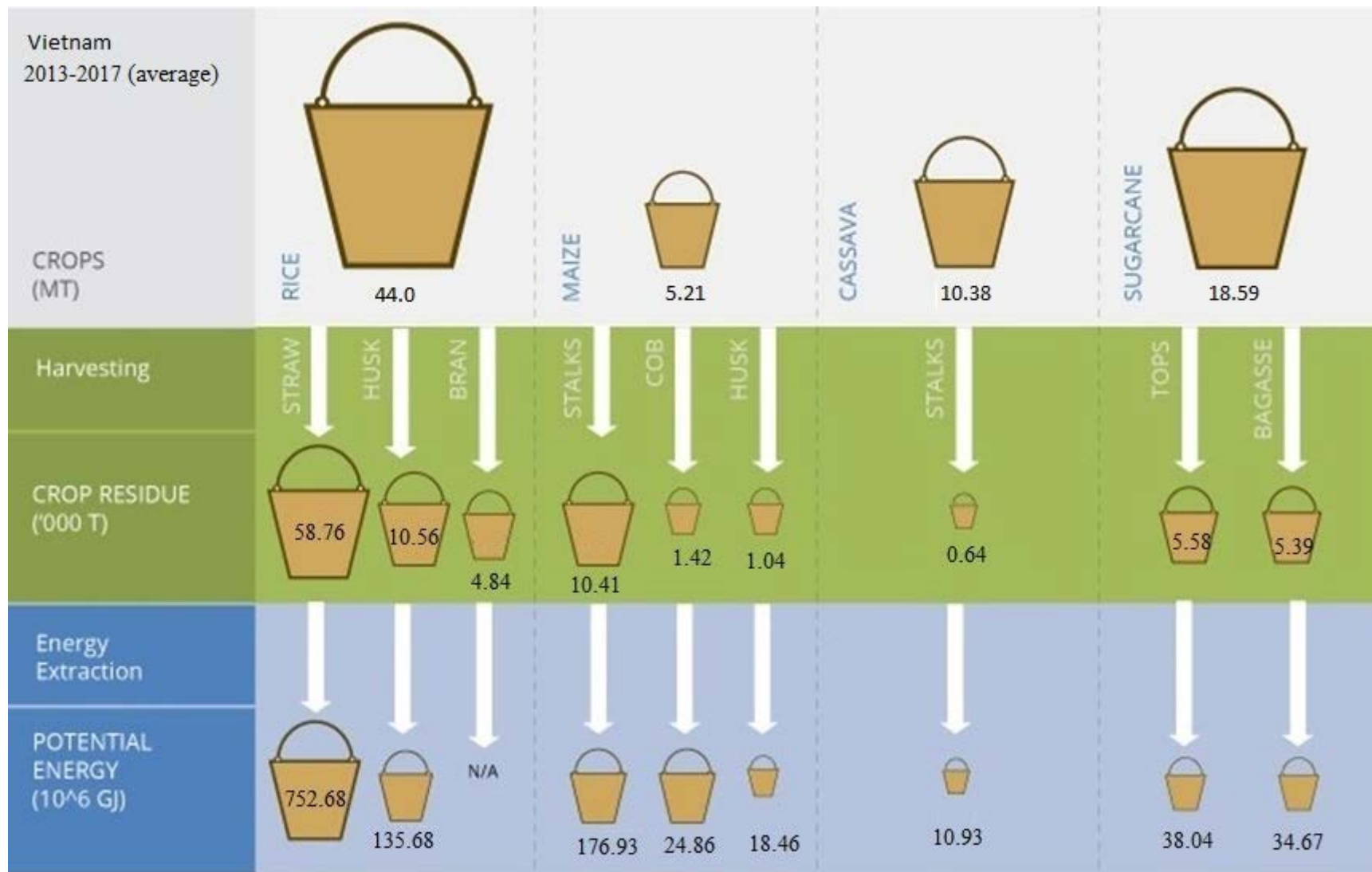


Source: <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QC>

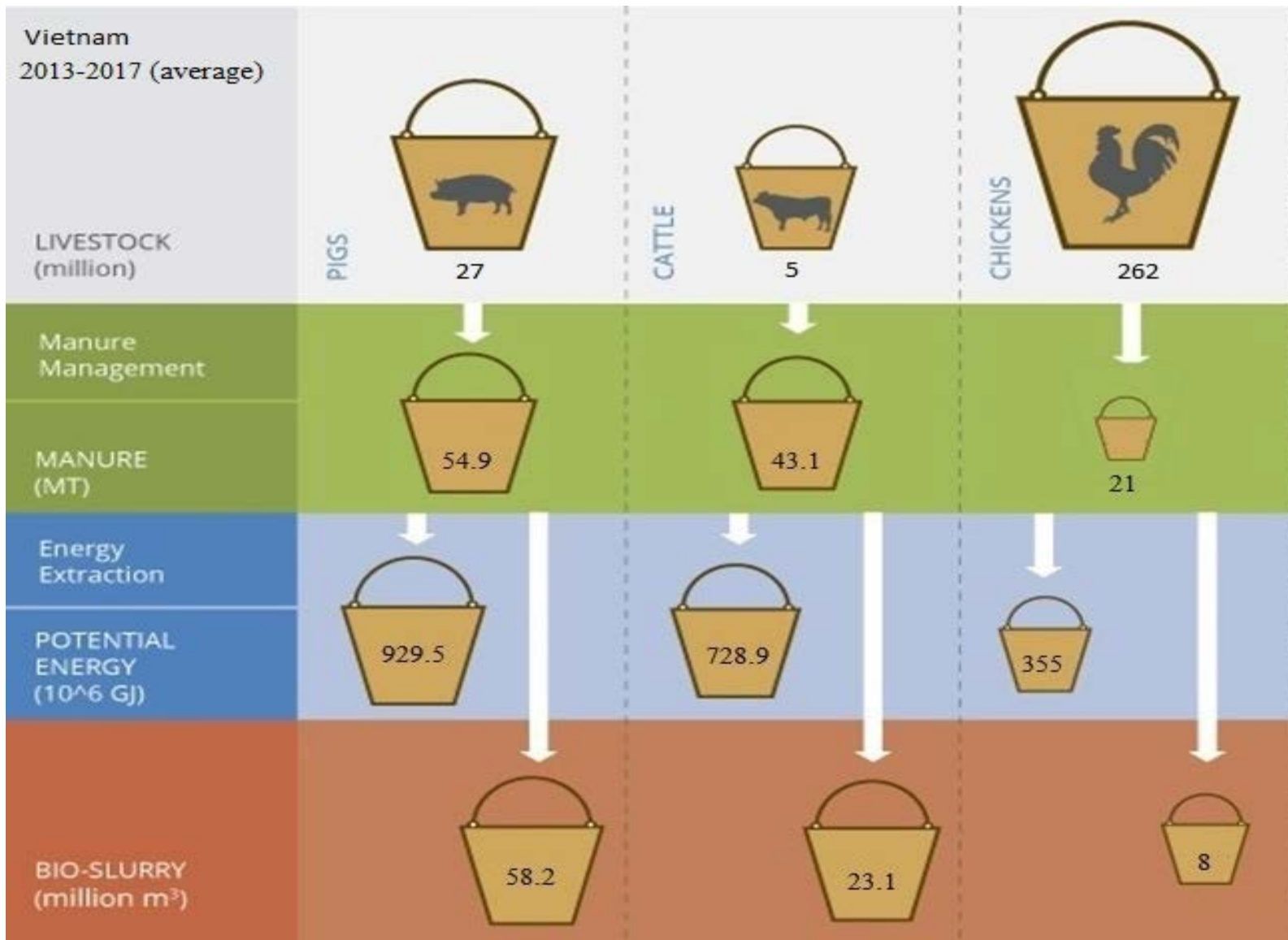








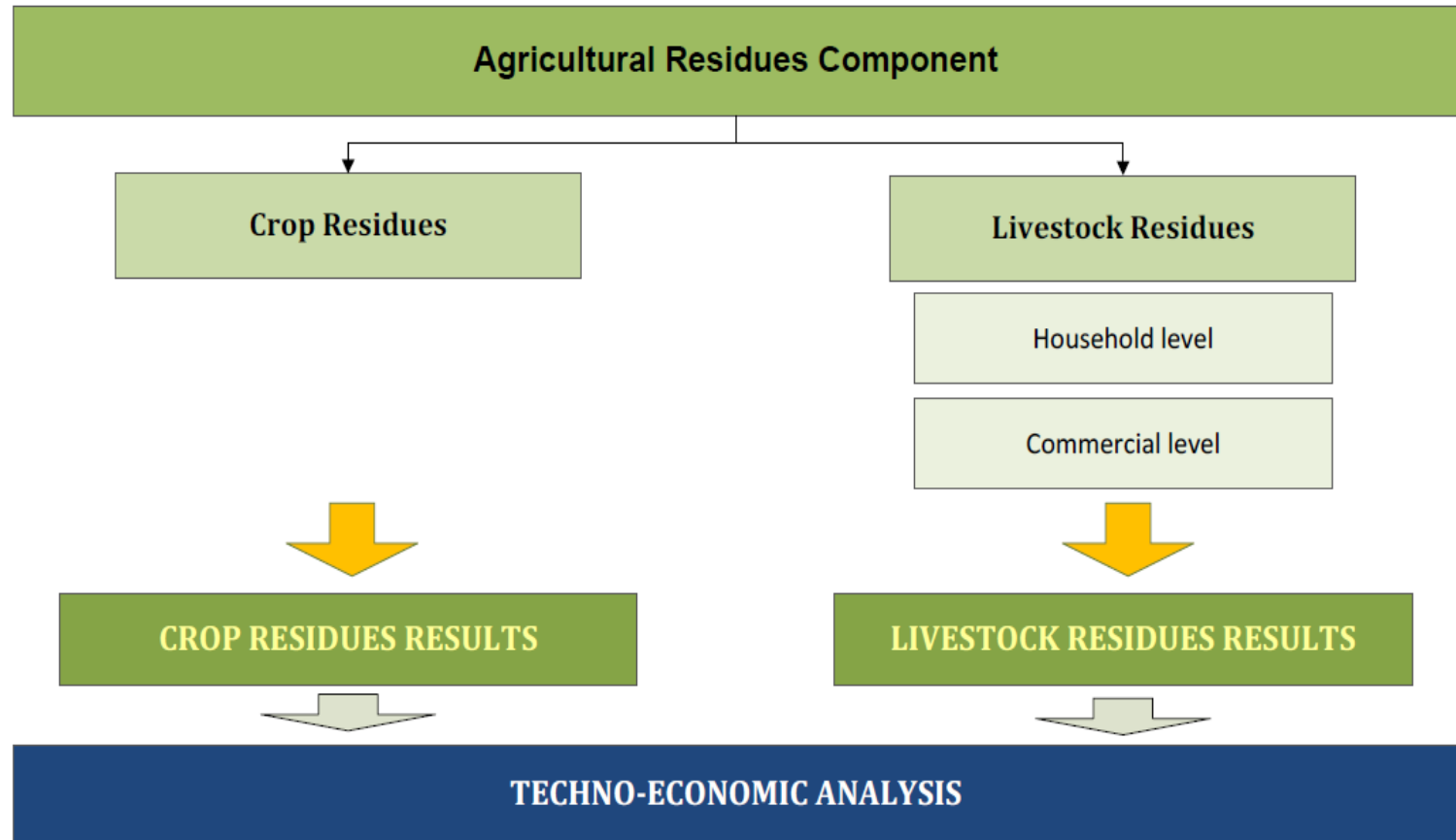




# Existing Uses of Agri-Residues

- Animal feed (husks, straw, cobs, stalks, bran)
- Human food supply chain (e.g. rice bran)
- Animal bedding (straws and husks)
- Fuel (straw, cobs, husk, bagasse, manure)
- Soil fertilizer (manure, compost, char)
- Soil conditioner (fumigated rice husks)
- Specialized uses (insulator, building materials, water treatment, absorbent)

# Defining 'Best Use'





# Defining 'Best Use'

| Topics to consider                             | Indicators  | Analytical and Data Needs   |
|--|---|---|
| Economics                                      | Cost-benefit analysis;<br>internal rates of return;<br>return on investment | Capex, opex, risk<br>contingency; discount<br>rate; private v. public<br>investment |
| Climate change &<br>carbon emissions           | Life-Cycle Assessment<br>(LCA); adaptive capacity                           | Cradle-to-grave data<br>needs   |
| Energy - heat, power<br>(electricity)          | Demand analysis;<br>energy balance (> LCA)                                  | Energy inputs, outputs,<br>energy ratio   |
| Soil health                                    | pH, erosion rates,<br>SOC/SOM, nutrients,<br>leaching, microbiology         | Multiple  |
| Other environmental,<br>health & safety issues | Clean-burn, Particulates,<br>Standard Operating<br>Procedures, hydrology    | As required   |
| Acceptability                                  | Feedback from targeted<br>users   | Surveys, interviews,<br>focus groups  |

# Conclusion: Integrated Assessment

- Trade-offs inevitable between objectives (because of different definitions of ‘best use of biomass’ and ‘best for who?’)
- Climate change / carbon, versus other ecosystems services, versus sustainable soils and agricultural livelihoods, versus private return on investment, versus the public good .....
- Good quality data allows trade-offs to be made clear between intended users, investors and policy makers
- Semi-quantitative methods like multi-criteria decision mapping useful to show and compare different options

# What are we trying to achieve?

- Policy intervention to find right balance between competing public and private interests
- Policy ‘sticks’ (regulation) and ‘carrots’ (incentives)
- But also ‘nudging along’ – reducing compliance and transaction costs
- Making it easier for private sector and individuals to comply
- Requires creative and courageous thinking on the part of policy makers to design instruments for promoting ecosystem service and public good benefits

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

