



Dr. Patrick Antoine
CEO and Technical Director
CARICOM Private Sector
Organization
18th November 2025

**SOURCING
SMARTER**
PARTNERING LOCALLY
FOR PROFIT AND PURPOSE

CHIEF 2025

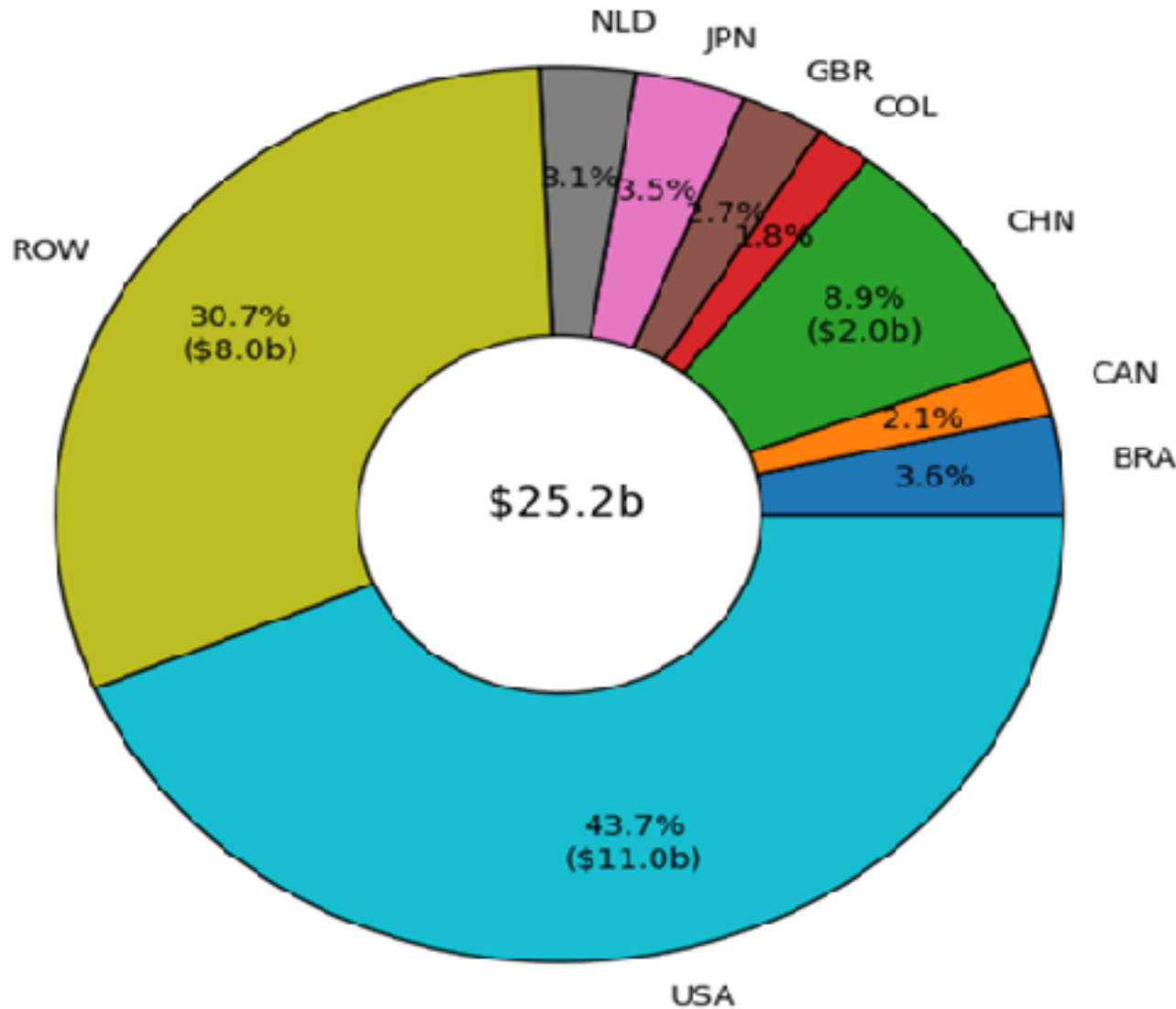


RATIONALE

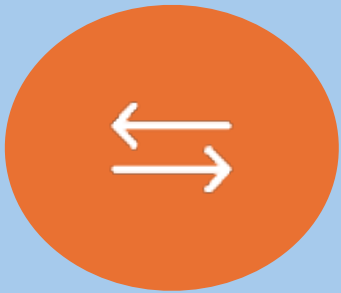
- CSME concentrated in US imports.
- Diversifying suppliers key to mitigating disruptions
- *Geopolitical Instability - America First Policies (AFP) will be inflationary*
 1. *tariff carry-through effects,*
 2. *cost-push market pressures*

While trade openness supports economic activity and consumer welfare, concentration on a single partner/supplier for critical imports can lead to significant risks.

CSME External Imports in USD in 2023



HOTEL & TOURISM SECTOR AS KEY BENEFICIARY



GREATER FLEXIBILITY & ADAPTABILITY

‘Ability to Pivot’ –
Multiple Sources of
Supply



ENHANCED NEGOTIATION POWER

Better costing,
terms, and service
quality.



STRENGTHEN SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE



ACCESS TO INNOVATION & NEW (EMERGING) SOURCES



RISK MITIGATION THROUGH REGIONAL BALANCE



Which US imports can be sourced elsewhere?



Alternative Competitive sourcing from elsewhere?



From which countries can the products be sourced?



Estimated financial benefit?



Supply & Logistics to support diversified sourcing model?

Research Questions



ALTERNATIVE SOURCING

1229 of 1251 PL can
be competitively sourced
(Mineral Fuels **Incl.**)

85.8% of the value of
US imports (Mineral
Fuel **Incl.**)

1218 of 1239 PL can
be competitively sourced
(Mineral Fuels **Excl.**)

94.7% of the value of
US Imports (Mineral Fuel **Excl.**)

ALTERNATIVE SOURCE COUNTRIES

42

Countries can supply
at least 5% of US
imports (w/Mineral)

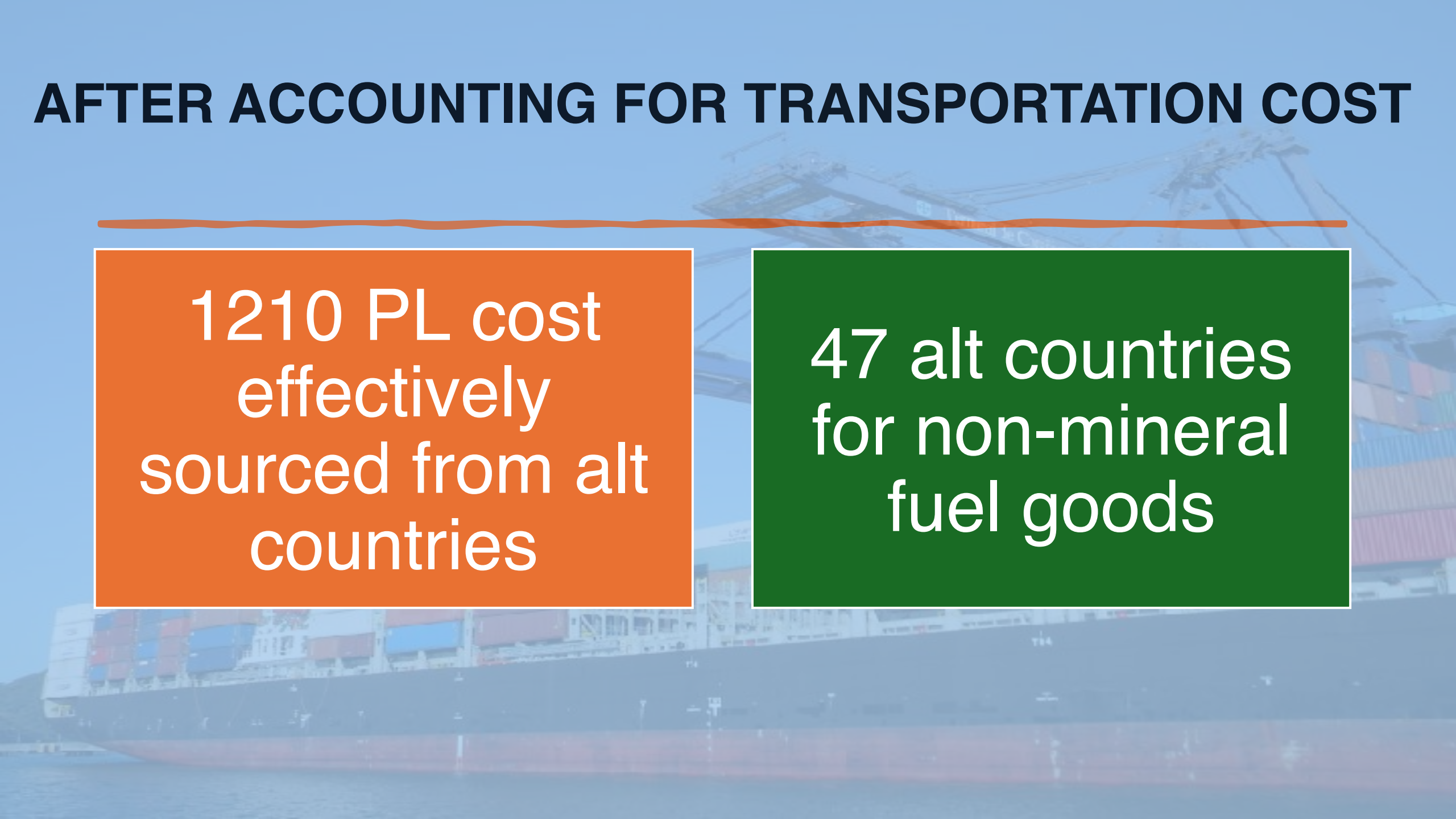
5

Countries can
supply at least 5%
of US imports (wo/
Mineral Fuels)

2



AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR TRANSPORTATION COST



1210 PL cost
effectively
sourced from alt
countries

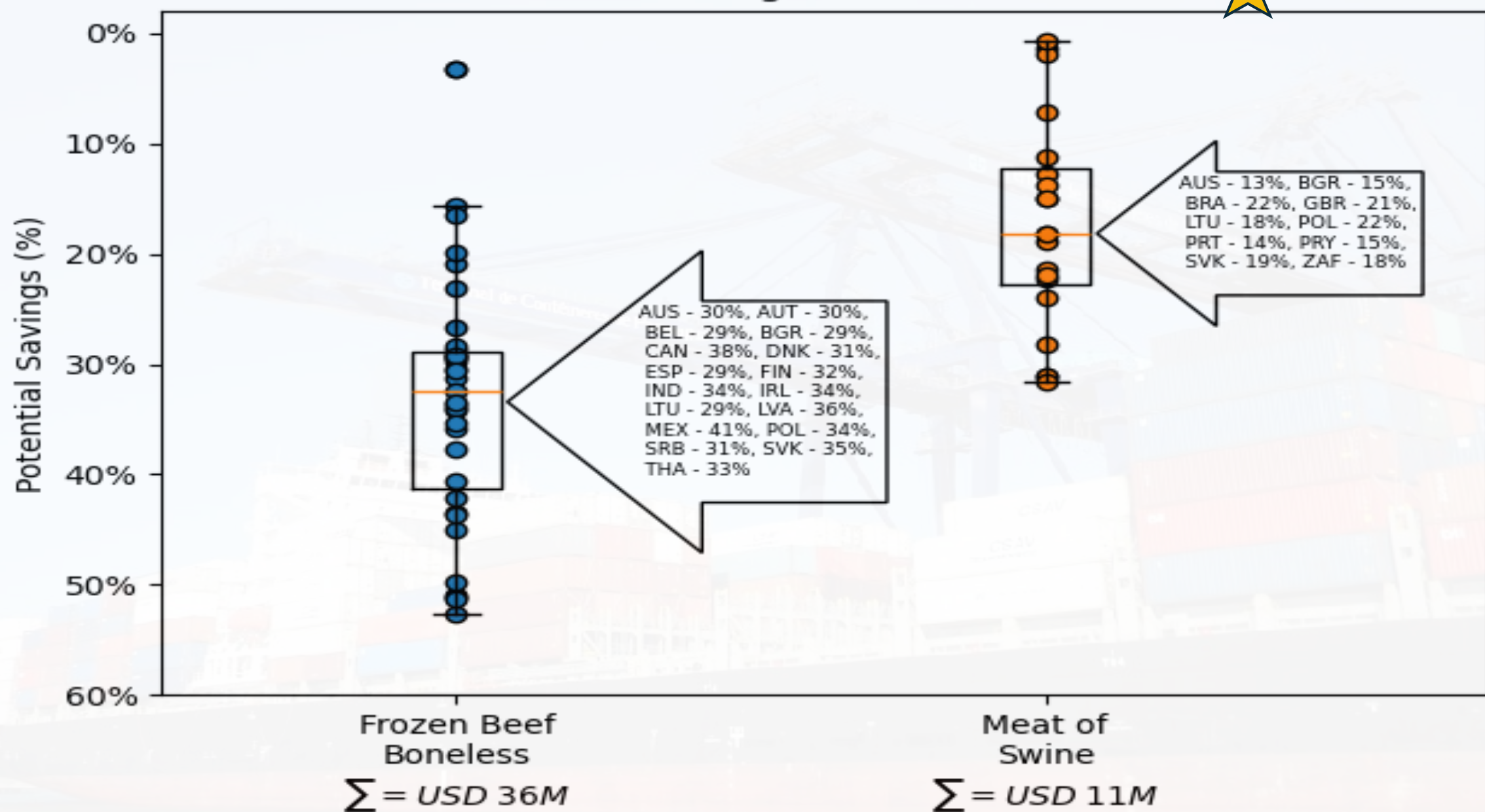
47 alt countries
for non-mineral
fuel goods

A photograph of a busy port scene. A large blue gantry crane is lifting a blue shipping container. In the background, a large cargo ship is docked, its deck covered with stacks of colorful shipping containers in shades of blue, red, and white. The sky is a pale blue with some light clouds. The overall scene conveys a sense of global trade and logistics.

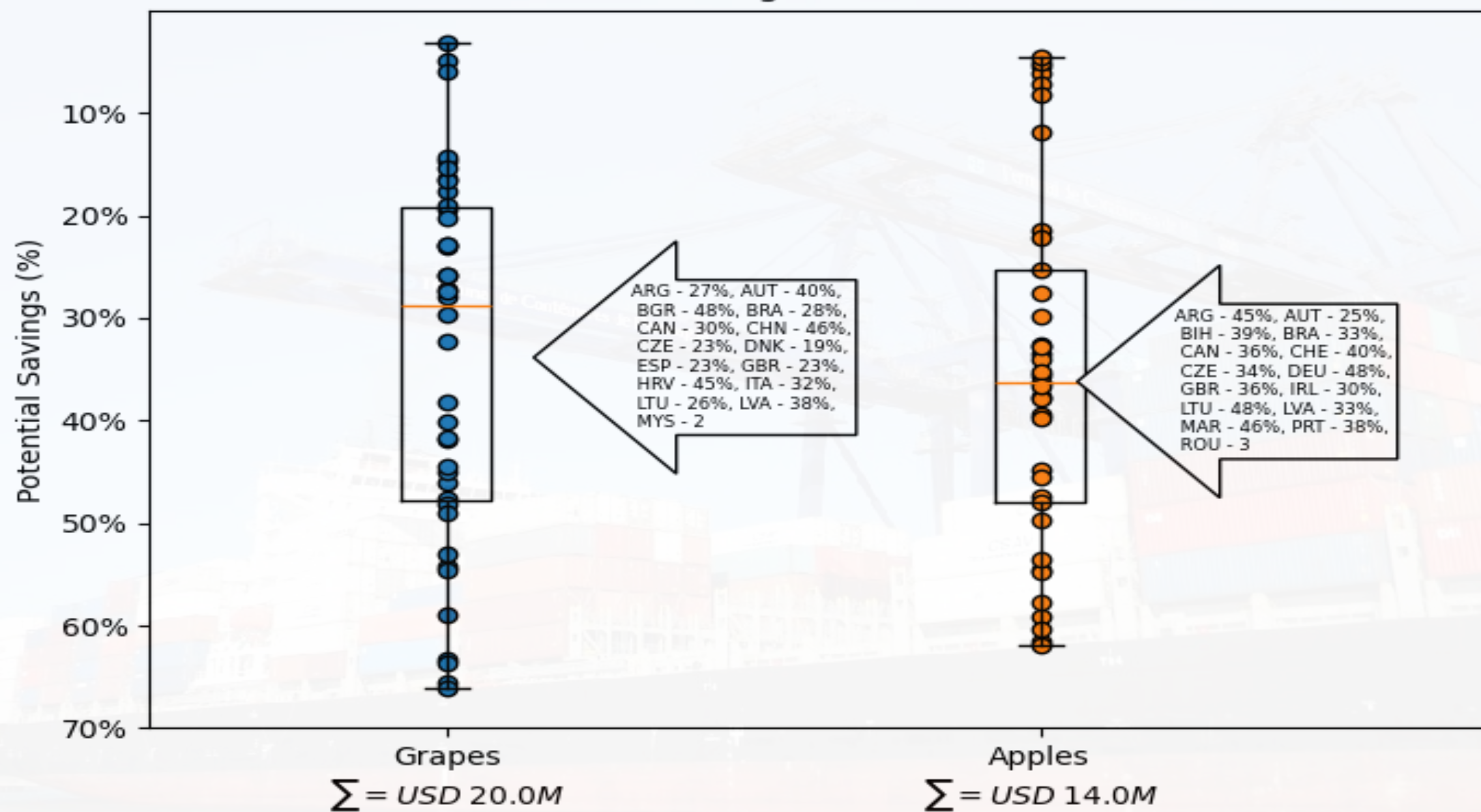
SOURCING OPTIONS: CASES

**Products, Countries
and Relative Prices**

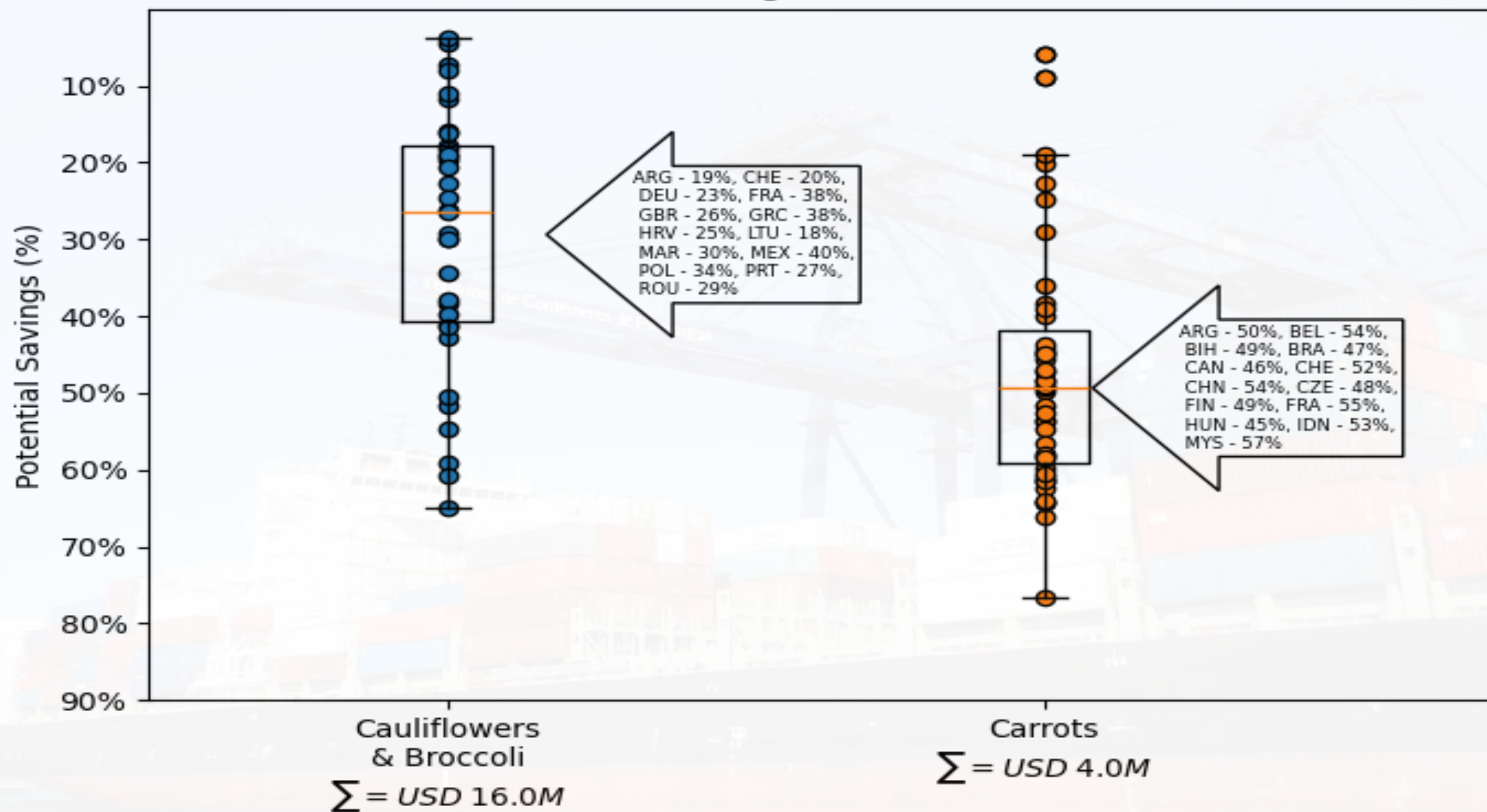
Potential Savings on Select Products



Potential Savings on Select Products



Potential Savings on Select Products



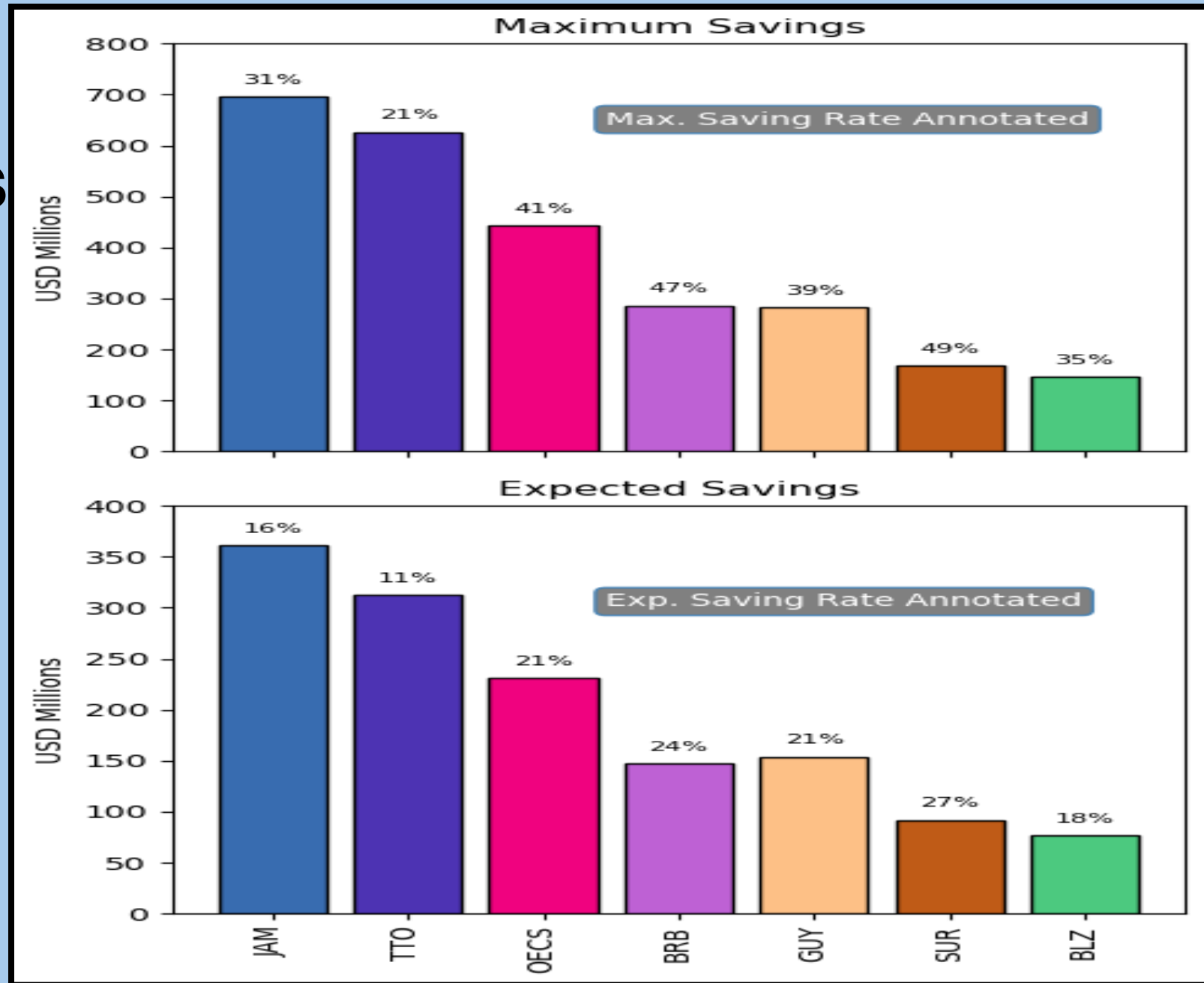


POTENTIAL SAVINGS AFTER ACCOUNTING FOR TRANSPORT COSTS

Expected Savings USD
1.3 billion across the
CSME

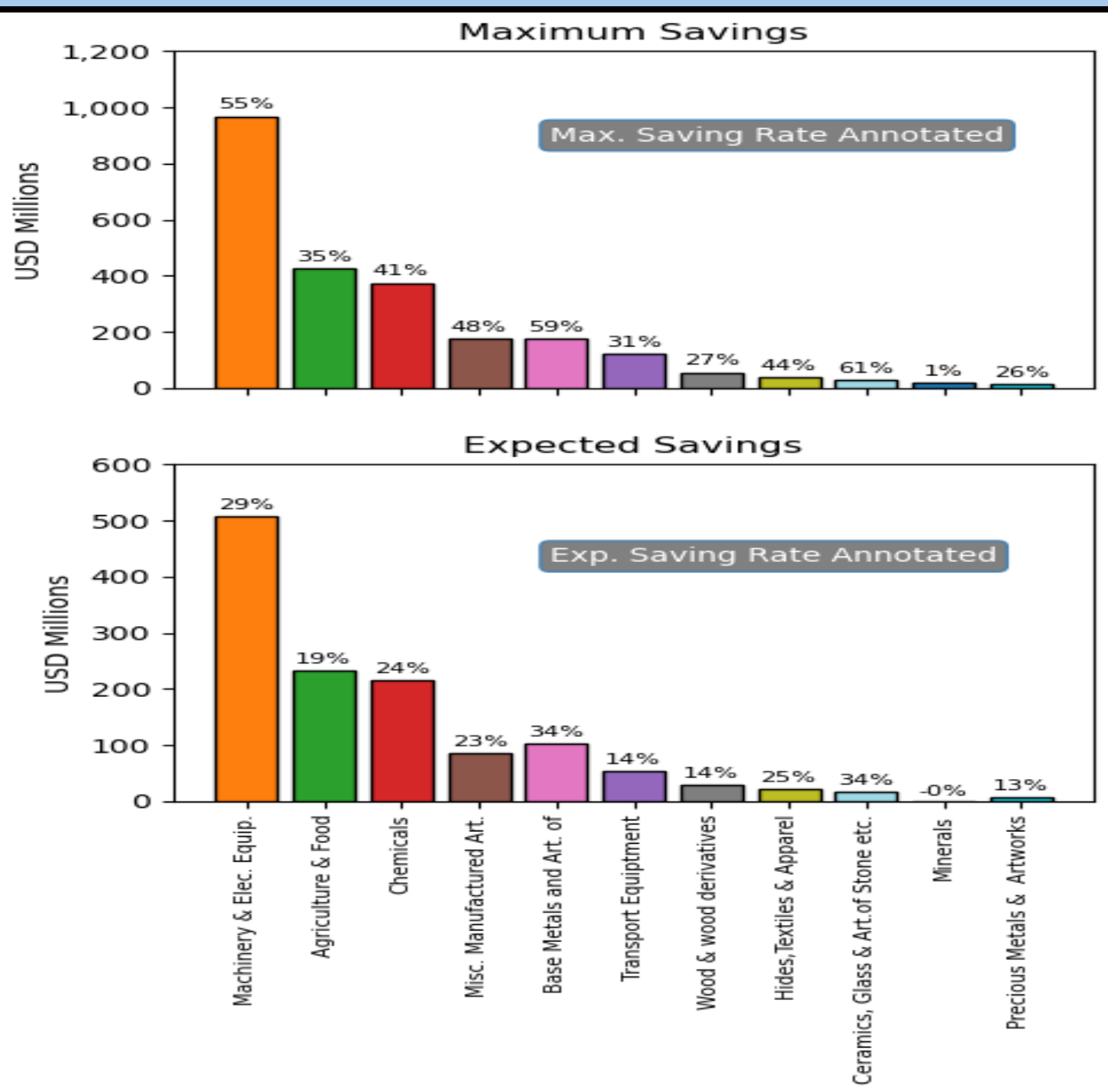
IMPORT COST SAVINGS

- Import Cost Saving varies by Country & product.
- Maximum Import Savings - **USD 2.4 Billion (31.2%)**
- Expected Import Savings - **USD 1.3 Billion (16.9%)**



IMPORT COST SAVINGS BY PRODUCT GROUPS

- Greatest potential savings:
 - Machinery and Equip.
 - Agriculture & Food
 - Chemicals
- More than **USD 953 million** for top 3 Groups
- **Agri-food - USD 233 million**

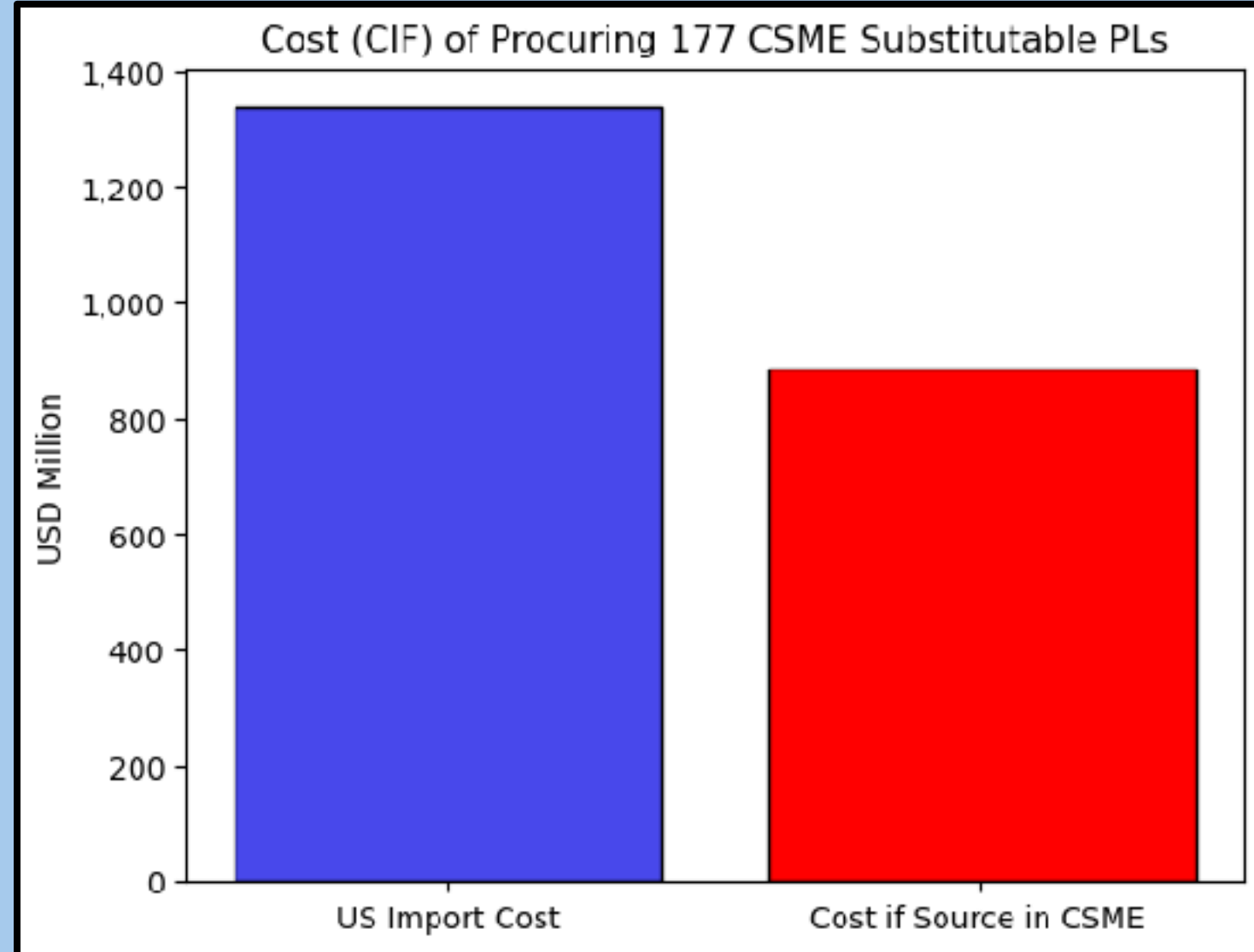


A low-angle photograph of a construction site at sunset. A large tower crane is silhouetted against a bright orange and yellow sky. In the foreground, the skeletal framework of a building under construction is visible, with several workers silhouetted as they work on the structure. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong backlight effect.

BUILDING THE CSME

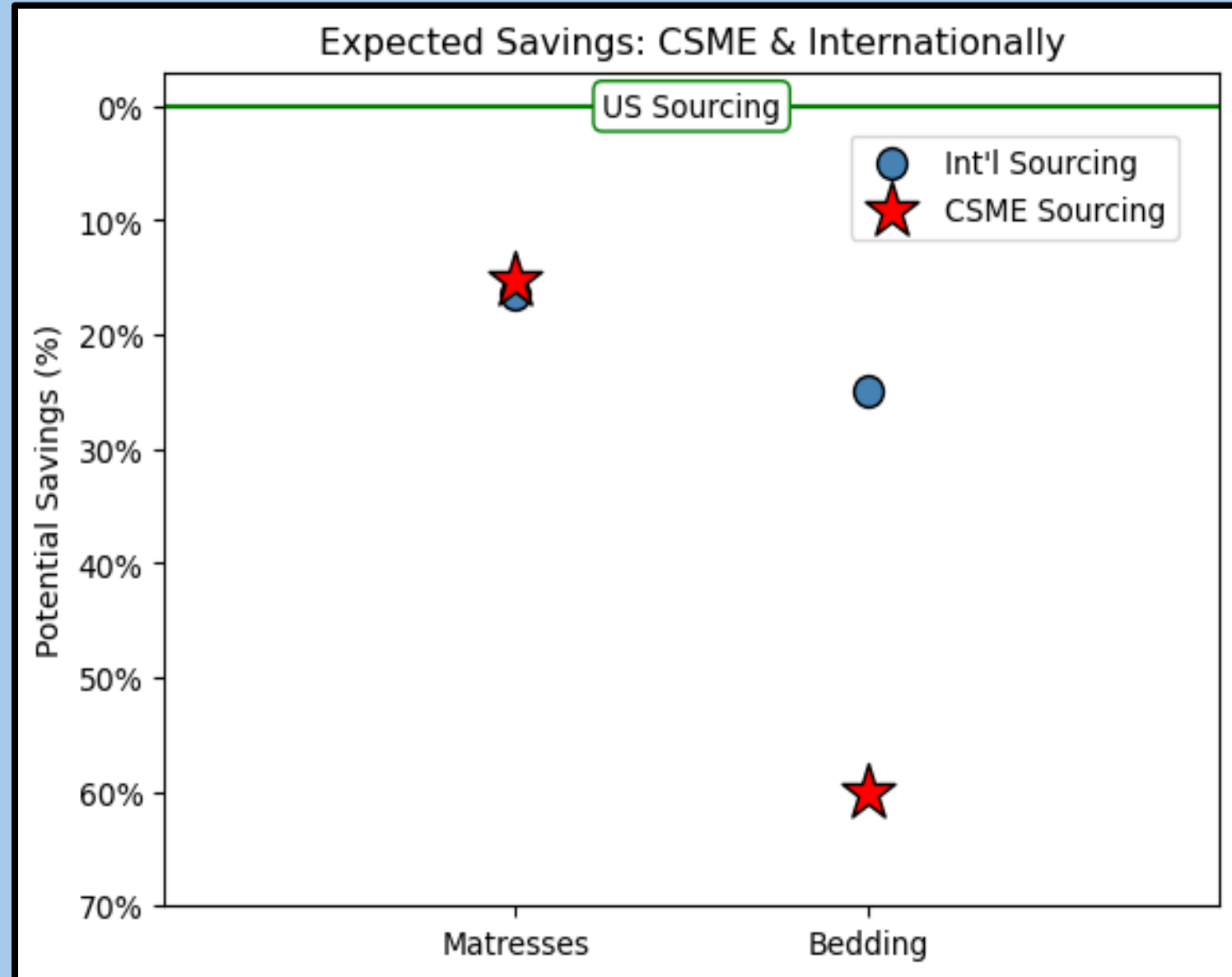
CSME PRICE COMPETITIVENESS TO US PRODUCTS

- **177 CSME-traded PLs priced more competitively than US PLs**
 - 43.4% of the material PLs exported in the CSME
 - If substituted savings of **USD 451.7m** would accrue.
 - Savings rate of 33.8%



POTENTIAL SUBSTITUTABLE PRODUCTS

- Kidney beans (USD 1.4m)
- Rice (USD 8.5m)
- Sausages (USD 19.8m)
- Pasta (USD 9.4m)
- Ice cream (USD 7.9m)
- Plastics; tubes, pipes& hoses & fittings (USD 17.7m)
- Glass Bottles (USD 5.7m)
- Mattresses (USD 1.3m)
- Bedding and similar furnishing articles (USD 2.3m)



SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVES

Sourcing Patterns:

- Goods originating in the US – 80 -90%
- Goods passing through 10 – 20% (w/o inter. Inputs)

Alternative Sourcing (incl. logistics)

- Only 15% cannot be sourced from other countries (at lower cost)
- Highly ranked alternatives – 41 countries ranging from 50% - 5% (neighbouring mkts: Brazil – 16%; Mexico – 23%)

Potential Import Cost Savings (2023)

- CSME- \$1.3 B

N.B. Similar analysis on export side – ongoing

Thank you!





CONTACT US

info@thecpsso.org

www.thecpsso.org