

Global and National Food Waste: Sources and Solutions

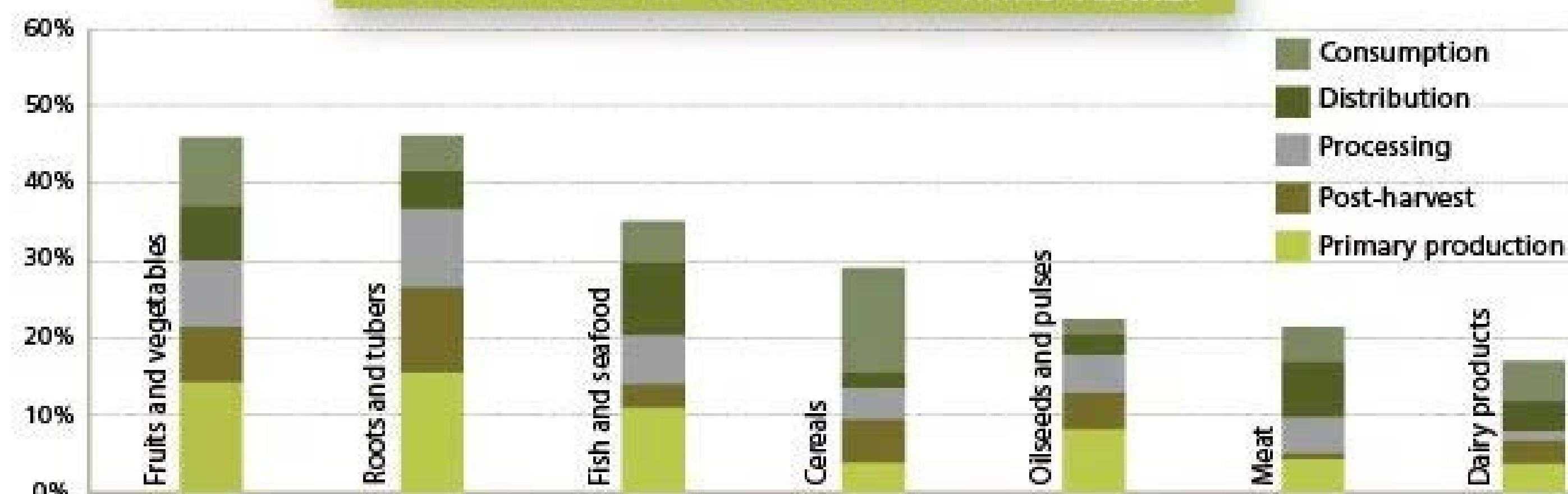
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Global Food Waste

- ❖ \$750 billion worth in food waste each year globally (Lipinski, 2015)
- ❖ 1.3 Billion tons yearly (FAO, 2011)
- ❖ 40% lost during harvest in developing countries (FAO, 2011)

GLOBAL FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE

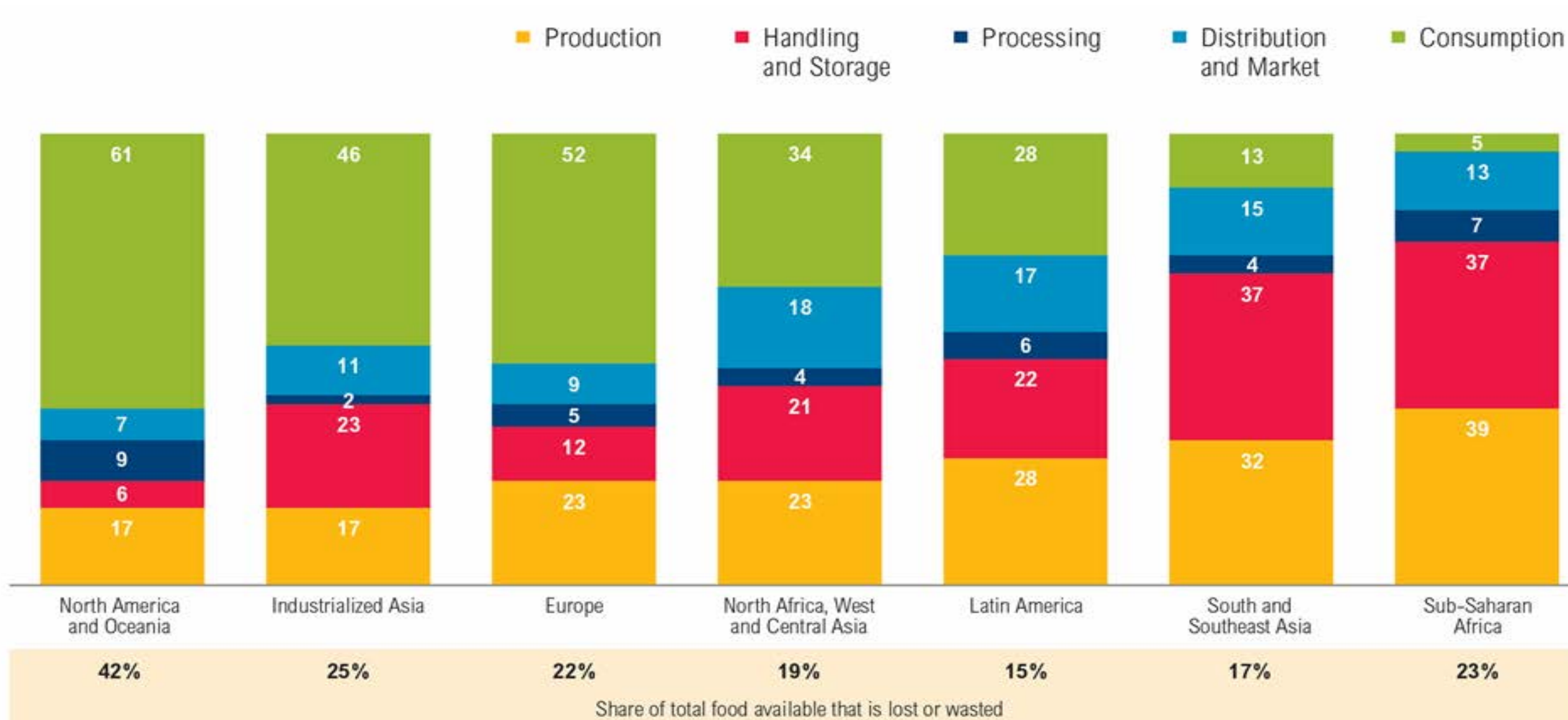
ARE ESTIMATED AT 1.3 BILLION TONNES YEARLY



GLOBAL FOOD LOSSES
<https://msappetite.wordpress.com/2012/10/26/fan-food-waste-is-of-growing-global-concern/>

Sources of Waste

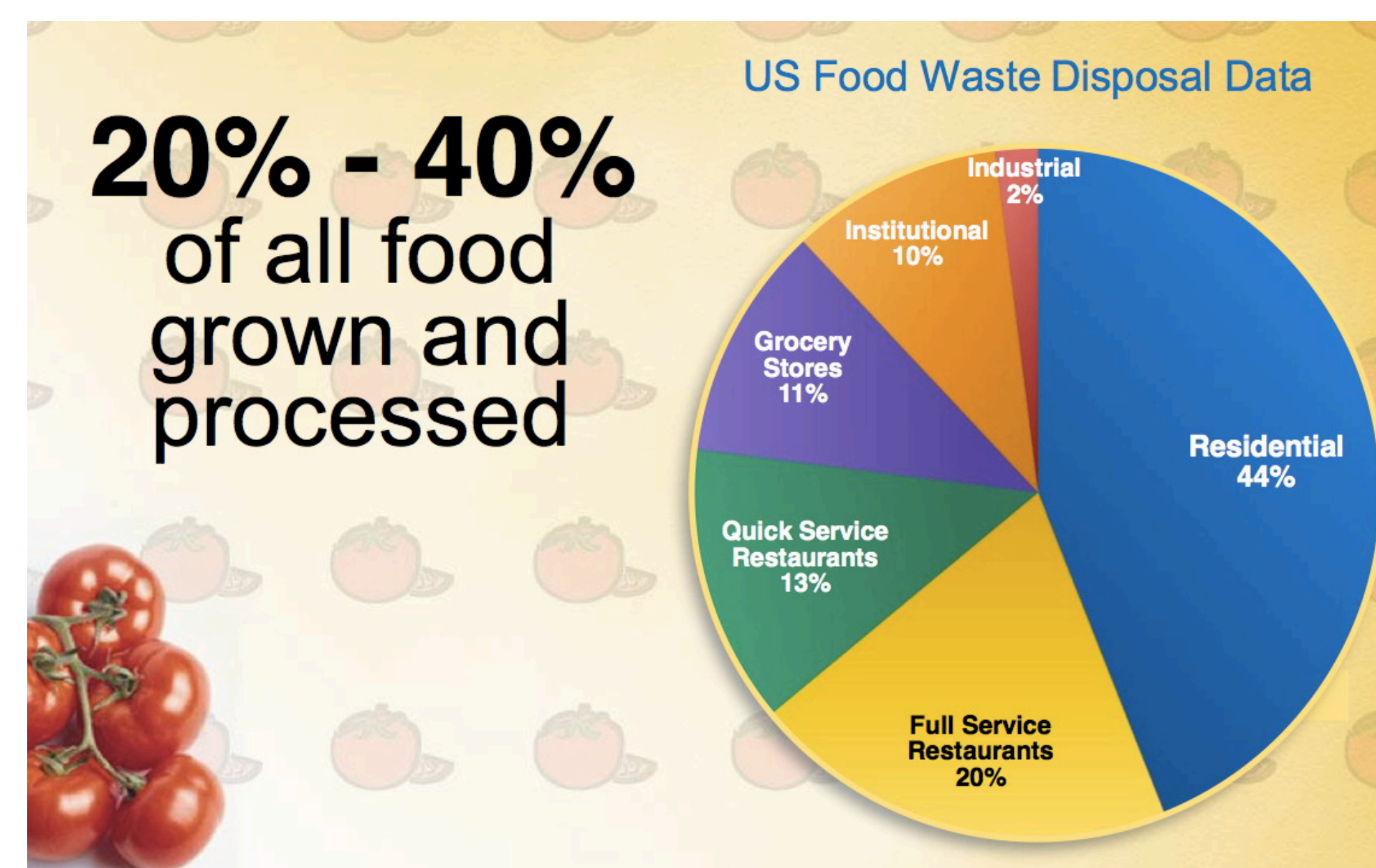
- ❖ storage, transport, cost of harvesting, ordered too much (Lipinski, 2013)
- ❖ damage or loss during harvest for fruits and vegetables (FAO, 2011)



<http://www.wri.org/blog/2015/09/what%E2%80%99s-food-loss-and-waste-got-to-do-sustainable-development-its-actually>

National Food Waste U.S.

- ❖ Around 34 million tons (1 in 7 truckloads) of perishable goods are tossed by supermarkets annually (Dockterman, 2013)
- ❖ Food waste adds up to a loss of 141 trillion calories annually (Barclay, 2014)
- ❖ Agricultural production accounts for 80% of consumptive water use and more than half of total land use (Gunders, 2012)
- ❖ Per capita waste has increased 50% since 1974 (21 Shocking, 2013)



20% - 40% of all food grown and processed

<http://thesavola.com/2012/08/23/u-s-food-waste-costs-billions-every-year/>

Impacts on the U.S.

- ❖ About 40% of food produced for consumption is wasted (Carolan, 2013)
- ❖ Food rotting in landfills contributes up to 16% of U.S. methane emissions (Gunders, 2012)
- ❖ 49 million Americans live in food-insecure households (Dockterman, 2013)
- ❖ If food losses were cut by 15%, the excess food would be enough to feed more than 25 million Americans (Fireovid, 2013)
- ❖ The United Nations predicts that by 2050 the world's population will reach 9.3 billion (United Nations, 2011)



<http://kut.org/post/city-looks-converting-garbage-stench-electricity>

Solutions

- ❖ Donate unused edible food, including imperfect items (Lipinski 2013, FAO, 2011)
- ❖ Reliable and accurate food labels, smaller portions, education on food handling (Lipinski, 2013)
- ❖ Organize farmers to send surplus to areas with a shortage (FAO, 2011)
- ❖ Improve infrastructure, shorten transportation distances (FAO, 2011)
- ❖ Start small! Compost, plan weekly meals, buy less, and support local farmers

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