

# Activities within MACS-G20 Initiative Food Loss and waste - with focus on primary production

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Photo: Tania Runge

EU Platform FLW, subgroup measurement  
Brussels, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

# Outline

- Who we are
- Brief overview on general FLW activities of the Initiative
- Ongoing activities on agricultural level
- Outlook

# Who we are (1)

- G20
  - „Group of Twenty“ established in 1999
  - major economies (19 individual countries plus European Union)



# Who we are (2)

- MACS-G20 = Meetings of Agricultural Chief Scientists of G20 Members ([www.macs-g20.org](http://www.macs-g20.org))
  - meetings annually since 2012
  - addresses central questions in fields of agriculture and nutrition
  - to better coordinate agricultural research systems
  - to seek and apply common solution strategies
  
- 2019 chaired by Japan (G20 presidency)

# Who we are (3)

- MACS-G20 members

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, EU

- MACS-G20 guests

Spain, CABI, CIHEAM, FAO, GFAR, GODAN, ICARDA, IFPRI, OECD, Wheat Initiative

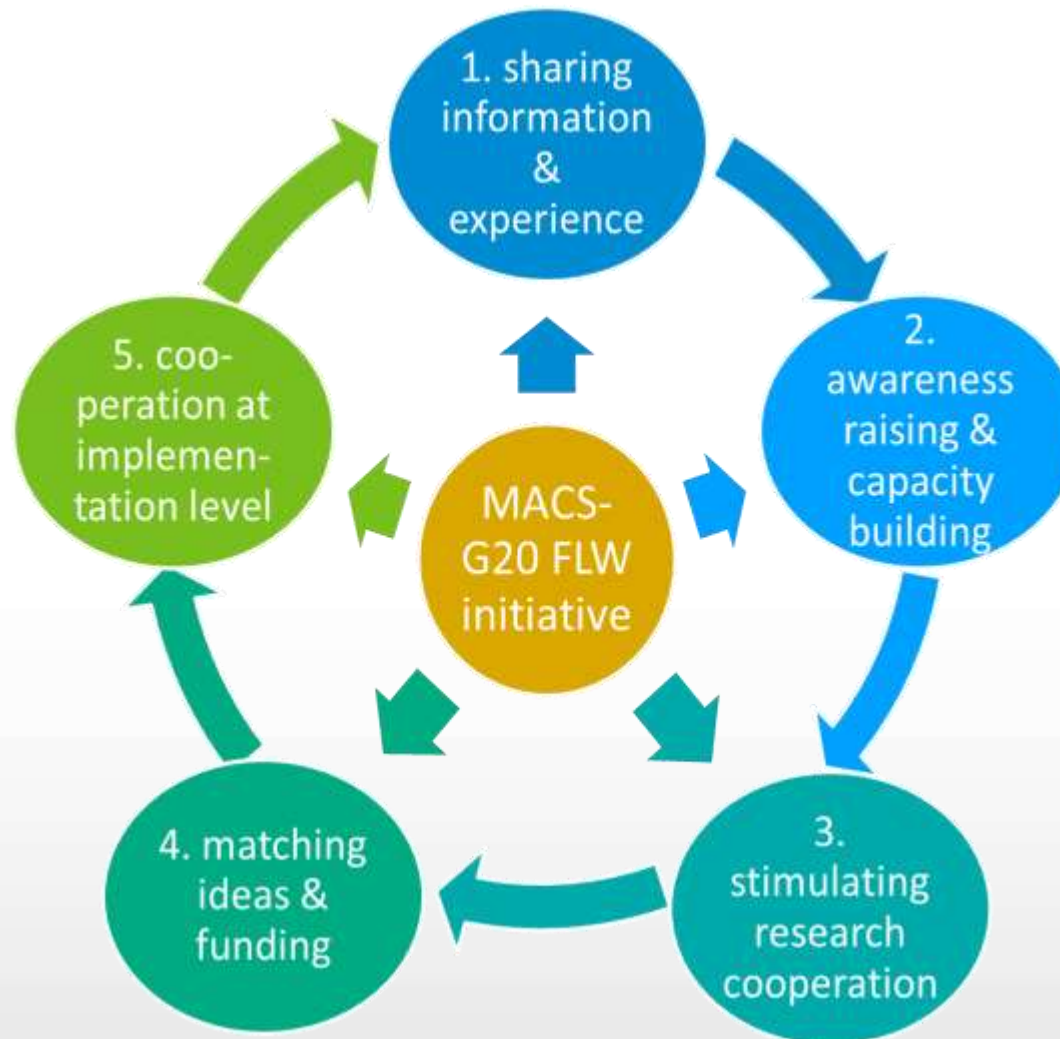
- Thünen Institute

participates as one of three German delegates (represented by Stefan Lange who is research director of Thünen Institute)

# MACS Collaboration Initiative on Food Losses & Food Wastes

- was raised at the MACS in Izmir (Turkey) in 2015
- aim of the Initiative is to concentrate the research and political consulting capacities of members in order to mobilize a noticeable reduction of food losses and waste on a global scale
- Germany is in charge with facilitation of relevant activities since the beginning, introduction of a coordinator mid of 2017

# Main topics of MACS-G20 Initiative FLW



# Activities driven by MACS-G20 Initiative on FLW, e.g.

## Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste

- <http://www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste/en/>
- launched by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)



## Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste





# Activities driven by MACS-G20 Initiative on FLW, e.g.

## Global Food Loss and Waste Research Platform

- [www.global-flw-research.org](http://www.global-flw-research.org)
- provided by Thünen Institute
- global FLW experts may register and provide information on their FLW expertise
- aim is to support especially policy makers to find experts for specific FLW topics on a global scale

# Activities driven by MACS-G20 Initiative on FLW, e.g.

## FOOD LOSSES & FOOD WASTE

A global platform for experts and research



An initiative of the Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists of G20 States (MACS-G20) - in 2017 under presidency of the Federal Republic of Germany



FIND EXPERTS

FIND PROJECTS

EXPERT & PROJECT ENTRY

IMPRINT

### Find Experts

Research area

Sector focus

Product focus

Free text search

50 experts found

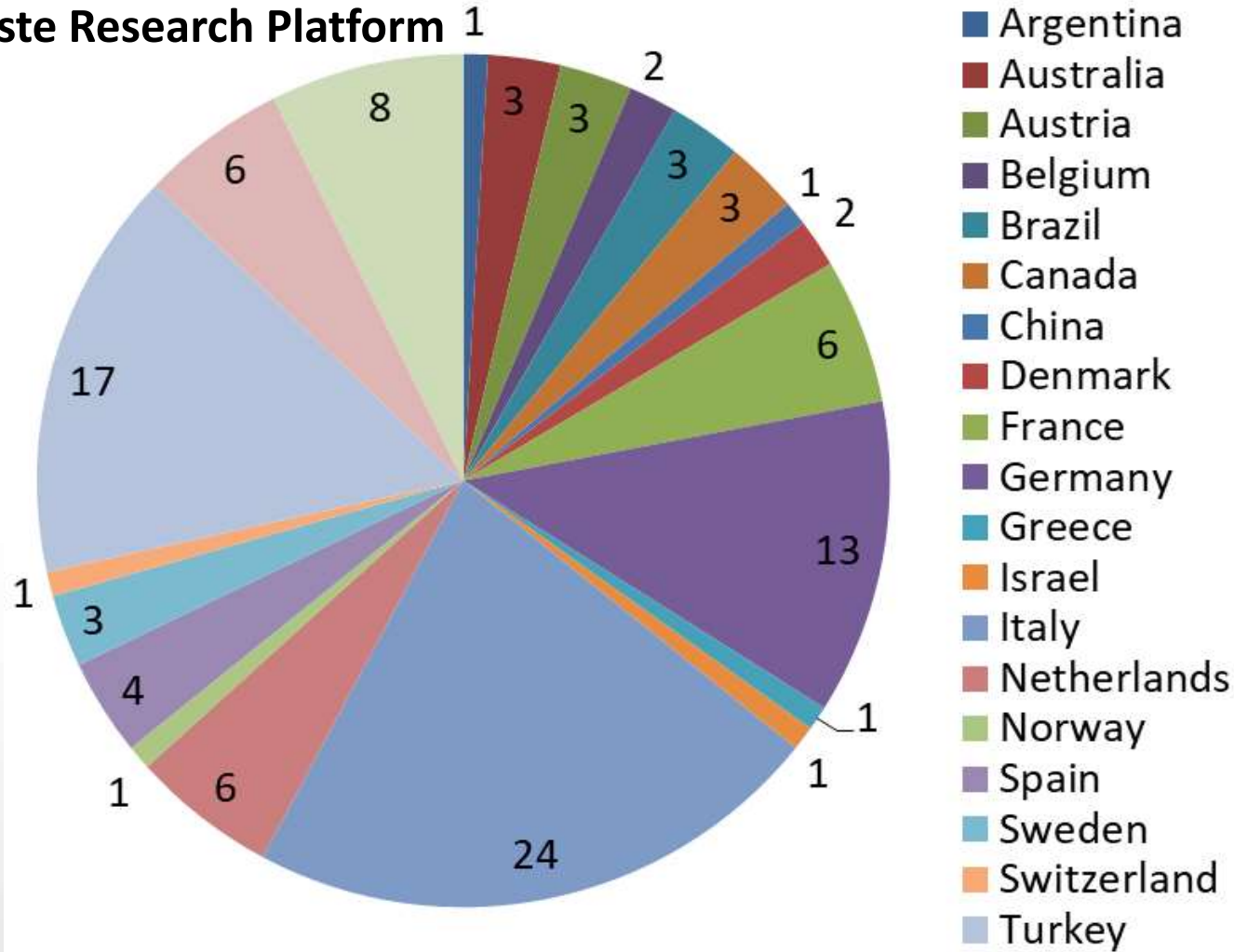
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# Activities driven by MACS-G20 Initiative on FLW, e.g.

## Global Food Loss and Waste Research Platform

by January 2019

- 109 experts
- 89 projects
- 21 countries registered in the platform



# Activities driven by MACS-G20 Initiative on FLW, e.g.

## Workshop series on FLW topics

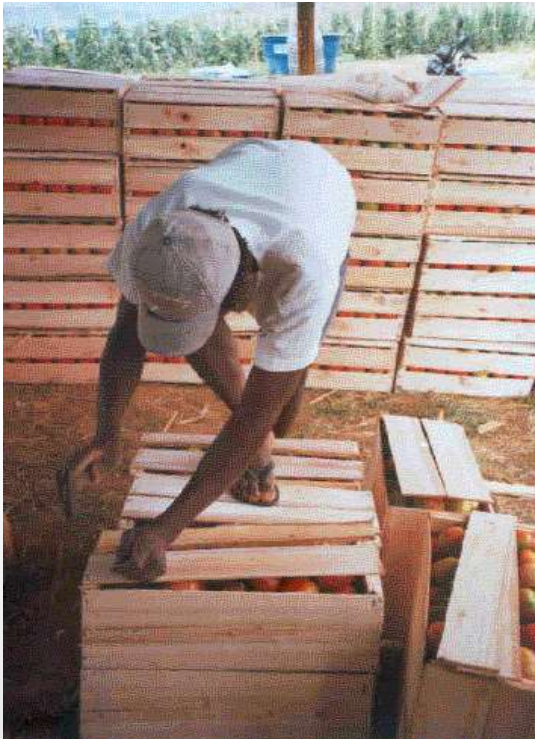
- one FLW workshop per year in cooperation with G20 presidency and other local partners
- target group includes region around MACS-G20 member
- topics according to regional needs
  - 1<sup>st</sup> workshop: June 2017 in Berlin, collecting FLW topics from G20 countries
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop: November 2018 in Buenos Aires, discussing FLW challenges for Latin America and The Caribbean
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> workshop: 2019 in Japan
  - 4<sup>th</sup> workshop: 2020 in Saudi Arabia

# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Brazil - general

- Brazilian Technical Committee on Food Loss and Waste under lead of the Interministerial Chamber for Food and Nutrition Security (CAISAN) since March 2017
- “Inter-Sectoral Strategy for the Reduction of Food Loss and Waste” introduced in November 2017
- ongoing discussion on measurement and methodology of FLW along the food supply chain and identification of hot spots
- national FLW awareness campaign “#Sem Desperdicio” targeting Brazilian public to raise awareness and generate positive adoption of food consumption habits implemented by Embrapa, WWF Brazil and FAO as part of the European Union – Brazil Sector Dialogues on Food Waste Reduction

# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Brazil - agriculture

- PHL for fruits and vegetables estimated by 30 – 45 %
- losses due to lack of knowledge, presence of pests and diseases, poor infrastructure (equipment, cold chain, roads, packaging...)



Photos: Murillo Freire, Embrapa

Freire (2017), Henz (2017)

# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Brazil - agriculture

Activities of Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation):

- training and capacity building for farmers
- monitoring of processes to identify hot spots for food businesses
- present research on the field
  - carrot losses at farm level during harvest, washing, grading and packaging
  - measuring amount and reasons (e.g. rotten, misshaped etc.)
  - comparison of conventional and organic producers

# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Brazil - agriculture

- “Ugly fruit” campaign at retail
  - marketing of fruits and vegetables not meeting the marketing standards at a cheaper price
  - Carrefour implemented campaign “Único” in Brazil in 2017
  - supermarkets “Zona Sul” and “SuperPrix” contribute in Rio de Janeiro
  
- “Fruta Imperfeita” online shop (São Paulo)
  - connecting smallholder growers with consumers
  - clients can choose between 14 non-standard fruits and veggies
  - order is delivered on weekly basis in recyclable carton boxes (3 to 10 kg)
  - in 2 years saved more than 300 tons of FFV



# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Brazil - agriculture

- Slow Food Brazil
  - works along the food production chain
  - organises education and awareness campaigns and serve food prepared from discarded vegetables (“Disco Xepa”)
- Refettorio Gastromotiva – social restaurants
  - introduced 2016 by two chefs and one journalist in Brazil to recuperate food and restore dignity of people
  - use of fruits and vegetables not taken by supermarkets
  - offer free meals to vulnerable people as well as “pay for lunch, leave dinner paid” for all
  - started in Rio de Janeiro, expanded to other regions and countries

Henz & Porpino, 2017; Gryczka, 2019

# Examples from MACS-G20 members: Australia

- National Strategy on Food Waste launched in November 2017
- implementation plan under construction
- Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) started in 2018
  - reduce food waste along the food supply chain
  - transform unavoidable food waste into innovative high-value products
  - engage industry and consumers to deliver behavioural change
- activities to turn imperfect-looking vegetables into nutrient-rich snacks and supplements
  - e.g. in Queensland banana into gluten-free flour and other food and non-food products since 2012

# Outlook

- activities towards prevention of food losses in agriculture ongoing
- accurate measurements are not primary focus
- increasing cooperation between farmers and other businesses
- postharvest losses in general (also beyond farm gate) is an important topic for some MACS-G20 members such as Latin American and Caribbean countries as well as Australia
- coordinator will further facilitate efforts towards food loss prevention on the farm
- EIP-AGRI focus group “Reducing food loss on the farm” will release mini-papers summarising available information

# Thanks for your attention!

<https://www.thuenen.de/en/institutsuebergreifende-projekte/macs-g20-initiative-on-food-loss-and-waste/>

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Photo: Felicitas Schneider



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