



24 January 2024

Dear Members of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety,

65 non-profit and business [organisations](#) from 22 EU countries call on you to introduce ambitious, legally binding targets to halve food waste by 2030 in the ongoing revision of the EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD).

According to the [European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change](#), the pace at which greenhouse gas emissions are being reduced must double, starting immediately, if the EU is to hit its 2030 goal to cut emissions by 55%. Reducing food waste is one of the most impactful measures to cut greenhouse gas emissions, as shown by [Project Drawdown](#). Therefore, ambitious food waste reduction targets represent a unique opportunity to help achieve EU climate goals.

More than a third of all food produced globally is currently wasted. Food waste is responsible for [8-10% of global greenhouse gas](#) emissions and uses an estimated [28% of the world's agricultural land](#), an area larger than China and India combined – land which could improve food security and nature restoration. The EU has signed up to SDG 12.3 to halve food waste by 2030 and should honour this commitment.

We are writing to you from the 'Prevent Waste Coalition on Food Waste' (composed of the European Environmental Bureau, Feedback EU, Safe Food Advocacy Europe, Too Good To Go, and Zero Waste Europe) as part of a group of 65 European organisations who signed this [joint-statement](#), which calls for legally binding targets for EU Member States to reduce their food loss and waste by 50% by 2030, at all stages of the supply chain.

To achieve this, we call on European Parliament negotiators of the WFD to seize this opportunity and provide Member States with a binding objective to address the unacceptable environmental, social, and economic consequences of food waste.

Food waste currently costs EU businesses and consumers [an estimated €143 billion](#). The financial opportunity from reducing food waste has also been highlighted in a [study](#) conducted by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), which looked at 1200 business sites across 700 companies in 17 countries, and found that for every \$1 invested in food-waste reduction, the median company realised \$14 – a return on investment of 1300%.

We therefore urge you to increase the political priority given to food waste reduction. You can find more information on food waste in this .

We welcome any questions or comments and are available at any time for further discussion.

Best regards,

The members of the Prevent Waste Coalition on Food Waste