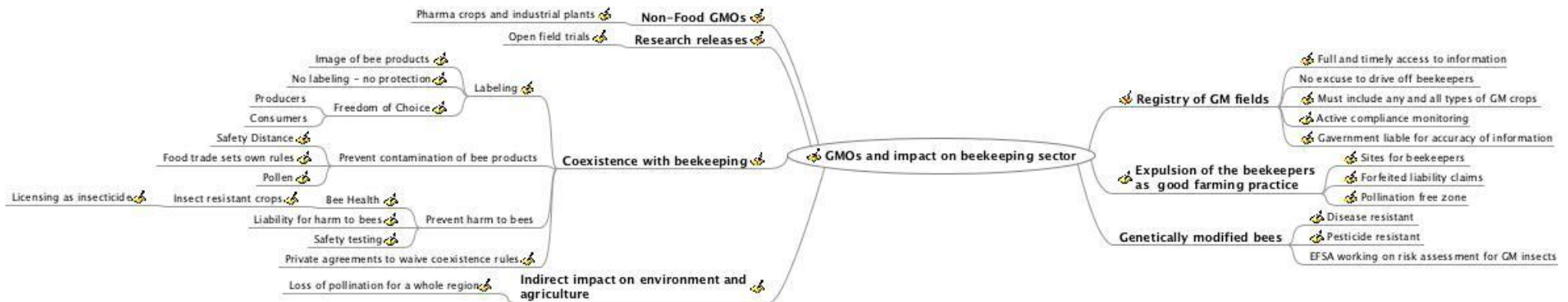




Understanding the full complexity of the impact of GMOs on bees and beekeeping.



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Is this the right way to deal with complexity?



The Problem: Beekeeping is an open system

Honey bees cover a large foraging area of several square kilometers. When bees collect nectar, pollen, honeydew, resin and water, they cannot distinguish between conventional and genetically modified plants. This raises a very complex set of problems for the beekeeping industry.

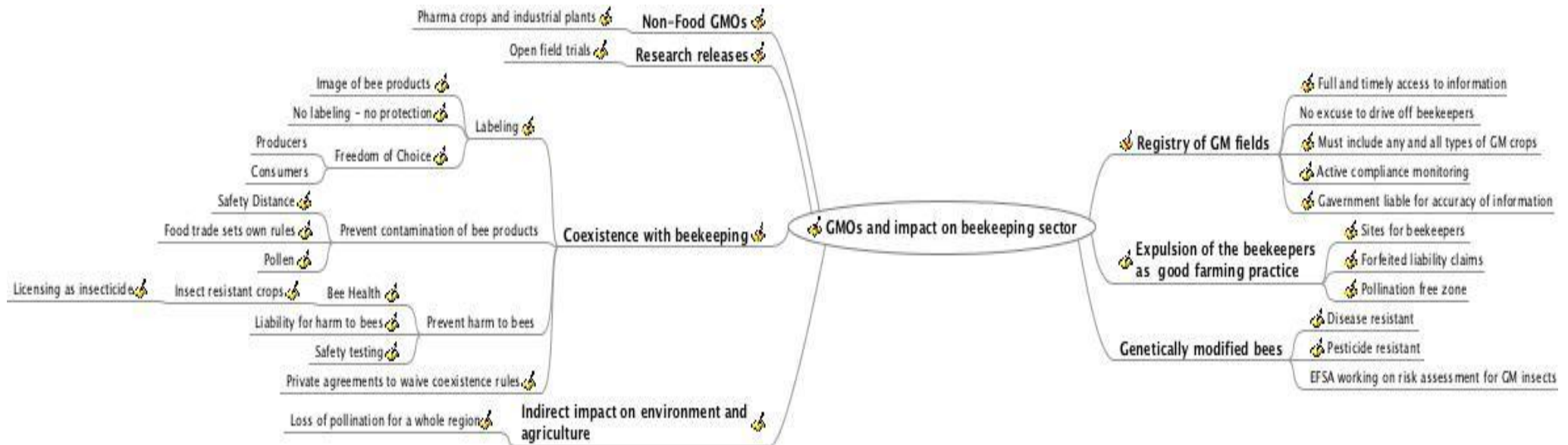


Problem: Different regulatory systems in different markets

- Regulatory systems are a reflection of the attitudes of citizens and consumers in the region and their political power relative to economic interests.

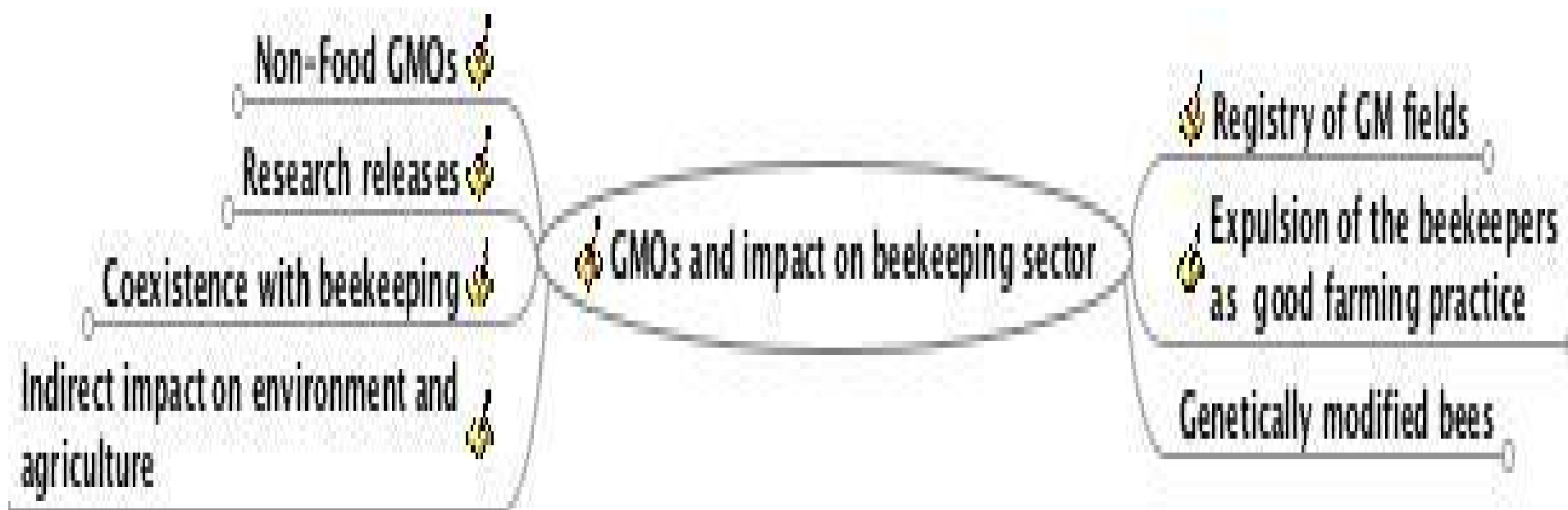
Open System = Complex Impact

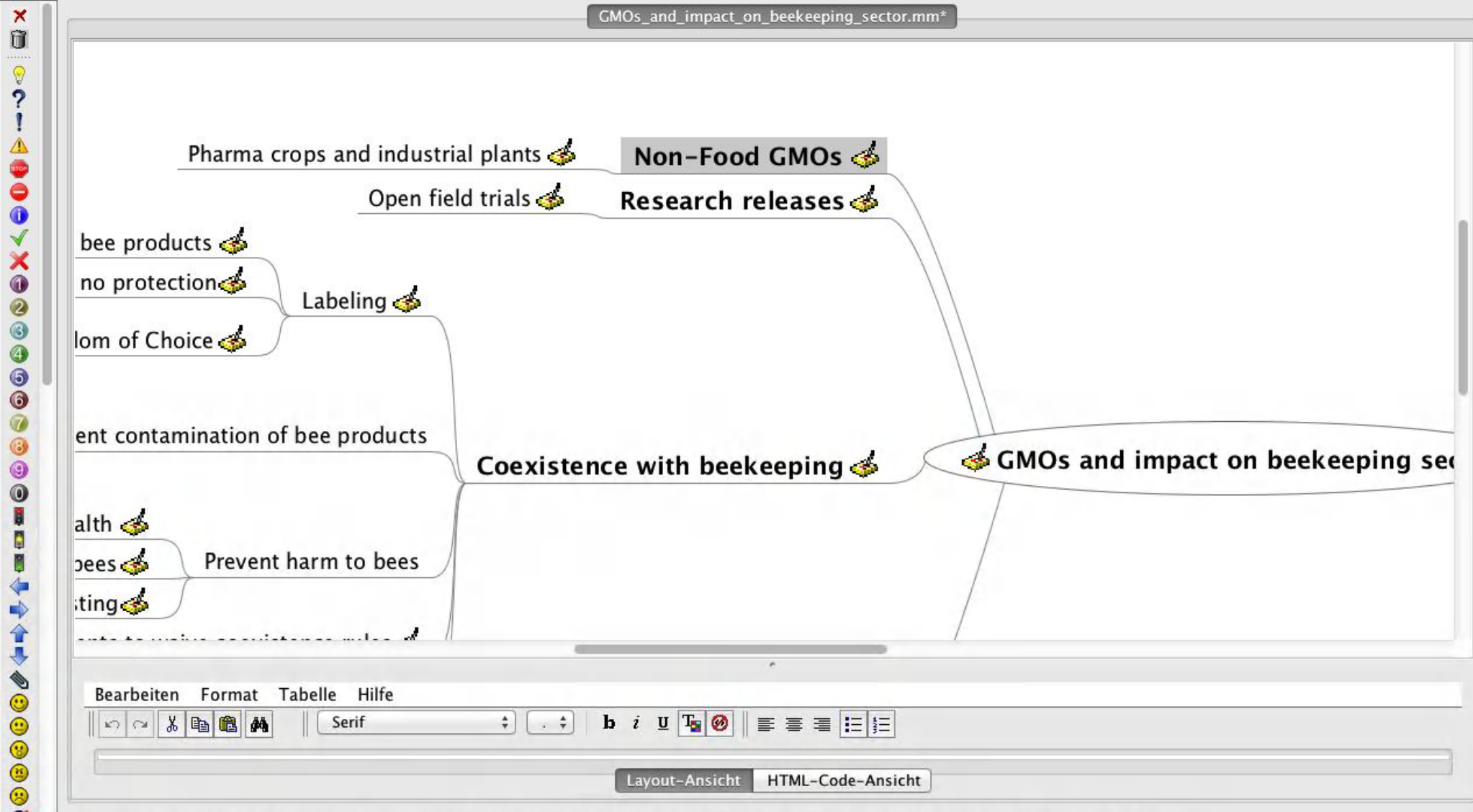
Apimondia Working Group 10 Mind Map

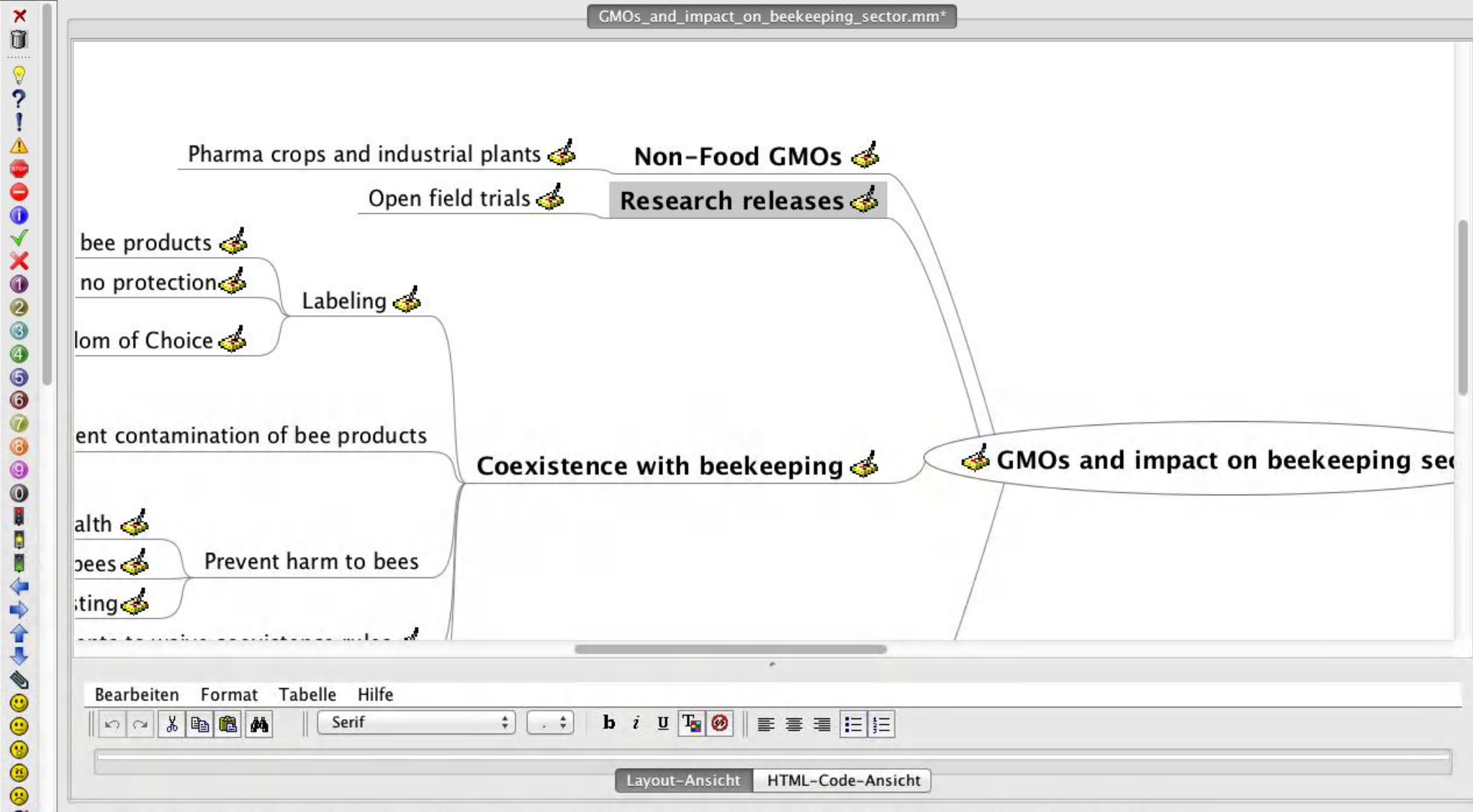


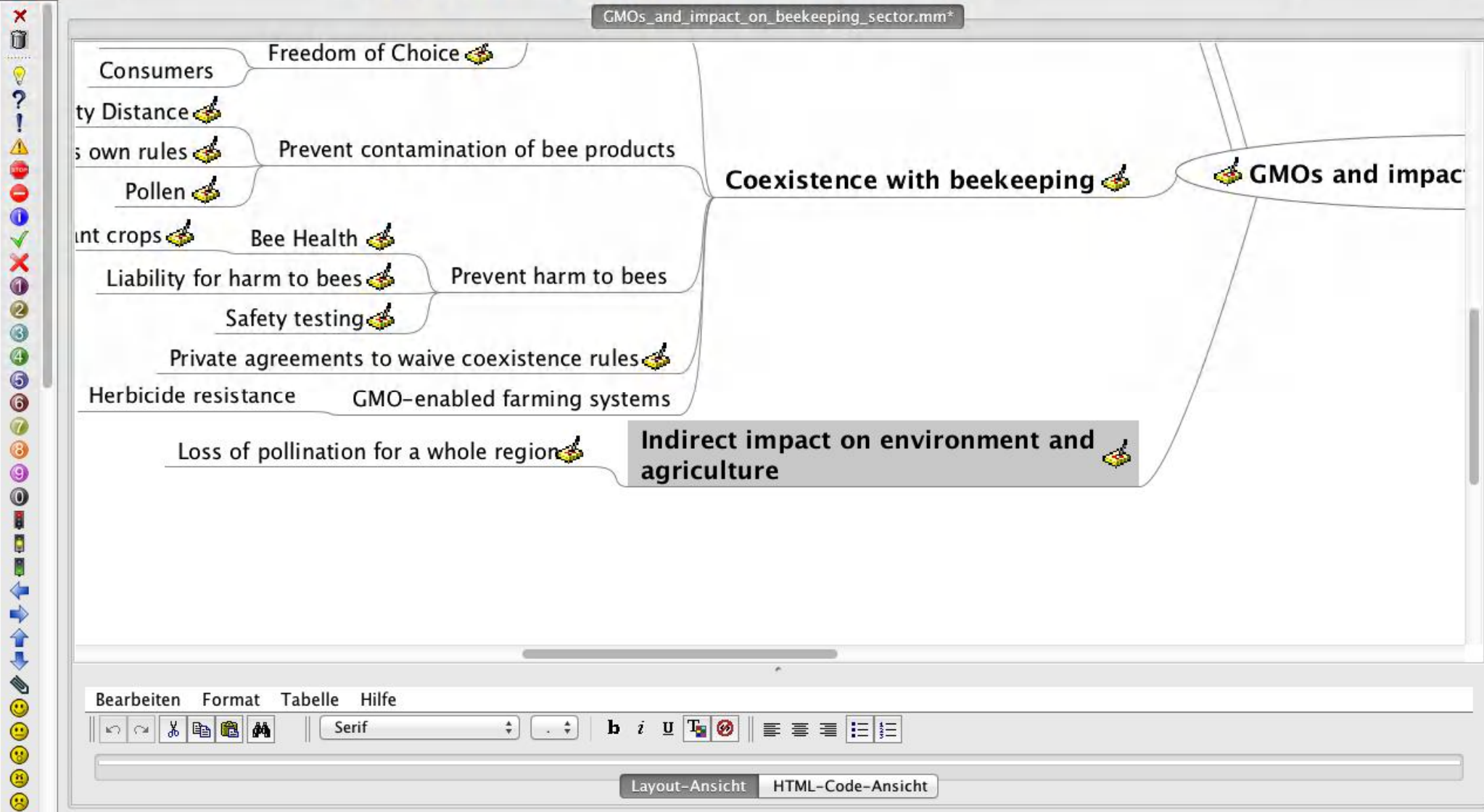
A quick overview of all the individual problem areas, which must be properly taken into account, when assessing the impact on honeybees, bee products, pollination and the beekeeping as a profession or a hobby.

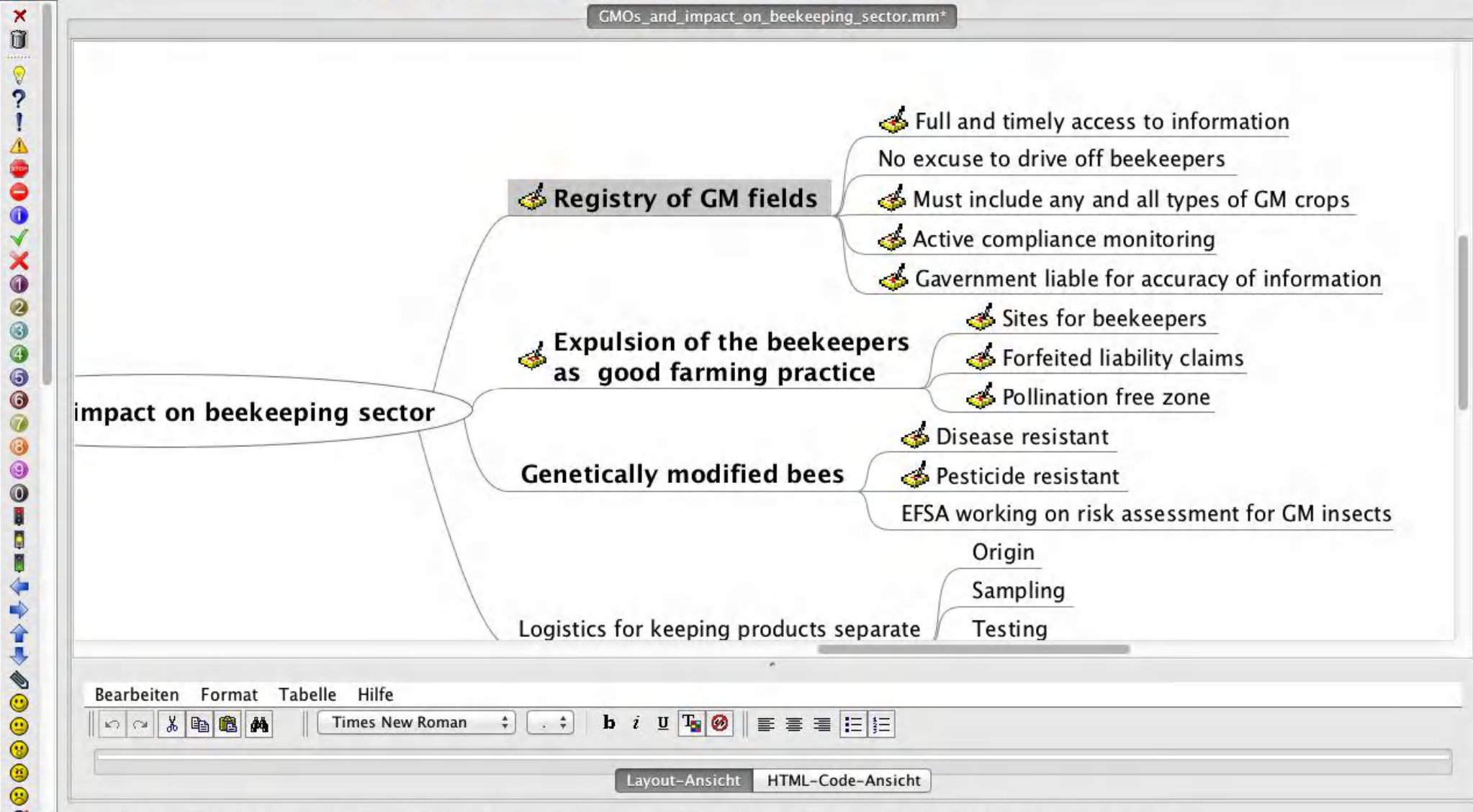
Top Level Issues

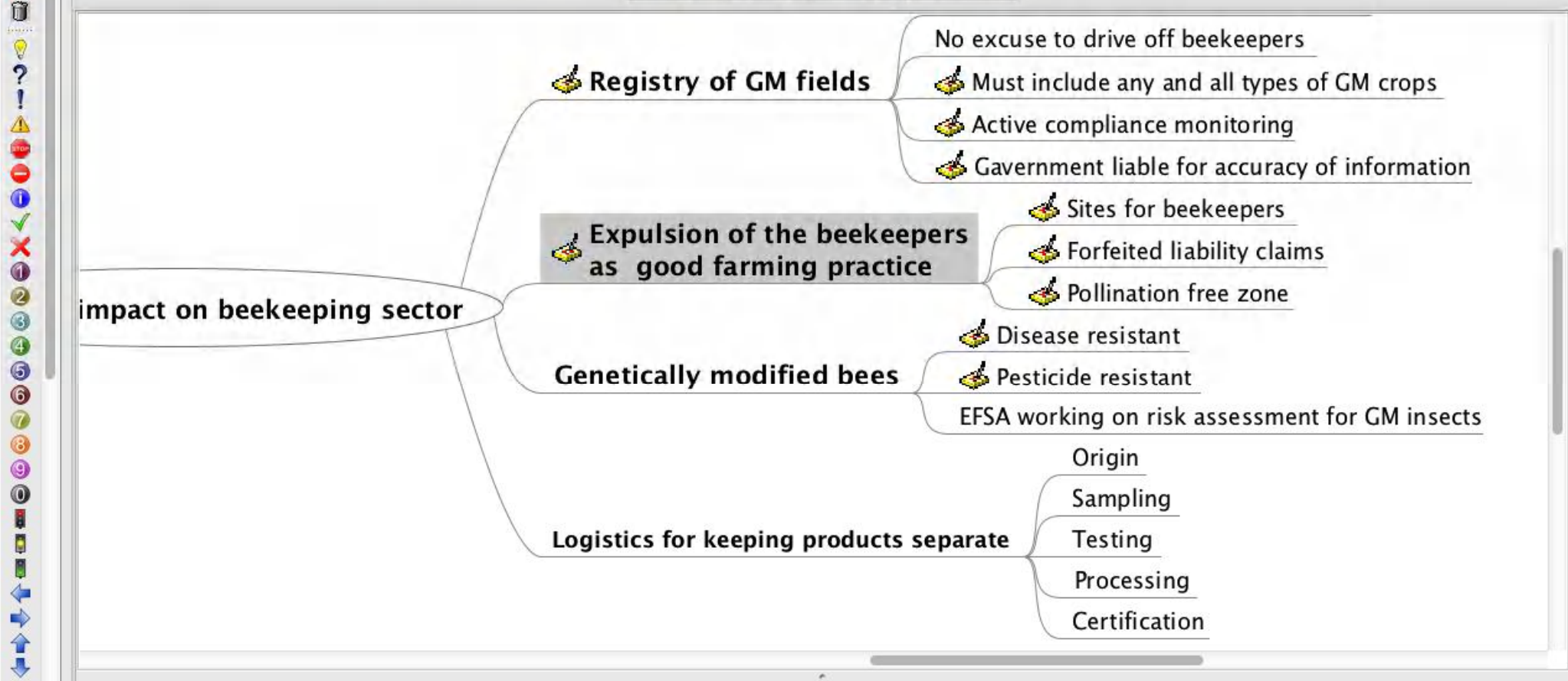


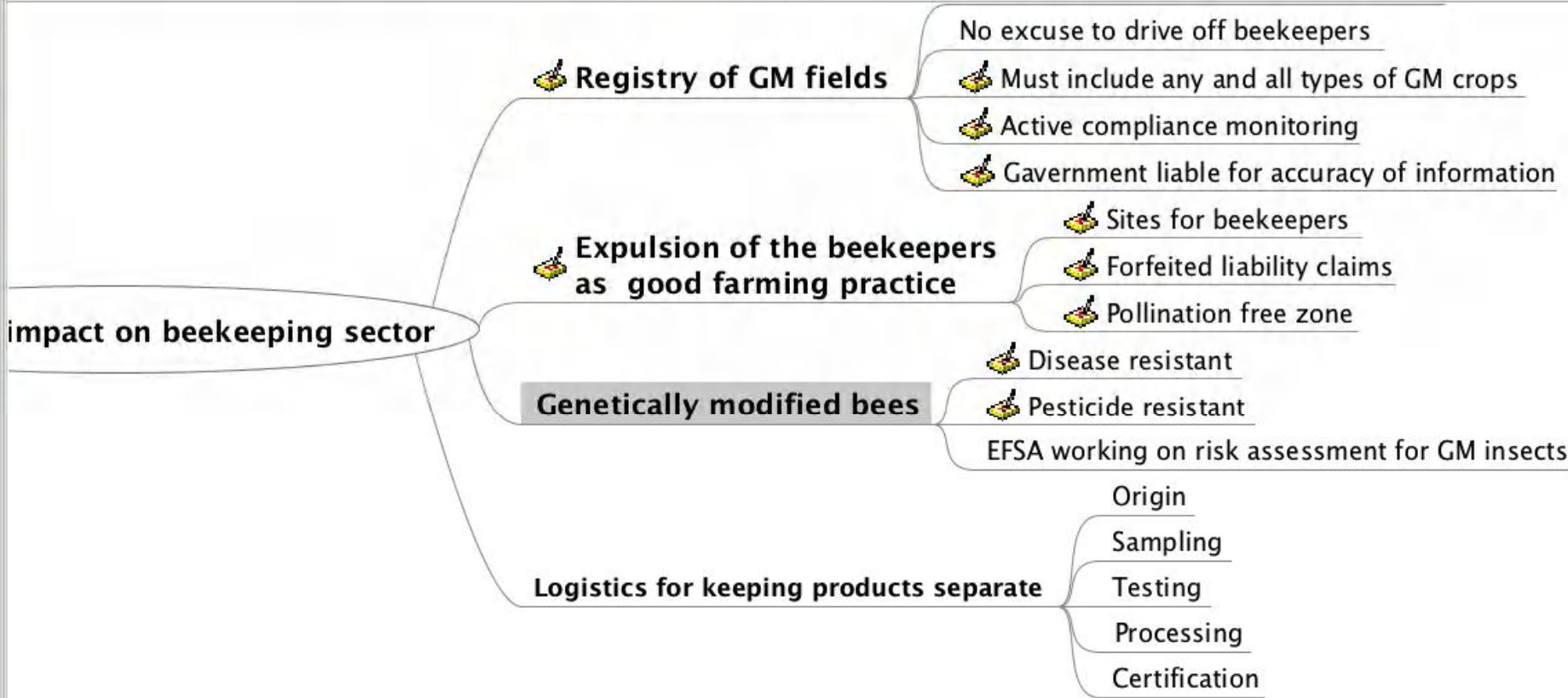












Different challenges in different regions

- Beekeepers producing for export have to decide, if they can meet the requirements of all markets based on the situation in their region.
- Exporting beekeepers have the option to target a less regulated market.
- Beekeepers producing for domestic consumption of a highly regulated market have to maintain the ability to serve the requirements of that market.
- Government regulations are only part of the market requirements. Consumers and retailers may introduce additional requirements. It is not enough to just look at the governmental regulatory environment.

The most pressing problem is not necessarily the whole universe

- Two years ago, the big discussion about GMOs was the green desert created by the huge mono cultures of RoundUp Ready Soy.
- Today the big discussion is about honey regulation in the EU.
- Tomorrow any number of issues are likely to become important.
- The problem has a lot more aspects, that we need to identify early to avoid being blindsided.
- AWG-10 is setup to do just that.