



FOLOU contributes to unlock the systemic transition of EU food systems towards sustainable, resilient, healthy and inclusive ones by supporting a solid knowledge and evidence-based prevention and reduction of food losses at the primary production.

News about food waste and losses

European Commission proposes targets to accelerate food waste reduction in the EU by 2030



The Commission proposes that, by 2030, Member States reduce food waste by 10%, in processing and manufacturing, and by 30% (per capita), jointly at retail and consumption (restaurants, food services and households).

In order to accelerate the EU's progress towards this global target, the Commission is proposing to set food waste reduction targets to be achieved by Member States by 2030, as part of the revision of the Waste Framework Directive, adopted by the Commission on 5 July 2023. More specifically, the Commission proposes that, by 2030, Member States reduce food waste by 10%, in processing and manufacturing, and by 30% (per capita), jointly at retail and consumption (restaurants, food services and households). There is no specific objective for the reduction of food losses.

News from the project

Food Loss: What to measure and how to measure it

The FOLOU project aims at delivering a robust methodology to quantify food losses in the primary production stage. A first step of the methodology development was to propose a definition for food loss, as there is currently no official definition at the European level. The project sought to distinguish such losses from food waste, by-products, and animal feed. The forthcoming definitional framework will encompass products from a point when they are mature enough to be harvested, until they are harvested.

Read more [here](#)



First steps towards a new methodology to assess the environmental impact of food loss

Under the coordination of the BETA Technology Centre, the FOLOU consortium is currently working to develop a comprehensive conceptual framework to address the calculation of the environmental impact of food losses at the primary production stage. The ongoing methodology will be defined according to recent research and techniques suggested by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) on Food Waste and will cover the environmental, economic and social impacts of food losses.

Read more [here](#)



First steps of the future National and European Food Losses Registry

One of the objectives of the FOLOU project consortium is the creation of the first homogenised and consensual framework for the future National and European Food Losses Registry. This system will be available to both public administrations and governments, and for the scientific community, field experts and people concerned. Furthermore, it will be designed to collect and analyse data targeting the food distribution value chain and from other similar registries that are presently in place.

Read more [here](#)



First steps towards an engagement strategy and revising the current Food Loss legal framework

The FOLOU consortium collected information and produced draft reports on the Food Loss related legal framework in the EU, the region of Catalonia and Austria. This is the start of a more extensive process where information on the current policy developments for Food Losses Management in Europe will include information also for other 8 European countries (Spain, Italy, Belgium, Norway, France, Greece, Ireland and Great Britain).

Neither the EU nor its Member States have specific mandatory regulations on Food Loss, that has no common and consensual definition. The region of Catalonia stands out with a regulation proposition that includes financial incentives and sanctions.

Read more [here](#)



Country News

BELGIUM "Resourceful Evenings" : The outcomes of the Food Waste Event

The first Resourceful Evening, organized by [RE-Source.bio community](#), at UGent was held on 15 Nov 2023 and focused on different aspects of food waste and loss, ranging from creating awareness on food waste and food loss to technological solutions and innovation for processing food byproducts.

This gave us the opportunity to present the FOLOU Project and its first concrete results. We presented the food loss definition, some of the envisaged technology innovation tools, as well as the first project results from the UGent research on the Jonagold apple use case.



Synergies



WASTELESS and FOLOU projects (funded under the HORIZON-CL6-2022-FARM2FORK-01) are two groundbreaking projects that share the common goal of tackling the global issue of food loss and waste through innovative approaches and technologies. As sister projects, they complement each other and together strive to create a more sustainable and efficient food system. WASTELESS and FOLOU are revolutionizing the way we think about food loss and food waste management, where food loss and food waste are minimized, resources are utilized more effectively, and hunger is alleviated.

Read more [here](#)

Save the date



FOOD 2030 Conference: Green and Resilient Food System, 4-5 December 2023, Brussels and online, Belgium

Are you interested in transitioning towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems for the benefit of the environment and economy? Mark your calendar for our Food 2030 conference, which will take place in Brussels and will be web streamed on 4 and 5 December 2023

Registrations for in-person and online participation will open mid-September.

Read more [here](#)

Meet the team!



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