

# Voluntary agreement for food waste reduction With German wholesalers and retailers

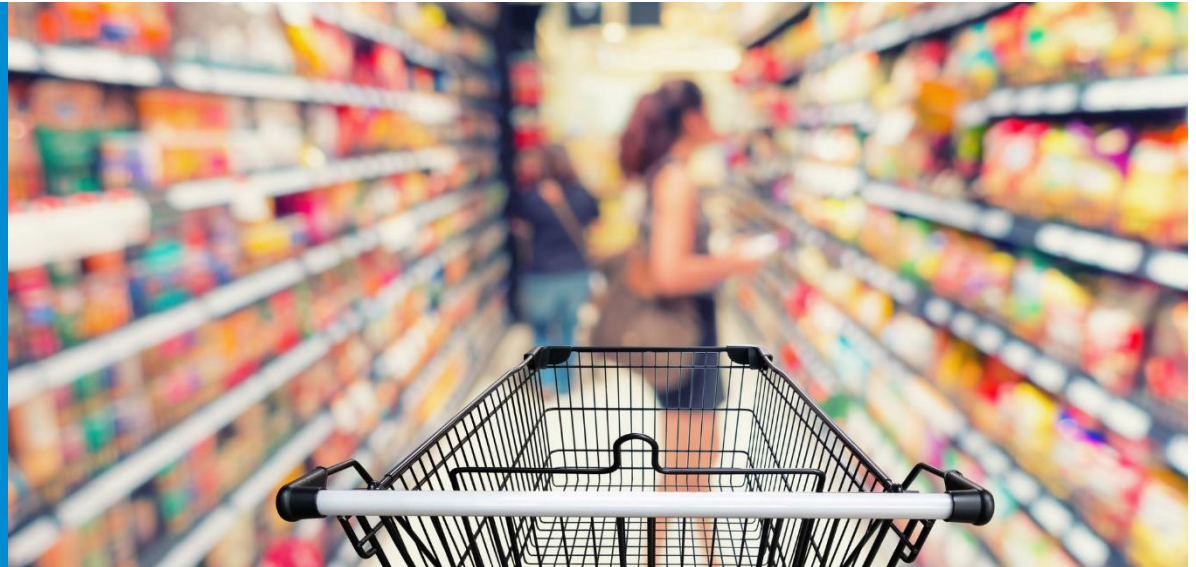
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Meeting

Of the Food Loss and  
Waste Monitoring  
Sub-Group

Of the EU Platform on  
Food Losses and Food  
Waste



Braunschweig / Germany

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Picture: khwaneigq - stock.adobe.com

# Overview

**2019** German National Strategy  
for Food Waste Reduction

**08/2019 until 12/2022**  
Project Dialogue Forum on  
Wholesale and Retail Trade

**06/2023**  
Signature voluntary agreement

**01.07.2024**  
First data delivery

**End of 2024**  
First monitoring report

**12/2031**  
Term of the voluntary  
agreement ends

# Look back on previous work

## Project Dialogue Forum on Wholesale and Retail Trade:

From 2019 until 2022 policy makers, scientists and representatives of the wholesale and retail trade met

- To discuss and implement food waste reduction strategies and measures
- They developed and applied a suitable method to measuring food waste
- Together they drew up a **voluntary agreement**

# The voluntary agreement

Summer 2023

Federal Minister Cem Özdemir and 14 wholesale and retail representatives signed the 'Pact Against Food Waste'



Picture: BMEL/Schwalm

# Participating companies

## Retail Chains

- 4 supermarkets
- 6 discounters
- 2 cash&carry markets
- 1 other market



## Wholesale Chains

- 2 delivery markets

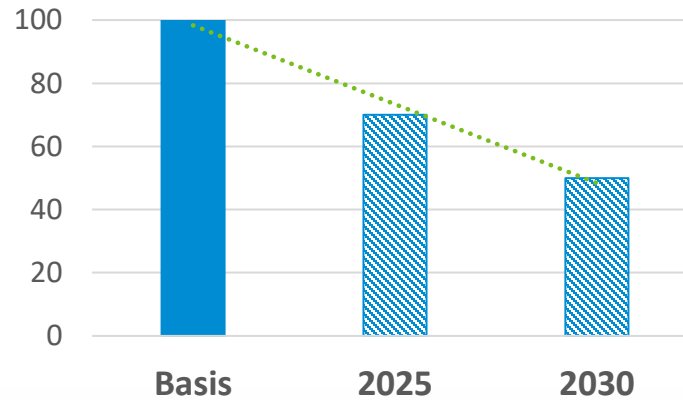


# Pact Against Food Waste

## Reduction target and approach

### Reduction targets

- 30% by 2025
- 50% by 2030



### Reduction approach

to achieve these targets, the Pact includes:



# Obligatory and elective measures

## Obligatory measures

Provide data

Cooperation for food distribution

Consider waste hierarchy

Contribute to the reduction of surpluses within the food supply chain

Staff training

## Elective measures

Eight measures have to be selected from a list and implemented each year:

- At the producer/supplier interface
- In the market or online trading
- At the customer interface
- Distribution of surplus and non-marketable but still edible food
- Individual measures

# Provided data and calculation of food waste

## Provided data:

- Rate of unsold groceries and turnover per product group
- Share of unsold groceries that is donated for human consumption (measure at least once)
- Share of unsold groceries that is used as animal feed

## Calculation of food waste:

Rate of unsold groceries - donation - animal feed = food waste



# Submission of Data



Deadline for submitting the data concerning the previous calendar year is July 1<sup>st</sup>



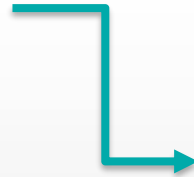
Accordingly, the first data delivery was on July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year

# Role of the Thünen Institute

- Responsible for **evaluating the implementation** of the Pact
- Independent **control** agency
- The companies **deliver their data directly to the Thünen Institute**
- **Tasks of the Thünen Institute:**
  - Organization of the data collection
  - Support the companies
  - Examine and analyze the data
  - Summarize results of 14 companies in an annual monitoring report (anonymized and aggregated)

# Outlook

First data analysis is currently underway



First monitoring report will be published at the end of this year

# Thünen Institute of Market Analysis

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