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EU Platform & Citizens' Panel



On 7 November 2023, FEBA participated in the Citizens' Panel on Food Waste as well as the Plenary Session of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste (FLW). Opening remarks were made by Sandra Gallina, Director General, DG SANTE, European Commission.

The Citizens' Panel convened by the European Commission put forwards 23 recommendations, highlighting the need to take a broad approach, engaging all actors, and strengthening collaboration across the food supply chain. The food waste panel sessions took place between December 2022 and February 2023.



On 7 November 2023 the purpose of the meeting was to gather feedback. This was followed by the first segment of the EU Platform Plenary session, giving insights into different topics like for instance the 29. September campaigns from the FAO.



On 8 November 2023 the Plenary session continued, starting with a presentation by WRAP and Wageningen University & Research on possible pathways to proposed EU targets. This was followed by presentations and perspectives from different Member States like Finland by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Germany by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Germany, France by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Hungary by the National Food Chain Safety Office and Spain by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Up next were presentations from the different sub-groups on their work throughout the year.

The next item on the agenda was a summary of the European Consumer Food Waste Forum by the European Commission Joint Research Center, followed by the topic of the revision of the fruit and vegetables marketing standard regulation and its expected impact on food losses and food waste by the European Commission.



In addition to that the European Commission presented a **legislative framework for a union sustainable food system sustainable public procurement** and initiatives aimed at preventing and reducing food waste to reduce environmental impacts and to help reach 2030 climate targets.

The last topics covered the **Horizon Europe Sustainable Food Systems Partnership** as well as the **grants for stakeholders** presented by the European Commission. Read more [here](#).

Food Donation sub-group results



The session started with interesting discussions on the **results of the questionnaire on the food redistribution landscape**, identifying challenges and opportunities for the different actors along the **food supply chain**. This was followed by interventions from FEBA Member in Hungary 'Magyar Élelmiszerbank Egyesület' President Balazs Cseh on the topics of recovery of surplus food from the HORECA sector as well as touching on the topics of carbon credits.

FEBA made an **intervention explaining donation for the fish sector with a focus on the recovery and redistribution of confiscated fish**, showing the example of FEBA Member in Italy. The last topic on the agenda was the revision of the Marketing Standards of fruits and vegetables- the provisions regarding food donation are already in force from 23 November 2023.



EU CAP Network Forum Farm to Fork



On 16 November 2023 the CAP Network, in partnership with the European Commission (DG AGRI), organised its 3rd meeting of the Forum on Best Practices in the Agri-Food Supply Chain in Brussels: **Responses to the Cost-of-Living Crisis**.

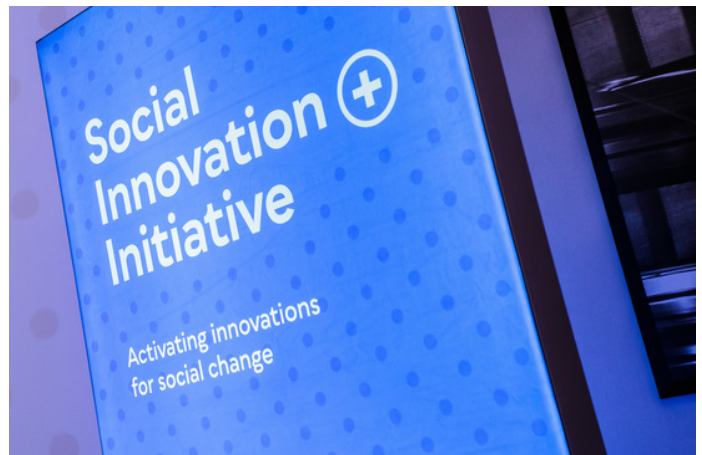
The event was built on discussions around the various ways in which different actors of the **agri-food value chain, from producers to consumers, have responded to the cost-of-living crisis**. It also addressed the implications of the green and digital transition on the increasing costs and food prices, both in panel discussions and working sessions.

An overall trend that could be observed was the **drastic rise of food prices and the connected food inflation in the past year**. Even though it is currently slowly going down, the increase in food prices will be a topic of concern for the time being, as well as the **consequences on consumers, households and purchasing power**.

In addition to that, a call for more transparency and oversight by relevant competition authorities with regards to food pricing was voiced during the event. Read more [here](#).

Community of Practice on Material Support in Warsaw

From 20 November 2023 and 21 November 2023 FEBA attended the event 'Bridging Communities in Times of Crisis: Providing Material Support for Vulnerable Groups' in Warsaw, Poland.



The session explored the **Polish material support and social inclusion strategies within the framework of the ESF+**. It aimed at bringing together various stakeholders to offer valuable insights and lessons learned from Poland's experience in addressing material support and promoting social inclusion during times of crisis. This was followed by a panel discussion to explore the **impact of crises on vulnerable groups**, culminating in a Q&A session to further delve into resilient solutions and effective support systems for these communities.

Next up was an interactive workshop and lastly site visits, including a **visit to 'Punkt Pod Parasolem' a local Food Bank in the network of the Polish Federation**. Read more [here](#).



EP Committee Amendments Waste Framework Directive



Both the ENVI and AGRI Committee of the European Parliament submitted their amendments to the Waste Framework Directive.

- Amendments from the AGRI Committee
- Amendments from the ENVI Committee
- Draft Opinion from both Committees

In general, both committees are supportive of the revision, however the AGRI Committee emphasises the **flexibility of Member States** when it comes to the **targets**, as well as the **exclusion of the primary sector from reduction** and puts the focus on **education initiatives to tackle food waste**. When it comes to the ENVI Committee this was more focused on both textile and food waste. For food waste emphasising to **include all relevant stakeholders along the food supply chain**.

Food 2023 Conference

Organised by the European Commission, the conference "Food 2030: green and resilient food systems" aimed to highlight the accomplishments of initiatives connected to EU food systems, as well as to examine future research and innovation directions.

The event was in-person but also web-streamed and recorded, in order to bring together a wide spectrum of actors and policy makers.

Starting with plenary sessions on different topics ranging from **nutrition to climate**, participants were then able to join various **side events and explore the food village exhibition**.

FEBA is part of the FoodCLIC consortium. Find more information [here](#).



Key figures on the European food chain – 2023 Edition



The report published by Eurostat outlines the key figures ranging from agriculture to fishing and aquaculture to food and beverage products as well as retail and consumption.

On the topic of waste, the report highlights the development of waste generation as well as pointing out the consumption of food waste in different countries.

Fig. 1 shows a decrease in EU waste generated by F&B processing fell by almost one quarter (down 22.9 % overall) between 2010 and 2020. The level of waste from agriculture, forestry and fishing was relatively stable, other than a short-lived contraction in 2014; it increased overall by 3.9 % between 2010 and 2020.

Developments of waste generation from productive activities (million tonnes, EU, 2010–2020)

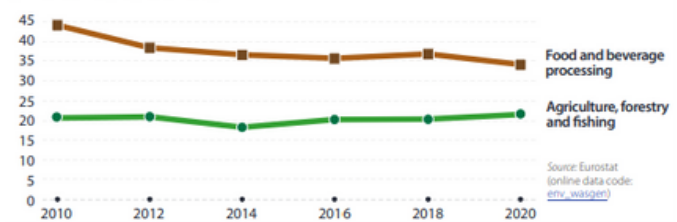


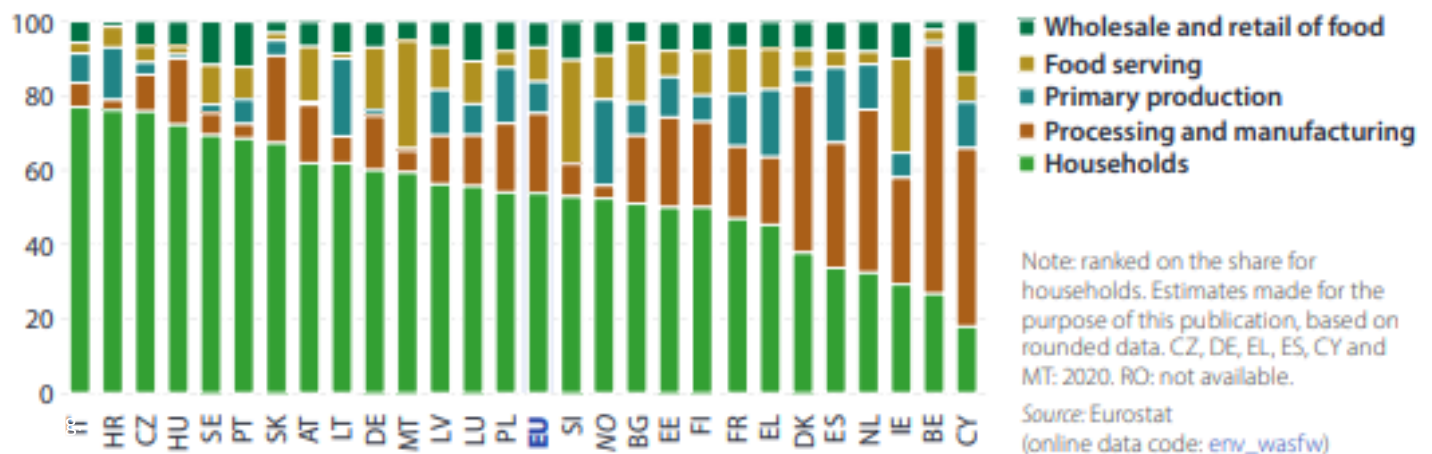
Fig.1

Fig. 2 shows that in the vast majority of EU Member States, most of the food waste collected in 2021 came from households; shares around three quarters were recorded in Italy, Croatia and Czechia. In Belgium, Cyprus (2020 data), Denmark and the Netherlands, processing and manufacturing accounted for a higher share (than households) of food waste.

Read the report [here](#).

Food waste

(%, 2021)



Note: ranked on the share for households. Estimates made for the purpose of this publication, based on rounded data. CZ, DE, EL, ES, CY and MT: 2020. RO: not available.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [env_wasfw](#))

Fig.2

COP 28 puts food systems transformation on global climate agenda

On 1 December 2023 the COP28 Presidency announced that **134 world leaders have signed up to its landmark agriculture, food and climate action declaration.**

Also announced was the mobilization of more than USD\$2.5 billion in funding to support food security while combatting climate change and a new partnership between the UAE and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for food systems innovation in the face of climate change.



The ‘**COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action**’ (the Declaration) was announced at a special session of the World Climate Action Summit (WCAS). The Declaration **addresses both global emissions while protecting the lives and livelihoods of farmers who live on the frontlines of climate change.**

While food systems are vital for meeting societal needs and adapting to climate impacts, at the same time they are also responsible for a third of global greenhouse gas emissions. [Read more here.](#)



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