

# **Reducing food loss and waste: EU action plan**

## **Farm to Fork Strategy**

Permanent Group on Sustainable Food Systems (PG)  
29 February 2024

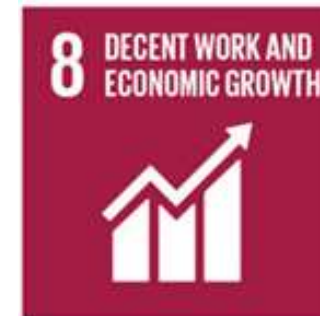
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Directorate-General for Health and  
Food Safety

European Union





**SDG 12.3:** By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.





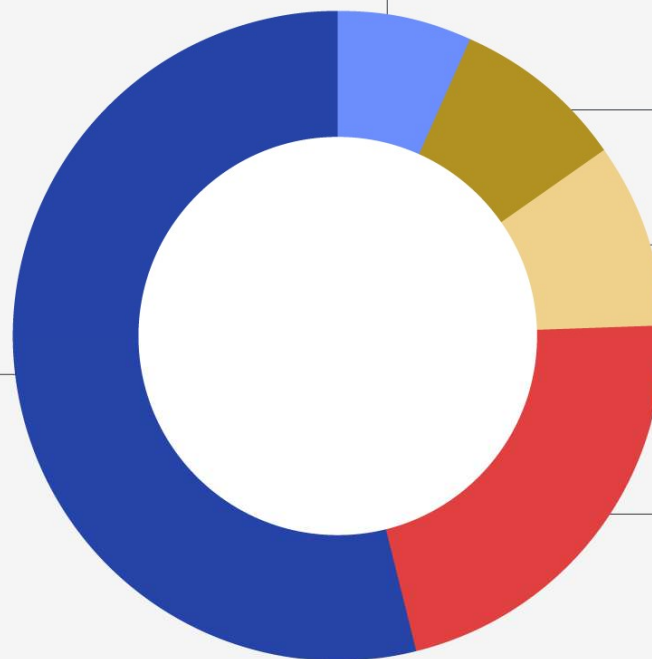
# Latest data on food waste (source: Eurostat 2021)

## Food waste in the EU by main economic sectors, 2021

(kg per inhabitant)

**TOTAL: 131 KG PER INHABITANT**

**70KG**  
HOUSEHOLDS



**9KG**  
RETAIL AND OTHER  
DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

**11KG**  
PRIMARY PRODUCTION

**12KG**  
RESTAURANTS  
AND FOOD SERVICES

**28KG**  
MANUFACTURE  
OF FOOD PRODUCTS AND BEVERAGES

*Data not available: Czechia, Germany, Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Malta, Romania.  
Due to roundings, the sum of the values for the categories does not match the total.*

eurostat 

## Food waste in the EU: key numbers and impacts



- **16% of total GHG** from EU food system (254 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>)
- **132 bn EUR** in associated market value; **9.3 bn EUR** for waste collection and treatment
- **Unnecessary spending:** 4-person household could save about 400 EUR/year
- **Ethical dimension:** over 37 million EU citizens cannot afford a high-quality meal every second day



# EU food waste reduction targets



Legislative proposal adopted by the Commission on 05 July 2023

Part of the revision of the **Waste Framework Directive** (+textile waste)

The proposal:

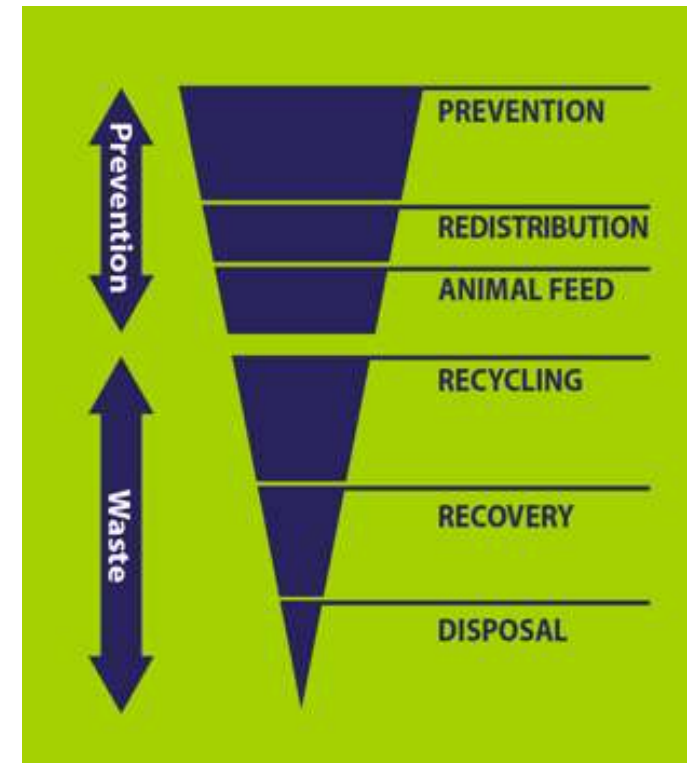
- establishes target levels
- includes a revision clause
- requires actions by countries

On-going negotiations with the European Parliament and the Council of the EU



# Food waste prevention: building on the EU toolbox

- [Legal obligations](#) for Member States to reduce, measure and monitor food waste
- Common [EU methodology](#) to measure food waste consistently
- [EU Platform](#) on Food Losses and Food Waste
- Facilitate food donation
  - [EU food donation guidelines](#)
- Optimise safe use of food in feed
  - [EU guidelines on feed use of food no longer intended for human consumption](#)
- Promote better understanding and use of [date marking](#)





# Tackling consumer food waste: European Consumer Food Waste Forum



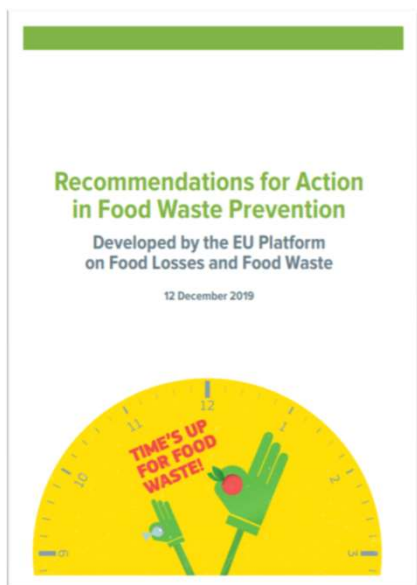
Compendium of tools, best practices and recommendations to reduce consumer food waste

Save the date!

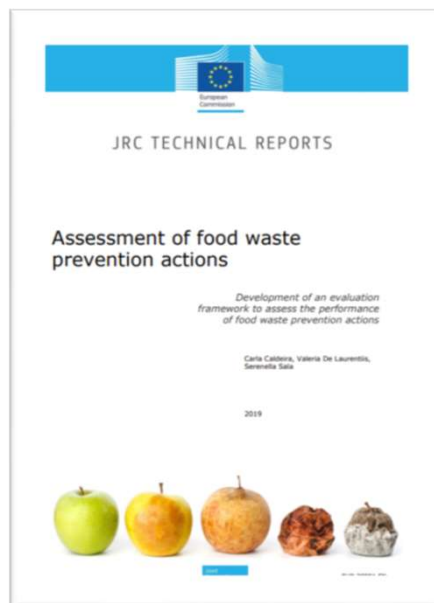
Public event on 5 June in Brussels



# Scale up action and mobilise key players across the EU



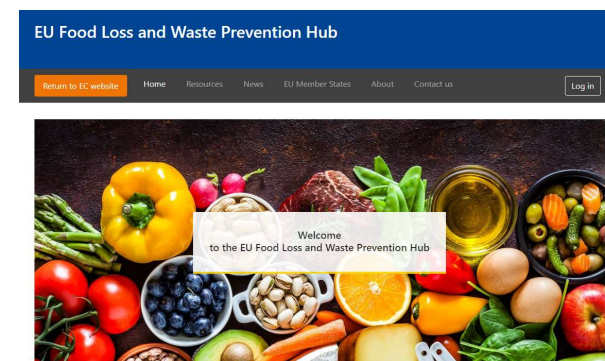
**Recommendations for action** in food waste prevention, 2019



**Strengthening the evidence base** for food waste prevention



**Supporting key players in taking action** on food waste(e.g. Single Market Programme)



**EU Food Loss and Waste Prevention Hub** website





## European Citizens' panel on food waste



- Around 150 citizens from across the EU
- 1/3 of the panel young people aged 16-25
- 3 meetings (December, January, 10-12 February 2023)
- **Final outcome: 23 recommendations to step up action against food waste**



# Keep in touch



[https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food-waste\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food-waste_en)



[https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food\\_waste/eu-food-loss-waste-prevention-hub/](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_waste/eu-food-loss-waste-prevention-hub/)



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EU Health and Food Safety

# Thank you



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