

Collaboration Initiative Food Loss and Waste

connecting locally and globally

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30 % of global food production is lost or wasted due to inefficient food systems.

This wasteful use of resources has unacceptable social, environmental and economic impacts.

Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 calls for halving per capita food waste in retail and consumption and reducing food loss from field to trade by 2030. Global collaboration to tackle food loss and waste (FLW) is an urgent mission that connects disciplines and actors.

We take it.

Initiative Background

Together with the BMEL, the Thünen Institute represents Germany at “Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists of G20 States (MACS-G20)”. In 2015, the **Collaboration Initiative Food Loss and Waste** was launched under the G20 presidency of Türkiye.

Thünen Institute has been leading and financing this global Initiative since 2017.

Objectives of the Collaboration Initiative:

- concentrate research and policy advisory capacities of G20
- facilitate regional to global multi-actor networks
- enhance inter-disciplinary knowledge exchange & capacity building
- support research & dissemination
- provide evidence-based policy advice on local, regional, national and international level

Selected achievements

Regional Food Loss and Waste workshops

- annual workshops in collaboration with G20 presidency, FAO, UNEP and regional stakeholders tackling local topics in plenary sessions, working groups and field trips
- 990 participants along supply chain from 102 countries since 2017, multiple attendance by 27 countries
- 2018 result: “Call to Buenos Aires Action on Food Loss and Waste” signed by FAO, Thünen Institute, Interamerican Development Bank, Consumer Goods Forum & Global Food Banking Network as collaboration commitment in Latin America & the Caribbean

Global Platform for Food Loss and Waste experts & research

- international database including expert contacts, research area, product focus, sector focus, project descriptions, links
- 177 experts from 44 countries offer their expertise

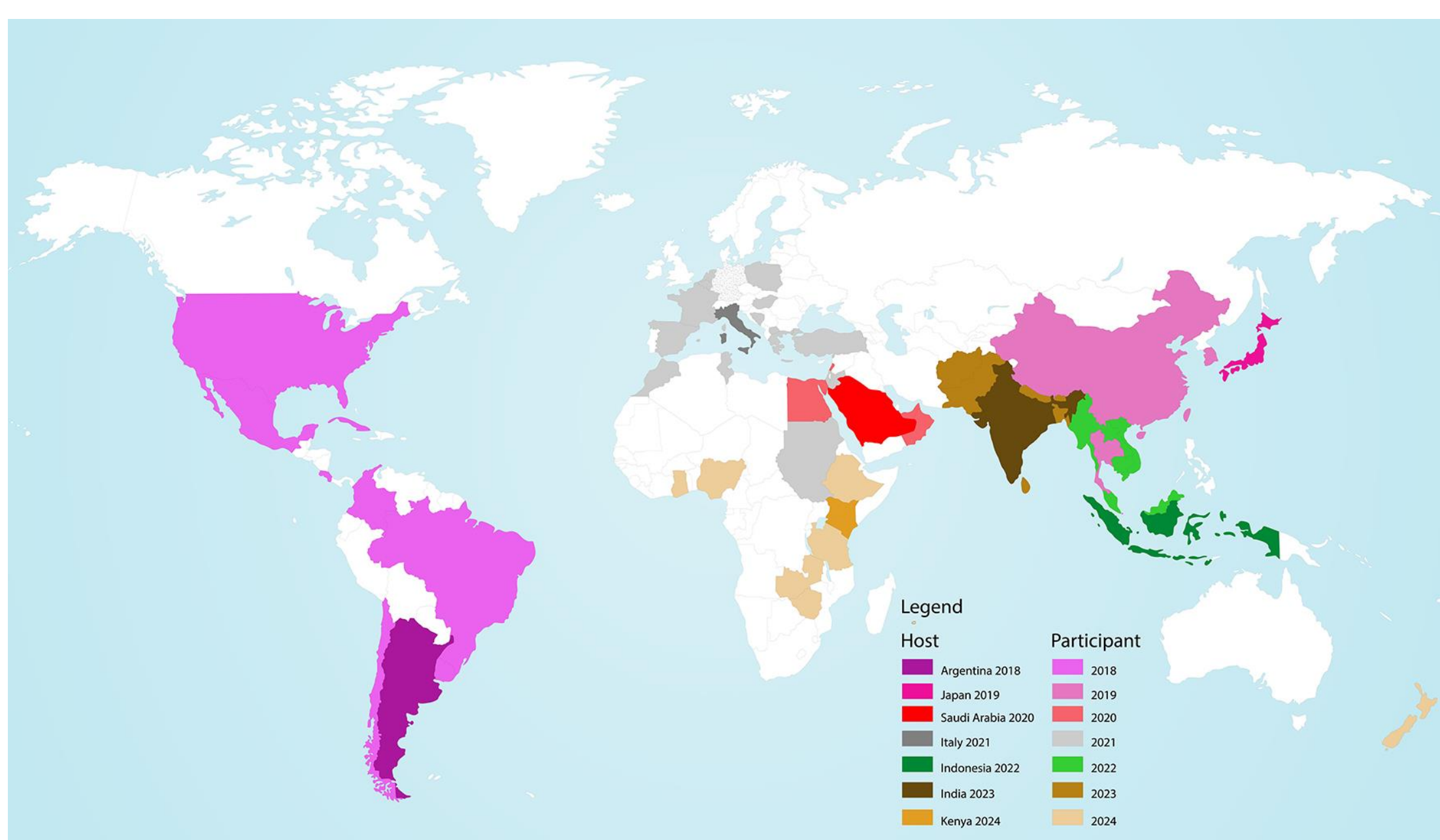


September 29: International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste

- support the initiative of G20 presidency Argentina in 2018
- proposal approved by UN General Assembly in 2019, implemented first time in 2020

Collaboration outputs

- in 2024, activities with more than 40 partner organisations including FAO, UNEP, ISO, EU, ministries, universities, federal research institutes, businesses, NGOs etc.
- research projects, publications, student exchange, public events, journal editorial, visiting researchers, workshops & field trips, conference sessions, working groups, Initiative’s Annual Reports, food council in Braunschweig (ERBSL)



World map of countries covered by our Regional FLW workshops since 2018, excluding the workshop in 2017 which targeted G20 members for setting the scene



Municipal food waste in Brazil

