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Community of Practice (CoP) on food loss reduction

a global and dynamic platform for sharing solutions

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Why a CoP on food loss reduction?

The **complexity of food losses issues and their importance** for food security requires:

- An improved understanding of their **major causes, key loss points in supply chains**
- Identification, evaluation **and promotion of appropriate and feasible solutions** in different geographic areas and contexts



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Direction du développement
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Background to the CoP

Launched in October 2014 in the framework the UN Rome-based agencies - **FAO/IFAD/WFP** joint project, **funded by the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency (SDC)** :

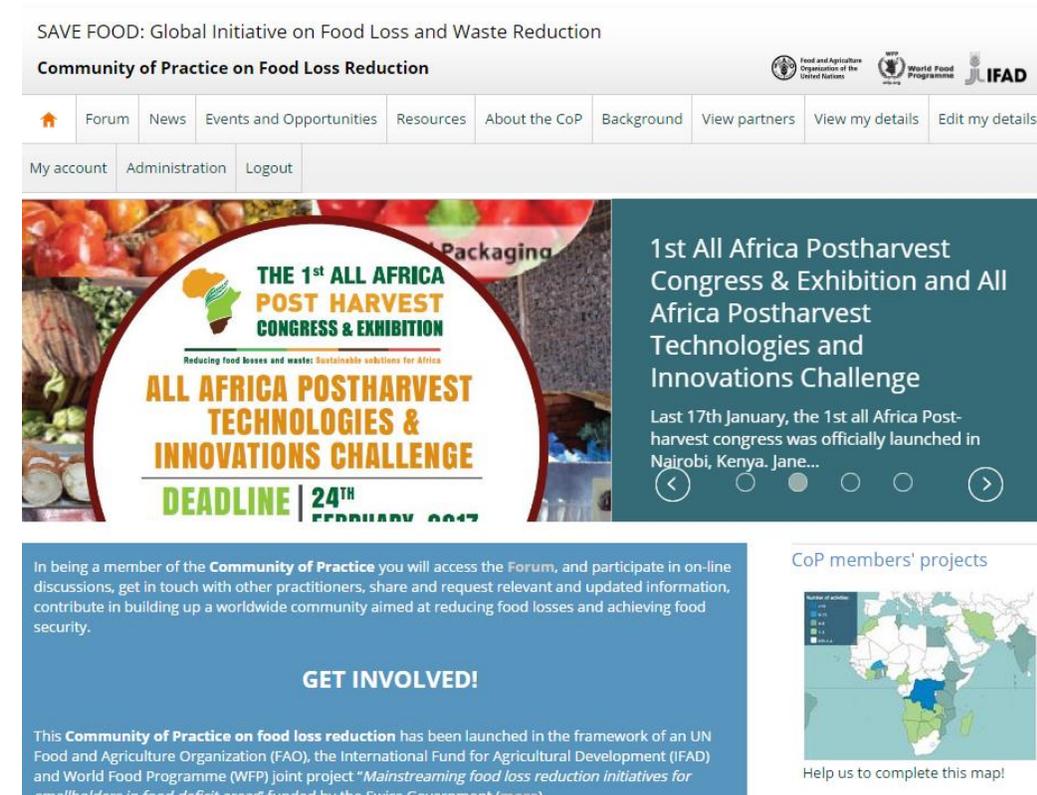
“Mainstreaming food loss reduction initiatives for smallholders in food deficit areas”

It is **part for the SAVE FOOD Network**



What is the CoP on Food Loss Reduction?

- A web-based global convener and integrator of knowledge, hosted by FAO Headquarters.
- It offers a platform to facilitate linkages among stakeholders and relevant networks, projects and programs.
- It facilitates the sharing of information, relevant news, events, online discussions, resources, and links to partners.



SAVE FOOD: Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

Community of Practice on Food Loss Reduction

Forum News Events and Opportunities Resources About the CoP Background View partners View my details Edit my details

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THE 1ST ALL AFRICA POST HARVEST CONGRESS & EXHIBITION
Reducing food losses and waste: Sustainable solutions for Africa
ALL AFRICA POSTHARVEST TECHNOLOGIES & INNOVATIONS CHALLENGE
DEADLINE | 24TH FEBRUARY 2017

1st All Africa Postharvest Congress & Exhibition and All Africa Postharvest Technologies and Innovations Challenge

Last 17th January, the 1st all Africa Postharvest congress was officially launched in Nairobi, Kenya. Jane...

In being a member of the **Community of Practice** you will access the Forum, and participate in on-line discussions, get in touch with other practitioners, share and request relevant and updated information, contribute in building up a worldwide community aimed at reducing food losses and achieving food security.

GET INVOLVED!

This **Community of Practice on food loss reduction** has been launched in the framework of an UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and World Food Programme (WFP) joint project "Mainstreaming food loss reduction initiatives for smallholders in food deficit areas" funded by the Swiss Government (more)

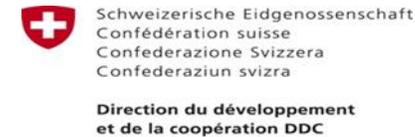
CoP members' projects

Help us to complete this map!

A dynamic platform that facilitates solutions & expertise sharing, coordination, and optimization of use of resources e.g. Mapping of FLR initiatives and projects, value chains actors: core and supporting actors: incl. service & equipment providers, financial institutions



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Contents of the CoP

- A large **network of public and private sector** members (> 650 registered members)
- Moderated **Online Forum discussions on different topics on Food losses causes and solutions**
- News, Events and Opportunities: on **conferences, online e-courses, jobs**, etc.
- Resources from world-wide actors: **Publications, reports, PPT, videos, radio, social media, awareness building and education materials**, etc.
- Special sections e.g. **interactive catalogues**, etc.
- **In English, French, and Spanish**

The network

- The CoP **disseminates information** produced and piloted by a range of different stakeholders and partners.
- CoP **members are stakeholders working toward the goal of reducing food losses and waste:**

→ registered users are also members of the **SAVE FOOD global initiative on food loss and waste reduction** (www.fao.org/save-food)

Network



FAO and Messe Düsseldorf are collaborating with donors, bi- and multi-lateral agencies and financial institutions and private sector partners (the food packaging industry and others) to develop and implement the programme on food loss and waste reduction.

TECHNICAL PLATFORM ON FOOD LOSS AND WASTE

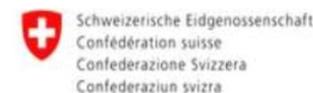


The Technical Platform ensures information-sharing and in-depth discussion. It builds on, and complements existing initiatives such as the FAO Global Initiative on FLW; the private sector "SAVE FOOD" programme; the Community of Practice on Food Loss (FL) Reduction; the Food Loss and Waste Protocol and Standard; and IFPRI's Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM) CGIAR Research Program (which includes an initiative on FLW under the Value Chain Flagship).



Make Not Wasting a way of life campaign. The FAO-led Save Food initiative is partnering with international organizations, the private sector and civil society to enable food systems to reduce food loss and waste in both the developing and the industrialized world. Infographics [here](#).

Partners

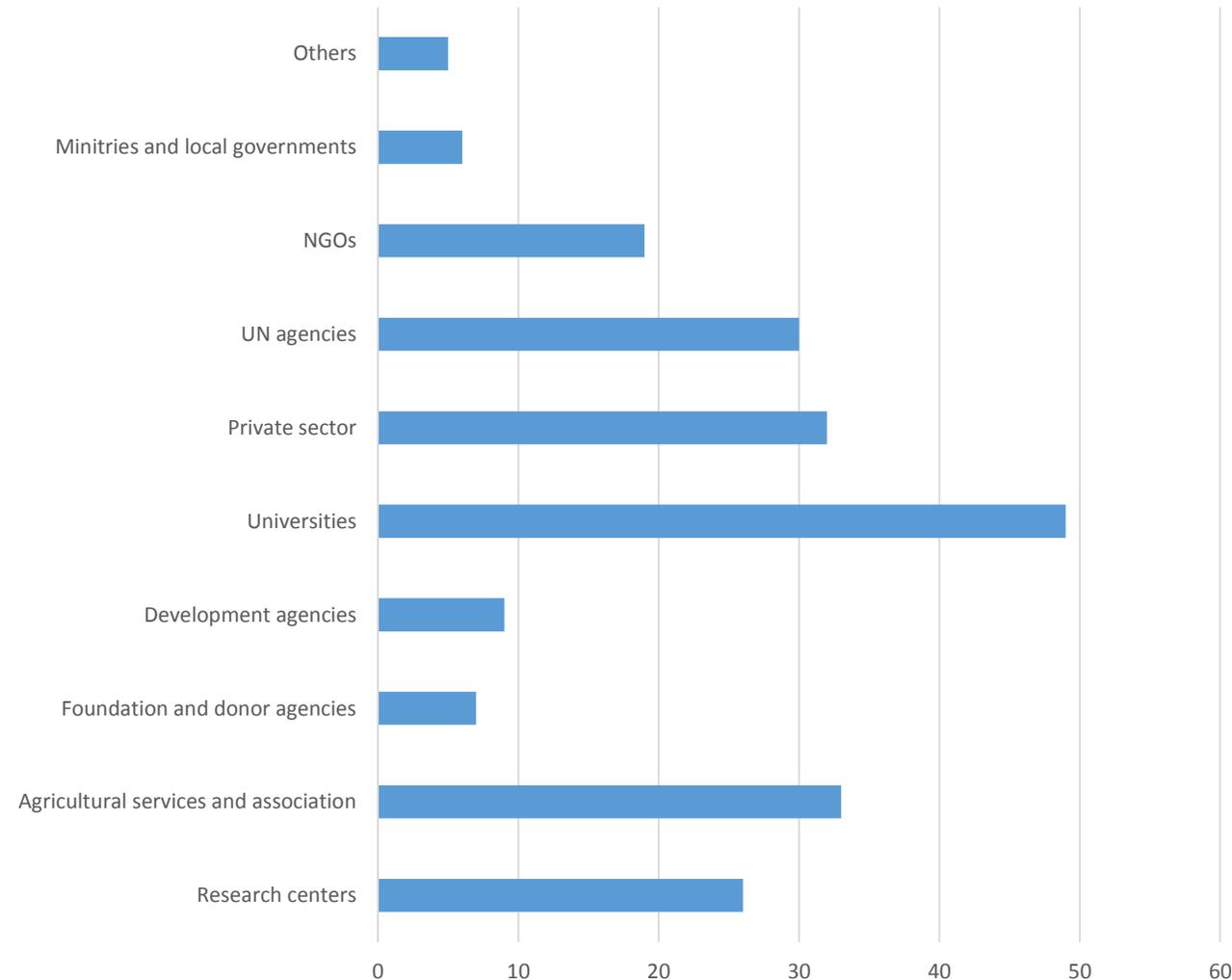




Overview of CoP Usage

- **over 650 registered members** worldwide
- an **average of 1500 hits per month** for a total of 11,500 visits up to Dec. 2016
- **registered members** from a variety of **actors from national and international organizations (public & private)**
- experts looking for information on **projects and programs on FLR and PHM**, participation in online moderated discussions in the CoP **Forum**, stay tuned on **relevant news and events** ;
- **experts, students, researchers looking for reports, studies, PHL solutions, and connection** with the private sector and supply chains actors

Registered members with application form



The Forum

- An online moderated Forum is accessible to registered users/CoP members
- The forum provides free access to all discussions, e.g.
 - PHL reduction policy development, co-moderated with FANRPAN (ongoing)
 - Grain Storage technologies, co-moderated with UK's Natural Resources Institute (on-going)
 - Mapping the activities on Post-Harvest management (PHM) (on-going)
 - Losses occurring along the maize supply chains: levels, causes and solutions promoted (closed)
 - Collecting and describing existing postharvest loss (PHL) assessment methodologies (closed)

category	title	threads	posts	last post info
Ongoing discussions				
	Business models for PHL technologies	4	13	01 Mar 17, 12:18 PM In: Business model presentation: Vestergaard SA - ZeroFly® By: 'Francesca Gianfeli'
	PHL reduction policy development	3	5	20 Jun 16, 03:33 PM In: Stemming Aflatoxin pre- and post-harvest waste in the groundnut value chain (GnVC) in Malawi and Zambia to improve food and nutrition security in the smallholder farming families By: 'Talentus Mthunzi'
	NEW CoP website section: Grain Storage Technologies	1	3	19 Jan 16, 11:01 PM In: Welcome to the Grain Storage Technologies Forum By: 'Purdue Improved Crop Storage PICS'



News, Events & Opportunities

- The published **News and Events** include activities, projects and programmes (in **English, French, and Spanish**) of CoP members.

Helps in disseminating details and in reinforcing partnerships.

- **News and Events** include conferences, training opportunities and other types of events
to share any new development in the PHL reduction discourse, updated information and insights
+ providing and facilitating access to capacity building opportunities.
- **Opportunities** ... job announcements, learning opportunities, courses and on-line trainings, etc.



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Investing in rural people



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Resources from worldwide actors

The **Multimedia section** of the website offers links to **videos and animations** (illustrating solutions and methods applied in reducing food losses)

The CoP shares and facilitates **(free) access to updated resources and information on PHL**

Video: Reducing losses in the mango value chain in Kenya

This **video** shows how introducing some simple technologies (specialized harvesting tools, organic solution treatment to increase shelf-life of the products, processing plant, solar powered cooling unit) the losses in the mango value chain can be significantly reduced.

This interventions aimed at increasing mango farmers income is supported by The Rockefeller Foundation as detailed described in an article by Olivia karanja, Program Associate, titled "**Partnerships help reduce food loss, increase profits for Kenyan mango farmers**".



Cutting back the loss - Post-harvest loss management / Zimbabwe

Responding to postharvest challenges faced by farmers like James, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Government, through its agricultural extension arms – Departments of Agricultural Mechanization and AGRITEX, rolled out a project aimed at reducing post harvest grain losses. The project was able to assess 3 types of improved grain storage that suit different rural situations in the country. These were, metal silos, the improved brick granary and hermetic grain storage bags. The project also trained local artisans to manufacture and construct the storage facilities.



SAWBO animations on Prevention of Postharvest Losses



Scientific Animations Without Borders (SAWBO) is a University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign based program. SAWBO transforms extension information on relevant topics such as agriculture, disease and women's empowerment.

Special Issues : Storage technologies (1)

- **Storage** is a major critical loss point along cereals and pulses value chains
- A **joint section** of the CoP Resources developed **with the Natural Resources Institute of the Greenwich University**

Multimedia

Grain Storage Technologies

Map

Grain Storage Technologies for Smallholders and Farmers' Groups

Central to any effort to reduce losses is the adoption of better postharvest practice. This is fundamental for smallholders who want to improve their household food security and for those wishing to make better livelihoods from grain sales.

This section was developed in collaboration with the Postharvest Loss Reduction Centre at the Natural Resources Institute (NRI). NRI, as partner of the CoP on Food Loss Reduction, contributes by sharing its expertise and by helping to connect experts.

In the framework of the Rome-based UN agencies joint project, the development of this section was supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC). Based on a survey of over 30 postharvest technologists, the NRI team developed an interactive catalogue of storage technologies for easy consultation. In addition, they have provided a simple 'app' to help users appreciate the main factors influencing smallholders' choice of a grain store.

The NRI work on "Choosing the right grain store" can be accessed [here](#).

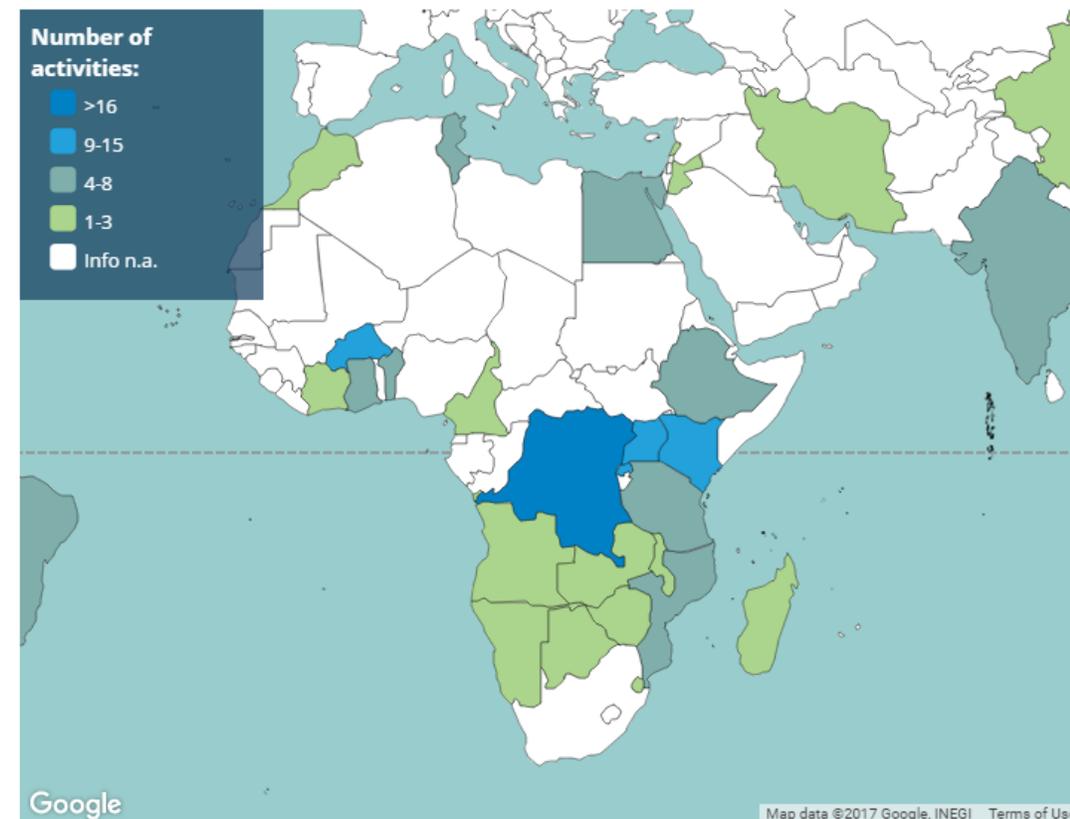
From this CoP website sub-page you can access the NRI Catalogue and store selection 'app'. The Catalogue classifies storage technologies by category (hermetic, sealable, open weave, and improved traditional), provides generic descriptions, gives information on the qualities and usage of the store types that are currently available, and presents estimates of cost ([link to the catalogue](#)).





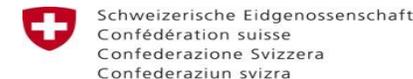
Special sub-sections : PHM interactive map (2)

- An online discussion Forum on an **ongoing mapping of PHM projects** managed and/or implemented by the CoP members
- **Key tool for coordination and optimization of resources** for stakeholders from the **public and the private sectors** seeking for information on PHM and food loss reduction activities and interventions





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How can you participate?

On-line registration

- **Three-step registration** (administrated by FAO IT support unit)
- **Login and access to the Forum for participating in the online discussions**

- **Submit** information/resources to the Moderator for its publication
- **Propose** discussion to be initiated and moderated in the Forum
- **Access** information on the SAVE FOOD network of partners

For feedback please contact the moderator

food-loss-reduction@fao.org



Future: Broadening the scope - More on different food categories (perishable products) and geographic coverage – Ensure Sustainability

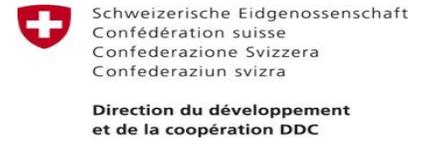
- Online **survey to evaluate users' needs**
- Broadening the CoP: **More on different food categories (incl. perishable products) and geographic coverage (To include Asia, Latin America)**
- **Engaging stakeholders and users to ensure its sustainability**

Currently :

- Mainly on grains, and storage matters (major interest of partners)
- Mostly data and information on/for/from Africa (SDC and UN Agencies Postharvest Management projects and main partners)
- Some on horticulture products and fish processing (FAO contributions)
- Limited contributions of francophone countries: looking for pioneering partners
- Sharing more from Latin America and Caribbean experience is welcome



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Register and take part in the global Community of Practice on food loss reduction (CoP) to improve its scope, coverage and uses!

Thank you 😊

Contact us at: food-loss-reduction@fao.org

Visit the CoP website at: www.fao.org/food-loss-reduction