



Presse

Press

Working together to fight against food loss and waste

The SAVE FOOD Initiative welcomes its 100th partner from industry

NESTLE ® is the next major company to join the initiative.

A growing number of companies and organisations are supporting the SAVE FOOD Initiative dedicated to the fight against global food loss and waste. NESTLE ®, the world's biggest food company, has now joined. This means that a hundred industrial companies, associations and media are now working together with SAVE FOOD – a broad-based alliance that covers large stretches of the food value chain.

Each year, worldwide, a third of all food is thrown away or lost, while some 842 million people are suffering from hunger at the same time. In 2011, to rectify this distressing state of affairs, Messe Düsseldorf and the FAO jointly launched the SAVE FOOD Initiative, which has also been enjoying support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) since the beginning of 2013. By networking with its public partner organisations and members in industry, the initiative aims to identify specific ways of reducing international food loss and waste.

“Reducing food loss and waste is an important part of the journey to be able to feed 9.6 billion people by 2050. We are delighted to join the SAVE FOOD Initiative as the complex issue of addressing food loss and waste can only be tackled through an holistic and collaborative approach. NESTLE ® is firmly committed to further reducing food loss and waste along the entire production chain from farm to consumers and beyond,” says Dr. Anne Roulin, Global R&D Sustainability Manager, NESTLE ®.

The SAVE FOOD approach

To achieve its goal of a substantial reduction in food loss and waste, the SAVE FOOD Initiative is pursuing four successive goals:

1. It is essential to draw the necessary attention to the problem and raise awareness.
2. The involvement of industry makes it possible to pool the resources of private and public organisations.

3. The combination of expertise that arises in this process is used for the development of basic strategies and programmes.
4. Building on this, the aim is to establish concrete investment programmes that encourage and call for engagement by public and private enterprises.

Central to the SAVE FOOD approach is its networking with industry, because international organisations rely on cooperation with industry in the battle against food loss and waste. interpack as the flagship fair for the packaging sector and related processing industries is therefore playing an important part in this initiative by contributing the expertise of its international contacts in industry and associations to the initiative's work. At upcoming interpack 2014, a SAVE FOOD Congress on the subject of food loss and waste, bringing together experts from industry, the political sphere and civil society, will be taking place in Düsseldorf on 7 and 8 May.

A multi-faceted global issue

The reasons for food loss and waste differ greatly from one region of the world to the next. In the less developed countries, up to forty per cent of food spoils before it even reaches the consumer. By contrast, in the western industrialised nations like Germany, food waste mainly takes place at the end of the food value chain, i.e. with the consumer. Here, up to thirty per cent of all food is disposed of unused. Just a quarter of the food currently lost worldwide would be sufficient to feed all the world's hungry.

Companies interested in joining SAVE FOOD can contact Ms Isabel Chanteaux, Tel. +49 211 4560 208, Email: ChanteauxI@messe-duesseldorf.de.

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initiative



About SAVE FOOD:

The SAVE FOOD Initiative is a cooperation between the World Food & Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, FAO, and Messe Düsseldorf GmbH to combat global food losses and waste. Since early 2013 the initiative has also been supported by the United Nations Environmental Programme, UNEP. SAVE FOOD aims to establish a network of business, politicians and researchers, stimulate dialogue and help to work out solutions along the food value chain. The aim is also to initiate and promote own SAVE FOOD projects with the support of the industry. SAVE FOOD started in May 2011 with an international congress and an exhibition as part of the world's leading trade fair for the packaging sector and its associated process industries, interpack. interpack 2014 on 7 and 8 May will again see experts from business, political and research circles meet in Düsseldorf to discuss the theme of food waste and losses. For more information go to www.save-food.org.

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