Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste reduction

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Global Food Losses and Food Waste

1.3 billion ton
(1 300 000 000 000 kg)
Global food losses and waste by commodity

Extent of food losses and waste

Source: FAO. 2011. Global food losses and food waste
Food wastage and carbon footprint

Source: FAO. 2013, Food wastage footprint: Impact on natural resources
Food wastage footprint
Impacts on natural resources

Summary Report

www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3347e/i3347e.pdf
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

In industrialized countries food gets lost when production exceeds demand.

Prevention: Communication and cooperation between farmers.
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

Poor storage facilities, packaging and lack of infrastructure cause postharvest food losses in developing countries.

Prevention: investment in infrastructure, packaging and transportation.
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

Unsafe food is not fit for human consumption and therefore is wasted.

Prevention: develop knowledge and capacity of food chain operators to apply safe food handling practices.
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

Lack of processing facilities causes high food losses in developing countries.

Prevention:
- improve investment climate for agro-industry
- develop contract farming linkages between processors and farmer
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

- Large quantities on display and a wide range of products/brands in supply lead to food waste in industrialized countries.
- Inadequate market systems cause high food losses in developing countries.

Prevention: Marketing cooperatives and improved market facilities.
Causes and Prevention of food losses and waste

No access to good quality packaging materials and technology of the small and medium scale food industry in developing countries

Prevention:
- Pre-packing and contract packing
- Use of reconditioned 2nd hand packaging machinery
THE KNOWLEDGE GAP

- ✔ Magnitude of food losses and waste in supply chains
- ✔ Causes of food losses and waste in food supply chains
- ? Importance of different causes
- ? Impact and feasibility of solutions
- ✔ Beneficial effect of food loss and waste reduction
Key issues of food loss and waste reduction

- To increase food availability, food loss and waste reduction is in principle far more efficient than increasing food production.

- The private sector and consumer are those to reduce food losses and waste at a significant scale.

- The Public Sector does research and provides guidance. It creates the enabling environment together with the Private Sector to invest and act.

- Food loss and waste have to be tackled along the whole food supply chains, in the context of sustainable food systems.
FAO approach to Food Losses and Waste Reduction

SAVE FOOD - Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction lead by FAO and Messe Düsseldorf GmbH,

Collaboration and coordination of world-wide initiatives on food loss and waste reduction

Save Food Partners:  95 Commercial companies
86 Non profit organizations

SAVE FOOD: The basic pillars

- **Awareness raising** on the impact of, and solutions for food loss and waste.
- **Collaboration** and coordination of world-wide initiatives on food loss and waste reduction.
- **Policy, strategy and programme development** for food loss and waste reduction.
- Support to **investment programmes and projects**, implemented by private and public sectors.
SAVE FOOD: Assessment methodologies: critical points, levels, causes, impacts

- **Clarify terminology:** *food losses* and *food waste*

- **Methodology development:**
  - Developing and emerging economies:
    - **Field case studies** to identify critical loss points and feasible and sustainable solutions (economic, social, environmental);
    - Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Development *Statistics*.
  - Industrialized economies (potential knowledge transfer):
    - **EU FP7 FUSIONS**: i.e. quantification manual, indicators for the policy framework in the EU28.
Rio +20 (June 2012): FAO DG noted that the Zero Hunger Challenge objectives fully coincided with those of FAO and its partners, including establishing sustainable food systems and cutting food waste.

- Websites and SAVE FOOD newsletter
  - *Global initiative on food losses and waste reduction (SAVE FOOD)*
  - *Save Food Initiative*, Messe Düsseldorf GmbH
  - *Save Food, Asia-Pacific Region*
  - *Save Food, Near East Region*
  - *FAO/UNEP & partners*: Think.Eat.Save Campaign

- **Milano Expo 2015** – “Feeding the planet, Energy for life” – identified loss and waste as theme. U.N. leadership - FAO DG.
SAVE FOOD
Collaboration- synergy in the fight against food waste

Working together with:
- UNEP – Think-Eat-Save
- EU Consortium ‘FUSIONS’ (food waste in Europe)
- OECD (policy development)
- Global FoodBanking Network (GFN)
- Federation of European Food Banks (FEBA)
- ‘Food for the Cities’ programme
- Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)
- Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition (AAHM)
- International Federation of Red Cross/Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- National initiatives in the UK, Denmark, Sweden, France, The Netherlands, USA, Canada, Japan, Portugal, Brazil, South Africa
Global Initiative on Food Losses and Waste Reduction

SAVE FOOD

Develops and implements part of the FOOD WASTE dimension of Save Food.

Targets: hotels, restaurants, supermarkets and households

www.thinkeatsave.org
SAVE FOOD
Evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes

FAO studies (ongoing):

- impact on *human nutrition*:
  - linkage with 2014 International Conference on Nutrition 2 (ICN2);
- impact on *global food prices* (FAO, OECD and EU FUSIONS);
- potential for *energy* efficiency (regional focus);
- impact of *date marking* on food waste;
- study on safe food *recovery* and *redistribution*;
- impact on the *natural resources / environment*.

❖ **FAO/UNEP Sustainable Food Systems Programme**

Geographic coverage: Global

Key words: food waste, food loss, assessment methodology, capacity development, policy and regulatory framework development, investments, competitiveness

Umbrella Programme
Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction (5 yr – 52 million $)

Cross-cutting components

- Ireland programme support
- Switzerland SDC project in Africa
- Norway Project Funding
- UNEP Think.Eat. Save Campaign
- Messe Düsseldorf GmbH
- EU - FUSIONS

Stakeholders

- WFP
- IFAD

Beneficiaries: the global agricultural and food system actors

- Primary production
- Post-harvest handling
- Processing
- Distribution
- Sales
- Consumption

Global CoP

Global loss and waste assessments

Global regulatory dialogue (policy and legislation)
The UN Secretary-General encourages all partners to scale up their efforts and turn the vision of an end to hunger into a reality.

What does this mean?

- Committee on World Food Security (CFS) - High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE)
  - November 2013: E-consultation on the Zero Draft of 2014 Report on *Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems*
20 September 2013
Meeting of 13 UN / International Organizations:

FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNEP, UNIDO, OECD, World Bank, AfDB, ILO, UNDP, ITC, WHO, WTO.

✓ The creation of a network of UN organizations to promote collaboration, information exchange and coordination of their food loss and waste reduction activities in support of the ‘zero loss or waste of food’ element of the Zero Hunger Challenge.
Statement of UN meeting on food loss and waste reduction

An estimated one third of food is lost or wasted.

The problem of food loss and waste is huge, wide-spread and complex, and affects all parts of the food system. It is essential that all stakeholders, including consumers, join efforts to successfully tackle the problem.

Food loss and waste reduction is one of the most effective ways of improving global food supply, thus contributing to enhanced food and nutrition security.

We embrace ”zero loss or waste of food” and commit to work together to support the realization of this vision. We encourage other UN agencies, governments, the private sector and civil society organizations to join in this effort.”
Global Initiative on Food Losses and Waste Reduction
SAVE FOOD

How to get involved?

- Sharing information and provide access to your network.
- Promoting the Save Food Initiative and Save Food link on your website.
- Support or contribute to the Save Food activities and shaping the Save Food programme.
- Sponsoring Save Food activities
Thank you

http://www.fao.org/save-food