



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# The economic impact of Food Loss

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*Practical Approaches for Reducing Food Loss in the  
Context of Food Security. A Challenge for the  
International Community*

30 May 2016  
17.30-19.00, Green room

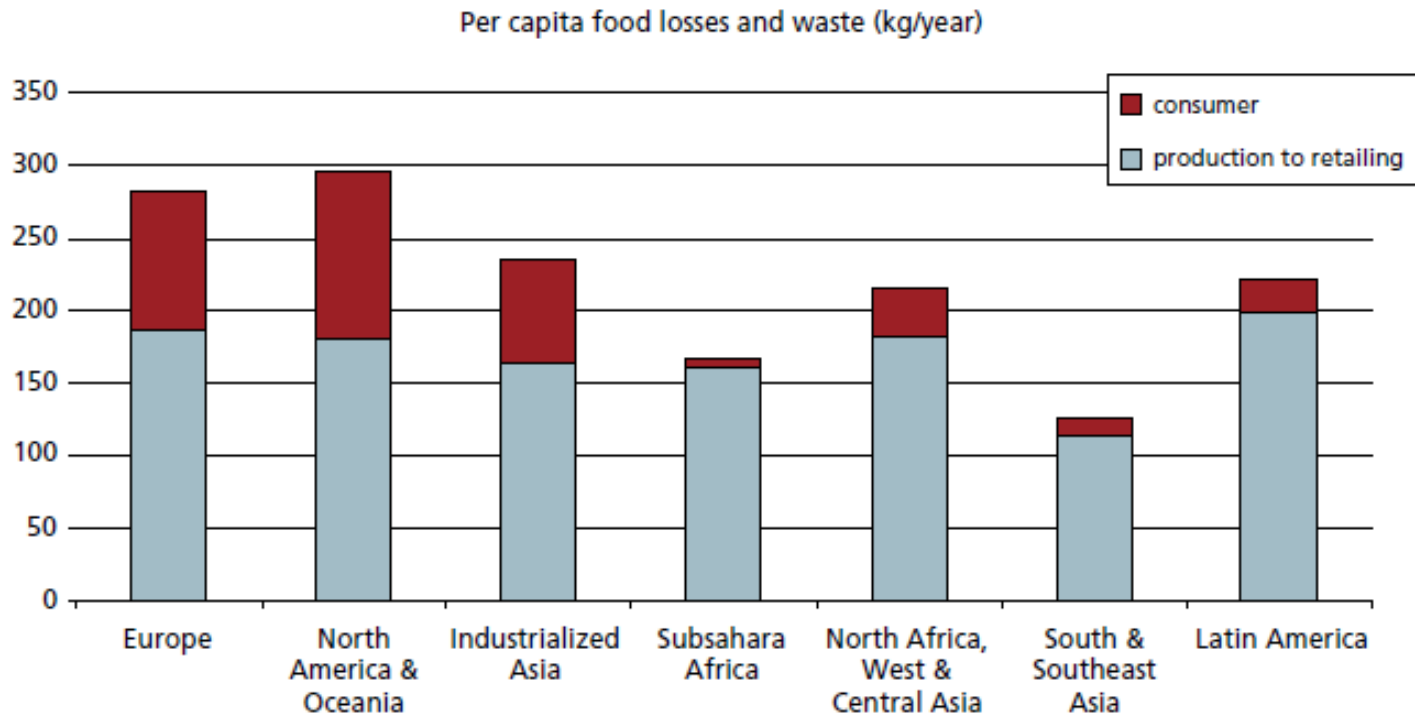
154<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Council



**Global Initiative  
on Food Loss and Waste Reduction**

# Food losses at regional level

Figure 2. Per capita food losses and waste, at consumption and pre-consumptions stages, in different regions



# Causes of food loss

- Poor production planning systems and premature harvest; supply/demand imbalance
- Lack of
  - capacity in food safety & quality
  - strong producers' organizations
  - good quality packaging & technologies for SMEs
- Poor quality storage & processing facilities
- Inadequate markets/ing systems



# FAO food loss case study : Banana Case Study – Kenya

- Losses at retail level
- Poor handling
- Lack of ripening control storage and infrastructure and investments.



# The benefits: reduced resource footprints and improved food security

- **Food security, higher incomes**
  - Lower PHL improve incomes, enhance availability and access to food
- **Resource footprints**
  - Lower carbon footprints
  - Lower energy use
  - Reduced water needs in agriculture, less competition
  - Less crop land, less deforestation, improved biodiversity
  - Lower needs for waste processing and disposal, landfills



# How to reduce food loss



## Developing countries:

- Embed in a prioritized strategy for achieving the SDGs
- Infrastructure, i.e. storage
- Organizing small farmers
- Production and marketing
- Better linkages and beneficial agreements between processors and farmers

## Industrialized countries:

- Consumer awareness and action
- Improve communication and cooperation
- Policies and regulations



# Strengthening knowledge

- Agree on an internationally adopted/accepted measurement method and design
- Improve metrics needed for both losses and waste to be statistically relevant and facilitate SDG 12.3 reporting
- Awareness raising at all levels (food security and nutrition, gender, economic and environmental impacts).
- Extend to non-food losses and their economic and other values





# Windows of Opportunity

- **SDG 12.3**
- **Zero Hunger Challenge**
- **Committee of World Food Security (CFS)**
- **Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)**
- **Global Strategy to Improve of Agricultural and Rural Statistics**
- **FAO/IFPRI Technical Platform on Food Losses and Waste  
Measurement and Reduction**





Geographical coverage: Global

# Umbrella Programme

Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction  
(5 yr – \$ 100 million)

## Cross-cutting Components

Awareness raising

Collaboration and partnerships

Research for policy development

Support to pilot projects and investment programmes

## Project funding



## Programme support



## Stakeholders

Private Sector

Civil Society

Research and Educational Institutions

Governments

## Beneficiaries: the food supply chain actors

Primary production → Post-harvest handling → Processing → Distribution → Consumption

