

Tracking Progress and Delivering SDG 12.3

Clementine O'Connor, Paris Food Waste Measurement Workshop
28 November 2023



**An estimated 931
million tonnes of food
was wasted in 2019.**

An aerial photograph of a vast, flat agricultural field under a clear sky. The field is divided into numerous parallel rows, creating a textured, golden-brown surface. Two tractors are visible: one on the left side, moving away from the viewer, and another on the right side, moving towards the viewer. The tractor on the right is kicking up a cloud of dust. The overall scene depicts large-scale industrial agriculture.

28% of the world's agricultural area is used to produce food that *will never be eaten*

We come to this problem from several entry points...



Environmental:

Food loss and waste generates **8-10% of global GHG emissions**.
Particularly large source of methane.



Economic:

Food loss and waste estimated to cost upwards of **\$940 Billion** per year



Humanitarian:

Food being wasted, despite an ongoing crisis of hunger. In 2022, **900 million people** faced severe food insecurity.



SDG 12.3: By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

UNEP's Role delivering Sustainable Development Goal 12.3

Mandated by United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution 4/2

Data

- Custodian of SDG 12.3 Food Waste Index
- Methodology for national food waste measurement
- Global & country-level estimates
- In-country measurement

Advocacy

- Co-convenor of International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste
- Campaign and activations
- #123Pledge

Cooperation

- Fostering global and regional collaboration through e.g.
 - UNFSS
 - MEAs
 - G20
 - EU Platform
 - Regional Food Waste Working Groups

Capacity Building

- National and regional capacity building on:
 - Measurement
 - Policy and NDCs
 - Public-Private Partnerships
 - Consumer Behaviour Change
 - Circular Food Systems

Tracking Progress on SDG 12.3

Food Loss Index- focus on supply

Custodians of 12.3 indicators:
FAO & UNEP



“By 2030, ...



“...reduce **food losses** along **production and supply chains**, including post-harvest losses.”

Food Waste Index- focus on demand



“...halve per capita global **food waste** at the **retail and consumer levels**.”





Food Waste Index Report

- ▶ UNEP – custodian of food waste indicator
 - **UNEP Food Waste Index Report 2023 to be launched at COP 28 with new global data**
 - Most comprehensive assessment of available national and global food waste data, and provides guidance on measurement
 - Food waste data and measurement remains limited, yet it is critical for targeted action
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FWI 2021 Key Finding:

Global household food waste = 74 kg / person / year



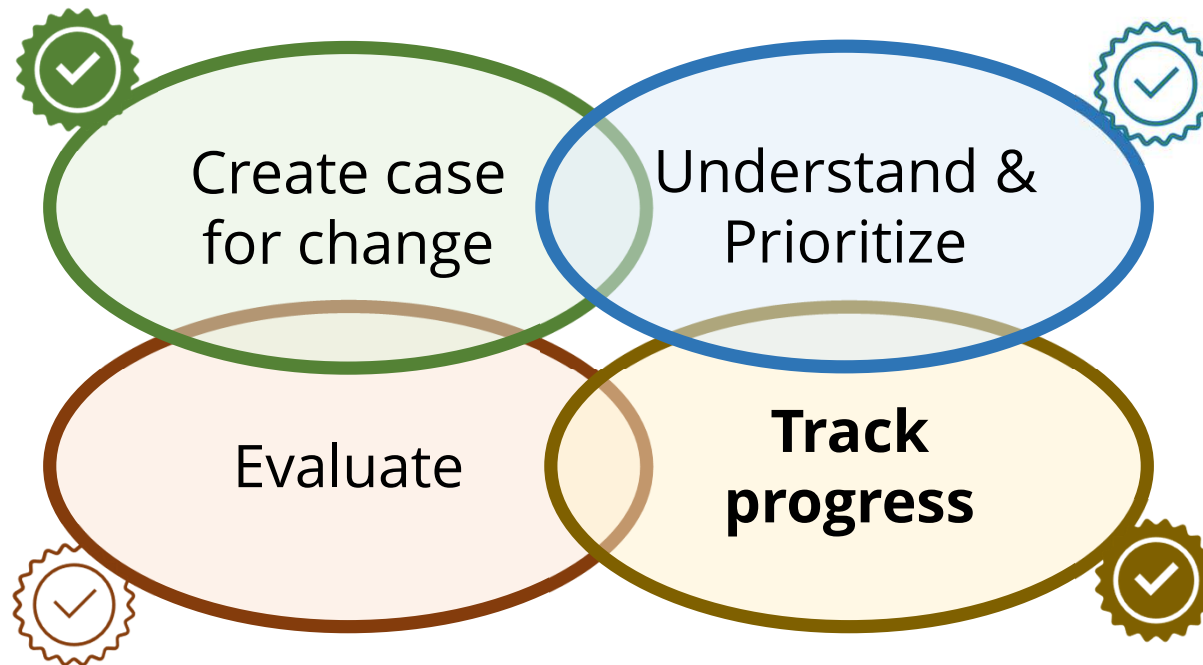
FWI 2021 Key Finding:

Data suggests food waste is a problem, **everywhere**

Household food waste 2019, organized by World Bank country income group

Income group	Average, kg / capita / year
High-income	79
Upper middle-income	76
Lower middle-income	91
Low-income	Insufficient data

What does measuring food waste under SDG12.3 achieve?



UNEP hosts Regional Food Waste Working Groups

Participants by Region

Africa	Asia Pacific	Latin America & Caribbean	West Asia
Ghana	Australia	Argentina	Bahrain
Mauritius	Cambodia	Brazil	Jordan
Nigeria	China	Colombia	Lebanon
South Africa	India	Costa Rica	Palestine
Tanzania	Indonesia	Dominican Republic	Qatar
	South Korea	Mexico	UAE
	Thailand	Uruguay	

Four key approaches for tackling food waste at scale



Consumer behaviour change programmes

- Enabling environment
- Awareness campaigns
- Piloting interventions
- Amplification through local government and businesses



Public-Private Partnerships

- Sector-by-sector engagement
- Voluntary targets
- Guidance on measurement and action
- Reporting



Circular food systems transitions

- Separate collection of food waste
- Support for charitable redistribution
- Innovation and circular business models
- Composting/recycling infrastructure



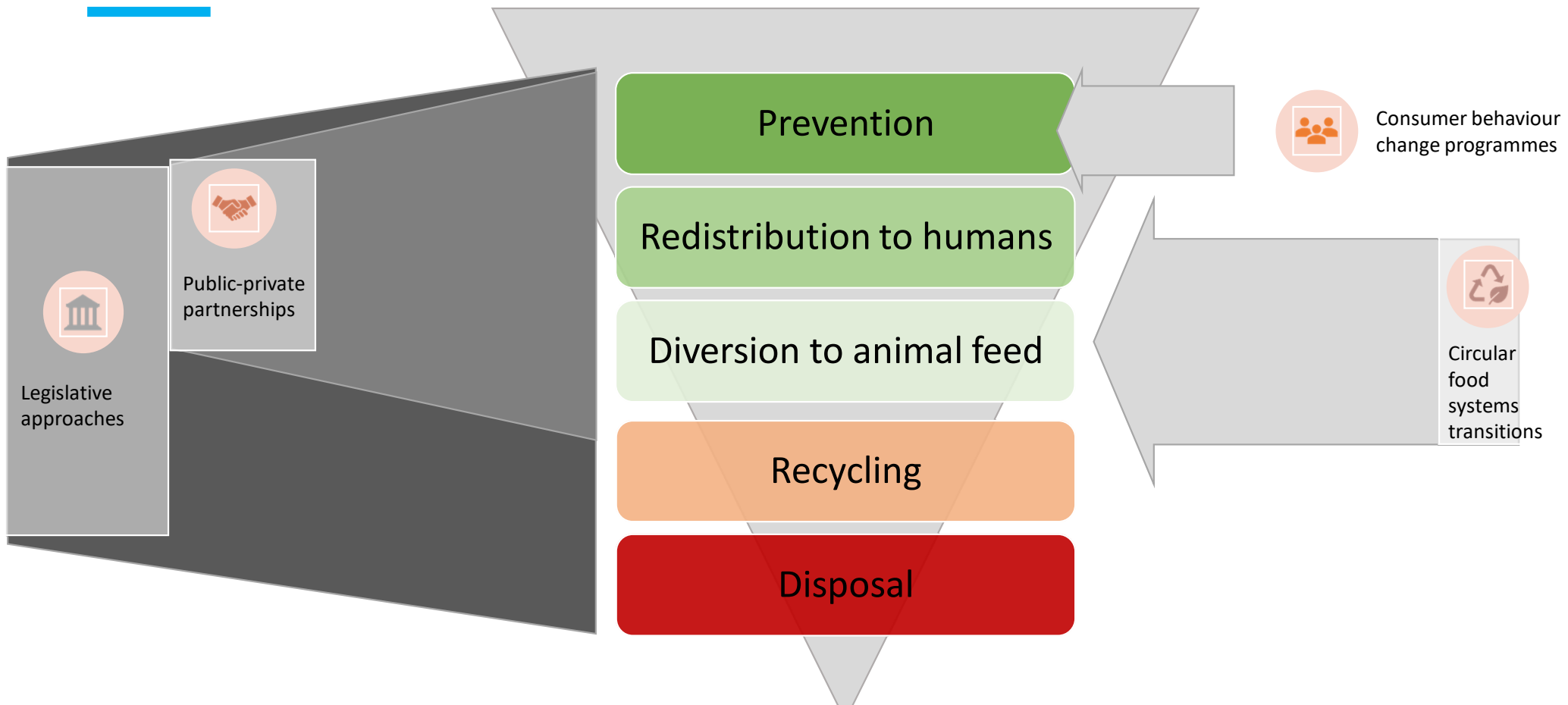
Policy & NDCs

- Waste Policy
- Economic instruments
- Food donation legislation
- Reporting requirements



Photo by [Sebastian Coman](#) photography on Unsplash

Mapping to the waste hierarchy



International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste

 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

 UN environment programme


 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS


29 September
International Day of Awareness
of Food Loss and Waste

STOP FOOD LOSS AND WASTE. FOR THE PEOPLE. FOR THE PLANET.



www.fao.org/international-day-awareness-food-loss-waste/
www.unep.org/events/un-day/ida16
#FLWDay

 THE EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD PROJECT

 UN environment programme

SAVING THE SCRAPS: REDUCING FOOD WASTE IN THE KITCHEN

Student Name: _____

Summary: Valuing every bit of the food that has been produced means taking it to its full potential, making every bite a delight. This very approach has given us some of the world's most delicious, iconic dishes. Think about French toast, Italian ravioli, fried rice or pickles, but also many more local traditional ones. They all are creative responses to reducing waste, honoring the farmer's work and nature while reducing cost. In this lesson, you will learn about food waste and then try making some recipes utilizing ingredients that might have otherwise been wasted.

Time: 20-40 mins (longer if completing recipes. See recipe directions for details.)

Materials:

- Vegetable Stock Lesson (attached below)
- Quick Pickles Lesson (attached below)
- Any Organic Greens Pesto Lesson (attached below)

Vocabulary:

- **Food Waste:** the food that is grown and produced but never consumed.
- **Organic:** food grown or made without the use of synthetic chemicals or genetically engineered seeds

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Written in partnership with UNEP | www.edibleschoolyard.org | www.unep.org



Thank you

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One planet
handle with care