

**FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT
COALITION FOR ACTION
CONCEPT NOTE**
(Max 800 words)

Title of coalition:

Coalition on Food is Never Waste

Main objective of the coalition:

- **To halve food waste by 2030 and to reduce food losses by at least 25%.**
- To create more sustainable and resilient food systems that seek to ensure food loss and waste are minimized.
- To build and strengthen collaboration throughout food systems, between member states and organisations to ensure learning and sharing of best practice.
- To promote investment in food loss and waste reduction.

Science based evidence to prioritize this coalition (scientific references):

- Around 1/3 of food produced is never consumed because it is either lost or wasted. There is evidence (UNEP FW Index report 2021) that household food waste is a global problem and not just a problem in developed countries. There is also increasing evidence that food loss is also a global problem and not just a problem in developing countries (WWF Farm Loss Report, 2021).
- This level of food loss and waste accounts for around 8-10% of global GHG emissions, consumes ¼ of the world's freshwater use by agriculture and requires farmland greater than the size of China. At the same time 1 in 10 people go to bed hungry every day and undernourishment is on the increase globally.
- FLW reduction is consistently mentioned amongst the most effective interventions for food systems transformation and improvement on multiple SDGs.
- There is a huge body of scientific evidence on the subject of food loss and waste and on the effectiveness of interventions. Some specific examples are below.

UNEP Food Waste Index Report 2021 <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/unep-food-waste-index-report-2021>

FAO <http://www.fao.org/3/ca6030en/ca6030en.pdf>

WWF Farm Loss Report <https://www.wwf.eu/?4049841/fifteen-per-cent-of-food-is-lost-before-leaving-the-farm-WWF-report>

World Resources Institute, *Reducing Food Loss and Waste, Setting a Global Action Agenda, 2019*; <https://www.wri.org/research/reducing-food-loss-and-waste-setting-global-action-agenda>

Mechanisms of implementation (Global to National levels):

Coalition members will:

- Prioritise food loss and waste reduction
- Adopt an evidence based systemic approach to reduce food loss and waste (e.g. such as the Target, Measure, Act approach)
- Assess FLW levels, set national targets, and identify and implement prioritised initiatives
- Monitor, report and share learning

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- Foster collaboration and support other countries and organisations where appropriate.

For countries that are just starting to prioritize reducing food loss and waste, we propose a multi-step approach starting with an initial assessment, including baseline measurement using the Food Loss and Food Waste Indices where possible, followed by strategy development, budgeting/fundraising, and decision making, and finishing with implementation of agreed initiatives and monitoring.

Some of the benefits of working through a coalition are that it will:

- Convene participating countries, cities and companies to help build institutional capacity to inspire and learn from each other
- Provide learning opportunities, 'how to' guidance, support on business and financial model development, proven tools e.g. for measuring and follow up methods, and leadership on each component
- Bring companies (e.g. from the Consumer Goods Forum and World Business Council for Development) to join in national efforts ensuring private sector investment as well as government and other investment
- Facilitate networking among grassroots influencers, large organisations, farmers, cooperatives, SMEs, civil society and public institutions to support FLW reduction. Thus, providing a platform for action-oriented alliances
- Promote gender responsive and culturally adapted FLW interventions which have a great chance of being effective and to have long lasting impact
- Ensure at least equal access and benefit from these measures for smallholder farmers, women, youth and minorities
- Mobilise new financial resources into efforts to reduce FLW
- Advocate and help raise awareness among a broader spectrum of stakeholders including private citizens. Awareness raising will help trigger a 'FLW reduction movement' in which countries, companies and people do not want to be 'left out' when they see their peers joining that movement
- Help monitor progress, publicly profile successes and maintain momentum

Strategic partners (members, private sector, civil society, academia):

- **Member states:**
 - US, Brazil, Indonesia, Italy, Ecuador
 - Future potential members include key regional organisations: G7, G20, as well as over 30 member states including UK, Netherlands, Denmark, Canada, Chile, Australia
- **UN agencies/IFIs:** FAO, UNEP, the World Bank, regional development banks
- **NGOs:** WRI, WRAP, WWF, Global Foodbanking Network
- **Academia/Think Tank/Research Centre:** Wageningen University, CGIAR
- **Others:** Champions 12.3, Rabobank

Monitoring and Evaluation (clear quantifiable indicators and targets linked to SDGs)

Each of the initiatives in the overall cluster will have identified lead organisations which will provide coordination, support and monitoring for the specific initiatives. Many of these organisations are already running initiatives in this area so this work will build on those e.g. FAO and Champions 12.3.

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There will be regular reviews by all the lead organisations to maintain an overview across all initiatives.

Existing initiatives, coalitions and platforms will be used and developed to provide mechanisms for reporting and sharing learning etc. including:

- the Food Coalition launched by FAO in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- the FAO hosted G20 technical platform <http://www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste/en/>
- the UNEP Think Eat Save campaign <https://www.unep.org/thinkeatsave/>
- World Bank country assessments
- Champions 12.3 website and annual reports <https://champions123.org/>

<https://champions123.org/publication/sdg-target-123-food-loss-and-waste-2020-progress-report>