



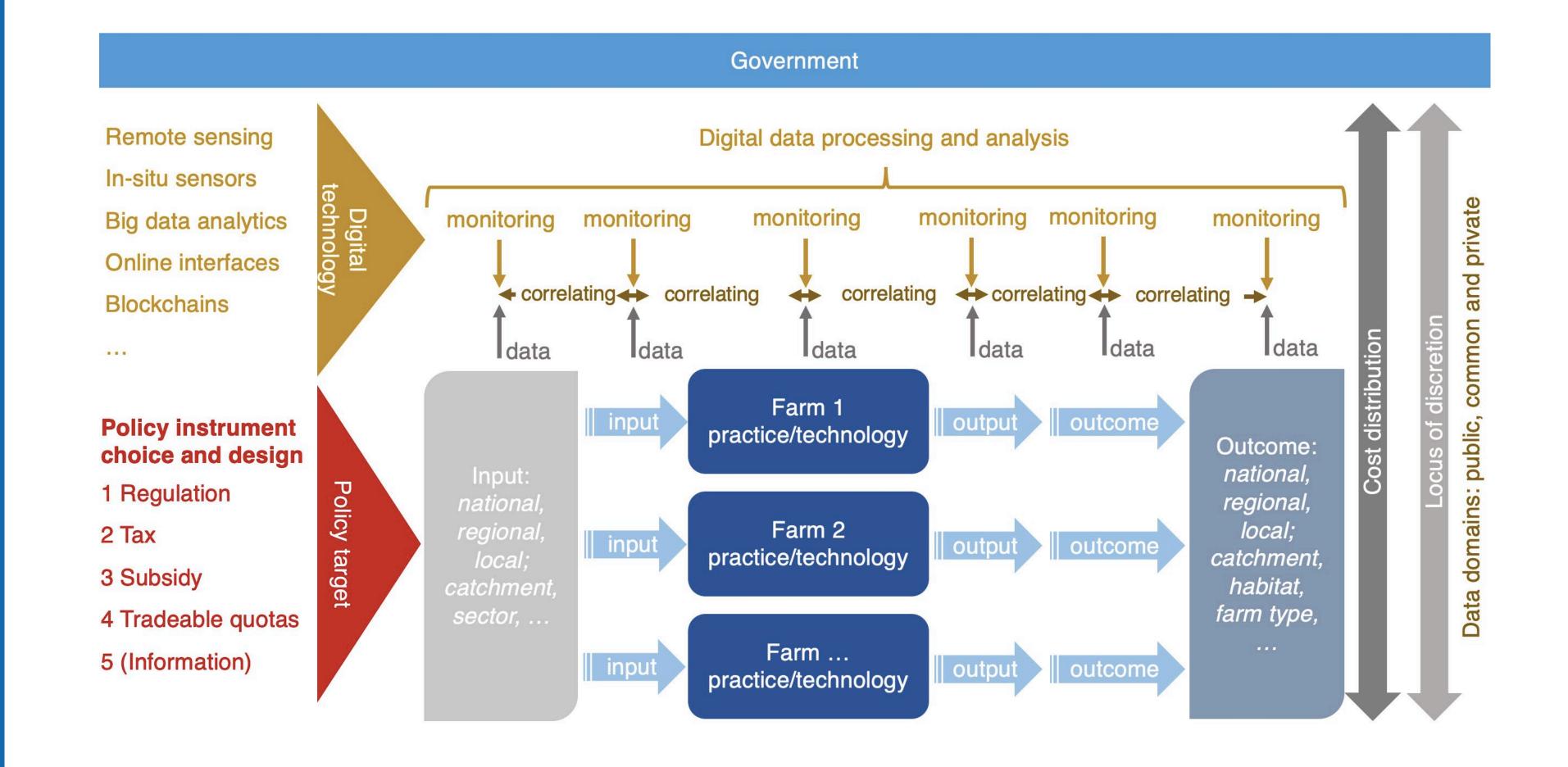
Agricultural policies in the era of digitalization (DigitAP)

Melf-Hinrich Ehlers, Robert Huber, Robert Finger

Goals

The goal of this project is to develop a holistic conceptional foundation for the development of agricultural policies in the era of digitalization. More specifically, an agricultural economic perspective on new policy options shall be developed. The methodological approaches used combine theoretical analysis, literature reviews, in-depth economic analysis for selected case studies and interaction with different stakeholders. Potentials and pitfalls of ICT will be specifically illustrated for Swiss agricultural policies as an example. The project will show ways forward and illustrate avenues for future policy developments of general relevance in the agricultural sector.

Research



Digital technologies can affect several dimensions of policy instruments, including:

- correlations between inputs, outputs and outcomes of production,
- distribution of costs and discretion among farmers, government and other actors,
- location and farm type specificity,
- data flows across public, common and private domains.

These can inform choice and particularly design of instruments.

Publications

Walter A, Finger R, Huber R, Buchmann N. 2017. Smart farming is key to developing sustainable agriculture. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 114 (24) 6148-6150.

Finger, R., Swinton, S. M., Benni, N. E., Walter, A. (2019). *Precision Farming at the Nexus of Agricultural Production and the Environment*. Annual Review of Resource Economics 11: 313-335.