

# Sub-group on Food loss and waste monitoring

Report on challenges and solutions to monitoring food waste in food services + hospitality – key deliverable of the group

- Meetings:
  - (on challenges) on June 13, 2022
  - (on solutions) on May 11, 2023
- Share draft report for consultation – end of November
- Assemble final version:
  - Easy to read;
  - Short and sweet;
  - Practical.

# Sub-group on Food loss and waste monitoring

- 4 key challenges identified:
  - Operational challenges: time, planning, knowledge, space, etc.;
  - Costs: training, tools;
  - Resistance to change: indifference, fear, readiness, willingness;
  - Data collection and analysis: reliability, tools, benchmark, representativeness (national monitoring)

# Sub-group on Food loss and waste monitoring

- Some key solutions identified:
  - Better data planning and production to avoid overproduction;
  - Monitoring: better quality and reliable data on FW opens eyes;
  - Raising awareness and effective communications;
  - Reconsidering business models: reducing excessive buffets; focusing on preserving resources;
  - Exchange knowledge and share lessons learned



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS

# EU Platform on FLW Report on the subgroup on FLW measurement

**Measurement actions by Governments**

**8 November**

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EU Platform on FLW meeting  
7–8 November 2023

## Loss measurements by national and local governments (Sweden and the Basque country)

Measurement is feasible with very different approaches (large sample surveys in the Basque country versus research, administrative data and studies on single products in Sweden)

- Primary production and processing waste seem low but not negligible in the Basque country

Swedish study focuses on those quantities “that **do not progress to human consumption** despite it being intended for that purpose **(and is not considered food waste according to EU waste directive)**”, hence on food losses

Loss measurements can be seen as a complement to the EU Food Waste directive

- Harvest and pre-harvest are critical across the board
- Postharvest can be relevant (carrots, potatoes, fish)
- Edible by-products are treated like waste (change in consumer preferences in the livestock sector) and there is scope for action



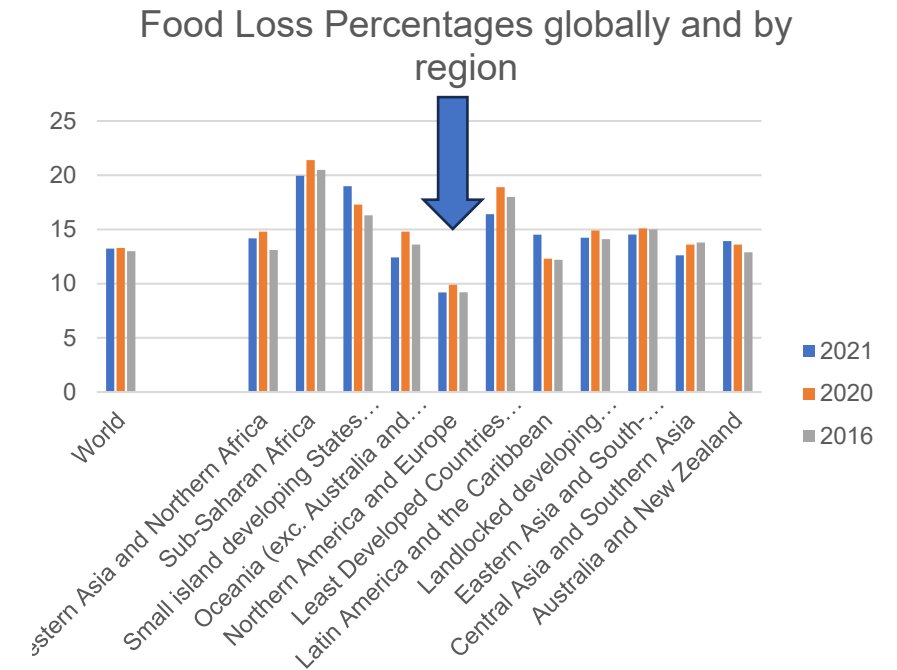
# SDG estimation, compilation and reporting

FAO and UNEP regularly report to the United Nations on the Food Loss Index and the Food Waste Index on an annual and biennial basis respectively.

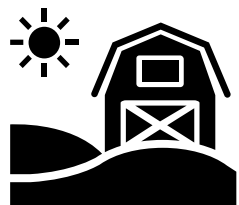
- FAO's loss estimates in 2021 are 13% worldwide and 9.2% in Europe and North America. UNEP will publish soon the 2023 Food Waste Report with updated estimates

Few countries start being able to compile the Food Loss Index and the FAO is piloting a questionnaire to report on the indicator

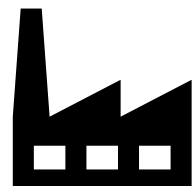
- Germany and Sweden are in the pilot



# FW measurement by private sector – including by governmental actors at selected stages of the food supply chain



- No obligation
- Some data are becoming available



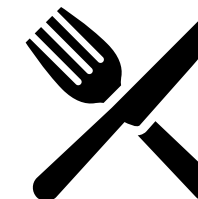
- Granular production/processing data, but little public availability



- Varying data on spoilage, EURO vs KG conversions, little public availability, but still many not registering



- High variability across subsectors
- Limited sectoral data



- Granular data, multiple methodologies

FOLOU project

WASTELESS project

Majority of studies /presentations in 2023



# Points of attention / looking forward

## SUPPORTING SELF-REPORTING & SECTORAL STATISTICS

- 'Translating' the definition into self-reporting scope & templates
- Contextual data & sector specific challenges
- Validity & reliability / representativeness of data for each sector/segment, scaling issues

## COMMITMENT from companies to TARGET-MEASURE-ACT

- Supporting companies with capacity, templates & scaling, including transparency & benchmarking
- Engagement & commitment from companies & sectors: what's in it for me? + the role of Voluntary Agreements / National Negotiated Agreements



Top-down      Bottom-up

