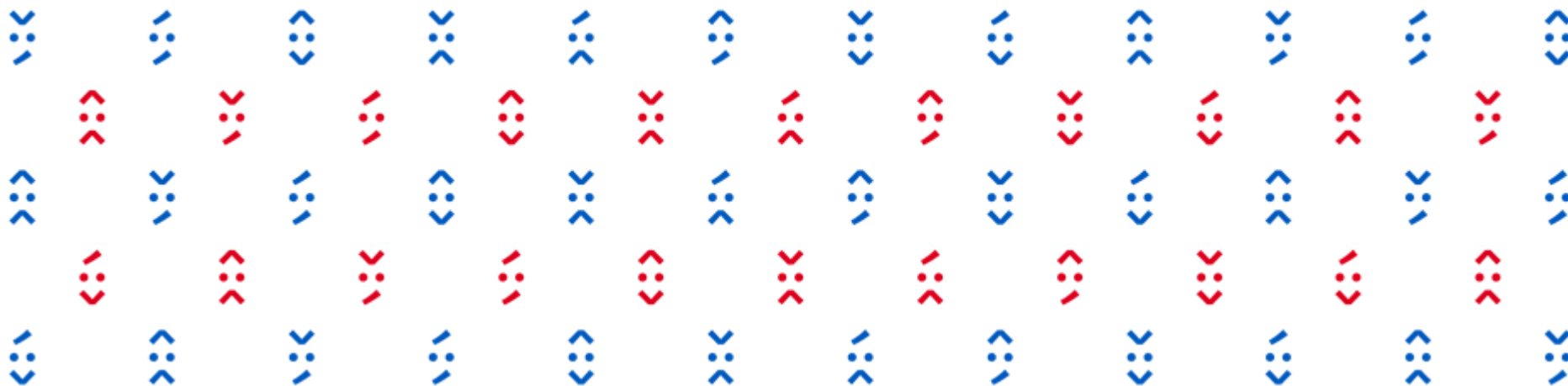




Slovak Presidency of the Council
of the European Union

Results of the
*„Survey addressed to the EU Member States about
quantification of food waste and preventing Food
waste“*

Brussels, 29.11.2016



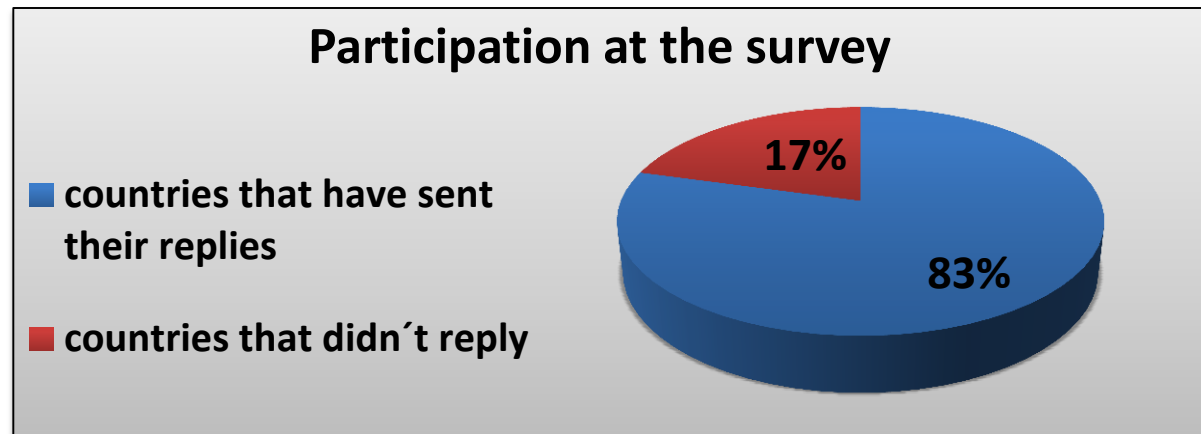
Survey

- **Number of addressed countries: 29**

28 (EU Member States) + 1 (Non EU country - Norway)

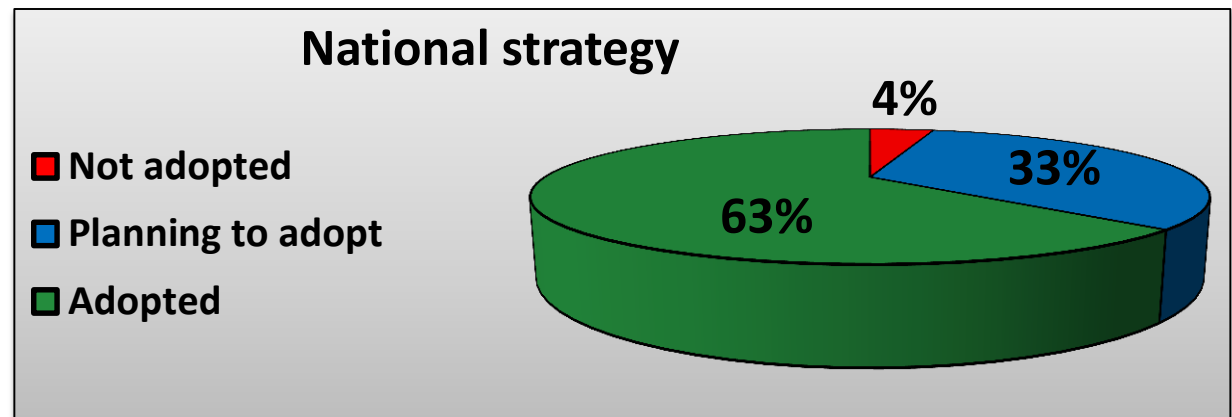
- **Countries that have sent their replies: 24**

(AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, NO, NL, PT, RO, SI, SE, SK)



National strategy to prevent Food waste

- **Countries that adopted national strategy : 15**
(AT, BE, BG, CY, DK, EE, EL, ES, HU, IT, LT, NO, NL, SI, SK)
- **Countries that plan to adopt national strategy : 8**
(CZ, DE, FI, HR, IE, PT, RO, SE)
- **Countries that did NOT adopted national strategy yet : 1**
(LV)



Key elements to prevent Food Waste encompassed in National strategies

- Financial arrangements and support
- Food donation
- Reducing VAT for donated food
- Guidelines addressed to selected sectors of the food chain
- Support of regional food production
- Public awareness – raising through information campaigns
- Initiatives, conferences, programs and forums
- Support of volunteering activities focused to prevent/eliminate

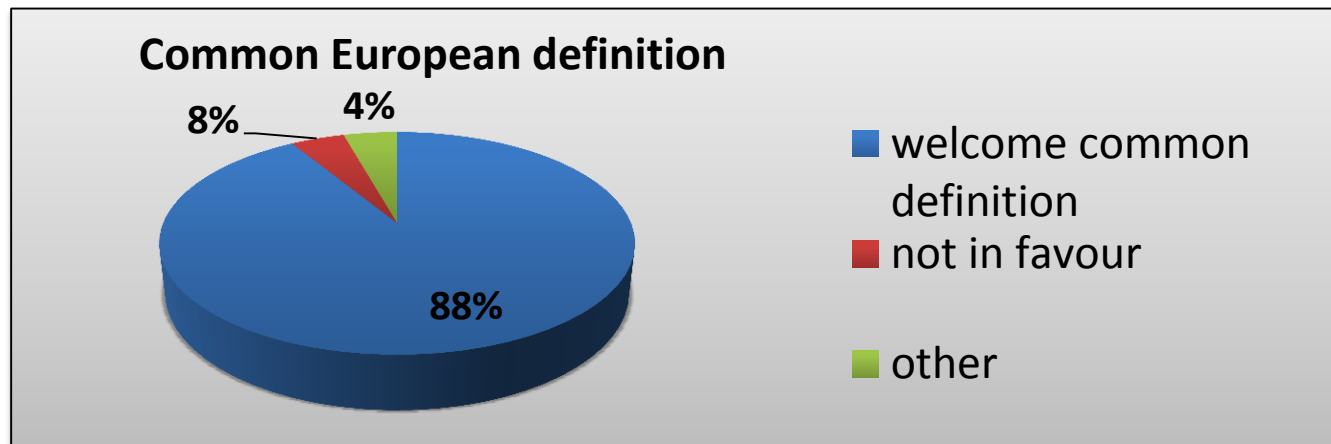
Food waste



- Cooperation of public sector with NGOs

Common European definition of Food waste

- **Countries that would welcome a common definition : 21**
(BE, BG, CZ, CY, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, NO, PT, RO, SK, SE, SI)
- **Countries that are not in favour of common definition of food waste : 2 (AT, IE)**
- **Other** (NL- would prefer a common framework on measuring all secondary resources in food supply chain)

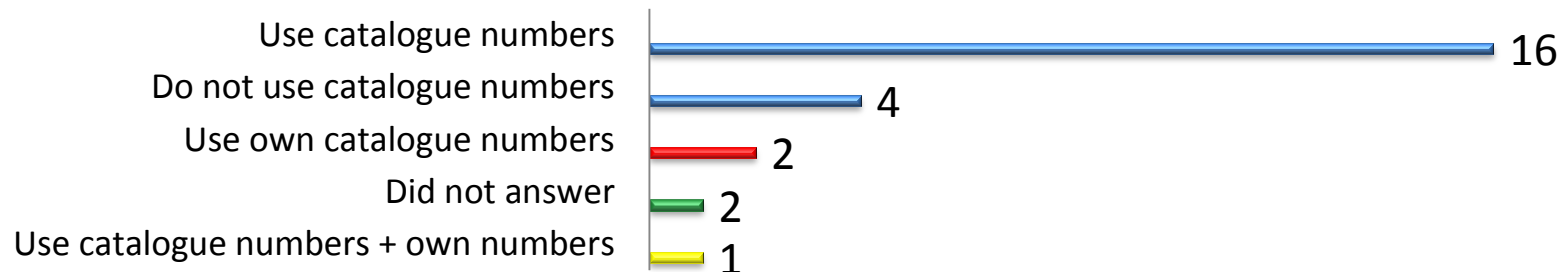


Body responsible for monitoring Food waste

- **Ministry of Environment** (AT, BE, BG, CZ, CY, DE, DK, EE, EL, IT, LT, PT, SK, SI)
- **Ministry of Agriculture** (BE, BG, CY, DE, EE, ES, HU, PT)
- **State Veterinary and Food Administration** (DK, LT)
- **Statistics institution** (SK)
- **Statistics agency** (FI, IE, NO, PT)
- **Government agency/organisation** (BE, DK, HR, IE, LV, DE, RO, SE)
- **Private agency** (FI, NL, NO)

Use of Catalogue Numbers according to the List of waste

- **16 countries use catalogue numbers** to measure the amount of food waste according to directive 2008/98/EC (BE (Region Flanders), CY, DK, EE, EL, FI, HU, HR, IT, NL, LT, LV, RO, SE, SI, SK)
- **1 country uses catalogue numbers + its own catalogue numbers** (IE)
- **2 countries use its own catalogue numbers** (AT, NO)
- **4 countries do not use catalogue numbers** (BG, CZ, DE, PT)
- **1 country did not answer** (ES)



- **17 of all participated countries (71%) would welcome additional catalogue numbers**

Methods used to measure quantity of food waste

	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	FI	EE	ES	EL	IE	HR	HU	IT	LT	LV	NO	NL	PT	RO	SI	SE	SK
Primary production	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N		Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
Direct measurement					X						X		X			X	X	X				X		
Survey method and interview	X	X								X					X	X		X					X	
Mass balance (indirect method)																		X						
Processing and Manufacturing	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N		Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N
Direct measurement		X	X		X				X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X				X		
Survey method and interview		X	X							X						X		X					X	
Mass balance (indirect method)										X														
Wholesale, Retail, Markets and Distribution	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N
Direct measurement		X	X	X			X		X		X	X	X			X	X					X	X	
Survey method and interview		X	X	X								X				X							X	
Mass balance (indirect method)																								



*Results of the „Survey addressed to the EU Member States about quantification of food waste and preventing Food waste“, 2016

Methods used to measure quantity of food waste

	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	FI	EE	ES	EL	IE	HR	HU	IT	LT	LV	NO	NL	PT	RO	SI	SE	SK
Food Facilities	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y		Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Direct measurement		X					X		X			X	X	X		X						X	X	
Survey method and interview		X	X									X		X		X							X	
Mass balance (indirect method)																				X				
Households	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Direct measurement		X					X		X	X		X	X	X				X	X			X	X	
Survey method and interview		X				X						X		X				X					X	
Mass balance (indirect method)																								

- Methods vary depending on the sector and MS approach, the most frequent are: **direct measurement, survey method or its combination.**

In which sector do you perceive the highest amount of food waste?

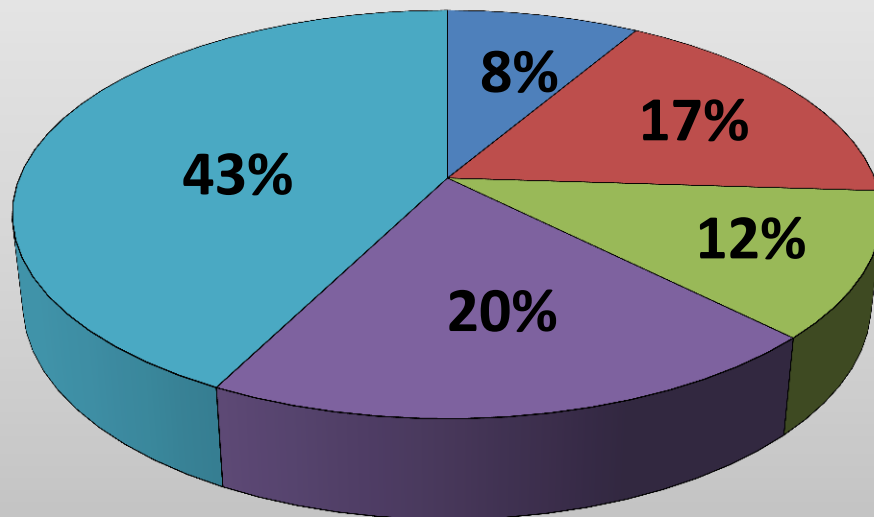
1. **HOUSEHOLDS** has been chosen by **42,5%** of participated countries as a sector with highest number of food waste
2. **FOOD FACILITIES** has been chosen by **20%** of participated countries as a sector with highest number of food waste
3. **PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURING** has been chosen by **17,5%** of participated countries as a sector with highest number of food waste
4. **WHOLESALE, RETAIL, MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTION** has been chosen by **11,5%** of participated countries as a sector with highest number of food waste
5. **PRIMARY PRODUCTION** has been chosen by **8,5%** of participated countries as a sector with highest number of food waste



Proportion of Food waste by sectors

(survey results)

Sectors that create the most Food waste (Member States view)



- Primary production
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale, retail, distribution
- Food facilities and restaurants
- Households

Food waste along the Food supply chain

- Food waste occurs in all sectors of the Food supply chain
- There is a difference between the amount of Food waste in each sector of the Food supply chain

„What are the main causes of Food waste?“

Causes of food waste in Primary production

- surplus production / overproduction
- strict terms and conditions set out in the contract/ strict standards
- inappropriate harvesting method (manual or automatic)
- leaving the crops on the field
- inappropriate storage conditions
- contamination of the products
- diseases of plants or animals
- weather and climate conditions

Causes of food waste in Processing and manufacturing

- waste from the processing of raw materials
- changes in the production line, errors in the production line
- inappropriate processing technology
- strict terms and conditions set out in the contract, or strict standards
- overproduction
- inappropriate selection and sorting (quality standards...)
- contamination of raw materials and food products
- inappropriate storage conditions or damaged packaging
- excessive supplies as a result of returns and cancelled orders

Causes of food waste in Wholesale, retail, markets and distribution

- **failure to comply with the transfer conditions**
- **inappropriate handling of goods that results in damaged packaging**
(occurred at the time of transportation or storage)
- **storage of products in inappropriate conditions** (duration, temperature,..)
- **buying large quantities, excessive orders of foods**
- **low inspection and sorting of fresh fruits and vegetables**
- **insufficient time to sell food products** (related to „best before“ dates)

Causes of food waste in Food facilities

- size of the portion of served food
- buying large quantities of raw materials
- storage of products in inappropriate conditions (duration, temperature,..)

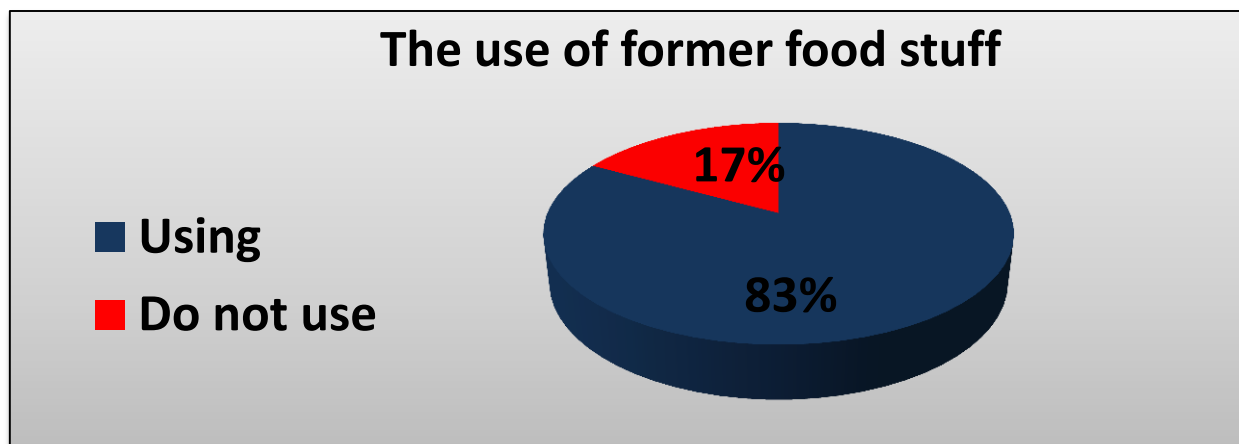
Causes of food waste in Households

- poor knowledge of procedures and a lack of experience in food processing, food preparation and possibilities of the use of leftovers
- excessive food preparation (too big portions)
- buying large amounts of food eg .: big packaging, large quantity
- inappropriate storage
- incorrect assessment of the food as unfit for consumption, which is still safe for the consumption
- lack of knowledge on difference in food labeling („*best before*“ and „*used by*“ dates)

20 countries use former foodstuffs

- **Feed:** (AT, BE, BG, DK, GR, HU, IT, NL, LT, NO, SI, SE, SK)
- **Biogas:** (AT, BE, BG, CZ, DK, FI, GR, LT, SE)
- **Energy production and organic fertilizers:** (AT, BE, GR, DE)
- **Composting:** (AT, LT, DE, SE)

4 countries do not use former foodstuff (CY, EE, ES, LV)



Common framework on usage of former foodstuffs for feeding purposes

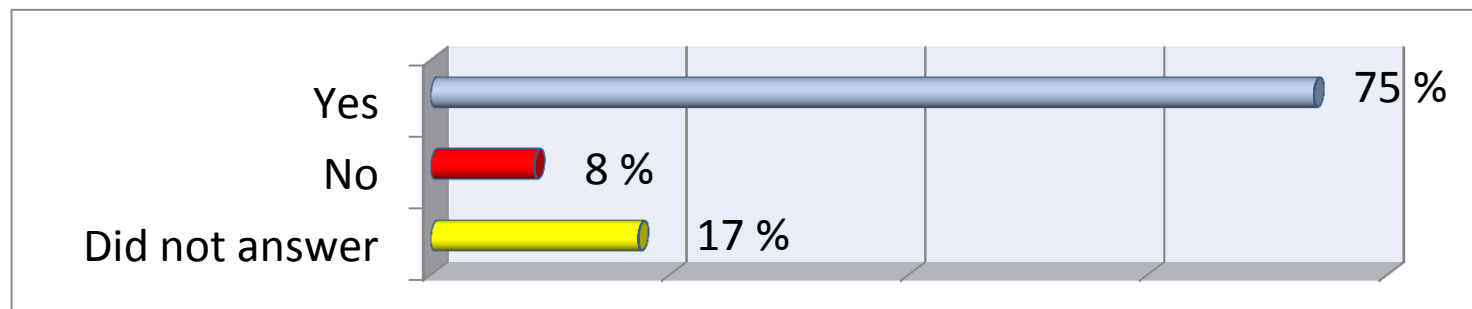
From 24 participated countries, **18 countries would welcome common framework of usage of former foodstuffs for feeding purposes**

- Would you welcome the common framework of usage of former foodstuff for feeding purposes?*

Yes: 18 (BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, FI, GR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, NL, PT, RO, SI, SK, SE)

No: 2 (DE, NO)

Did not answer: 4 (AT, DK, ES, IE)



Cooperation

with the parties in Food supply chain

- all countries agreed that the cooperation with the parties involved in the Food supply chain is needed in order to reduce food waste,

Supporting the cooperation through:

- exchange of information and best available practices (19)
- established platform or working groups (18)
- action plans of individual members of the food supply chain (10)

Countries proposed additional options for cooperation:

- networking between actors along specific food chains
- guidelines on the legitimate use of former foodstuff
- waste prevention tool
- cooperation that encourages the measurement of food waste amounts regularly, increasing research and innovation

Conclusions

- **Food waste and food losses** present an important topic for MS
- Majority of the countries **already adopted national strategy** to prevent food waste or **plan to adopt** such strategy in near future
- **Different parties/ competent authorities are involved** in monitoring of food waste
- **Food waste occurs in all sectors** of the food supply chain but the **causes of food waste and the quantity** of food waste **vary** significantly
- **Cooperation with/between the parties** in the food supply chain is crucial

Challenges

- To determine a **common definition of food waste** (as an important measurable tool for statistical purposes)
- To discuss the possibility of **common framework of usage of former foodstuff** for feeding purposes or other purposes
- To **raise public awareness and knowledge on prevention** of food waste (with the main focus on households) - the common understanding of **proper food labeling** („*best before*“ and „*used by*“)
- **Good practices** in transporting, storage and manufacturing of goods
- **Food donation** as an effective tool for reducing food waste

Challenges

Goal for the future:

To continually reduce the amount of food waste through common procedures and cooperation between parties involved.



**Thank you for your
attention!**

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