

EU policies on food loss and waste

Farm to Fork Strategy

Policy Dialogues EU – Colombia, Ecuador, Perú
on sustainable agriculture and food systems

Dialogue on food loss and waste

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG 12.3: By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.



Over 50% of EU food waste is generated at household level

88 (± 14) million tonnes of food waste per year

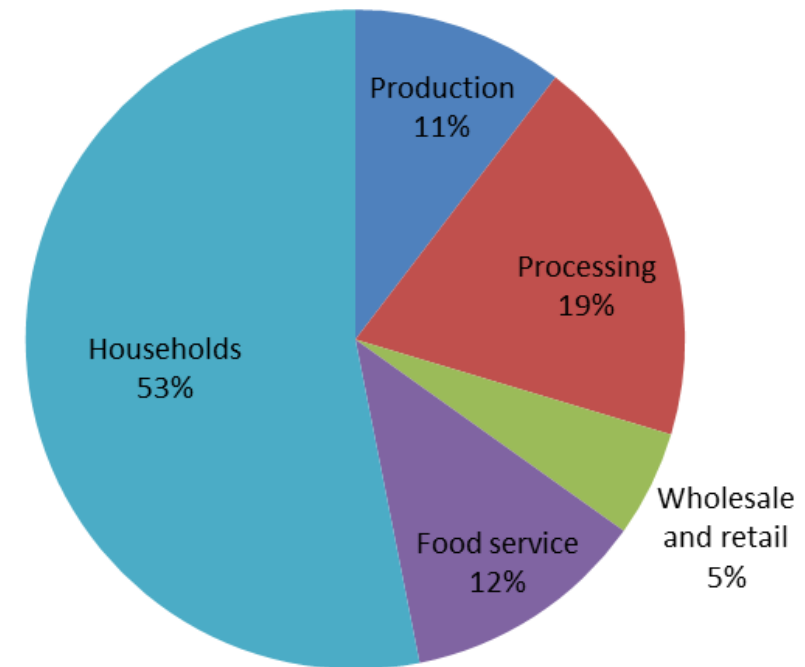
equivalent of **20%** of all produced food in EU

143 billion euros

~ **304 Mt CO2 eq** (6% of total EU GHG emissions)

173 kilograms of food waste per person

New data to be published soon!

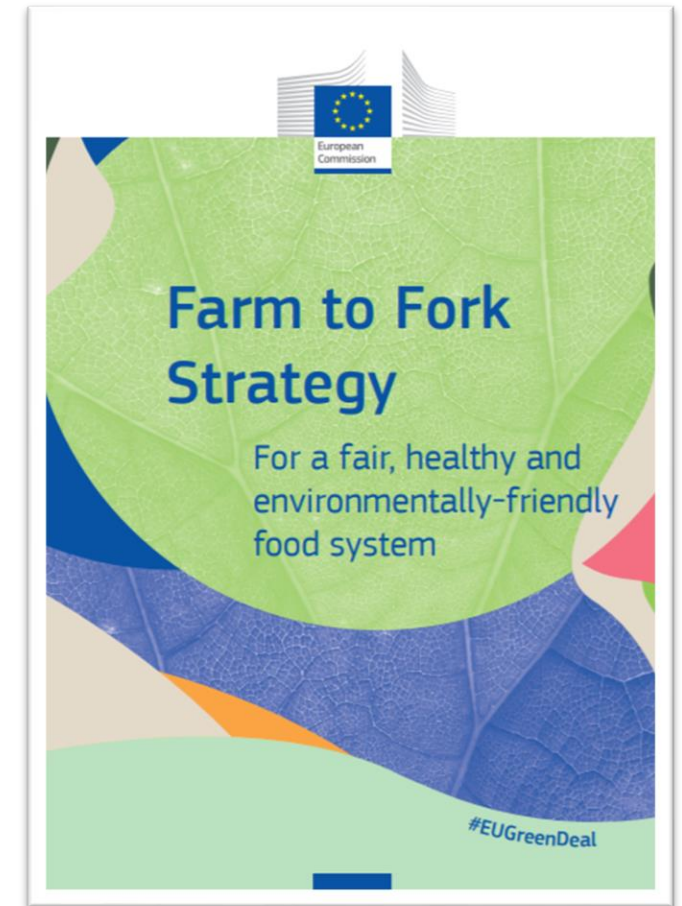


Source: FUSIONS project, 2016
(based on 2012 data)



Farm to Fork Strategy: Stepping up action against food loss and waste

- **EU-level targets** for food waste reduction
- Revise EU rules for **date marking**
- 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



| EU-level targets for food waste reduction

- **Aim:** to strongly involve all Member States in food waste prevention actions and accelerate EU progress towards SDG Target 12.3
- **Scope:** "food waste" - means all **food** as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council **that has become waste**.
See also: [Delegated Decision establishing a common EU methodology to measure food waste adopted on 3 May 2019](#)
- Exact **coverage and target levels** are to be decided in **legislative proposal** from the Commission (planned for Q2 2023)
- **Baseline data** has been reported by 30 June 2022 (2020 is the first reference year) and are currently being validated by Eurostat. We expect publication in autumn.
- **Proposal supported by impact assessment and [public consultation](#)**



Promote better understanding and use of date marking



... KNOW YOUR DATES!

"USE BY"

informs you about

FOOD SAFETY



"BEST BEFORE"

informs you about

FOOD QUALITY

58% consumers say they always look at date marking when shopping and preparing meals, but less than 1 in 2 understand its meaning.



Promote better understanding and use of date marking

Consumer communications on date marking



Visual 1



Visual 2



Visual 3



Visual 4



Visual 5



Promote better understanding and use of date marking

Revise **EU date marking rules** in order to avoid food waste linked to misunderstanding/misuse of these dates (COM proposal)

Proposal supported by impact assessment, public consultation and consumer research

Aims of consumer behaviour research:

- **better understand** how current date marking rules and their implementation affect consumers' decisions to consume/use or discard foods;
- **identify new ways of expressing date marking** (e.g. in terms of terminology, format, visual presentation) that meet consumers' information needs regarding food safety (health) and quality whilst minimising food waste behaviour;
- **test the effectiveness** of these new ways of expressing date marking (vs. the current ones) on EU consumers' understanding in order to reduce their food waste behaviour.



Scale up action and mobilise key players across the EU



EU Platform dedicated to food waste prevention since 2016:

Re-established 2022-2026



Scale up action and mobilise key players across the EU



- Promote uptake of **EU Platform's recommendations for action** and implementation of food waste prevention hierarchy
- **Strengthen evidence-base** for food waste prevention and share best practice through the EU Platform on FLW
 - assess effectiveness of food waste prevention initiatives
 - *European Consumer Food Waste Forum*
 - create online *EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub*
- **Support actors in taking action** to fight food waste (e.g. Horizon Europe, grants through Single Market Programme)



Stay informed: 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 (and beyond) can become a member and share **resources** and **news**
- Contributions from international organisations with a global impact, as well as from national authorities from non-EU countries are also welcomed
- Dedicated pages for EU Member States: information on **national policies and legislative developments**
- [Subscribe](#) to the monthly newsletter! (2000+ subscribers)

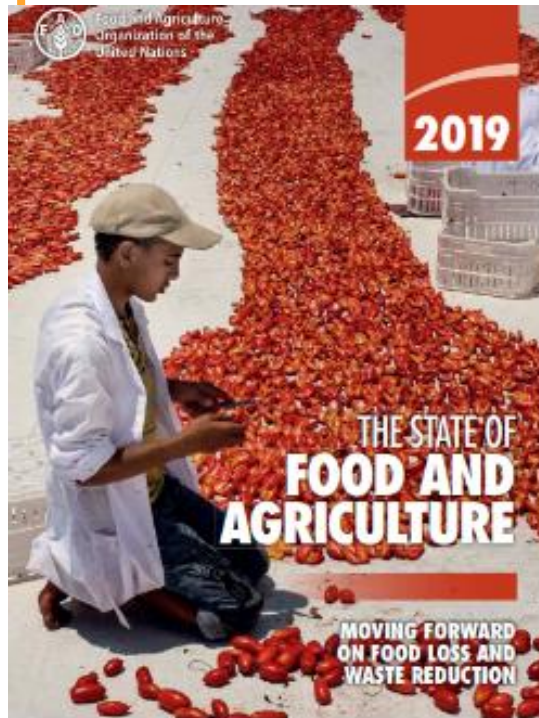


290+ resources uploaded so far

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu-food-loss-waste-prevention-hub/



Gathering momentum at global scale



The State of Food and Agriculture – Moving Forward on Food Loss and Waste Reduction (FAO, 2019)



The Food Waste Index Report (UN Environment Programme, 2021)



**UNITED NATIONS
FOOD SYSTEMS
SUMMIT 2021**

UNFSS 23 September 2021 – **'Food is never waste' Coalition**



| Keep in touch



https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food-waste_en



https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu-food-loss-waste-prevention-hub/



[@Food_EU](https://twitter.com/Food_EU)



Thank you



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Slide 8:

Visual 1: Too Good For The Bin, Germany

Visual 2: Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

Visual 3: Too Good To Go

Visual 4: Food Waste Free United coalition, the Netherlands

Visual 5: Food Waste Free United coalition, the Netherlands

