



# Working Group for the Determination of Food Waste Prevention and Management Measures

- This group was approved by the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania in 2017, March 2 and consists of representatives from:
  - Ministry of Environment,
  - Ministry of Agriculture,
  - Ministry of Finance,
  - Ministry of Social Security and Labour,
  - Ministry of Health,
  - State Food and Veterinary Service,
  - Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania,
  - stakeholders (consumer association (Lietuvos vartotojų institutas),
  - charity and support fund (“Maisto bankas”, “Maltos ordinas”), waste treatment operators, etc).
- Competent authorities/stakeholders communicate, share relevant information, discuss issues with each other



# Working Group for the Determination of Food Waste Prevention and Management Measures

Competent authorities, other institutions, and associations (governmental, NGOs, charities, etc.) - main measures for food waste prevention which are already in force are related to:

**Legal regulation.** Amended legislation allowing safe and fit for human consumption food, fresh fruit and vegetables which do not meet market standards to be donated for charity; waste collection and treatment requirements;

**Social responsibility.** Information booklet for companies where they can donate excess food; Swedish table principal implementation in kindergartens, schools; promoting food collection and redistribution, etc.;

**Public awareness raising.** Presented and published information about „best before...“ and „use by“ definitions, promoting responsible consumption, waste prevention, separate collection of biodegradable waste, etc.

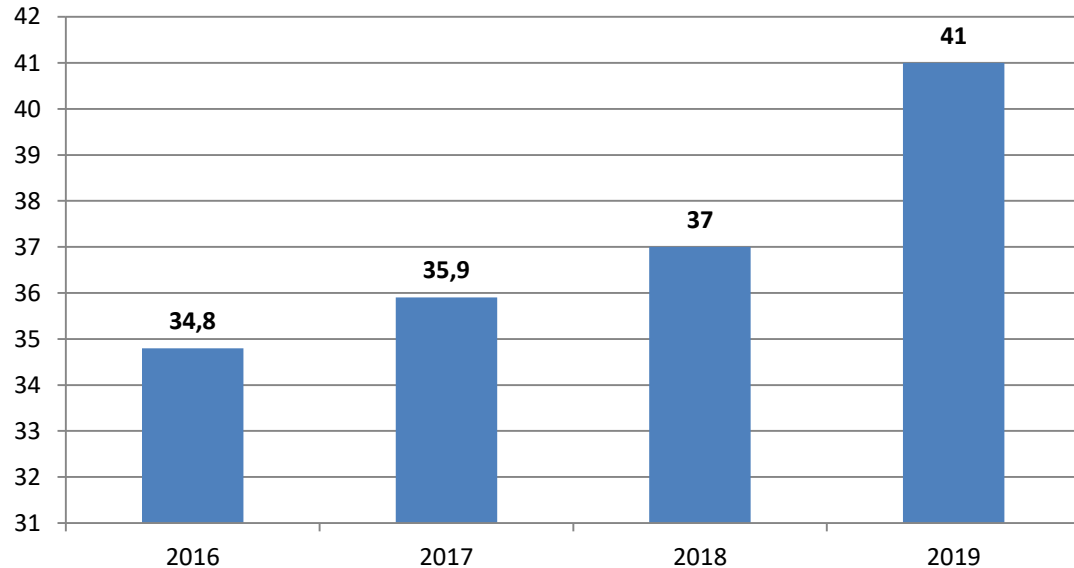


Social Responsibility



# Current situation & challenges

Generation of food waste, kg per capita



## Collection of food waste:

- From restaurants, canteens, etc. – mandatory to waste managers;
- From households – mandatory separately collection from 2024.

By 2030:



## Best practise:

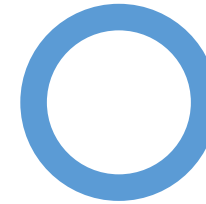
- Separate collection of food waste from households - (Alytus region from end of 2018)
- Compost for green waste
- Food waste reduction

# The Ministry of Environment (MoE)

- **National Waste Prevention and Management Plan**
- Lithuania prepared the National Waste Prevention Program and the National Waste Management Plan for the period 2014–2020;

## Future plans:

- To adopt a new Program and Plan for 2021–2027-year period – under preparation - MoE is carrying an analysis of existing situation of waste prevention and management system;
- Program and Plan will be merged into one – *National Waste Prevention and Management Plan* for the period 2021–2027 (New requirements, including **food waste prevention measures** will be laid down).





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## The Ministry of Agriculture

- Preparing a draft Bioeconomy Strategy and draft actions and measures for the Strategic Provisions for the Development of the Bioeconomy
- Has commissioned a scientific research on "Determining the level and causes of food loss and food waste throughout the food supply chain and developing recommendations,, (2020 -2021).
- Recommendations for farmers and small businesses.
- Revised its legislation and facilitated the transfer of surplus food to charity and the sale of imperfect vegetables.
- implemented FAO developed tools „Do good: Save food! “to educate and reduce food waste in schools.

# State Food and Veterinary Service (SFVS)

National legislation allows that surplus food from food industry can be donated to charity and by-products from the food and beverage industry can be used to feed animals.

SFVS director orders for:

- Procedure setting out the requirements for donating food to charity and support.
- Procedure setting out the requirements for using of non-animal foodstuffs for animal feed.

On the website - detailed information on the differences between the expiration “best before...” and “use by...” marking; recommendations for customers and business enterprises of how to reduce food waste.



## EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

- Encouraged by the activities of the EU Platform Lithuanian institutions:
  - revised its legislation and facilitated the transfer of surplus food to charity, the sale of imperfect vegetables, improvement of food waste management, has developed guidance for food labeling;
  - found interest in implementing FAO developed tools „Do good: Save food! “to educate and reduce food waste in schools
  - The Ministry of Agriculture has commissioned a study on "Determining the level and causes of food loss and food waste throughout the food supply chain and developing recommendations".







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## Measures taken



- Swedish buffet principal implementation in kindergartens, schools. (Ministry of Health)
- Minimizes food waste in the kitchen, including food not eaten by children.
- Food and meals are produced with environmental protection, animal welfare and social sustainability in mind.
- Fruits and vegetables are properly stored, with priority given to seasonal fruits and vegetables.
- Staff monitors the shelf life of foods; ensure that all products are consumed by the specified deadline.

## Measures taken

- Promoting responsible use and waste prevention:  
The Ministry of Environment is implementing the „Sustainable Homes“ project.

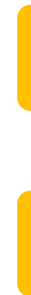
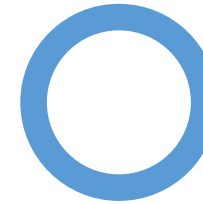
This is a much-encompassing project that encourages the society to apply the main principles of circular economy, is aware of the importance of responsible consumption, reducing waste and climate change.



Examples of MoE prepared videos for awareness raising

## Measures taken

- Promoting responsible use and waste prevention:
- Information booklet for companies where they can donate excess food. (Charity fund “**Maisto bankas**” (Food bank)).
- Promoting food collection and redistribution. In 2018 „Maisto bankas“ collected 8174 tons of food, 4903 tones was exceeded food which was redistributed for donation.
- Led by **Lithuanian Consumer Institute**, six NGOs in six countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania) have teamed up to address an issue in need of urgent attention: household food waste.
- An innovative and ambitious awareness campaign, branded „Sincerely, Food“ to show off a positive and consumer-friendly approach, has resulted in over 500 events attended by more than 4 500 people, including over 200 trainings targeting diverse audiences, with its social media campaign reaching over 2 202 000 and engaging over 319 000 visitors. The campaign’s food waste-themed audio-visuals have been viewed more than 105 000 times.



Review existing legal basis in order to reduce food wastage

*(Governmental programme measure – 2021-2023)*

Separate collection of food waste from 2024

Review VAT tax

*(in reviewing the requirements of VAT directive, we proposed to set reduced VAT rate for the activities related to food donation)*

Financial support for innovations & separate collection and recycling

*(2021-2027 EU funding (MoA) + Waste Management funds (MoA))*

Cooperation and coordination

*(food waste prevention programs integrated into National waste prevention and management plan – the plan is under preparation)*

Education & awareness raising campaigns

*(including review current schools curricula and integrate course regarding sustainable use, circular economy, waste prevention)*

**By 2030 – Reduce food waste by 50 %**



Thank you for  
the attention

