Update on Circular Economy Action Plan: EU food waste prevention initiatives

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Waste legislation – state of play

- **Provisions on food waste** are one of the elements of COM proposal to revise Waste Framework Directive *(COM(2015)595 final)*

- **New obligations for Member States:**
  - reduce food waste generation at each stage in the food supply chain (primary production, processing/manufacturing, retail/other food distribution, restaurants and food services, households)
  - Monitor food waste levels, based on **common EU methodology**, and report (on a biennial basis).
Waste legislation – negotiations

- Proposal is subject to **ordinary legislative procedure** (former "co-decision") – i.e. Council and Parliament are co-legislators

- **Negotiations** at political and technical levels involving Council, Parliament and Commission, started on 30 May and are ongoing, with the aim to **agree final text by end 2017**
Waste legislation – negotiations

• **Main issues under discussion on food waste** are European Parliament's amendments proposing:
  • a definition of food waste;
  • aspirational EU food waste reduction targets;
  • a task for the Commission to evaluate the possibility and propose binding food waste reduction targets in the future.

• Final outcome is expected to have a significant impact on future food waste policy in EU.
Food waste measurement

• **Preparation of methodology on monitoring of food waste** is on-going. However, it can only be finalised once the negotiations on the Waste Framework Directive are completed, in particular definition of food waste.

• Meanwhile, **sub-group on food waste measurement** met on 25 September to discuss stakeholders' current practices on food waste measurement as well as related work of Commission services (Eurostat, DG JRC).

• **Letter of intent** confirms strengthened cooperation between COM and FAO: monitoring of SDG 12.3.
Food Donation

- **EU guidelines** adopted on World Food Day and published in all EU languages.

- **Subgroup on food donation (25.10.2017):**
  
  - Preparation of document illustrating practices in Member States ⇒ Call for contributions from all Platform members (initial input by end 2017; final document by end 2018))

- **New EFSA mandate** for 2nd scientific opinion on hazard analysis approaches for certain small retail establishments including possible additional hazards related to food donation activities. **Timeline** (30.09.2018)
Food Donation

• **Subgroup on food donation (25.10.2017):**

  - Update on FEAD (DG EMPL) and support for food donation/food waste prevention; presentation of FoodCloud digital food redistribution network

  - Recovery/redistribution of **agricultural/farming surplus** (case studies: France - Restaurants du Cœur, SOLAAL; Italy)

  - Update on implementation of **digital tools**
EP Pilot Project on 'food redistribution' 

- **Overall aim**: support redistribution of safe surplus food in the Member States

- **Task 1**: map and analyse existing regulatory and policy measures impacting food redistribution in all EU Member States

- **Task 2**: mapping of existing operational frameworks in all EU Member States (strengths and weaknesses)
EP Pilot Project on 'food redistribution'

- **Task 3**: dissemination and stakeholders dialogue on the EU guidelines on food donation – starting in 2019

  ⇒ activities to be carried out **in partnership with** Platform members

- **Task 4**: stakeholders' feedback on the EU guidelines

- **Timetable**: 2017-2020
Sub-group 'action and implementation'

• **First meeting**: 25 October 2017

• **Objectives:**
  - Share best practices, information and learning related to food waste prevention
  - Contribute to design tools for effective information sharing
  - Contribute to monitoring of evidence-based progress
  - Facilitate inter-sectorial cooperation
  - Identify areas of intervention to prevent food waste
Sub-group 'action and implementation'

- The group recommended/agreed:
  - the *development* of an easy-to-use reporting tool for key initiatives/strategies in food waste prevention, with focus on learning and results achieved
  - to focus on "directions for change", ie *recommendations* for action by all players which could be targeted for instance to 3 key sectors: government, industry, consumers;
  - *Roadmap* outlining key milestones and deliverables of this sub-group to be achieved by 2019
Green Public Procurement Criteria for food and catering services

• **Scope**: food and catering services + vending machines
• **Criteria** proposed for different stages of the procurement process (*e.g.* technical specifications; award criteria)
• Tenderer shall have **written procedures describing best practices** for preventing the generation of food waste

• **Timetable**:
  - Stakeholders' written consultation on 3rd draft technical report closed
  - Conclusion foreseen for early 2018
The Digital network: objectives

- Facilitate on-going exchange of information and mutual learning between Platform members
- Facilitate the on-going work of the Platform and its sub-groups
- Streamline communication between the Commission and the Platform
The Digital Network of the EU Platform on FLW

Online tool to support the work of the EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

Main discussion areas:

- AGORA
- Date marking
- Food donation
- Food waste measurement
- Action & implementation
REFRESH Community of Experts

Welcome to the Refresh Community of Experts
An online platform to find and share information and best practice on food waste prevention

- find and share information and best practice on food waste prevention
- connect with experts

The food resources being lost and wasted in Europe would be enough to feed all the hungry people in the world two times over (European Commission 2013).

Across the globe, nearly 30% of food is wasted throughout the agri-food supply chain. According to the latest data, 70% of the EU food waste arises in household, food service and retail sectors.

A growing library of resources

Open to all interested stakeholders
REFRESH Community of Experts

Dave Jones | 2 Days Ago
I'm interested to know how you managed to get the right mix of stakeholders around the table to set up the FA in each country.

Toine Timmermans | 1 Minute Ago
In the Netherlands there was an existing high level platform of business and private sector actors. We were able to tap into this to create a working group of those most relevant to the objectives of our FA. Some advice would be to check out if such a platform exists in your country.

Nora Bruggeman | 2 Seconds Ago
We first identified the mix of business and government and other stakeholders we wanted to involve. Then we had a series of bilateral discussions with each one to find out about their priorities and whether they would participate in such an agreement. As key stakeholders agreed, we found it was easier to persuade others to join.
Future Platform meetings

- **Sub-groups:**
  - **Next meetings:** February/March 2018

- **2018 Plenary meetings:**
  - **24 May** – in context of AgroBalt Fair, Vilnius
  - **November/December** (tbc)
Thank you