



PACE
PLATFORM FOR ACCELERATING
THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



JAN 2020

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Food and agriculture impact all societies, economies, and environments. The food system has the potential to be fully circular by natural design. There is even the potential to regenerate the very natural systems that have been degraded by the current linear food value chain. Taking a 4R approach (reduce, reuse, recycle and regenerate) to food system transformation can catalyze the broader transition to a global circular economy.

JOIN PACE IN LEADING THE TRANSITION TO THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

PACE continues to accelerate the transition to the circular economy in food and agriculture by: driving transformative projects; mobilizing learning to inform action; and activating global leadership to drive action.

In 2020, there are three primary opportunities for engagement & leadership:

1. Help accelerate and scale existing projects.
2. Shape PACE system mapping and analysis to guide strategic action.
3. Lead action on new projects to overcome collective barriers to circularity.

GLOBAL SITUATION

As the global population grows to a projected 9.7 billion in 2050 and incomes grow across the developing world, overall food demand is projected to increase by more than 50%. Without concerted action, the food system alone will have used up two-thirds of the remaining global carbon budget. A circular food economy offers tremendous opportunity— an estimated \$2.7 trillion in annual economic, social, and environmental benefits can be catalyzed by circular strategies in the food system. Halving food loss and waste alone could save a quarter of all water used by agriculture and the median company yields a 14x return on every dollar invested in cutting food lost and waste. We must capitalize on this opportunity through global, collaborative action.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Ellen MacArthur Foundation Food Initiative

Brings together key actors to stimulate a global shift toward a regenerative food system, focusing on the actions cities can take based on circular economy principles.

 [Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#)

"10x20x30" Food Loss and Waste Initiative

Brings together 10 of the world's biggest food retailers and providers to each engage with 20 of their priority suppliers to aim to halve rates of food loss and waste by 2030.

 [World Resources Institute](#)

CHALLENGES FOR CIRCULARITY

1

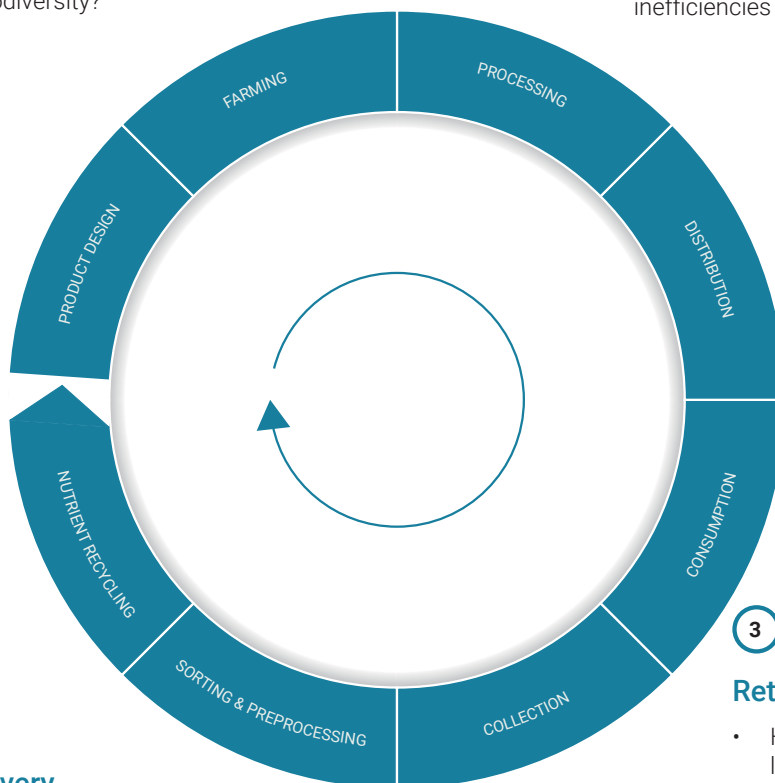
Nutrient chains

- How can we meet demand whilst protecting and restoring soil nutrition and land?
- How can we finance a just transition to a sustainable system that restores soil nutrients and biodiversity?

2

Production & distribution optimization

- What is the optimal mix of global and local supply chains?
- How can we reduce food loss due to inefficiencies in handling and storage?



4

Organic waste recovery

- How can we incentivize and deploy cost-efficient organic waste collection infrastructure globally?
- How can we mobilize investment in infrastructure to valorise organic by-products and waste?

3

Retail practices

- How can use-by date labelling ensure food safety while preventing food waste?
- What can be done to limit the impact of cosmetic standards on food waste?
- How can consumers be nudged towards sustainable options?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP

Finance & policy for sustainable agriculture

Facilitate the development and deployment of financial mechanisms and policy incentives for transitions to climate smart and sustainable practices in farming.

Challenges addressed:

1 4

Prevention and recovery initiatives for retail waste

Promote business model innovation and new technologies / practices (e.g. food labelling, dynamic pricing) to reduce food waste downstream.

Challenges addressed:

3 4

Transparent supply chains

Drive commitments to traceability and transparency standards through entire supply chain as enabler of transition to more circular and regenerative models.

Challenges addressed:

1 2 4