



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

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**Global Initiative  
on Food Loss and Waste Reduction**

# INTRODUCTION

## Global Food Losses and Food Waste

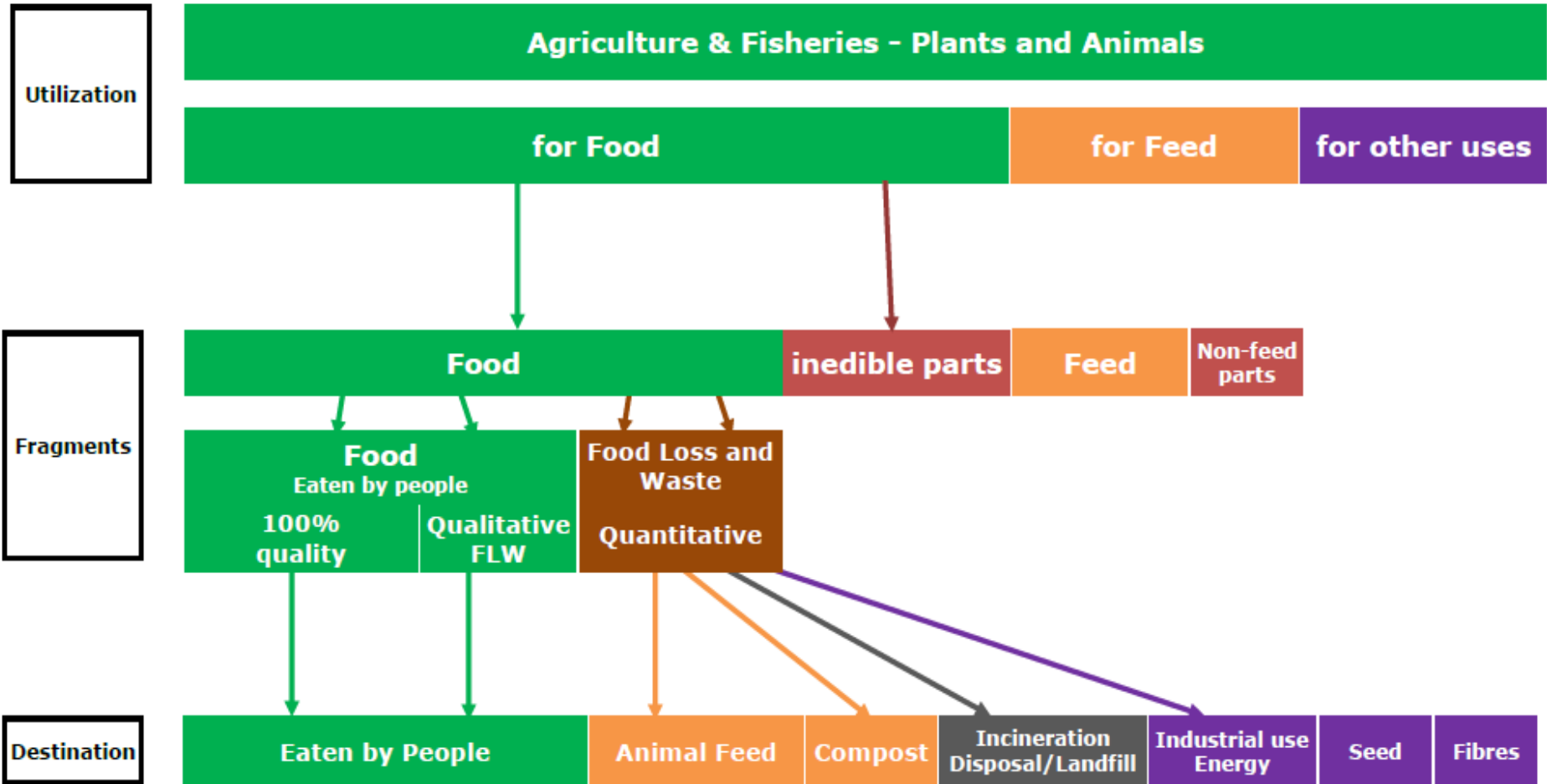
**1.3 billion ton  
( 1 300 000 000 000 kg )**



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# Definition framework of FLW



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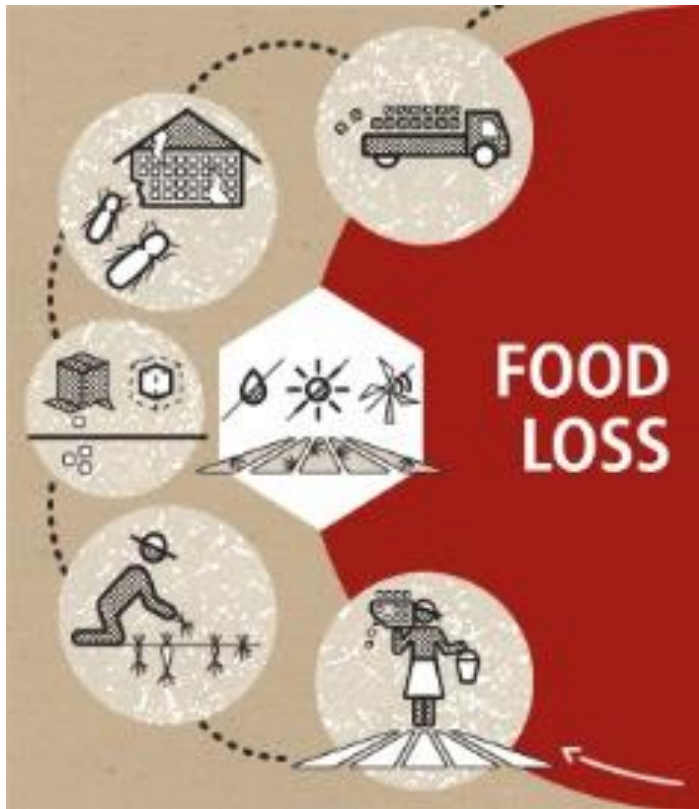
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**Quantitative FLW** can also be referred to as physical food loss and waste. It is food which is not eaten by people.

**Qualitative FLW:** All the produce is eaten by people, but has incurred reduction of nutritional value, economic value, and/or food safety.

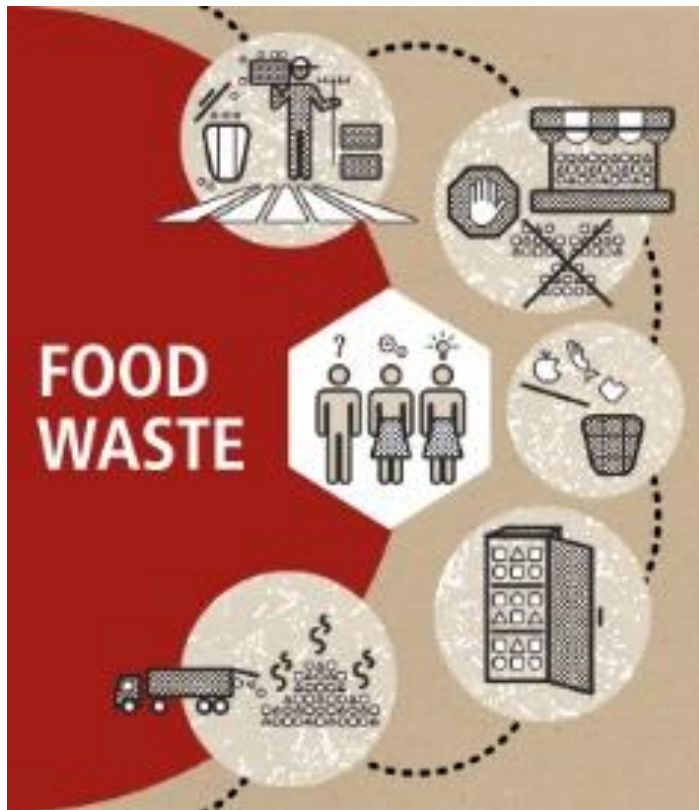


# Definition framework of FLW



**Food Loss** is mainly caused by the mal-functioning of the food production and supply system or its institutional and legal framework.

# Definition framework of FLW



***Food Waste*** is the removal from the FSC of food which is fit for human consumption, by choice, or which has spoiled or expired, mainly caused by economic or social behavior, poor stock management or neglect.



# Why is FLW important?

- FLW is a major contributor to climate change
- FLW accounts for around 8 % of total global GHG emissions
- GHG emissions arising from the land, livestock and energy inputs needed in food systems as well as from waste disposal



water



land



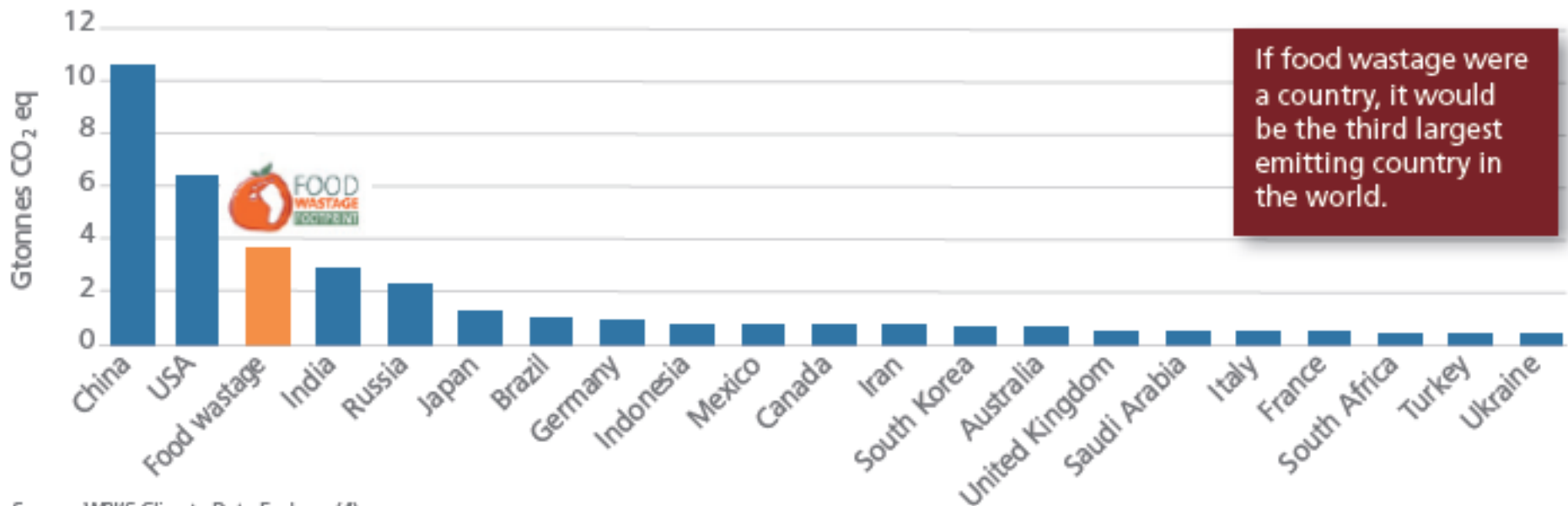
energy



labour and  
capital

# Why is FLW important?

Total GHGs emissions excluding LULUCF  
Top 20 of countries (year 2011) vs. Food wastage



Source: WRI'S Climate Data Explorer (4)





# Why is FLW important?

## Food Security Impact of FLW

Who are affected?

- Poor smallholder food producers (especially women) > direct access to food
- Poor food-insecure consumer > higher prices (*Increased supply and cost reductions of production will be translated into price reductions*)

## Impact on nutrition, food quality and safety

- Qualitative food losses > reduced nutritional value
- Unsafe products

## Economic impact and income-distribution in the value chain

- Market circumstances
- Losses in supply chain (*Improvement of supply chains efficiency benefits both, producers and consumers*)



# Why is FLW important?

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**In order to improve food availability, reduction of food loss and waste is far more efficient than increasing food production.**

By 2050, we would need 60% more food be available.

Yet, when reducing FLW by half, only 28% increase in production would be required.



# Why is FLW important?

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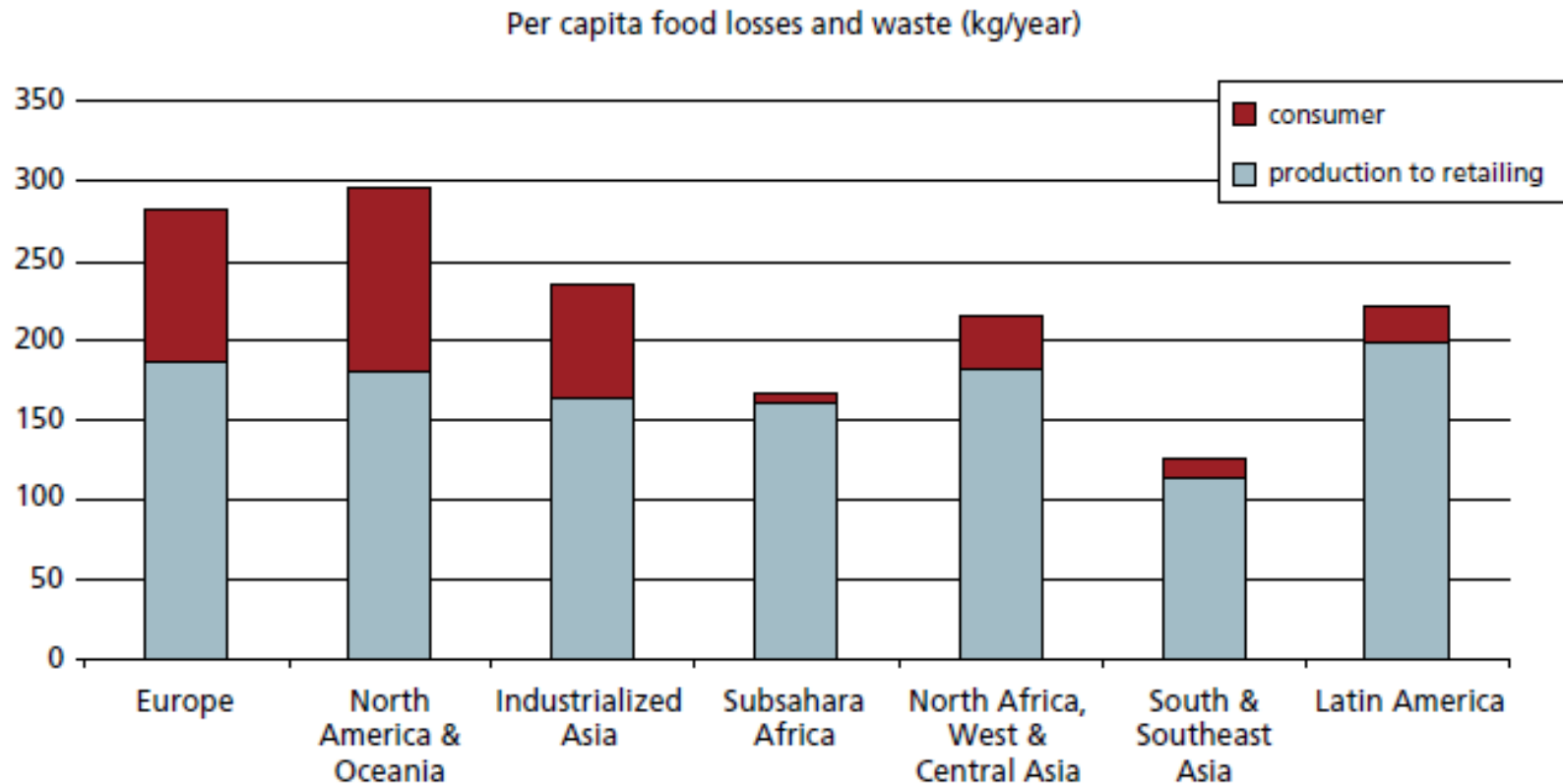
## SG 12.3

*“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”.*

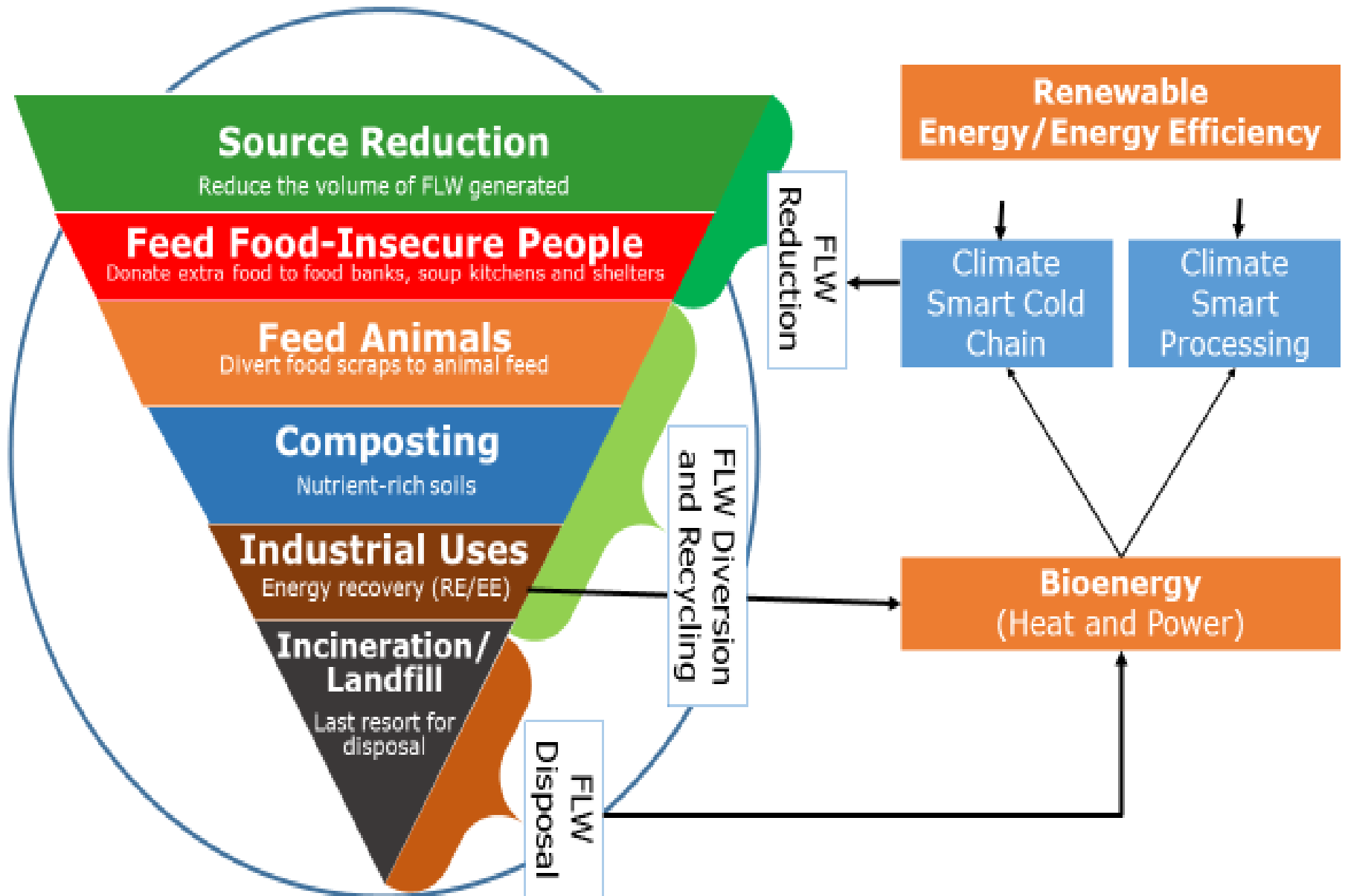


# Extent of Food Loss and Waste

Figure 2. Per capita food losses and waste, at consumption and pre-consumptions stages, in different regions



# Food-Use-Not-Waste Hierarchy



# SAVE FOOD: Vision and Strategy

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**Food Loss and Waste reduction is not a goal in itself**, but an essential part of *efficient value chains*. Both are at the core of *sustainable food systems*, which ensure *food and nutrition security, economic growth* and *climate change mitigation*.

**Integrated multi-disciplinary programme**, involving technology, economics, sociology, ecology, nutrition.

**FLW problem is extremely complicated**, requiring thorough, practical and innovative research.



# SAVE FOOD: Vision and Strategy

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- **FLW problem is extremely vast** – Implementation world-wide by partners.
- Only **Private Sector** can significantly **reduce food loss**.
- Role of **Public Sector** is to **conduct research and provide guidance**. Hence, creating the enabling environment for **Private Sector to invest and act**.
- **Collaboration of various actors and stakeholders** (in their own areas) in value chains is essential.





# Components of SAVE FOOD

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- 1 **Awareness raising** on the impact of, and solutions to reducing food loss and waste.
- 2 **Partnerships and collaboration** in world-wide initiatives on food loss and waste reduction.
- 3 **Research** for development of policy, strategy and programme for food loss and waste reduction.
- 4 Support to **investment programmes and projects**, implemented by private and public sectors.



# Consideration on the solutions

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Measures for reducing food loss and waste should:

- **not** be more **expensive** than food loss itself;
- **not** place additional **burden on the environment** and/ or increase GHG emissions;
- make more **food available to people who need it most**;
- be **socially and culturally acceptable**.



# Regional Programmes on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

## REGIONAL OFFICES

Subsaharan Africa

North Africa & The Near East

Eastern Europe & Central Asia

Asia & The Pacific

Latin America & The Caribbean

## COUNTRY OFFICES

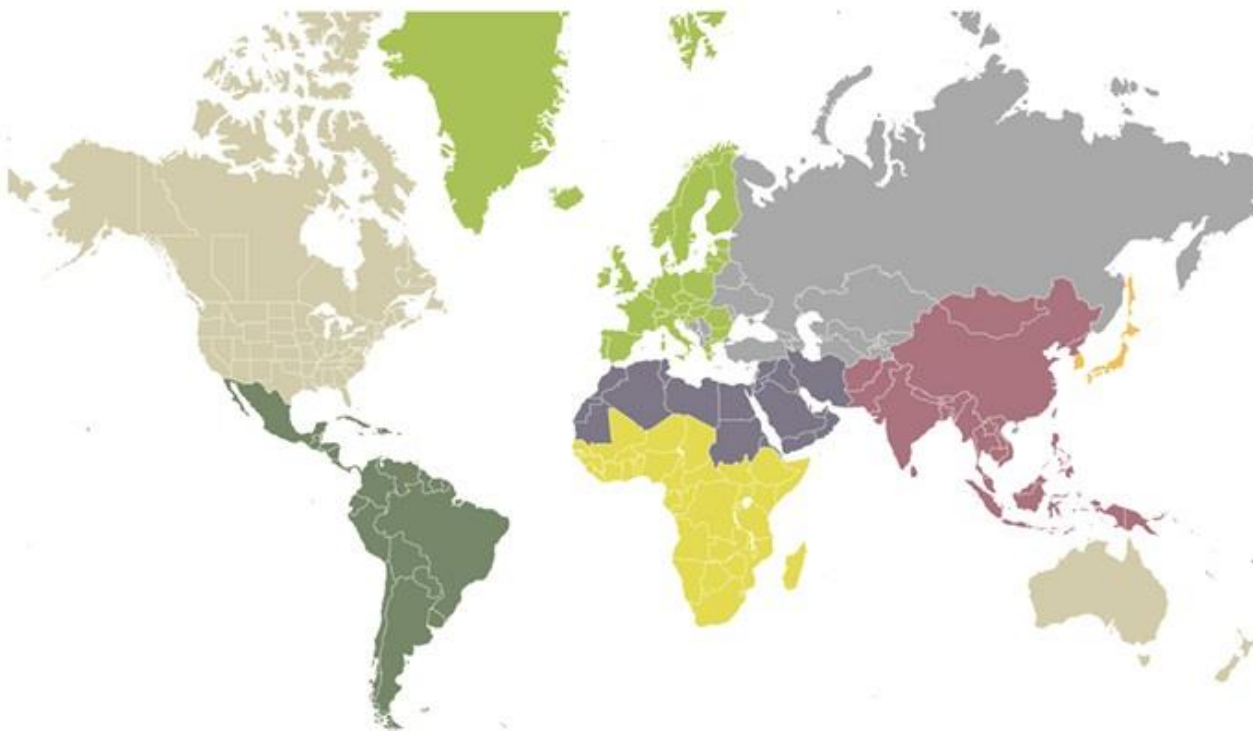
## LIAISON OFFICES

European Union

North America

Japan

Russia



Currently **1,000+** registered **partners** - and growing -  
world-wide; from public and private sectors





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# Thank you!

Become a member:  
[\*\*www.fao.org/save-food\*\*](http://www.fao.org/save-food)



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