

Policy Statement and Recommendations

Agreed statement (to be taken to ATCWG, PPFS, HLPD-FSBE and possible inclusion in the APEC Leaders' statement)

Acknowledging the strong commitment by APEC Leaders to achieve Regional Economic Integration and building capacity to participate in the global value chain;

Recognising the importance Food Security Ministers place on promoting agriculture and food production through science and technology innovation and economic development;

Understanding the impact that food loss along the supply chain has on food security within the APEC community, and the value of collaboration among the public, private and science sectors;

To address this significant problem, the APEC Seminar on “Strengthening Public-Private Partnership to Reduce Food Losses in the Supply Chain of Fishery and Livestock” was held on September 27 2015 in Iloilo and convened as a public private dialogue forum to discuss the challenges facing the fishery and livestock value chains and practical solutions in this region.

The Seminar was designed to identify the importance of developing a systematic approach to reducing food loss through the value chain, increasing capability for producers to target high value products in export and domestic markets, thus providing economic gain.

The participants agreed that building technical and policy capabilities across APEC economies, and providing a stable regulatory framework to encourage investments in innovative solutions would achieve a sustainable reduction of food loss.

The outcomes of this Seminar support our position that the sustainable business model to reduce food losses along the value chain needs strong partners from both the public and private sectors in the APEC region.

To achieve these outcomes, it is critical to examine the multi-dimensional aspects of waste and loss including: genetics, production, food safety, postharvest quality, logistic process, infrastructure improvement, and consumer behaviour.

Capability development and best practice business models, along with raising public awareness of the importance of food loss, were identified as equally important factors.

It is recommended that Ministers or Senior Officials to:

1. Recognize and acknowledge the impact of food loss across the supply chain and the need for APEC economies to cooperate and address this as a critical challenge confronting the region;
2. Support investigation into the multi-dimensional aspects of food loss including: genetics, production, food safety, postharvest quality, logistic process, infrastructure improvement, consumer behaviours;
3. Encourage capability development and the use of best practice business models, across all aspects of food loss in the supply chain;
4. Foster communication and awareness among smallholders, business groups, researchers, decision makers, and the public for further collaborations in food loss assessment methodologies and toolkit development and for working in a wide variety of trade and sustainable development related policy issues.