

# Better data and evaluation practices to strengthen food loss and waste policies

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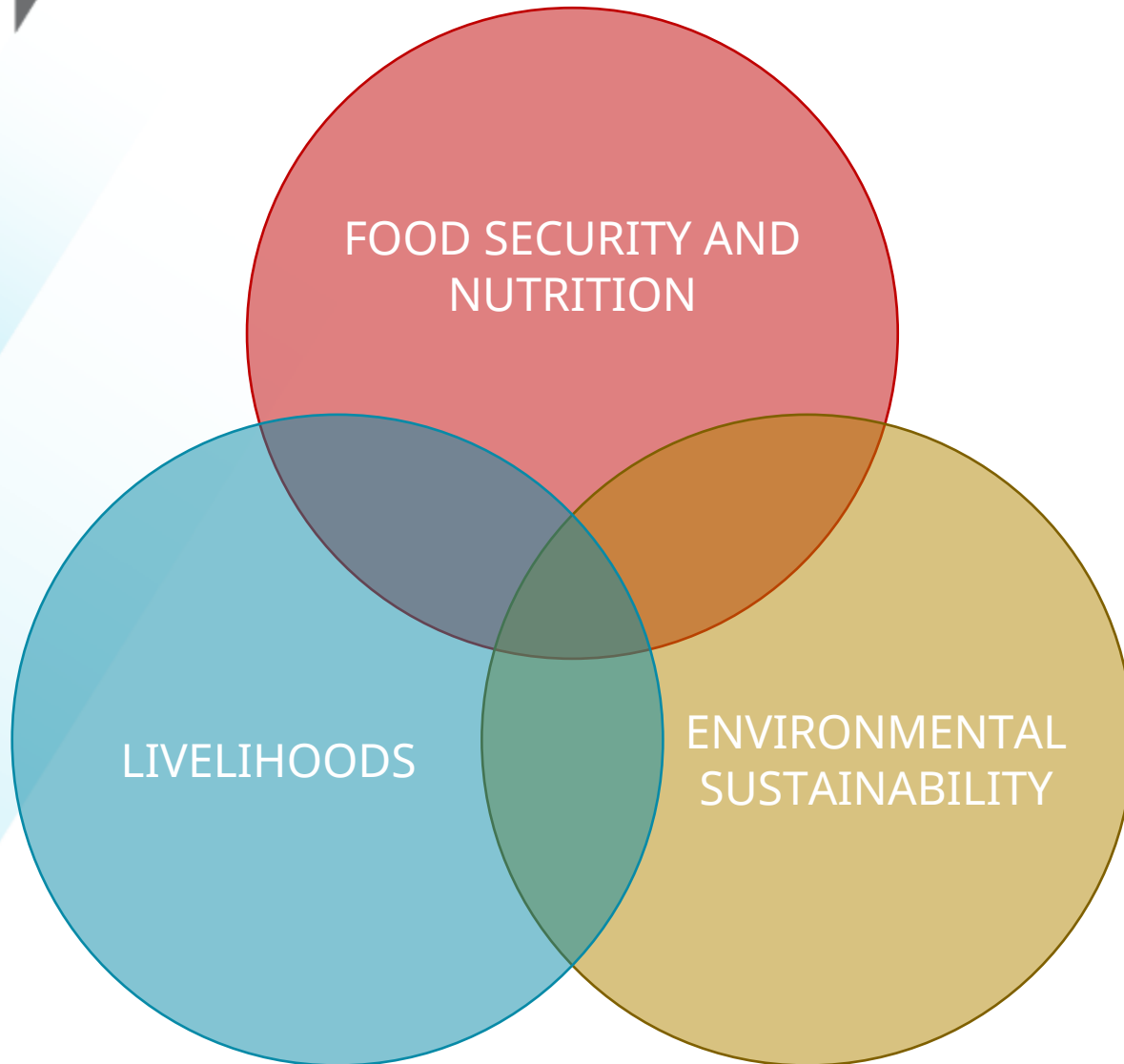
**EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste**

27 November 2025



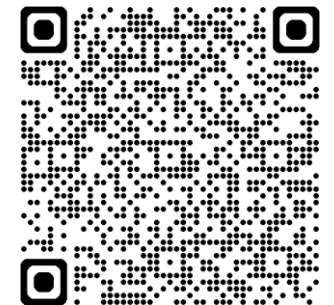


# The potential effects of reducing food loss and waste



Reducing FLW by 50%

- 4% reduction in ag-related GHG emissions
- 137 million people out of hunger





# Beyond food loss and waste reduction targets

## An original comprehensive review of the FLW policy environment

Along the agro-food supply chain

International scope:  
42 countries (34 OECD countries, 6 accession countries, and 23 EU MS)

Method: questionnaire and case studies

Information collected in 2023 and 2024



➔ Released in January 2025

<https://oe.cd/5SV>





# National FLW strategies share common characteristics

## Influence of national conditions

- Geographical
- Economic
- Legislative
- Social

## Targets are not clearly defined

- ⊗ **Baseline year** for the targets in most countries.
- ⊗ **Target horizon** in a fourth of the countries.

## Multiple policy instruments

- **Governance** challenges
- **Quasi-absence of ex-ante and ex-post impact assessments**

## Few mechanisms for stakeholder engagement



# What can policymakers do to improve policy effectiveness?

Strengthen policy ambition and promote stakeholder engagement

Monitor and evaluate

Enhance and foster international cooperation

**OECD** Policy Brief

## Achieving Food Loss and Waste Reduction From Targets to Action

12 November 2025

**Key messages**

- Knowledge of food loss and waste (FLW) has improved thanks to the combined efforts of countries' commitments under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 12.2 and more robust measurement processes and methods. That said, there is scope for countries to explore ways in which they may go further:
- While most countries have established broad national FLW reduction targets, greater progress on establishing quantifiable targets, with defined baselines and delivery target dates, could be a useful next step.
- National FLW strategies are typically implemented as overarching frameworks, and generally rely on soft measures. Countries could consider whether enhancing existing commitments would make sense. Mechanisms to engage with stakeholders and to highlight the economic, social, and environmental benefits of FLW reduction, while considering the costs, could also play an important role.
- Countries could also enhance their existing efforts by avoiding policy layering (adding new policy instruments to existing ones).
- Countries could also engage in more inclusive and transparent policy dialogue, with the development for example of public-private partnerships, to enhance trust and participation in policy initiatives.
- Ex ante and ex post assessments of policy instruments could promote greater coherence and clarity on efficiency and effectiveness. At present, only a few countries undertake regular and dedicated FLW policy impact evaluations, including on cost-effectiveness. This may be related to difficulties in measuring FLW levels and in attributing the impact of FLW policies, as well as the lack of evidence-based mechanisms, timelines, and indicators for policy evaluations. Peer-to-peer country exchanges and shared learning could help improve FLW measurement and evaluation practices.

ACHIEVING FOOD LOSS AND WASTE REDUCTION FROM TARGETS TO ACTION © OECD 2025

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## Reducing food waste requires strong policy leadership and collective action

Food waste reduction requires more than good habits at home. This blog explores why cutting food loss and waste across the entire food system is essential for climate, livelihoods and food security and how policymakers can make it happen.

Blog 20 November 2025

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You finish dinner but half your plate is still full. Maybe the portions were too large, maybe you were not that hungry, into the bin it goes. On its own, that moment feels small. Multiply it across millions of kitchens every day and it becomes enormous. In 2022, the UN Environment Programme estimated that households worldwide threw away more than one billion meals each day. And that is only what reaches our plates. Nearly 30 percent of all food produced globally is lost or wasted somewhere between the farm and fork.





# Ongoing OECD project: Better data and evaluation practices to strengthen food loss and waste policies

## Monitor progress in FLW reduction

**Focus :** Development of OECD FLW indicators

- FLW flows
- Broader food systems impacts

**Inputs:**

- 2025 pilot data collection

**Deliverables**

- Publication of FLW flows indicators for OECD Member and partner countries

## Evaluate and strengthen policy effectiveness

**Focus:** Identification of good evaluation practices / good methodological approaches

- What?
- How?
- Engagement with stakeholders

**Inputs:**

- Food Chain Analysis Network (FCAN) discussions

**Deliverables**

- International guidance on the evaluation of FLW reduction strategies

## Promote, enhance and foster international cooperation

### Mobilisation of the OECD Food Chain Analysis Network (FCAN)

- **13-14 November 2025:** Challenge of evaluation FLW reduction strategies
- **3-4 February 2026:** Indicator needs for the evaluation of FLW reduction initiatives

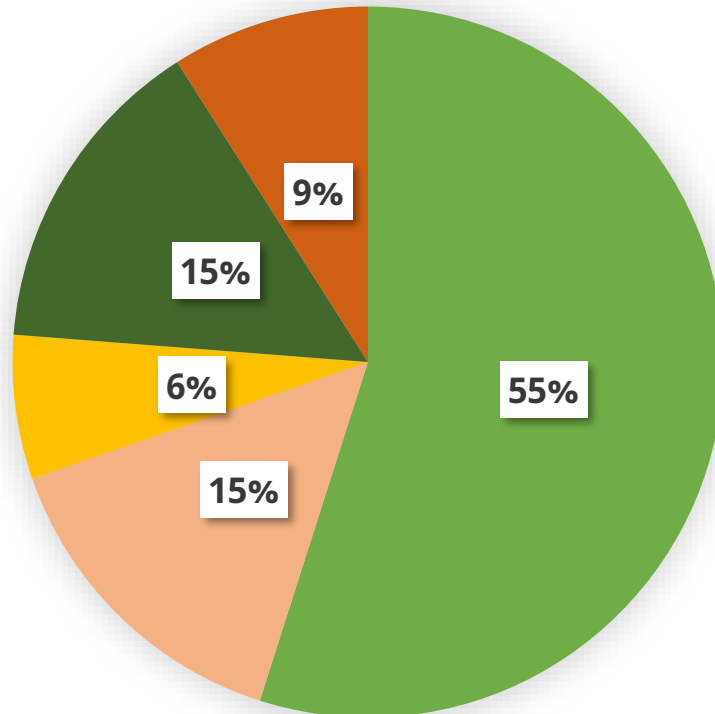




# FCAN meeting – 13-14 November 2025

The Challenge of Evaluating Food Loss and Waste Reduction Strategies:  
**What, How** and **Engagement with Stakeholders?**

**122 participants representing 33 countries**  
61% in-person, 39% online



- Ministries and public entities
- Civil society (GFN, SDSN, WRI, WRAP, WWF,...)
- Private sector
- Academia
- International Organisations (FAO, IFC, UNEP, WFP)





# FCAN meeting – 13-14 November 2025

The Challenge of Evaluating Food Loss and Waste Reduction Strategies:

**What**, **How** and **Engagement with Stakeholders?**

## What

*France, Japan and Switzerland*

Outcomes and Impacts

Behavioural Change

Efficiency and Effectiveness

Alignment with regional and international agenda

Challenges and Future Directions

## How

Evaluation frameworks

Shifts in practices (households and stakeholders)

Cost-effectiveness analysis

## Engagement with stakeholders

Field trip - FCD

Public-Private collaboration to report on progress

Role of standards and innovation



 **The Challenge of Evaluating Food Loss and Waste Reduction Strategies:  
What, How and Engagement with Stakeholders?**  
Hybrid meeting of the OECD Food Chain Analysis Network (FCAN)  
13-14 November 2025 | OECD Conference Centre, Paris





# Next steps

## Monitor progress in FLW reduction

- **Ongoing pilot food loss and waste data collection:** September – December 2025
- **OECD workshop on enhancing FLW statistics:** 3 February 2026 – joint WPEI-FCAN event
  - Present results from the OECD pilot survey
  - Share good practices in FLW data collection
  - Validation of the OECD Questionnaire to be included in the OECD State of the Environment questionnaire

## Evaluate and strengthen policy effectiveness

- **Indicator needs for the evaluation of FLW reduction initiatives:** FCAN meeting on 3-4 February 2026
  - Translating FLW reductions into broader environmental, economic, and food security benefits.
  - Joint event with the Consumers Good Forum?
- **First draft of the** International guidance on the evaluation of FLW reduction strategies: May 2026





# Contact us



Access all of the OECD's research and analysis on food loss and waste at:  
<https://oe.cd/flw>



You can reach us by sending your message to:  
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