



Food  
Waste

## Leading a global commitment to halve food loss and waste by 2030

### What We Do

The Consumer Goods Forum (CGF)'s Food Waste Coalition of Action is led by 17 of the world's leading consumer goods retailers and manufacturers with a shared commitment to halve food loss in their supply chains, meeting Sustainable Development Goal 12.3. The Coalition has set out to achieve an ambitious yet practical strategy that will have real, lasting impacts on our global food systems and ensure more food makes it from producers, to grocery stores and finally on to consumers' tables. With its CEO leadership, the Coalition is able to drive swift action to address the important issue of food loss and waste within the industry.



### Why We Do It

Food waste is an enormous environmental, social and economic problem. A third of food produced is never eaten, which amounts to about 1.3 billion tonnes of food lost each year. That represents an economic cost to the global economy of nearly USD \$1 trillion. Food waste is also responsible for adding 3.3 billion tonnes of greenhouse gases into the planet's atmosphere annually, so if food waste were a country, its carbon footprint would be third only to China and the US. The water footprint of food waste alone is equivalent to three times the volume of Lake Geneva. This is all without mention of how one in nine people worldwide goes hungry every day.

### How We Do It

The Coalition's members have adopted a strategy to assist their internal actions to identify and understand the scale of the issue of food loss in their own operations, take action to engage all actors in their supply chain and particularly focus on post-harvest losses, where one-third of food loss occurs. First, the Coalition members will align on data collection

and reporting methods to help each member develop a clear understanding of the scope of the issue at hand, as well as lead the public conversation on reducing food loss by increasing transparency and accountability and building trust. The Coalition plans to report aggregated data of its members in a harmonised approach through the Food Waste Atlas – built by WRAP UK and the World Resources Institute (WRI) and in support of the Food Loss and Waste Standard. The Coalition's objective is for all its members to report publicly by December 2021.

Second, the Coalition will continue working with Champions 12.3, a private-public partnership from the WRI that encourages collaborative action to meet UN SDG 12.3, to scale up their 10x20x30 Initiative, a catalyst model that seeks to involve the entire supply chain which supports upstream food loss and waste reduction.

### 10x20x30 Initiative:

**10** companies engage  
**20** suppliers to halve their food loss  
by **2030**

The goal is for all Coalition members to engage their suppliers in order to create a chain reaction of supply chain engagement. The CGF has worked with Champions 12.3 since 2017, with current and former CGF Managing Directors, Wai-Chan Chan and Peter Freedman, both recognised as Champions in the fight against food waste.

The final priority of the Coalition is for members to work with producers at the primary levels of the supply chain to reduce losses just after harvest, where 30 percent of all food loss occurs. Using data from WRI and others, the Coalition will be able to identify the most valuable opportunities members can take to engage with their suppliers and drive positive change.

See how CGF members and industry partners are taking action to reduce food loss in their supply chains in our case study booklet, *Business Actions Against Food Waste*, available on our website.





Food Waste

## Building on Years of Experience

The new Coalition of Action on Food Waste builds on years of progress on the issue at the CGF. In mid-2015, the CGF Board approved a resolution to halve food waste within the operations of its members by 2025 and to support wider UN Sustainable Development Goals on the issue. This was a huge milestone in the consumer goods industry's commitment to environmental stewardship and leadership.

In June 2016, the first-ever global standard to measure food loss and waste, the Food Loss and Waste Protocol, was introduced through an international partnership. The standard is a set of global definitions and reporting requirements for companies, countries and others to consistently and credibly measure, report on and manage food loss and waste.

In 2017, working with Champions 12.3, the CGF published a report that highlighted the clear return on investment from food loss and waste retention. The report found that for every \$1 companies invested to reduce food loss and waste, they saved \$14 in operating costs – concrete evidence in the case for better business. That same year, the CGF also worked with the initiative on a Call to Action to simplify and standardise food date labels, including sell-by and best-by labels, worldwide.

In 2020, the CGF joined another Global Call to Action with Champions 12.3 to encourage governments and industry actors to take steps to dramatically accelerate efforts to halve food waste in order to collectively meet Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 by 2030.



## Membership and Governance

The Food Waste Coalition has 19 members, all manufacturers and retailers, from around the world. It is sponsored at the CGF Board level by Ken Murphy, Group Chief Executive of Tesco, and Max Koeune, President and CEO of McCain Foods. Its Steering Committee is co-chaired by Francisco Cordero, Manager of Global Sustainability at The Kellogg Company, and Brittni Furrow, Vice President of Health and Sustainability at Ahold Delhaize USA.

## Join Our Fight

The Coalition is always looking for more support and is still open for membership. Interested CGF members who would like to join the Coalition, and any stakeholder wishing to connect and support the Coalition's work, can reach out to the CGF's Environmental Sustainability team.

*“Food loss is a serious global problem and it can only be effectively addressed through committed, collective action. The CGF Coalition of Action on Food Waste is a positive and important step to creating sustainable food strategies and preventing loss, and we look forward to seeing the impact the Coalition will have on the issue.”*



**Ignacio Gavilan**  
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