



Working together to fight food waste: EU Circular Economy Action Plan

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**AROUND 88 MILLION TONNES OF FOOD
ARE WASTED ANNUALLY IN THE EU**

**THE VALUE OF THE WASTED FOOD IS
ESTIMATED AT 143 BILLION EUR**



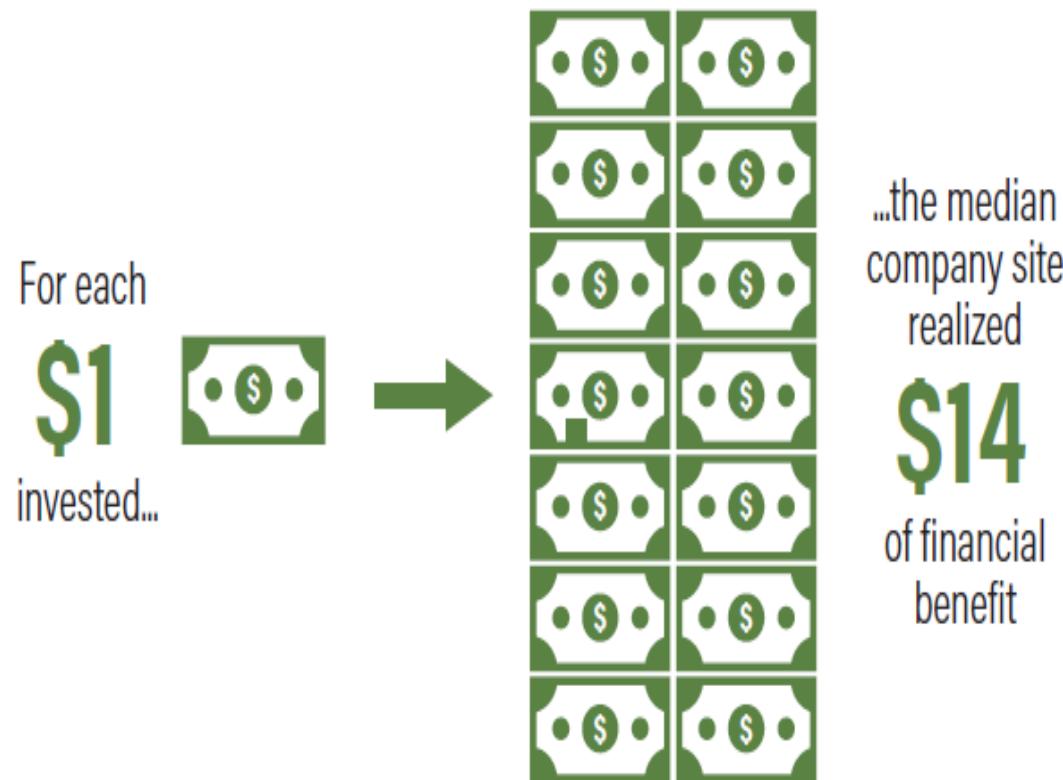
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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.



FIGURE 5. The median financial benefit-cost ratio for company sites was 14:1



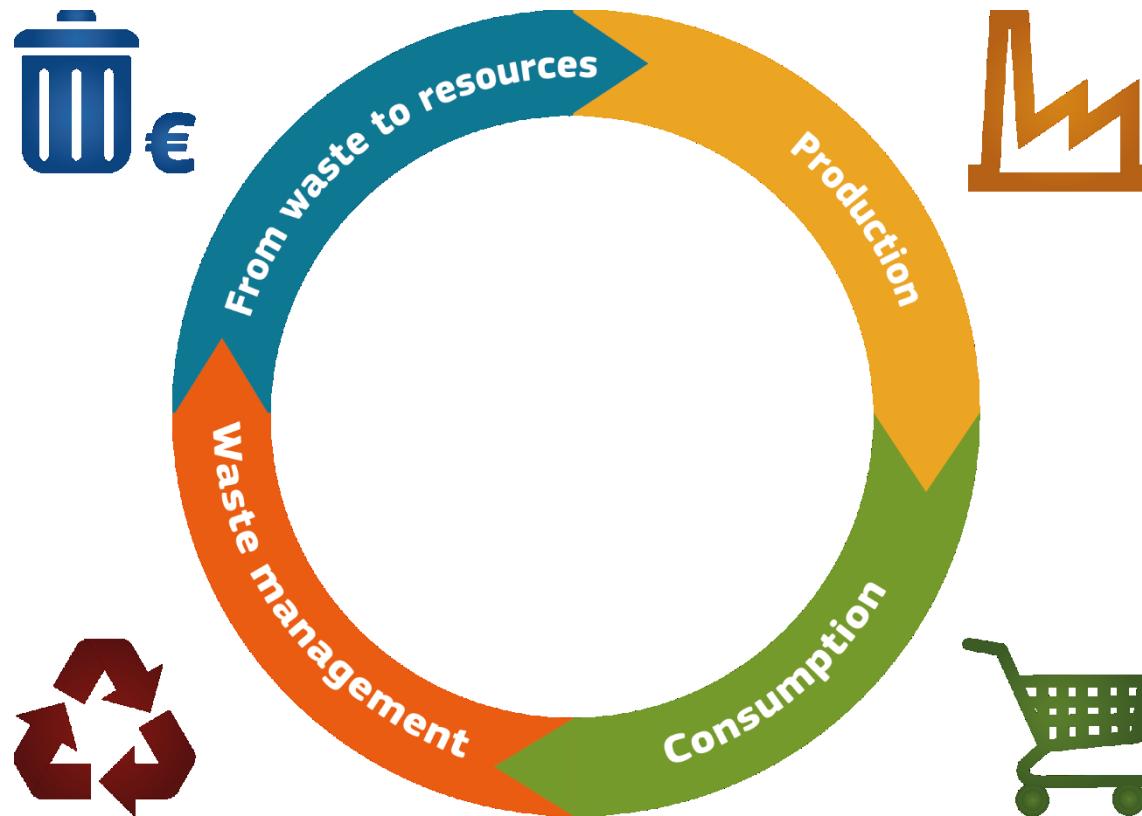
Source: WRI and WRAP analysis



Fighting food losses and waste at each stage of the food value chain

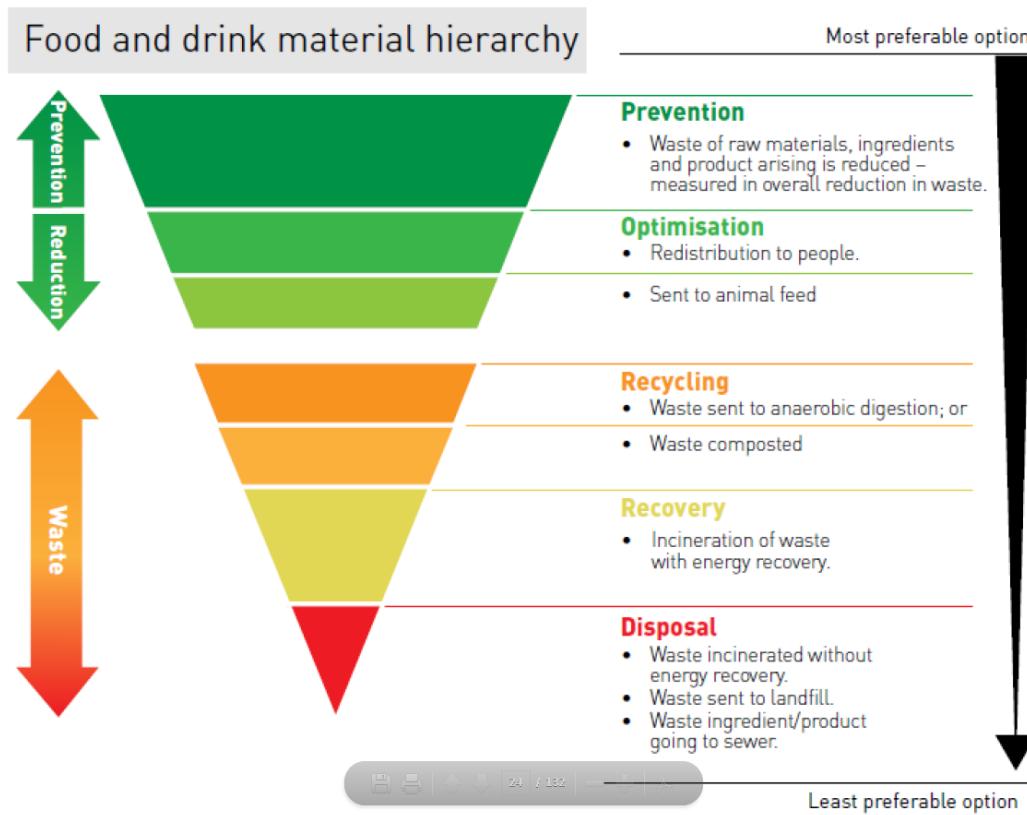


Food waste prevention: integral part of Circular Economy Package (2015)



Food and drink material hierarchy

Figure 2 An example food and drink material hierarchy, used to scope waste prevention.





EU co-operation in fighting food waste

Key challenges for Commission are to ensure that:

- **all actors** are involved, from farm to fork
- **EU action** complements/adds value to Member State initiatives
- **learning and best practice** are shared effectively, including international experience

⇒ **Precondition: ensure food and feed safety**

prevention of food waste cannot jeopardise human or animal health

Fight Food Waste: no impact on safety of the food and feed chain



- Measure and monitor food waste
 - EU Platform on food waste prevention
 - EU guidelines to facilitate food donation
 - Optimise safe use of food in feed
 - Promote better understanding and use of date marking
 - Raise awareness and engagement
- <http://ec.europa.eu/stop food waste>**



Waste legislation proposal: reinforces food waste prevention in EU waste policy

- Proposal to revise Waste Framework Directive (COM(2015)595 final) reflects commitment to SDG 12.3 and requires MS to:
 - **reduce food waste generation at each stage in the food supply chain** (primary production, processing/manufacturing, retail/other food distribution, restaurants and food services, households)
 - **Monitor** food waste levels, based on **common EU methodology**, and **report** (on a biennial basis).
- **Monitoring obligations will support assessment of progress towards SDG 12.3 and exchange of best practice informed by an evidence base.**

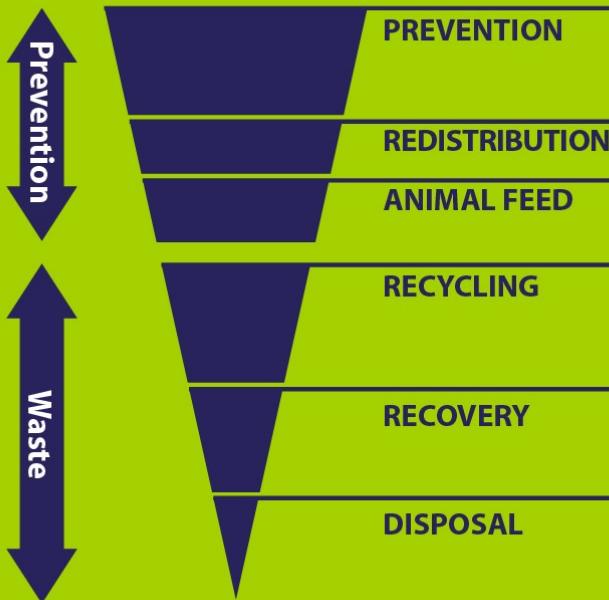


Waste legislation proposal: reinforces food waste prevention in EU waste policy

- Gives Commission delegation to develop **common EU methodology** to measure food waste
 - will draw on tools developed in EU and worldwide (eg FUSIONS, Global Food Loss & Waste Protocol)
- **Waste legislation proposal excludes feed materials from its scope** to facilitate use of former foodstuffs and other by-products in production of feed.
- **EU guidelines** to clarify the **legal status of former foodstuffs intended for feed** are also under development



Launch of EU Platform dedicated to food waste prevention



EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

We bring together all the actors involved and facilitate their work to prevent food waste & support the paradigm shift towards a circular economy and more sustainable food systems.



EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

Aims 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.

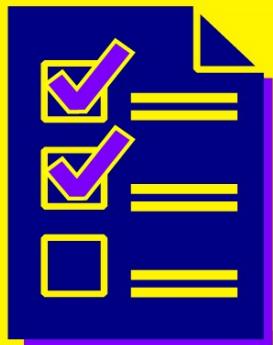
Members: Member States/EFTA countries, EU bodies and international organisations and actors in the food value chain.
(37 private sector organisations selected following public call for applications)

First meeting: 29 November 2016



Facilitate food donation

The European Commission will develop
in co-operation with Member States and stakeholders



EU food donation guidelines

The guidelines will help food donors and food banks/charity organisations to comply with relevant EU legislation (food safety, traceability, food hygiene, labelling etc.) with adoption forecast for end 2017.



Date marking: promote better understanding and use



... KNOW YOUR DATES!

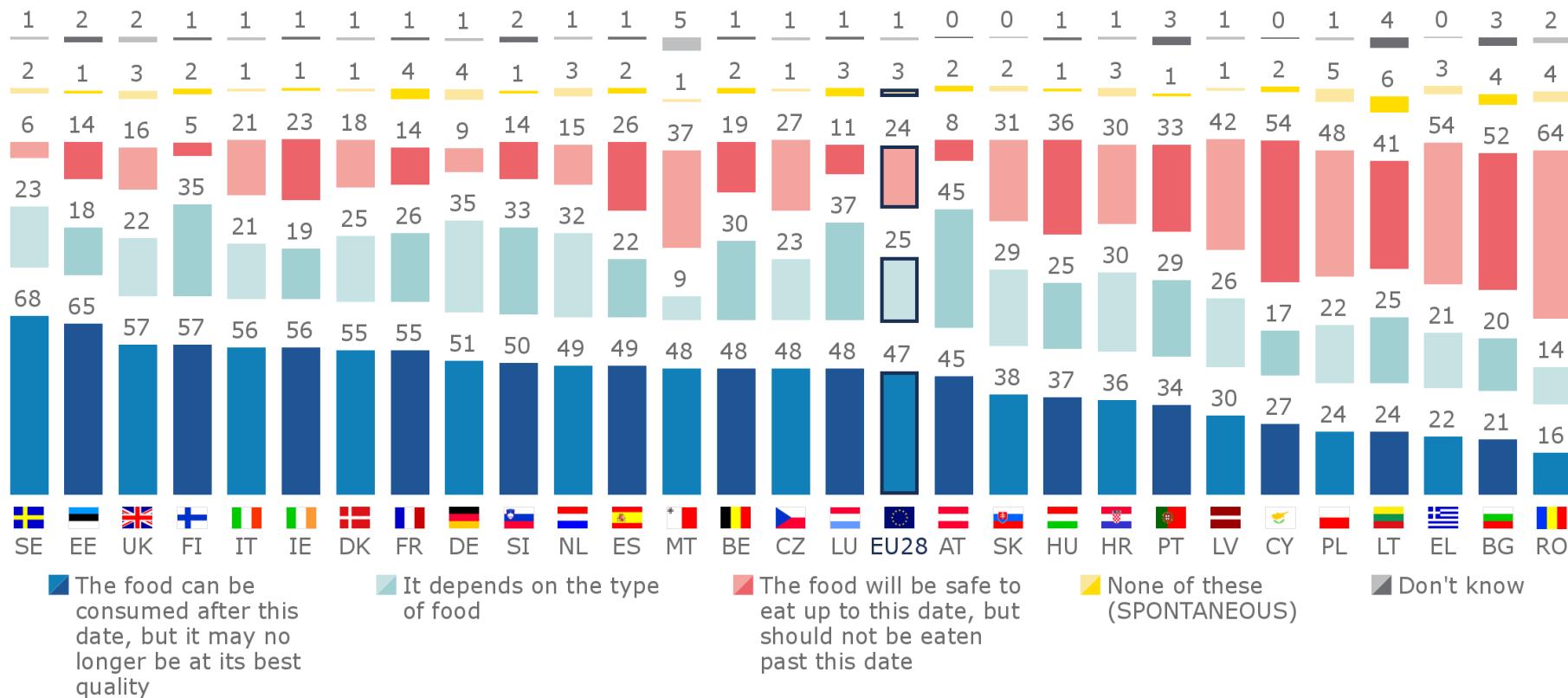
"USE BY"
informs you about
FOOD SAFETY

"BEST BEFORE"
informs you about
FOOD QUALITY

58% consumers say they always look at date marking when shopping and preparing meals, but less than 1 in 2 understand its meaning.

Correct answers to 'best before' vary from 68% in Sweden to 16% in Romania

Q What do you think "best before" on a food product actually means? I am going to read out some options, please select the one that best applies. (%)



Base: all respondents (N=26,601)



New study on date marking practices

Aim: investigate how food business operators and national competent authorities understand and utilise date marking and possible impact of practices on food waste.

Main phases:

- 1) Desk research to identify (if/where possible) main foods contributing to food waste in the EU MS and possible link with date marking
- 2) Market research to map date marking practices in selected food categories
- 3) Qualitative research (in-depth interviews) with MS and food business operators

Timing: 2016 – 2017



Commission *Food Waste* website: sharing good practices

FOOD WASTE
Stop food waste
EU actions
Good practices
Research and innovation
Awareness, information and education
Policy, awards, certification
Food redistribution
Communications materials
Resources library

Good practices in food waste prevention and reduction

A wide range of initiatives to prevent and reduce food waste are underway at national, regional and local level in the EU. This webpage aims to facilitate the exchange of good practices by compiling as many of these initiatives together in one place as possible, have a look and be inspired!

Good practices in food waste prevention and reduction

Research and innovation

- Awareness, information and education
- Policy, awards, self-imposed certification
- Food redistribution

Should you wish to **contribute to this compilation** of good practice initiatives in food waste prevention and reduction, please contact the Commission at:

SANTE-FOOD-WASTE@ec.europa.eu

Digital Platform: in progress



Tackling food waste in the EU



Commitment and co-ordinated action is required



European
Commission

Thank you