



Facts and figures on food losses and food wastage key recommendations

Richard China

Director of the FAO Liaison Office
with the European Union and Belgium



FAO WORKING GROUP ON FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE REDUCTION



Facts And Figures & Key recommendations

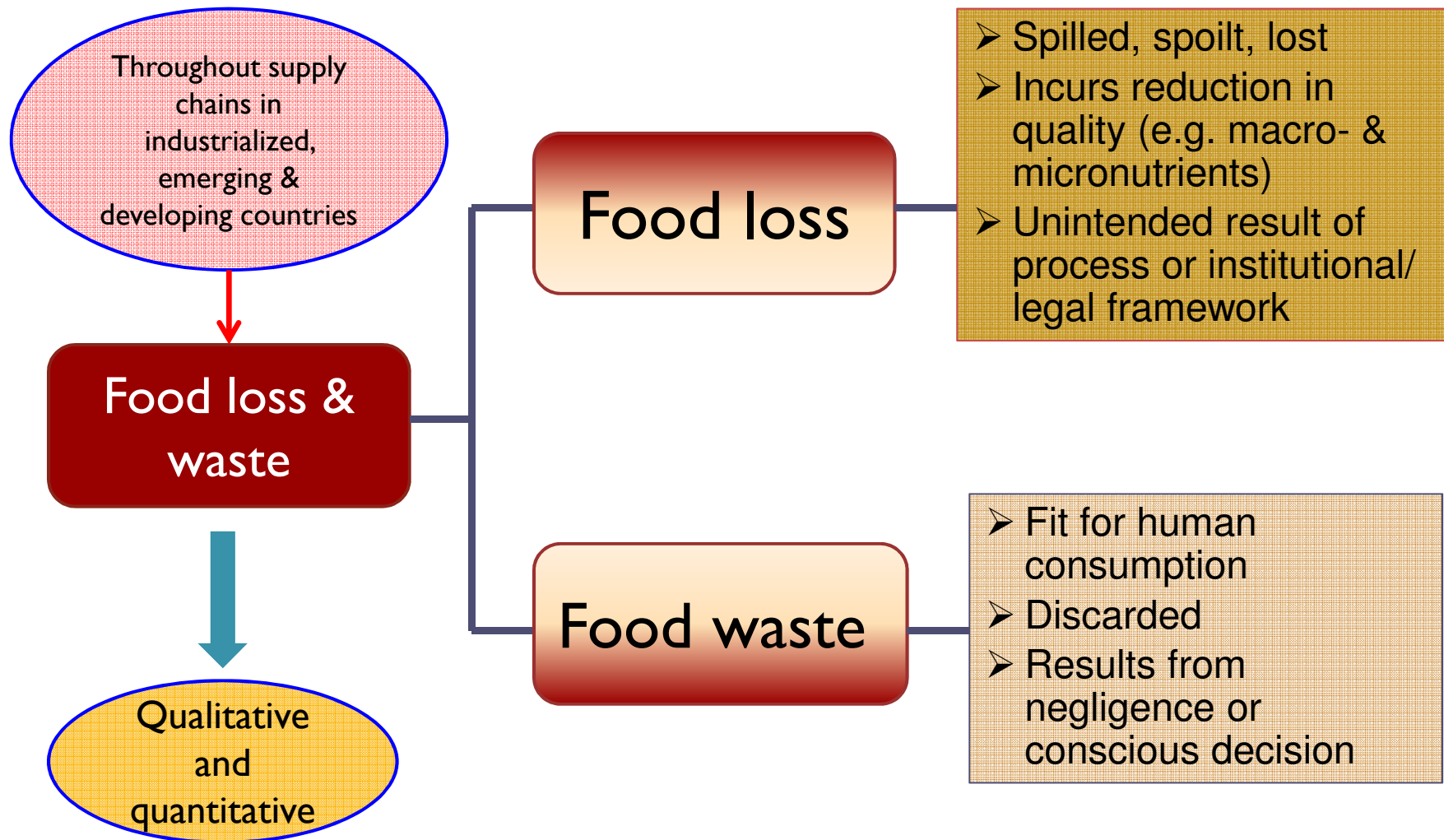
@ Interreg IVB project GreenCook - Final Event
Brussels, 6 February 2014

Richard China, Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the
European Union and Belgium

Structure

- Terminology
- Figures & facts
- Food and nutrition security
- Global setting
- FAO Corporate and partnership strategy
- Key recommendations

Terminology

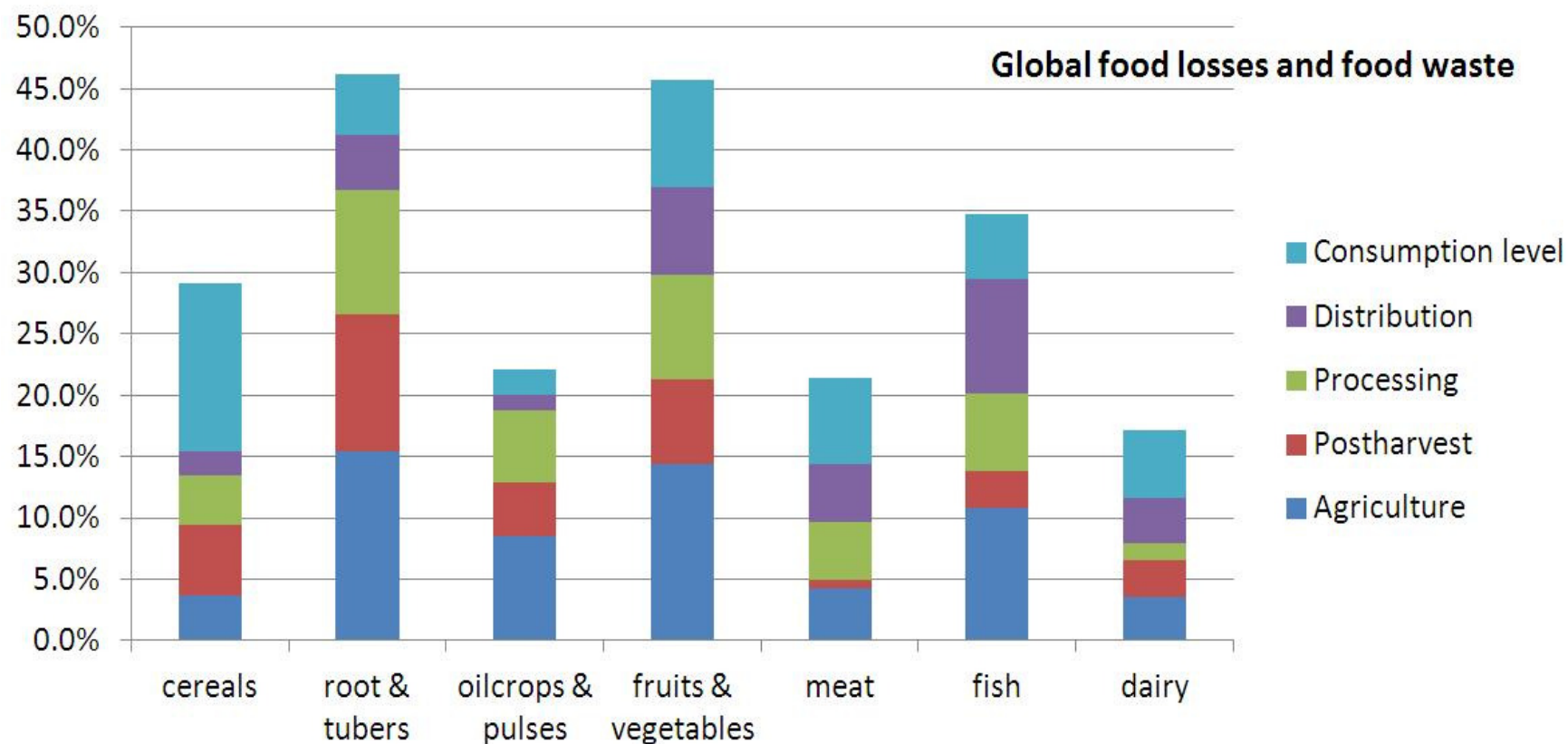


Quantitative estimations: 1.3 billion tons

- Industrialized countries consumer level FW (222 mil tons)
- Sub-Saharan Africa net food production (230 mil tons)
 - Grain losses in Sub-Saharan Africa could total \$4 billion (source:WB, NRI, FAO, 2011)
- Industrialized countries > 40% FL at retail and consumer level
- Developing countries > 40% FL at post-harvest handling and processing

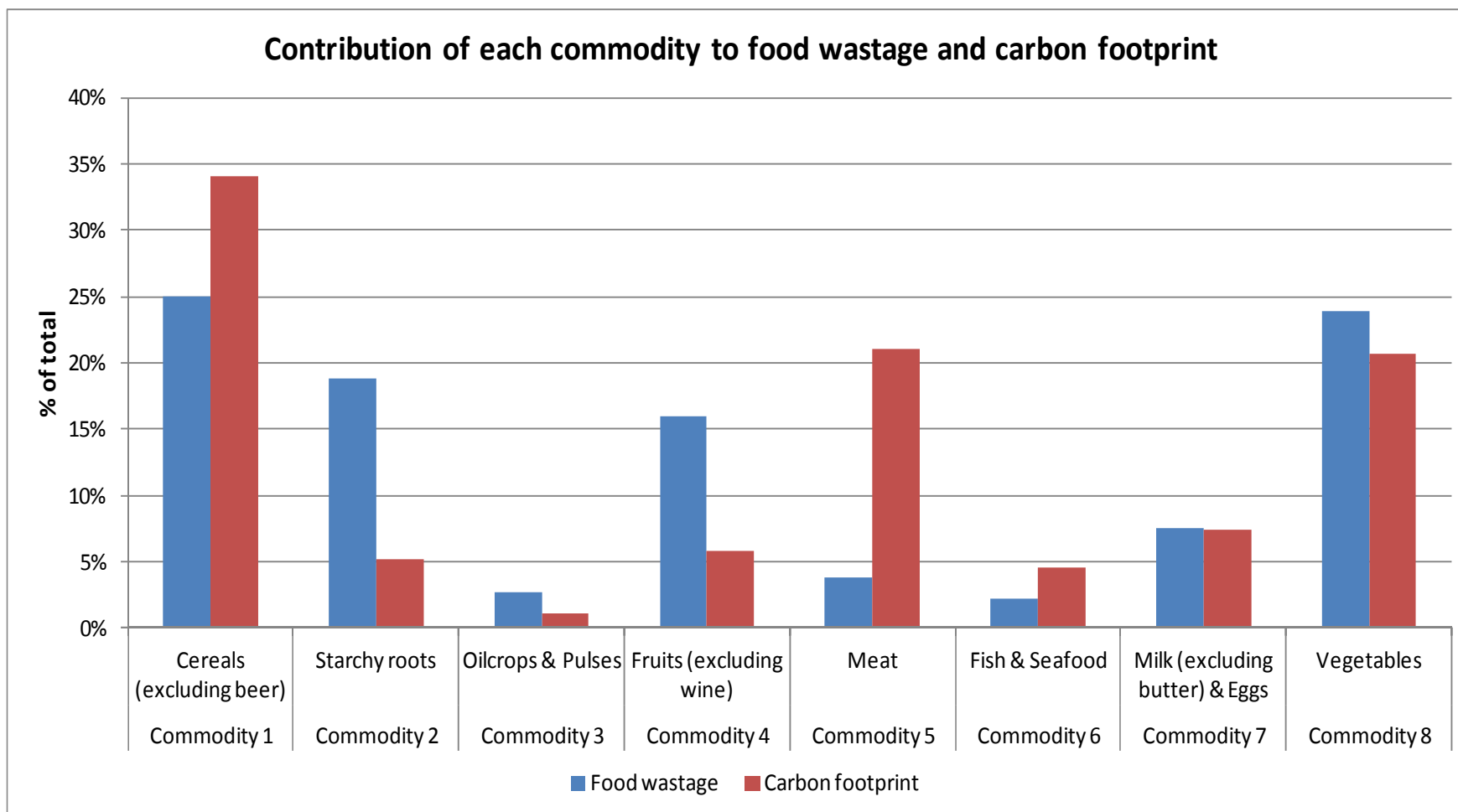


Global FLW by commodity



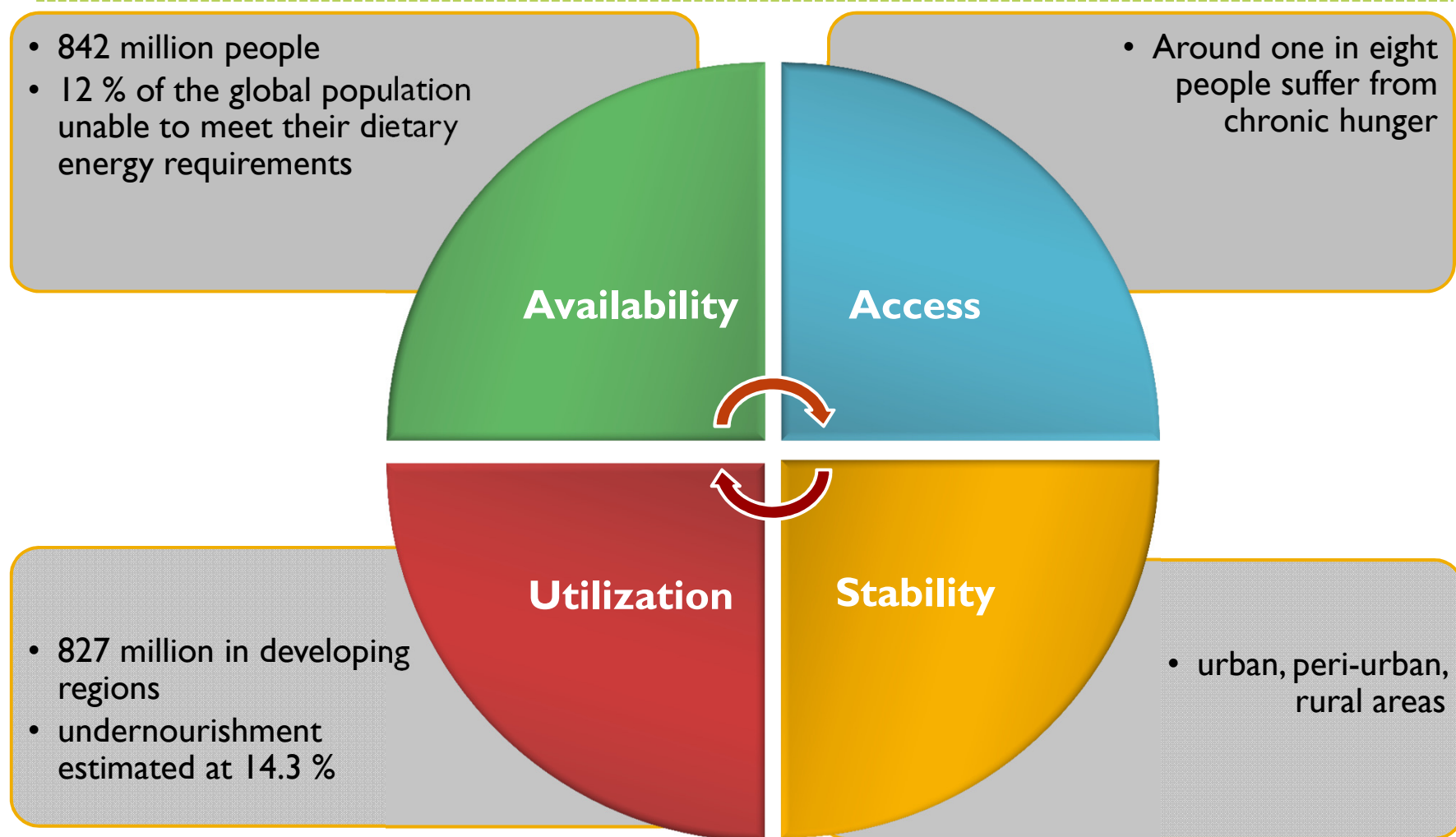
Source: FAO. 2011. [Global food losses and food waste](#)

FLW and carbon footprint



Source: FAO. 2013. [Food wastage footprint: Impact on natural resources](#)

2013 State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI)



Facts on FLW **reduction**

- FLW have to be tackled along food supply chains, in the context of sustainable food systems
- Increased food availability
 - *more efficient than increasing only food production*
- The Private Sector can reduce FLW at significant scale
- The Public Sector conducts research, provides guidance, facilitates and creates the enabling environment for/with the Private Sector to invest and act

FLW - causes

- Poor production planning systems and premature harvest; supply/demand imbalance
- Lack of
 - capacity in food safety & quality
 - strong producers' organizations
 - good quality packaging & technologies for SMEs
- Poor quality storage & processing facilities
- Inadequate marketing systems



FLW - reduction

➤ Improve

- Investment climate (e.g. infrastructure & transport)
- Producer organizations and capacity development
- Marketing & market facilities



➤ Enhance pre-packaging & contract packaging

- ✓ Post-harvest tear and leak resistance
- ✓ Hermetic seals, anti-microbial, and modified atmosphere
- ✓ Staking, shipping/transportation containers
(slip sheet & stretch wrapping in lieu of pallet strapping)
- ✓ Integrated materials handling & warehouse management systems



➤ Contract farming (see *FAO Contract Farming Resource Centre*)

FLW – causes and reduction

- When production exceeds demand
- Supply chain inefficiencies
- Large quantities on display
- **Prevention**
 - ✓ Communication and cooperation between producers
 - ✓ Marketing cooperatives
 - ✓ Improved supply chain management
 - ✓ Optimized processing
 - ✓ Develop contract farming



Turn the vision of an end to hunger into a reality

2012, Rio+20



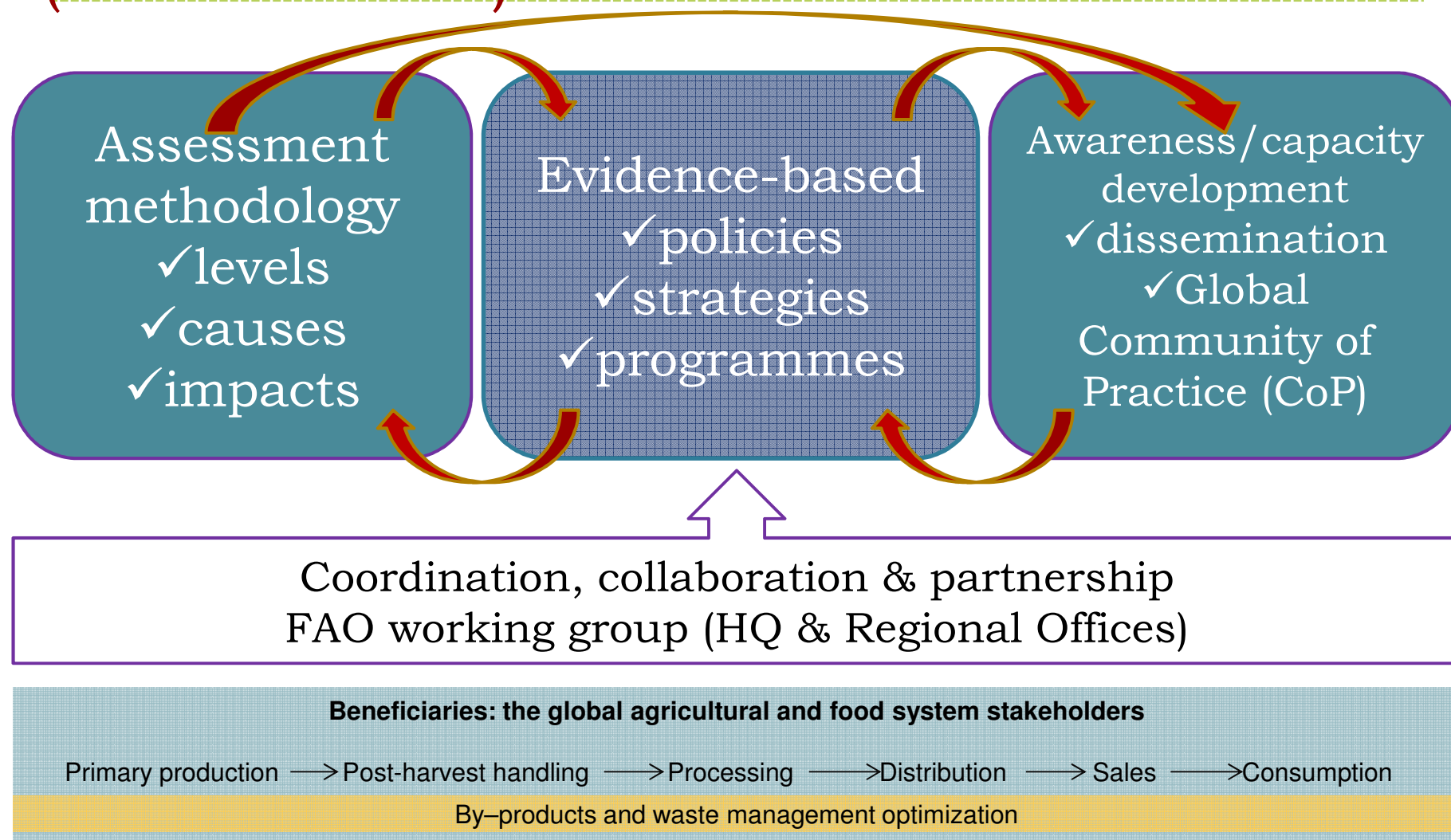
2012 → 2014

Committee on World Food Security (CFS) - High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) Report on **Food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems** (to inform 2014 Plenary discussions)

FAO 2014-15 → **Strategic Objective 4:** *Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels*

Post-2015 → Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Global Initiative on FLW Reduction (SAVE FOOD)



SAVE FOOD pillar

Evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes

FAO on going

- **FAO terminology** for *food loss* and *food waste*
- **Assessment methodology development**
 - ✓ Field case studies to identify critical loss points & feasible solutions (economic, social, environmental) e.g. Kenya (dairy, banana, fish, maize; 2014 forthcoming report)
 - ✓ Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Development Statistics
 - ✓ Food Loss Index
- **Assessment of impacts**
 - ✓ human nutrition (micro- & macronutrients)
 - ✓ food prices (FAO & for EU FUSIONS)
 - ✓ energy efficiency (regional focus e.g. Sub-Saharan Africa & South-East Asia)
 - ✓ date marking; recovery and redistribution

2014 → Regional Conferences Near East and North Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Central Asia

SAVE FOOD pillar

Awareness raising

- SAVE FOOD Global & Regional network
 - ✓ [@ fao.org](http://fao.org)
 - ✓ [@ Messe Düsseldorf GmbH](http://Messe Dusseldorf GmbH)
 - ✓ [@ FAO Asia-Pacific](http://FAO Asia-Pacific)
 - ✓ [@ FAO North Africa and Near East](http://FAO North Africa and Near East)
 - ✓ FAO-UNEP & partners: *Think.Eat.Save Campaign*



- Global Community of Practice (CoP) to be co-lead by FAO, IFAD, WFP

Milano Expo 2015

"Feeding the planet, Energy for life"

Among identified themes: FLW

U.N. leadership from FAO DG



SAVE FOOD pillar

Collaboration - synergy for FLW reduction

- [FAO-UNEP Sustainable Food Systems Programme](#)
- OECD (policy development)
- Global FoodBanking Network (GFN), Federation of European Food Banks (FEBA) & Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition (AAHM)
- FAO [Food for the Cities](#)
- EU FP7 FUSIONS (food waste in the EU)
- International Federation of Red Cross/Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- National initiatives e.g. Denmark, Sweden, France, The Netherlands, USA, Canada, Japan, Portugal, Brazil, South Africa, Italy, UK

20 September 2013

Meeting of 13 UN/International Organizations: FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNEP, UNIDO, OECD, World Bank, AfDB, ILO, UNDP, ITC, WHO, WTO

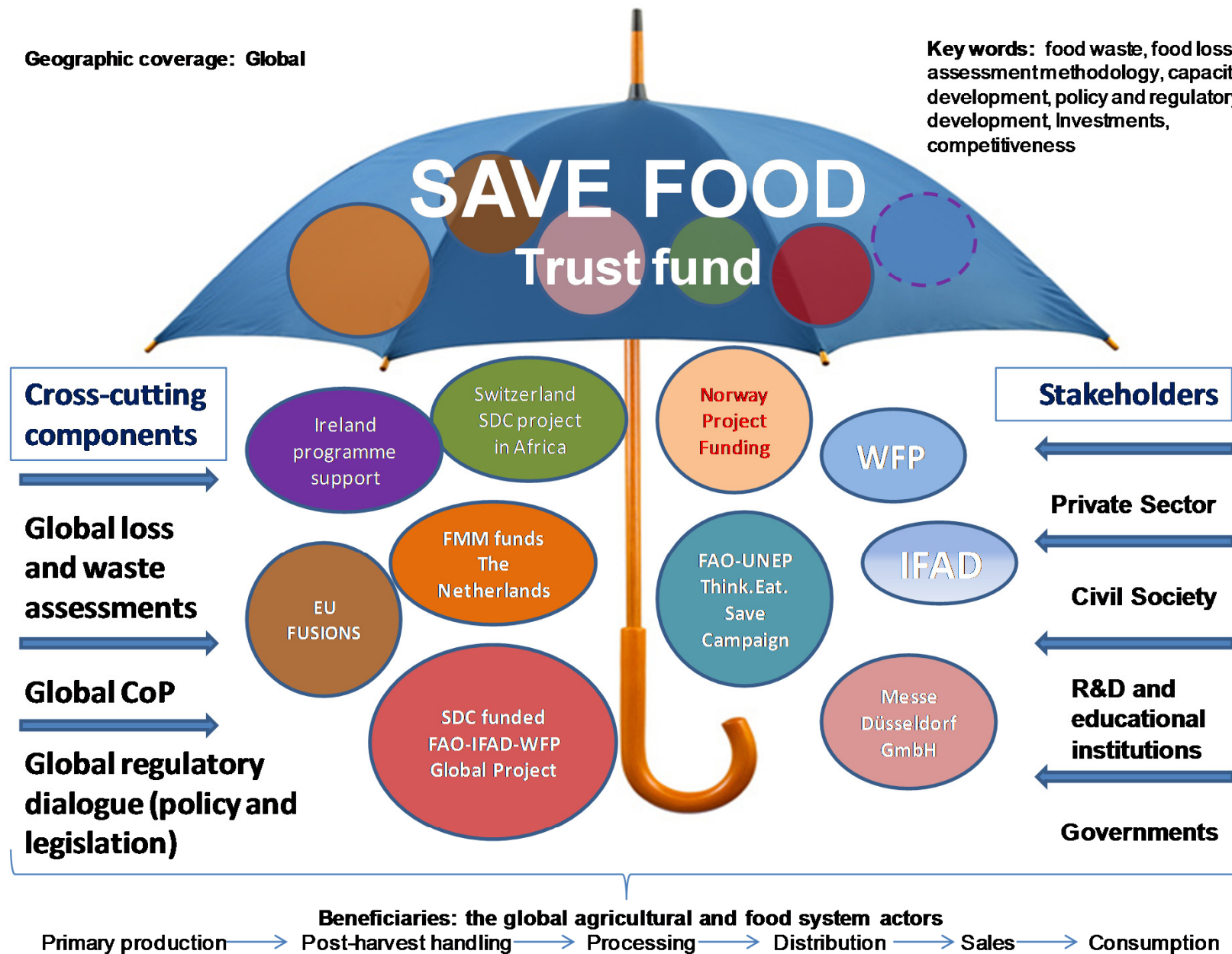
Objective: Network for collaboration, information exchange and coordination in [support of the 'zero loss or waste of food' element](#) of the Zero Hunger Challenge.

10-11 December 2013

Civil Society and Private Sector [Partnership event](#)

Geographic coverage: Global

Key words: food waste, food loss, assessment methodology, capacity development, policy and regulatory development, Investments, competitiveness



Key messages

- Global need for:
 - ✓ coherent comprehension of FLW terminology
 - ✓ harmonized quantification methodologies
 - ✓ development of the knowledge base of FLW impacts (e.g. social, natural resources, economic): short, medium, long term
- Coordination, collaboration & partnership for concrete action (public sector, private sector, and civil society)
- Re-aligning interventions focused on systemic improvement of agri-food systems
- Reduction of FLW → *increased food availability for sustainable consumption and production* → *more efficient than increasing only food production*



<http://www.fao.org/save-food>

Thank you

