



# Mandatory food waste reporting in Finland – the shift from voluntary to mandatory reporting

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# Presentation:

New waste legislation in Finland and food waste

(adopted 2021, some parts of the law entered into force beginning of 2023)

Some materials (in Finnish and Swedish some also in English)



# Food donations in Waste legislation

- Waste Decree (section 29):
  - *In order to reduce food waste, operators must deliver unused food for re-distribution primarily for human consumption when this can be done without compromising food safety and at reasonable costs.*



# Keeping records of the food waste (Waste Act) 1/2

- *Food business operators (e.g. supermarkets, restaurants, food industry plants) are obliged to keep records of the food waste generated in their operations and its treatment. (Section 118a of the Waste Act (646/2011), section 34 of the Waste Decree (978/2021).*
- The purpose of the records is to help operators pay attention to the quantity of food waste generated in their operations and to find means to reduce food waste.
- The records must be presented to the supervisory authority upon request. Only operators subject to environmental permits and notification (processing and manufacturing operators) submit the data to the supervisory authority annually as part of the other reporting on wastes.



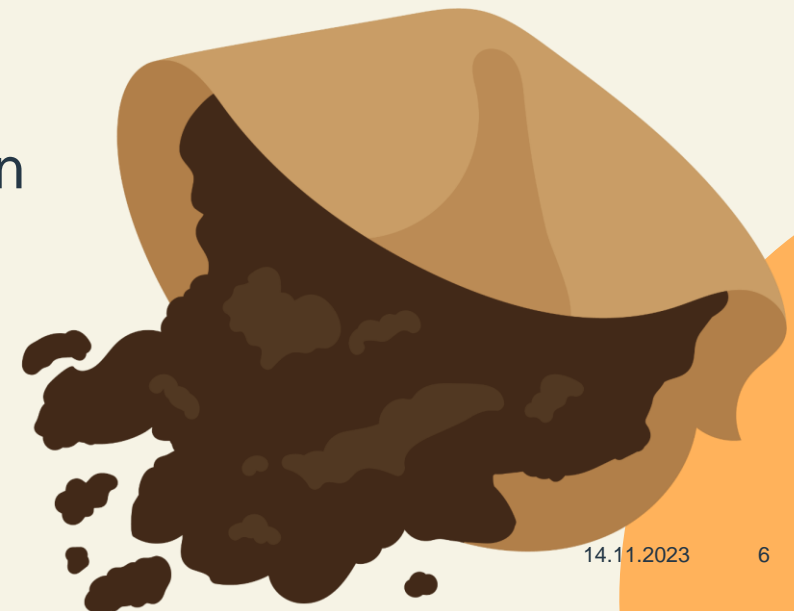
# Keeping records of the food waste 2/2

- The records must include the following information:
  - 1 ) The quantity of waste generated in the operations in kilograms.
  - 2) The types of waste that the food waste is mainly composed of. As far as possible, entries for the types of waste in accordance with the list of wastes.
  - 3) Details of the wasteoperator and method of treatment.
- Where possible, the record data shall also contain an estimate of the total quantity of edible food discarded as waste.



# Food act section 83

- *The supervisory authority under the Food Act can provide official assistance for the control of food waste record to the authority under Waste act.*
- Waste authorities are mainly supervising the large operators such as food industry plants while supervisory authorities under Food Act supervise also restaurants, cafes and supermarkets. Cooperation between different authorities helps to monitor the food waste records of all kinds of actors and at the same time providing information on reducing food waste.



# Wastelegislation and politics in Finland

- [Waste Act](#) and [degree](#) (in Finnish, Swedish and English)
- [Guide to operators on food waste records](#) (in Finnish)
- [Quick guide to operators on food waste records](#) (in Finnish, Swedish and English)
- [Food Act](#) (in Finnish and Swedish)
  - [Guide for official assistance](#) (in Finnish)
  - [Roadmap](#) is part of Waste Management Plan
  - Film for the Restorants, Cafes and shops [Kahvila, ravintola, kauppa ja muu elintarvikealan toimija - vähennä hävikkiä ja lajittele loput - YouTube](#)



**Thank you!**

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