Food waste monitoring - update

Bartosz Zambrzycki
European Commission, DG Health and Food Safety
Unit E1, Food information and composition, food waste
Delegated act on food waste measurement

- Status: Work in progress

- 5 meetings of the Expert Group on Food Losses and Food Waste: first on 16 March 2018, last on 23 November 2018
Content of the Delegated act...

- Key elements are as already presented and discussed in Platform and Subgroup on FLW Measurement:
  - Definition
  - Scope
  - Methods
Definition:
"food waste" - means all food as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council that has become waste.

Interpretation:
- food - as defined in General Food Law i.e. entire food (including all its part, both edible and not intended to be eaten),
- which has becomes a waste – i.e. which the holder (in this case an FBO or household) discards it or intends or is required to discard
Scope of delegated act = scope of WFD

Food waste to be monitored as specified in Waste Framework Directive should cover only food waste within the scope of WFD.

Two main exclusions from WFD:
- agricultural biomass used in farming, or for the production of energy (art 2.1.f)
- animal by-products except those which are destined for incineration, landfilling or use in a biogas or composting plant (art. 2.2.b)
Scope of draft delegated act vs FUSION framework
Scope of the delegated act vs FLW Standard

Proposed coverage of monitoring of food waste on the template of Food Loss and Waste Standard

- **TIMEFRAME**
  - 12 months (January 1 – December 31)

- **MATERIAL TYPE**
  - Food
  - Inedible parts

- **DESTINATION**
  - Animal feed
  - Biomaterial processing
  - Co/anaerobic digestion
  - Compost/aerobic
  - Controlled combustion
  - Land application
  - Landfill
  - Not harvested
  - Refuse/discard
  - Seller

- **BOUNDARY**
  - Food category = All food and beverages
  - Lifecycle stage = All (only includes farm-level FLW that’s off site)
  - Geography = Entire country
  - Organization = All FLW-producing units

- **RELATED ISSUES**
  - Pre-harvest losses and the weight of product packaging is excluded from the weight of FLW
Basic Measurement Methods

- Based on FUSION manual

- In line with Food Loss and Waste Standard
  (*GUIDANCE ON FLW QUANTIFICATION METHODS*)

- Consulted with experts

- MS can decide on how to aggregate results
Voluntary reporting

• **Edible fraction** of total food waste

• “**Food to feed**” (not by-products from food production)

• **Food redistributed**

• **Food waste to sewer** (if not mandatory)
General provisions on monitoring

- Each stage of food supply chain (Primary production, Processing and manufacturing, Distribution, Food services, Households) are to be monitored and reported separately.

- Stage delineation by NACE codes, practical application at MS level
Lines of discussion

- Flexibility and practicability vs comparability
- Cost-efficient reporting
- Food waste to sewer
Food waste via the sewer – monitor or not?

• It is **important route for food waste** (especially liquid) and its exclusion from monitoring may distort the picture

but:

• It is technically **challenging to measure**, (e.g. FUSIONS manual does not require it) and the result have much higher level of uncertainty

• Several MS bans or strongly discourage such route for food
Expected outcome:

- Well balanced proposal on all challenges
- In line with SDG 12.3 indicators
- Start of learning process (annually quality check reports are required by the Directive!)
Next steps on monitoring legislation

- Public consultations - “feedback mechanism”
  – late December/early January

- Adoption by Commission and start of scrutiny of Parliament and Council – before mid-March

- Preparation of implementing act on reporting format
next Subgroup on FLW measurement

- Preliminary planned for late January (subject to availability of meeting facilities)

- Topic: Food losses and waste at farm level
Thank you for your attention