



Farm to Fork Strategy for sustainable food Consultation on the Roadmap

Brussels, 16 March 2020

In the European Union approximately around 88 million tons of food waste are generated annually with associated costs estimated at 143 billion EUR¹. At the same time, around 110 million people were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2018 and 36 million people were not able to afford a quality meal every second day². Food redistribution, which is the best destination when surplus food occurs, since it ensures the highest value use of edible food resources, is proven to be the most effective approach not only to contribute to food insecurity and manage surplus food but especially for preventing food losses and waste (FLW) at source and shifting from a linear to a circular economy.

Since the new Farm to Fork Strategy – as part of the Green Deal – will enable the European Union to make a real contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will allow us to address the important challenges faced by our food systems, the [European Food Banks Federation](#) welcomes the roadmap on the Farm to Fork Strategy and makes the following recommendations:

- 1) In 2050 the world population is projected to reach nearly 10 billion and therefore **we need to ensure all these people have access to sufficient, safe, affordable and nutritious food**, especially the most deprived in order to leave no one behind.
- 2) Considered the impact that food waste has in Europe and the relevant results achieved so far mainly thanks to the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste, **the new Farm to Fork Strategy should build on existing achievements** and focus on this topic when considering the *reduction of food loss and waste* to better contribute to achievements of the SDG 12.3. As demonstrated, food waste prevention, including food donation, is widely applicable along the agri-food value chain and can invigorate the efficiency and effectiveness of food business operators.
- 3) A harmonized and reliable **methodology to measure food waste** in the EU, also taking into consideration the **measurement of food donations**, is necessary to have a better understanding of the problem, a coherent monitoring and reporting as well as and effective exchange of good practices across the EU.

¹ 'Estimates of European food waste levels' – FUSIONS, March 2016.

² Eurostat, 2018.



- 4) The [EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste](#) should be relaunched and the **results** (e.g. the [EU food donation guidelines](#) and the “[Key recommendations for action of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste](#)”) should be further **valorized and implemented at European and national level.**

The European Food Banks Federation expects a renewed commitment at European level towards *food waste prevention* in the Farm to Fork Strategy. The transition towards a sustainable food system that takes into consideration the fight against food waste along the food supply chain is one of the biggest and profound challenges of our time. It can have an extremely positive impact on the environment, create business opportunities and alleviate food insecurity in Europe. A comprehensive and structured legislative framework should lead this transition and the European Food Banks Federation, together with its membership, is in the front line to give the necessary contribution.



About FEBA

The European Food Banks Federation (FEBA) is a European umbrella non-profit organization and works in collaboration with 24 Members and 5 Associate Members in European countries. For more than 30 years, FEBA mission has consisted in representing its membership at European and international level, supporting and strengthening food banks in Europe by providing training, sharing best practice and knowledge, and developing partnerships, and fostering the creation of new Food Banks.

FEBA brings together 421 Food Banks and branches which are committed to fight against food waste and to feed the most deprived. Our members provide 4.3 million meals each day to 9.3 million most deprived people through 45,700 charitable organizations thanks to the professionalism of 31,700 co-workers (85% volunteers). In addition to surplus food from the food supply chain, FEBA members also redistribute food from the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived (FEAD) and the Fruits and Vegetables withdrawal scheme, as well as from individual donations.

FEBA 2018 leaflet - click [here](#)

FEBA 2018 Annual Report - click [here](#)

