



Update on Circular Economy Action Plan: EU food waste prevention initiatives

Alexandra Nikolakopoulou

Head of Unit, Food information and composition,
food waste, DG Health and Food Safety



Waste legislation – state of play

- **Provisions on food waste** are one of the elements of COM proposal to revise Waste Framework Directive (*COM(2015)595 final*)
- **New obligations for Member States:**
 - **reduce food waste generation at each stage in the food supply chain** (primary production, processing/manufacturing, retail/other food distribution, restaurants and food services, households)
 - **Monitor** food waste levels, based on **common EU methodology**, and **report** (on a biennial basis).



Waste legislation – negotiations

- Proposal is subject to **ordinary legislative procedure** (former "co-decision") – i.e. Council and Parliament are co-legislators
- **Negotiations** at political and technical levels involving Council, Parliament and Commission, started on 30 May and are ongoing, with the aim to **agree final text by end 2017**

Waste legislation – negotiations

- **Main issues under discussion on food waste** are European Parliament's amendments proposing:
 - a definition of food waste;
 - aspirational EU food waste reduction targets;
 - a task for the Commission to evaluate the possibility and propose binding food waste reduction targets in the future.
- Final outcome is expected to have a significant impact on future food waste policy in EU.

Food waste measurement

- **Preparation of methodology on monitoring of food waste** is on-going. However, it can only be finalised once the negotiations on the Waste Framework Directive are completed, in particular definition of food waste.
- Meanwhile, **sub-group on food waste measurement** met on 25 September to discuss stakeholders' current practices on food waste measurement as well as related work of Commission services (Eurostat, DG JRC).
- **Letter of intent** confirms strengthened cooperation between COM and FAO: monitoring of SDG 12.3.

Food Donation

- EU guidelines adopted on World Food Day and published in all EU languages.
- Subgroup on food donation (25.10.2017):
 - Preparation of document illustrating practices in Member States
⇒ Call for contributions from all Platform members (initial input by end 2017; final document by end 2018))
 - New EFSA mandate for 2nd scientific opinion on hazard analysis approaches for certain small retail establishments including possible additional hazards related to food donation activities.
Timeline (30.09.2018)

Food Donation

- Subgroup on food donation (25.10.2017):
 - Update on FEAD (DG EMPL) and support for food donation/food waste prevention; presentation of FoodCloud digital food redistribution network
 - Recovery/redistribution of agricultural/farming surplus (case studies: France - Restaurants du Cœur, SOLAAL; Italy)
 - Update on implementation of digital tools

EP Pilot Project on 'food redistribution'

- **Overall aim:** support redistribution of safe surplus food in the Member States
- **Task 1:** map and analyse existing **regulatory and policy measures** impacting food redistribution in all EU Member States
- **Task 2:** mapping of existing **operational frameworks** in all EU Member States (strengths and weaknesses)

EP Pilot Project on 'food redistribution'

- **Task 3:** dissemination and stakeholders dialogue on the EU guidelines on food donation – starting in 2019
 - ⇒ activities to be carried out **in partnership with Platform members**
- **Task 4:** stakeholders' feedback on the EU guidelines
- **Timetable:** 2017-2020

Sub-group 'action and implementation'

- **First meeting:** 25 October 2017
- **Objectives:**
 - Share best practices, information and learning related to food waste prevention
 - Contribute to design tools for effective information sharing
 - Contribute to monitoring of evidence-based progress
 - Facilitate inter-sectorial cooperation
 - Identify areas of intervention to prevent food waste

Sub-group 'action and implementation'

- The group recommended/agreed:
 - the **development** of an easy-to-use reporting tool for key initiatives/strategies in food waste prevention, with focus on learning and results achieved
 - to focus on "directions for change", ie **recommendations** for action by all players which could be targeted for instance to 3 key sectors: government, industry, consumers;
 - **Roadmap** outlining key milestones and deliverables of this sub-group to be achieved by 2019

Green Public Procurement Criteria for food and catering services

- Scope: food and catering services + vending machines
- Criteria proposed for different stages of the procurement process (e.g. technical specifications; award criteria)
- Tenderer shall have written procedures describing best practices for preventing the generation of food waste
- Timetable:
 - Stakeholders' written consultation on 3rd draft technical report closed
 - Conclusion foreseen for early 2018

The Digital network: objectives



Facilitate on-going exchange of information and mutual learning between Platform members



Facilitate the on-going work of the Platform and its sub-groups



Streamline communication between the Commission and the Platform



European Commission

The Digital Network of the EU Platform on FLW

Legal notice Support/Help Favourites LISETCHI Cristina Logout English (en)

EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

Agora

Agora All contents Events Library News Search My networks

LATEST NEWS

Show all news >



MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on "Share Food, Cut Waste"
Politecnico di Milano and Fondazione Banco Alimentare ONLUS have launched "Share Food, Cut Waste", a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) addressed to all those who are interested in reducing food waste and enhancing food security for people in need.

The resource is open to a wide audience, from... read more v

3 files have been uploaded in the folder "Plenary meeting 29 November 2016"

New Test publication III test

Agora



Short name and description

In this network, you can discuss issues related to the prevention of food loss and waste, share ideas and gather information on relevant policy areas. You can also let the community know about the events you organise, new projects and campaigns, or the reports you produce!

Check it out and start a... read more v

Members

Search in list ... Sort by | Most active v

Elena MAZZA

Cristina LISETCHI DG SANTE

Luciana BOLA DG SANTE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Show all events >



EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste meeting
On Tue, 7th November 2017 from 10:00 to 18:00 (Brussels)
The third plenary meeting of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste.

PAST EVENTS

Show all events >



Webinar: Tourism and Sustainable Food Management
On Wed, 20th September 2017 from 14:00 to 15:15 (Paris, France)
UN Environment and the Government of France are collaborating to provide a series of webinars on sustainable tourism to advance sustainable consumption and production in the tourism sector. These webinars connect leaders and practitioners in the field of sustainable tourism. Each session aims to... read more v

2 1

Online tool to **support the work of the EU Platform** on Food Losses and Food Waste

Main discussion areas:

- ✓ AGORA
- ✓ Date marking
- ✓ Food donation
- ✓ Food waste measurement
- ✓ Action & implementation



European Commission

The Digital Network of the EU Platform on FLW

News

Events

Contact information

Documents

Annex to the proposal to revise the Waste Framework Directive, 2015 DOCUMENT

Posted 3 weeks ago by [Cristina LISETCHI](#) in the *Agora network*
Updated 1 week ago by [Cristina LISETCHI](#)

The revised legislative proposal on waste sets clear targets for reduction of waste and establishes an ambitious and credible long-term path for waste management and recycling. To ensure effective implementation, the waste reduction targets in the new proposal are accompanied by concrete measures to address obstacles on the ground and the different situations across EU Member States.

Key elements of the revised waste proposal include:

- A common EU target for recycling 65% of municipal waste by 2030;
- A common EU target for recycling 75% of packaging waste by 2030;
- A binding landfill target to reduce landfill to maximum of 10% of municipal waste by 2030;
- A ban on landfilling of separately collected waste;
- Promotion of economic instruments to discourage landfilling ;
- Simplified and improved definitions and harmonised calculation methods for recycling rates throughout the EU;
- Concrete measures to promote re-use and stimulate industrial symbiosis turning one industry's by-product into another industry's raw material;
- Economic incentives for producers to put greener products on the market and support recovery and recycling schemes (eg for packaging, batteries, electric and electronic equipment, vehicles).

[02.12.2015] [read less](#) ▶

Resource Details

Annex to the proposal to revise the Waste Framework Directive, 2015 (0.00)

☆ Like 0 ➔ More

Cristina LISETCHI

Please check the Legislative Observatory for a full follow-up to the file:
[http://www.europa.eu/legislation/fiche-procedure/2005/0281\(COD\)](http://www.europa.eu/legislation/fiche-procedure/2005/0281(COD))

Posted 2 seconds ago

Events list

September 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun

Event on 20th Sept: **Panel for European AD to the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Losses and Waste in Food Systems**

Alexandra NIKOLAKOPOULOU

Member information

Role within the organisation Head of Unit

Organisation details

Name European Commission - DG Health and Food Safety (SANTE)

Country -European Institutions staff-

Sector Government

Type European institution

Contact possibilities

Professional email
Alexandra.NIKOLAKOPOULOU@ec.europa.eu

Membership

- Action and implementation >
- Agora >
- Date Marking >
- Food donation >
- Food waste measurement >

Folders list

- /
- 01. Platform meetings
- 02. Digital network
- 03. Relevant EU legislation and policies
- 04. European Parliament
- 05. Council
- 06. Committee of the Regions
- 07. European Economic and Social Committee
- 08. European Court of Auditors
- 09. National legislation and policies
- 10. International organizations
- 11. Sustainable Development Goals

10. International organizations

General food losses and food waste prevention actions carried out by international organisations e.g. UNEP, FAO, WRI etc.

10 records per page	Title	Uploaded on	Search
v.00	FAO - Global food losses and food waste, 2011	12-10-2017 18:20:29	Details Delete
v.00	FAO - Food Wastage Footprint: Impacts on Natural Resources, 2013	12-10-2017 18:20:50	Details Delete
v.00	Committee on World Food Security/High Level Panel of Experts (CFS/HLPE) - Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems, 2014	12-10-2017 18:21:13	Details Delete
v.00	OECD - Food Waste Along the Food Chain, 2014	16-10-2017 16:46:17	Details Delete
v.00	OECD - Market and Trade Impacts of Food Loss and Waste Reduction, 2014	16-10-2017 17:08:19	Details Delete

Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries

First Previous 1 Next Last

REFRESH Community of Experts

Refresh
Community of Experts

About Resources Contact Us [Sign In | Share](#)



The food resources being lost and wasted in Europe would be enough to feed all the hungry people in the world two times over (European Commission 2015).



Across the globe, nearly 30% of food is wasted throughout the agrifood supply chain. According to the latest data 70% of the EU food waste arises in household, food service and retail sectors.

Popular Resources



An **online platform** to:

- find and share information and best practice on food waste prevention
- connect with experts

A growing **library of resources**

Open to **all** interested **stakeholders**

REFRESH Community of Experts

Search function



REFRESH Community of Experts

About Resources Contact Us [Sign In | Share](#)

Browse Resources Clear All

Tags (key words) for easy categorization

Resources / Understanding "Best Before" and "Use By" Dates on Food Labelling

Understanding "Best Before" and "Use By" Dates on Food Labelling

Created by: Pflon Batcup
Created on: 18th August 2017
Authors: European Commission

[Consumer awareness](#) [Home](#) [Guidance](#) [Date marking](#)

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [G+](#)

Overview of the initiative

Overview

It is estimated that a considerable share of household food waste (15-33%, depending on the studies) could be linked to date marking due, amongst others, to consumer misunderstanding of the meaning of these dates.

The European Commission has published a short explanatory [guide](#) on the different meaning of "use by" and "best before" dates in order to help promote better understanding and use of these dates by consumers, operators in the food chain and regulatory authorities. The leaflet includes information on how to interpret date marking and other instructions found on food packaging and it also includes a list of translations of "use by" and "best before" dates in all EU languages, making it easier for the consumer to identify the correct term.



Further information on the Commission's work related to food waste prevention can be found on the Commission's dedicated Food Waste website: http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste_en.

Contact name: European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
Contact email: SANTE-FOOD-WASTE@ec.europa.eu
More info link: http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu_actions/date_marking_en

Contact details for more information

Files

fw_lib_best_before_en	280 KB
---------------------------------------	--------

Start sharing your knowledge!
Upload your own resource and share your ideas with the rest of the community.

Sign in to share a resource

Similar Resources



Prevention/Reduction

The impact of cosmetic quality standards on food losses in the Flemish fruit and vegetable sector

Kris Roels

Summary report of a research project that analyzed and quantified the impact of cosmetic quality standards on food loss

0 Comments

Share

Suggested similar resources



REFRESH Community of Experts

Comments section



Dave Jones | 2 Days Ago

I'm interested to know how you managed to get the right mix of stakeholders around the table to set up the FA in each country.

Reply

👍 15 🗨️ 0



Toine Timmermans | 1 Minute Ago

In the Netherlands there was an existing high level platform of business and private sector actors. We were able to tap into this to create a working group of those most relevant to the objectives of our FA. Some advice would be to check out if such a platform exists in your country.

Reply

👍 15 🗨️ 0



Nora Bruggeman | 2 Seconds Ago

We first identified the mix of business and government and other stakeholders we wanted to involve. Then we had a series of bilateral discussions with each one to find out about their priorities and whether they would participate in such an agreement. As key stakeholders agreed, we found it was easier to persuade others to join.

Reply

👍 15 🗨️ 0

Future Platform meetings

- **Sub-groups:**
 - **Next meetings:** February/March 2018

- **2018 Plenary meetings:**
 - **24 May** – in context of AgroBalt Fair, Vilnius
 - **November/December (tbc)**



European
Commission

Thank you