



Leonardo Da Vinci

527451-LLP-1-2012-1-IT-LEONARDO-LMP

FoRWaRD Regional Report

Country:

Partner:

Authors:

Date:

Doc. Ref. N°: FORWARD-WP3



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

COPYRIGHT

© Copyright 2013 The FORWARD Consortium

Consisting of:

- EUROCREA MERCHANT SRL
- HUNGARIAN FOODBANK ASSOCIATION
- AVACA TECHNOLOGIES S.A.
- GREENPORT INNOVATION CENTER
- TEMPO TRAINING & CONSULTING
- EUROPEAN RETAIL ACADEMY
- FEDERATION OF POLISH FOOD BANKS
- CHARITABLE FOUNDATION “THE FOOD BANK”

This document may not be copied, reproduced, or modified in whole or in part for any purpose without written permission from the FORWARD Consortium. In addition an acknowledgement of the authors of the document and all applicable portions of the copyright notice must be clearly referenced.

All rights reserved.

This document may change without notice.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date	Comment

1. INTRODUCTION TO HUNGARY



Hungary IN SHORT

Capital and largest city	Budapest
Official languages	Hungarian
Ethnic groups (2011)	83.7% (98%) Hungarians 14.7% Not stated
Government	Parliamentary republic
Legislature	National Assembly
Foundation	
- Foundation	895
- Christian kingdom	1000
- Secession from Austria-Hungary	1918
- Current republic	23 October 1989
Area	
- Total	93,030 km ²
- Water (%)	0.74%
Population	
- June 2012 estimate	9,942,000
- Oct 2011 census	9,937,628
- Density	107.2/km ²
GDP (PPP)	2011 estimate
- Total	\$195.640 billion
- Per capita	\$19,891
GDP (nominal)	2011 estimate
- Total	\$140.303 billion
- Per capita	\$13,045
Genie (2008)	24.96
HDI (2013)	0.831
Currency	Forint (HUF)

2. FINDINGS OF NATIONAL/REGIONAL INVESTIGATION OF FOOD WASTE AND FOOD RECOVERY

2.1. Please, generally sum up the data, figures and statistics of the waste generated (if data are available) and of existing practices for recovery by your own investigation on national level, for example by desktop research, from internet and from publications, from official statistics and so on.

The only official statistics of food waste known to us is the EU's EUROSTAT data (see table below). According to this, total food waste in Hungary was 1,8 million tonnes (2006): 1,15 mt wasted in manufacturing, 0,4mt by households and 0,3mt by other sectors.

The Hungarian Foodbank Association in 2012 collected 411 tonnes of excess food from manufacturers and 286 tonnes from distribution chains (supermarkets). Most of this was canned vegetables (27%), milk products (16%) and fresh vegetables (12%).

Total Food Waste Generation in EU MS: Best estimate by Member State

	Manufacturing	Households	Other sectors	Total
EU27	34 755 711	37 701 761	16 820 000	89 277 472
Austria	570 544	784 570	502 000	1 858 000
Belgium	2 311 847	934 760	945 000	4 192 000
Bulgaria	358 687	288 315	27 000	674 000
Cyprus	186 917	47 819	21 000	256 000
Czech Republic	361 813	254 124	113 000	729 000
Denmark	101 646	494 914	45 000	642 000
Estonia	237 257	82 236	36 000	355 000
Finland	590 442	214 796	208 000	1 013 000
France	626 000	6 322 944	2 129 000	9 078 000
Germany	1 848 881	7 676 471	862 000	10 387 000
Greece	73 081	412 758	2 000	488 000
Hungary	1 157 419	394 952	306 000	1 858 000
Ireland	465 945	292 326	293 000	1 051 000
Italy	5 662 838	2 706 793	408 000	8 778 000
Latvia	125 635	78 983	11 000	216 000
Lithuania	222 205	111 160	248 000	581 000
Luxembourg	2 665	62 538	31 000	97 000
Malta	271	22 115	3 000	25 000
Netherlands	6 412 330	1 837 599	1 206 000	9 456 000
Poland	6 566 060	2 049 844	356 000	8 972 000
Portugal	632 395	385 063	374 000	1 391 000
Romania	487 751	696 794	1 089 000	2 274 000
Slovakia	347 773	135 854	105 000	589 000
Slovenia	42 072	72 481	65 000	179 000
Spain	2 170 910	2 136 551	3 388 000	7 696 000
Sweden	601 327	905 000	547 000	2 053 000
United Kingdom	2 591 000	8 300 000	3 500 000	14 391 000

Source: 2006 EUROSTAT data (EWC_09_NOT_093), Various national sources

3. EXISTING MATERIALS IN YOUR COUNTRY

3.1. Is there any kind (online, personal, school etc.) of education and information available for charities or companies about food waste in your country?

In 2012 the Hungarian Foodbank Association developed a website (<http://www.eselytazetelnek.hu/>) and conducted a campaign about food waste reduction. Both the website and the campaign was directed to households, the website to adults, the campaign both to adults and primary school students. The website contains information on:

- what food waste is,
- how it is created, what are the sources and quantities worldwide and in Hungary,
- detailed advise on how households and consumers can reduce the quantity of food waste,
- there is an application for smart shopping list, another application for recipes for food rest, a game for remembering what food we already have at home and a downloadable table for measuring food waste at home.

As part of the programme we reached about 5000 children with age-specific messages and games delivered on classes. The programme also involved food collections in the participating schools.

On the roadshow (also part of the programme) we reached 4000 people and showed them how to use leftovers for cooking.

Since 2010 the Association of Conscious Consumers organises EcoTeams: small groups of consumers meet for 9 weeks, discuss options for greening their households and lifestyles, make changes and measure the results. Food waste is one of the issues covered. Up to now the programme reached over 600 households and resulted in 27% decrease of food waste.

4. PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF NEEDS ANALYSIS

Please, translate all answers received and add all of your result from online questionnaires into common online tool online.

companies: docs.google.com/forms/d/1RMr2p0oGSi9qnUmBQhNiFn46jllHBlu7-A_Ok8MmhGY/viewform

charities: docs.google.com/forms/d/132whnb9_bJA41RxBEax2eAGSXqF4Jv_-b9s3PFDqP2Y/viewform

4.1. If not included in the questionnaire online, please provide all translated answers to open questions. Preferably, please include them in the questionnaire (because in that case we can see which organisation gave which text type answer).

see questionnaire excel

Charities

4.2. Methodology

4.2.1. What was your research methodology in getting data from charities? Please describe in detail (eg. where you got the list of charities from, how did you contact them, how did they provide data etc.)

4.2.2. How easy was it to get information?

We created a google questionnaire in Hungarian and sent the link to some 70 of our partner organisations to fill it in. 42 of them answered (9 national, 22 local organisations, 10 local governments or their institutions), so it was quite easy to obtain data.

4.3. What is your general impression: what are the major fields where they need development, learning?

4.3.1. What are those they are really interested in, keen on learning about?

Their greatest problems and concerns are: logistics and infrastructure development, how to increase quantity of food received and donated. They would also like to improve trust between them and the food donors.

Majority do not even comply with basic food safety requirements.

4.3.2. What are those that they already know very well and do not need to learn about?

They are least interested in accounting information, what to include in donation contract. In several cases lack of interest is possibly due to ignorance of the

importance of issue (e.g. food safety); therefore the training should also include some attitude development features in these topics.

Companies

4.4. Methodology

4.4.1. What was your research methodology in getting data from companies? Please describe in detail (eg. where you got the list of companies from, how did you contact them, how did they provide data etc.)

4.4.2. How easy was it to get information?

We selected 21 of the pool of our most active corporate partners. We sent them an email introducing the project and asking for a 30 minutes phone interview. After this we called them to set a date for the interview. Two companies declined to answer. Two companies preferred to answer by writing. With 4 companies it was impossible to contact or set a date for the phone interview. We completed 15 phone interviews. Took notes on paper and transferred these to the excel in English.

With many of the companies many phone calls were needed until we found the right person to talk to and the right time to reach them. It was a time and labour-intensive process.

4.5. What is your general impression:

4.5.1. What are the major reasons for producing food waste?

The major overall reason is that producers/importers are unable to foresee the quantity they can sell. They order/produce too much – and this becomes food waste.

- Supermarket chains give out sale forecasts but they do not take any responsibility for the data in it. Suppliers order/produce according to these forecasts and then the supermarket only buys a small part of forecasted quantity – the rest is food waste.
- Cost reduction at producers often results in more food waste: e.g. because worse quality packaging gets damaged more easily.

Food waste can be reduced eg.

- If supermarkets can provide more exact and timely data about their storage quantities, and
- if better cooperation can be established between supermarkets and suppliers/producers in reduced price sale of leftover stocks.

4.5.2. What are the major obstacles for getting food waste to people in need?

Wrong perception. Several companies state right away that they have no food waste. It will be important to give a good definition, and also to provide an easy questionnaire for them to be able to decide if they have food waste or not.

Lack of human resources. Donating more food waste for human consumption often needs more human resources that is sometimes missing so food gets dumped. E.g. in shops they have to manually check through all shelves for close to expiry products during opening time (future solution might be all products having an RFID label that signals if expiry close).

Regulations. Edible products are not allowed to be donated after expiry. The legal framework needs to be changed.

4.5.3. What are those they are really interested in, keen on learning about?

4.5.4. What are those that they already know very well and do not need to learn about?

Most companies were interested in the possibility to share experiences of other companies in food waste reduction and treatment. So we should think about not only online training, explore opportunities to go personal in participating countries.

The online training may be interesting for store managers of supermarket chains (they have compulsory e-learning classes anyway, this can be added to the menu).

Mostly they know laws and regulations (accounting, food safety etc.). Information about how to monitor charities and how to manage the contact with them might be more valuable than legal and financial info.

Other important/interesting points:

- The larger the company, the smaller the possibility that one person can reply all our questions – different person for waste and different for donations. Different people need different type of information through the training – it will be worth to develop modules according to who will need the information.
- Donor companies would like to see better where the products end up. Give them photos and information when reports are cross checked or when there is special audit done.
- Put the entire Foodbank reporting process and administration online to increase transparency towards donors.
- Good practice: Piros Kockás (main product: sweet milk product with 21 days expiry). If 5-6 days remain only they sell it on reduced price to canteens, or give it to child institutions for marketing purposes. They do not have any food waste at all (in the retail work processes).

-
- Another important aspect: on what price do companies account for donated food: production cost, purchasing price etc. Do they calculate at all? This might influence food saving practices.
 - Check in Hungary whether environmental product fee has to be paid after donated food products.
 - Check in Hungary: VAT does not need to be paid if product that is taken back is given directly for donation (visszárúként direkt adományozás). Tax cut is given if charities does not have profitmaking activities. (Storck)