



European Food Banks Federation



EU Platform on Food Loss and Waste
Action & Implementation Sub-group
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Recovery of surplus food from the agricultural sector – European perspective

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OUR DAILY CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs

Our Mission is to reduce food insecurity through the prevention of food waste and the support and development of Food Banks in countries where they are most needed





The European Food Banks Federation is a growing network of European Food Banks

Established in

1986

Non-profit members-driven
organisation based in

Brussels

Representing

24 Full Members ●

6 Associate Members ●





Market Withdrawal of Fruits and Vegetables



FEBA Members in 2021:

- Belgium: 837.866 kg
- France: 976.036 kg
- Italy: 4.621.804 kg
- Portugal: 2.352.192,09 kg
- Spain: 0 kg

FEBA Total: 8.787.898 kg

FEBA Members in 2022:

- Belgium: 640.000 kg
- France: 1.350.418 kg
- Italy: 4.632.343 kg
- Portugal: 3.104.295,46 kg
- Spain: 26.995.823 kg

FEBA Total: 36.722.876 kg

FEBA Members in 2023:

- Belgium: 513.000 kg
- France: 533.309 kg
- Italy: 2.763.724 kg
- Portugal: 1.976.807 kg
- Spain: 24.504.937 kg

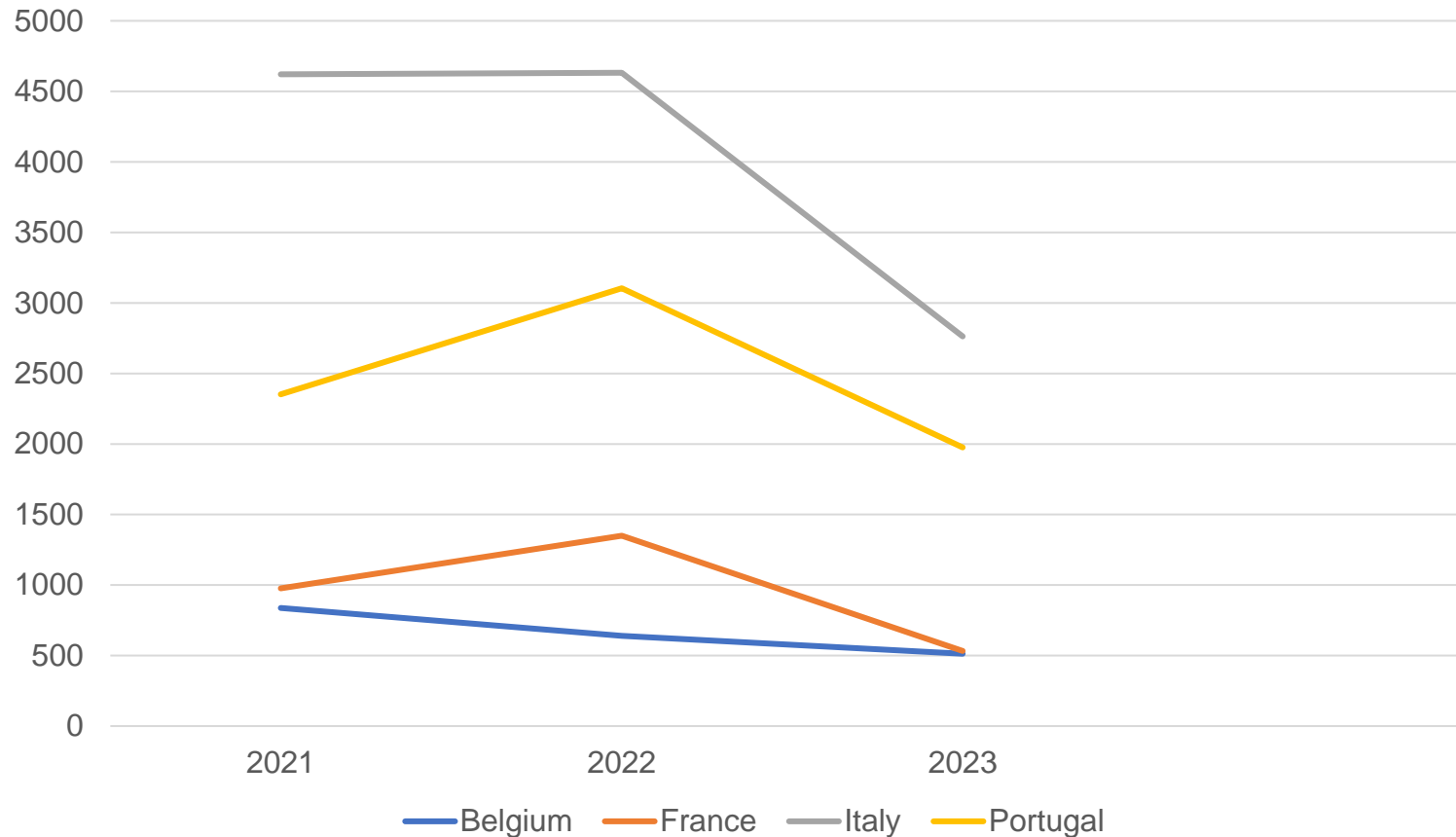
FEBA Total: 30.291.777 kg



Market Withdrawal of Fruits and Vegetables



EU Fruits and Vegetable Withdrawal Scheme Food Banks (in tons)



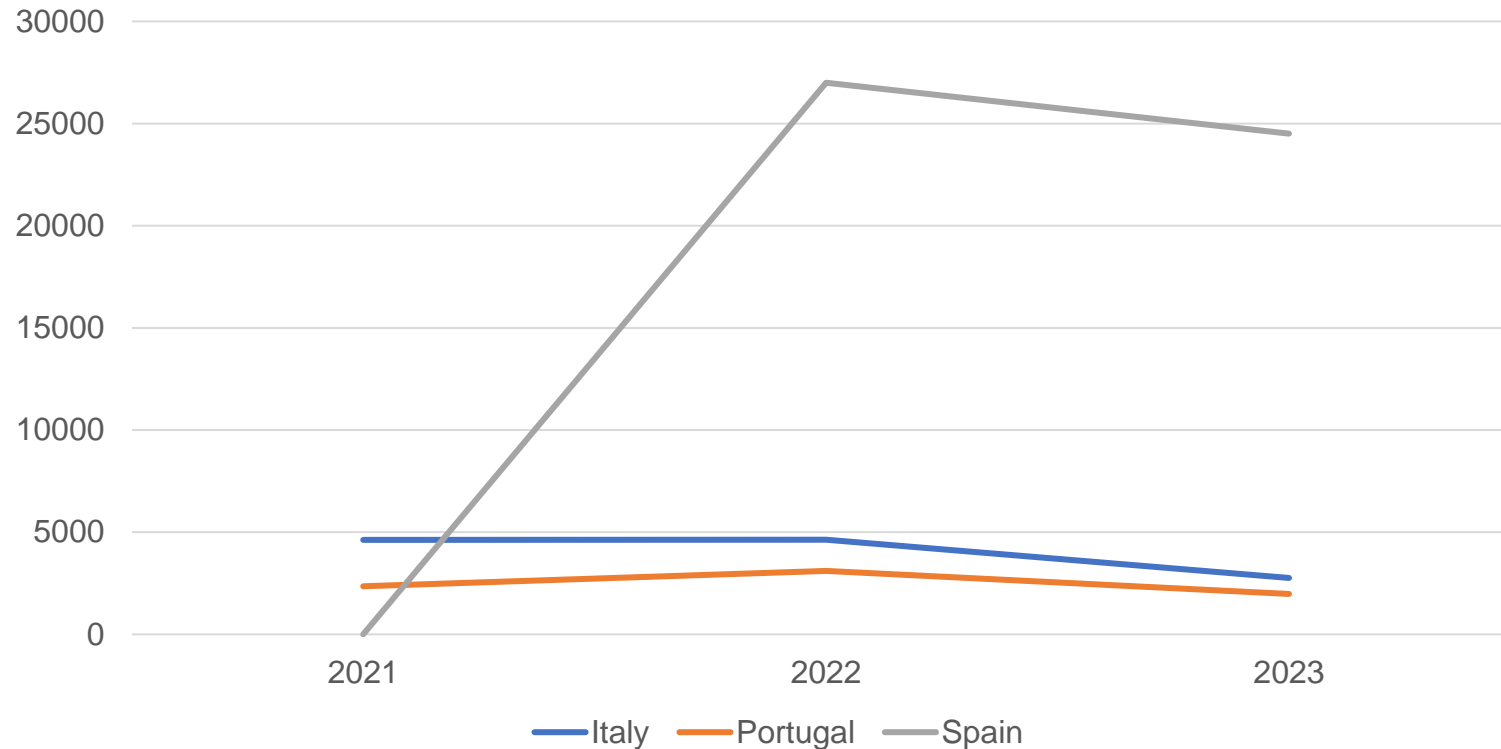
- The graph depicts the amounts of fruits and vegetables in tons received by the different Food Banks in the different countries.
- We can observe a peak in France and Portugal in 2022
- We can observe a decreasing trend since 2022 in all countries where Food Banks are involved in the scheme



Market Withdrawal of Fruits and Vegetables



EU Fruits and Vegetable Withdrawal Scheme Food Banks (in tons)



- The graph depicts the amounts of fruits and vegetables in tons received by the different Food Banks in the different countries with the largest amounts
- We can observe that Spain did not receive produce in 2021, peaked in 2022 and observed a decrease in 2023.
- In comparison to other countries Spain receives the largest amounts.



Food recovery from agriculture





Why Food Banks?

Latest research indicates that more than 40% of food produced globally is wasted, including an estimated **15% that is lost during harvest which equates to approximately 1.2 Billion tons.**

This places huge pressure on the planet's natural resources, with a significant environmental impact.

At the same time **in 2023, 94.6 million people in the EU (21% of the population) were at risk of poverty or social exclusion**, i.e. lived in households experiencing at least one of the three poverty and social exclusion risks: **risk of poverty, severe material and social deprivation, and/or living in a household with very low work intensity.**



Source: [Driven to Waste: Global Food Loss on Farms, WWF and Tesco, 2021.](#)
[People at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2023, Eurostat, 2024.](#)



How are Food Banks collaborating with primary production?

Gleaning

Food Banks and volunteers collect leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been commercially harvested or on fields where it is not economically profitable to harvest.



Government Funded Programs

Depending on the national context there might be funds available from the government to either fund activities to recover surplus from farms or a program to improve the quality of food aid.

Partnership/ Donation Agreements

Food Banks sign partnerships agreements with Agricultural Co-operatives for donations from farmers or co-operatives and other commitments.



Austria

DIE TAFEL ÖSTERREICH



Government Funded Program

- The Food Bank in Austria (Tafel) is interested in funding/ reimbursements from the government for the farmers efforts in making surplus food available
- Barrier/ obstacle to the recovery from agriculture seems to be European Union law, more specifically [EU State Aid rules](#)





France



Government Funded Programs – Mieux Manger Pour Tous

- Program “Eating Better for All” (Mieux Manger Pour Tous) from the French government (2023-2027)
- With an amount of **€60 Million** in 2023, however it is intended to grow over the life of the pact to reach **€100 Million** in 2027
- The establishment of a sustainable food aid fund, with the aim of strengthening the quality of food aid
- Improving the nutritional quality of food aid supplied
- Reducing the environmental impact of the food aid system through local sourcing

-> 2 level of support: national and local

The screenshot shows the website solidarites.gouv.fr, which is part of the French Ministry of Solidarity, Autonomy, and Gender Equality. The page features a navigation menu with categories like 'Le ministère', 'Solidarités', 'Enfance et famille', 'Grand âge et autonomie', 'Handicap', 'En pratique', and 'Actualités, presse, publications'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area displays the title 'Programme Mieux manger pour tous !' and a sub-headline 'Face aux conséquences de l'inflation, le Gouvernement intensifie la lutte contre la précarité alimentaire'. The article is dated 28/02/2023 and is intended to be updated by 10/09/2024. It has a reading time of 4 minutes. The article is categorized under 'Alimentation', 'Santé et prévention', and 'Transition écologique et solidaire'. A specific tag 'Personnes en situation de précarité' is also present. Below the text is a photograph of various fresh food items including salmon, broccoli, tomatoes, almonds, and grains. At the bottom, a caption states: 'Le 3 novembre 2022, la Première ministre annonçait la création d'un fonds pour une alimentation durable mis en œuvre dès 2023 à travers le programme Mieux Manger Pour Tous (MMPT).'

Source: [Programme Mieux manger pour tous!](#)



France



Partnership/ Donation Agreements

- Cooperation agreement between the French Food Bank and Union of French agricultural, agri-food, agro-industrial and forestry cooperatives
- Promote the development of partnership between the networks based on donations and commitment
- Help improve the quality of food aid and social support
- Stimulate local cooperation for students



Source: [Banques Alimentaires La Cooperation Agricole](#)



Source: [Banques Alimentaires Salon International de l'Agriculture](#)



Ireland



Government Funded Programs – Growers’ Project

- FoodCloud launched the Growers’ Project after a successful pilot program run with the support of the Irish government and Tesco
- During the trial in 2022, 30 tons of food was redistributed with targets for the full project now doubled to 60 tons of produce, avoiding emissions of approximately 192,000kgs of CO2 equivalent
- The Growers’ Project is an initiative led by FoodCloud, with the support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, aimed at reducing food waste at farm level by connecting growers who have surplus produce with community groups located around the country
- The FoodCloud Growers’ Project will receive funding of almost **€180.000** from the Rural Innovation and Development Fund through the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Source: [FoodCloud Growers’ Project](#).

July 13, 2023

FoodCloud Collaborating with Farmers to Redistribute Food Waste for Enough Meals to Feed a Full Croke Park and Aviva Stadium Combined



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FoodCloud urges farmers to sign up for new food project after successful trial



FoodCloud CEO and co-founder Aoibheann O'Brien



Ireland



Gleaning

- FoodCloud has been rescuing food from Irish fields through their gleaning project since 2017
- FoodCloud worked with groups of volunteers to collect a range of high-quality crops (by hand) such as **potatoes, onions, carrots and broccoli** from their partners at Meade Potato Company
- Most of the fresh produce saved through Gleaning is redistributed to their network of charity and community group partners
- They also support the work of Falling Fruit Ireland, who **harvest the seasonal apples, pears, plums, nuts and other fruits that would otherwise not be picked and direct it to charities**



Source: [Gleaning with FoodCloud](#)



United Kingdom



Government Funded Programs – Surplus with Purpose

- FareShare campaigned for government funding to redistribute surplus food from farms and factories and deliver it to charities
- Surplus with Purpose was launched and a dramatic increase of fresh fruit and vegetables entered the FareShare network
- **Examples of surplus recovered from farmgate:**
- **Cauliflower otherwise destined for either animal feed or ploughing back into field.**
- **Tomatoes otherwise destined for compost.**
- “Where is the Food?” Campaign
- Over 1,000 charities sign open letter to DEFRA/Rishi Sunak calling on the government to commit to food surplus funding
- In 2024 Rishi Sunak announces **£15 million funding** at the NFU Conference



NEWS | UK

Victory for Standard campaign against food waste on farms as Sunak announces £15m to redirect surplus produce

Action directly follows our campaign last year to end the problem of perfectly good farm produce being wasted





United Kingdom



Gleaning

- FareShare Kent developed a relationship with two local gleaning groups, which has since developed and become a key part of their work over the Spring and Summer periods
- They host volunteers and corporate volunteers for pick days where they help glean the products from the field and help them to sort and process these for deliveries to charities
- Last year their gleaning efforts proved, and they delivered around 25 gleans, which enabled them access to nine farms (for fruits and vegetables) and helped generate an additional **15 tonnes** of surplus produce



Source: [FareShare UK](#)

Thank you!

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