Norway: Experience with voluntary agreement to prevent/reduce food waste

Per Hallvard Eliassen, Senior Adviser, Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Action & implementation sub-group meeting EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

Context

The Norwegian model for reducing food waste is based on a negotiated agreement from 2017

Key elements in the negotiated agreement:

- Total food waste in the entire value chain incl. consumers, in kilo per habitants
- Voluntary agreement between the government and main interest groups in the food chain
- Reduction targets in line with SDG 12.3
- Focus on the edible part of food waste
- Different parties are responsible for reporting data on parts of the food chain:
- -some collect data based on voluntary reporting from companies (food industry, wholesale, retail, public and private restaurants and catering, and more),
- -some of the data are based on case-studies (fish industry),
- -some are public official data collected for this or other main purposes (primary sector).
- Companies can join the agreement by a Declaration of agreement. 107 by now.
- Private and public initiatives across the value chain, including consumers

50 % reduction by 2030 divided in two sub-targets

Two sub-targets: 15% reduction by 2020 / 30% reduction by 2025

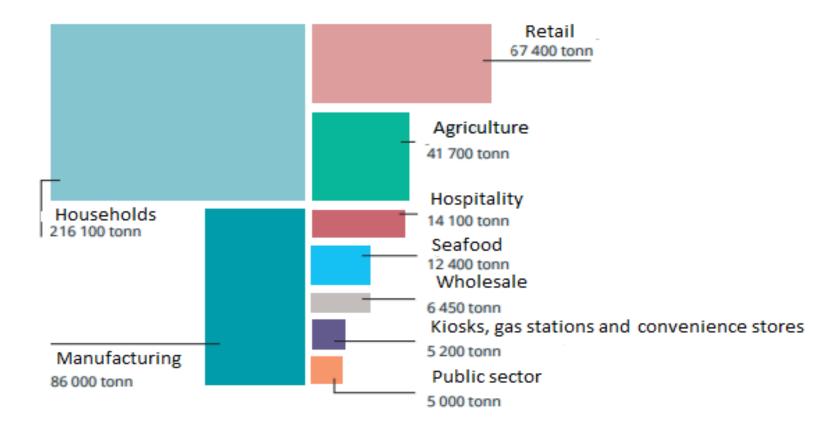
First mapping of edible food waste in all sectors of the value chain in 2020 shows:

- Food waste was reduced almost 10 % since 2015.
- Although we didn't meet the 15% goal, it still shows that our actions work and several sectors are ahead of the goal!

Actors involved

The whole value chain from farm to fork involved

- Total food waste 454 500 tonnes - Households stand for 50% of the food waste



Key actions undertaken

High variety of actions from both the food sector and the authorities

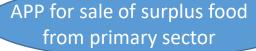
Actions for the entire food sector:

- 107 companies joined the agreement, obliged to report and reduce FW
- Tools developed for measuring food waste in kilo, CO2, NOK (Norwegian currency)
- System developed for collecting and reporting FW data from companies incl. reasons/actions
- Innovations based on exploiting resources fully and reuse of surplus food
- Discount on close to date-products
- R & D product/packaging
- Alternative distribution channels
- Networking among companies
- Guidance, tools, training to reduce FW

Surplus f&v to crispy snacks











Key actions High variety of actions from both the food sector and the authorities

Actions authorities

- Collect and report FW data/reasons/actions from/for households, public sector and agriculture
- Overall administration of the agreement
- Reduce FW from the state, municipal and county municipal sectors
- FW is a priority area in action plan for public procurement
- School education programme on FW
- «Joy of food»-programme for the elderly

Private and public – joint efforts:

- Date labelling, use of additional labelling/ BB+often good after
- Redistribution of surplus food
- Consumer FW actions, inform to reduce FW
- Marking the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste







Monitoring progress

Total food waste reduced by 10% since 2015

5 sectors achieved the subtarget of 15 %. Manufacturing and households behind

Sector	Results in % of
Agriculture	NA
Seafood	-15 % (2018-2020)
Manufacturing	-1 %
Wholesale	-25 %
Retail	-21 %
Hospitality	-27 % (2017-2020)
Kiosk, gasst. & conv	-24 % (2018-2020)
Public sector	-12 % (2019-2020)
Households	-6 % (2016-2020)

