National food waste prevention initiatives and EU framework

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1/3 of global produced food ends up as waste

one quarter of all water used by agriculture

cropland area the size of China

8 % of global greenhouse gas emissions
88 million tons of food are wasted annually in the EU.

119.1 million people in EU at risk of poverty or social exclusion (2015).

Associated costs of 143 billion EUR.

FEBA distributed 535,000 tons of food (2016).
Where does food waste occur?

- **Households**: 53%
- **Production**: 19%
- **Mass catering**: 12%
- **Primary production**: 11%
- **Retail**: 5%

*FUSIONS, Assessment of food waste in EU 2016*
Food waste – global concern
UN AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2030 - SDG 12.3.

• By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
Food waste hierarchy

1. REDUCE
2. FEED PEOPLE IN NEED
3. FEED LIVESTOCK
4. COMPOST & 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY
5. DISPOSAL

food waste prevention

food waste
EU framework for food waste policy
EU FOOD WASTE PREVENTION INITIATIVES - waste legislative proposal -

• Definition of food waste
• Harmonized methodology for food waste measurement

reduce
monitor
report
EU FOOD WASTE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

- EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste - Aims to support all actors in:
  • defining measures needed to prevent food waste
  • fostering inter-sectorial cooperation
  • sharing best practice
EU FOOD WASTE PREVENTION INITIATIVES
- guidelines -

• EU guidelines to facilitate food donations
• EU guidelines to facilitate the use of former food as feed
EU FOOD WASTE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

- Market study on date marking -

58% consumers say they always look at date marking when shopping and preparing meals, but less than 1 in 2 understand its meaning.
National food waste prevention initiatives
2014 – Ministry of Agriculture became a member of the EU Working group on food waste

2016 – Ministry of the Environment (responsible for waste policy) and Ministry of Agriculture agreed that the food waste prevention policy will be under the responsibility of Ministry of Agriculture

2017 - Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate for Food and Phytosanitary Policy established Food Waste Prevention Department

The Department's activities include:

✓ setting up a national food waste prevention policy
✓ planning and co-ordination of other ministries and institutions responsible for the food waste management
✓ drafting the Plan and guidelines for reducing and preventing food waste
National food waste prevention plan – integral approach

• 1st multiannual plan for food waste prevention in Croatia (4 year basis)
• Legal basis to be set out in „new” Act on Agriculture
• Predicted to be adopted by the Croatian Government at the end of 2018
• National working group for the drafting of Food Waste Prevention Plan was set up
raising awareness and informing the consumers

encouraging and investing in research and innovations for food waste prevention models

improving legislative framework

drafting guidelines

improving the food donation system

monitoring of food waste

concluding voluntary agreements on food waste reduction with food sector
Food donation
- legislative framework -

2015 Act on Agriculture
- prevent food waste
- help people in need
- protect the environment
Food donation
- legislative framework -

2015 - Rules on conditions, criteria and modalities of donating food and feed

☑ Safety of the donated food
☑ Responsibility for donated food
☑ Register of food donation mediators
☑ Possible to donate food which is not suitable for the market due to a lack or error of packaging, labelling, weighing or for other similar reasons as well as close to their expiry date, as long as the food is safe for consumption
Food donation - legislative framework -

2015 – Rules on VAT

No VAT on donated food when not suitable for the market within the limit of 2% of the donator’s income

Fiscal incentives in place, for example, food donation can be treated as a deductible tax expense and can reduce the taxable income
Food donation
- food donation system-

Donators
Primary producers
Producers
Retail
Mass caterers

Mediators
Register of mediators
Charity organizations
Social stores
Red cross
Caritas...

End users
People in need
Food donation
- improving food donation system-

Study on food donation in Croatia (2017)
Report on the results of the Study on food donation in Croatia

- food regulations
- insufficient knowledge on how to start
- the lack of infrastructure
- responsibility for donated food in terms of the Food Law
- difficult communication between actors
- inability to identify charities involved in food donations
Food donation
- improving food donation system-

1) **Revision of legislative framework**

✓ allow food donation after the expiration of “best before date”

✓ Croatian Food Agency is currently preparing a study that should provide guidance on food consumption after the expiration of "best before" date

**True or false?**

*Eating food after its best before day won’t do You any harm.*
Food donation
- improving food donation system

2) Development of IT system for food donation

✓ connect all actors in the food donation chain in order to significantly contribute to better coordination and communication
Food donation
- improving food donation system-

3) Strengthen infrastructure capacities of charity organizations

✓ investment
✓ education
✓ foster better use of EU funds (FEAD)
4) Establishment of Food bank
Study on food bank feasibility in Croatia
......You can do something about it
Thank You for Your attention