



# **FSA (2.0) REGULATORY BENCHMARKING**

## BUILDING ON LEGISLATION TO FOSTER SUSTAINABILITY

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# OUTLINE

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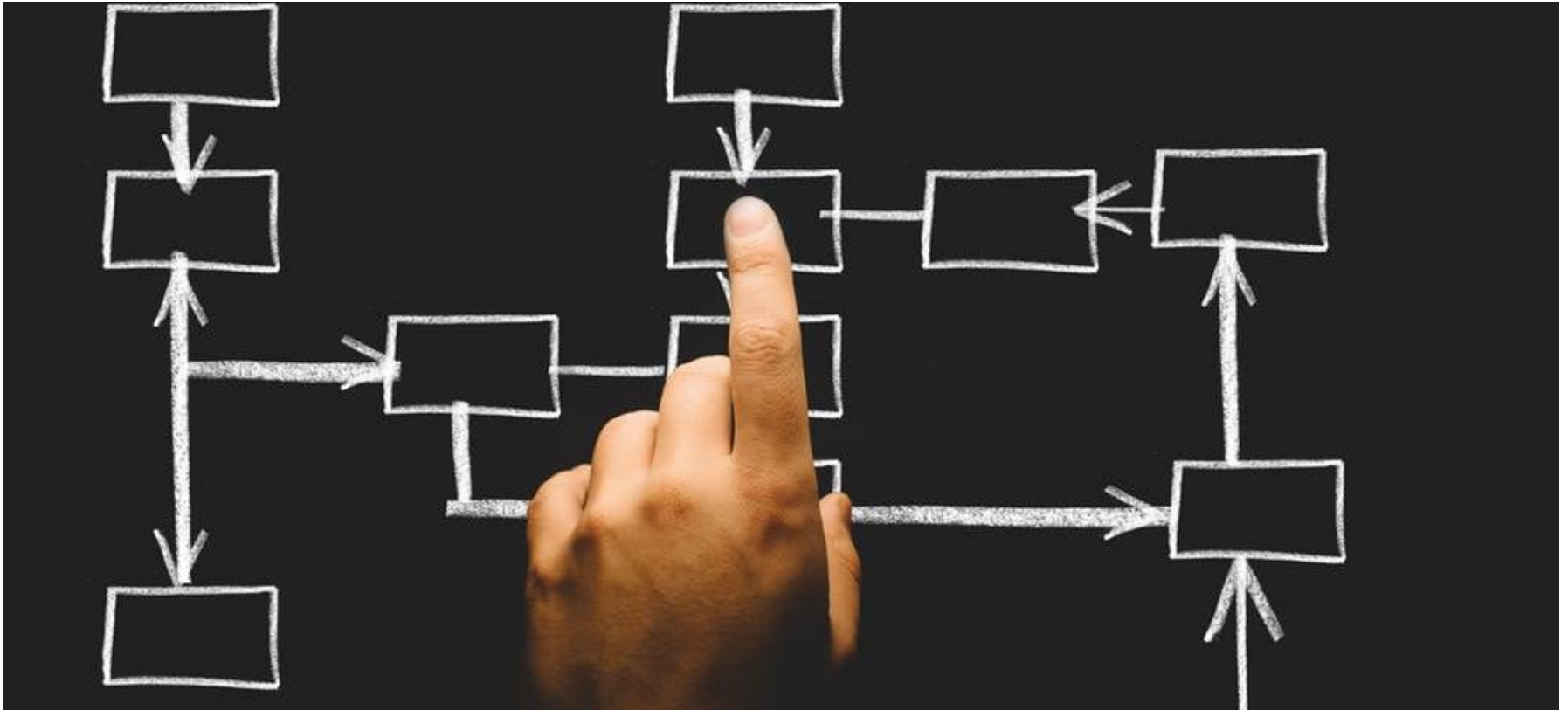
Overview of the FSA framework



The regulatory benchmarking process



Looking ahead: challenges and opportunities



## OVERVIEW OF THE FSA FRAMEWORK

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# FSA'S MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

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## Comprehensive

3 dimensions

**Planet**   **Profit**   **People**

**17**

topics

**112**

indicators

**Whole farm approach**

But specific to crop  
production

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### Environmental

Agro-chemicals	Planting
Air	Soil Management
Biodiversity	Waste Management
Crop Protection	Water Management
Greenhouse	Nutrient
Gas Emissions	Management



### Economic

- Farm Management
- Financial Stability
- Legal Compliance
- Market Access



### Social

- Health and Safety
- Labor Conditions
- Local Community

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# FSA'S MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

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## Straightforward

### Practice-based

Yes – No – Partly – Not Applicable

### Metrics designed as questions

Generally short and non-ambiguous

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### FSA6

Do you have a business plan to optimize the long-term economic viability of the farm?

### FSA24

Do you have a nutrient management plan?

# FSA'S MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

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## Training for CPPs

### **FSA47**

Is anyone who handles or is exposed to agro-chemicals provided with effective instructions and training?

### **ISCC 202 (2.6.1)**

Where the plant protection product records show that the technically responsible person making the choice of plant protection products is a qualified adviser, technical competence should be demonstrated by official qualifications or specific training course attendance certificates. Fax correspondence and e-mails from advisors, governments, and other suitable institutions are permissible.

### **ULSAC (F146)**

All farmers, workers and contractors who manage or are exposed to CPPs shall have received appropriate training. This includes equipment handling and maintenance, procedures and PPE for minimising exposure of the operators, bystanders, the environment and non-target areas, and the value of correct application methodology to ensure efficacy.

# FSA'S MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

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## Balanced

### 3 types of indicators

Essential – Basic – Advanced

### Different levels of expectations

Regulatory requirements – Normal practices – Best practices

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### Agro-chemicals

- Protection of non-target areas
- Equipment maintenance
- Storage / disposal
- Training
- Procedure to deal with spills/accidents
- Use of personal protective equipment

### Labour conditions

- Discrimination
- Forced labour
- Working hours/overtime
- Compliance with labour standards (minimum wage, leaves, etc.)
- Freedom of association
- Right to collective bargaining
- Employment of children

### Biodiversity

- Biodiversity assessment and planning
- Deforestation / conservation
- Habitat restoration

### Financial Stability

- Business planning
- Income diversification
- Record keeping



## THE REGULATORY BENCHMARKING PROCESS

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# RESULT OVERVIEW



# THE REGULATORY BENCHMARKING PROCESS

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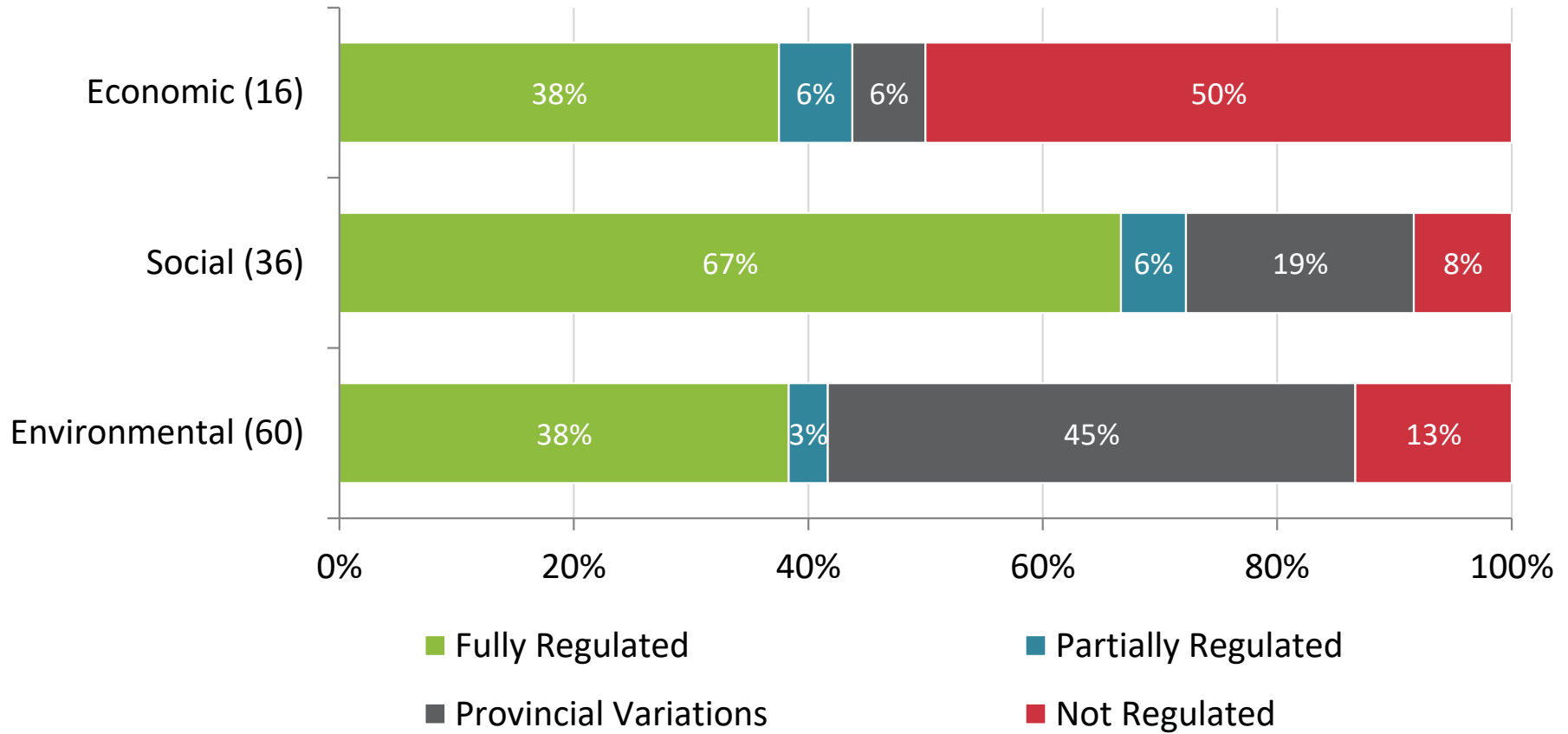
## Objective

- Identify indicators addressed by national and provincial regulations
- Simplify the assessment and verification process by assuming farmers are compliant with these indicators

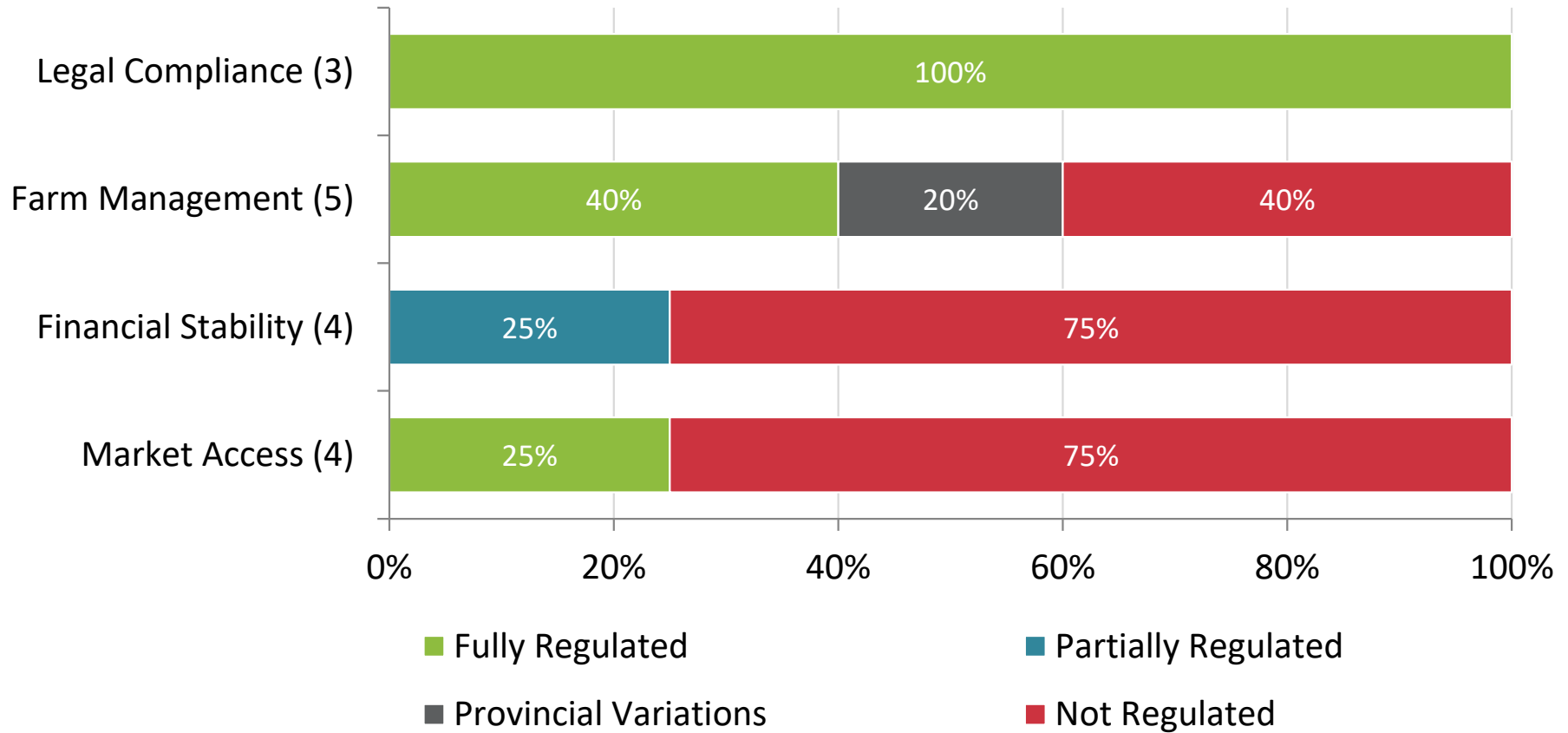
## Disclaimer

- Legislation alone cannot be used as a substitute for the FSA or be used to make any claims (e.g. Bronze, Silver, Gold) – a verification or assurance system is needed
- Auditors can still verify compliance with ‘regulated’ indicators

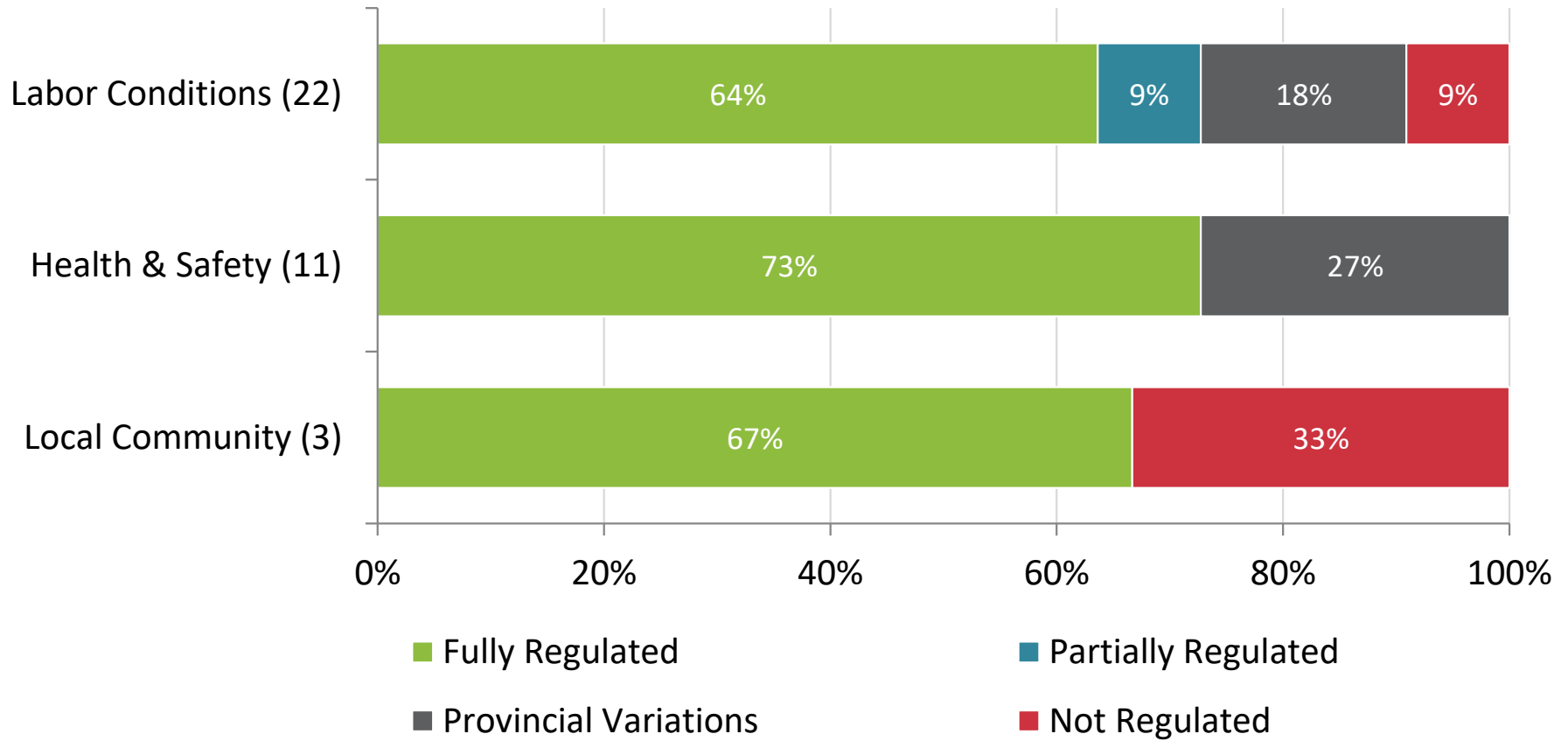
# RESULTS – GLOBAL OVERVIEW



# RESULTS – ECONOMIC



# RESULTS — SOCIAL



# RESULTS — SOCIAL



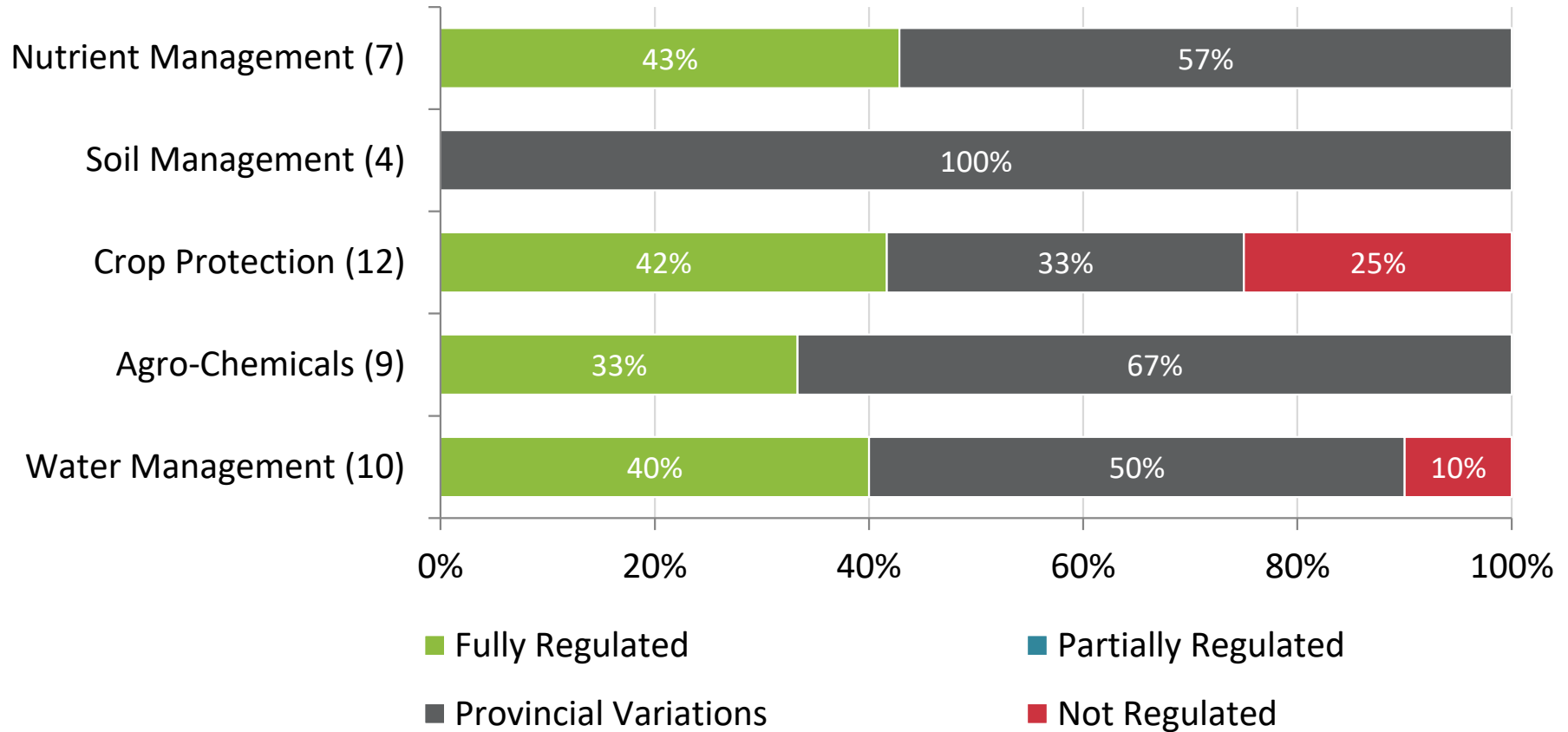
- **Labour conditions**

- Many FSA indicators refer to issues that are regulated in Canada (forced labour, child labour and discrimination)
- But, there are a few exceptions when it comes to farm workers
  - Minimum wage and working hours

- **Health and safety**

- Most indicators are regulated
  - Farm workers have the same basic rights as any others
  - Variations between provinces to specific requirements (first aid; vulnerable workers)

# RESULTS — ENVIRONMENT (EXAMPLES)



# RESULTS – ENVIRONMENT

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- **Nutrient management**
  - The sources and quality of fertilizers is regulated
  - Variations exist between provinces when it comes to fertilizer application
- **Soil management**
  - Mostly refer to ‘best practices’ which explains the variability across provinces
- **Crop protection and Agrochemicals**
  - The use of agrochemicals and CPPs is highly regulated in Canada
  - Some indicators (IPM, pest resistance, equipment calibration) are BMPs
  - Variations exist mainly because some indicators are partly regulated (storage, waste management, equipment maintenance, procedures to deal with spills, record keeping)





## LOOKING AHEAD: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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# CHALLENGES



**On the regulations side:**

No consolidated directory | no specific linkage

Some issues (e.g. water protection) are addressed by different regulations managed by different departments in different jurisdictions

**On the FSA side:**

Some indicators are ambiguous | compounds

Example: Do you maintain and calibrate crop protection product and fertilizer application equipment on a regular basis?

CPP equipment can be regulated but not fertilizer equipment

→ Partly

# OPPORTUNITIES

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- More than half of the FSA indicators are regulated
- An opportunity to build on legislation to foster sustainability
  - Communicate on what farmers are already doing
  - Identify potential gaps and ways to address them
  - Provide specific resources to farmers
- Looking ahead
  - Develop national Guidelines for FSA?
  - Review questions and guidance to contextualize them more?
  - Use secondary data to complete the benchmarking?



**THANK YOU**

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