Food waste at consumer level in industrialized countries (222 million tons) is almost as high as the total net food production in sub-Saharan Africa (230 million tons).

At least one-third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally, which amounts to about 1.3 billion tons per year.

12% of food losses happen during the harvesting phase in developed countries.

25% of food losses happen during the pre-harvest phase in developing countries.

Roughly one quarter of all the water that humans take from the planet goes into food that nobody eats.

60% of all food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted.

Globally it is estimated that approximately one-third of all fresh fruit and vegetables produced is lost before it reaches consumers.

10% of all grain products, 8% of all fish products and 4% of all meat products are lost at the processing and packaging stage.

40% of food losses in developing countries are a result of inadequate storage.

25% of food losses in developing countries are a result of inadequate harvest.

40% of losses in industrialized countries occur at the retail and consumer level.

3% of food waste is currently recycled.

40% of landfill content comes from food waste.

SOURCES: National Resources Defence Council; Stockholm International Water Institute; World Economic Forum; ForeSight, 2011; FAQ; US Department of Agriculture; UN Global Compact; Swedish International Water Institute; National Resources Defence Council.