



UNECE-FAO Conference

Redefining the Food Loss: Challenges for Sustainable Impact

Agro-trade, economic productivity and value additions-case of food loss

Ahmad Mukhtar

Economist (Trade and Food Security)

FAO Liaison office, Geneva

Outline of the presentation

- Global context
- The “food-use-not-loss-or-waste” hierarchy
- Why reducing FLW is important and how
- Interaction with Climate Change
- Food waste problem analysis, reduction, and recovery and redistribution of safe and nutritious food for direct human consumption
- Enabling environment
- FLW Communities

Global context

- ✓ **Currently:** enough food production for all
 - *Challenge: physical/socio-economic access*
- ✓ **Estimated undernourished people**
 - *815 million in 2016*
 - *821 million in 2017 (State of Food Security and Nutrition, 2018)*
- ✓ **Malnutrition** (under-nutrition, over-nutrition and micronutrient deficiency) and associated non-communicable diseases coexist across regions, countries and even households
- ✓ **Climate change**
- ✓ **High levels of food losses and waste**

The 2030 Agenda and UN Decade of Action on Nutrition

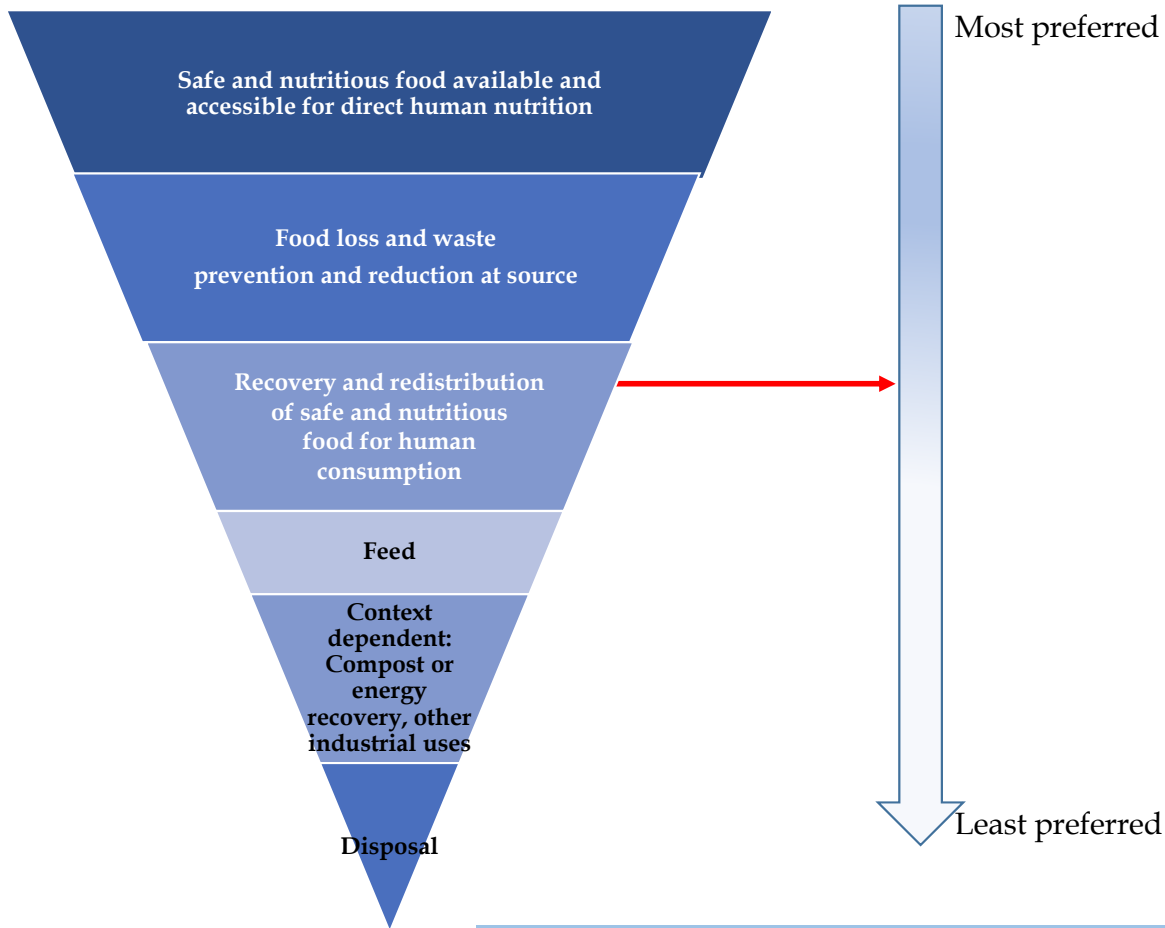
✓ 2015-2030: the universal 2030 Agenda

- *Sustainable Development Goal SDG 12: ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns*

- *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”*

- *FAO - Custodian Agency for SDG 12.3.1 Indicator*

✓ 2016 – 2025 the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition

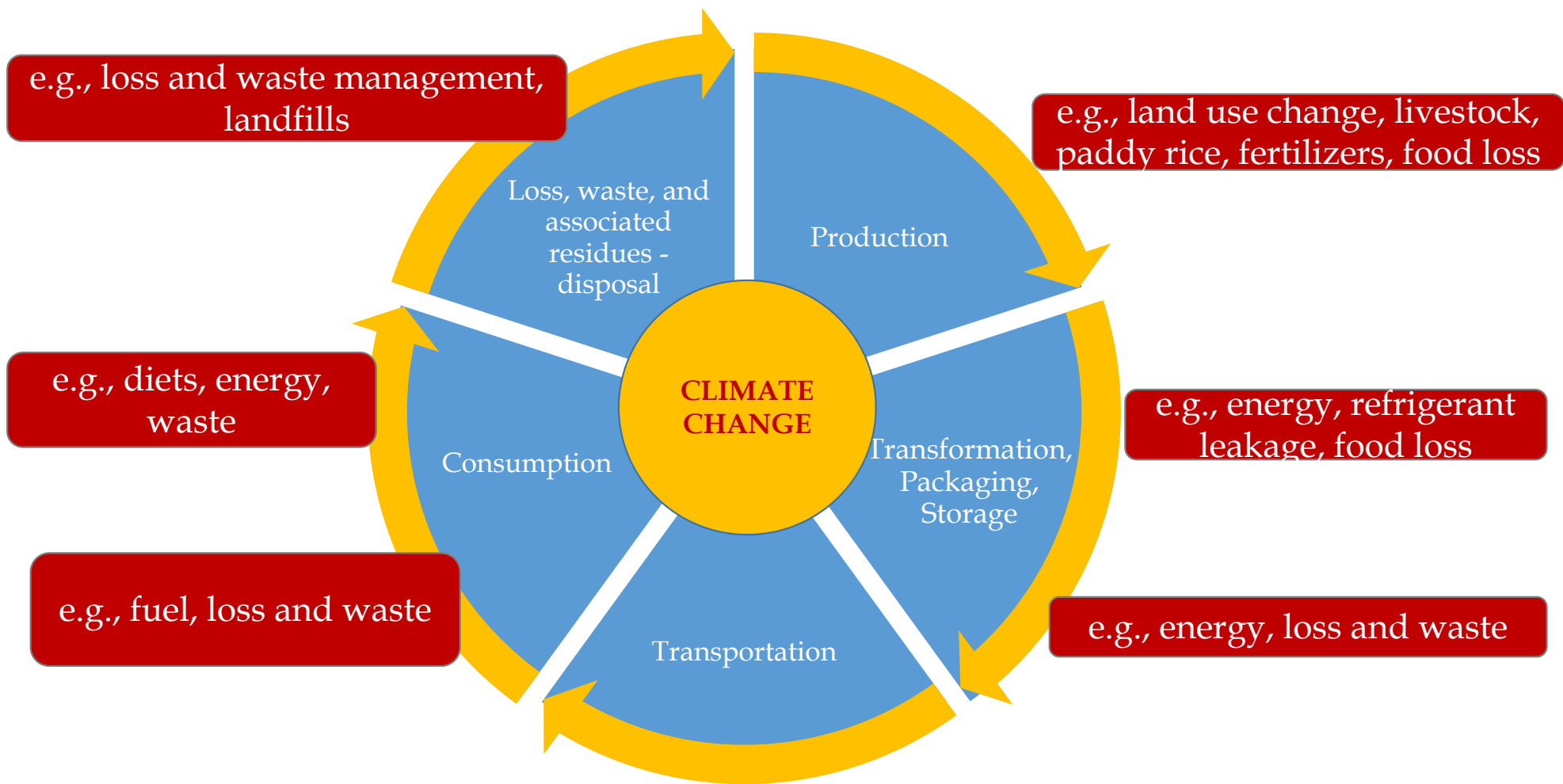


Recovery of safe and nutritious food for human consumption is to receive, with or without payment, food (processed, semi-processed or raw) which would otherwise be discarded or wasted from the agricultural, livestock, forestry and fisheries supply chains of the food system.

Redistribution of safe and nutritious food for human consumption is to store or process and then distribute the received food pursuant to appropriate safety, quality and regulatory frameworks directly or through intermediaries, and with or without payment, to those having access to it for food intake. ([FAO, 2015](#))

Food-use-not-loss-or-waste hierarchy, adapted from CFS 41 by Bucatariu, C., 2015

Climate change



Adapted from: FAO. 2017. *Save Food for a Better Climate - Converting the food loss and waste challenge into climate action*

Analysis of the food loss problem : case study approach

Methodology

It focuses on **one key crop** and provides detailed information on **its food supply chain**.

It identifies the indicative **level of loss** at different points of the system, the **causes** of these losses and pinpoints where efforts can be made to **reduce** these losses.

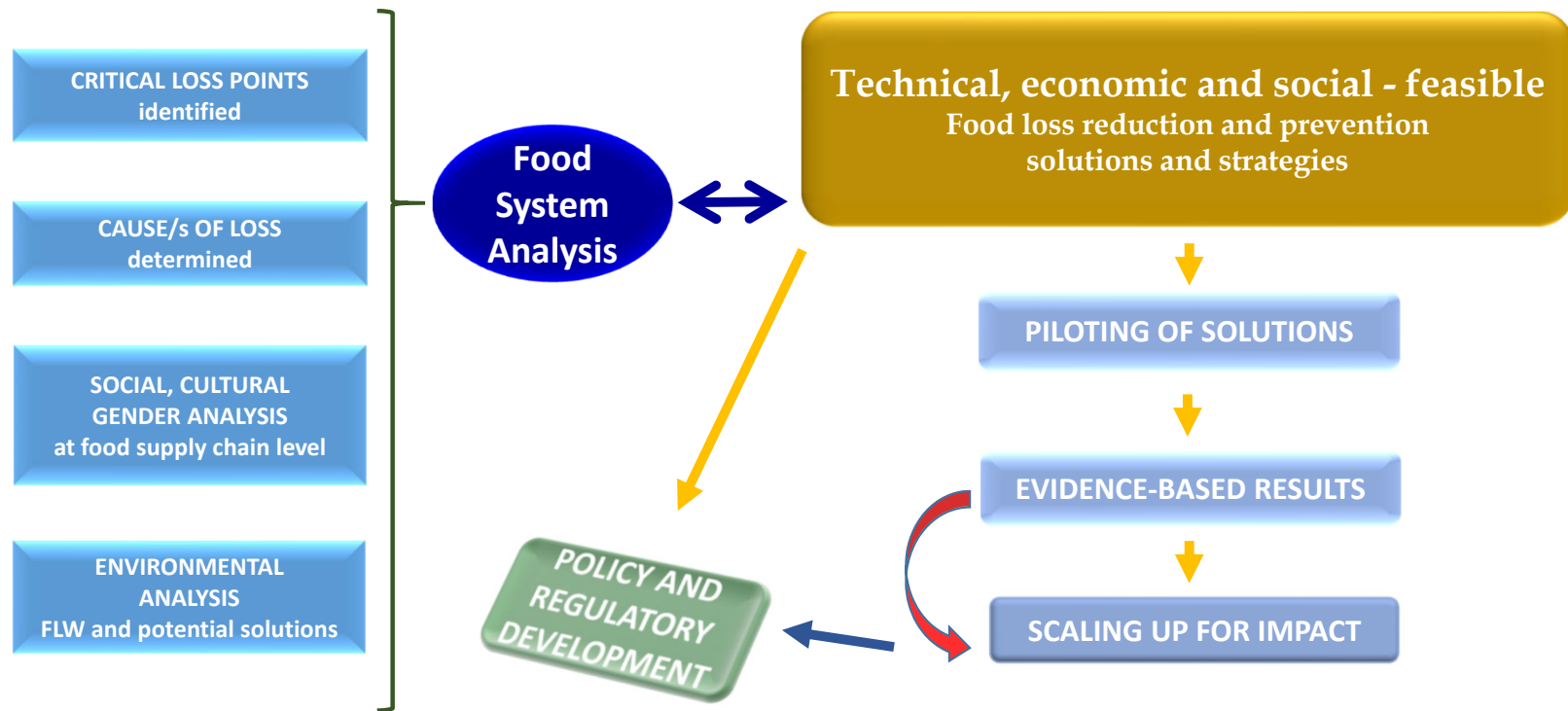
It involves **collection and analysis of qualitative and indicative quantitative data** along the selected food supply chain studied.

It considers production, handling and marketing of the crop, including **organizational, technical, social, gender issues, cultural, environmental and economic** aspects.



A Food Loss Analysis (FLA) is the **gathering and understanding of information** on food losses for a region, country or district based on selected food supply chains studied in a geographic area.

Outputs of supply chain level food loss analyses



Context-based approach : local, national, regional, global

**Piloting climate smart solutions
to address the problem of food losses**

Reducing Transport Losses with Improved Post-harvest and packaging practices : Plastic crates for the transportation of fruits and vegetables



Operation	Traditional Practice	Improved Practice
Harvesting	Bamboo basket as harvesting container	Plastic pail or bucket as harvesting container and plastic crates as field containers
Trimming of stem	No trimming	Trimming using scissors
Washing	No washing	Washing in chlorinated water
Packaging	50 kg red plastic meshsack	25 kg plastic crate

FAO Technical Cooperation Project: TCP/RAS/302-Reduction of post-harvest losses in horticultural chains in SAARC Countries (2014-2017)

Reducing food waste



Food waste (FW) is a global challenge that can impact food supply chains from primary production to end consumption.



FW raises a barrier to achieving food security and nutrition for present and future generations through environmental, economic and social impacts within the global food system.



All actions taken to prevent and reduce food waste must ensure food safety and quality as well as animal and plant health protection.

**Recovery and redistribution of safe and nutritious food for direct human consumption
(R and R)**

Recovery and Redistribution (R and R)

Data needs: estimates along the food supply chain – assess potential implementation and impacts

Harmonization of terminology, methodology, reporting and monitoring – to build evidence for decisions at local and national level

Current Implementation

High variety of stakeholders: Gleaning networks, food banks (warehouse, direct service, virtual, mixed form); social supermarkets / community shops; food pantries; soup kitchens; community/charitable programmes, shelters; social protection programmes

Recommendation

- Public-private-civil society partnerships
- Enhanced enabling environment: institutional/policy/regulatory
- Tools for capacity development: food safety, quality, human nutrition and socio-economic support
- Practical messages for educational activities at community level

FAO Actions

- Voluntary global definition (FAO, 2015) and forthcoming global guidelines
- Global resources on the Technical Platform on Food Loss and Waste Measurement and Reduction

Enabling Environment

European Union

EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste in support of Member States (MS) actions for SDG 12.3. Members represent all MS and selected civil society and private sector. A plenary and three working sub-groups:

- (i) food waste measurement
- (ii) food donations
- (iii) action and implementation

Overarching principle: “The central goal of EU food safety policy is to protect both human and animal health. We cannot compromise on these standards but, in co-operation with Member States and stakeholders, are looking for every opportunity to prevent food waste and strengthen sustainability of the food system.” (EU PFLW, July 2017)

FAO is member of the EU PFLW since its launch in November 2016.

Latin America and the Caribbean

3rd FLW Regional Latin America and the Caribbean Dialogue (Santiago, Chile, 6-7 June 2018) within the *Policy Framework of the Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and Hunger Eradication of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States – CELAC*

Conclusion

Technical Note towards the establishment of an **International Code of Conduct for prevention and management of food loss and waste in Latin America and the Caribbean**

- ✓ Voluntary
- ✓ Facilitate harmonization of terminology and definitions for coherent conceptualization and identification of critical loss and waste points along food supply chains
- ✓ Facilitate adoption of policies for prevention and reduction of PHL, FL, FW
- ✓ Development, improvement and harmonization of quantification and reporting methodologies
- ✓ Enable the establishment of regional, national and local strategic objectives and actions
- ✓ Capacity development on social, economic and environmental impacts
- ✓ Actors and their levels of responsibility as well as shared responsibilities
- ✓ Spaces that allow sharing of successful experiences and lessons learned

Communities



SAVE FOOD: Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste



- Background
- News and multimedia
- Members
- Projects and activities
- Regional
- Resources
- Login
- Register

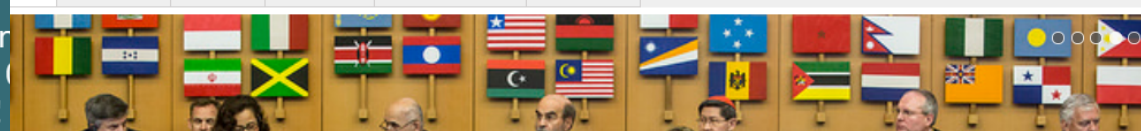


The SAVE FOOD Initiative is now more than 100 members strong!

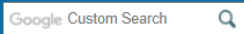
The Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction



- Background
- Food loss
- Food waste
- News and events
- Governance



www.fao.org/in-action/inpho/home/en/



SAVE FOOD: Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

Community of Practice on Food Loss Reduction



- Forum
- News
- Events and Opportunities
- Resources
- About the CoP
- Background
- Register
- Login



NEW: Bellagio Post-harvest

Just released: Bellagio harvest management information are available. Background: A work...

INPhO

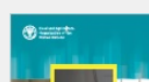
INFORMATION ON POST-HARVEST OPERATIONS



- Background
- Library
- Post-harvest technologies
- Resources
- Links

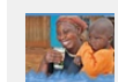
INPhO, the Information Network on Post-harvest Operations, aims at promoting good practices in post-harvest activities for agri-food products and to assist in the expansion of agribusinesses by providing access to technical data and information. The site is currently undergoing a review to improve user-friendliness. This information resource is managed by the FAO Nutrition and Food Systems Division.

Post-harvest technologies



Technical and investment guidelines for milk cooling centres

Publications



Milk and dairy products in human nutrition
On the role of dairy products in

Search

Full Text Search

Search

Related websites

Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

<http://www.fao.org/save-food/en/>

Community of Practice on Food Loss Reduction

<http://www.fao.org/food-loss-reduction/en/>

Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste

<http://www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste/it/>

Information Network on Post harvest Operations (INPhO)

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/inpho/home/en/>

Thank you.

Questions, comments.

ahmad.mukhtar@fao.org

+41-22-9172777