

WG5: Cross-cutting strategies and smart systems for food management

Status update

Zadar, 05/02/2026

Purpose

- Address the **cross-cutting nature of Food Loss & Waste (FLW)**
- Connect FoodWaStop actions to:
 - **Socio-economic aspects**
 - **Public health & food safety**
 - **Digital technologies**
- Ensure FoodWaStop outcomes are **connected to real-world challenges**

Focus areas

- State-of-the-art **digital tools** to improve food company capabilities and **engage consumers**
- Optimization of **postharvest processing, transport, distribution**
- Economic, social, and psychological dimensions in FLW reduction

Planned focus areas

- Identification of **smart technology applications**: IoT, sensors, algorithms
- Analysis of **food safety hazards** along the F&V value chain
- Assessment of **socio-economic drivers** for effective FLW reduction
- Guidance for **policymakers and regulators**

Current status

- WG5 in **preparatory / alignment phase**
- No operational tasks formally launched yet → **by design**

Focused on:

- Coordination with other WGs
- Defining scope & dependencies
- Planning deliverables

| Deliverable | Description | Due | Status |
|--------------------|---|------------|---------------|
| D5.1 | Assessment of regulatory frameworks on FLW | M36 | Planned |
| D5.2 | Protocol for smart technologies (F&V processing, transport, distribution) | M36 | Planned |
| D5.3 | Protocol for biodegradable packaging | M48 | Planned |
| D5.4 | Guidance documents for policymakers | M48 | Planned |

Activation plan

- Launch WG5 activities once **other WGs provide outputs**
- Engage stakeholders:
 - Policymakers, regulators
 - Technology providers
 - Social and economic experts

Expected outcomes

- Protocols for smart technologies and packaging
- Policy guidance for FLW reduction
- Cross-cutting integration across all FoodWaStop WGs

- WG5 is **cross-cutting and integration focused**
- Current status reflects **planned sequencing**
- Deliverable remain feasible, relevant and on track

Thank you!

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