



# Sustainable Food systems and Food security

## Enhancing food security through sustainable food systems

Food loss and waste occurs along the entire food chain. Food loss is the decrease in quantity or quality of food, while food waste refers to discarding or non-food use of food set for human consumption. Unsustainable farming, storage and distribution processes, lack of consumer awareness coupled with environmental factors such as climate change and natural disasters continue to escalate the challenges on food security. Food loss and waste represents a significant inefficiency in the world's current food system and taking action to reduce it can conserve the environment, decrease greenhouse gas emissions and promote efficient land and water use.



UN Environment is the Custodian Agency for several key indicators related to waste: **Goal 12: "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns."**

- 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale
- 2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture
- 11.6.1 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities
- 12.3.1 Global food loss and waste index
- 12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled.
- 12.1.1 Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies

