

Consumer perspective in the SUSFANS toolbox models

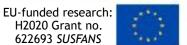
Marijke Kuiper

Wageningen Economic Research

SUSFANS fruit & veg workshop

June 5th 2018







A peek into the black box in search of the consumer....

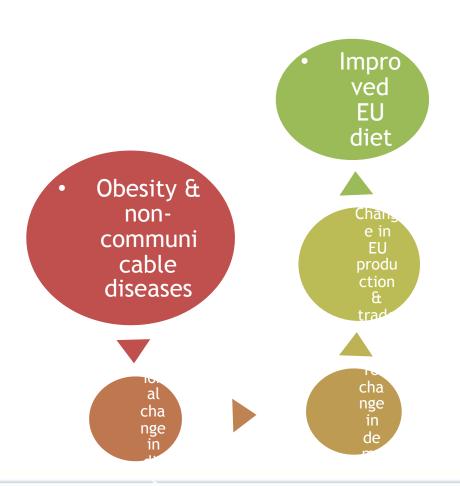


- Why & how of macro representation of consumers
- Connection to consumer behaviour research
- Linking macro models to micro data on food intake
- Confronting macro and micro foodrelated data - first findings





Why do we model demand at macro level?

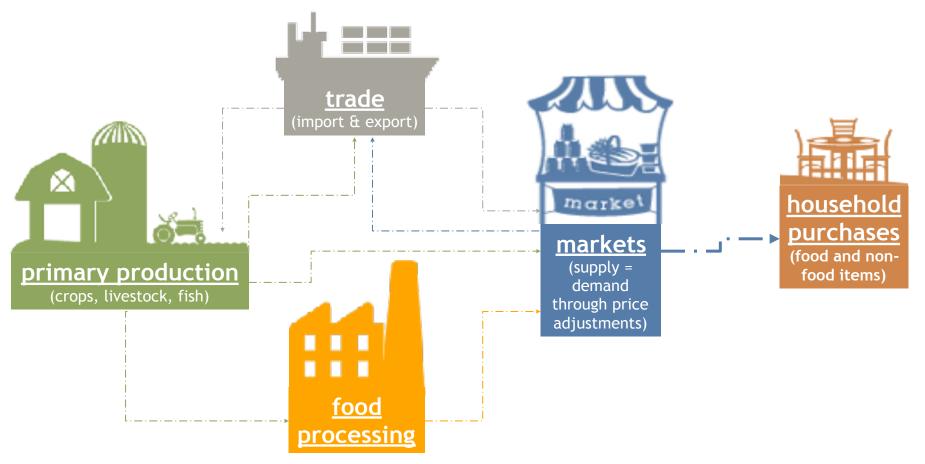


- EU level challenges require national level interventions to change diets
- This will induce food system changes both inside and outside the EU
- Impact on diets, and other policy objectives
 (profitability, environment, equity) not analytically tractable, hence modelling





What key elements for SFNS are inside the macro models?







Macro models - no consumer types but capture interactions production & trade

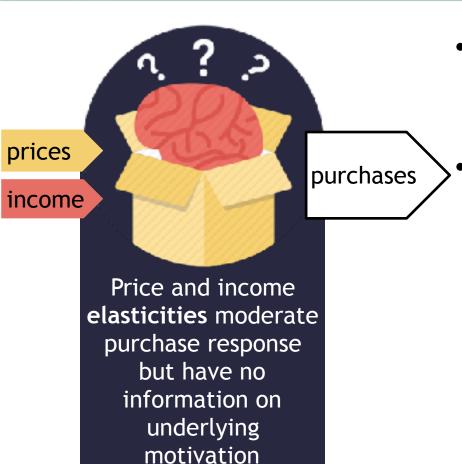


- Effectively one consumer by country (except for multiple household types in MAGNET)
- Global coverage of consumer demand and its interactions with production & trade





What's the link between macro models and consumers research?

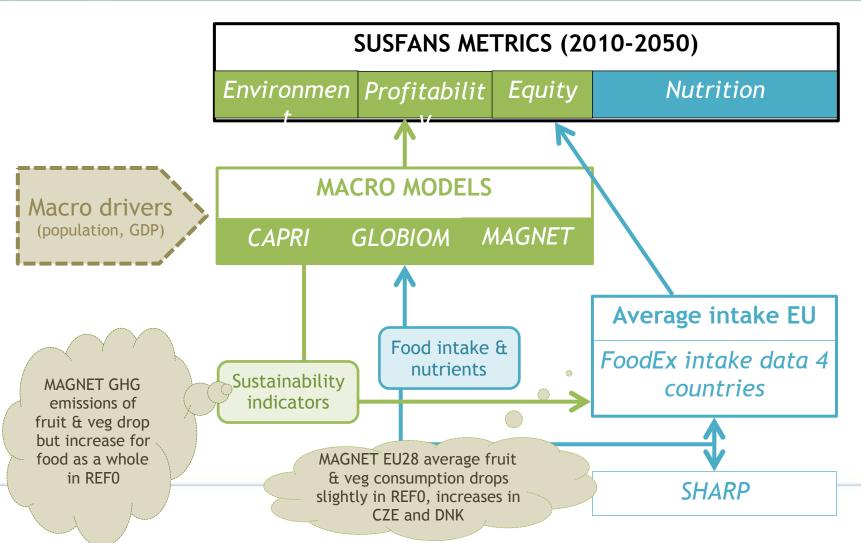


- A link between prices/ income and purchases is estimated: income and price elasticities
 - Non-monetary concerns are captured if affecting observed purchases but cannot be "unpacked"
 - For example cannot determine if lack of response to a lower meat price is because of being vegetarian, on a hype diet excluding meat, or





How to link between the macro models and micro diets?







How to link macro models & micro data macro availability vs. micro food intake

FAO

national food availability data, global dataset, 225 items (GEnUS)



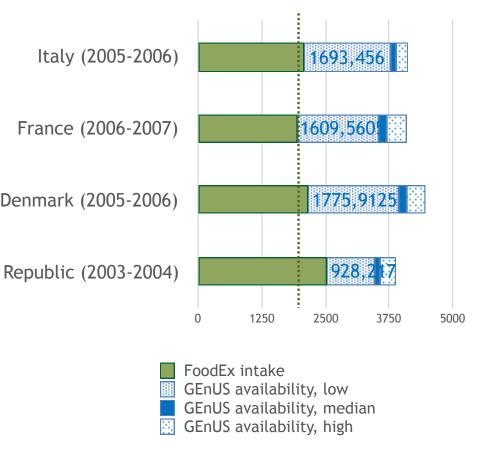
FoodEx

individual
food
intake
data,
for 4 EU
countries,
1063
items
(FoodEx2)





Kcal by country - we have to mind the gap between availability & intake



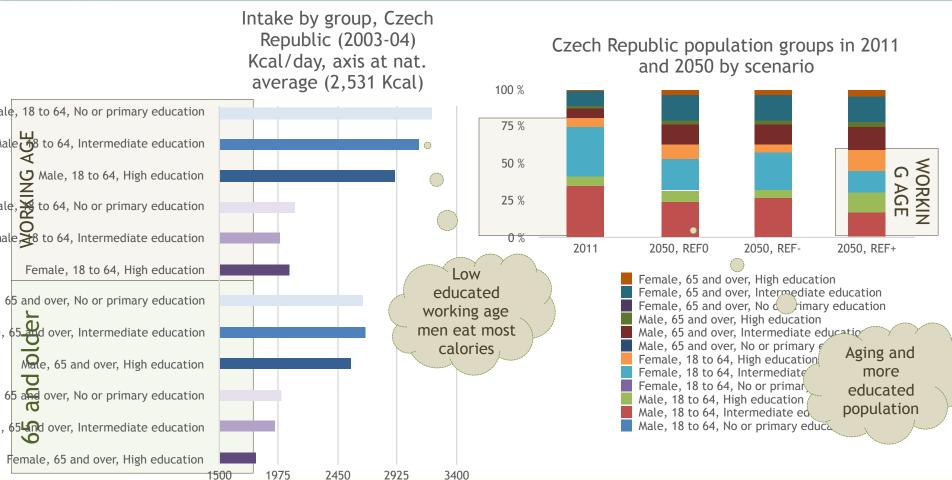
Availability at least 928 - 1776 kCal person/day more than derived from intake data

- Representativeness population groups intake survey still to be checked
- GEnUS uses USDA food composition tables, FoodEx country-specific ones
- GEnUS computes consumption as residual from other reported flows
- GEnUS does not capture processing of food (with potential losses)
- Food losses & waste, pet-food,....





Intake varies by demographic group & group sizes change in the scenarios

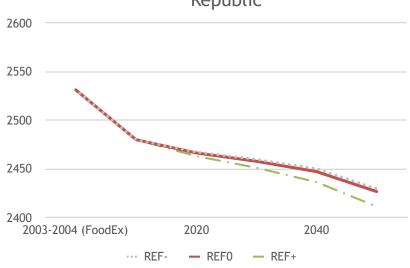






Thought experiment: simple extrapolation FoodEx data by demographic group





Assumptions:

- Calorie intake by group stays at 2003-2004 level
- Use demographic projections from 2011-2050 of SUSFANS scenarios to compute future national average if only demography would change

- Ageing and more educated population means 2% less calories from 2011-2050 in REF0
 - Simple extrapolation assuming that diets are fixed and only relative size of groups changes
- MAGNET results are a 5% increase in calorie availability of REF0 in 2011-2050
 - Income and price changes induce a change in diet; demographics not explicitly accounted for in demand for food





To take-away from all of this...



- Macro models for ex-ante assessment of food system changes & experimental space
 - Key indicators on profitability, environment and equity
 - Non-monetary drivers of consumption only captured implicitly & jointly in price and income elasticities
 - Aggregate and production-based definition of diets
- Combination with micro data needed to quantify developments in nutrition metrics
 - Large difference between availability & intake data
 - Challenge to model subnational diet changes:
 - Change in relative size of demographic groups
 - Intake data not easily connected to changes in income or prices
 - How to account for non-monetary drivers & influence of the environment on intake by demographic group?

