SDG 12.3 and the Food Waste Index
EU Food Loss and Waste Platform Meeting
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Tracking Progress on SDG 12.3

Food Loss Index- focus on supply

Custodians of 12.3 indicators: FAO & UNEP

"By 2030, …

12.3

12.3.1 Food Loss

"…reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses."

12.3.2 Food Waste

"…halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels."

Food Waste Index- focus on demand

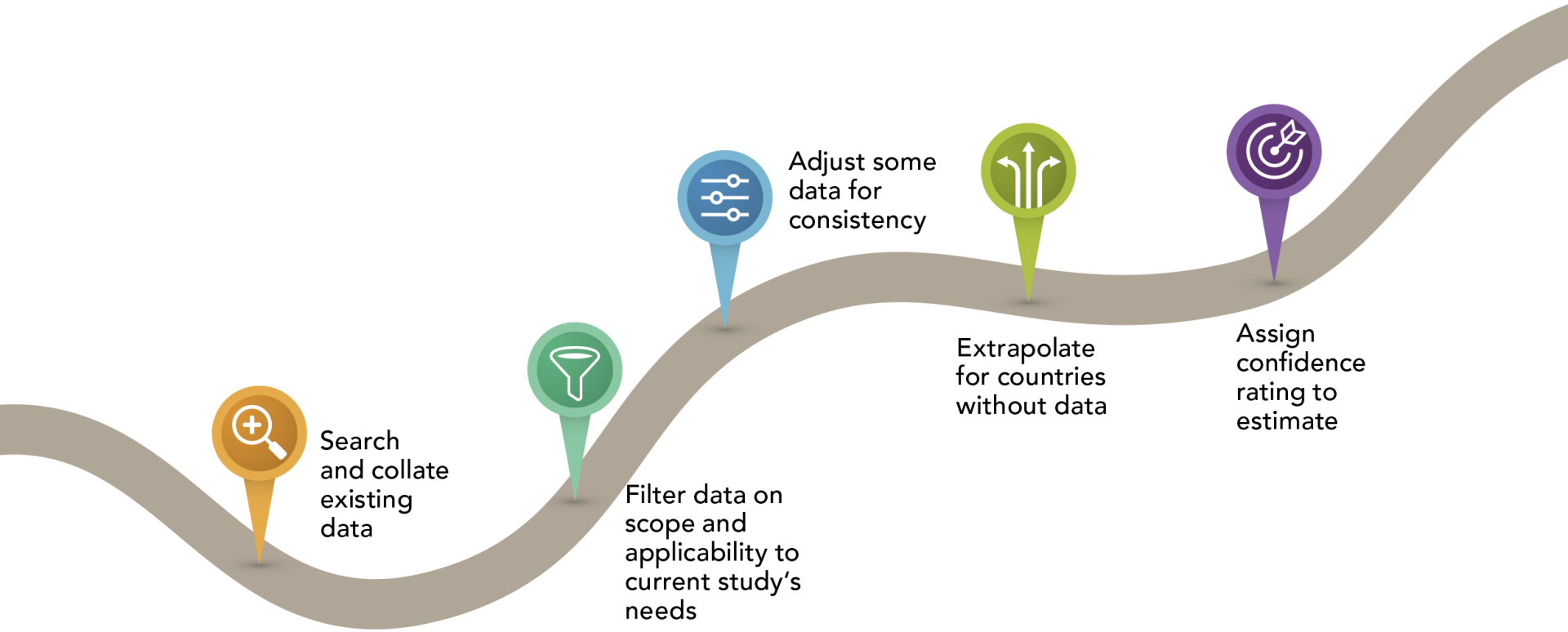
UN environment

17% of all food available at consumer levels is wasted

- 931 million tonnes of food sold to households, retailers, restaurants and other food services wasted in 2019
- Study finds food waste is a global, not just developed world, problem
- 690 million people affected by hunger in 2019 - expected to rise sharply with COVID-19 - and three billion people unable to afford a healthy diet: Consumers need help to reduce food waste at home.
- Food Waste Index report helps countries track progress on UN Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 to halve food waste by 2030

Food Waste Index approach

Level 1 Data collection approach



152 food waste data points were identified in 54 countries.

Data coverage

Income group	Number of countries with measured data		
	Household	Food service	Retail
High-income	28	18	20
Upper middle-income	12	3	2
Lower middle-income	10	2	1
Low-income	2	0	0
Total	**52**	**23**	**23**

152 food waste data points were identified in 54 countries.

Nearly one billion tonnes of food waste

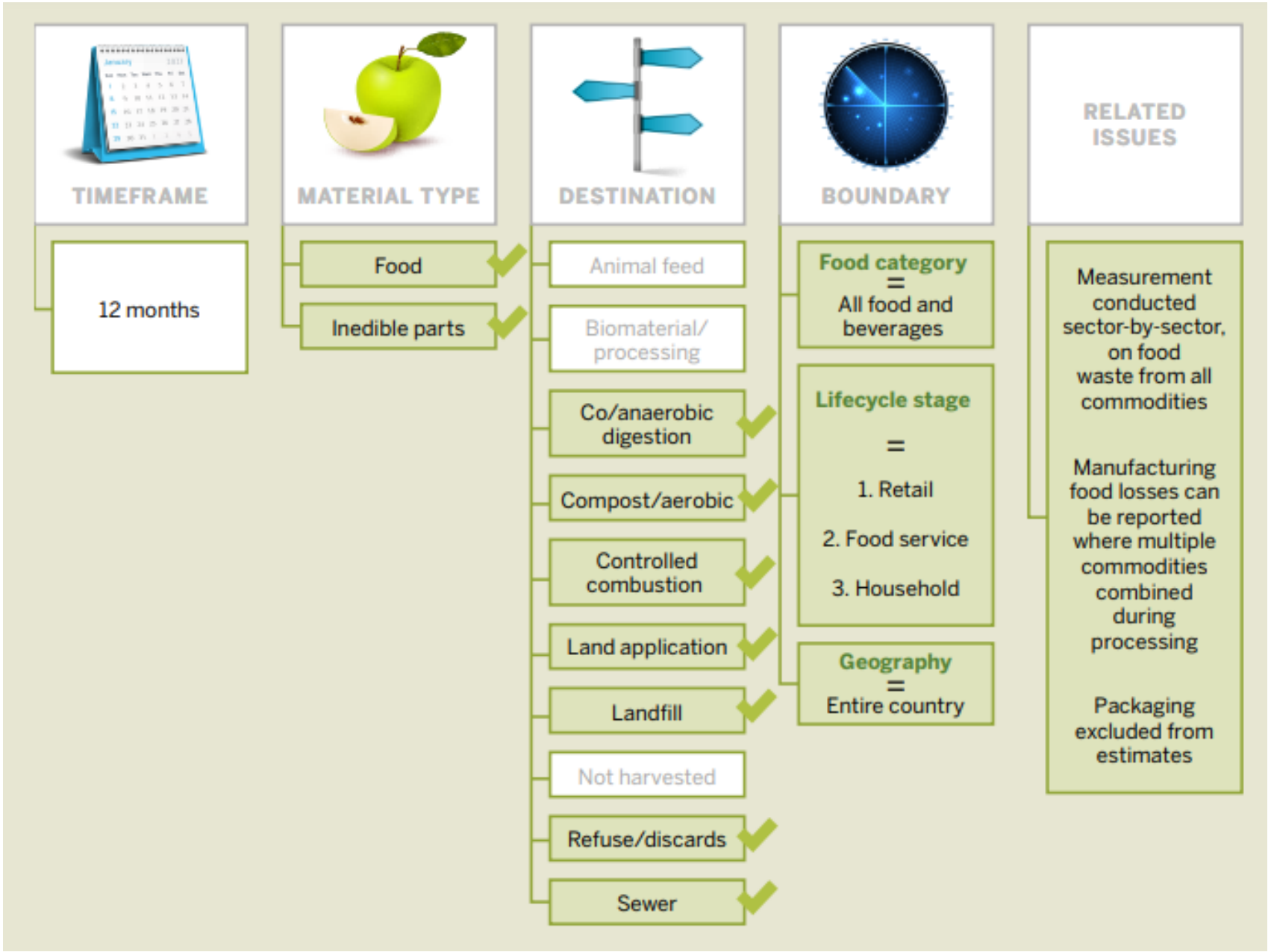
Sector	Global food waste, 2019	
	Average (kg / capita / year)	Total (million tons)
Household	74	569
Food service	32	244
Retail	15	118
Total	**121**	**931**

Household food waste = 74 kg / person / year

Household food waste, 2019, by World Bank country income group

Income group	Average, kg / capita / year
High-income	79
Upper middle-income	76
Lower middle-income	91
Low-income	Insufficient data

Level 2 Scope



Level 2 Appropriate methods of measurement by sector

Sector	Methods of measurement					
Manufacturing (if included)	Direct measurement (for food-only waste streams)	Waste composition analysis (for waste streams in which food is mixed with non-food)	Volumetric assessment	Mass balance		
Retail					Counting/ scanning	Diaries (for material going down sewer, home composted or fed to animals)
Food service						
Household						

How to Report on SDG 12.3

SDG 12.3 food waste data will be collected using the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) / UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics (Waste Section).

- Questionnaire sent out every two years to National Statistical Offices and Ministries of Environment, which will nominate a single food waste focal point in the country to coordinate data collection and reporting.
- Data will be made publicly available in SDG Global Database and in UNEP's Food Waste Index Report, which will be published at regular intervals up to 2030.
- The next questionnaire will be sent to Member States in **September 2022**, and results will be reported to the SDG Global Database by February 2023.
- Countries do not need to conduct new measurements every two years, or to measure every sector simultaneously. Measuring each sector at least once every four years is recommended.
- Recognizing the efforts and leadership of countries that already measure and report on food waste, with variances in scope or methodology, (gradual) alignment with the Food Waste Index approach is appreciated. This enables consistency between nations and supports a common interpretation of SDG 12.3.

Regional Food Waste Platforms

UNEP launching Regional Food Waste Platforms in Asia Pacific, West Asia, Africa and LAC.

- To address data gap in middle- and low-income countries and catalyze action
- Regional Platforms will support Member States in developing Food Waste Baselines (Household, Food Service, Retail) & Food Waste Prevention Strategies
- Using Food Waste Index approach for SDG 12.3 Reporting in 2022
- Quarterly online workshops facilitated by UNEP and WRAP
- South-South Collaboration on measurement challenges and policy approaches
- **Excellent opportunity for EU FLW Platform to share its expertise with other regions.**

Call for Expressions of Interest for Member States in relevant regions opens today

Thank you

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https://www.unep.org/resources/report/unep-food-waste-index-report-2021