



Food Loss in France

Policies

Table 1: Highlights and gaps in the national/regional policy framework of France

Highlights	- Improving the competitiveness of the French agricultural sector is a priority in France. Achieving a better management of food loss is one of the means to improve productivity and reach the percentage increase in domestic production of agricultural products, which is a target of the National Plan for Food Sovereignty, March 2024
Gaps	- No distinction in terminology is made between food loss and food waste in the legislation (no definition of food loss) - There is no obligation to measure food loss

Table 2: Policy analysis in France

1. Territory	France		
2. Level	Country		
3. Is a specific law / regulation for food loss in place?			
☐ Laws and regulations on food loss		☐ Under development	
☒ Other laws / regulations containing provisions on food loss		☐ Under development	
Law n° 2020-105 regarding the fights against food waste and the promotion of a circular economy (law AGECE) Law n° 2018-938 on the balance of trade relationships in the agricultural and food sectors and a healthy and sustainable food (law EGALIM) Law n° 2016-138 regarding the fight against food waste (law GAROT) Law n° 2015-992 regarding the energy transition for green growth (law LTECV) Environmental Code			
☒ Soft law policies on food loss		☐ Under development	
National plan for waste prevention and reduction 2021-2027 March 2023 Plan for Fruits and Vegetable crops Sovereignty (Plan de souveraineté pour les fruits et légumes)			
4. Governance			
Law formulation and adoption	French government (including the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty)		
Law implementation and enforcement	Judiciary and administrative courts		
Monitoring of compliance	Commission of Finances of the National assembly		
5. Definitions (tick if available)			
☐ Food loss		☐ Under development	
☐ Food waste		☐ Under development	
☒ Food loss and food waste jointly		☐ Under development	
6. Objectives, targets and obligations for food loss <u>prevention and reduction</u> in laws / regulations and governmental soft law policies			
☐ Quantitative objectives			
	Ambition		
	Timeline	☐ Under development	
☒ Qualitative objectives			
NSP FVS	Ambition	Improve food sovereignty for fruits and vegetables in France. There are 40 intervention measures mentioned in the plan. Action B-10 (Reinforcer la structuration de la filiere), with its Measure 5 (Reduce FW), aims at the identification of the levers	



		to reduce FW (and FL) across the supply chain, as one of the measures to improve food sovereignty in fruits and vegetables. One of the other actions in the plan regards FL reduction for the organic sector, with activities focusing on tomatoes and apples production.	
	Timeline	Objectives for 2030 and 2035 set for food sovereignty (+5, and 10% points respectively, from baseline of 51%). Part of the gains should also come from the reduction in FL.	☐ Under development
Reporting and verification		Yes	No
Are reporting obligations on the progress towards reaching the objectives in place?		☐	☒
Have indicators to evaluate progress towards reaching the objectives been specified?		☐	☒
7. Measures and actions on food loss prevention and reduction in governmental policies			
Type of measures		Yes	No
Measuring and reporting obligations		☒	☐
Obligations to create food loss prevention and reduction plans			
By companies (PP businesses, food processing companies, etc.)		☒	☐
By public actors (municipalities, provinces, regions, etc.)		☐	☒
Fiscal incentives for food loss prevention and reduction		☒	☐
Grants for food loss prevention and reduction		☒	☐
Grants for improved food loss measuring (precision farming, earth observation, digitalisation, etc.)		☒	☐
Non-financial incentives for food loss prevention and reduction		☒	☐
8. Steps in the value chain targeted by objectives and measures for food loss prevention and reduction			
☒ Primary production, pre-harvest			
☒ Primary production, post-harvest (including on-farm storage)			
☒ Food processing			
☒ Wholesale and retail			
☐ Household consumption			
Are any of the following primary production sectors targeted by specific objectives/measures for food loss prevention and reduction?			
☐ Grains and pulses	☒ Fruit and vegetables	☐ Roots and tubers	
☐ Meat and dairy	☐ Fish	☐ No objectives/measures by specific commodities, but for all of them in general.	
9. Measurement and reporting of food loss in legislation and governmental soft law policies			
☐ Measurement and reporting system for food loss in place		☐ Under development	
☐ With specified quantification methods	☐ Without specified quantification methods		
☐ Measuring food loss in primary production, pre-harvest	☐ Measuring food loss in primary production, post-harvest (including on-farm storage)		
☒ No measurement and reporting system for food loss			
Are there any specific measurement/reporting obligations or quantification methods for any of the following primary production sectors?			
☐ Grains and pulses	☐ Fruit and vegetables	☐ Roots and tubers	
☐ Meat and dairy	☐ Fish	☐ No objectives/measures by specific commodities, but for all of them in general.	
10. Budget for food loss prevention and reduction			
☒ Dedicated budget for food loss prevention and reduction defined		☐ Under development	
☐ No dedicated budget for food loss prevention and reduction			



☐ Do not know

Comments

Within the Plan for Fruits and Vegetable crops Sovereignty ([Plan de souveraineté pour les fruits et légumes](#)) there is mentioning of budget allocated for the implementation of measures in pilots (i.e. Action B-10)

Table 3: Public objectives related to food loss

Overall objective / target	Source
Reduce food waste by 2030 by 50% to that of 2015 in the domain of consumption, production, transformation and commercial catering.	Law AGECE Environmental Code Law EGALIM
Timeline to reach objective / target	2030
Obligations	
Environmental Code, Article L541-11: This law is effective as of July 2020. It addresses waste prevention in general (all waste streams, including biowaste). The Ministry of Environment has developed a national plan for waste prevention (PNPD). The national plan should comprise (among others): - The list of preventive measures that are deployed. - An evaluation of the impact of these measures on the conception, the production and the distribution of the products generating waste as well as the consumption and use of these products. - The identification of threshold situations, the identification of indicators associated to waste prevention measures and the identification of the evaluation method that will be used With regards to bio-waste, the PNPD sets the following targets (first targets on FW prevention set in 2013, then revised in 2017): - 50% reduction of food waste by 2025 - Waste separation at source for bio-waste, to facilitate their valorization, before 2025	Actors – compliance
	Public administrations
	Actors – enforcement
	Permanent parliamentary commissions (commissions parlementaires permanents)
Environmental Code, Article L541-15-4: Stakeholders of the agrifood industry must have a plan to fight food waste before the 1 st of January 2021. This includes inventory management, i.e. producers must keep records of unsold and wasted products. This includes tracking quantities and types of food that are not sold.	Actors – compliance
	Agrifood industry
	Actors – enforcement
	Permanent parliamentary commissions (commissions parlementaires permanents)
Environmental Code, Article L541-15-5: Stakeholders of the agrifood industry should make sure to be able to sell their food and in the case that it is not possible, the actors should follow the food waste hierarchy. They are encouraged to donate unsold products to charitable organizations. It is not allowed to make unsold food that could still be eaten improper to human consumption or not to comply with the food waste hierarchy	Actors – compliance
	Agrifood industry
	Actors – enforcement
	Permanent parliamentary commissions (commissions parlementaires permanents)
Environmental Code, Article L541-15-6 and L541-15-6-1 Certain actors are required to have a plan regarding food donations. These actors are the following: - Retailers with a business measuring more than 400m² - Actors of collective catering (serving more than 3000 meals per day) - Agrofood industries and wholesalers (with an annual revenue of more than 50 million Euro). The actors should communicate each year their actions targeting food waste reduction, the internal control and the results (which should include the quantity of food donated)	Actors – compliance
	Agro-food industry actors, distributors, retailers, horeca (public sector)
	Actors – enforcement
	DGAL – Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (leading) + other 4 ministries involved
Measures	
Environmental Code, Article L541-15-6-1-1 (application of Law AGECE):	Actors – provision
	French Government



- Creation of an “anti-food waste” label that can be delivered to any legal person or entity that contributes to the national objectives of food waste reduction. 	Actors – use Any legal person or entity belonging to the FVC
Territorial Food Projects (Projets Alimentaires Territoriaux, PAT) is a tool developed in the Law of the future for agriculture, food and forest (13th of October 2014). The National Food Plan supports their development as they can be used to reach the National Food Plan's objectives (including the fight against food waste). From 2019 onward, the Plan therefore aims to: - Create a system to support the PAT before they are formally created, which therefore helps the development of new PAT and their identification. The system also contains a financial support for the PAT. - Use the mention “Territorial Food Project recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture” to boost the recognition of the PAT that are well developed. - Create a training to bring a technical and methodological support to the PAT facilitator and foster the development of new PAT. This will also foster the PAT networks where discussions and information can be exchanged on the topic of good practices and experiences. From 2020 onward, the Plan aims to valorise existing PAT through: - An annual national event to link PATs together and to identify new PAT actors. - A website to map all the PATs and to valorise their local initiatives. - A report on the measures performed.	Actors – provision Territorial communities, farmers, producers, companies, transformation/distribution/marketing cooperatives, any actors of the social and solidarity economy, research organisations and civil societies. Actors – use Territorial communities, farmers, producers, companies, transformation/distribution/marketing cooperatives, any actors of the social and solidarity economy, research organisations and civil societies.
France has adopted strong tax incentives on donations, including incentives for donations of agricultural products. The incentives can be up to 60% of the value of products. Producers can also receive incentives for their logistical services (transportation, etc.) for donations. The maximum incentives are 5/1000 of the company's revenues.	Actors – provision French Government Actors – use Farmers, producers, companies, transformation/distribution/marketing cooperatives, any actors of the social and solidarity economy,
Gleaning is generally permitted in France, if conducted in plain sight on an area that has already been harvested and with the permission of the producer. Departmental agricultural chambers can designate areas where gleaning is prohibited, however, such prohibition has to be justified and cannot affect the whole area of a municipality (Code général des collectivités territoriales, Article L2212-2). Actors engaging in gleaning are liable for the damage they cause and must therefore have liability insurance.	Actors – provision French Government, departmental agricultural chambers Actors – use Farmers, actors of the social and solidarity economy,
Means of verification	Actors
None	
Other aspects	Actors
Comments	



Table 4: Budget and financing of activities on food loss in France

Budget allocated to the implementation of the law / regulation			
Amount	Timing	Provided by	Purpose / description
212 million euros	One time in the year	Budget of the Ministry for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty in 2023	Agricultural equipment: to support investments to get new machines that have high environmental performance (LINK).
175 million euros	One time in the year	Budget of the Ministry for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty in 2023	Climate-related issues: to support investments in protection technologies that help to face climate-related issues especially frost and hale (LINK).
Other budget lines (tot 6B EUR)	Year 2023	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty	Increase agricultural sector competitiveness (with a great focus on capacity building). This can have several linkages with food loss prevention strategies.
Financial incentives			
Type of incentive		Grant from ADEME	
Purpose / description		Financial support for decisions (diagnostic, study carried out by an external entity) and investments in best practices or in the development of tested technology. This financial support can go to any project targeting the expertise of the ADEME, which includes upfront analyses and the deep diagnoses to support farms to switch towards high environmental and economic performance actions (Link & link).	
Beneficiaries		Public or private entities such as businesses, foundations and associations, public entity and territories.	
Eligibility criteria		- The studies should be realised within the frame of a grouped activity that is coordinated by a coordinator whose task include e.g., hiring, support, training etc.) The grant beneficiary differs from the beneficiary of the study and does not have any interest in the sales, building, installation, maintenance and use of the products which would be the topic of the study.	
Amount - total		Not available	
Timing - total		None	
Amount per beneficiary		Cover between 50-70% of the cost of the project with a maximum of 50.000 euros (diagnostic studies) and 100.000 euros (support of project)	
Timing - beneficiary		Once per project	
Financial incentives			
Type of incentive		Grant from ADEME	
Purpose / description		Financial support for awareness raising actions, communication actions, information actions, advice, training and animation that changes mindsets, behaviours as well as buying and investment in regard to the environment. This financial support can go to any project targeting the expertise of the ADEME, which includes upfront analyses and the deep diagnoses to support farms to switch towards high environmental and economic performance actions (Link & link).	
Beneficiaries		Public or private entities such as businesses, foundations and associations, public entity and territories.	
Eligibility criteria		- The actions of the grant applicants should not have an economic aim. The actions should benefit a large public and could have a general public interest goal. - The actions of the grant applicants should aim to raise awareness, spread information, include trainings, develop collective actions, give advice to the following public: the broad public, small territories, small and medium businesses.	
Amount - total		Not available	
Timing - total		Not available	



Amount per beneficiary	Covers maximum 70% of the project's expenses. The percentage and the maximum amount covered varies based on the type of project.
Timing - beneficiary	The grant can be given for a period of 3 years, which can be renewed once.
Financial incentives	
Type of incentive	Grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food as part of the National Food Plan (ADEME is part of the grant)
Purpose / description	To support upstream studies to fight against waste (both food and non-food waste) (Link).
Beneficiaries	The studies can tackle any part of the food value chain: from production to transformation, transport, stock, distribution and consumption.
Eligibility criteria	For food related studies: the study should aim to reduce food waste using prevention actions or valorisation of the food waste for social use. More specifically, the following type of studies can apply for the grant: - Territorial diagnostics of food waste (actors, volumes, cost, impact environmental); - Studies performed in the context of the development of tools to contribute to data from an observatory; - Diagnostics of operations grouped in agricultural cooperatives, catering trades, retail, logistics sector, commercial catering, open air markets, centers; - Opportunity study for the implementation of a REGAL (food waste network) at the scale of a territory; - Feasibility studies on the economic model of an activity valuing products usually lost (only in the context of valorization for human consumption); - Feasibility studies for the establishment of collective equipment. - N.B.: If the study is not selected for the grant, the study can apply for an ADEME grant
Amount - total	-
Timing - total	01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023. It is an annual grant that is renewed every year.
Amount per beneficiary	Maximum 50.000 euros are covered for diagnostic studies and maximum 100.000 euros for studies supporting projects. The financial support can cover up to 70% of the total costs for small companies or for a non-economic activity.
Timing - beneficiary	One-time
Comments	
The information collected above does not make specific reference to activities related to food losses prevention, but it might include them, depending on the nature of the project. Several project calls will be opened in the future to reach a third agricultural revolution (opened from 10/11/2020 until 13/12/2024). These calls support the development of innovative solutions, machineries, and materials, which may have an impact on food loss. In order to see them, please visit this webpage of bpifrance (in French).	