



# **Preventing and Reducing food waste through voluntary agreements**

An overview of the Italian case

Action & implementation sub-group meeting  
EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

# Where we are: food waste diagnosis for Italy



Largest share of FLW in the latest stages of Supply Chain (in-home and out-of-home consumption)



595g of food waste per capita per week (increasing after 1 year of COVID pandemic)



Fresh fruit and vegetables and fresh bread are the most wasted foods

# Where we are: the regulatory framework

## **Gadda Law (2016)**

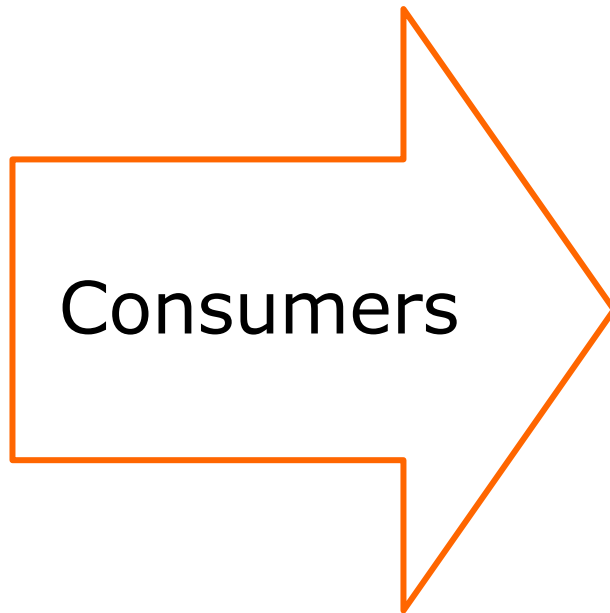
- Regulates donations of surplus food
- Promotes positive actions as information campaigns
- Promotes the practice of “Doggy bag” and research on innovative packages
  - Promotes fiscal incentives for food donors
- Promotes activities that could foster the adoption of VAs (e.g. gleaning)

## **Memorandum of Understanding (2017)**

- Signed by Ministry of Environment and Associations of Municipalities (ANCI), to support them in implementing food waste reduction actions
- Mostly communication actions, but several Voluntary Agreements have been elaborated (e.g. Cuki save the Food, Italia Family bag)

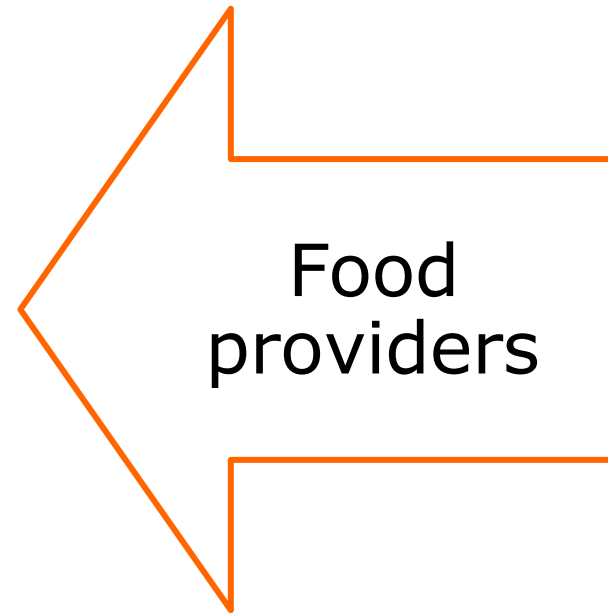
Italian regulatory framework does not include a mandatory monitoring tool: some VA might not be recognized

# Voluntary agreements in Italy: objectives and target audiences



Communication campaigns for  
FW reduction behaviors

Promotion of the reuse of leftovers  
(e.g. doggy bags)



Donation of surplus/unsold food

Actions to allow of the reuse of  
leftovers (e.g. doggy bags)

# Voluntary agreements in Italy: Actors involved

## **Enterprises**

Restaurants and food services providers, Granarolo, Hera Group Carrefour, Conad,...)

## **Non-profit organizations**

Acli, Caritas, Rotary, Lions, Papa Giovanni XXIII Association,...

## **Public sector**

Emilia-Romagna Region, Sant'Orsola Hospital, several municipalities and waste management companies

## **Public schools and public canteens**

# Voluntary agreements in Italy: Key actions

## **Restaurants and private food providers**

17 regional level and 7 national level interventions to foster the adoption of the doggy bag

## **Enterprises**

Unconsumed meals and other surplus food recovered and redistributed

Information campaigns on food waste reduction promoted

## **Non-profit associations**

Surplus and unsold food redistribution

Courses on the correct storage of food destined to donations

## **Public sector and public schools**

Recover and redistribution of unsold and surplus food;

Food waste reduction activities in school canteens;

Definition of fiscal incentives for food donors;

# Voluntary agreements in Italy : Results achieved so far



More than 9,000 unconsumed meals and increasing quantities of surplus and unsold food redistributed each year



Promotion of best practices aiming at the fight against food waste (e.g. through Sprecozero.net and the Zero Waste campaign)



Promotion of educational activities in schools for the diffusion of best practices for the reduction of household food waste

# **Social enterprises and Voluntary agreements: the experience of Last Minute Market**

- Last Minute Market is a social enterprise created in 2008 as spin-off of the University of Bologna.
- Last Minute Market supports companies, public administrations, non-profit organizations and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of voluntary agreements for the management and donation of food surpluses (also drugs are recovered).
- Target audiences include actors of all the stages of the Food Supply Chain