

**High-Level Multi-Stakeholder Consultation  
on Food Losses and Food Waste in Asia and the Pacific Region  
27-28 August 2013  
Bangkok, Thailand**

## **Strategic Actions**

The Consultation recognized that

- **Awareness and Advocacy** are critical for reducing food losses and food waste in Asia and the Pacific Region.
- **The private sector** is a key stakeholder and partner in addressing food losses and food waste in Asia and the Pacific region.
- Support mechanisms must be put in place by governments in order to facilitate smallholder organization and to support private sector initiatives geared toward reducing food losses and food waste.

To meet this end, the Consultation recommended the following actions from Governments

- 1) *Governments must recognise the strategic importance of reducing food losses and particularly post-harvest losses and food waste as a measure to address food security in the region.*
- 2) *Governments must prioritise the reduction of food losses- particularly post-harvest losses and food waste issues in their country strategic plans for agricultural development.*
- 3) *Governments should work toward the creation of an enabling environment that is supportive of food loss development. Policy objectives to meet that end must integrate consideration for the development of basic and post-harvest specific infrastructure and food safety and quality regulations,*

## **Strategic Areas to be Addressed**

### **Awareness Raising and Advocacy**

- *Increasing awareness for reducing food waste and losses require collective and collaborative actions of stakeholders at all levels.*

### *Stakeholders*

- Government and policy makers
  - Food waste and losses into decision making process
  - Regulation and resource allocation for enabling environment (infrastructure, etc.)
  - Prioritize agenda, take responsibility for the issues
- Farmers
  - Be aware of the issues and learn ways to minimize food losses and waste
- Academia/research institute
  - Training/education and materials to support farmers to increase awareness on the issue

- Quantitative and qualitative assessment of food waste and losses
- Evidence-based research to bring information and data to multi-stakeholders
- Education for students and different parties

#### *Role of Stakeholders*

- Private sector
  - Proper contract farming to help farmers to plan from planting stage to control over supply to markets
  - Efficiency and effectiveness in reducing food waste and losses
- Media/Consumer groups/NGOs
  - Collective, promote communication
- Household consumer
  - Be aware of the issues and put efforts to reduce waste

### **Addressing Postharvest Loss Reduction Across the Producer to Market Chain**

#### **Technical**

- Promotion of GAP, GMP and other food safety standards
- Sustained research and development efforts
- Standardized methodology on loss Assessment, causes of postharvest losses and food safety compliance, identification of critical areas/steps where losses occur and actions
- Capacity building on technical research on assessment of postharvest losses
- Technology should be simple and cost-effective for wider adaption

#### **Policy**

- Enforcement of food safety standards
- Investment in R&D
- Enabling environment for infrastructure and other support services
- Investment in human resources development
- Participatory research
- Investment in climate smart strategy
- Improved research-extension delivery system

#### **CSOs/Development Agencies and Donors**

- Facilitate organizing farmers
- Awareness and technology dissemination
- Tri – media promotion: PRINT, BROADCAST and TELECAST
- Changing mindset and attitude through farmers exchange visits, knowledge sharing

#### **Stakeholders**

- Farmers, farmers, farmer organizations and other key stakeholders along the chain
- Producers
- Processors/manufacturers
- Wholesale/retail markets
- Consumer
- Government, academe, Civil Society Organization

#### **Role of the Save Food Campaign**

- Support in organizing small farmers into a viable enterprise and equip them with the needed skills from production to marketing
- Documentation of success cases on reducing postharvest losses
- Promote, popularize and replicate in other areas/country in the region

- Human resource development at all levels along the food supply/value chain

## **Strategic Approaches to addressing food waste & promoting sustainable consumption**

### **Technical Level**

- Information and research on food waste
- Technical aspects in dealing with food (types, quality, safety, handling, processing, packaging, labeling, etc)
- Development & integration of post-harvest loss science and education in academic & extension curricula
- Development of standards, compliance to standards
- Infrastructure development
- Food life-cycle across the supply-chain
- Development of measurable indicators

### **Policy Level**

#### Academia

- Research and knowledge-based to inform policy
- Integration of food waste and sustainable consumption in national education systems (all levels)

#### Food retail

- Encourage best practices (incentives & small producers)
- Supply-chain approach to reduce waste (farm-to-table”

#### Food Service

- Portion size / plated servings
- Nutritional labelling (calorie values)
- Demand-based preparation
- Strengthening dietetic and food service training (canteen, cafeteria, hospitals)
- Align businesses with social causes & development issues
- Consider charging for food/plate waste

#### Food processor

- Guidelines to stimulate best practices to comply with standards
- Strict food safety, processing, manufacturing audits
- Use of underutilized & indigenous food for better nutrition and to reduce waste

#### Food consolidators

- Varies according to countries
- Training and capacity building, standard protocol (ISO 26000)
- Balancing profit and food integrity

#### Food CSO

- Sensitization on food waste across
- Strengthening training and extension for farmers (women)
- Media advocacy

## **Building Partnerships and Networking**

### **At an International Level**

- Expand existing Save Food Global Network by linking with Asia and the Pacific Regional network and initiatives;
- A-P Save Food Network to be fully compatible with the Global Save Food Network

### **At the Regional Level**

- To consider creating Asia and the Pacific Save Food Network.
- To explore possibility of having a Full time network moderator within the FAO office
- The A-P Save Food Network is to bring together different existing networks (APEC APIP, ASEAN, SAARC, PIF, farmer groups, manufacturers, retailers, consumers, caterings, academics and other associations)
- Leveraging knowledge of the private sectors (under CSR) on Save Food
- Promote concrete and fruitful partnership of retailers at national and regional level
- Support implementation of the strategic plan of actions coming out on Food Loss and Food Waste

### **Purpose of a Regional Save Food A-P Network**

- To provide platform for sharing experiences, good practices, information, innovative technologies, encourage formal public-private partnership
- To promote South-South cooperation between and among countries in the region
- To raise awareness and advocate for reduction of food loss and food waste in the region
- To jointly mobilize financial resources
- To discuss regularly updates on implementation of Save Food actions (at least once per year) using different communication means (e-mails, e-discussion, face-to-face meeting)
- To provide platform for sharing experiences, good practices, information, innovative technologies, encourage formal public-private partnership
- To promote South-South cooperation between and among countries in the region
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### **Recommendations at National Level**

- To promote multi-stakeholder and inter-ministerial national working group to elaborate/improve legal frameworks and related policies (bringing specially the private sectors)

- To identify national focal points for Save Food network at national level to link with regional and global network
- To implement national campaigns and promote public awareness, education on Save Food
- Establish the partnerships within the networks

#### **Recommendations from FAO**

- **Institutional strengthening through collaborative research and capacity building**
  - Action research geared toward piloting and disseminating post-harvest technology suited to small holders in the region
  - Capacity building of small holders
  - Waste reduction strategies
  - Improving the quality and safety of food from smallholder producers and small/medium-scale agroenterprises
- **Enhancing the environmental sustainability of food supply chains in the region**
- **Fostering knowledge sharing and networking on food loss and food waste issues in the region.**
  - Regional post-harvest network, communication and further program development