

Background Information

UN estimates that 1 in 3 people do not have access to an adequate amount of food. More people are reported to die from hunger every day than AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined. At the same time an estimated 17 % of total global food production is wasted.

One of the easiest possible ways to effectively reduce, and hopefully eventually eliminate, hunger in the world is to reduce food waste. Because of the way food production works, so called “food waste” does not only waste the actual product but also wastes among others water, gasoline, energy, pesticides, land and fertilizer.

Food waste occurs on many levels. Out of the 17 % of total global food production that is wasted, 61% of this waste comes from households, 26% from food service, and 13% from retail.

Most wasted food ends up in landfills, where it generates methane, a greenhouse gas that is up to 86 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

UN Involvement

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 29 September as The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste.

“The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste is an opportunity to call to action both the public (national or local authorities) and the private sector (businesses and individuals), to prioritise actions and move ahead with innovation to reduce food loss and waste towards restoring and building back better and resilient-ready, food systems.” – United Nations

Questions to Consider

What is my country’s role in wasting food and how well is my country doing in terms of food security?

What are the main causes and how does my country contribute (in both ways)?

Has my country taken any precautions or efforts regarding the issue?

What are the possible ways to fund the effort in my country and on the global scale?

Who should be involved in the efforts?

What are the necessary steps in the fight against food waste and maintaining food security?

How can we maximize their result? What should be done now, what is the course of action in the future?

How does this impact not only my country, but the entire world?

What are the impacts at this moment, what will be the potential consequences in the future?

How to provide more awareness to the topic?

Helpful Resources and Links

UN involvement:

<https://www.eu-fusions.org/index.php/14-news/242-the-un-sustainable-development-goals-set-food-waste-reduction-target>

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/food-loss-and-waste-must-be-reduced-greater-food-security-and>

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-food-waste-day/background>

<https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/resource-efficiency/what-we-do/sustainable-lifestyles/food-and-food-waste>

<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/food>

Other articles:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food-waste_cs

https://nordsense.com/2021/11/10/how-to-fight-food-waste/?utm_term=&utm_campaign=EU+-+DSA+-+alle+sider&utm_source=adwords&utm_medium=ppc&hsa_acc=6400023074&hsa_cam=1840975132&hsa_grp=71445434124&hsa_ad=345984181162&hsa_src=g&hsa_tgt=dsa-19959388920&hsa_kw=&hsa_mt=&hsa_net=adwords&hsa_ver=3&gclid=Cj0KCQjw6J-SBhCrARIsAH0yMZj7t4zjycAFN3J6GoEL0J33Kji4vGmgQClry7MsqrYuXHgWT4vJdQ4aAiINEALw_wcB

<https://www.wri.org/insights/10-ways-cut-global-food-loss-and-waste>

<https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/international-efforts-wasted-food-recovery>

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/03/global-food-waste-solutions/>

<https://www.wfp.org>