



# FOOD WASTE AND RESCUE IN ISRAEL

The Economic, Social and Environmental Impact

## HOW MUCH FOOD IS LOST IN ISRAEL?

**2.3**  
MILLION TONS

THE AMOUNT OF FOOD WASTED IN ISRAEL

**19.5**  
BILLION NIS  
ECONOMIC VALUE

**33%**  
ISRAEL'S FOOD LOSS

## HOW MUCH FOOD IS LOST IN THE RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION SECTORS?

THREE MAIN CAUSES OF WASTE:



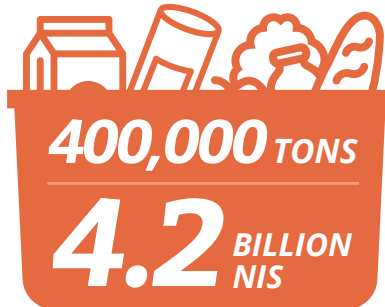
EXPIRY DATE



AESTHETIC FLAWS



DAMAGED FOOD



HALF OF THE FOOD WASTED IN THE RETAIL AND DISTRIBUTION SECTORS IS RESCUABLE

## WHY RESCUE FOOD?

FOOD RESCUE IS A WINNING SOLUTION THAT PRODUCES FOOD WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT RELIANCE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND POLLUTION AND USE OF WATER, FERTILIZERS OR PESTICIDES.

**EACH SHEKEL = 3.6 NIS**

EACH SHEKEL INVESTED IN FOOD RESCUE PROVIDES 3.6 SHEKELS WORTH OF FOOD

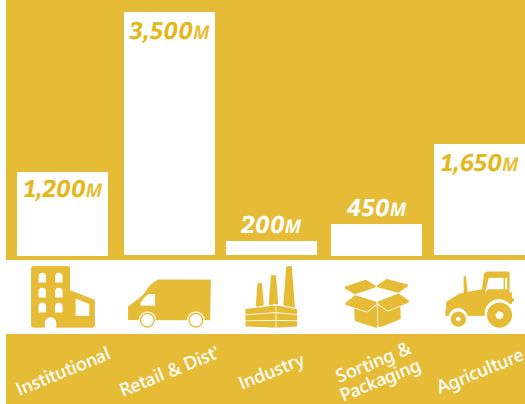
- ECONOMIC BENEFIT**  
Food rescue is an alternative to food production that avoids using the resources and costs associated with food production.
- SOCIAL BENEFIT**  
Food rescue reduces social gaps and increases food security for weaker population groups.
- ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT**  
Reduces pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and the use of finite land and water resources.

## HOW MUCH FOOD CAN BE RESCUED?

**50%** OF THE FOOD WASTED

IS RESCUABLE AND SUITABLE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

RESCUABLE FOOD VALUE BY CATEGORIES, IN NIS



**1.1**  
MILLION TONS OF FOOD

IS SUITABLE FOR RESCUE ANNUALLY AND IS VALUED AT **7 BILLION NIS**

# THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF FOOD RESCUE

» FOOD RESCUE IS CLEARLY PREFERABLE TO ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF BRIDGING THE FOOD INSECURITY GAP: ALLOCATIONS, DONATIONS, SUBSIDIES OR SUPPORT FOR THE NEEDY.

» WITHOUT FOOD RESCUE, IT WOULD COST **3 BILLION NIS ANNUALLY** TO PURCHASE FOOD TO COVER THE GAP.

» WITH 830 MILLION NIS IT IS POSSIBLE TO RESCUE FOOD VALUED AT **3 BILLION NIS**, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO THE ENTIRE CONSUMPTION GAP BETWEEN ISRAELIS SUFFERING FROM FOOD INSECURITY AND ISRAELIS WHO ENJOY NORMATIVE LEVELS OF CONSUMPTION.

FOOD RESCUE ACHIEVES THE SAME SOCIETAL GOAL AT A SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER COST:

**830 MILLION NIS ANNUALLY**

A SAVINGS OF

**2.2 BILLION NIS**

## HOW MUCH FOOD NEEDS TO BE RESCUED?

**470** 

THOUSAND TONS OF WASTED FOOD EACH YEAR

**20%** OF THE WASTED FOOD IN ISRAEL WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO COMPLETELY BRIDGE THE CONSUMPTION GAP BETWEEN ISRAELIS SUFFERING FROM FOOD INSECURITY AND ISRAELIS WHO ENJOY NORMATIVE LEVELS OF CONSUMPTION.

 **1.4 NIS / KG**

COST OF SAVING WASTED FOOD

## RECOMMENDED POLICY

THE INITIAL STEPS NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE FOOD RESCUE IN ISRAEL



DEVELOP A NATIONAL PLAN FOR FOOD RESCUE - THE PLAN SHOULD RELATE TO ALL NECESSARY OPERATIONAL, BUDGETARY, REGULATORY CONDITIONS AND INCENTIVES TO GRADUALLY ATTAIN THE NATIONAL FOOD RESCUE GOAL. THE PLAN SHOULD CREATE A SYSTEM OF INCENTIVES AND MECHANISMS TO ENCOURAGE FOOD DONATIONS AND CREATE A NATIONAL FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM.



SET A NATIONAL FOOD RESCUE GOAL - AIMING TO REDUCE FOOD WASTE BY 50% BY THE YEAR 2030, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES SET BY THE UN, AND ADOPTED BY THE US GOVERNMENT IN 2015, AND THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN MARCH 2017.



FINALIZE THE LAW TO ENCOURAGE THE RESCUE OF FOOD SURPLUSES, SIMILAR TO THE GOOD SAMARITAN LAW IN THE US.



REQUIRE FOOD RESCUE OF ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT FINANCED INSTITUTIONS - REQUIRING STATE FUNDED BODIES TO CONTRACT WITH REGISTERED FOOD RESCUE NON PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (NPOS). THESE WOULD INCLUDE DEFENSE AGENCIES, SCHOOL CATERING PROGRAMS, GOVERNMENT COMPANIES, ETC.



REQUIRE FOOD RESCUE AS A CONDITION FOR PRIVATE BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT TENDERS - REQUIRING PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS, WHO HAVE SOURCES OF RESCUABLE FOOD, TO COLLABORATE WITH REGISTERED FOOD RESCUE NPOS AS A THRESHOLD CONDITION FOR CONTRACTING WITH THE STATE.