

Initial Framework
for the
Vermont Soil Health Investment Trust

Presentation to the Vermont PES Working Group

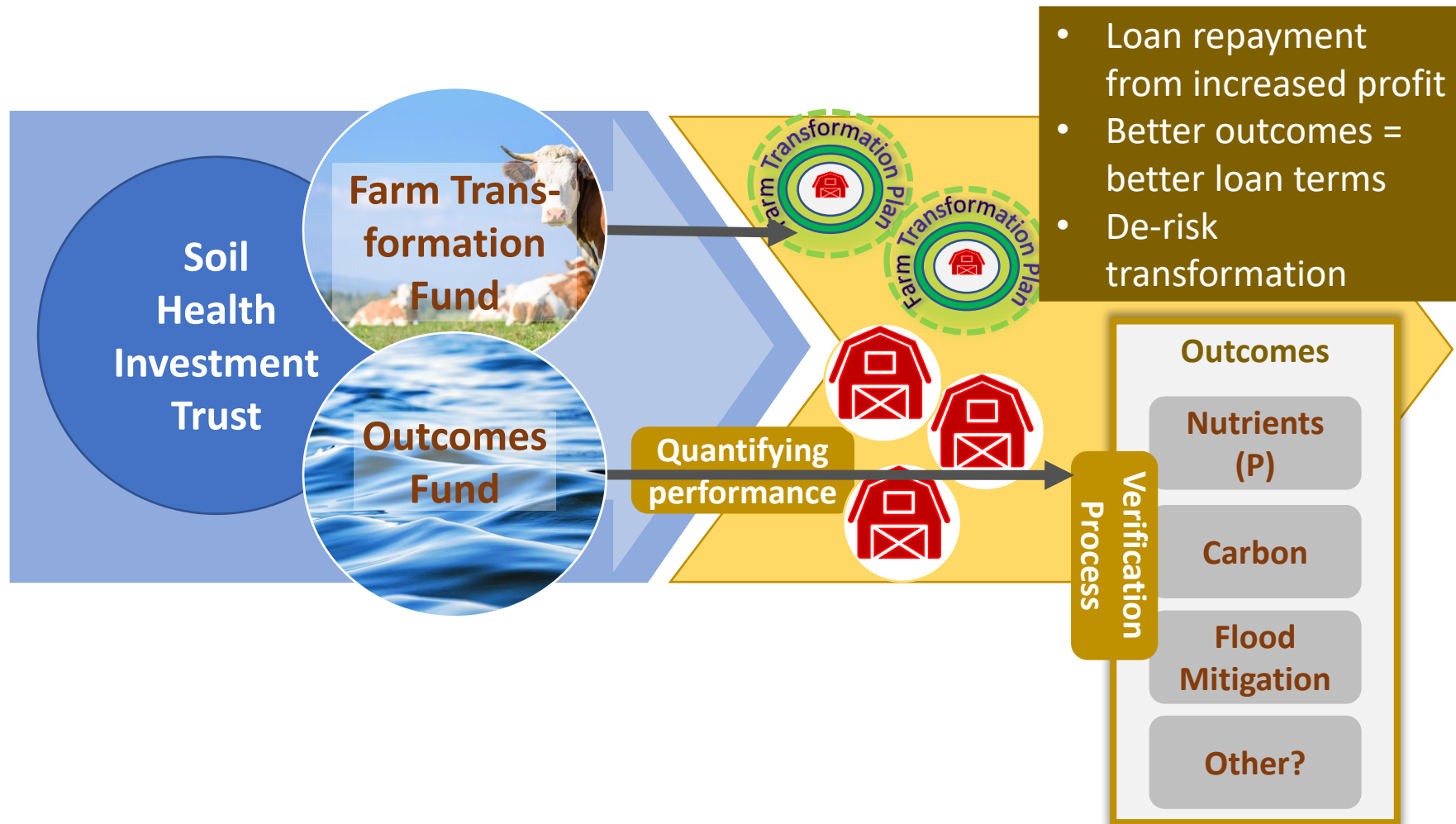
March 16, 2021

Context:

- Output of Vermont CIG project
- General framework only; unlimited details TBD
- Help advance PES in Vermont; bring together many resources to affect change
- Result of scores of interviews and conversations
- Our team is not trying to “stand this up”; we offer the framework as a starting point for the State

Soil Health Investment Trust

Helping Vermont farmers move toward greater soil health to deliver ecosystem services and improved financial performance and resilience



Soil Health Investment Trust

Financing for Farm Transformation Fund

VEDA
(statute change req'd)

Vermont's Clean Water SRF

Private Sector Impact Investment

Existing Fed Programs
Conservation Practices Cost Share (NRCS, FSA)
Easement Programs (Conservation Contract)

Funding TA and Operations

Federal and State Grants

Philanthropy

Rural Bus. Dev. Grants

Funding PES, TA, Operations

Agency Funds

Clean Water Fund

State of VT Appropriations

Philanthropy

Municipalities?
(Chittenden Co. St. Albans, Middlebury)

Future Federal PFP Funds

Soil Health Investment Trust

Farm Transformation Fund

Outcomes Fund

Farm Transformation Plan

Farm Transformation Plan

Quantifying performance

Verification Process

Outcomes

Nutrients (P)

Carbon

Flood Mitigation

Other?

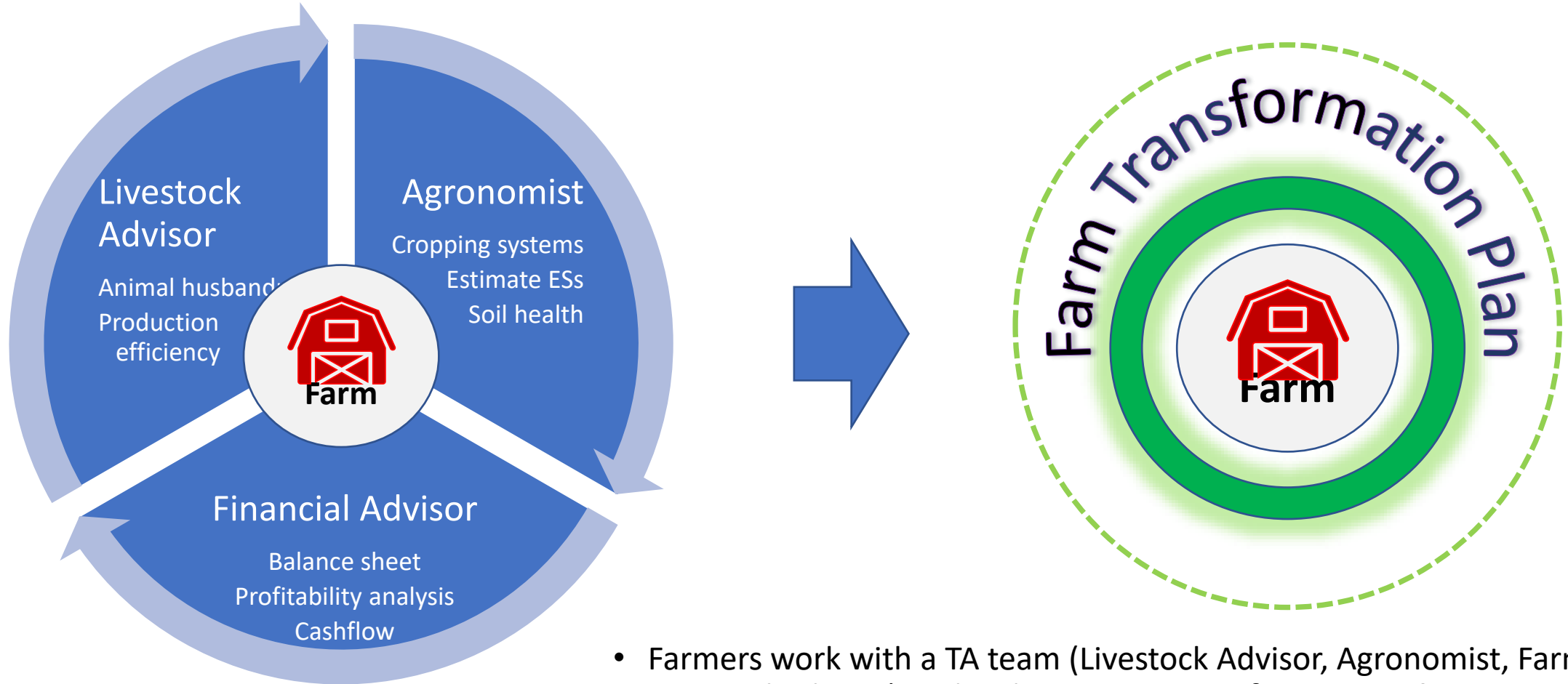
Purchase of Verified Outcomes

Carbon Markets

Companies with Sustainability Goals

Loan repayment from increased profit
Better outcomes = better loan terms
• De-risk transformation

Farm Transformation Requires Coordinated TA Teams



- Farmers work with a TA team (Livestock Advisor, Agronomist, Farm Financial Advisor) to develop a **Farm Transformation Plan**.
- Each plan achievable, practical, economically and agronomically sound. Include projections, including ecosystem services to be created

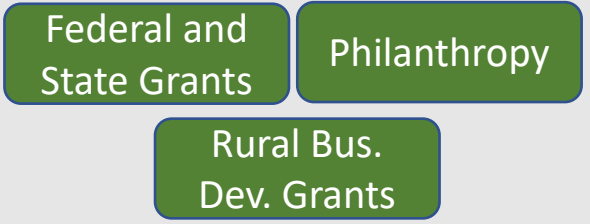
Soil Health Investment Trust

Financing for Farm Transformation Fund

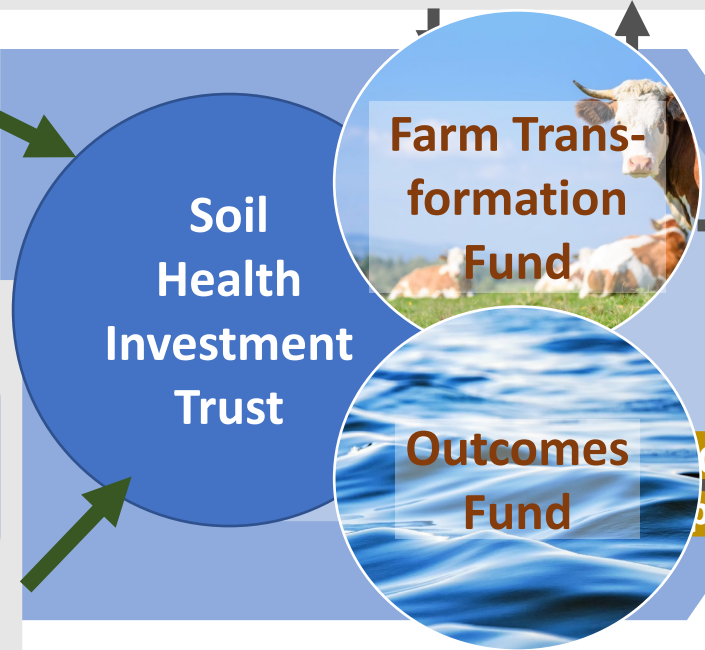
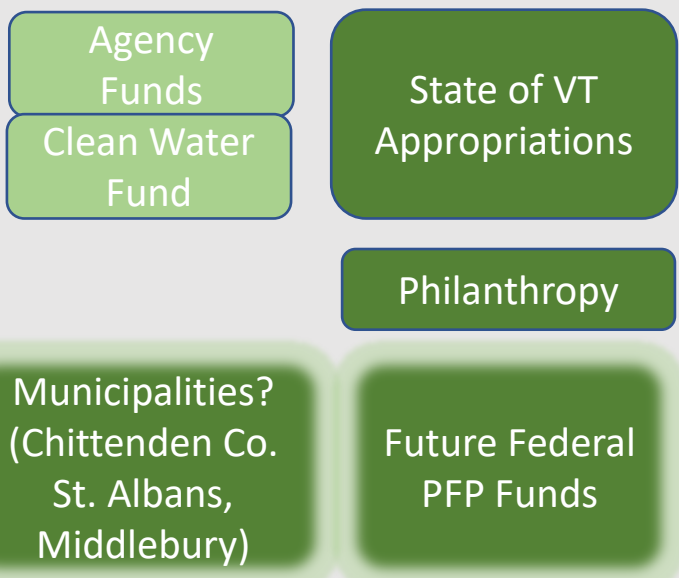


Existing Fed Programs
 Conservation Practices Cost Share (NRCS, FSA)
 Easement Programs (Conservation Contract)

Funding TA and Operations



Funding PES, TA, Operations

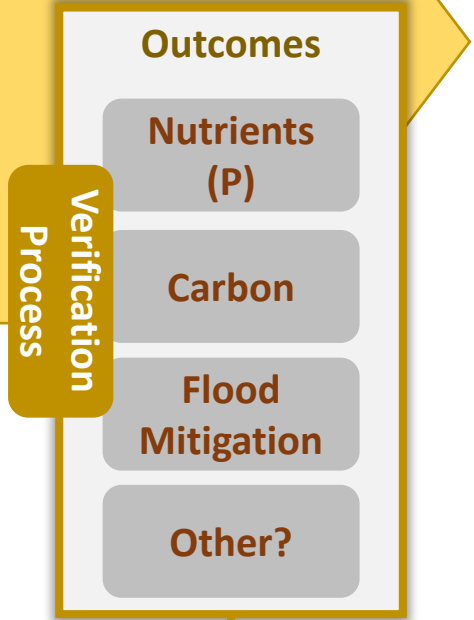


Loan repayment from increased profit
 Better outcomes = better loan terms

- De-risk transformation

Quantifying performance

Purchase of Verified Outcomes



For More Information, please contact

Jon Winsten

winsten.vt@gmail.com