

Economic Commission for Europe

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

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Sustainable Development Goal 12 and sustainable practices: food loss and food waste

Information document by the delegation from Sweden – Code of Good Practice

Note: The following note on the Code of Good Practice was submitted by the delegation from Sweden.

As part of the work towards reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the UNECE, the FFV section of WP7 has elaborated a Code of Good Practice – Reducing food loss in handling fresh fruit and vegetables. WP7 adopted the Code at its meeting in November 2019 and it is now available on the UNECE website.

The Code sets out measures to be taken in order to minimize losses and waste, step by step – for producers, traders and retailers, along the distribution chain but before products reach consumers. The three chapters covering respectively producers, traders and retailers, can be used individually.

Originally, the aim was to create a Code that is equally applicable to all kinds of markets, in countries all over the world. However, during the work, it became clear that markets in developing and developed countries are so different that it is very difficult to create a single Code that is equally applicable on all types of markets. Therefore, the Code that was developed relates mainly to the markets in developed countries.

It is therefore proposed that the FFV section of the UNECE – WP7 develops a similar Code to the one already in place that specifically addresses the situation and specific challenges in producing, trading and selling fresh fruit and vegetables in developing countries with the aim to minimize losses and waste.
