

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-12-responsible-consumption-and-production.html>

Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production

Achieving economic growth and sustainable development requires that we urgently reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources. Agriculture is the biggest user of water worldwide, and irrigation now claims close to 70 percent of all freshwater for human use.

The efficient management of our shared natural resources, and the way we dispose of toxic waste and pollutants, are important targets to achieve this goal. Encouraging industries, businesses and consumers to recycle and reduce waste is equally important, as is supporting developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption by 2030.

A large share of the world population is still consuming far too little to meet even their basic needs. Halving the per capita of global food waste at the retailer and consumer levels is also important for creating more efficient production and supply chains. This can help with food security, and shift us towards a more resource efficient economy.

Facts and figures

1.3 billion

1.3 billion tonnes of food is wasted every year, while almost 2 billion people go hungry or undernourished.

22%

The food sector accounts for around 22 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions, largely from the conversion of forests into farmland.

2 billion

Globally, 2 billion people are overweight or obese.

3%

Only 3 percent of the world's water is fresh (drinkable), and humans are using it faster than nature can replenish it.

US\$120 billion

If people everywhere switched to energy efficient lightbulbs, the world would save US\$120 billion annually.

20%

One-fifth of the world's final energy consumption in 2013 was from renewable sources.