

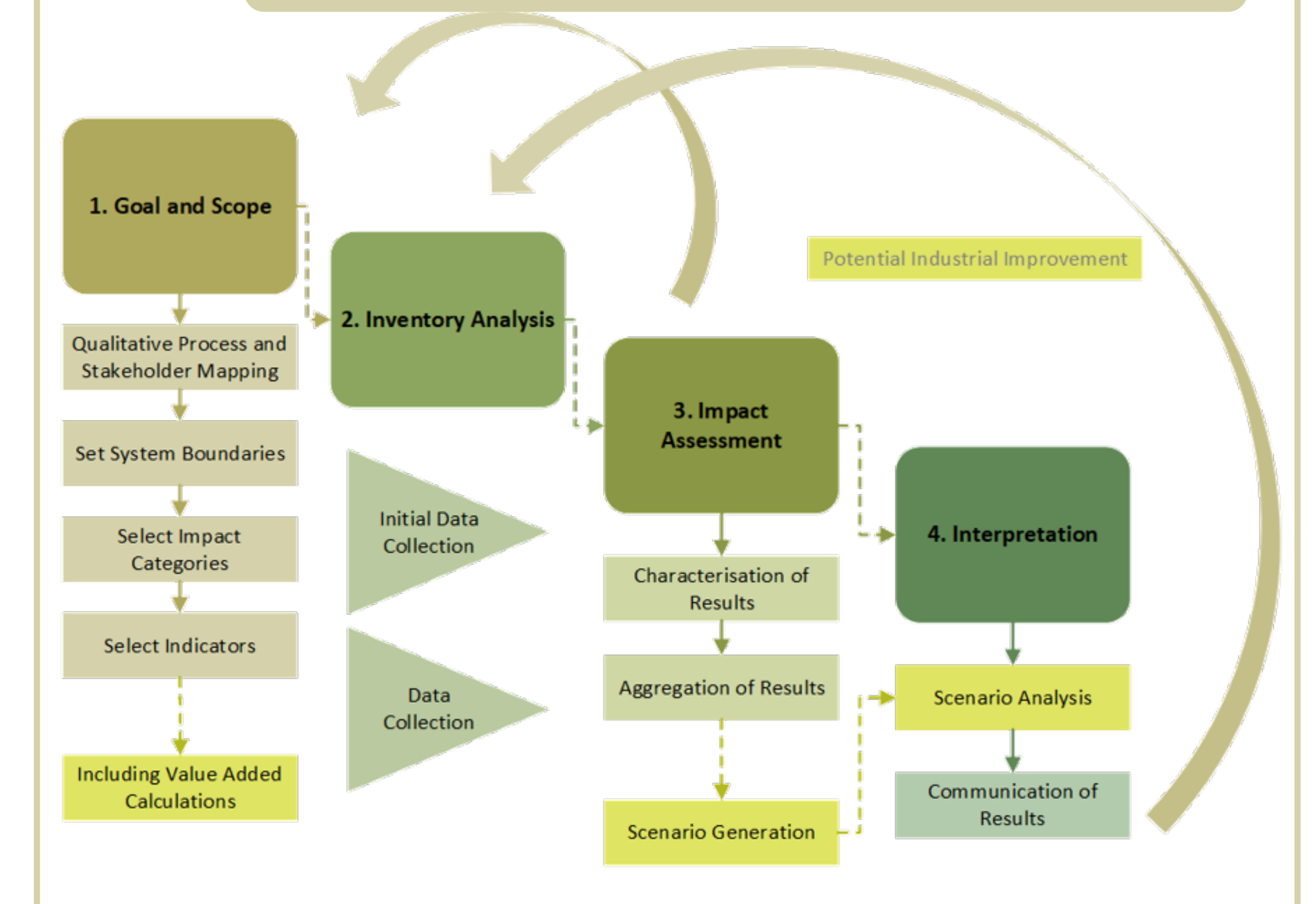
Social Life Cycle Assessment: a forecasting approach to assess the socio-economic improvement potential during the R&D phase. A case study on agricultural wood-based innovations

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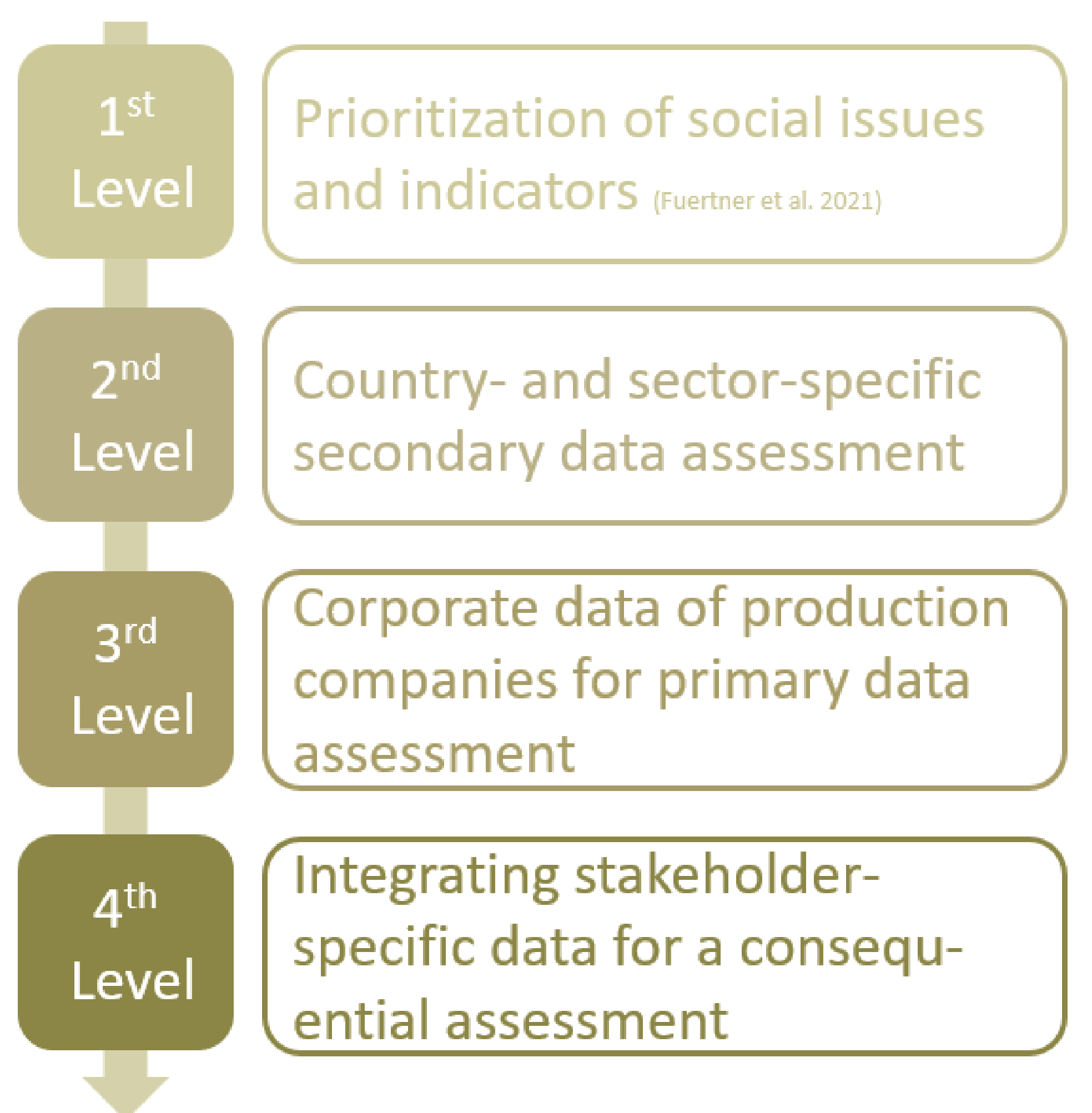
Introduction

- **Early stage Social Life Cycle Assessment (SLCA)** provides several benefits in the R&D of new products or production processes.
- **Negative social implications** can be identified and consequently be eliminated or improved in the course of product development.
- **Positive social effects** can be also identified and may be strengthened.
- **Scarcity of data** in these early stages is limiting the results and makes SLCA challenging.
- A **4-tier SLCA** in various depths supported by a continuous feedback loop throughout the R&D phase is explored to address the precautionary principle.
- **Objective** of the study is to apply the 4-tier SLCA on a wood-based value chain during R&D to assess socio-economic impacts on four levels, describing leveraging effects as basis for decision-making.

Assessment Framework



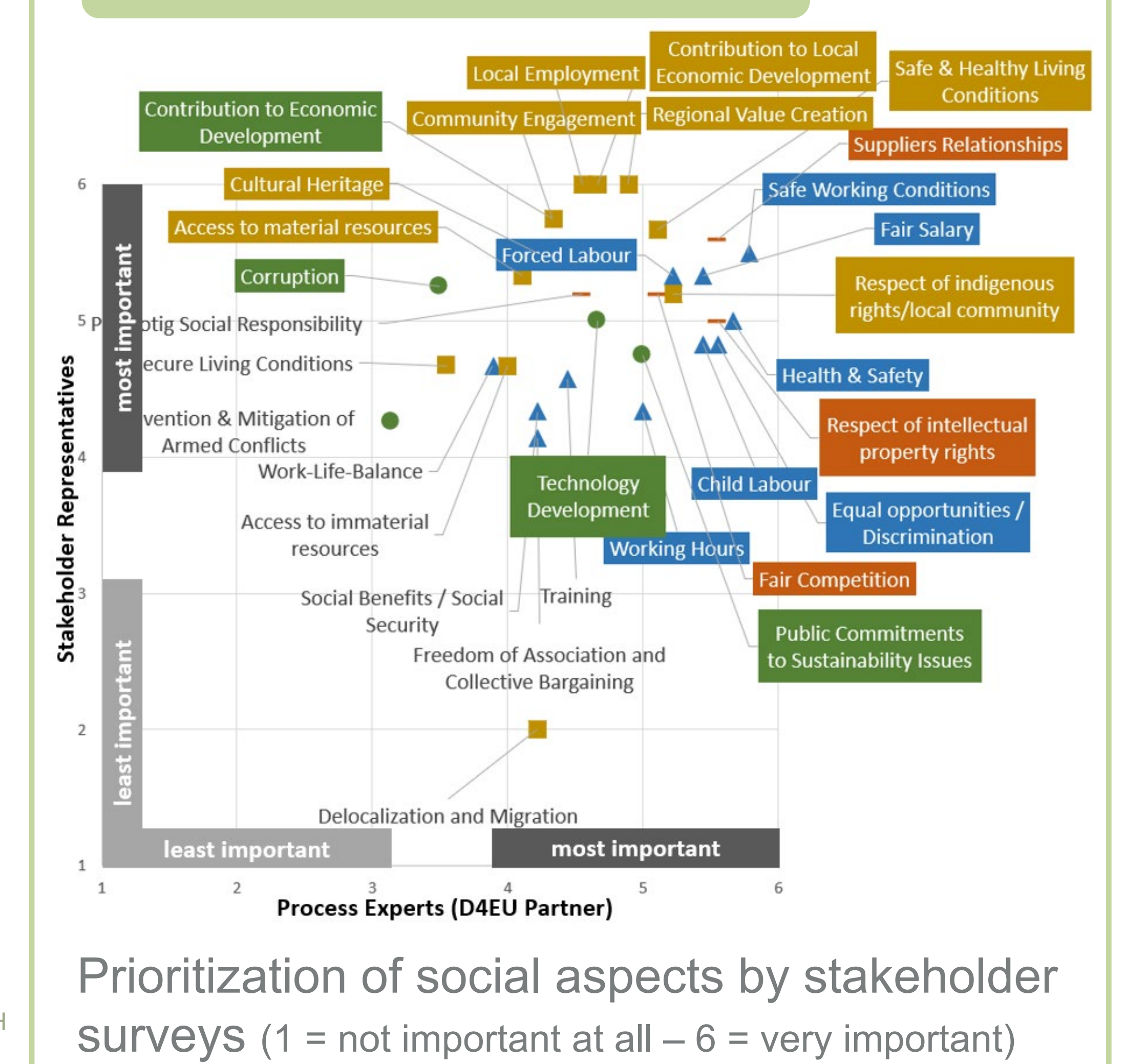
Method



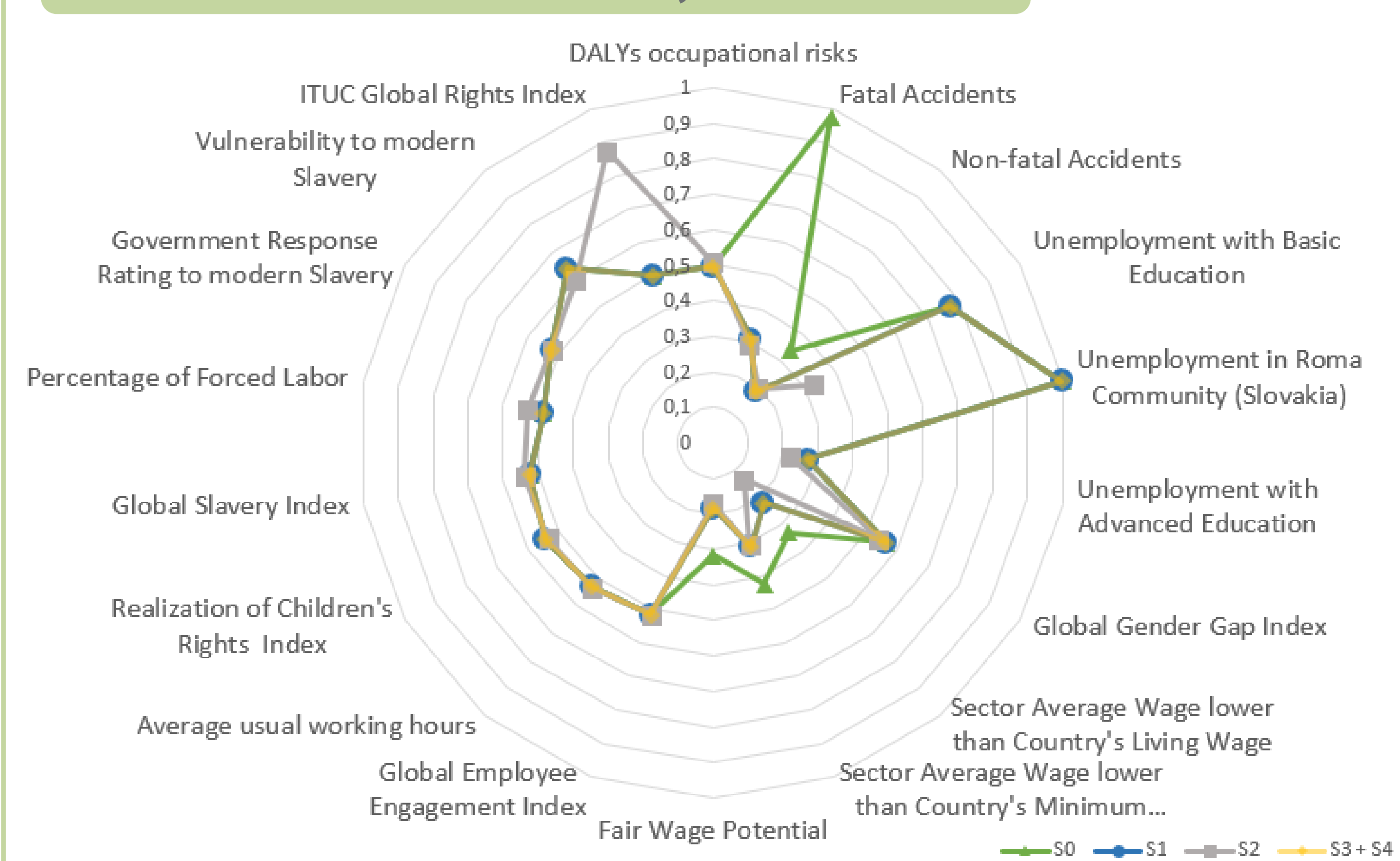
Case Study



1st Level Results



2nd Level Results: ,Workers‘



Outlook

- Different companies within the same sector or country can cause **diverse impacts** – the consideration of different levels in SLCA enables more accuracy.
- Quality and informational value of the results depends on the **depth of the data basis** (4 levels).

In this study, the following levers for minimizing the social risk potential could be identified so far:

- Creating job opportunities for people from Roma communities and less educated people
- Implementing measures to prevent accidents in agriculture
- Promotion of the equality of men and women in the workforce
- Giving priority to fair salaries especially in the agricultural context

