

Food Loss in Catalonia

Drivers

Part of the FOLOU activities is the identification and mapping of the main drivers for food loss generation¹. These are categorised into the following categories:

- A. Behavioural: Human or individual factors in place within the farm boundaries, which can be categorised as the presence or absence of motivations, perceptions and beliefs, knowledge, skills and abilities that lead agricultural operators to cause food losses (e.g. harvesting techniques, knowledge).
- B. Societal: Factors that come from external human sources of socio-cultural, economic, technical, political and regulatory nature and that influence or condition the behaviour and decisions of farm operators. These factors are beyond the direct control of people and can influence food losses (e.g. market price, standards & regulations, coordination & cooperation, supply chain capacity, overproduction).
- C. Environmental: Environmental factors that have a consequence on food losses generation (e.g. climate and weather conditions, pests and diseases).

The following Table lists the number of reasons driving food loss in Catalonia under the sources that were identified by the FOLOU project. More information can be found in the Deliverable 2.2².

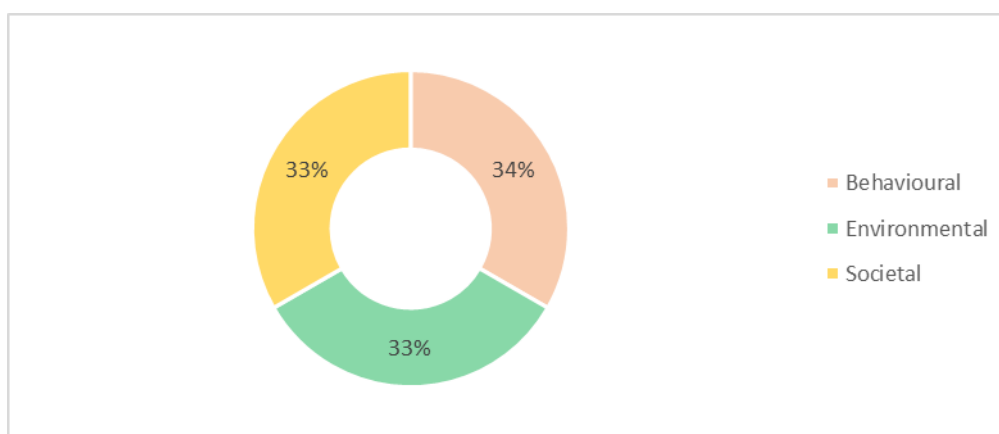


Figure 5: Distribution of the three driver categories for the identified barriers in Catalonia

¹ As is produced in the Deliverable 2.1: https://www.folou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/D2.1_Standard_protocol_vF.pdf

² https://www.folou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/D2.2_ReportreviewFLdrivers_VF.pdf



Table 6: Food Loss drivers in Catalonia per commodity and driver category

Commodity Category	Driver	Driver Category
Fish and Fisheries Products	No correct gauge because not having good meteorological conditions to establish it on the boat	Environmental
	Operational: incorrect handling during pre-sale classification incorrect handling while using gillnetting	Behavioural
	Discards: no correct gauge due to trawning, predation by <i>Todarodes sagittatus</i>	
	D Commercial: drop of prices and withdrawal from sale	Societal
Fruits and Vegetables	Commercial: price volatility due to imbalance of the purchase price, aesthetic requirements, prices lower than cost of production, low demand, excess of product, devolutiona from clients, difficulties to assess the market	
	Sanitary: damage due to pests that affect the quality of the fruit and that cause aesthetic deficiencies, due to crops that don't have enough quality, damage due to pests and diseases, fertirrigation problems, due to fauna	Environmental
	Operational: adverse management with stocks, missing labour, aged plantations, soil wear and not enough rotation of crops. mistake when calculating the time of harvesting, rapid maturation of the fruit	Behavioural
	Agroclimatic: extreme weather phenomena and coldwave freezings, strong winds that affect the quality of the fruit	Environmental
	External: short lifespan and fast maturation	
	Qualitative: size requirements	Societal
Meats and Dairy Products	Sanitary: due to presence of aflotoxines, mastitis, detection of antibiotics	Environmental
	Operational: loss of cold chain	Behavioural