



Austria – Country Report on national food waste policy

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Colophon

Title	Austria – Country report on national food waste policy
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Definitions and abbreviations

Glossary

National strategies on food waste prevention are a method, strategy or plan specifically addressing food waste prevention as required by the 2008 Waste Framework Directive. Key sectors addressed in the plan should include local authorities, households, the hospitality industry, the retail supply chain, businesses and institutions (such as schools and hospitals).

Market-based instruments are policy tools that encourage behavioural change through market signals rather than through traditional regulations. Examples include environmentally related taxes, charges and subsidies, emissions trading and other tradable permit systems, deposit-refund systems, environmental labelling laws, licenses, and economic property rights.

Regulations and regulatory instruments are governmental or ministerial orders having the force of law. Regulatory instruments are sometimes called "command-and-control"; public authorities mandate the performance to be achieved or the technologies to be used.

Voluntary agreements are alternative courses of actions such as self-regulations developed by the industry generally aimed to deliver the policy objectives faster and/or in a more cost-effective manner compared to mandatory requirements.

Technical reports and main scientific articles refer to publications that report results of experimental and/or theoretical scientific investigations to enhance the body of scientific knowledge (in this case about food waste and losses).

Communication and campaigns include national "umbrella" campaigns; campaigns; short campaigns and festivals; education and training activities; contests and competitions; exhibitions, whose aim is to raise awareness on food waste. Communication include seminars and lectures; vocational trainings; books and manuals.

Projects and other measures refer to initiatives like neighbourhood projects, food sharing platforms, platform/networks, labelling, applications, etc... that contribute and/or are connected to food waste reduction.

Food waste policy mix highlights refers to negative and positive highlights and analytical data emerging from the analysis of the policies of each country.

Abbreviations






FWM = Food waste management

FWG= Food waste generation

FWR= Food waste reduction

OFU= Optmization of food use

Legenda

A1 	Primary production pre-harvest
A2 	Primary production ready for post-harvest
A3 	Processing and manufacturing
A4 	Wholesale, retail and marketing
A5 	Food preparation and consumption

Structure of the country report

- A) National strategy on food waste prevention
- B) Market-based instruments
- C) Regulations and regulatory instruments
- D) Voluntary agreements
- E) Technical reports and main scientific articles
- F) Communications and campaigns
- G) Projects and other measures
- H) Food waste policy mix: highlights

References

A) National strategy on food waste prevention

Austria has no national plan specifically addressing food waste, however food waste is addressed in the **Federal Waste Management Plan 2011**.

Promoted by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management in 2011, the Federal Waste Management Plan 2011 summarizes the situation of waste management in Austria including the amounts of different waste streams and their treatment paths, the number and condition of treatment facilities and perspectives for the future, required in order to implement the objectives and principles of the Waste Management Law of 2002. It has to be approved by different official boards which are in charge to ensure the acceptance of the plan within authorities, companies and other stakeholders.

The plan aims to deliver a reduction of 20% of food waste in residual waste generated from households and companies within 2016. The target is specific for residual waste as this is the only municipal waste stream fully monitored and therefore characterized by a reliable data set. A qualitative target was set for all the other waste streams to emphasize that, beside the lack of data, also all other food waste along the food supply chain should be reduced.

The Food Waste Management Plan identifies the definition and a set of recommended actions on all levels of the food supply chain from food production (including agriculture) to households and policy. Examples of these recommendations include education and training programmes for employees of companies and food services; the inclusion of food waste prevention topic within industry-specific vocational trainings (e.g. for chefs and other restaurant and catering staff, hotel management schools, nutrition experts etc.); the development of teaching materials for schools; exchange of best practices; the creation of awareness building programs; the establishment of incentive systems for companies; the release of official food donation guidelines; the identification of a quality standard for redistribution services; the adoption of specific guidelines for public procurement etc.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: all, however the subsectors and types of activities involved are not mentioned in detail as the plan is more strategic and therefore on a more general level.

B) Market-based instruments

There are no market-based instruments specifically addressing food waste.

C) Regulations and regulatory instruments

The body of laws that have major implications on food waste includes national and federal legislative acts and presents significant differences in their application on a regional basis.











The laws addressed to food waste management include the ordinance defining the state of the art for landfills (*BGBI. II Nr. 104/2014*), the ordinance requiring biogenous waste to be collected separately unless it is recovered (*BGBI. Nr. 456/1994*) the law that regulates the production, placing on the market and use of animal feed (*BGBI. I Nr. 189/2013*), the Viennese Waste Management Law that stipulates three areas of activity for sustainable waste prevention (*BGBI. I Nr. 193/2013*).


















The laws actively addressed to food waste reduction include the ordinance that regulates the labeling of packed food (*BGBI. II Nr. 165/2008L*) and the law that regulates the sustainable management of waste (*LGBl. Nr. 13/1994*).



















The laws implying or potentially implying food waste generation include the epizootic diseases law (BGBl. I Nr. 80/2013), the ordinance on food labelling (BGBl. II Nr. 165/2008), the general ordinance on sewage water emissions (BGBl. Nr. 186/1996), the Salzburg waste management law (LGBl Nr 45/2013), the Austrian waste management law (BGBl. I Nr. 193/2013), the Salzburg Ordinance on biowaste 2010 (LGBl Nr 40/2010).
























There no legislative acts specifically addressed to the optimization of food use.

Table 1. Austria's regulations and related implications on food waste along the food chain

Law	Description	Types of implications	Main FSCS involved
Ordinance of food labeling StF: BGBl. Nr. 72/1993 zuletzt geändert durch BGBl. II Nr. 165/2008L Verordnung des Bundesministers für Gesundheit, Sport und Konsumentenschutz über die Kennzeichnung von verpackten Lebensmitteln (Lebensmittelkennzeichnungsverordnung 1993 - LMKV)	Issued in 1993 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Minister of Health, Sports and Consumerism. This ordinance regulates the labelling of packed food. Food with an expired 'best before' date can be sold on the market. Products with a 'use by' label should not be consumed due to health risks. This type of labelling is statutory for food that expires quickly such as raw milk, raw meat products and fresh fish.	FWG	A3  A4  A5 
Epizootic diseases law StF: RGBl. Nr. 177/1909 (letzte Änderung: BGBl. I Nr. 80/2013) Gesetz vom 6. August 1909, betreffend die Abwehr und Tilgung von Tierseuchen (TierseuchenGesetz)	Issued in 1909 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament. This law applies to the eradication and monitoring of animal diseases. It prohibits feeding food waste and leftovers to domestic and wild animals identifying under what circumstances pig feeding should be considered legal.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4 
Law on animal feed StF: BGBl. I Nr. 139/1999, letzte Änderung BGBl. I Nr. 189/2013 Bundesgesetz über die Herstellung, das Inverkehrbringen und die Verwendung von Futtermitteln, Vormischungen und Zusatzstoffen (Futtermittelgesetz 1999 - FMG 1999)	Issued in 1999 by the Austrian Parliament. It regulates production, placing on the market and use of animal feed, pre mixtures and additives of animal feed. This law serves as the legal basis for the use of waste bread for animal feed.	FWM	A1  A2  A3 

Law	Description	Types of implications	Main FSCS involved
Law on animal substances StF: BGBl. I Nr. 141/2003, letzte Änderung BGBl. I Nr. 23/2013 Tiermaterialiengesetz 2013 Bundesgesetz betreffend Hygienevorschriften für nicht für den menschlichen Verzehr bestimmte tierische Nebenprodukte und Materialien (Tiermaterialiengesetz - TMG)	Issued in 2003 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament. This regulation is intended to implement the EC regulations 1068/2009 and 142/2011. It regulates the collection, storage, transport, treatment, processing, disposal or use and the placement on the market of animal by-products. This law brings EC directive No. 1069/2009 into force in Austria dealing with animal by-products.	FWM	A1  A2  A3  A4 
Ordinance on animal feed 2010 StF: BGBl. II Nr. 316/2010 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft, mit der Bestimmungen zur Durchführung des Futtermittel-gesetzes 1999 erlassen werden	Issued in 2009 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management. This ordinance includes provisions for implementing the Law on animal feed (Futtermittelgesetz). This ordinance serves as the legal basis for the use of waste bread for animal feed (as one of many regulations).	FWM	A1  A2  A3 
Ordinance on animal substances StF: BGBl. II Nr. 484/2008, Änderung BGBl. II Nr. 141/2010 Verordnung der Bundesministerin für Gesundheit, Familie und Jugend über nähere Bestimmungen zum Umgang mit tierischen Nebenprodukten (Tiermaterialien-Verordnung)	Issued in 2008 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Minister of Health, Family and Youth. It defines exceptions from the prohibition of feeding former foodstuffs to farm animals, for the production of which no animal products other than milk, dairy, eggs and egg products were used. Manufactured former foodstuff can be used as input for biogas and compost plants without pre-treatment. Minimum standards for biogas and composting plants are identified.	FWM	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Ordinance on separate collection of biowaste StF: BGBl. Nr. 68/1992, idF: BGBl. Nr. 456/1994 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Umwelt, Jugend und Familie über die getrennte biogener Abfälle	Issued in 1992 by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Minister of Environment, Youth and Family. This ordinance requires biogenous waste to be collected separately unless it is recovered by the household or generator.	FWM	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 

Law	Description	Types of implications	Main FSCS involved
General ordinance on sewage water emissions StF: BGBl. Nr. 186/1996 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft über die allgemeine Begrenzung von Abwasseremissionen in Fließgewässer und öffentliche Kanalisationen (AAEV)	Issued in 1996 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. This ordinance applies to the discharge of sewage, combined sewage and rainwater, groundwater and leachate from landfills into flowing waters. This ordinance defines maximum permissible values for discharge of waste waters into sewers influencing the use of food waste grinders and compactors. For the use of food waste grinders an authorization according to the Waste Management Law has to be obtained.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Waste management law StF: LGBl Nr 35/1999, letzte Änderung LGBl Nr 45/2013 Gesetz vom 10. Dezember 1998 über die Vermeidung, Erfassung und Behandlung von Abfällen (Salzburger Abfallwirtschaftsgesetz 1998 - S.AWG Salzburg)	Issued in 1999 and promoted by the regional parliament of the Federal State Land Salzburg. This law specifies the regulations of the national law (id 11) for the Federal State of Salzburg. It includes regulations on municipal solid waste collection, reporting and fees.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Ordinance on compost quality StF: BGBl. II Nr. 292/2001 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über Qualitätsanforderungen an Komposte aus Abfällen (Kompost Verordnung 2001)	Issued in 2001 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management. This ordinance regulates quality requirements for composts from waste, the type and source of used materials as well as labelling and the marketing of composts. Packaging material should not be thrown into the bio bin to avoid unfavourable contamination of the compost.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Viennese waste management law LGBl. Nr. 13/1994 zuletzt geändert durch LGBl. Nr. 45/2013 Gesetz über die Vermeidung und Behandlung von Abfällen und die Einhebung einer hiefür erforderlichen Abgabe im Gebiete des Landes Wien (Wiener Abfallwirtschaftsgesetz)	Issued in 2002 and promoted by the parliament of the Federal State. The Austrian Waste Management Law stipulates the application of appropriate production and distribution processes, the eco-design of products and the behaviour of consumers.	FWG	A3  A4  A5 

Law	Description	Types of implications	Main FSCS involved
Austrian waste management law StF: BGBl. I Nr. 102/2002 zuletzt geändert durch BGBl. I Nr. 193/2013 Bundesgesetz über eine nachhaltige Abfallwirtschaft (Abfallwirtschaftsgesetz 2002 - AWG 2002)	Issued in 2002 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament. It regulates the sustainable management of waste. It includes regulations on general principles, waste prevention and recovery, duties of waste holders, waste collection, waste treatment and trans-boundary movements.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Waste catalogue ordinance StF: BGBl. II Nr. 570/2003 zuletzt geändert durch BGBl. II Nr. 498/2008 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über ein Abfallverzeichnis	Issued in 2003 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management. It regulates the assignment of hazardous and non hazardous waste to a waste type.	FWM	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Salzburg Ordinance on biowaste 2010 StF: LGBl Nr 40/2010 Verordnung der Salzburger Landesregierung vom 10. Mai 2010 über die getrennte Erfassung biogener Abfälle (SalzburgerBioabfallverordnung 2010)	Issued in 2010 and promoted by the regional parliament of the Federal State Land Salzburg. This ordinance applies to the Austrian Federal State of Salzburg and specifies the national law in some more details. It includes regulations on swill.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 
Ordinance on green electricity StF: BGBl. II Nr. 471/2011 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, mit der Preise für die Abnahme elektrischer Energie aus Ökostromanlagen auf Grund von Verträgen festgesetzt werden, zu deren Abschluss die Ökostromabwicklungsstelle im Jahr 2012 verpflichtet ist (Ökostromverordnung 2012)	Issued in 2012 and promoted by the Austrian Parliament and the Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth. It regulates the prices for the consumption of electric energy from new plants on the basis of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, geothermal, wave and tidal energy, biomass.	FWM	A3  A4  A5 
Austrian landfill ordinance StF: BGBl. II Nr. 39/2008 zuletzt geändert durch BGBl. II Nr. 104/2014 Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über Deponien (Deponieverordnung)	Issued in 1996 by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management. Since 2004 landfilling of untreated organic waste is banned according to Austrian Landfill ordinance (1996, revised version 2008), implemented a limiting value for total organic content of 5% dry matter, this means that all waste has to be pre-treated by mechanical-biological pre-treatment (MBT) or incineration before landfilling.	FWG	A1  A2  A3  A4  A5 

D) Voluntary agreements

In spring 2013 the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management initiated an action program together with social partners (Austrian Chamber of Commerce, Austrian Chamber of Labour, Austrian Federation of trade unions and Austrian Chamber of Agriculture) as result of a stakeholder process.

The aim of the stakeholder consultations was the exchange of experiences, development of solutions throughout the food supply chain and connecting relevant participants. The resulting action program is organized in four main topics:

1. awareness and information campaign for households and companies' staff members;
2. increase in food redistribution activities (from companies to social organisations) as well as establishment of food sharing (between private households);
3. optimization of processes along the food supply chain (ordering system, transport, returned goods, product availability, demand-oriented assortment);
4. funding of research activities.

The consultation process resulted in several partnerships among companies, authorities, schools, NGOs who committed themselves to cooperate with the initiative "food is precious". The options for cooperation are manifold and include:

- usage of the logo of the "Food is precious" initiative for internal and external communication in order to highlight the quality and the solidarity of the different activities;
- integration of food prevention projects and activities from all partners within the initiative website and communication;
- opportunity to develop joint communication activities;
- support to school projects (e.g. teaching materials, awards, project ideas);
- support to the adaption of processes and systems along the food supply chain towards food waste prevention including production, logistics, distribution etc;
- participation in stakeholder consultations.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, food waste management.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: all, as well as a number of subsectors.

E) Technical reports and main scientific articles

Food waste in Austria (Sekundärstudie Lebensmittelabfälle in Österreich) [In German]

The main governmental report on food waste was issued in 2012 by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

The report summarises the Austrian situation regarding food waste generation along the entire food supply chain with the aim to highlight data gaps and recommend further fields of investigation.

Types of implications: food waste generation.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: all.

Scientific articles address a range of topics including: food waste generation and prevention, consumer behaviour, redistribution, food waste quantification through composition analysis.

Lebersorger, S., Schneider F. (2014), Food loss rates at the food retail, influencing factors and reasons as a basis for waste prevention measures, Waste Management, 34 (11)

This article analysed food loss data for fruit & vegetables, dairy products and bread & pastry from 612 retail outlets in Austria over a 1 year period. Food loss rates were calculated and correlations with sales area, sales and numbers of purchasers were analysed. Reasons for food losses were investigated by means of sorting analyses of discarded food in six retail outlets. The study found only weak correlations of food loss rates with sales area, sales and number of purchasers. 7% of the quantity of food loss was donated to charities. The sorting analysis revealed that 28% of the discarded food articles had reached the expiry date, but did not show any flaws at all.

Types of implications: food waste generation.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: primary production pre-harvest; primary production post-harvest; processing; wholesale, logistic, retail and marketing; food preparation and consumption.

Schneider F. (2013), The evolution of food donation with respect to waste prevention, Waste Management, 33 (3)

This paper summarises the evolution of food donation activities. It highlights differences and similarities of food distributing organisations and discusses political, legal, social, logistical and environmental impacts with regard to barriers and incentives. Best practices from international examples are given and a concept for the implementation of a food donation network is presented.

Types of implications: food waste management; food waste reduction.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: wholesale, logistic, retail and marketing; food preparation and consumption.

Lebersorger S., Schneider F. (2011), Discussion on the methodology for determining food waste in household waste composition studies, Waste Management, 31 (9-10)

This paper discusses important aspects which have to be considered in composition analyses with focus upon food waste, such as definitions, classifications, sieving before sorting and the consideration of food waste packaging. Findings from the literature are analysed and the approach and results from a waste composition analysis of residual waste in an Austrian region are used to illustrate an appropriate methodology.

Types of implications: food waste management.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

Salhofer S., Obersteiner G., Schneider F., Lebersorger S. (2008), Potentials for the prevention of municipal solid waste, Waste Management, 28 (2)

This paper tried to quantify the waste prevention potential for selected waste components, including also food waste. Study area was the city of Vienna. Figures for potential prevention potentials of food waste in retail were obtained by extrapolating data from case studies. Potentials of food waste reduction in private households were discussed but could not be quantified.

Types of implications: food waste management.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: wholesale, logistic, retail and marketing; food preparation and consumption.

F) Communications and campaigns

Food is precious national campaign (Lebensmittel sind kostbar)



“Food is precious” is an “umbrella campaign” on food waste running since 2011 when was launched by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management to coordinate the increasing number of initiatives on food waste and to offer to the different stakeholders the opportunity to use a unique recognizable logo.

Types of implication: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segment involved/addressed: all, including a number of subsectors: fishing, production, manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or food storage.

Box 1. Examples of the use of “Food is precious” logo at national level

- Viktualia award (2013 and 2014) to award innovative food prevention projects from six different categories: companies, hospitality sector (including restaurants and canteens), agriculture and regional projects, school and youth projects, social initiatives and projects, households.
- Best leftover receipt contest (Die besten Restl-Rezepte) launched by the Ministry in 2013. More than 600 contributions were submitted which resulted in 9 winners on federal state basis (1 winner per each federal state, seven women, two men) and 1 winner of the overall contest.
- Price stickers: an Austrian retailer used the logo for the design of the price stickers which mark the food products near best before date to be sold at reduced prices.

Food is precious - Competition of ideas (Ideenwettbewerb Lebensmittel sind kostbar)

Issued in 2013 and promoted by the Chamber of Agriculture of Upper Austria.

It is a competition of ideas regarding food waste prevention targeting schools in different groups of age: 1st and 2nd ground schools and 3rd and 4th ground schools.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, optimization of food use (food waste handling optimization).

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption, with a focus on schools and households and some initiatives including also other stakeholders such as companies and agricultural producers.

Food is precious - City of Salzburg (Lebensmittel sind kostbar - Salzburg)

Issued in 2012 and promoted by the consortium created by the City of Salzburg, in cooperation with the regional government of the province of Salzburg, Bio Austria (the Austrian association of organic farmers), the Chamber of Agriculture in Salzburg, and other organisations including catholic organisations and organisations for development in developing countries. It consists of a one-week campaign targeting the general public (households in particular) with a mixture of discussions and plenary presentations, flash mobs, organic food events, movies, exhibitions, cooking workshops.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: mainly food preparation and consumption.

Food is precious - Tyrol (Lebensmittel sind kostbar - Tyrol)

Food is precious - Tyrol has been running since 2011 and is based on an initiative led by the municipal waste management authority in Tyrol (Abfallwirtschaft Tirol Mitte), in cooperation with a number of retail chains, Caritas Tyrol and several experts. The campaign

consists of different educational and training activities organized within schools, supermarkets and other relevant organizations.

Types of implication: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segment involved/addressed: wholesale, retail and marketing; food preparation and consumption with a focus on social organizations and schools.

Box.1 Examples of the use of "Food is precious" logo in Tyrol

- "Food is precious goes to school leaving examination": students from different school types focus on food waste and food waste prevention within their (obligatory) school leaving examination projects. In 2014 three schools participated with one group of students each in the project. In the course of the projects they visited organisations dealing with food waste prevention (e.g. retailer, social organisations), developed, conducted and analysed a household survey, conducted field gleaning activities and utilised the surplus food products for own purposes.
- Networking with the volunteers of the Tyrolean social supermarkets. In 2014 a new project has been established in cooperation between the Tyrol municipal waste management authority and the social supermarkets in the region. The event was co-funded by a retailer. The volunteers of the different social supermarkets were invited for an excursion at a food retailer and a half-day symposium related to redistribution. The aim was to increase networking between the volunteers of the Tyrolean social supermarkets, to provide useful information for every-day work at the social supermarket, to increase awareness related to international redistribution projects and to honour the voluntary effort of the individuals.

Food is precious - Upper Austria (Lebensmittel sind kostbar)

It has been running since 2009, it was started by a group of waste advisors and taken over by the Upper Austria provincial government.

The campaign developed a touring exhibition around the topics of planning, shopping, storage, preparing and eating food, showing and discussing the effects of advertising; the information is displayed via roll ups and can be booked for events or for schools.

The exhibition was coordinated with a similar initiative in Tyrol.

The provincial government supports also other initiatives as several cooking courses, the establishment of the food-sharing network in Upper Austria, the development of a survey and a research project focused on the identification of food waste causes in the hospitality sector.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

Eating wise without leftovers (Rest´los gescheit essen)

The initiative has been running since 2012 and is promoted by the Austrian Chamber of Agriculture.

It was initiated by the Austrian Chamber of Agriculture and different regional Chambers focusing on the household level through the organization of events run by trained female farmers who offered cooking courses or on farms events in order to bring agricultural issues closer to the consumers. The central message of the campaign is food waste prevention though the exchange of information about how to store fresh food in a proper way, how to estimate portion sizes, how to use surpluses if occurring etc.

Types of implications: food waste reduction, food waste management, optimization of food use.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

Seminars and lectures on food waste

A number of seminars and lectures focusing on different aspects related to food waste has been organized throughout the country by different stakeholders addressing different target groups.

- Sustainability in Vienna (Nachhaltig in Wien). This series of lectures should cover the period from September 2014 until September 2015. They are organized by the Adult Education Centres in Vienna, the Department of Environment of the City of Vienna and the NGO Eco Counselling Vienna (Umweltberatung Wien) to create awareness to the general public.
- Food is valuable (Lebensmittel sind wertvoll). This one-day symposium was organised by the Department of Environment of the City of Vienna in October 2014 with the aim of building awareness, networking and exchange knowledge through presentations, panel discussions and audio-visual material.

Types of implications: food waste prevention.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

Graz eats all up (Graz isst auf)

This one-day event was organized in October 2014 in collaboration among the University of Graz, the Department of Waste Management of the Provincial Government of Styria, the NGO ARGE Abfallvermeidung, the Department of Environment of the City of Graz. The aim was to raise awareness of the public towards food waste and food waste prevention. The programme of the event included information targeting school groups, cooking shows, competitions, information related to initiatives regarding redistribution and food waste prevention at retail level and dumpster diving.

Types of implications: food waste prevention.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

G) Projects and other measures

Neighbourhood project towards surplus food transfer (Vienna)

The Department of Environment of the City of Vienna launched a neighbourhood project focused on food waste prevention within a part of the Viennese district Donaustadt in 2013. The aims of the pilot project are to establish partnerships creating a local network for surplus food transfer, to increase awareness towards surplus food transfer and to exchange knowledge. The major target groups are schools and youth centres on the one side and small farmers and companies on the other side.

Types of implications: food waste prevention, food waste reduction.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: wholesale, retail and marketing; food preparation and consumption.

Austrian food-sharing online platform

In June 2013 Foodsharing.de, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management and the Viennese Food Bank (Wiener Tafel) launched the Austrian food-sharing online platform. The aim of the platform is to link and support individuals who want to share surplus food with other individuals. After a free registration the subscriber can list his/her own surplus food products that can be shared free of charge. Other registered users may raise their interest to pick up the food and both users are linked. The products may be picked up at the home address of the provider or - to increase security - brought to a public place where the products can be stored for a limited time. Those places are called "Fairteiler" which is a special term connecting "fairness" and "distribution". The first "Fairteiler" in Austria has been established at an organic supermarket which provides a cold storage facility for food sharers.

Types of implications: food waste prevention, food waste reduction.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: wholesale, retail and marketing, food preparation and consumption.

Platform "Food waste in Styria"

The knowledge exchange platform "Food waste in Styria" was initiated by a member of the Styrian provincial government in 2012. The aim of the platform is to link relevant stakeholders in Styria, to develop and coordinate projects and initiatives related to food waste prevention, to foster the exchange of regional ideas, knowledge and experiences and to disseminate best-practise through joint media events.

Types of implications: food waste prevention.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

Roger the Rye corn storybook (Lower Austria)

The Provincial Government of Lower Austria and several local waste management associations are engaged in food waste prevention since several years financing projects as the storybook "Roger the Rye corn" addressed to primary school children.

Types of implications: food waste prevention

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption with a specific focus on primary school children.

Verband der Österreichischen Tafeln

In 2014 the Austrian foodbank "Verband der Österreichischen Tafeln" was founded with the support of several other regional foodbanks, including the "Wiener Tafel". Since then the "Verband der Österreichischen Tafeln" has been instrumental in leading the way towards a harmonized membership procedure with key guidelines for regional and local foodbanks in Austria, in approaching food donors nationwide as well as in positioning the "Verband der Österreichischen Tafeln" as key player in the political and social landscape when it comes to securing food surpluses for helping social welfare institutions.

The "Verband der Österreichischen Tafeln" invites all other foodbanks in Austria to join its network and social-political interests.

Types of implications: food waste prevention.

Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

TafelBox - a box for securing leftovers from catering buffets

In 2014 Wiener Tafel, the oldest and most traditional foodbank in Austria, launched a most innovative measure to secure left-overs from catering buffets and in restaurants. The so called "TafelBox" is a modern take-away with a special social meaning, as with the purchase of every box 20% goes as donation to Wiener Tafel to help to further prevent food waste by at the same time, helping the poor. The TafelBox is made from organic material and can store up to 700g of saved food per box. In addition it is a very useful tool to create awareness against food waste, not only at catering buffets, but also when taking the box home for lunch or dinner the next evening.

Types of implications: food waste prevention.

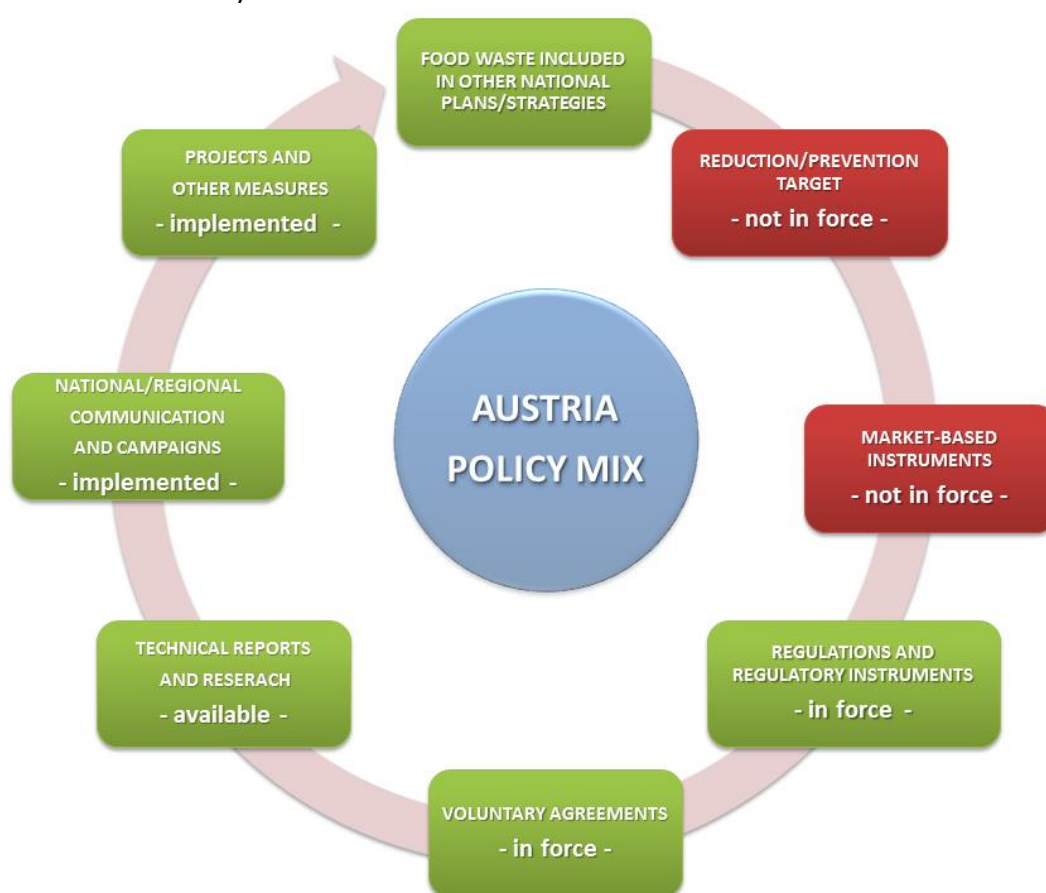
Food supply segments involved/addressed: food preparation and consumption.

H) Food waste policy mix: highlights

Austria has no national plan specifically addressing food waste prevention. However a Federal Waste Management Plan (2011) is currently in place. The Plan summarizes the present situation of waste management including amounts of different waste streams and their treatment paths, number and condition of treatment facilities and perspectives for the next period.

Although a specific national target is not set, the overarching goal of the Austrian food waste policy-mix is to reduce the amount of food waste which is produced on a whole and to recover it, thanks to the introduction of a separate collection system. As matter of fact the Ordinance on separate collection of biowaste is the main law concerning food waste. The ordinance requires biogenous waste to be collected separately unless it is recovered by the household or generator.

Figure 1. Austria's Policy Mix at December 2014



Overall food waste policies mainly refer to: pre-treatment of household waste, the separate collection of biogenous waste that is particularly suited for recovery, the use of old bread for animal feed, the biogas plants which use materials other than agricultural substrates obtain a reduced tariff by 30% and food labelling (food with an expired 'best before' date is allowed to be put on the market obviously marked while products with a 'use by' ('zu verbrauchen bis') label should not be used after expiry as it could put consumer's health at risk.

The Ordinance on animal feed (2010) includes provisions for implementing the Futtermittelgesetz (Law on animal feed). This ordinance serves as the legal basis for the use of waste bread for animal feed (as one of many regulations).

A voluntary agreement launched by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management is in place with the aim to promote the exchange of experiences and the development of solutions throughout the food supply chain.

Best practices dissemination and knowledge exchange are also the main aims of several awareness campaigns promoted at the national and regional level through a mix of tools including discussions and plenary presentations, flash mobs, organic food events, movies, exhibitions, cooking workshops, symposia and lectures on food waste. Since 2011 the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management has started an action to coordinate the increasing number of initiatives on food waste and to offer to the different stakeholders the opportunity to use a unique recognizable logo.

Although there are no specific educational programmes on food waste formally included in school programmes, a number of trainings and educational initiatives are addressed to children and youth.

Even if Austria has no specific laws on food donations, in Vienna the Neighbourhood project towards surplus food transfer (Vienna) has established a local network for surplus food transfer. Target groups are schools and youth centres on the one side and small farmers and companies on the other side. Furthermore, Austria has a food-sharing online platform that was launched in cooperation with Foodsharing.de, the Ministry and the Viennese Food Bank (Wiener Tafel).

Considering that Austria is a landlock, has no deep sea fishing industry and the fresh water fishing industry is relatively small, there is little attention on food waste related to fish products.

Since 2004 landfilling of untreated organic waste is banned according to Austrian Landfill ordinance, implementing a limiting value for total organic content of 5 % dry matter.

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