

Reducing food loss and waste: Update on EU action plan Farm to Fork Strategy

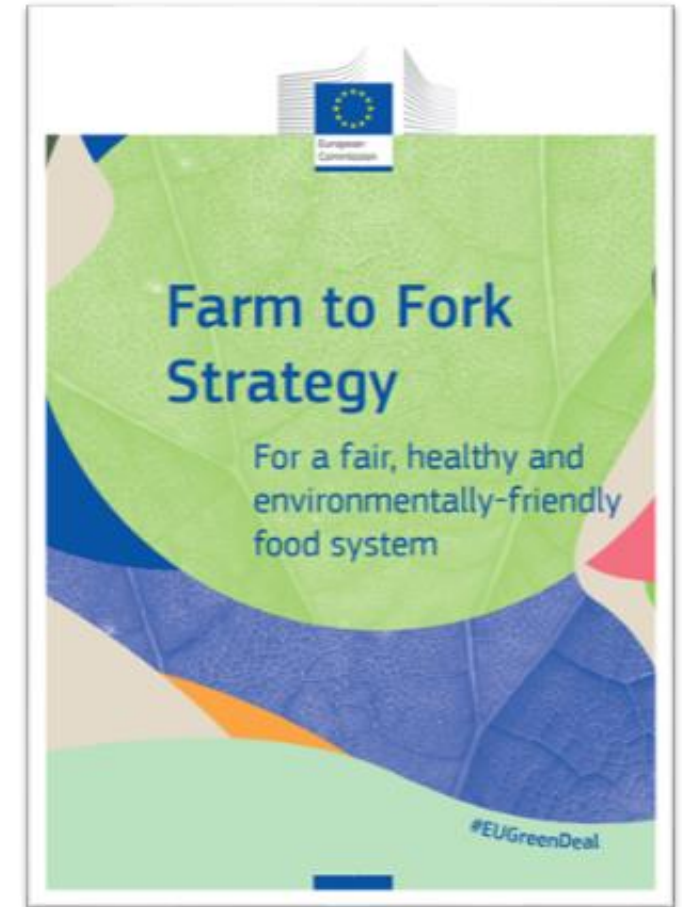
EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste
Action & Implementation Sub-group
27 October 2021



Farm to Fork Strategy:

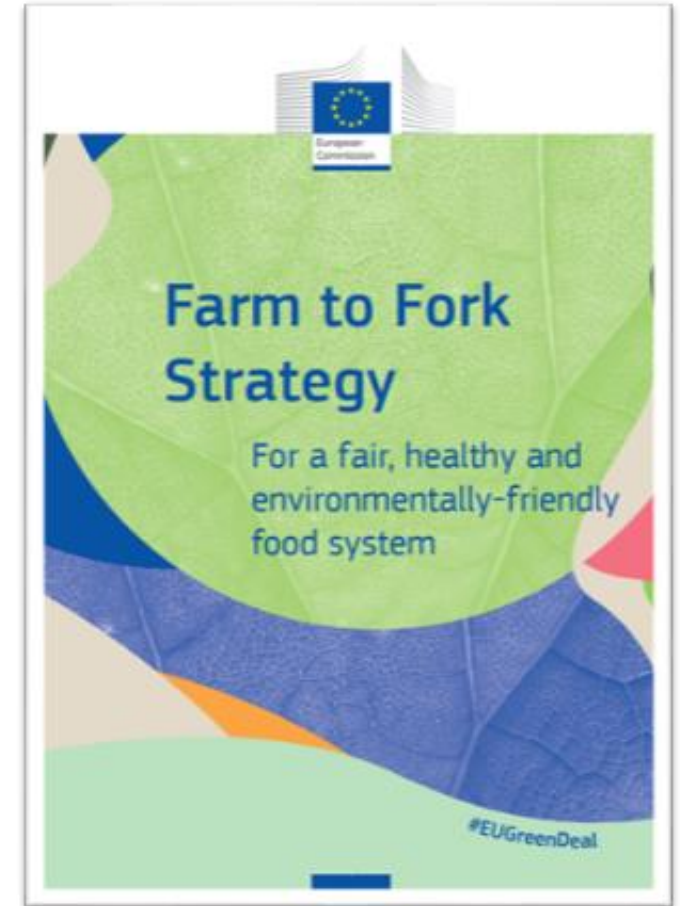
Stepping up action against food loss and waste

- **EU-level targets** for food waste reduction (proposal by 2023)
- Revise EU rules for **date marking** (proposal by 2022)
- Further **integrate food loss & waste prevention** as part of all relevant EU policies
- Investigate **food losses** at production stage and explore ways of preventing them
- Scale up action and **mobilise key players** across the EU



Update today on:

- **EU-level targets** for food waste reduction (proposal by 2023)
- Revision of EU rules for **date marking** (proposal by 2022)
- *European Consumer Food Waste Forum*
- Grants to support FLW prevention
- EU Food and Loss Waste Prevention Hub
- Platform Activity Report



Setting EU-level targets on food waste reduction

- **Aim:** to strongly involve all Member States in food waste prevention actions and accelerate EU progress towards SDG Target 12.3
- Exact **coverage and target levels** are to be decided in **legislative proposal** from the Commission by **2023**
- **Baseline data** are currently being collected (2020 is the first reference year)
- **Proposal supported by impact assessment and public consultation**
 - Feedback on the inception impact assessment open to all stakeholders until 29 October through the [Have your say!](#) portal
 - Dedicated Platform consultation on 22 October

Setting EU-level targets on food waste reduction

- **Summary of feedback** at the next **Platform meeting – 18 November**
- **Data collection exercise to be run by JRC** – mostly numerical data based on stakeholders (in particular MS) experiences so far - **Dec/Jan 2022**
- Open public consultations (**Dec 2021 – Q1 2022**)
- Data reporting from Member States (**deadline 30 June 2022**)
- Proposal from Commission is currently planned for **Q2 2023**

Promoting better understanding and use of date marking

- To be introduced by revision of the **Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on Food Information to Consumers** [alongside other labelling (nutrition, origin, alcoholic beverages)].
- A proposal, addressing the Farm to Fork food labelling commitments, **to be finalised by end 2022**.
- **Impact assessment** ongoing: an external study supporting the impact assessment was launched end August and will run for 9 months.

Promoting better understanding and use of date marking

Revision of **EU date marking rules** taking into account:

- **Consumer research findings**

- Further investigate how consumers themselves understand and use these dates.
- Identify possible options to increase their effectiveness in avoiding food waste (e.g. changes in terminology and/or format) – ongoing, finalisation by Q1 2022.

- **External study** supporting the impact assessment, looking into the impacts of the different policy options (e.g. presence/absence of “best before” date on food waste) – ongoing, finalisation by Q2 2022.

- **Scientific advice from EFSA** ([part 1](#) and [part 2](#)) to inform decision-making by food business operators on date marking, setting product shelf-life and defining other relevant information for food labelling (i.e. risk-based approach focused on food safety).

Promoting better understanding and use of date marking

The approach to the consumer research:

- Task 1 - Collection and analysis of existing evidence
 - *Review of evidence and inventory, Stakeholder interviews, Development of policy options*
- Task 2 - Design and execution of behavioural research
 - *Focus Groups, Online survey, Laboratory experiments and Virtual Reality laboratory experiments*
- Task 3 - Integrated analysis of results and policy recommendations
 - *Overall analysis and triangulation of the results and policy recommendations*
- Exchange on policy options to be tested with MS experts of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste and of the Working Group on Food Information to Consumers (*tentatively end November / early December*)

The European Consumer Food Waste Forum (ECFWF)

- DG SANTE in collaboration with JRC (2-year project June 2021- July 2023)
- A multi-disciplinary forum of researchers and practitioners in the area of consumer food waste prevention
- Call for applications open between 12 July - 12 August 2021
- 75 applications received, 16 members selected representing different thematic areas, according to gender and geographical balance
- Established in October 2021, the forum will work in close cooperation with the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste.



[Webpage of the project](#)

The European Consumer Food Waste Forum (ECFWF)

Overall aim:

- gather data and identify evidence-based, practical solutions to reduce food waste at the consumer level, including household and food services

The Forum will:

- issue research- and evidence-based recommendations and develop tools to help reduce consumer food waste
- produce a compendium of best practices to facilitate uptake of effective interventions

The European Consumer Food Waste Forum (ECFWF)

Key questions to be addressed by the forum include:

- What are the drivers of consumer food waste and levers for behavioural change?
- What are the current activities to address reduction of consumer food waste, in particular in the EU Member States? How do they perform as regards their feasibility, reach and effectiveness?
- What recommendations and research protocols can be put in place to improve the current situation?
- Considering that actors engaged in food waste prevention (e.g. national, regional and local authorities, industry, consumer- and other NGOs) would benefit from access to a multi-dimensional, multi-level, and evidence-based set of tools, what format and content should these tools have?

The European Consumer Food Waste Forum (ECFWF)

Deliverables will be multi-level, taking into account the role and needs of consumers and of players engaged in food waste reduction:

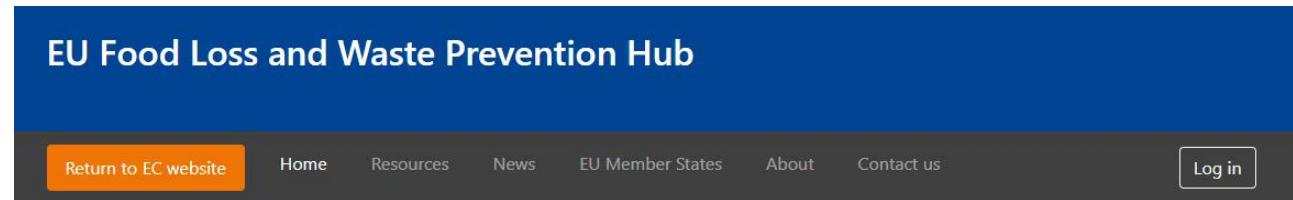
1. A literature review on drivers of consumer food waste and levers for behavioural change
2. Evaluation framework for evaluating consumer food waste prevention interventions and a protocol for the collection of information on interventions
3. A compendium of tools, best practices, and recommendations towards the reduction of consumer food waste that can be utilised and adapted as needed, for use by any relevant actor in the Member States
4. Recommendations for research protocols

Grants to support FLW prevention actions

- Initially foreseen for 2021, delayed due to adoption of the Single Market Programme and the establishment of HaDEA (the new EU Health and Digital Executive Agency)
- Grants foreseen to support Member States and stakeholders in improving food waste measurement and implementing food waste prevention programmes
- Calls for proposals – expected timeline:
 - Member States grants: by end 2021
 - Stakeholders' grants: Q1 2022

EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub

- Launched on 29 September 2021 on IDAFLW
- Any stakeholder active in the area of food loss and waste prevention in Europe can become a member and share **resources** and **news**
- Each Member State has a dedicated page with information on **national policies and legislative developments**
- Monthly newsletter (1700+ subscribers)



100+ resources uploaded so far

EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub

- Easy to contribute – you just need an EU Login!
- Filter information about initiatives through tags and categories
- Help us build a database of resources

FILTER BY

Sector 0/9 ▼

Type of resource/news 0/12 ▼

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Platform activity report

- Visual, communication material
- Celebrating the Platform's activity and achievements in 5 years of mandate
- Includes milestones for EU actions to reduce food losses and food waste
- Focus on how the Platform's key recommendations for action have been implemented
 - Based on the answers to the 1st EU Survey (March 2021)
 - Rapporteurs provided an overview of how the recommendations have been implemented in their respective sectors
- Circulate report for Platform's validation ahead of the last meeting on 18 November

Thank you



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