

Sub-group mandates

Food loss and waste monitoring sub-group: context

1st mandate – the sub-group on food waste measurement supported:

- sharing information on food loss and waste measurement activities and monitoring food waste levels;
- information exchange with UN Agencies concerning the monitoring of SDG Target 12.3
- the development of a common EU methodology and indicators to measure food waste

2nd mandate – support for actions set in the Farm to Fork Strategy:

- proposal for legally binding targets to reduce food waste across the EU
- investigate food losses at the production stage.

Food loss and waste monitoring sub-group: objectives

The sub-group on food loss and waste monitoring will support the work of the Commission and the EU Platform on FLW by contributing to:

1. the **implementation and improvement of the EU monitoring and reporting framework** enabling reporting on food waste amounts as envisaged in the amended Waste Framework Directive as well as enabling **reporting to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 12.3** (in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme), in collaboration with Eurostat, the statistical office of the EU;
2. the **development of indicators on food waste** (including sector-specific), which could be used to effectively monitor implementation of food waste prevention policies;
3. the **identification of data sets, data collection practices and experience of Platform members** in relation to measurement of food loss and waste in all sectors of the food supply chain and sharing them within the Platform as well as with the Commission and if relevant, with a wider public;
4. the discussion of the **feasibility and technical possibility of monitoring of food loss and/or resource flows** in agro-food industries in the EU.

Food loss and waste monitoring sub-group: tasks

- 1. Share the experience of Platform** members in food loss and waste measurement: provide information and input on national/sectorial measurement activities, business cases, recent studies and reports and guidelines with members and other stakeholders (through publication on the EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub).
- 2. Exchange information with UN Agencies** (FAO and UNEP) concerning monitoring of SDG Target 12.3 in order to align reporting obligations and support the use of collected data to meet these obligations.
- 3. Analyse existing tools, studies and reports concerning monitoring of food losses** in primary production in view of possible harmonisation of such monitoring at EU level.
- 4. Provide input and comments to the potential future reviews and legislative initiatives** on the measurement and reporting of food loss and waste.

Food donation sub-group: context

1st mandate – the sub-group on food donation contributed to:

- the preparation of the **EU food donation guidelines**
- the implementation of an **EU Pilot Project on food redistribution** and its related deliverables
- **sharing best practices, information and learning** related to the recovery and redistribution of surplus food, in line with the waste hierarchy

2nd mandate – support further redistribution of surplus food for human consumption, addressing social, environmental, economic dimensions (in line with Farm to Fork Strategy)

Food donation sub-group: objectives

The sub-group on food donation will support the work of the Commission and members of the EU Platform on FLW to facilitate safe food donation practices, ensuring that **surplus food** arising in the food supply chain is **made available, as a priority, for human consumption**, in line with the waste hierarchy.

More specifically, the group aims to:

- 1. identify practices, guidelines and rules** existing in Member States in relation to food donation for sharing with Platform members (*e.g.* freezing of meat at retail level for food donation, redistribution of food past the ‘best before’ date *etc.*);
- 2. identify and assess both the barriers to food donation and opportunities** to facilitate this practice as well as priority areas for action (including both regulatory and non-regulatory initiatives);
- 3. develop evidence-based best practice** to support transfer of experience and knowledge.

Food donation sub-group: tasks

1. **Support the Commission in identifying and prioritising EU actions** to facilitate safe food donation practices and overcome identified barriers (including possible future revision of the EU food donation guidelines).
2. **Support all members in identifying and implementing appropriate actions** to facilitate safe food donation practices (at national, regional and local levels) and overcome identified barriers in line with EU actions.
3. **Monitor implementation of the [recommendations for action](#)** of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste as regards food donation.
4. Provide **best practice guidance** for implementation of effective food donation strategies and initiatives, including provision of incentives for application of the waste hierarchy.
5. **Information sharing on food donation activities** in Member States: provide information and input on national/sectorial guidelines, recent studies and reports on food redistribution activities in view of their sharing with Platform members and publication on the [European Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub](#).

Date marking and food waste prevention subgroup: context

1st mandate:

- focus on improving the use of date marking by actors in the food chain and its understanding by consumers; regular agenda item at Platform meetings
- engagement with Platform on the Commission's market study on date marking and food waste prevention (2018)
- initial work to prepare guidance on use of date marking suspended in light of request for EFSA scientific opinion and the forthcoming revision of EU date marking rules
- targeted consultation with the Platform on date marking rules and consumer research on 30 November 2021

2nd mandate: support work at EU level in relation to date marking and food waste prevention

Date marking and food waste prevention sub-group: objectives

The sub-group on date marking and food waste prevention is established in order to:

- 1. support the Commission in identifying and prioritising actions to be taken at EU level** in order to prevent food waste linked to date marking;
- 2. to assist the Commission in the preparation of legislative proposals and policy initiatives** related to date marking and food loss and waste prevention as well as the **implementation of relevant Union legislation, programmes and policies;**
- 3. support all actors in identifying and implementing appropriate actions** to be taken at national, regional and local levels to promote more consistent use of date marking and facilitate consumer understanding;
- 4. share experience and evidence-based best practice** in relation to date marking and food waste prevention.

Date marking and food waste prevention

sub-group: tasks

- 1. Contribute, as appropriate, to the Commission's legislative work** related to date marking through sharing of relevant information and evidence from date marking initiatives undertaken in Member States.
- 2. Recommend actions** required to **promote more consistent use and understanding of date marking** in order to prevent food waste.
- 3. Monitor implementation of the recommendations for action** of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste as regards date marking.
- 4. Possible development of tools** in relation to date marking and food waste prevention (e.g. coordination of consumer information campaigns; guidance to support more consistent date marking practices by food business operators).
- 5. Information sharing on date marking activities in Member States:** provide information and input on national/sectorial practices, guidelines and rules, recent studies and reports on date marking activities, dynamic shelf-life labelling and related technologies in view of their sharing with Platform members and publication on the [European Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub](#).

Consumer food waste prevention sub-group: context

- **Newly established** sub-group
- Key area of focus: households generate more than half of the total food waste in the EU, but also due to recent global developments (e.g. UNEP Food Waste Index Report 2021)
- **Forum to exchange information on interventions** carried out to modify consumer behavior and/or raise consumer awareness about the issue and results achieved
- Close involvement in the work of the **European Consumer Food Waste Forum**

Consumer food waste prevention sub-group: objectives

The sub-group will support the EU Platform on FLW and the Commission in identifying and implementing effective, evidence-based interventions to reduce consumer food waste.

In particular, the group aims to:

- 1. identify priority areas for action** in the design and implementation of effective interventions to reduce consumer food waste;
- 2. ensure effective exchange of best practices, information and learnings** related to consumer food waste prevention activities and their related impacts.

Consumer food waste prevention sub-group: tasks

- 1. Support the Commission in identifying and prioritising EU actions** to promote consumer behavioural change and raise awareness concerning food waste generation.
- 2. Support members in identifying and implementing appropriate actions** to reduce consumer food waste at national, regional and local levels.
- 3. Contribute to the collection and analysis of information on consumer-targeted interventions.** In this regard, the sub-group will work in close cooperation with the European Consumer Food Waste Forum, which will deliver a compendium of evidence-based practical solutions and tools by July 2023.
- 4. Monitor implementation of the recommendations for action** of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste as regards consumers.
- 5. Exchange information on the latest developments** in consumer food waste prevention, experience, evidence-based good practices and lessons learned. Such information may also be shared through the [EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub](#).
- 6. Contribute to awareness raising about the issue of consumer food waste and related EU-level actions** (including work of the EU Platform on FLW) through targeted communications, with common messages that are adaptable to national contexts and deliverables accessible to a wider audience, including on the occasion of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW).

Action & implementation sub-group: context

1st mandate – the A&I sub-group:

- supported members in sharing best practices, information and learning related to food waste prevention initiatives and their results
- contributed to key deliverables (Platform's key recommendations for action; development of an evaluation framework for food waste prevention initiatives)

2nd mandate - support for actions set in the Farm to Fork Strategy:

- integrate food loss and waste prevention in other EU policies
- coordinate action at EU level in order to reinforce action at national level

Action & implementation sub-group: objectives

The sub-group will support the EU Platform on FLW and the Commission in **identifying and implementing effective, evidence-based interventions** to reduce food loss and waste.

In particular, the group aims to:

1. provide a **forum for exchange on effective interventions and innovative solutions** to reduce food loss and waste and progress made towards SDG Target 12.3;
2. **help improve the current EU evaluation framework for food waste prevention actions** and identify the most promising actions;
3. **build an evidence base and identify areas where intervention by actors could help** to prevent losses and waste in the food value chain, including facilitation of inter-sectorial cooperation, as well as areas where further research is needed;
4. **assess how food loss and waste prevention can be strengthened through its integration with other relevant policy areas** (e.g. agriculture, climate, feed, trade agreements etc.).

Action & implementation sub-group: tasks

1. Contribute to the **collection and analysis of information on food waste prevention interventions**.
2. Assist the Commission in **refining the EU evaluation framework** for food waste prevention actions developed in 2019.
3. Support members in **identifying and implementing effective interventions** (carried out at national, regional and local levels) to prevent food waste in the food value chain, in particular initiatives requiring inter-sectorial cooperation and those that change the behavior of food business operators.
4. **Exchange information on the latest developments** in food loss and waste prevention, experience, evidence-based good practices and lessons learned, in particular on the implementation of national food waste prevention programmes. Such information may also be shared through the [EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub](#).
5. **Identify research needs** in food loss and waste prevention and assess technologies and innovative solutions with a potential of being transferred and/or scaled up, including from EU-funded projects.
6. **Contribute to the dissemination of the Platform's key recommendations for action and assess the need for their review.**

Note: Interventions targeting consumer behavioural change will be addressed primarily through the consumer food waste prevention sub-group.

Thank you



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