



# **Revised document on food waste monitoring and sub-group on food waste measurement: update by the Commission**

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# Content of the presentation

1. Summary of comments received
2. Response to general comments
3. Changes in comparison to the previous document.
4. Lessons learned from 1<sup>st</sup> subgroup meeting and next steps
5. Call for Platform Members to provide update on their latest reports

# 1. Summary of comments received

# General comments, part 1

## calls and scope

1. Call for action (request to the Commission to set food waste prevention targets)
2. Need for a definition
3. Scope of monitoring
  - - Food losses/waste from agriculture
  - - Inclusion of non-edible parts of food
4. Monitoring should be simple and minimize administrative burden.

## **General comments, part 2 alignment with other reporting**

- Need of alignment with Food Loss and Waste Protocol (FLW Protocol) – developed as global reporting standard.
- Need for alignment with SDG 12.3

## Technical comments

- Delineation between sectors of the food supply chain and attribution of food waste to correct sectors
- Reporting from small entities
- Food waste and packaging
- Frequency of compositional analysis
- Food waste removed via the sewer

## **2. Response to general comments**

# The purpose of the document

1. To prepare response for legislative challenge  
Pave the way to obligatory monitoring on food waste from Member States
2. To help address questions and clarify potential problems with monitoring of food waste in practice.



# Scope of monitoring of food waste

Food waste to be monitored as specified in Waste Framework Directive should cover only food waste within the scope of WFD.

Two main exclusions from WFD:

- agricultural biomass used in farming, or for the production of energy (art 2.1.f)
- animal by-products except those which are destined for incineration, landfilling or use in a biogas or composting plant (art. 2.2.b)

## Who should report on food waste?

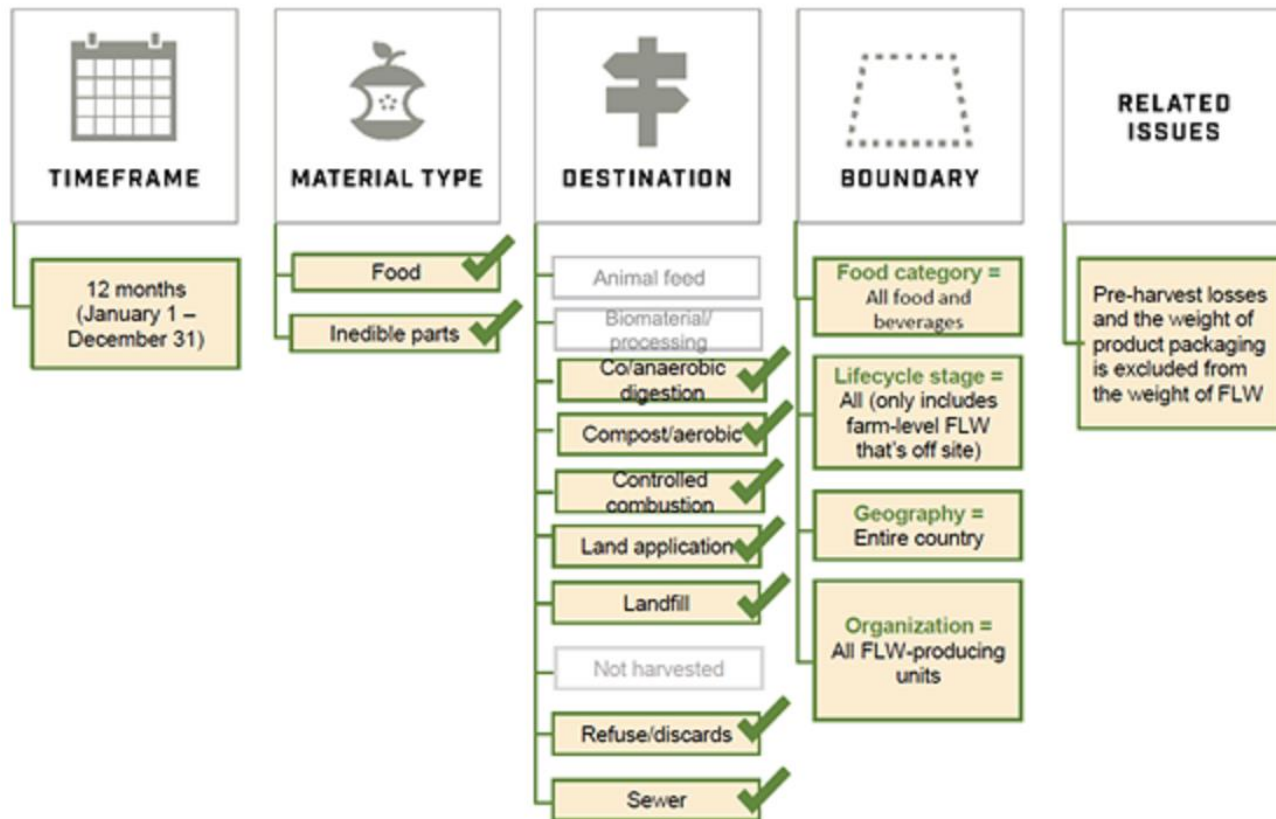
- The obligation of the monitoring will be set on Member States - internal organization of monitoring is for them to decide.
- There is no EU level obligation to report of food waste amounts by each individual economic entity (but Member States may set such requirement).
- We do not intend to define method of data collection: surveys, administrative data, statistical estimations as well as their combination can be used.
- Whatever method will be used by Member State it will be necessary to provide more detailed explanation regarding method of data collection.

## Alignment with SDG 12.3

- Need for alignment with SDG 12.3 – *Yes, but...*
  - *No methodology nor indicator to monitor SDG 12.3 are yet agreed.*
  - *It is likely that global methodology will be simpler but less accurate than the one needed for EU.*
- We will continue the cooperation with global players and adapt as necessary.

# Alignment with FLW Protocol – Agreed!

Possible scope of food waste reporting according to FLW matrix



## **3. Changes in the revised document**

# Changes in the revised document - no major changes

- The part of **interpretation of concept of food waste has been temporarily removed**, in the light of proposal of the definition of food waste in the legislative procedure.
- Chapters describing food waste in sectors of the food supply chain has not been modified for the time being.
- Regardless of the final shape of the definition it may be expected that most of the document's content remain valid.

## Changes in the new document (part 2)

- **Rewritten chapter 6** – rather than discussing definitional frameworks of EU and FAO, the chapter is now focused on what is actually measured by FAO and how our efforts may support each other.
- **Technical improvements**, e.g.:
  - Food waste in street cleaning (removed)
  - Responsibility for food waste (explained)
- Clarifications and corrections etc.

# **3. Lessons learned from 1<sup>st</sup> subgroup meeting and next steps**



## Summary of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the subgroup on food waste measurement

- Presentations by the Commission:
  - *Comments to measurement document*
  - *Eurostat activity and results of plug-in exercise.*
- Presentation by FAO: *FAO activities on food waste measurement and SDG reporting*
- Presentation by WRAP: *Measuring Household Food Waste in the UK*
- Discussions

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food\\_waste/eu\\_actions/eu-platform/meetings-eu-platform-food-losses-and-food-waste\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu_actions/eu-platform/meetings-eu-platform-food-losses-and-food-waste_en)

## **Lessons from the 1st meeting of the sub-group**

- Monitoring of food waste at household level is manageable
- Large differences of assessment on edible and inedible fractions between Member States
- In present form monitoring based on Food Balance Sheets (by FAO) and by direct measurement (as proposed for EU) cannot be unified, but can make valuable contributions to each other

## Food waste via the sewer – monitor or not?

We have received split comments on need to include food waste going into the sewer:

- It is **important route for food waste** (and drinks!) and its exclusion from monitoring may lead to higher proportion of food waste directed to sewer to get out of scope, but
- It is technically **challenging to measure**, hence FUSIONS manual not recommends it (for household waste)

## Next steps

- Await finalisation of the legislative process. In the meantime:
  - Analyse the feasibility of reporting of drinks and liquid food waste
  - Gather and share information about Member States practices on food waste measurement on household/municipal food waste

## **4. Call for updates on monitoring (since last Platfrom meeting)**



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**Thank you for your attention**