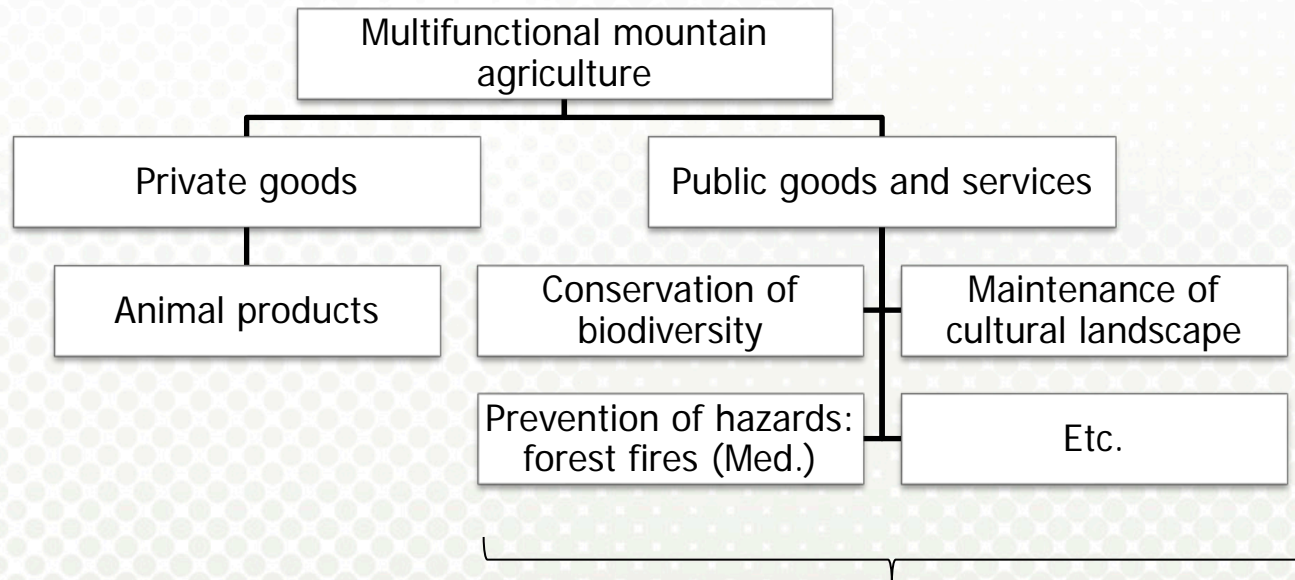


FARMERS AND CITIZENS PERCEPTIONS OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY OF MOUNTAIN FARMING

Bernués A., Ripoll-Bosch R., Rodríguez-Ortega T., Casasús I.



INTRODUCTION: private and public goods

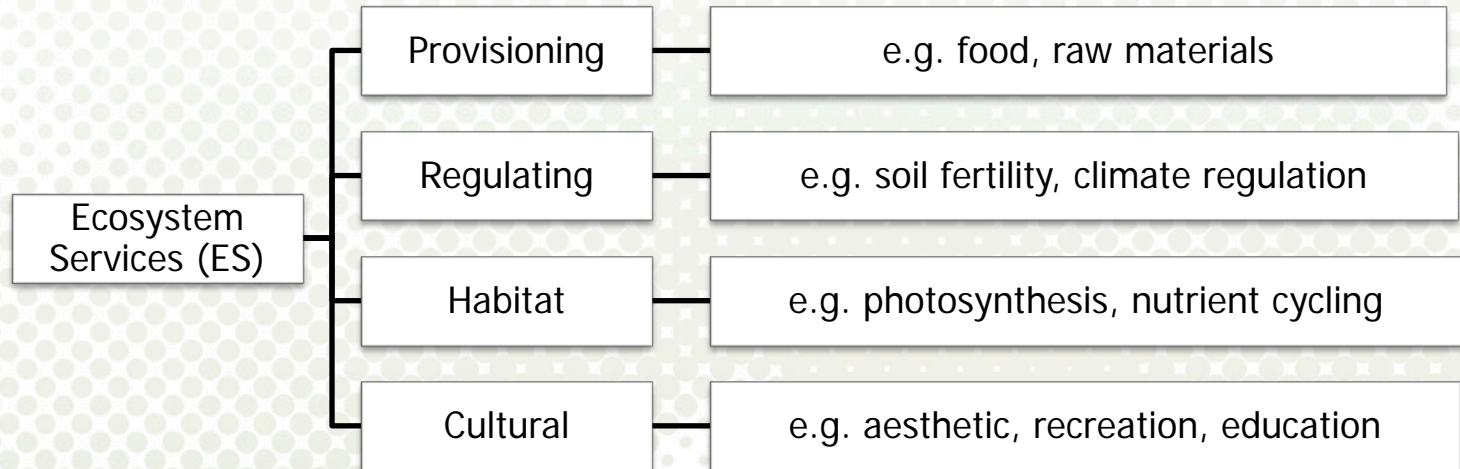


- Non-excludable
- Non-rival
- Non-marketable
- Inherently linked to extensive livestock farming systems

IEEP (2009). Provision of Public Goods through Agriculture in the European Union

INTRODUCTION: ecosystem services (ES)

- Direct or indirect benefits that humans get from nature
- Good link: (agro) ecosystem functioning ” human wellbeing
- Widely adopted by policy makers and managers
- Few studies on the delivery of ES by pasture-based animal agriculture (biophysical, economical or socio-cultural)



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005)

OBJECTIVE

- To gain information on the spontaneous knowledge and perceptions of farmers and citizens on relationships between mountain animal agriculture and the environment
 - Delivery of Ecosystem Services
 - Other sustainability issues



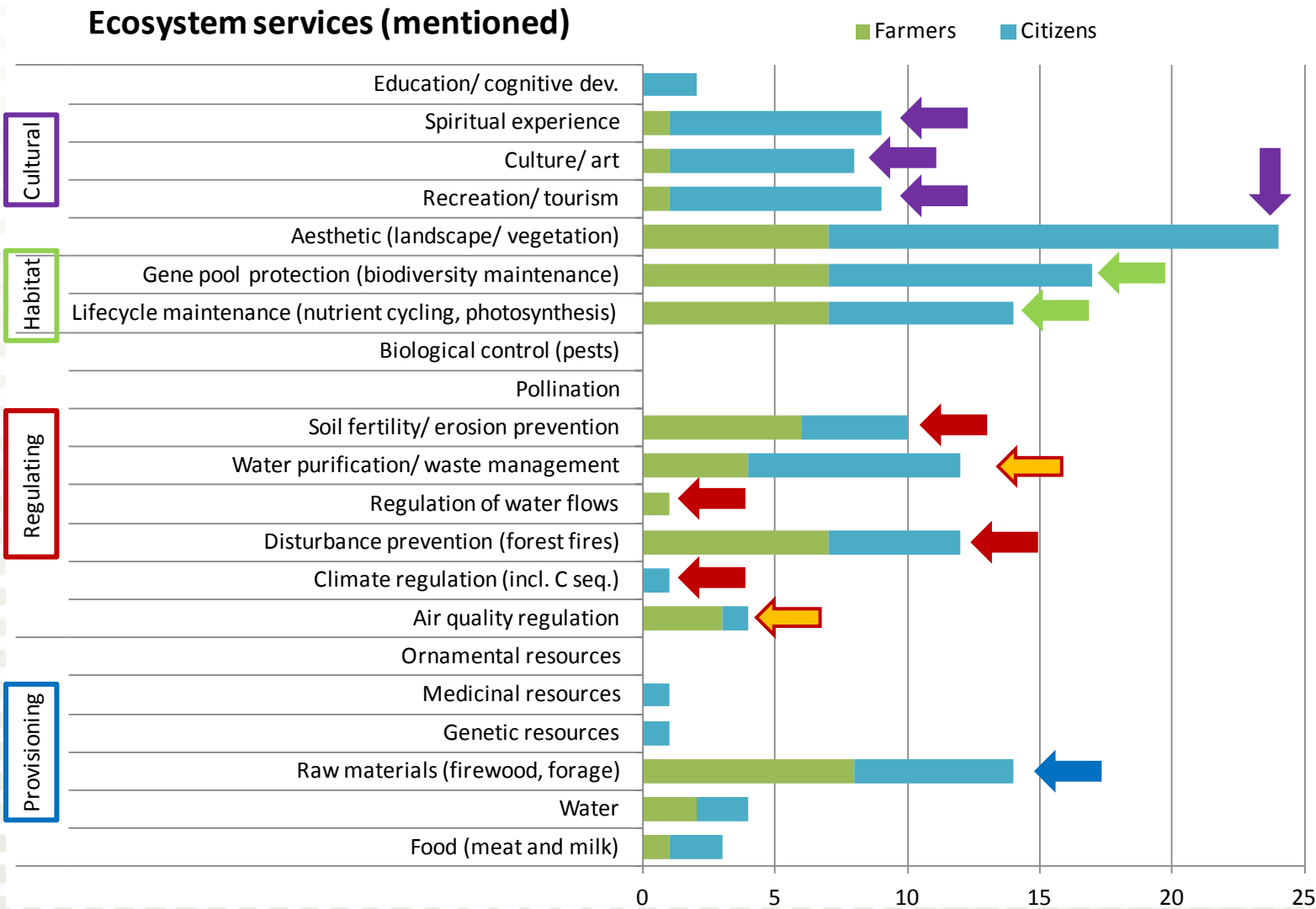
METHODOLOGY

- 5 focus groups (FG) about relationships between pasture-based mountain livestock and the environment
 - 2 FG (n=11) livestock farmers
 - 3 FG (n=22) citizens
- Moderator + general questions:
 - Do you know the term “ecosystem services”?
 - How do you think livestock production affects the environment and vice versa?
 - How these relationships between livestock production and the environment affect you?
 - What geographical areas/places can you identify that show the effect of livestock on the environment?
 - Should society pay for the delivery of environmental services? Who? In what way?
- Video-recording, transcription, text analysis
- Categorization and quantification

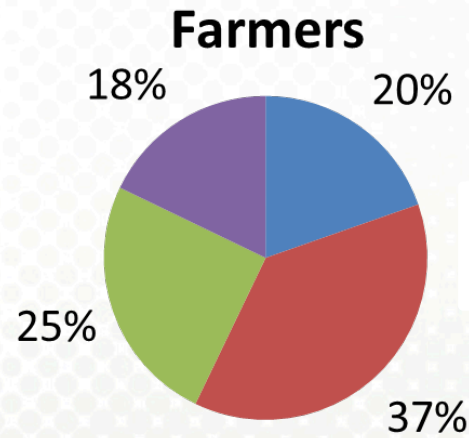
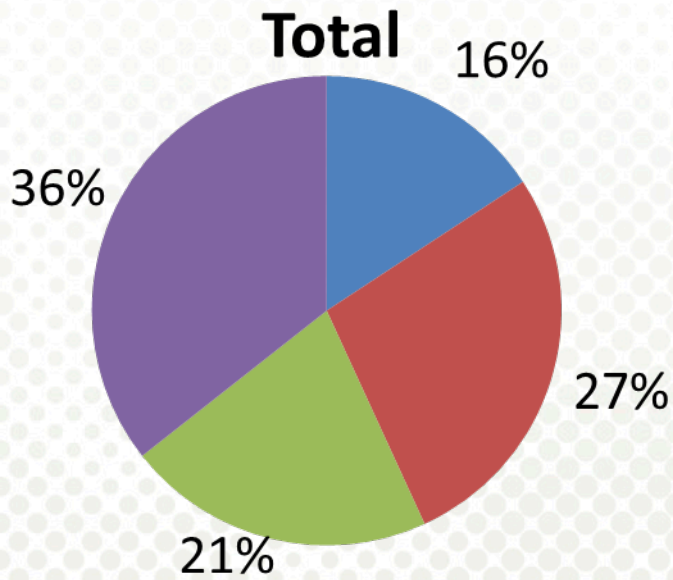


No participant knew the term "Ecosystem Service"

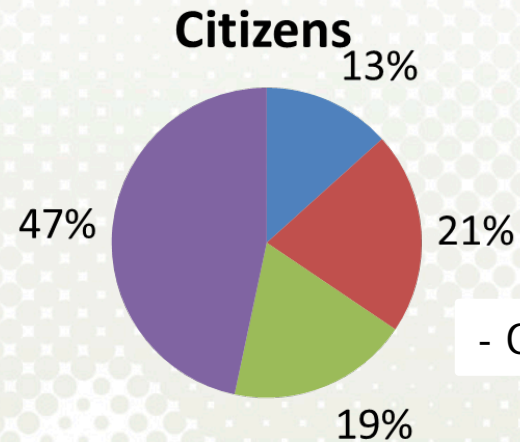
RESULTS



RESULTS



- Farming activity
- Local circumstances

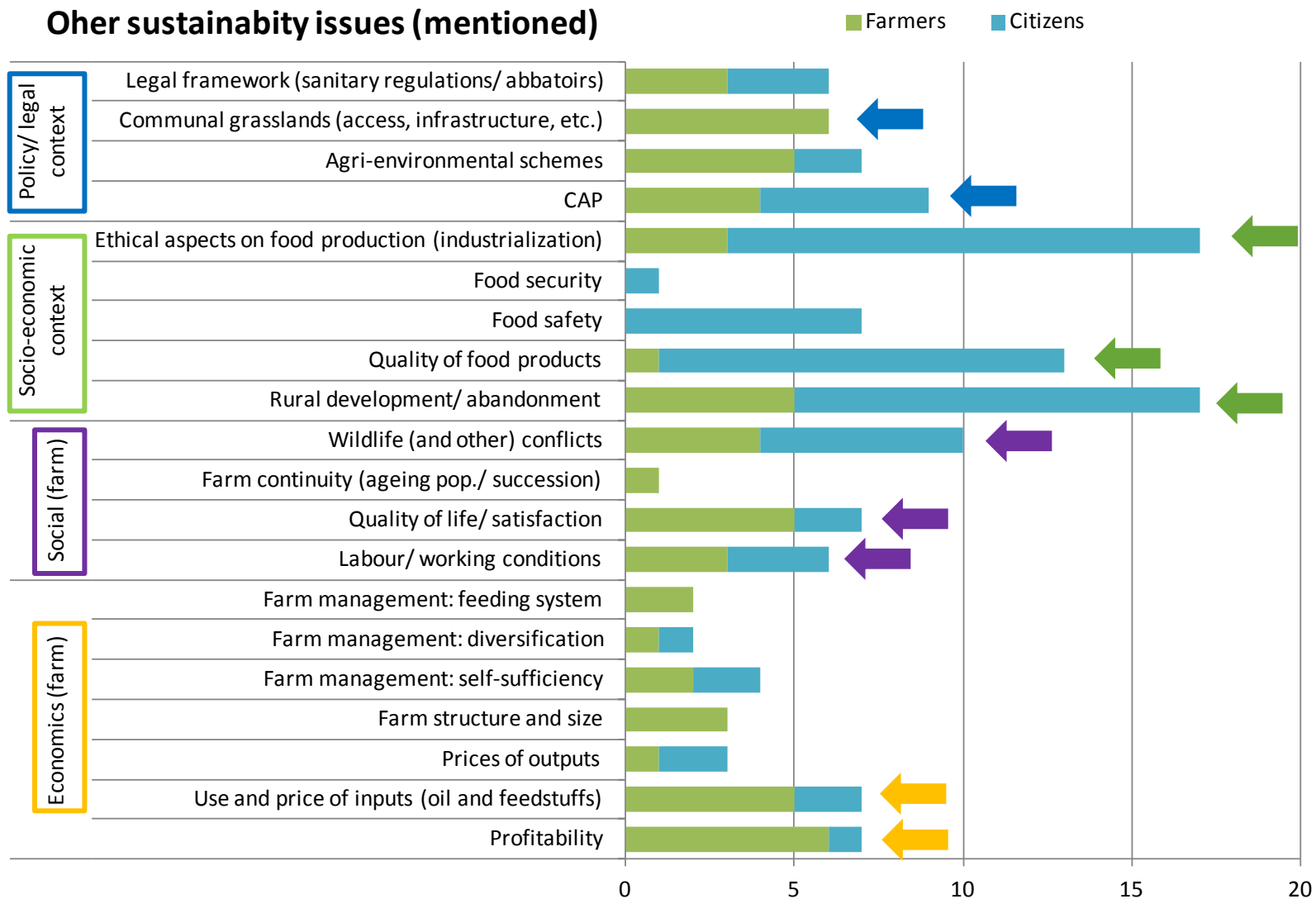


- General concerns

■ Provisioning ■ Regulating ■ Habitat ■ Cultural

RESULTS

Other sustainability issues (mentioned)



REMARKS

- ES more visible or familiar to humans are more easily identified and valued.
- Different stakeholders (farmers and citizens) valued differently some ES according to their capacity to satisfy individual needs or interests.
- But also shared a large number of concerns on the relationships between mountain farming and the environment.

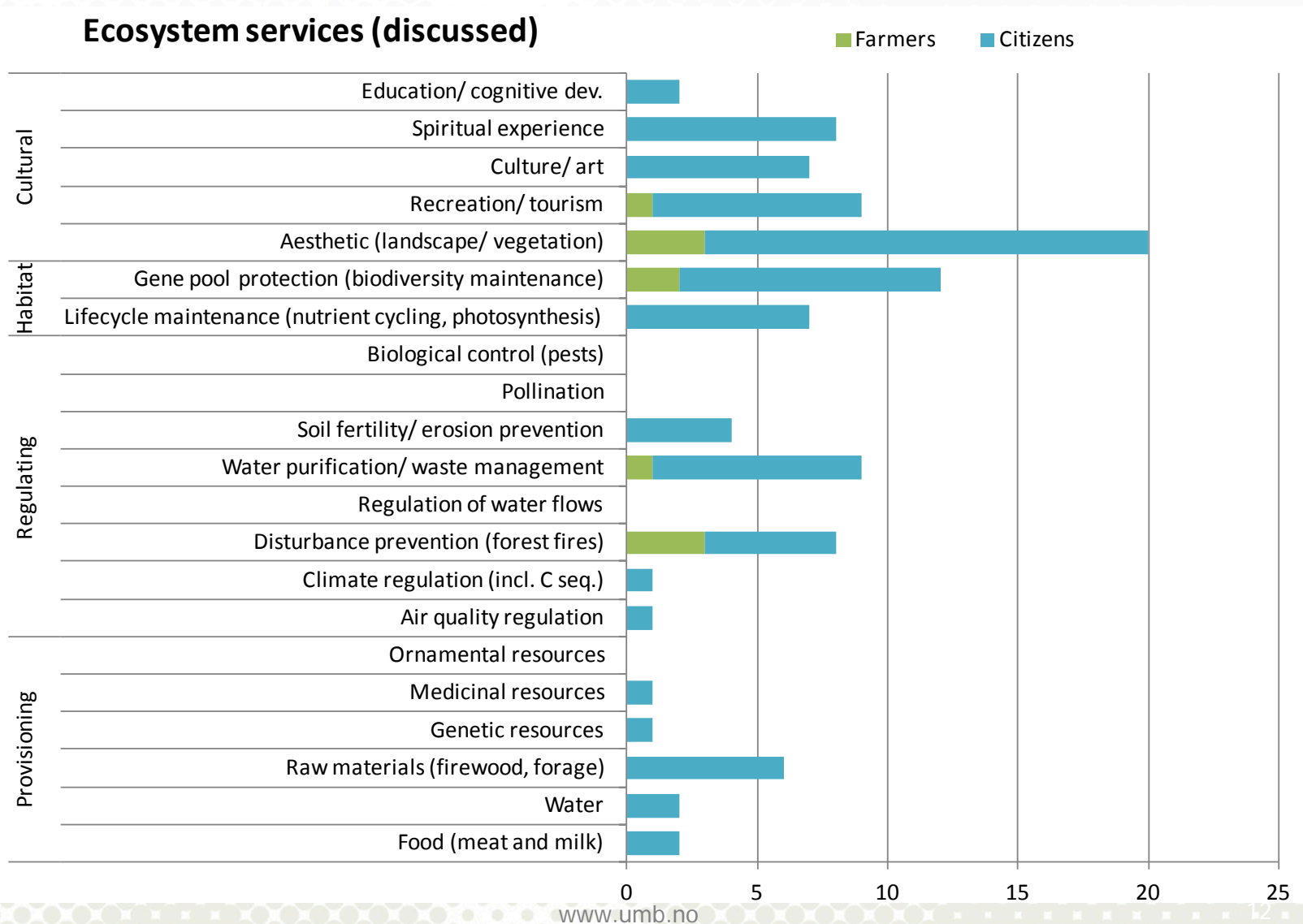
IMPLICATIONS

- Agri-environmental policies in mountain areas should take into account the views and demands of stakeholders with different interests (citizens pay and farmers implement policies).
- Payments for ES: “public money for public goods”
 - Biophysical relations between agricultural practices and delivery of ES (indicators)
 - Quantitative monetary and socio-cultural valuation of ES

Thank you !



RESULTS



RESULTS

Other sustainability issues (discussed)

