

FEBA

EU Monitoring

OCTOBER - DECEMBER / 2022



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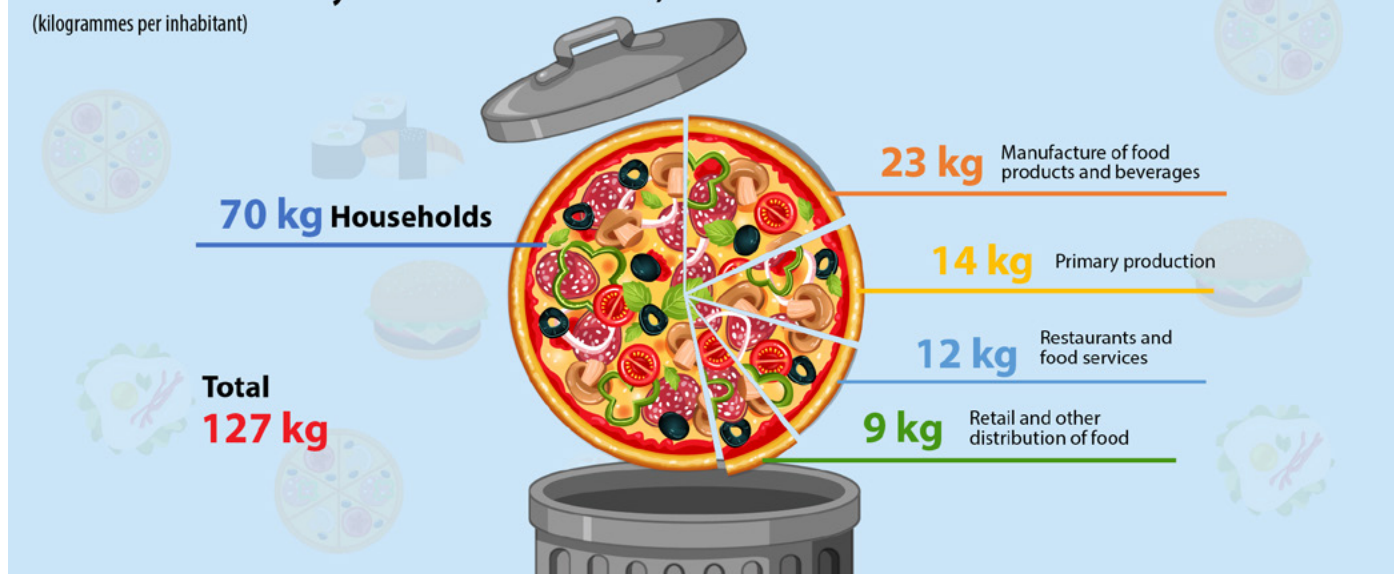
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION / Report

First EU-wide monitoring of food waste: 127 kg per EU inhabitant in 2020

Food waste in the EU by main economic sectors, 2020

(kilogrammes per inhabitant)



Belgium, Latvia, Malta and Romania: data not available. Czechia, Lithuania, Portugal and Sweden: data are estimated. Cyprus: definition differs (see metadata). As a result, the EU aggregates are estimated.

ec.europa.eu/eurostat

In 2020, the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the total volume of food wasted throughout the EU is estimated to have reached **57 million tonnes**. Thus, around **127 kilogrammes (kg) per inhabitant** were generated. **Households** contributed with a share of 55% of food waste, equal to **70 kg** per inhabitant.

The remaining 45% was waste generated upwards in the food supply chain: in primary production, **14 kg** is wasted (11%) and in the **food manufacturing sector**, **23 kg** of food products and beverages end up in landfill (18%).

Restaurants and food services are estimated to produce **12 kg** of food waste per person (9 %), while **retail and other distribution of food** was the sector with the least amount with **9 kg** (7%). The impact of the COVID-19 lockdowns on these two sectors is still being analysed.



In this context, Food Banks are needed now as much as any time in recent memory. They step up to save good food from becoming waste sent to landfill and, in parallel, to meet the increasing need for food relief when communities face unimaginably difficult circumstances.



Angela Frigo,
Secretary General, FEBA



[Read the full article](#)



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT / Report

The implementation of the EU's Farm to Fork Strategy at a glance

Published on the [Think Tank website](#) of the European Parliament in October 2022, a short report entitled *"Taking the EU's 'farm to fork' strategy forward"* summarises at a glance the status quo of initiatives envisaged in the roadmap to build a sustainable EU food system in line with the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Among those initiatives that the **European Commission has already delivered** on, are:

- the [2021 Contingency plan to ensure food supply and food security in times of crisis](#) (published in November 2021); and
- the [EU code of conduct on responsible food business and marketing practices](#) (in force as of July 2021).

In the course of 2023, the Commission foresees continuing its work on a variety of activities, such as a [proposal for a legislative framework for sustainable food systems \(FSFS\)](#) as well as the [revision of EU regulation on date marking](#),



front-of-pack nutrition labelling, and origin indication for certain products. Moreover, it is planned to propose [legally binding targets to reduce food waste](#).


[Read the full paper](#)


EUROPEAN COMMISSION / Report

Revision of EU rules on food contact materials

Food contact materials (FCMs) include food packaging, everyday household items as well as machinery and surfaces used in food manufacturing, preparation, storage, transport, and distribution. Whilst they are **crucial to the safety and integrity of the food supply chain**, **chemical substances can migrate from FCMs into food** and thus contribute to consumers' exposure to those substances. [Regulation \(EC\) No 1935/2004](#) sets EU rules for all of these materials in order to protect consumers' interests.

The **Farm to Fork Strategy commits to revise the FCM legislation** envisaging to improve food safety and public, support the use of sustainable, environmentally-friendly, and innovative packaging solutions, and **foster food waste reduction**.



In October 2022, the European Commission launched an open Public Consultation gathering input, which will be taken into account as we further develop and fine-tune the legislative initiative. **The Commission adoption is planned for the third quarter of 2023.**


[Follow this link for more information](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION / Initiative

The European Commission adopts new rules to protect citizens against dangerous contaminants in food

In December 2022, the Commission launched a measure that **aims to limit the level of perfluoroalkylated substances (PFAS) in food**, chemical substances that are known to have a strong and resistant chemical composition making them dangerous if consumed over long periods of time. Through the work of the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), which promoted the rules' adoption, scientific evidence has emerged that PFAS have **negative consequences on the immune system, the development of fetuses and babies, or cholesterol levels**.

As of 1 January 2023, the new rule, unanimously approved by all Member States, will take effect. This development reflects an important commitment made by the Commission in the **EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability**, namely to address the presence of PFAS in food by introducing quantity limits in the legislation on food contaminants.



[Follow this link for more information about PFAS and the European Commission's actions](#)



EU Platform / Report

Plenary meeting of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste



The second plenary meeting of the **EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste** in the 2022-2026 mandate took place on 20 October in a hybrid format.

The first item on the agenda was an overview given by **co-chairs of Platform subgroups** of their **respective areas of work and planned deliverables** with FEBA reporting on the work of the Food Donation subgroup. Liz Goodwin from the World Resources Institute then gave an update on **global developments in food loss and waste prevention**, including the global coalition **'Food is never waste'**.

Following that, Claire Bury, Deputy-Director General of the European Commission's DG SANTE addressed the **positive contribution** of food loss and waste prevention to **food security and mitigating climate change effects**.

Platform members also discussed the status of the two flagship legislative proposals from the Farm to Fork Strategy: the **revision of EU rules on date marking** and the **setting of EU level food waste reduction targets**. To conclude, the results of the EU consumer research study to identify **new ways of expressing date marking** have been presented for the first time.



[Find out more about FEBA's role in the EU Platform FLW in the FEBA EU Working Group 2022 Report](#)

Press Release

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU / Analysis

EU Member States championing and blocking EU food waste action

In the summer of 2021, the campaign group Feedback EU and the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) conducted an analysis striving to **shed light on the position of EU Member State governments concerning the adoption of legally binding measures** to achieve SDG Target 12.3 foreseeing the reduction of food waste by half by 2030, as laid down in the EU Farm to Fork strategy. Across the European Union, an **estimated 140.6 tonnes of food end up in landfill every year**, amounting to 6% of the emissions produced in the EU and wasting over €146 billion annually.

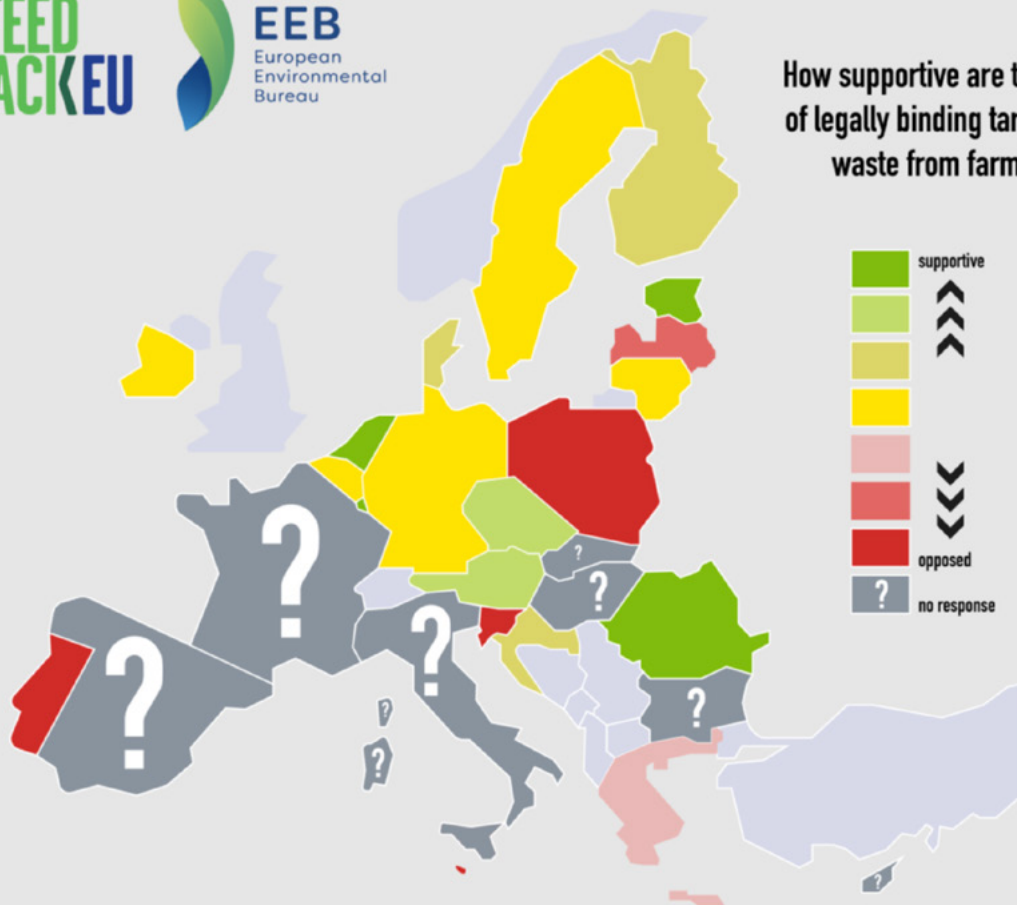
The European Commission intends to adopt a proposal on food waste reduction targets in the course of 2023. The exact content of this decision is influenced by the positions of Member States, whose opinion is as heterogeneous as the country-specific particularities characterising them.

The results of the analysis disclose that Poland, Malta, Slovenia, and Portugal **oppose binding measures** with the greatest intensity. On the same wavelength were the governments of Greece and Latvia, which are more inclined to lower the percentage target and limit it only to certain stages of the supply chain.

Countries that instead **support the Commission's envisaged proposal** include Romania, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Estonia. Likewise in favour are the governments of Austria, Denmark, the Czech Republic, and Croatia, which, however, consider a 50% reduction target too high, preferring a lowering of the percentage but in a binding context for the Member States.


[Read the full press release](#)
**FEED
BACK EU**
EEB
European
Environmental
Bureau

How supportive are the EU member states of legally binding targets to halve EU food waste from farm to fork by 2030?





EUROPEAN COMMISSION / Initiative

European Commission launches dashboard on food security in the EU

On the occasion of the 2022 EU Agricultural Outlook Conference, the European Commission launched a **dashboard** based on a range of indicators impacting **food security and supply** in the EU. Among them are weather and drought events, possible trade restrictions, and development of animal diseases.

The dashboard will further display data related to food inflation rates per food typology, the inability to afford specific meals, calories and protein intake, and households' spending on food, which supports the endeavour to closely monitor food affordability. By setting up the dashboard, the European Commissions delivered on one of the actions

anticipated in the [Communication on Contingency plan for ensuring food supply and food security in times of crisis](#) adopted in November 2021.

During 2023, **regular updates of the dashboard** based on input provided by the **European food security crisis preparedness and response mechanism (EFSCM)** and its sub-group dedicated to the development of the dashboard, of which FEBA is a member, are envisaged.



[Read the original article and explore the dashboard](#)



EU CAP / Launch

Launch of the EU CAP Network

With the new **Common Agricultural Policy** scheduled to start on 1 January 2023, the European Commission launched the **first network** bringing together related public and private sectors with a focus on CAP in October 2022. The network aims to **better target information on agricultural and rural policies** and foster the exchange of knowledge within the community.

The network is the result of the merger of two existing European networks on agriculture and rural development: the European Network for Rural Development and the Agricultural European Innovation Partnership (EIP-AGRI). In achieving this, the network is able to expand and make information even more competitive within the European community, while maintaining the high quality of those who participate and ensuring increasingly inclusive participation.

Amidst other tasks, the network will send out **periodic newsletters**, help to better **target CAP policies**, help to transpose guidelines, and organise **topic-specific working groups** and group-building opportunities.



European Commission

EU CAP NETWORK



[Follow this link for more information](#)



FAO / Committee meeting

50th Session of FAO Committee on World Food Security



Feature photo: FAO

From 10 to 13 October 2022, the **50th session of the Committee of World Food Security (CFS)** took place with a call to **raise the world's awareness for a more efficient, more sustainable, and more equitable food system**.

The Plenary began with a special ministerial-level session focusing on the **worldwide status of food insecurity** and supporting **coordinated policy responses to the global food crisis** caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, ecological and economic shocks, the conflict in Ukraine, and other protracted conflicts and humanitarian situations around the world.

The session covered **structural causes of hunger and malnutrition** and was introduced with a discussion on the **2022 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report (SOFI)**. According to report's estimate, **828 million people worldwide experienced hunger in 2021**, amounting in an increase of 46 million since 2020 and 150 million since the COVID-19 pandemic breakout.

The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition recently produced a **report** that identified **seven critical concerns affecting food security and nutrition**. The plenary also discussed the CFS's strategic direction to

accelerate action on SDG Target 2 (End Hunger) derived from the research:

1. building fair and resilient supply chains to ensure nutrition and food security;
2. in the backdrop of urbanisation and rural transition, strengthening peri-urban and urban food systems;
3. addressing of the vulnerability of food systems and the impact of conflicts on them;
4. promoting climate policy for nutrition and food security;
5. recognising the function and rights of those who work in the food system;
6. creating a useful interface for various knowledge systems, technology, and food security and nutrition practices; and
7. evaluate the impact of infectious diseases that are (re) emerging as well as other biological hazard situations posing a threat to food security.



[Follow this link for more information about CES](#)



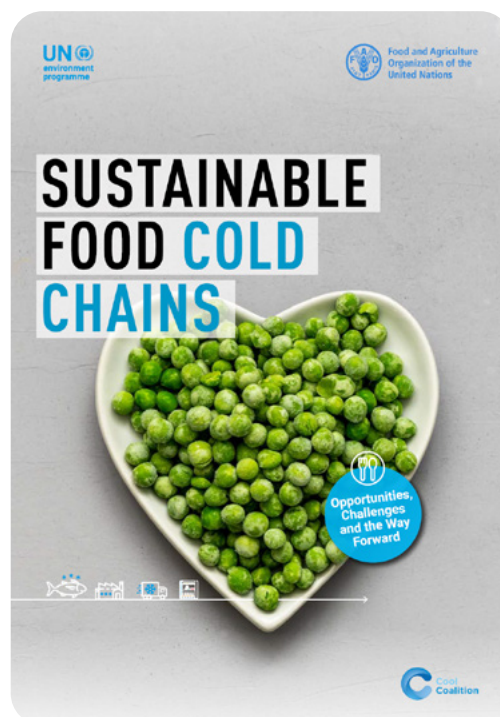
UNEP & FAO / Report

The importance of investing in sustainable food cold chains in times of food and energy crises

On the occasion of the 27th Climate Change Conference (6-18 November 2022), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the FAO released the report ***Sustainable Food Cold Chains: Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward***. It stresses the importance of **fostering effective refrigeration as a meaningful contributor to the prevention of food loss and waste. The unavailability of robust food cold chains does not only lead to the loss of 526 million tonnes of food production annually but further constitutes a food safety hazard.** For perishable goods, such as meat, fish, dairy products, fruits, and vegetables, access to refrigeration is imperative to preserving food quality and safety.

The report finds that the global food cold chain capacity is growing unevenly with particularly developing countries lacking sustainable technology, infrastructure, and financial means. The aspect of environmental sustainability is crucial: **Currently, the food cold chain is responsible for around 4% of total global greenhouse gas emissions**, including emissions from cold chain technologies (i.e., fuel, electricity, and refrigerant emissions) and from food loss and waste resulting from a lack of refrigeration.

In summary, the report provides an overview of the status, drivers, and implications of food cold chains globally, highlighting the benefits of sustainable food cold chains and identify the key drivers, barriers, and opportunities in moving towards them. It further showcases policies, technologies, projects, finance, and business models, and policies existing



[Follow this link to read the report](#)

both locally and internationally. The publication concludes with recommendations for a comprehensive systems approach to accelerate action and to foster cooperation among the diverse actors in order to establish a more resilient network of sustainable food cold chains globally.



World Food Day / Event

World Food Day 2022

On 16 October 2022, **World Food Day** has been celebrated in Rome, accompanied by **collective action across 150 countries**. The annual event commemorates the establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 1945 and was coined by messages from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, Pope Francis, and the Italian President Sergio Mattarella.



Amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, international conflicts, climate-related disasters, and the cost-of-living crisis, the 2022 edition's slogan **leave no one behind** highlights the **need for a sustainable world with nutritious food available, affordable, and accessible for everyone**. Over 80% of the extreme poor live in rural areas and many rely on agriculture and natural resources for survival. They are usually hit the hardest by natural and man-made disasters and thus especially vulnerable. The FAO's latest **The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022** report finds that the **number of people facing hunger worldwide is rising, reaching 828 million in 2021 while 3.1 billion people struggle to afford a healthy diet**.

The WFD offered an opportunity to celebrate those who contribute positively to FAO's aims, such as FAO's Food Heroes and the winners of the FAO Awards, but it was also to give a voice to young people, through the Junior side event, where emphasis was placed on advocacy and positive examples among young people.



In the face of a looming global food crisis, we need to harness the power of solidarity and collective momentum to build a better future where everyone has regular access to enough nutritious food.

QU Dongyu, FAO Director-General



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



[Follow this link for more information](#)



FAO & COP27 / Event

FAO – COP27: First official Food and Agriculture Pavilion

The **2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27)** brought together world leaders as well as representatives from the public and private sector from 6 to 18 November in Sharm El Sheikh (Egypt) to discuss the ongoing climate emergency.

Although the issue of food security is inherently a consequence of climate change, for the first time in the COP's history, the **transformation of agrifood systems has been at the heart of the conference's agenda as an important part of the solution to the climate crisis**.

To stress and better communicate this relation, an **FAO pavilion on the theme of food and nutrition** was set up in cooperation with The Rockefeller Foundation and CGIAR. Occupying more than 250 m², it offered space for multimedia exhibits, bilateral dialogues, and meetings between stakeholders.

Thereby, the goal of uniting policymakers, philanthropists, youth, and industry stakeholders to share the most pressing challenges affecting the agri-food system has been pursued.



[Follow this link for more info about FAO at COP27](#)

16 October 2022
World Food Day

Better production
Better nutrition
Better environment
Better life

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

FAO #WorldFoodDay #FoodHeroes
fao.org/world-food-day



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