

NATIONAL PACT AGAINST FOOD WASTE
INDICATORS AND MEASUREMENTS WORKING GROUP
WORK SUMMARY

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In June 2017, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food launched the second [National Pact](#) against Food Waste for a three-year period. Of the 6 working groups (WGs) organised, the first deals with defining indicators and measuring food waste. The ADEME is leading this WG.

Objectives and Calendar

There were two objectives for these WGs:

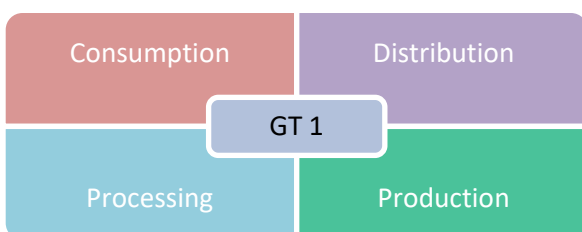
- Making sure that each stakeholder in the food chain has a long-lasting and effective observation system to monitor their progress towards reducing food waste;
- Having observation tools to monitor the national objective of reducing food waste by 50% by 2025.

The work was organised into two periods:



Organisation

To take into account the specific characteristics of each sector, the WG was organised into 4 sub-working groups representing the 4 main links of the food chain.



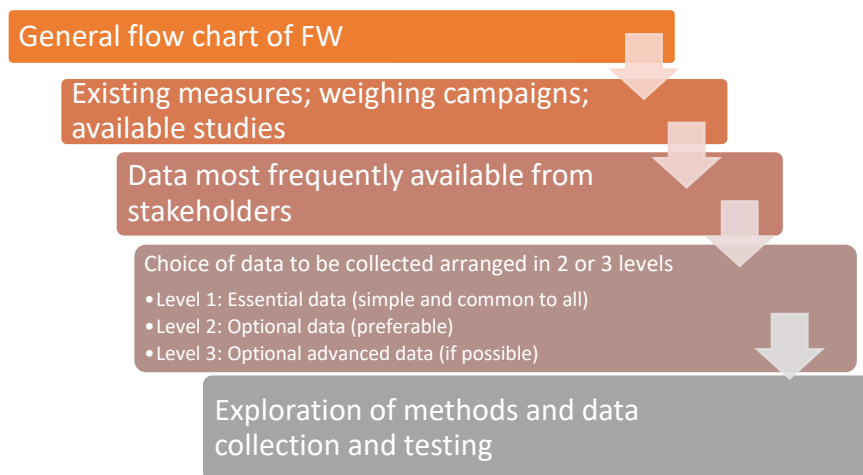
The sub-groups were formed voluntarily by the participants involved. The number of participants has gradually increased over the course of the meetings, highlighting the interest of stakeholders in this work. In total the work brought together up to 100 people representing all sectors of the food chain.

A total of 28 sub-group meetings were held, including a joint withdrawals/recalls meeting attended by members of the Processing and Distribution sub-groups. In addition, 4 plenary meetings (2 per year) brought together all WG1 participants to share each sub-group's results and to take stock of progress and discuss the next steps.

Report

All groups adopted a broadly similar approach to work on each of the steps below:

Work processes for the different groups



The two years of reflection on this system have helped lay the foundations for a more global observation system for monitoring food waste at national level, common to all stakeholders.

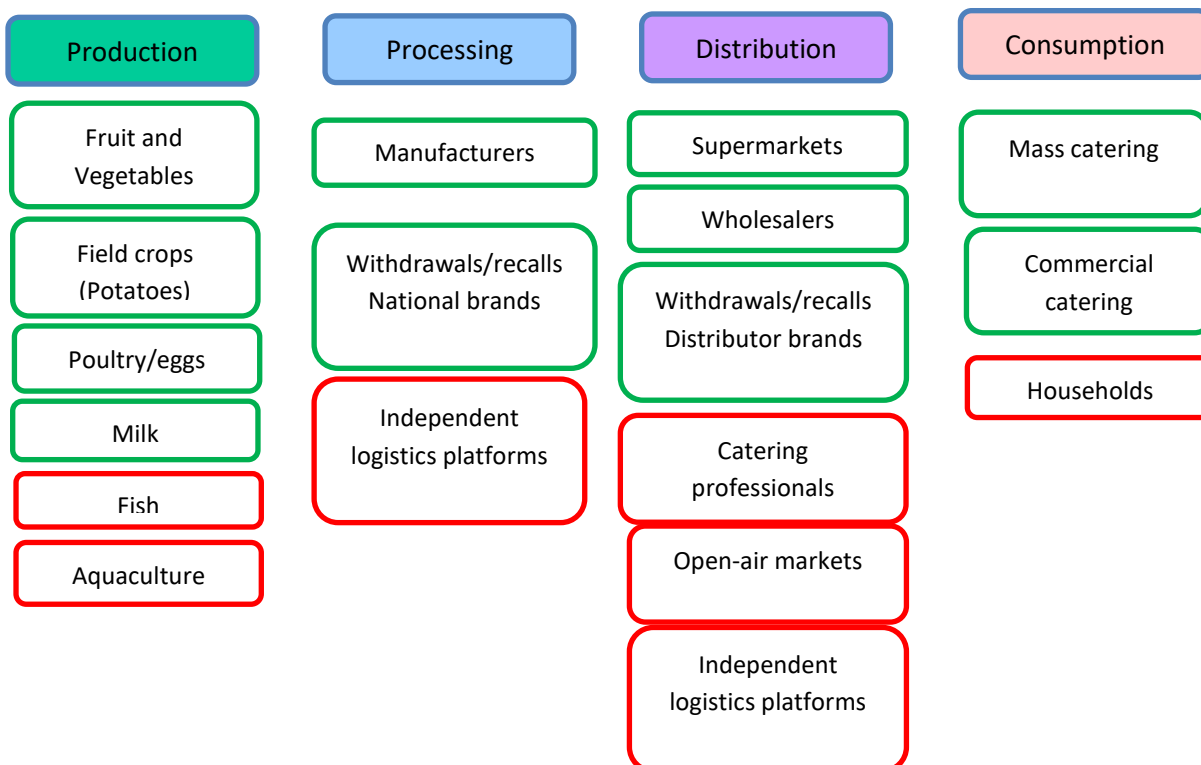
In addition, with the support of a specialised firm, samples of stakeholders statistically representative of the different sectors of activity were chosen, to prepare national data observation for each major stakeholder.

All groups now have a chart of data which can be collected under acceptable conditions for each sector and shared by all participants. The diagram below shows the sectors or stakeholders for which the work has highlighted a selection of data to be collected and those for which exchanges and agreements are still necessary.

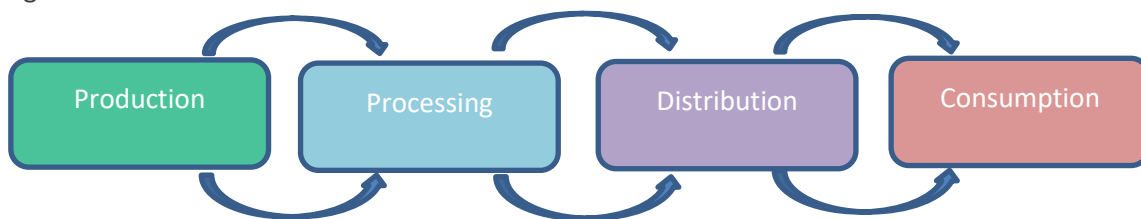
Summary of data identified for monitoring of food waste in France

Sector or stakeholder for which data is identified as available in the short term

Sector or stakeholder for which data is not currently identified as available



The interdependencies between these sectors and the difficulty of accessing information from intermediaries were also highlighted:



Among these intermediaries, logistics and independent logistics platforms (between producers, processors and distributors) are currently missing.

Other key stakeholders not represented in this working group need to be explored to complete the work. These included:

- Open-air markets
- Small food shops
- Households

Conclusion

A significant amount of work remains to be made towards the objective of setting up centralised reporting at national level. To date, very little of the statistical reliability requirements have been met. To move towards national reporting, it will be necessary to ensure:

- The involvement of stakeholders,
- The creation of the sample,
- The interconnection between voluntary and possibly mandatory surveys,
- The reliability of stakeholder input,
- The frequency of surveys, which may vary from one sector to another, but which should be in line with the recommendations of the European directive, i.e. every four years.
- Consistency of the data collected,
- The confidentiality of this data,
- Update over time with samples that will change from one survey to another.

It is necessary for the public authorities to set up national coordination to collect this data to be able to monitor and analyse this information over time.

In a second step, the consolidation of the different data (sources, units, different frequencies, implementation schedules, absence of certain stakeholders) will be crucial to create this indicator. This will make it possible to monitor the evolution in food waste in France in the long term to assess the achievement of the national objective of a 50% reduction.

This is an indispensable basis, after which it will be necessary to transform it into reality by implementing the observation systems for each stakeholder.

Ministerial coordination will be indispensable. This will be achieved through the ongoing work by the MTES statistical services after the CNIS's recommendations concerning the European directive requirements. The step taken in the framework of WG 1 should make it easier for stakeholders to understand this national reporting and encourage reporting thanks to a system that will gradually be put in place in the different sectors.

This WG is fortunate that there is mass awareness among stakeholders about the work against food waste. The work of the WG should support the stakeholders in continuing to work towards this national issue. In this context, the ADEME will continue to provide ad hoc support to stakeholders where necessary to move towards a regular and long-lasting observation system.

The full report is available at the [ADEME's media library](#)