



Food Waste and the Circular Economy

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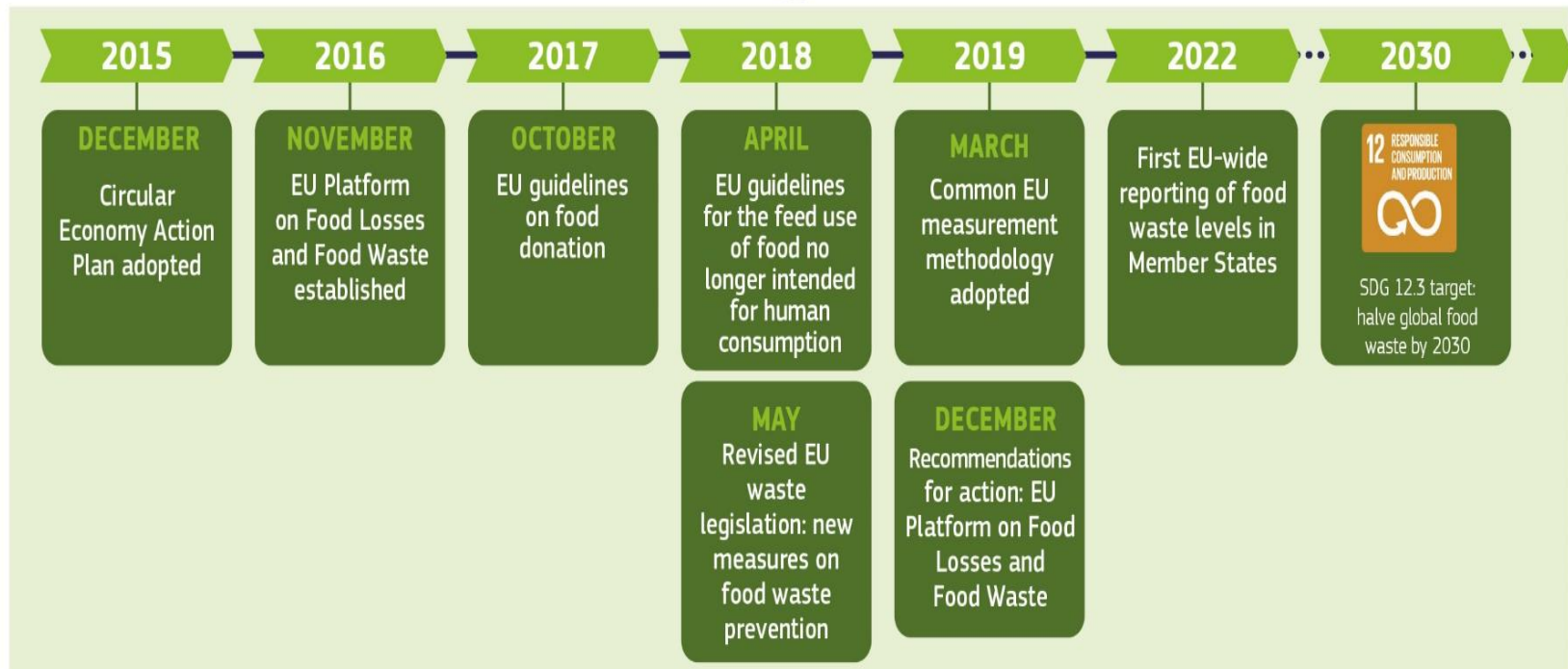
European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety
Unit E1, Food information and composition,
food waste



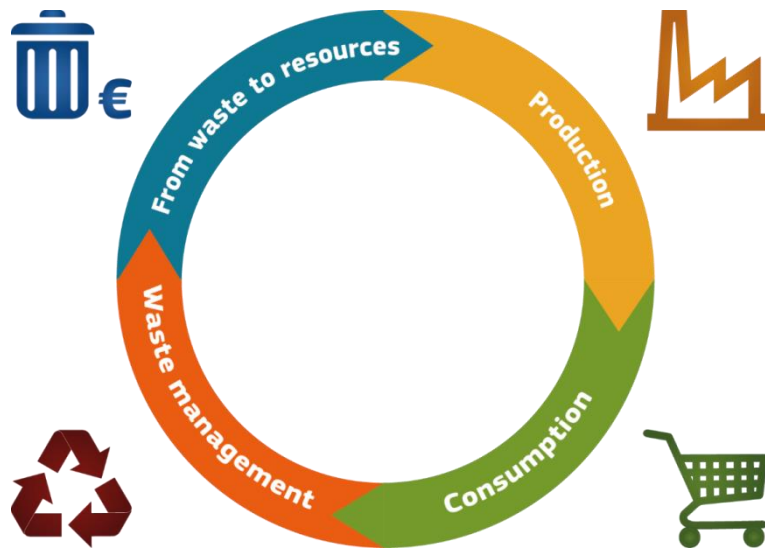
European
Commission

EU ROADMAP TO SDG 12.3

EU action to fight food waste



Food waste prevention: integral part of 2015 Circular Economy Package



*1. Revision of Waste
Framework Directive –
adopted on 30 May 2018*

*2. Circular Economy Action
Plan*

1. Food waste in the Circular Economy Action Plan

Measures on food waste prevention envisaged in Circular Economy Action Plan



- EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste Prevention- **Set up in 2016**
- Measure and monitor food waste – **Decisions adopted in 2019**
- EU guidelines to facilitate food donation - **Guidance adopted in 2017**
- Optimise safe use of food in feed – **Guidance adopted in 2018**
- Promote better understanding and use of date marking – **ongoing**



EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

Status: Informal Commission's Expert Group

Aim: to support all actors in:

- monitoring progress towards SDG 12.3
- defining measures needed to prevent food waste
- fostering inter-sectorial cooperation and
- sharing best practice.

Members: Member States (mainly food authorities)/EFTA countries, EU bodies and international organisations and actors in the food value chain. (37 private sector organisations selected following public call for applications)

Platform's subgroups

- **Subgroup on Food Donation**
 - *Guidelines for food donation*
- **Subgroup on Food Waste Measurement**
 - *Outline for measurement of food waste in the amended Waste Directive*
 - *alignment with SDG 12.3*
- **Subgroup on Action and Implementation**
 - *Exchange information and sharing best practices*
 - *Facilitating cooperation between the Members*
- **Subgroup on Date Marking**
 - *Produce guidance*



Platform activity

Plenary meeting of the Platform twice a year since November 2016

- *Next – mid-2020*


Subgroups meetings – each subgroup meets once or (usually) twice per year.

Current mandate is extended to 2021

All presentations, minutes etc. (also for sub-groups) are available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu_actions/eu-platform/meetings-eu-platform-food-losses-and-food-waste_en

Focus on "Action and Implementation"

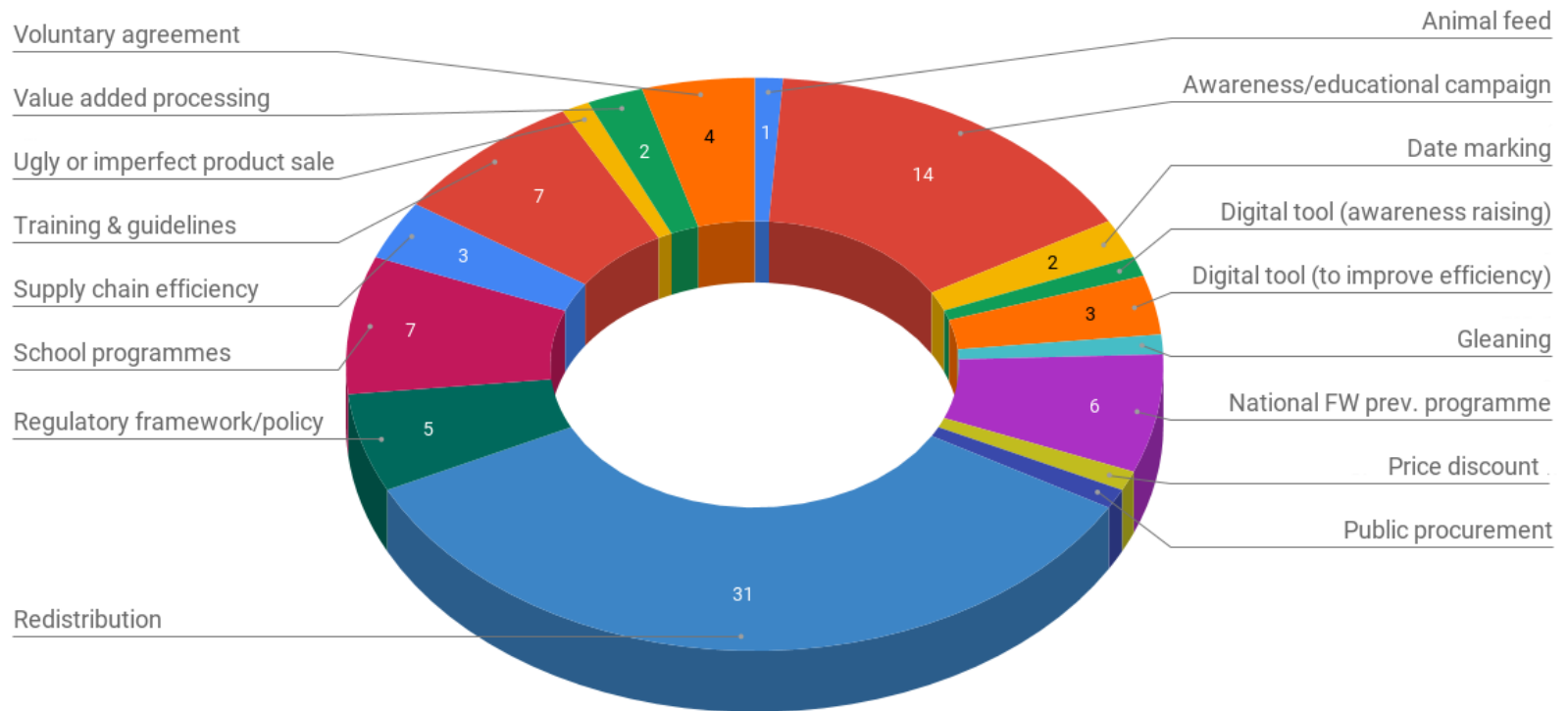


For every \$1 restaurants invested in programs to reduce kitchen food waste, on average they **saved \$7** in operating costs.

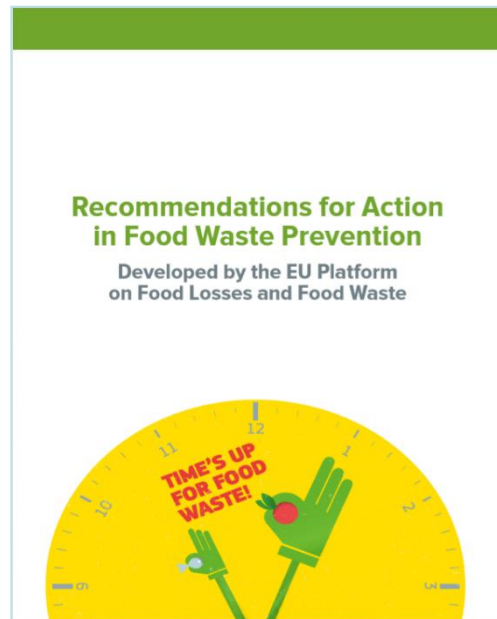
Photo by olafBroecker/Pixabay

Facilitate sharing of best practice, experience, business cases and models

ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION: ANALYSIS OF PLATFORM INITIATIVES



PLATFORM'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION



- Primary production
- Manufacturing
- Retail
- Hospitality/food services
- Consumers
- Food donation
- Cross-cutting

2. Food waste in the revised waste legislation

*Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (as
amended by 2018/851/EC)*

List of main provisions related to food waste in Waste Framework Directive

- 1. Definition of food waste*
- 2. Member States obligations on food waste prevention*
- 3. Option for future food waste reduction targets*
- 4. Reporting obligation and measurement of food waste*

“Food waste” – definition and interpretation

Definition

“food waste” - means all food as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council that has become waste.

Interpretation:

- **food** - as defined and applied in General Food Law - i.e. referring to entire food (including all its parts, both edible and not intended to be eaten),
- **which has become waste** – i.e. which the holder (in this case a food business operator or household) discards or intends or is required to discard

Member States obligations on food waste prevention (1)

1. Member States shall take measures to prevent waste generation. These measures shall, **at least**: (...)

(g) **reduce the generation of food waste** in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households (...)

(h) encourage food donation and other redistribution for human consumption, **prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products**;

Member States obligations on food waste prevention (2)

*Art 22 (2a) Member States shall adopt **specific food waste prevention programmes** within their **waste prevention programmes** as referred to in this Article.'*

Member States obligations on food waste prevention (3)

- **Monitor and annually report** on food waste levels, based on **common EU methodology**
- **Possible future EU targets:**
"By 31 December 2023, the Commission shall examine data on food waste provided by Member States (...) with a view to considering the feasibility of setting up a Union-wide food waste reduction target to be met by 2030 (...)"

Member States obligations on food waste prevention (3)

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3. Implementation and next steps

Food waste prevention and bioeconomy

Priority: Valorisation of unavoidable side flows
(including inedible parts of food)

- Animal feed
- Ingredients/texture processing and fibers
- Chemicals/bacterial conversion

Challenge: Trade-offs between various uses

Data on food waste streams and its components (EU project REFRESH)

<https://www.foodwasteexplorer.eu/>

NEXT STEP: FARM TO FORK STRATEGY (planned end march 2020)

Farm to Fork will contribute to achieving a circular economy:



#EUGreenDeal

Public consultations:

Thank you for your attention

for more information:

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