Food waste statistics

**EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste:
Sub-group on food waste measurement
31 March 2017
Eduard Hauser – ESTAT.E2**

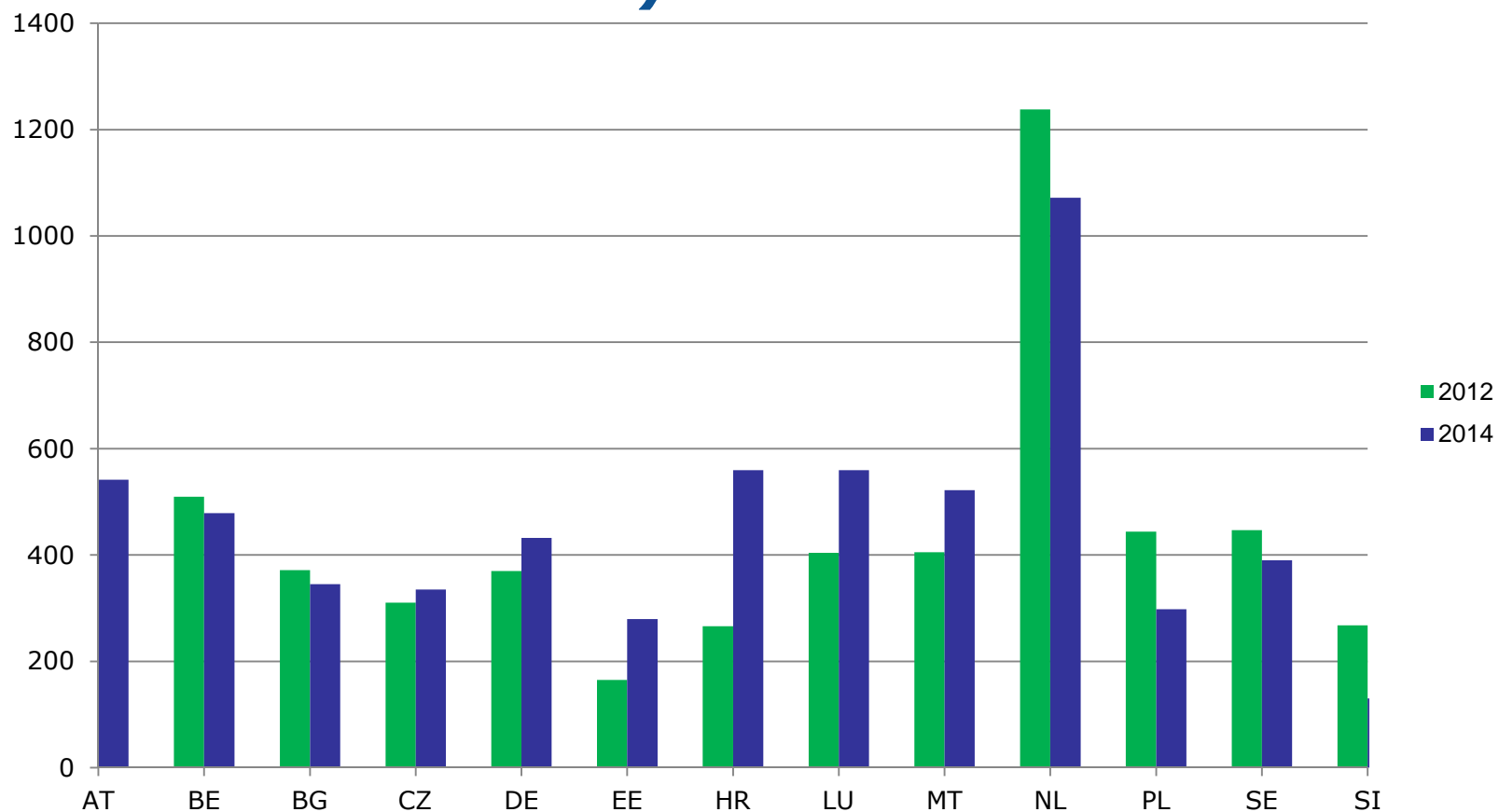## 2014 Food waste plugin
14 countries participated:

- **Austria**
- **Belgium**
- **Bulgaria**
- **Czeque Republic**
- **Germany**
- **Estonia**
- **Croatia**

- **Iceland**
- **Luxembourg**
- **Malta**
- **Netherlands**
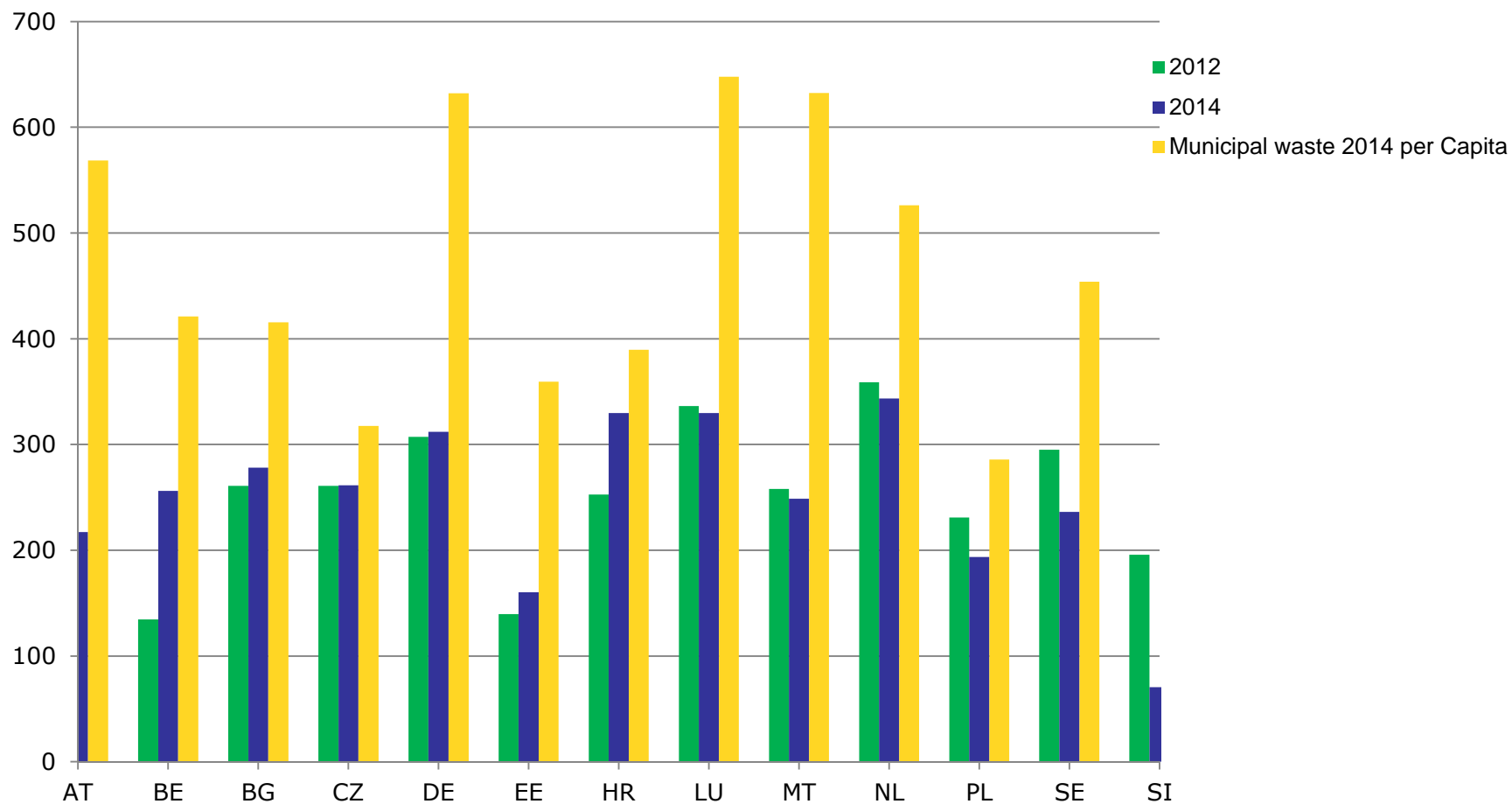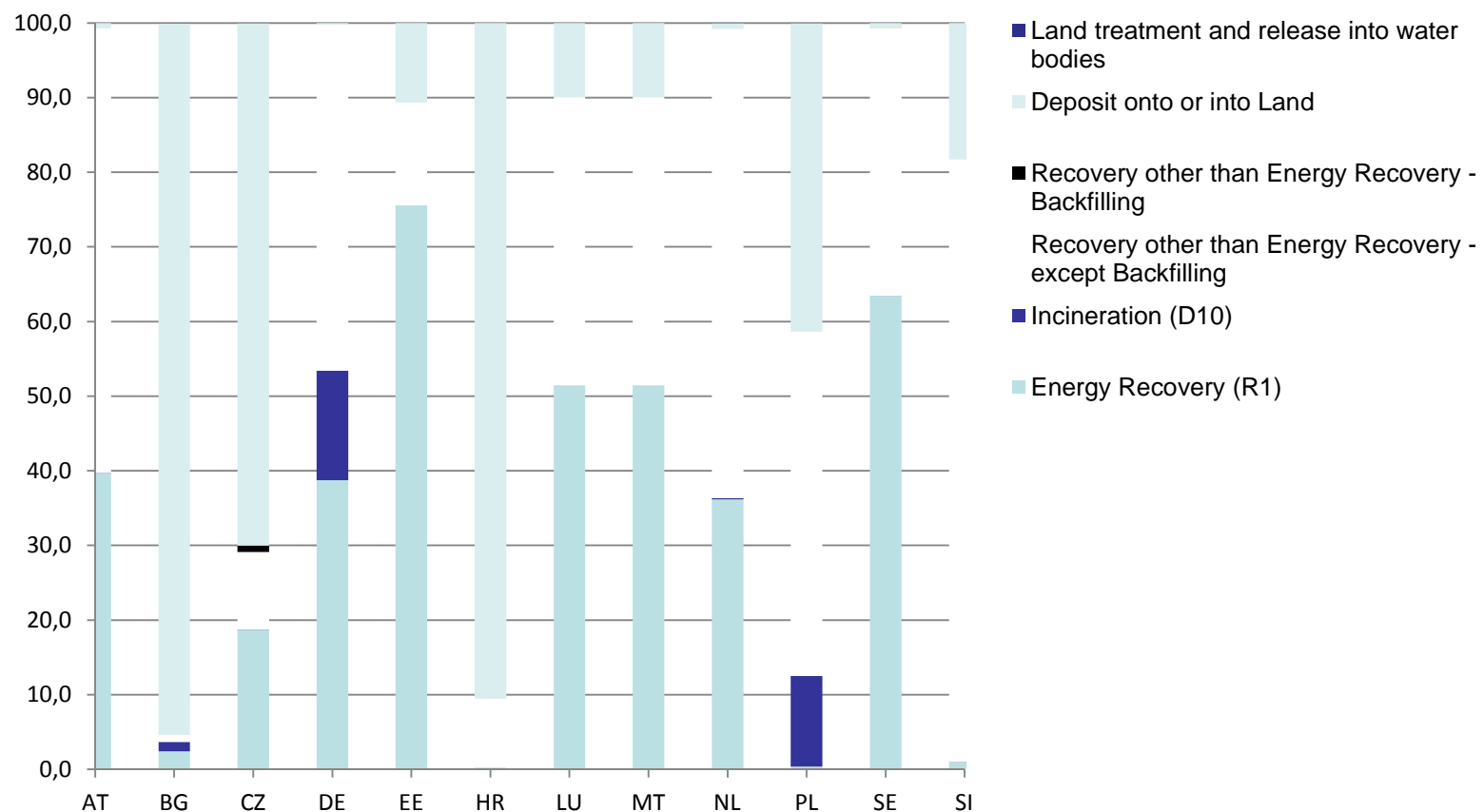- **Poland**
- **Sweden**
- **Slovenia**

Waste containing food waste per capita in EU Member States 2012 and 2014 (upper limit food-waste)

Waste containing Food Waste per Capita produced by Households 2012 and 2014 in EU Member States (upper limit food-waste)

Treatment of Food-waste

Food waste statistics challenges

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- Many assumptions, e.g. what amount of food waste in LoW-codes, sorting results to be watched
- Food waste in mixed waste and in bio waste, no separate food waste collection
- Water: Very quick loss of water and thus weight
- Home composting: up to 50% in some countries
- Definition
- Operationalisation

Definition of Food-waste

"Food waste is any food, and inedible parts of food, removed from the food supply chain to be recovered or disposed (including - composted, crops ploughed in/not harvested, anaerobic digestion, bio-energy production, cogeneration, incineration, disposal to sewer, landfill or discarded to sea)" (FUSIONS 2015)

Unclear definition and Operationalisation:

Very wide:

=> Operationalisation diffcult

=> Drinking water = Food waste?

=> Leaves of an apple tree?

Expectations

- No defined 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
- Obligation of separate collection of bio-waste foreseen in the WFD may improve monitoring of food waste
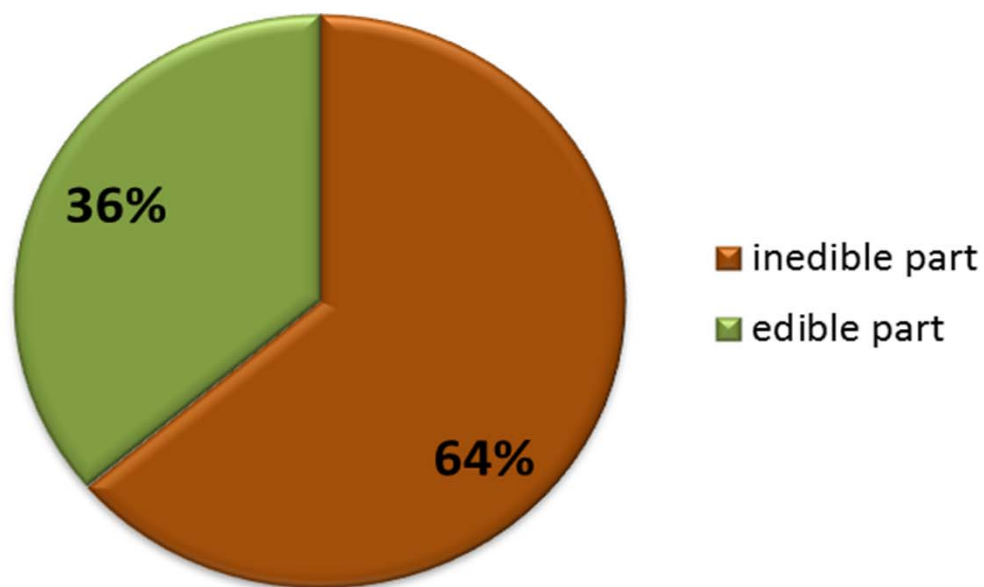
Sustainable Development Goal 12 – responsible consumption and production

Target 12.3: *"by 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the* **retail and consumer level***, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses"*
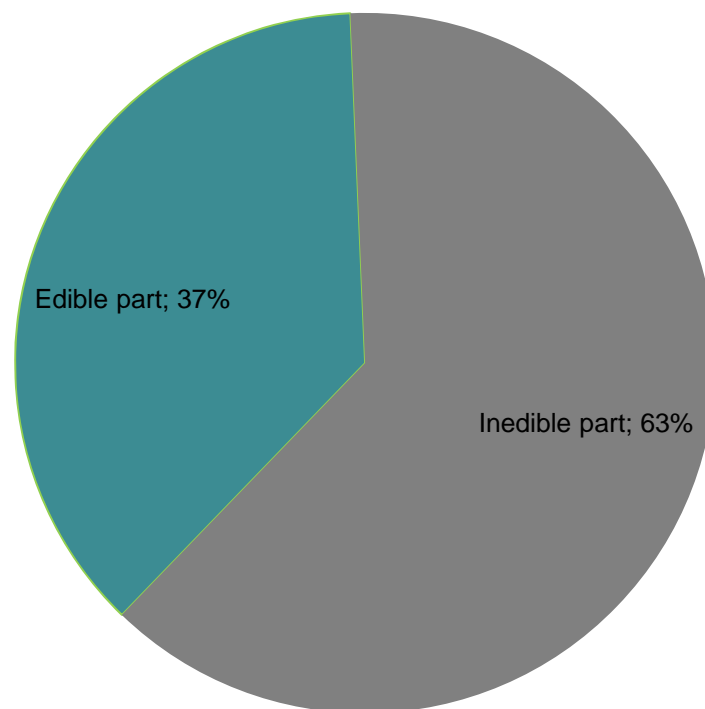
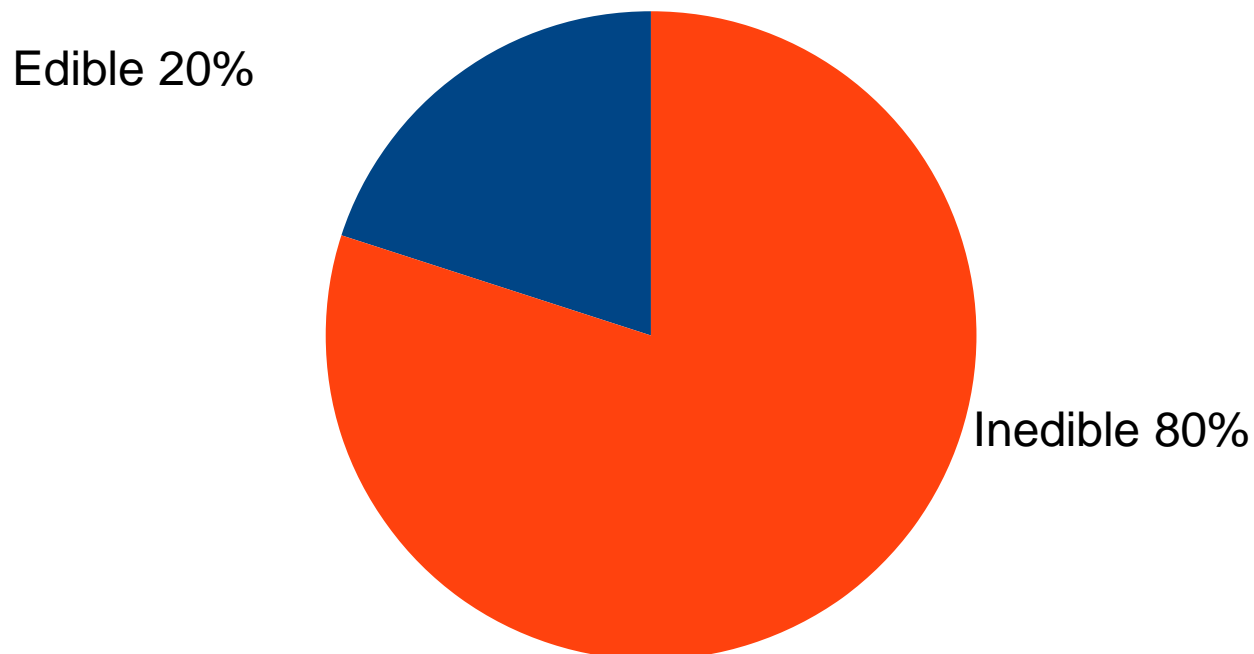# Estimation of edible and inedible parts of food waste, Slovenia, 2013–2015

Sources: SURS, MOP, ARSO

Estimation of edible and inedible parts of food waste in Households, Iceland

Estimation of edible and inedible parts of food waste in Households, Austria

Edible 20%

Inedible 80%

Requirements of statistics

What is needed:

- Purpose of the data
- Clear definition of food waste
- Distinction in edible and non-edible required
- Clear operationalisation of edible – non edible
- Clear operationalisation of food – non food
- Degree of preciseness

Thank you!

https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/4036f1
10-f4f9-46b3-a511-beabfdbf1a54