

## Method for national follow up on food losses

Setting up a national follow up method for increased knowledge and data on food losses in Sweden



# Agenda 2030



## SDG 12.3

By 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses

- 12.3.1a Food loss indicator
- 12.3.1b Food waste indicator
  - Primary production up to but not including retail level
  - Choose a basket of 10 main commodities by country
  - Measure progress in reducing food losses towards 2030





12 HÅLLBAR  
KONSUMTION OCH  
PRODUKTION



GLOBALA MÅLEN  
för hållbar utveckling

## National Food loss and waste - goals decided by the Swedish government in 2020

### Food loss

- By 2025, an increased share of the food production should reach retailers and consumers.

### Food waste

- From 2020 to 2025, the total amount of food waste should be reduced by at least 20 % by weight per capita.

## About the project – step by step

- 1. Gather the most experienced researchers on food losses in Sweden**
  - Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences and Research Institutes of Sweden
- 2. Form a reference group with researchers and key persons at agencies**

### **Discuss the choice of commodities:**

- Production value
- Production volume
- Distributed on FAO five commodity categories.
- Climate impact per kilo
- Results from previous studies on food losses, Swedish/Nordic-studies
- Valorization/potential
- Fresh versus products that can be stored



### **3. Decision**

- Beef, pork, milk, seafood, wheat, potatoes, carrots, strawberries

# The tasks for the researchers

## **4. Background study – RISE**

- Does other countries follow up or plan to follow up food losses on a national level?
- What tools/guidance is there to use?

## **5. Assignment for Swedish University of Agriculture sciences**

**Suggest methods for the 8 product flows in two levels:**

- Basic follow up using existing data that does not cost and does not bring extra work for farmers/food companies
- Advanced follow up – field studies, data collection, interviews, surveys





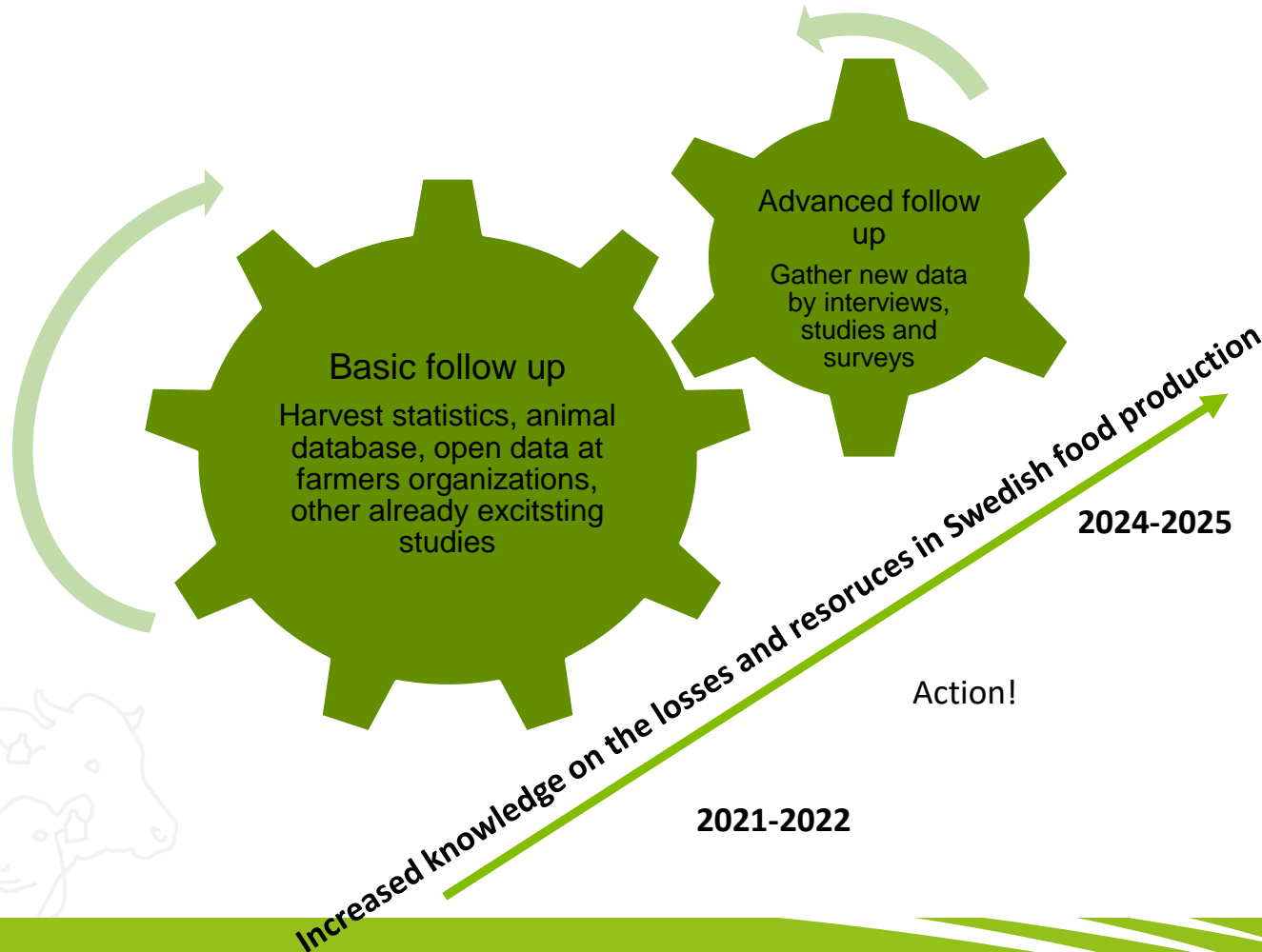
# Dialogue och co-creative process with farmers- business actors, authorities and researchers

## 6. Meeting

The farmers and industry organizations representing production stages for the eight commodities gave their view on our questions:

- What in your production does not become food although it was intended for food?
- Why is that?
- Do you see a value in following up food losses?





”A large portion of humility and patience are important ingredients in the work on following up food losses.

It is better to start with approximations than having no information at all. Then you can step by step move forward improving the data according to precision and preciseness”

From the background study by Karin Östergren, RISE

Commodity	Methods for 2021 / 2022	Previous studies, some examples
<b>Beef</b>	<p>Calculating data on animal that dies at farm from official <b>animal register</b>.  Transport och cassations – data from Swedish Food Agency</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interview</b> and data collection- <b>study</b> at abattoirs</p>	Losses at farm: 9 % relative to total slaughtered weight in 2012
<b>Pork</b>	<p>Calculating data on pigs dead at farm, from advisor programme (WinPig)  Transport och cassations – data from Swedish Food Agency</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interview</b> and data collection - <b>study</b> at abattoirs</p>	
<b>Milk</b>	<p>Data on milk lost due to cow on veterinary trantment/medicine</p> <hr/> <p>Two large dairy companies (represents 74% volume in Sweden) brings data from the <b>Voluntary agreement</b> for reduced FLW</p>	
<b>Seafood</b>	<p>Losses at fishing – some existing data from agencies</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interviews</b> with fishers</p> <hr/> <p>Losses as fish industries gathered from our <b>Voluntary agreement, + extra surveys</b></p>	
<b>Wheat</b>	<p>Unharvested fields and game damage – extisting studies</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interviews</b> with wheat growers</p> <hr/> <p><b>Data collection calling</b> grain traders and mills</p>	Losses: about 2 % at farm
<b>Potatoes</b>	<p><b>Case studies</b> in field</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interviews</b> with growers about losses at storage</p> <hr/> <p><b>Data collection calling</b> packeries</p>	Losses: about 10-15 %
<b>Carrots</b>	<p><b>Case studies</b> in field.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Interviews</b> with growers about losses at storage</p> <hr/> <p><b>Data collection calling</b> packeries</p>	Losses: about 20-30 %
<b>Strawberries</b>	<p><b>Case study</b> in field</p> <hr/> <p><b>Survey</b> to growers at a large growers meeting</p>	
<b>Food processors</b>	<p><b>Survey</b> to processors</p>	



# Key issues

## **Definitions - An open approach makes 1+1=3**

- What was intended for food but did not continue the food chain?
- How is it used instead?
- What are the causes?

## **Representativeness**

Field studies – case studies

Packing/storage and further in the chain – national data

## **Scope**

- Including pre-harvest and pre slaughter/catch when easy or when priority



# More should become food

- Understanding food losses and resources is not easy but important for a sustainable food system and reaching the sdg 12.3
- Learning from each other – listening to both researchers and actors who know the day to day challenges
- **Foods losses in Sweden – methods for increasing knowledge about losses and resources in food production - [find summary here](#)**
- Summary in english, and full report soon to be translated
- Lets keep in touch / Karin Lindow [karin.lindow@jordbruksverket.se](mailto:karin.lindow@jordbruksverket.se)  
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Swedish Board  
of Agriculture

