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The FOLOU project contributes to unlocking 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 lossess 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

The second FOLOU Learning course is now available on Ubiqua!



FOLOU partners have launched their second free online course, **Measuring Food Loss: Implementing the FOLOU Methodology**, developed by the University of Reading and hosted on Ubiqua.

The course covers why measuring food loss matters, how to apply the FOLOU definition, and how to measure and report food loss across agriculture, aquaculture, and fisheries.

Key details:

- Self-paced & 100% online
- Free digital badge
- EIT Food accredited

Read more and access the course [here](#).

The CEN workshop on food loss quantification has been launched



The CEN workshop on food loss quantification in primary production officially began on 12 December with an **online kick-off meeting** bringing together stakeholders from across the food system. Hosted by CEN and coordinated by UNE, the workshop marks **the start of the development of a CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA)**.

FOLOU project coordinators highlighted the **lack of harmonised methodologies** for measuring food loss in primary production and the challenges this creates for comparability and policy-making. The proposed CWA will build on the FOLOU methodology to provide a practical, flexible, and standardised approach applicable across agriculture, livestock, and aquaculture.

The CWA is expected to be approved in the first semester of 2026 and will support more accurate and reliable food loss quantification across Europe.

Read more [here](#).

FOLOU partners at the RETASTE Conference in Athens

From 24–27 September, FOLOU partners **UNIBO, CIRCE, PROMAN, and BETA TC** participated in the **RETASTE Conference** in Athens, an international forum on rethinking food resources, losses, and waste.

The partners presented project results on food-loss drivers in the primary sector, policy analysis, the Food Loss Registry, and the Food Loss Sustainability Tool. Their contributions helped advance discussions on reducing food losses, particularly at the primary production stage.



Read more [here](#).

FOLOU Twinning Regions: two-day in-person workshop in Barcelona advances food-loss prevention work



On 4–5 November, FOLOU partners hosted a two-day workshop in Barcelona with **six Twinning Regions** to advance the **replication of tools and methods for preventing food loss in primary production**.

Participants took part in field measurements, technical demonstrations, and peer-learning sessions, testing FOLOU tools such as the Food Loss Registry and Repository.

The Twinning Regions will continue applying FOLOU methods and sharing lessons in the coming months.

Find out more [here](#).

FOLOU at the Circular Summit Frisland Conference



From 10–12 June, **ACR+** presented FOLOU at the Circular Summit Frisland Conference in Leeuwarden (The Netherlands), attended by over 150 participants.

Project partner **Agnese Boccalon** showcased the **Twinning Regions Programme**, the **Food Loss Registry**, and the **FOLOU Sustainability Tool**, highlighting opportunities for quantifying food losses in primary production.

Read more [here](#).

Exploring the social impacts of food loss: a new framework initiative

FOLOU partners are developing a **framework to measure the social impacts of food loss**, building on the **Social Life Cycle Assessment (S-LCA) approach**.

A workshop with 25 S-LCA experts from 10+ countries validated indicators covering food security, farmers' income and efficiency, job security, and local environmental management.

Next steps include refining the indicators, collecting data, and linking results to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Read more [here](#).



FOLOU at the FOOD2030 Networks Conference in Copenhagen



On 3 December 2025, FOLOU partner **PROMAN** participated in the **Transformative Governance for Food Systems and Biodiversity Conference** in Copenhagen, held under the Danish EU Presidency. The event, part of the broader FOOD2030 Networks Conference (2–4 December 2025), brought together over 350 participants from 31 countries representing research, politics, industry, and civil society.

PROMAN contributed to discussions and presented a **project poster**, highlighting the value of collaboration and knowledge exchange for advancing sustainable food systems.

Read more [here](#).

FOLOU wants your opinion and contribution in the ongoing developments made by the project. Fill in the survey!

The FOLOU project is looking for **Food Loss experts** who are interested in sharing their knowledge and engaging in the evolution of the project.

If you are interested, complete the [survey](#).



Country news

NORWAY

FOLOU partner Héctor from Espigoladors visited Stavanger to explore how food loss is monitored in Norway's salmon farming sector. The visit covered the full production cycle—from smolt to market size—highlighting key challenges such as disease, sea lice and environmental impacts. Despite advanced technology, losses are still recorded manually, underscoring the need for robust and transparent reporting systems. Norway's strong regulatory framework and data-sharing initiatives, such as AquaCloud, offer valuable insights for improving food-loss quantification in aquaculture and for adapting these practices in other regions.

Read more [here](#).

ITALY

Héctor Cobalea from Espigoladors also travelled to Ancona to explore an unexpected angle on food loss: mussel aquaculture. His visit with UNIVPM uncovered surprising insights into how mussels are grown, cleaned, transported—and how these steps may lead to both visible and less visible losses. The article also touches on animal welfare in aquaculture and how small organisms can shift our perspective on food systems.

Read more [here](#).

AUSTRIA

On 8 July 2025, FOLOU partner PROMAN hosted a national stakeholder workshop in Vienna with representatives from farming, research, retail, policy, and civil society. Participants explored how different actors across the food value chain can help prevent and reduce food loss.

ITALY

From 17–20 June, FOLOU partner UNIVPM participated in the 26th ASPA Congress in Turin, Italy.

Researcher Matteo Zarantoniello received the Best Poster Award for his work on reducing food losses through an automated hatching system for early-stage

The insights gathered will contribute to FOLOU's upcoming practice guidelines on food loss prevention, with a draft expected in early 2026 and follow-up workshops planned across partner countries.

Read more [here](#).

rainbow trout embryos.

This recognition highlights innovative approaches in aquaculture and sustainable animal production!

Read more [here](#).

Synergies



wasteless

WASTELESS and FOLOU projects 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](#).



**SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM
INNOVATION PLATFORM**

The FOLOU project is a **contributing project in the Sustainable Food System Innovation Platform** which is an online environment for those interested in sustainable food who want to stay up-to-date.

Read more [here](#).

FOOD LOSSES & FOOD WASTE

A global platform
for experts and research

The **Global Food Loss and Waste Research Platform** is an initiative launched under the **G20's MACS** (Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists). It serves as an international hub for collaboration, connecting experts, researchers, and stakeholders working to reduce food loss and waste (FLW).

The platform facilitates knowledge sharing, showcases research projects, and supports the development of region-specific solutions through workshops and annual reports. Coordinated by the Thünen Institute, with experts like Dr. Felicitas Schneider playing a key role, it aims to advance global efforts to tackle FLW and promote sustainable food systems.

Read more [here](#).

Save the date



WASTELESS Final Conference: Brussels, Belgium, 23 April 2026

The **WASTELESS** project is proud to announce its **final event**, taking place on April 23, 2026, in Brussels, as part of the **Food Forum WASTE DAY**. This milestone event will highlight the project's major achievements in the fight against food loss and waste across Europe.

See more [here](#).

Meet the team!



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