

# 10 Facts about Food Banks



## & Food waste prevention

Preventing food waste improves the resilience of the food supply chain, helps our planet, and contributes to food security. That is where Food Banks come in. Food donation is a win-win solution to prevent food waste and reduce food insecurity: it is a business friendly, environmentally sensitive, and socially responsible alternative.

1.

1967



Food recovery and redistribution is the core mission of Food Banks. The world's first Food Bank was founded by John van Hengel in 1967 in Phoenix, USA.

2.



From the US, Food Banks spread to Canada and Europe. The first European Food Bank was created by Bernard Dandrel in 1984 in Paris, France.

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The European Food Banks Federation was established in 1986 to represent the European network of Food Banks dealing with the recovery and the redistribution of surplus food for social purpose. Now, FEBA Members bring together a network of 351 Food Banks in 30 European countries.

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The first food donation received by the first European Food Bank: 2,000 pieces of bread and 2,000 frozen fish.



5.



Food Banks recover, store, and sort food saved from becoming waste and redistribute it to charities helping people in need.

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7.



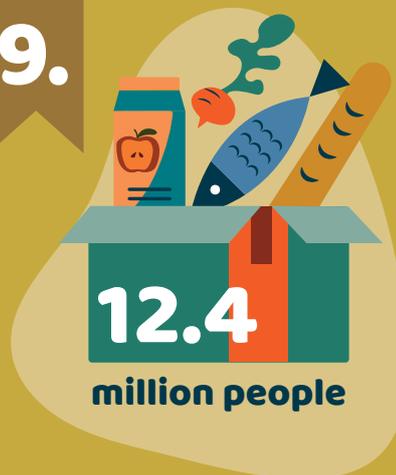
Food Banks daily contribute towards the achievement of SDG Target 12.3: halving per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.

8.



Around 59 million tonnes of food are wasted every year in the EU. At the same time, 7.3% of European citizens cannot afford a quality meal every second day. Food Banks are working every day to prevent food waste and reduce food insecurity.

9.



In 2022, FEBA Members redistributed 876,316 tonnes of food through a network of 44,884 charitable organisations assisting 12.4 million deprived people.

10.



On 16 October 2017, the European Commission adopted EU guidelines on food donation to facilitate the recovery and redistribution of safe, edible food to those in need. FEBA actively participated in the drafting contributing with its experience and competence.



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Co-funded by the European Union

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