

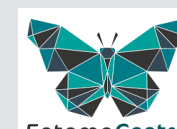
Development of a welfare assessment method in fish farming: *from indicators to an assessment tool*

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Workshop : bien-être des insectes
26 mai

Partenaires :



Towards a welfare assessment tool for fish farming



- **Advances in scientific knowledge:** first indicators of BEA in fish; sensitivity
- **Citizens' expectations:** fish welfare = welfare of other farmed species
- **Willingness of the industry to have a method** to evaluate the welfare of fish in fish farms; applicable in the field



First works staggered from 2021 to 2023 (Casdar projects "Aqua bien-être" and FEAMP "B ABA")



Support on the existing EBENE® method, developed by ITAVI for the poultry and rabbit sectors



An operational tool; recognized and taken in hand by the professionals of the sectors



How assess the animal welfare?

EBENE: self-assessment tool for well-being, adapted from scientifically validated methods

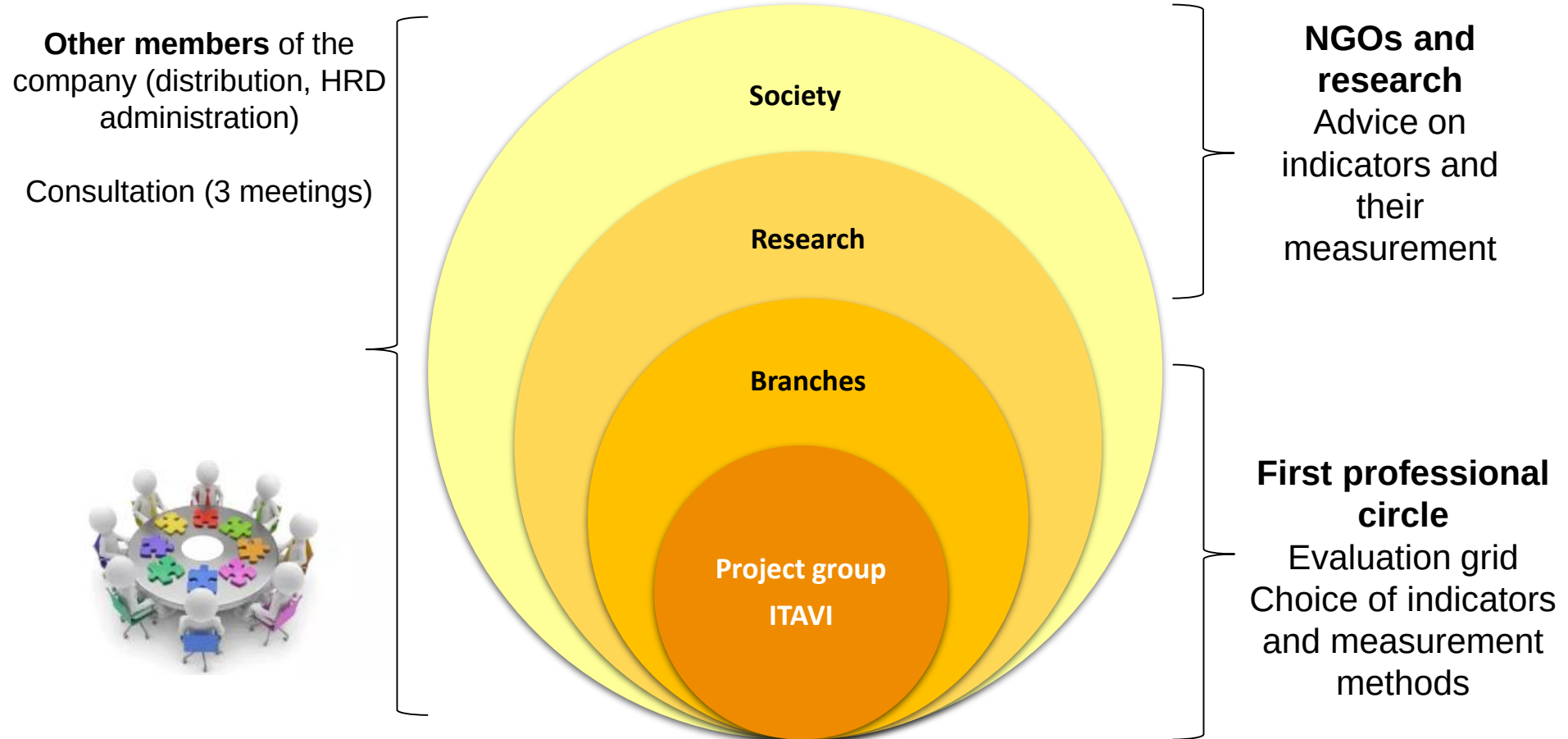


EBENE : feasible, reliable, complete



Co-construction of EBENE

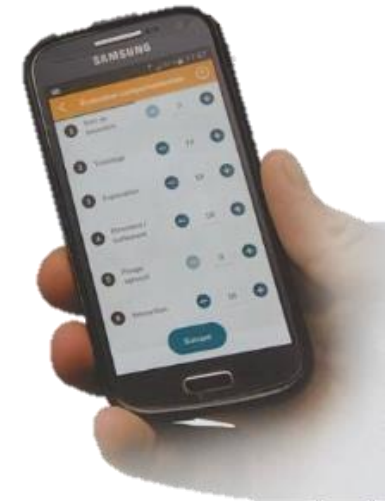
EBENE: a hundred people involved



EBENE: a progress tool for breeders

A same method for all productions:

- Poultry
 - Broilers, turkeys, guinea fowl, quails
- Laying hens
- Rabbits



EBENE in a few words

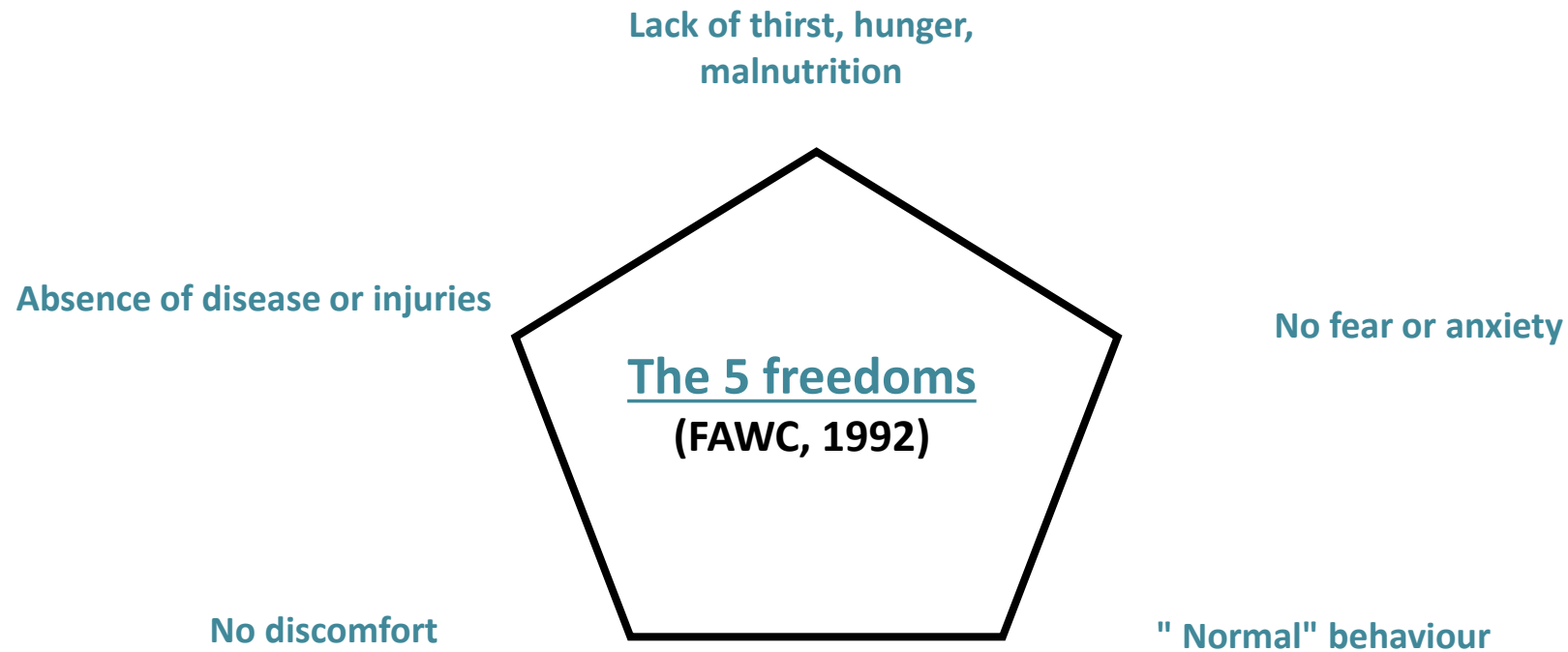
A continuous improvement tool for the sectors
with indicators :

- Relevant to animal welfare
- Measurable on the animal, few in number
- Shared by the different actors (professionals, scientists, distributors, NGOs and administration)



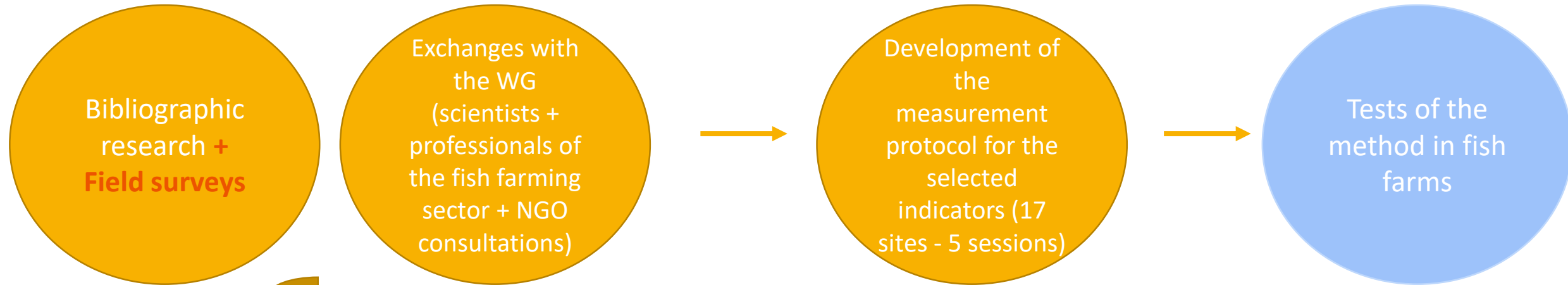
What is welfare?

Consensus definition of welfare



From the principle to the well-being indicator

Working method



Principles / Welfare criteria
and 1st list of indicators

First stages 2020 / 2021:

- Study the variety of farming systems
- Identify the most critical practices for fish welfare
- Gathering the point of view of fish farmers on the theme of welfare
- Identify welfare indicators already used by fish farmers



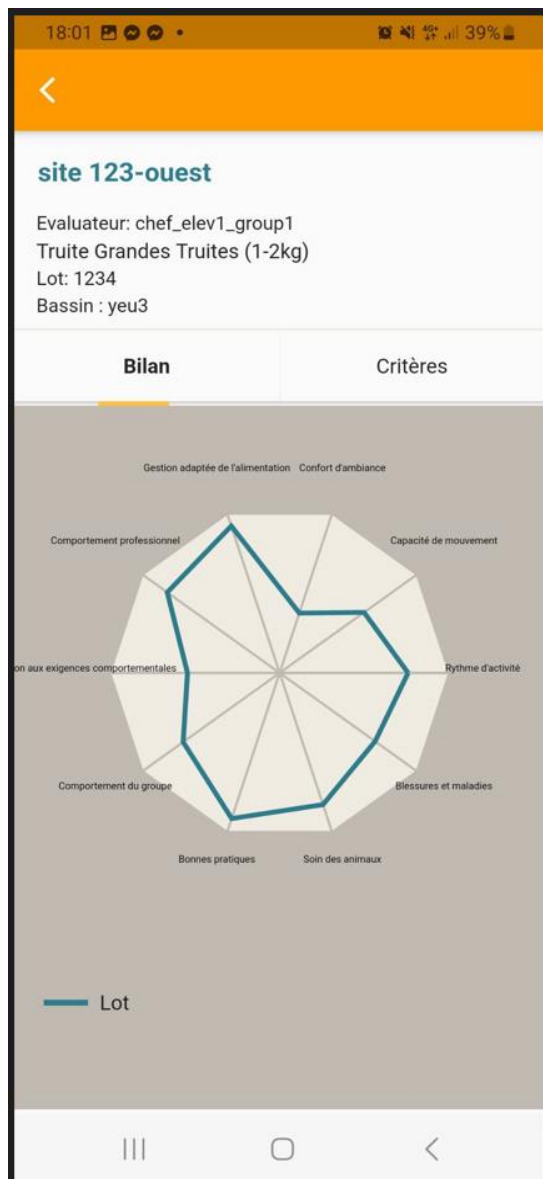
Grid of principles, criteria and indicators applied to fish



Principles	Criteria	Indicators of results
Good nutrition	Adapted feeding management	Small
Good environment	Environmental comfort	Distribution over the water level
		Time spent on the surface / on the bottom
		Hyperventilation
	Ability to move	Active swimming
Good health	Prevention of injury and illness	Swimming against the current / in the current
		Sunburn
		Caudal fin condition (severity 1 --> 4)
		Dorsal fin condition (severity 1 --> 4)
		Pectoral fin condition (severity 1 --> 4)
		Condition of the lids (severity 1 --> 3)
		Nose to mouth condition (severity 1 --> 3)
		Eye condition
	Care of injured and sick animals	necrosis
		Spinal deformity
		Stereotypical moribund
	Good practices for interventions on the animal	Foam
		Loss of scales
		Moribund
		Death
Appropriate behavior of the domesticated species	Behavior of the group	Aggressive behavior
		Acceleration
		Jump
		Grouped
		Disorganized
		Turns in circles
	Adaptation to the behavioral requirements of the domesticated species	Temporary stereotypy
	Prevention of fear and stress	
	Appropriate professional behaviour towards the animal	Reaction to human
		Time of habituation



Presentation of the test application



« Evaluate to evolve »

Assessment in the form of a spider's web
→ global vision



Thank you for your attention. Any questions?

