

Food Loss in Italy

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).

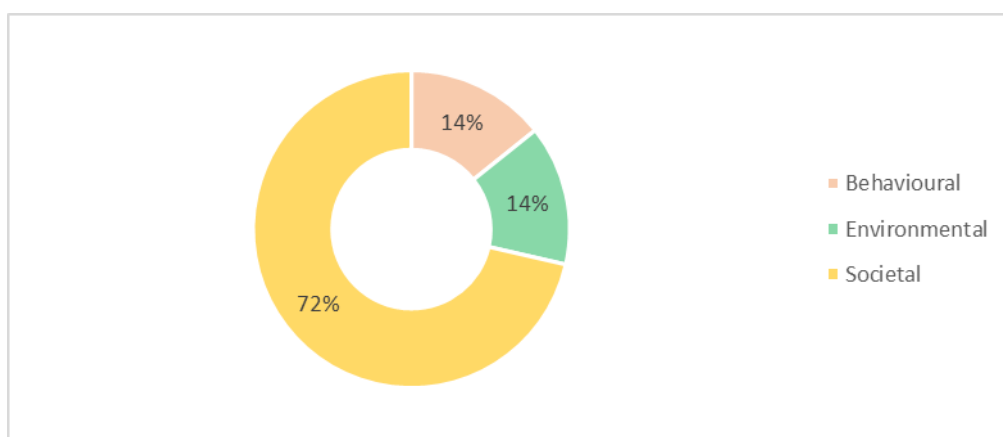


Figure 5: Distribution of the three driver categories for the identified barriers in Italy

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

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 Italy per commodity and driver category

Commodity Category	Driver	Driver Category
Fish and Fisheries Products	Damaged shell during cleaning process	Behavioural
Fruits and Vegetables	Is not harvested because it is unripe, or not edible due to the occurrence of phytopathologies and climatic effects	Environmental
	Premium product: overcolouring of the peel > 40% / Absence of imperfections (10% tolerance) / Caliber higher than public standard Absence of imperfections (5% tolerance) / Aesthetic appearance	Societal
	Due to price fluctuations, which makes harvesting uneconomical	
	Food safety regulations: Pesticides residues level below 40 – 70% legal levels	
Cereals and Pulses	Inefficient storage and processing infrastructure	Societal
	Inefficient transportation infrastructure	