

### What is Ambition 2030?

The impacts of climate change and nature's decline are being felt right across the globe, posing an ever-growing threat on food production and food security. As one of the most significant contributors, the food sector must address these issues from farm to fork. FDF's environmental sustainability strategy - *Ambition 2030* - sets out how the sector can tackle these sustainability challenges and how every business can make its contribution. The strategy is supported by practical guidance on measurement, target-setting and action, such as FDF's Net Zero Handbook, and on how to navigate the increasingly complex landscape of initiatives and reporting frameworks. The strategy has five pillars, reflecting the areas our members can make greatest contribution through their action:

-  **Net Zero**
-  **Nature Restoration**
-  **Sustainable Commodities**
-  **Food Waste**
-  **Packaging**

This work sits alongside actions that members and FDF are taking on other sustainability issues including labour and human rights, diet and health, industry growth and more.

## PILLAR 4: Food Waste

### Ambition:

**Halve per capita food waste by 2030, contributing to UN SDG 12.3 and the Courtauld 2030 commitment.**

### Why Action is Needed

Globally, around one third of all food produced is wasted. This has a substantial environmental impact, accounting for 8-10% of total global GHG emissions and leading to excess pressure on land, nature and water resources. Food waste also has significant economic and social dimensions - 2.4 billion people are facing food insecurity in a world where plenty of food is produced. As part of Agenda 2030, the UN therefore included a target to halve global per capita food waste in its Sustainable Development Goals (12.3). This target has been incorporated within WRAP's Courtauld Commitment 2030 for the UK food sector, of which FDF is a signatory.

Food waste occurs across the supply chain. In the UK, 18% occurs during the manufacturing stage. Under existing regulations, food companies must take reasonable measures to first prevent food waste and then to reduce it, as outlined in the food and drink material hierarchy (figure 1). Since 2007, food and drink manufacturers have already achieved a 34% reduction, putting the sector on track to reach a 50% per capita reduction by 2030. However, there has been limited progress elsewhere in the food supply chain, particularly in reducing household food waste. Manufacturers can

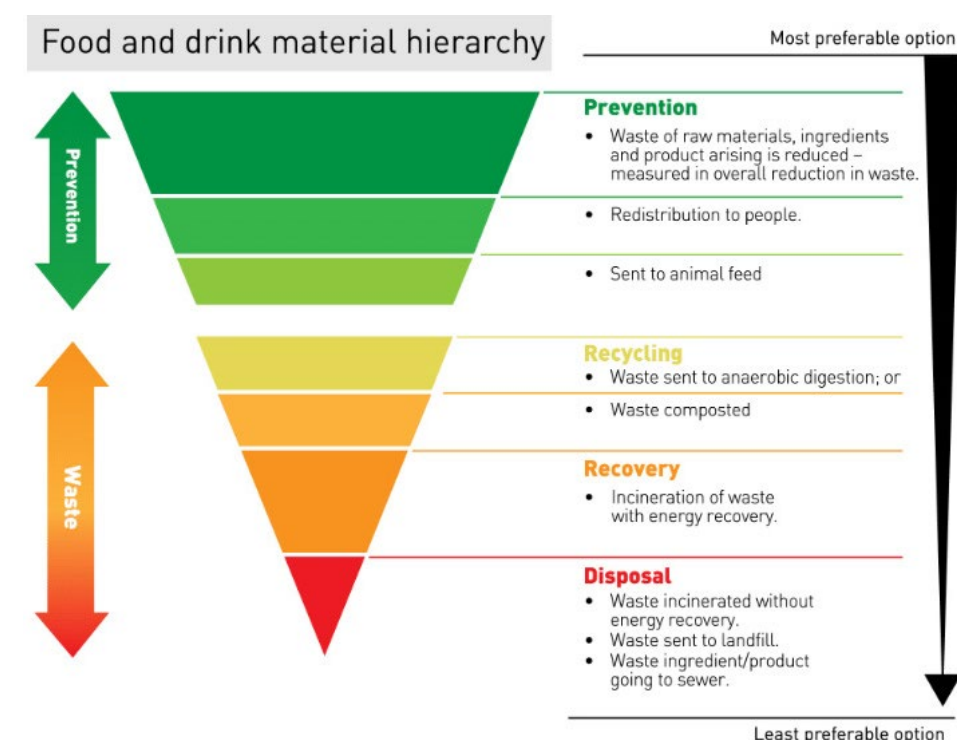
help reduce waste by reformulating to improve shelf life and improving durability labels to discourage good food being thrown away. Together with the retailers, they can also work more flexibly with suppliers to review quality specifications. WRAP and IGD have created an industry-wide programme – the Food Waste Reduction Roadmap (FWRR) – on how the UK food industry can achieve this ambition,

which FDF supports.

Delivering on this Food Waste ambition is key to maximising manufacturers' contribution to a 50% reduction in emissions across the agrifood supply chain by 2030 (Pillar 1). Reducing food waste also indirectly contributes to Nature Restoration (Pillar 2), reducing pressures for deforestation to create for agricultural land.



Figure 1: Food and Drink waste hierarchy (WRAP, 2024)



PILLAR 4:  
Food Waste

**Taking Action**

FDF members are at different stages of their sustainability journey in how they are tackling food waste. Ambition 2030 addresses this by demonstrating how each business can progress from their current position.

FDF recommends members follow IGD's strategic framework for building a sustainability Roadmap, taking action across these key areas: **measure, target, implement, finance, and communicate and advocate**. Below sets out some of the actions members may take as they progress on their sustainability journey:



**ENTRY**

- **Measure** and track food waste within all operations and calculate associated cost savings from reducing it to develop **financial** case for action.
- Set **targets** and develop an action plan to halve food waste by 2030, this should include a **target** % for surplus redistribution

**DEVELOPING**

- Trial and **implement** initiatives such as recipe reformulation to reduce food waste within own operations
- Sign up to WRAP's Food Waste Reduction Roadmap
- **Measure** and track food waste across the rest of each supply chain

**ADVANCING**

- Set **targets** and develop action plan to reduce supply chain food waste, eg: through labelling changes, reformulation and exploring flexibility in product ingredient specifications
- **Collaborate** across the supply chain to support behaviour change initiatives that aid household food waste reduction.

**Supporting Frameworks**

FDF is supporting members towards Ambition 2030 by providing guidance on reporting frameworks and initiatives for each pillar. These aim to provide clarity in an increasing complex landscape, freeing up resource to focus on implementing actions. For Food Waste, this covers: **FWRR, Champions 12.3's 10x20x30 initiative, WWF Basket** and more.

**Measuring success**

To communicate and advocate for the sector, FDF will provide annual progress updates for each pillar of Ambition 2030. FDF will source case studies from members and use existing data where available, for example, FWRR data collected annually by WRAP. Example metrics for Food Waste include:

- Number of members implementing the FWRR
- Total food waste from manufacturing food waste
- Total volume of food redistributed

**FDF Supporting Activity**

As the voice of manufacturing, FDF is leading the sector's efforts on food waste. Whilst manufacturers have made good progress on increasing surplus redistribution and in reducing operational waste, there is also a great need support reducing waste on farms and in the home, where c. two thirds of food waste occurs. FDF activities include providing guidance and sharing best practice with members, working with them to understand shared barriers to action and to co-create solutions, advocating on behalf of members with supply chain partners, government and wider stakeholders. FDF will support members within this Food Waste pillar through:

**Advocating** for any food waste reporting to align with existing industry practice

**Articulating** the case for reducing food waste to members at board and senior executive level including that is essential for reaching Net Zero and the return on investment from sufficiently resourcing company food waste programmes.

**Engaging** with members to understand what guidance they need to support them to redistribute their surplus

**Co-creating** industry solutions to reducing household food waste through WRAP's working group

