



Food waste and biodiversity

General Directorate for Food Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry

France

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About Food Waste

- Food losses and waste → decrease of edible food mass through the food chain
- FAO : about **1/3rd of all human food** produced for human consumption in the world is **lost or wasted**
- In France : around **20 30 kg/year/person**
- Necessity to improve quantification
- Economic, societal and environmental impacts





Measures against food waste in France

• Law n°2016-138 of February 11, 2016

Parliamentary construction

- Parliamentary report from Mr Guillaume Garot April 2015 : 36 proposals for a public policy on food waste
- **Discussions** within both chambers from June 2015 to February 2016 : *large political consensus*
- Stakeholders involvement



Measures against food waste in France

- Law n°2016-138 of February 11, 2016
- Actions ranking

 \rightarrow **Prioritization of action**s against food waste, for a better efficiency throughout the whole food chain :

- Prevention
- Human consumption (donation or transformation)
- Feed valorization
- Energetic or composting valorization







Measures against food waste in France

- Law n°2016-138 of February 11, 2016
 - Reinforced actions within the retail sector

→ destruction of edible food is forbidden : to be articulated with the prioritization of actions against food waste

 \rightarrow industrial producers will be able to donate store brand products to charities if the retailor refuses the product





Measures against food waste in France

• Law n°2016-138 of February 11, 2016

• For the retailers whose saling area exceeds 400m²

 \rightarrow obligation, before february 2017, to **look for a partnership** with at least one charity : the retailor must find a charity able to manage the food donated

 \rightarrow obligation to manage donations through a mutual document specifying donation arrangements : *work in progress between the administration and the retail sector and charity representatives*



Measures against food waste in France

• Law n°2016-138 of February 11, 2016

- Follow-up
 - \rightarrow Implementing decree foreseen by the law : work in progress
 - \rightarrow in the continuity of all the work done by national authorities and their partners : *this law is not an endpoint but a step in the whole process (as are the National alliance against food waste, call to projects...)*



About Biodiversity

- Diversity of life on Earth across :
 - Genes;
 - Species;
 - Ecosystems.
 - Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity = one of the goals of the French environmental policies but also of the new French agricultural policy (the agroecology project)





Food waste : links with Biodiversity

• Report : « Food wastage footprint » (FAO, 2013)

Produced but uneaten food : **1,4 billion hectares of land** (30% of agriculture land)

- \rightarrow indirectly causes biodiversity loss
- In France : 3% of national CO2 emissions due to food waste (ADEME - *french environment and energy management agency*, 2016)





Food waste & Biodiversity loss

- Mostly occuring when unsustainable agriculture practices are used at production phase :
 - **Deforestation** due to unsustainable agriculture (in the tropics)/monocropping ;
 - Red listed species threatened ;
 - Decline in abundance and diversity :
 - Of some species in the food chain (overfishing)
 - Of species considered as imperfect (seeds and food standardization, waste of « ugly » food).





Food waste & Biodiversity

- Fighting food waste -> realization of food value
 - Food needs time and energy to grow/be produced
 - Role in the food chain / ecosystem
- « I love food, I respect it »



11





Promoting a sustainable agriculture : through Agroecology

Food waste policy : also part of the more global French **agroecology project**, based on these core principles :

Enhancement of **biodiversity in the « agro-ecosystems »** (both wild and cultivated)

Enhancement of **biological regulations** Managing **bio- and geochimical cycles** (carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus...)

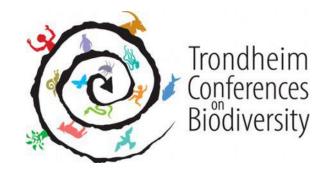
12

Two complementary positive effects on biodiversity :

> by decreasing food waste

> by increasing agricultural sustainability





Thank you for your attention

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13