

***From a Triangle of Meat
To a World of Less Heat***
—— Ongoing actions in China

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Equity. Sustainability. Rights.™

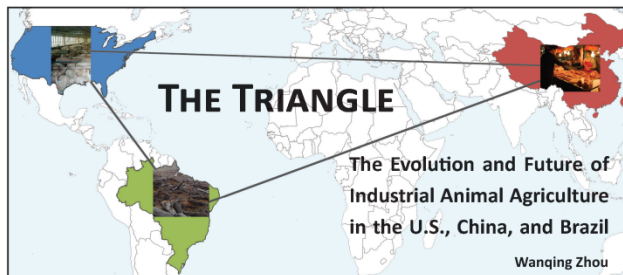
- Non-profit action tank that works to transform public policy and dialogue on the environment, animals, and sustainability, both globally and locally
- **Food policy & equity program:** policy papers, videos on climate change, and globalization of industrial animal agriculture

Publications



The Triangle: Evolution and Future

Discussion Paper



THE WORLD IS WAKING UP TO THE IMPACTS of the consumption-driven expansion of intensive animal farming on global warming, natural resources, public health, independent farmers' livelihoods, and animal welfare. This attention, however, is not yet sufficient to the scale of the problem. This discussion paper examines the "triangle of industrial animal agriculture" that connects the world's biggest players in the meat and feed industries: the United States, China, and Brazil. It then analyzes the dynamics shaping this "meat triangle," compares the forces driving livestock and feed crop intensification in the three countries, and provides recommendations for greater sustainability, with a focus on "delegitimization."

Having thrived in industrialized regions since the conclusion of World War II, the modern livestock industry, especially intensive animal farming (also known as "factory farming"), is posing considerable challenges for climate change, environmental and public health, farmers' livelihoods, and animal welfare. Considering alarming scientific data being generated and rising public awareness, policy-makers are under pressure to cut the industry's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, regulate the discharge or disposal of waste, improve animal welfare, and strengthen enforcement to guarantee a safe and sustainable supply of products.

Looking at the global dynamics of "factory farming," the United States (U.S.), China, and Brazil emerge as big players. They form three points of a triangle: the U.S. is a major exporter of mature industrialized livestock

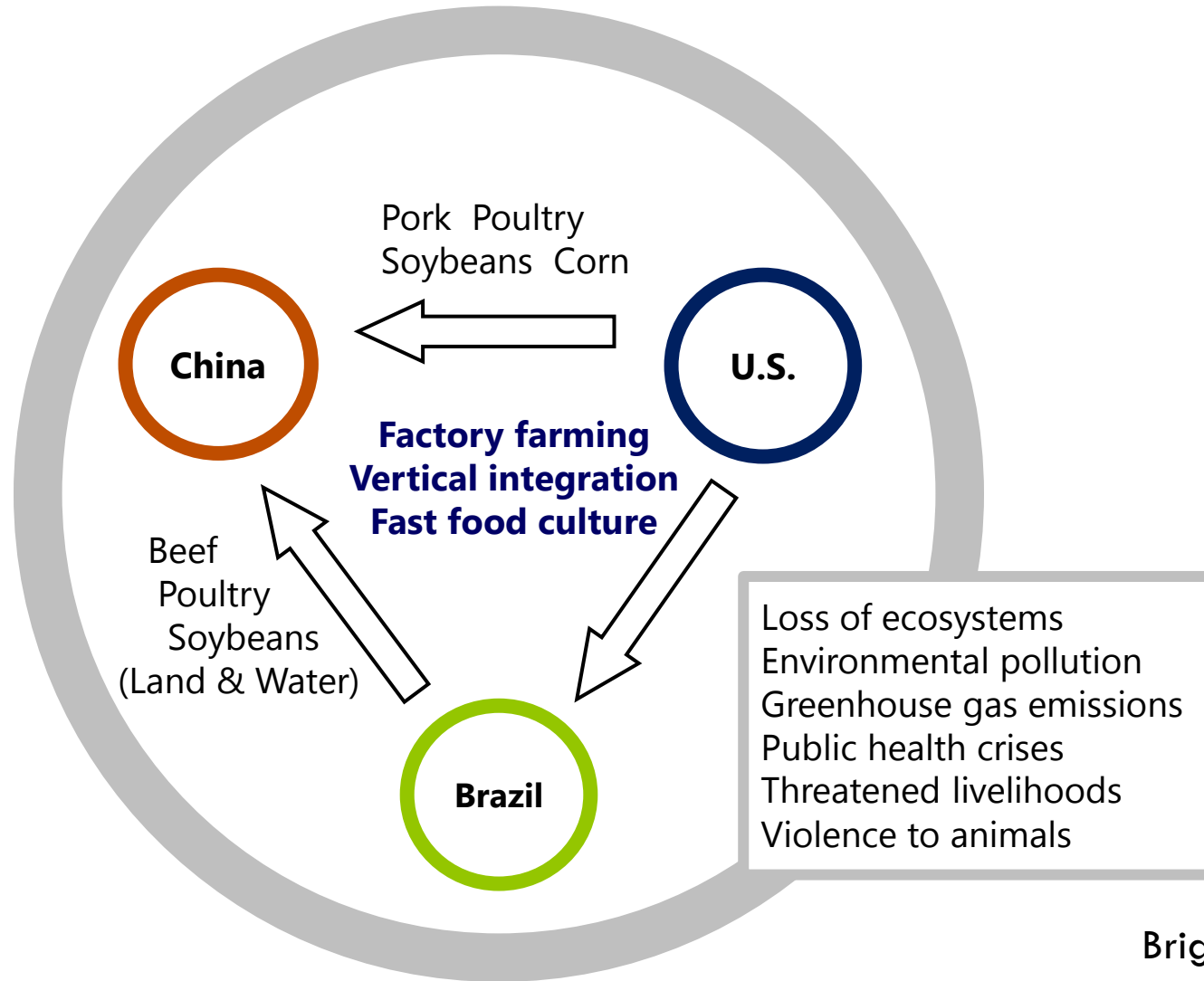
production chains; China is a rapidly growing economy with a huge appetite for livestock products; and Brazil is a country with intensifying conflicts between the economic returns of increasing livestock- and feed-centered agricultural production and the need to protect some of Earth's most ecologically important ecosystems.

Given the realities of finite natural resources and the necessity of ensuring environmental resilience, it is clear that conventional, capital- and resource-intensive industrialization will not lead to the sustainable development of agriculture. Despite this, different drivers in the three nations have pushed, and are still pushing, for intensive development of animal agriculture and consequent large-scale production of feed crops along the trajectory seen in the industrialized world, with inadequate precautions and regulations.

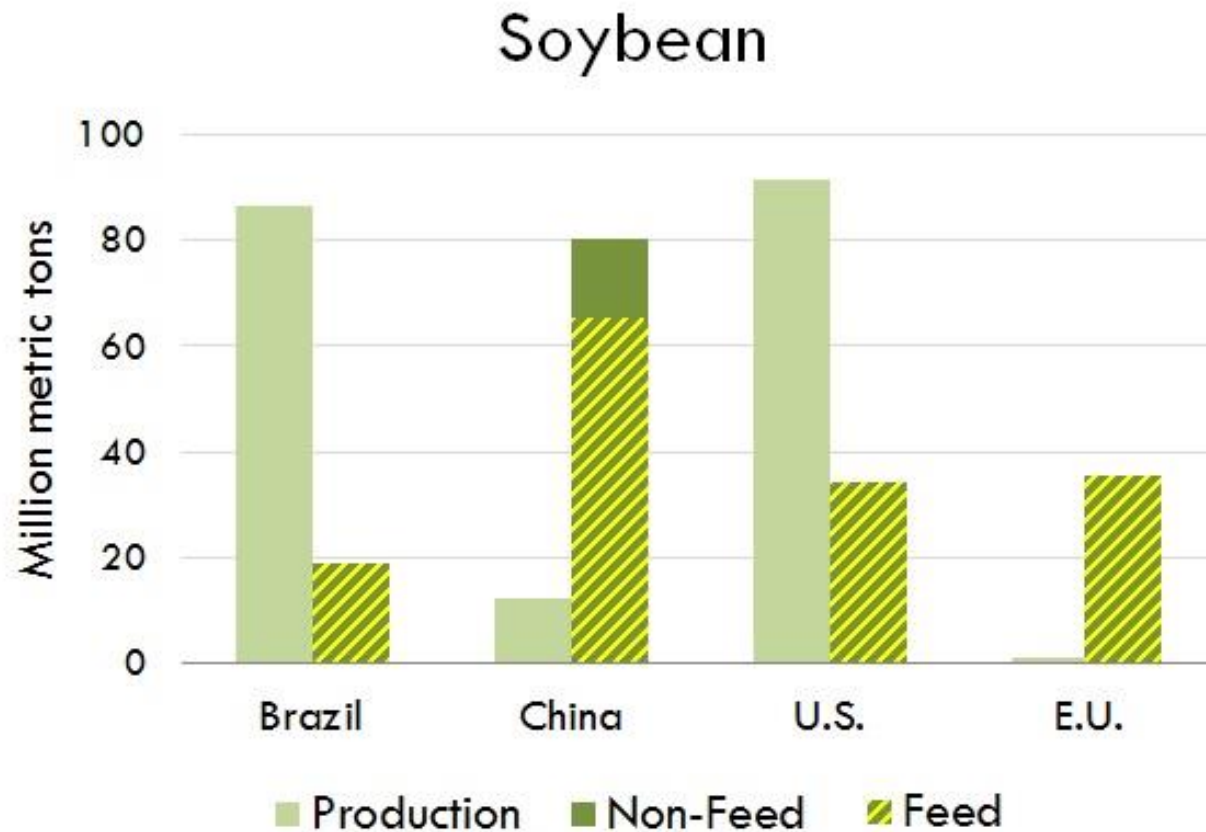
- U.S., China and Brazil
- Dynamics and drivers
- Opportunities for change



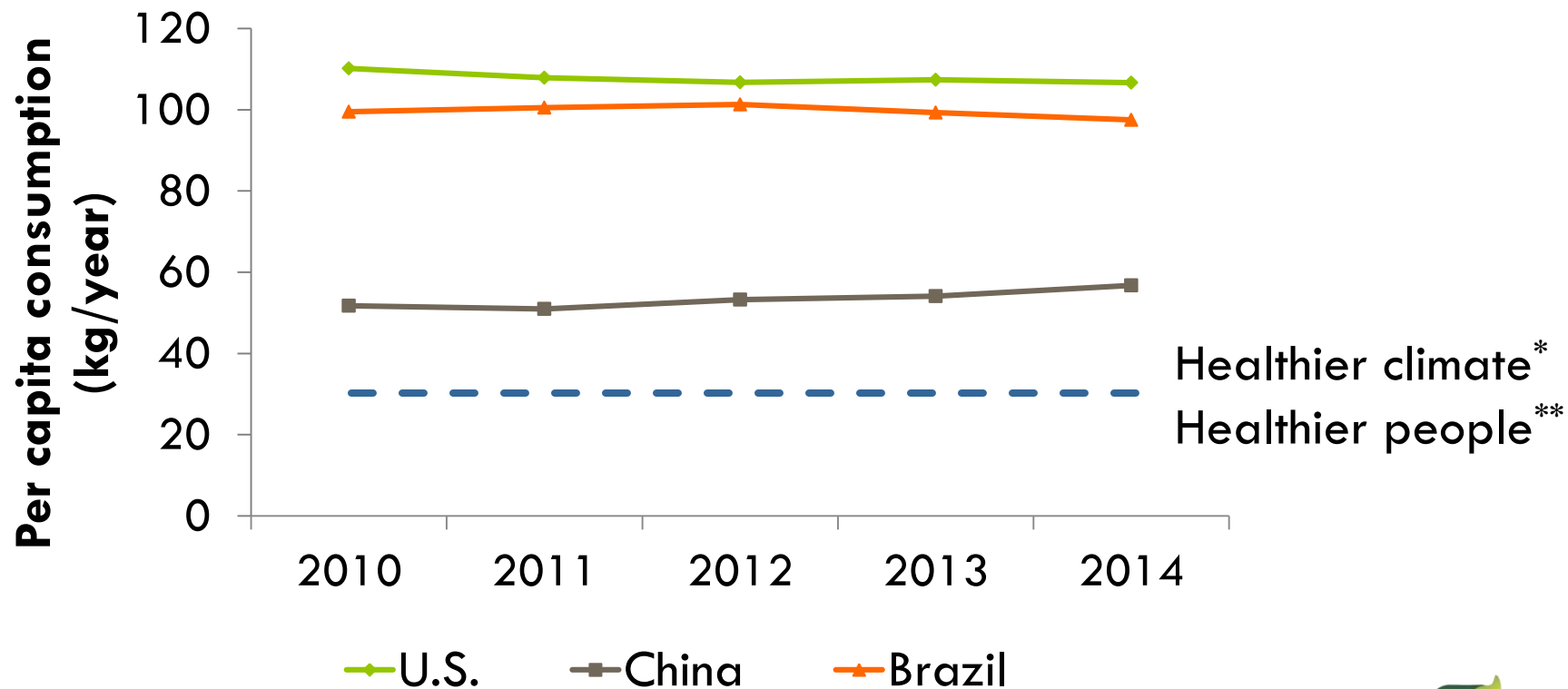
The Triangle of Meat and Feed



Feeding the Animals



The Triangle: Delegitimization



* [Food, livestock production, energy, climate change, and health](#) (McMichael et al., 2007)

** [SACN Iron and Health](#) (UK Department of Health, 2010)



What's For Dinner?

- Being the first
- Chinese crew
- Document and inspire



WFD? China Screening Tour



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Shanghai



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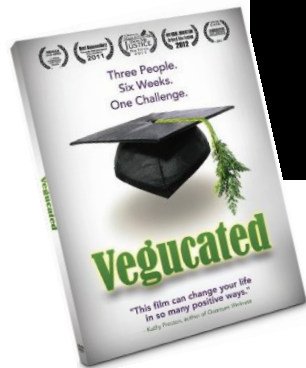
WFD? China Screening Tour



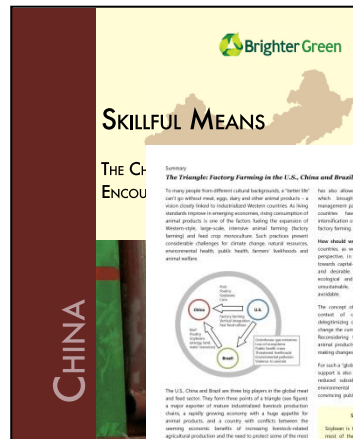
WFD? China Screening Tour



WFD? Screening Kit

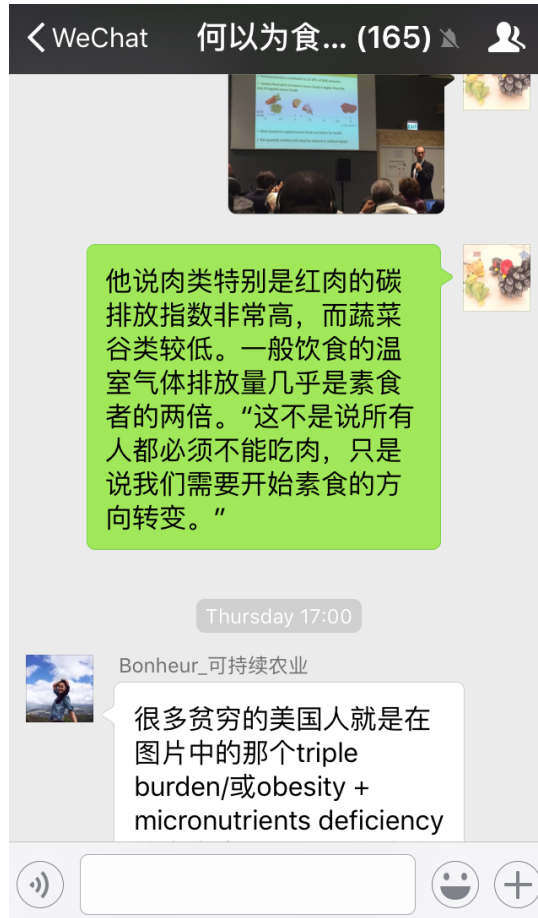


何以为食？ WHAT'S FOR DINNER?



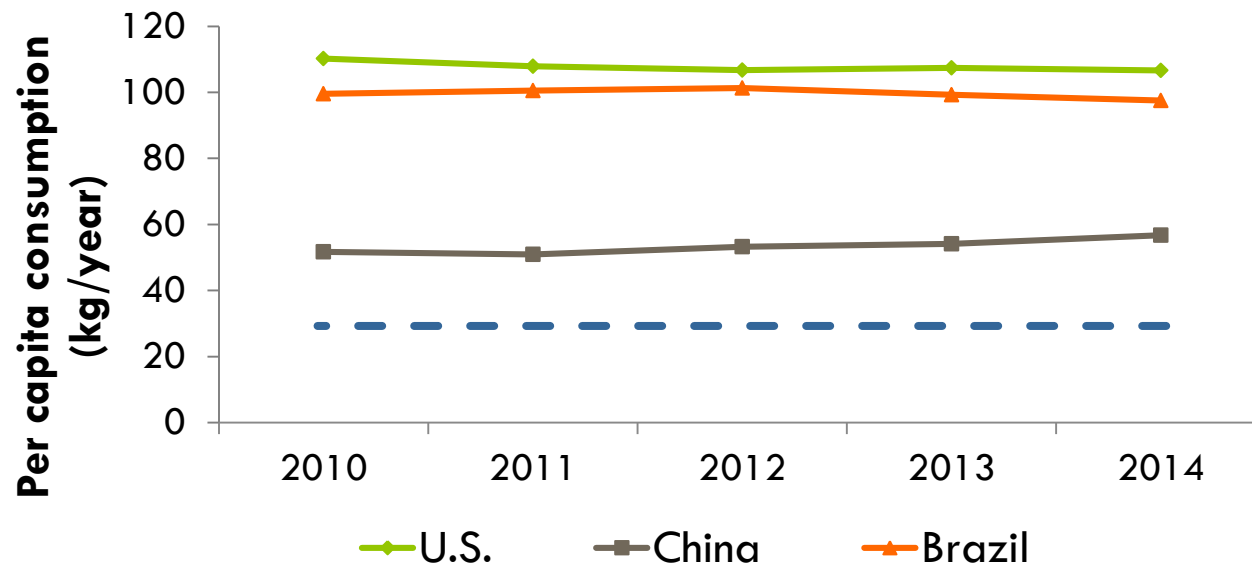
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WFD? WeChat Activities



Policy Adjustments

- January 2014, State Council*: per capita meat consumption should be 29 kilograms per year (nearly 50% lower than the current level)

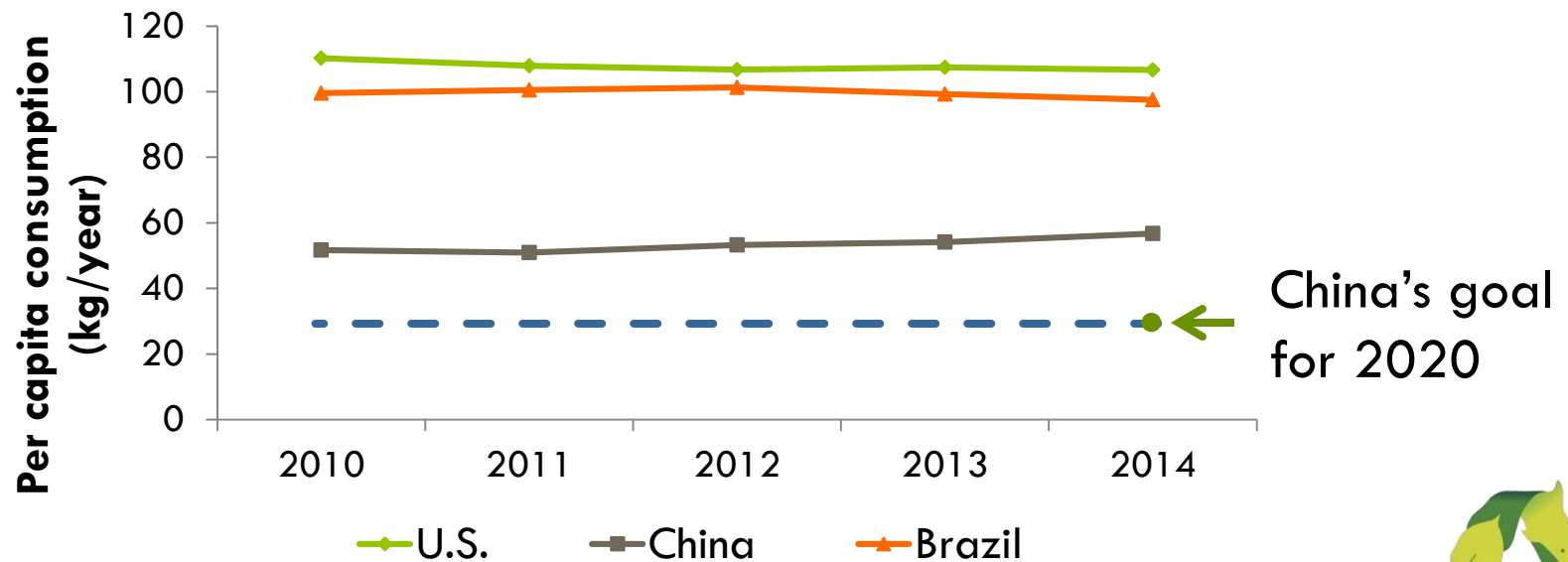


* [*Outline of the Program for Food and Nutrition Development in China \(2014-2020\)*](#)



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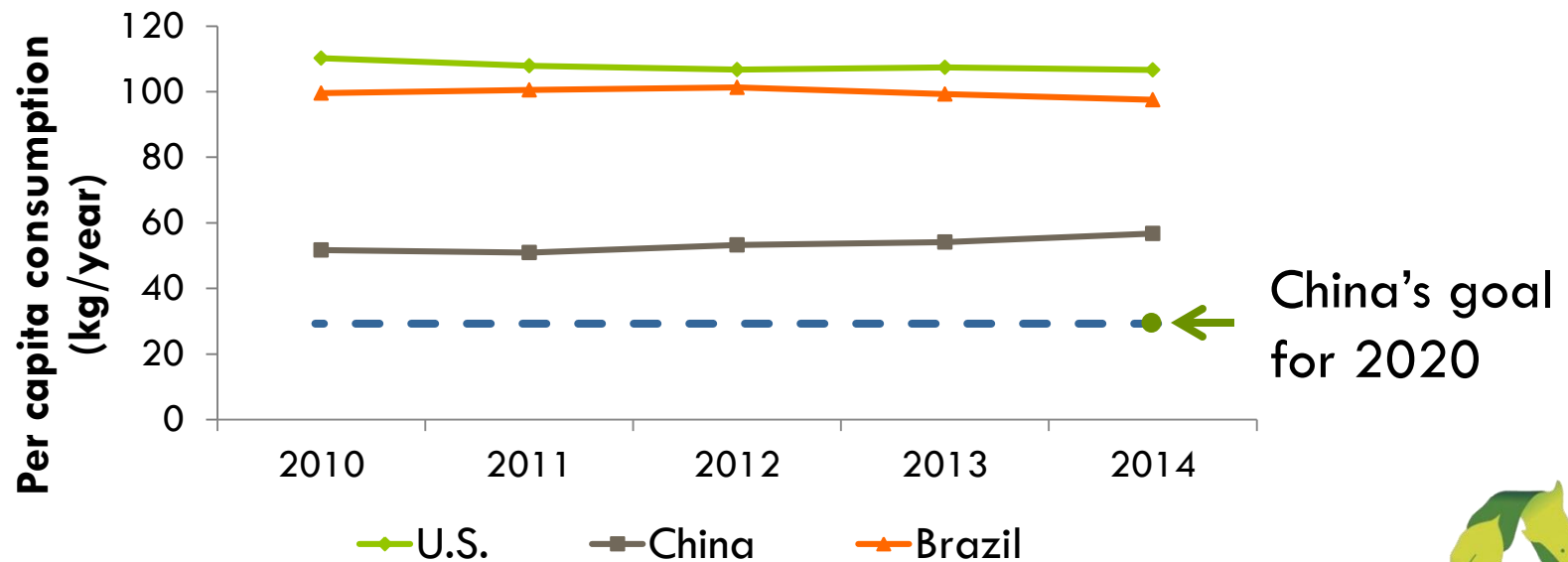


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Policy Adjustments

- June 2015, INDC: limit large-scale agricultural industrialization and chemical use, promote low-carbon food service



Policy Adjustments

- October 2015, suggestions for the 13th 5-Year Plan:
 - Agriculture should be high-yield, safe, resource-efficient, and environmentally friendly
 - Act against over-consumption



Policy Recommendations

- ❑ Re-direct incentives (tax, subsidies, etc.): feed to food, fossil to fertility
- ❑ Communication and education: over-consumption
- ❑ Multiple benefits, global coordination



Additional Resources



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