

# **Data Analytics**

# Waste Less, Taste More A Deep Dive into Food Waste in Europe & Using Machine Learning to Cook Up Solutions



Kranta Gaterojn April, 2024

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#### Introduction

In an era where sustainability and resource conservation have become paramount, the issue of food waste stands out as a significant challenge. Each year, a staggering amount of food is discarded globally, contributing to environmental degradation and economic inefficiency. In light of this, my project, titled "Waste Less, Taste More: A Deep Dive into Food Waste in Europe & Using Machine Learning to Cook Up Solutions," aims to tackle the pervasive problem of food waste, with a primary focus on household wastage within European countries.

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 12: "Responsible Consumption and Production," my project is dedicated to addressing Target 12.3: "By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses."

Food waste is a pressing issue with far-reaching implications for both society and the environment. Despite the abundance of resources devoted to food production, distribution, and consumption, a significant portion ends up in landfills, contributing to greenhouse gas emissions, resource depletion, and economic inefficiency. Therefore, I aim to contribute to the global effort to reduce food waste by focusing on household wastage within European countries.

Utilizing data from authoritative sources such as Eurostat and the United Nations, I seek to quantify the extent of food waste and identify key drivers and patterns across the food supply chain. By doing so, I hope to shed light on the root causes of food waste and develop targeted interventions and strategies for waste reduction, in line with the principles of sustainable consumption and production outlined in Goal 12.

Through my project, I aspire to demonstrate the transformative potential of data analytics and machine learning in addressing complex societal challenges. By harnessing the power of data-driven insights, I aim to empower stakeholders with actionable information and innovative solutions to achieve the ambitious targets set forth by the United Nations, paving the way for a more sustainable and resilient future for generations to come.



#### **Business Case:**

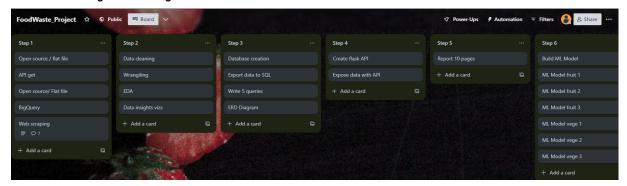
The economic and environmental implications of food waste are substantial, with billions of dollars lost annually and significant greenhouse gas emissions associated with decomposing food in landfills. By focusing on household food waste, I aim to conserve valuable resources, mitigate environmental pollution, and contribute to the global effort towards sustainability. Moreover, addressing household food waste presents an opportunity to instill responsible consumption habits and promote a culture of sustainability within communities. Through my project, leveraging data analytics and machine learning, I seek to showcase the effectiveness of data-driven approaches in reducing food waste, inspiring broader adoption of sustainable practices worldwide.

#### Goal:

My aim is to reduce food waste, emphasizing households and addressing waste across various stages of the food supply chain. Leveraging data analytics and machine learning techniques, I'll identify key drivers and patterns of food wastage within households, develop targeted interventions, and utilize machine learning to create recipes for leftover food. These efforts aim to promote sustainable consumption practices and contribute to building a more efficient food system for future generations.

#### **Project Plan:**

- Planning the project on Trello
- Collecting data using various methods such as web scraping, flat files, APIs, and BigQuery
- Cleaning the collected data
- Creating a database and Entity Relationship Diagram (ERD) using MySQL
- Aggregating the data within MySQL
- Creating APIs with Swagger documentation to expose the collected data
- Processing data for machine learning purposes
- Training and testing models



#### Data and data sources

#### Flat file:

#### **Eurostat**

In my project, I begin by gathering comprehensive data on food waste across European countries for the years 2020 and 2021. Utilizing datasets from authoritative sources such as <u>Eurostat</u> ensures the reliability and accuracy of my analysis.

For a deep dive into food waste, I further categorize it into specific categories, including food production, manufacturing, distribution, services, and total household activities. This granular analysis allows me to pinpoint key areas with the highest levels of waste generation.

Eurostat is a primary source of statistical information on waste generation, consumption, and related indicators. Specifically, I rely on Eurostat's data on food waste and food waste prevention by NACE Rev. 2 activity - tonnes of fresh mass to enrich my analysis and provide valuable insights into food waste trends.

#### Kaggle

In line with the objectives outlined in the report, I am integrating <u>image data</u> of fruits and vegetables sourced from Kaggle to train and test the machine learning model. This dataset comprises approximately 100 images for training, 10 images for testing, and 10 images for validation, encompassing 36 different types of fruits and vegetables.

By leveraging these images and employing machine learning techniques, I aim to identify key drivers and patterns of food wastage within households. Additionally, I will develop targeted interventions and utilize machine learning to generate recipes for utilizing leftover food effectively.

Through these efforts, I seek to promote sustainable consumption practices and contribute to the establishment of a more efficient and resilient food system for future generations.

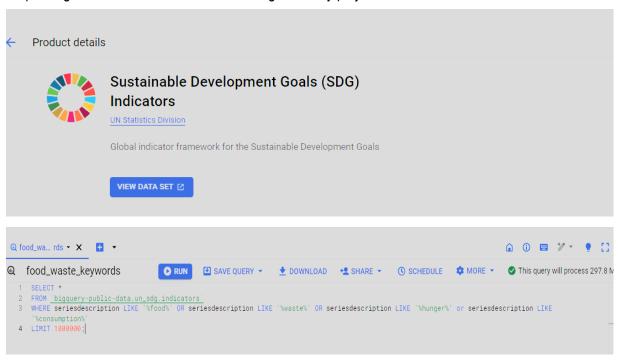


#### BigQuery:

In my quest to understand food waste and consumption patterns, I tap into various valuable data sources. One of my go-to sources is the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) data repository on Google BigQuery. This treasure trove of information houses a wealth of indicators related to food waste, giving me insights into global trends and how people eat.

With BigQuery's help, I can search through this massive database using keywords like waste, food, hunger, and consumption. This lets me dig out the most relevant data points to enrich my analysis and get a better understanding of what's going on worldwide with food waste.

However, there's a little hiccup when it comes to exporting data directly to my computer in CSV or JSON format. It just doesn't work like that. So, I found a workaround—I export the data to CSV format on Google Drive and then download it from there. It's a bit of a detour, but it gets the job done, and I can keep diving into the data to uncover more insights for my project.



#### **Data collection**

#### **API Data:**

Leveraging the UN SDG API for Target 12.3

In my project report, I highlight the utilization of the United Nations Statistics Division's API, tailored specifically for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators, including Target 12.3 addressing food waste reduction. This API, known as the UN SDG API, serves as a pivotal tool in my endeavor to combat food waste.

With the UN SDG API, I have direct access to real-time and historical data on various metrics related to food waste, empowering me to monitor progress, identify trends, and make informed decisions regarding waste reduction strategies. Through personalized Python scripting, I fetch data from the API, allowing me to seamlessly integrate this valuable information into my analysis.

In one Python code snippet from my report, I illustrate how I iteratively retrieve JSON data from the UN SDG API, aggregating it into a cohesive DataFrame using the powerful Pandas library. This consolidated dataset serves as the foundation for my subsequent data analysis and modeling efforts.

By harnessing the capabilities of the UN SDG API, I gain valuable insights into food waste metrics across different regions and time periods. This personalized approach to data collection not only enhances the accuracy of my analysis but also aligns with my commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to address pressing societal challenges, such as food waste reduction.

```
#Import all Goal 12 [Responsible consumption and production] Target 12.3 -Halve Global per capita food waste

# Empty list to store combined data

combined_data12_3 = []

# Iterate through pages
for page in range(1,6):

api_url = f'https://unstats.un.org/sdgapi/v1/sdg/Target/Data?target=12.3&page={page}&pageSize=1000'

# Fetch JSON data for each page
response = requests.get(api_url)
api_info = response.json()

# Append the "data" array from each page to the combined list
combined_data12_3.extend(api_info['data'])

# Add the combined "data" to the original JSON object
api_sum = combined_data12_3

# df_api = pd.DataFrame(api_sum)
df_api.to_csv[]'../source/api_data12_3.csv',index=False[]
```

#### Web scraping

Web scraping techniques are essential for me to extract targeted data from online sources. These sources include <u>consumer surveys</u>, <u>scientific studies</u>, and lists of <u>national fruits</u> for each country. They provide valuable insights into consumer preferences, regional variations in food waste, and cultural factors influencing consumption patterns.

By scraping consumer surveys and reports on the top 20 unwanted fruits and vegetables, I gain insights into potential sources of food waste and consumer behavior. Additionally, scientific studies detailing country-specific food waste generation profiles offer crucial data for understanding regional variations in waste.

Despite encountering challenges with inaccessible PDFs and restricted sites, such as the 403 forbidden error, I persist in enriching my dataset with valuable information. Incorporating data on national fruits allows me to understand cultural influences on consumption patterns and identify unique sources of food waste in each region.

This knowledge empowers me to tailor waste reduction strategies to specific cultural contexts, facilitating more effective interventions and promoting sustainable consumption practices. Overall, the inclusion of national fruit data adds depth to my dataset, enriching my analysis and decision-making processes.

```
url = 'https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_fruits'
response = requests.get(url)
soup = BeautifulSoup(response.text, 'html.parser')
table = soup.find('table', {'class': 'wikitable'})
rows = table.find_all('tr')
data = []
for row in rows:
   columns = row.find_all('td')
   row_data = []
    for column in columns:
        row_data.append(column.get_text().strip()) # Strip whitespace
    if row data:
        data.append(row_data)
custom headers = ['country', 'common name', 'scientific name', 'image', 'ref', 'notes']
df = pd.DataFrame(data[1:], columns=custom_headers)
df.columns
df = df.drop(columns=[ 'scientific_name', 'image', 'ref', 'notes'])
```

# Data cleaning and Exploratory data analysis

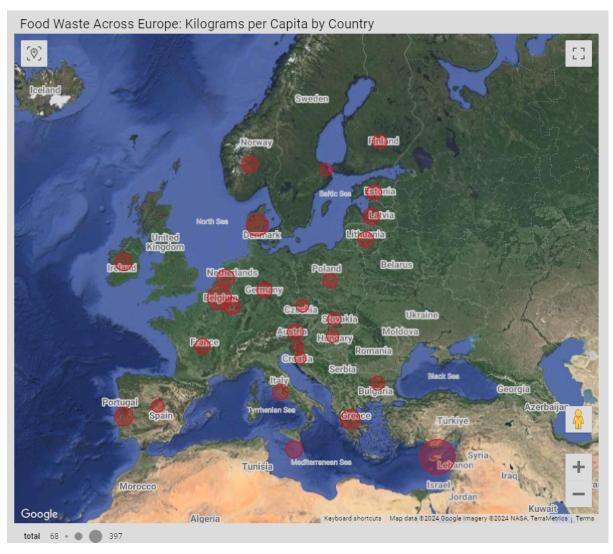
#### **Data Cleaning**

During the data cleaning process, I undertook several steps to refine the dataset and prepare it for analysis, focusing on food waste patterns within European countries. Here are the key steps:

- 1. **Drop Empty Columns:** I removed empty columns to streamline the dataset and eliminate unnecessary information, ensuring a more focused analysis.
- Standardization of Country Names: To maintain consistency across the dataset, I standardized country names, replacing variations with a uniform format. For instance, "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" was replaced with "United Kingdom."
- 3. **Filtering for European Countries:** I filtered the dataset to include only European countries, aligning with the project's scope and objectives.
- 4. **Column Removal:** Irrelevant columns were dropped from the dataset to simplify it and focus solely on essential information relevant to food waste analysis.
- 5. **ID Generation:** I generated unique identifiers ('id') for each dataset entry based on country name and time period, facilitating efficient data management and analysis.
- 6. **Rename Columns:** Column labels were renamed to provide clearer and more descriptive names, enhancing the dataset's interpretability and ease of use.
- 7. **Target Data Filtering:** I filtered and retained data related to the project's target variables, ensuring that only relevant information was included in the dataset.
- 8. **Data Segmentation:** The dataset was segmented into separate DataFrames based on specific conditions, allowing for more focused analysis on each subset of data and enabling deeper insights into food waste patterns.
- 9. **Handling Missing Values:** Columns with missing or NaN values were identified and dropped from the dataset to maintain data integrity and accuracy.
- 10. **Standardization and Formatting:** Column names were standardized by replacing spaces with underscores and converting all letters to lowercase, ensuring consistency and facilitating smoother data manipulation and analysis.

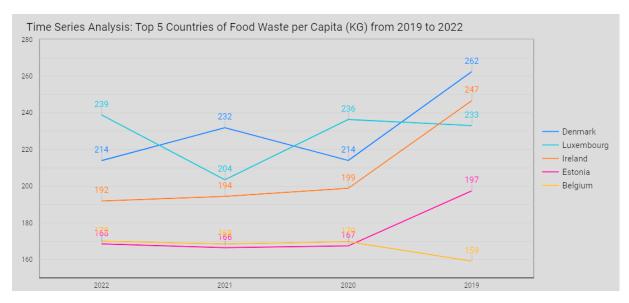
By meticulously following these cleaning steps, I refined the dataset, ensuring that it contained only relevant and consistent information essential for investigating food waste trends within European households. This meticulous preparation laid a solid foundation for subsequent analysis and deriving actionable insights to address food waste challenges effectively.

#### **Data Visualization**



The data on food waste across Europe reveals significant variations in kilograms per capita by country:

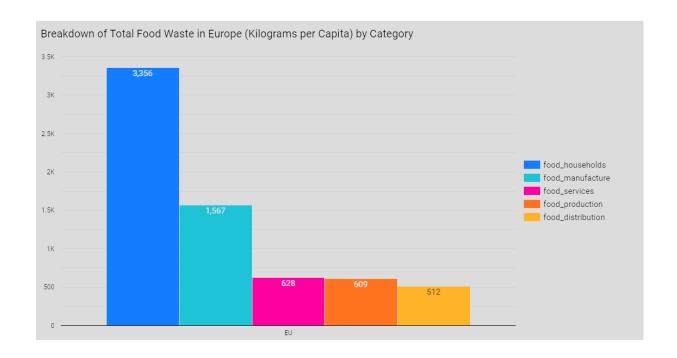
- 1. Cyprus exhibits the highest food waste level, with 397 kilograms per capita, indicating a substantial challenge in waste management.
- 2. Several countries, including Belgium, Denmark, and Ireland, also demonstrate high food waste levels, ranging from 221 to 250 kilograms per capita.
- 3. Moderate food waste levels, ranging from 108 to 191 kilograms per capita, are observed in countries like Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Italy, and Portugal.
- 4. Countries such as Slovenia, Croatia, and Slovakia have comparatively lower levels of food waste, ranging from 68 to 106 kilograms per capita.
- 5. Regional trends show similarities in food waste levels among neighboring countries, emphasizing the importance of tailored waste reduction strategies at both national and regional levels.



The analysis of the top countries is as follows:

- Denmark: Denmark shows fluctuations in food waste per capita over the years. It had the highest value in 2019 at approximately 262 KG, followed by a decrease to around 214 KG in 2020. However, there was a notable increase in 2021 to about 232 KG. In 2022, the value slightly decreased to approximately 214 KG.
- 2. Ireland: Ireland exhibits a declining trend in food waste per capita from 2019 to 2021, with values decreasing from around 247 KG to about 194 KG. There is a slight increase in 2022 to approximately 192 KG.
- 3. Luxembourg: Luxembourg demonstrates fluctuations in food waste per capita over the years, with the highest value in 2022 at approximately 239 KG, followed by values of about 233 KG in 2019, 236 KG in 2020, and 204 KG in 2021.
- 4. Belgium: Belgium shows relatively stable food waste per capita over the years, with values ranging from approximately 159 KG in 2019 to around 170 KG in both 2020 and 2022, with a slight increase to about 168 KG in 2021.
- 5. Estonia: Estonia's data shows relatively consistent food waste per capita across the years, with values ranging from around 197 KG in 2019 to approximately 166 KG in both 2021 and 2022.

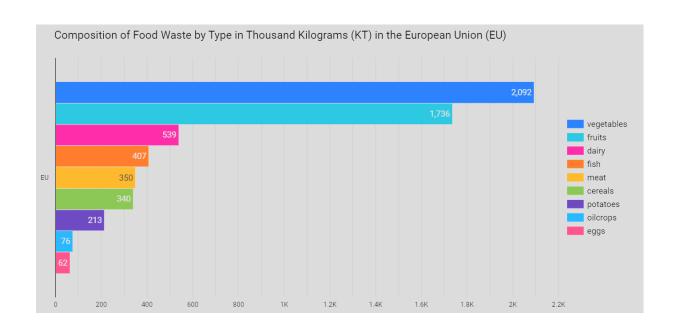
Overall, Denmark and Luxembourg show fluctuations in food waste per capita, while Ireland exhibits a declining trend. Belgium demonstrates relatively stable waste levels, and Estonia maintains consistent values over the years.



Histogram Analysis: Breakdown of Total Food Waste in Europe (Kilograms per Capita) by Category

- Food Households: Food households contribute the highest and most substantial portion of food waste, with 3,356 kilograms per capita. This underscores the critical role of households in overall food wastage, highlighting the urgent need for targeted interventions to reduce wastage at the consumer level and promote sustainability in food consumption practices.
- 2. Food Production: Food production contributes 609 kilograms per capita to food waste, indicating a significant portion of waste generated during the production phase.
- 3. Food Manufacture: Food manufacture accounts for the highest proportion of food waste, with 1,567 kilograms per capita. This highlights the substantial waste generated during the manufacturing process.
- 4. Food Distribution: Food distribution contributes 512 kilograms per capita to food waste, indicating a notable portion of waste occurring during the distribution stage.
- 5. Food Services: Food services contribute 628 kilograms per capita to food waste, emphasizing the significant waste generated within the service industry.

Overall: The histogram provides a comprehensive overview of the distribution of food waste across different stages of the supply chain, with households contributing the most significant share. This analysis emphasizes the importance of addressing household food waste through effective strategies and awareness campaigns to achieve sustainable consumption practices.



Histogram Analysis: Composition of Food Waste by Type in Thousand Kilograms (KT) in the European Union (EU)

- 1. Vegetables: Leading the composition, vegetables contribute approximately 2,092 KT, indicating substantial wastage in this category.
- 2. Fruits: Following closely, fruits account for around 1,736 KT, underscoring the significant portion of fruit wastage in the EU.
- 3. Dairy: Dairy products contribute 539 KT to food waste, representing a notable portion of discarded items.
- 4. Fish: Fish waste amounts to 407 KT, highlighting the need for strategies to minimize seafood wastage.
- 5. Meat: Meat waste totals 350 KT, indicating a significant but slightly smaller proportion compared to other categories.
- 6. Cereals, Potatoes, Oilcrops, and Eggs: These categories collectively contribute to food waste, albeit in smaller quantities compared to the top five categories.

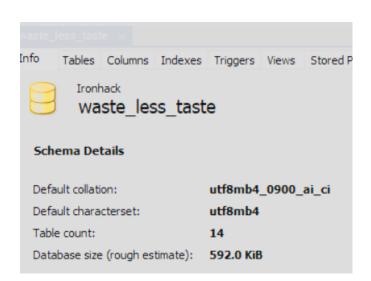
Overall, the histogram provides insights into the distribution of food waste types in the EU, emphasizing the importance of targeted efforts to reduce wastage across various food categories.

# **Database type selection**

#### **Database Creation**

The food waste database was established in MySQL Workbench to encompass 14 tables capturing various aspects of food waste in Europe. Data collection involved sourcing information from flat files, APIs, BigQuery, and web scraping. The tables within the food waste database include:

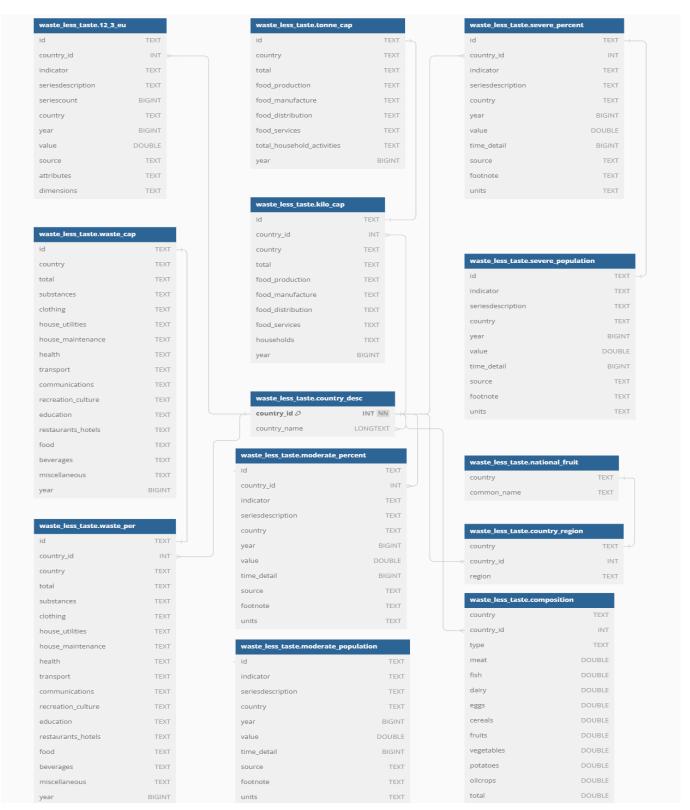
- df\_waste\_per.csv
- 2. df waste cap.csv
- 3. df kilo cap.csv
- 4. df\_tonne\_cap.csv
- 5. df\_composition.csv
- 6. df\_severe\_percent.csv
- 7. df\_moderate\_percent.csv
- 8. df\_severe\_population.csv
- 9. df\_moderate\_population.csv
- 10. df 12 3 eu.csv
- 11. df national fruit.csv



Т	ables	Columns	Indexes	Triggers	Views	Stored Procedures	Functions	Grants	Events	
ame			Engine	Version	n Row Format	Rows		Avg Row Ler	ngth	
12	2_3_eu			InnoDB	10	Dynamic		927		26
СО	mposit	tion		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		6		273
СО	country_desc			InnoDB	10	Dynamic		76		21
СО	untry_	region		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		49		33
kil	lo_cap			InnoDB	10	Dynamic		54		30
iii m	oderate	_percent		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		75		65
m m	oderate	_populat	ion	InnoDB	10	Dynamic		75		65
na	ational_	fruit		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		22		74
se	evere_p	ercent		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		75		65
se	evere_p	opulation		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		75		65
o to	nne_ca	Р		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		54		30
o to	p_wast	ted		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		20		81
W	aste_ca	р		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		72		22
W	aste_pe	er		InnoDB	10	Dynamic		76		21

These databases serve as valuable repositories for analyzing and understanding trends related to food waste, offering insights that can inform policy-making and research endeavors. In addition to the original CSV files, a table named country\_desc was created to link all the tables using the country\_id, and country\_region was included to identify countries within specific regions for further analysis.

## **Entities ERD**



```
SQL Query
2 •
    SELECT
                                                                   country
                                                                                 target_name
                                                                                                        average_value
     country, seriesdescription AS target_name,
                                                                   Turkey
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       6315670
4
     ROUND(AVG(value), 0) AS average_value
                                                                   Germany
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       4447899
5
     FROM 12 3 eu
     GROUP BY country id, country, seriesdescription
                                                                   Italy
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       3449377
6
     ORDER BY AVG(value) DESC
                                                                   France
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       3262447
     LIMIT 10;
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                   Spain
                                                                                                       1803699
                                                                   Poland
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                      1512827
                                                                   Romania
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       962189
                                                                   Portugal
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes) 787754
                                                                                Food waste (Tonnes)
                                                                                                       732924
                                                                   Greece
                                                                   Switzerland Food waste (Tonnes) 633276
 SELECT
      per.country, per.year,per.seriesdescription AS target_name,
      ROUND(SUM(per.value) / 3,2) AS average_percentage_value,
      ROUND(SUM(cap.value) / 3,2) AS average_capita_value
      moderate_percent AS per
 INNER JOIN
      moderate population AS cap ON per.id = cap.id
 GROUP BY
      per.country_id, per.country, per.year, per.seriesdescription
 LIMIT 5;
            country
                      year target_name
                                                                                      average_percentage_value | average_capita_value
            Switzerland
                     2015 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                     12.9
                                                                                                         1078.9
            Germany
                     2015 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                     11.1
                                                                                                         9053.7
                     2015 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                     43.8
                                                                                                         4545
            Portugal
            Ireland
                     2015 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                     29.4
                                                                                                         1385.6
                     2015 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                     18.6
                                                                                                         1005.9
            Slovakia
SELECT
     year,
     country,SUM(food_production) AS food_production,SUM(food_manufacture) AS food_manufacture,
     SUM(food distribution) AS food distribution,
     SUM(food_services) AS food_services,
     SUM(total_household_activities) AS food_household,
     SUM(total) AS total
FROM
     tonne_cap
```

food\_manufacture food\_distribution

762352

food\_services

1860980

food\_household

6496282

**GROUP BY** 

LIMIT 1; year

year, country
ORDER BY total DESC

country

2020 Germany 190203

food production

1612505

total

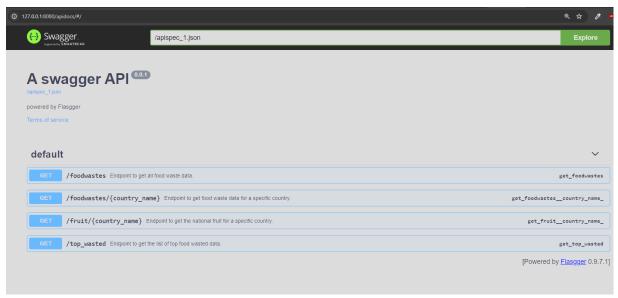
10922321

```
SELECT country,
    common_name
                                                                                  national_fruit
                                                            country
    national_fruit
                                                           Austria
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           Belgium
                                                                                  Apple
    common_name = (
                                                           Bulgaria
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           Germany
                                                                                  Apple
        common_name as national_fruit
                                                           Netherlands
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           Poland
                                                                                  Apple
            national_fruit
                                                           Portugal
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           Romania
                                                                                  Apple
            common_name
                                                           Sweden
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           Switzerland
                                                                                  Apple
                                                           United Kingdom
                                                                                  Apple
        LIMIT 1);
```

```
SELECT id, indicator, seriesdescription, country, year, value, time_detail, source,footnote, units
FROM moderate percent
WHERE country = 'France'
UNION ALL
FROM moderate_population
WHERE country = 'France'
UNION ALL
SELECT id, indicator, seriesdescription, country, year, value, time_detail, source, footnote, units
FROM severe_percent
                                                     indicator seriesdescription
                                                                                                                                   country year value
                                                                                                                                                          time detail
WHERE country = 'France'
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                            Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                                                                   France 2015 5.7
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 8.1
                                                                                                                                                          2015
UNION ALL
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                                                                           2015 6.9
                                                                                                                                   France
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                                                                                                                 5265.3
                                                            Adult population in moderate or severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                            Adult population in moderate or severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 3673.1 2015
FROM severe_population
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Adult population in moderate or severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 4469.2
                                                                                                                                                         2015
WHERE country = 'France';
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 1.4
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                                             Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 2.1
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                                             Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 0.7
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Adult population in severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 505.8
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                          france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Adult population in severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France
                                                                                                                                           2015 1358
                                                                                                                                                          2015
                                         france2015 2.1.2
                                                             Adult population in severe food insecurity (thousands of people)
                                                                                                                                   France 2015 931.9
```

#### **API**

I created APIs with Swagger documentation to expose the collected data. Using Flask and Flasgger, I set up endpoints to access food waste information. The **/foodwastes** endpoint provided all food waste data, while **/foodwastes/<country\_name>** allowed retrieval of data specific to a country. Additionally, I implemented an endpoint **/fruit/<country\_name>** to retrieve the national fruit for a given country. My **top\_wasted** endpoint returned a list of the top food wasted data. With this setup, users could easily access and interact with my food waste database, enabling informed decision-making and analysis.



# **Machine Learning**

**Recognizing Fruits and Vegetables:** Leveraging advanced machine learning algorithms, the project aims to develop a sophisticated system capable of accurately recognizing and categorizing various types of fruits and vegetables commonly found in European households. By analyzing images and patterns, the system will efficiently identify produce items, enabling users to streamline their ingredient identification process while reducing the risk of misclassification or wastage.

Personalized Recipe Suggestions: An intuitive mobile application will be developed, allowing users to scan the fruits and vegetables available in their kitchen. Based on the scanned ingredients and user preferences stored in the app, the system will generate personalized recipe suggestions tailored to individual dietary requirements, cooking skill levels, and cultural backgrounds. These tailored recommendations not only promote sustainable cooking practices by encouraging the use of available ingredients but also enhance user engagement and satisfaction by offering relevant and appealing meal ideas.

### **Conclusion**

"Waste Less, Taste More" is a comprehensive initiative addressing food waste, particularly focusing on household wastage within Europe, in line with UN sustainability objectives. Leveraging data from sources like Eurostat and Kaggle, the project meticulously analyzes food waste patterns, employing visualization techniques and API integration to make insights accessible. Through machine learning applications like image recognition for identifying national fruits and recipe generation, the project aims to catalyze sustainable consumption practices and reduce food waste, contributing to a more efficient and resilient food system.

The project's multifaceted approach encompasses data collection, cleaning, and analysis to uncover key insights into food waste trends across Europe. By providing stakeholders with actionable information and innovative solutions, including API access and machine learning-based interventions, "Waste Less, Taste More" seeks to empower individuals and organizations to make informed decisions and drive meaningful change towards a sustainable future.

#### **GDPR**

In compliance with GDPR regulations, "Waste Less, Taste More" ensures the protection of personal data throughout the project lifecycle. Any personal information collected, such as user data for API access or data used for machine learning training, is handled with the utmost confidentiality and security measures. Users are informed about the purpose of data collection, their rights regarding their data, and how their data will be used and stored. Additionally, robust data encryption and access controls are implemented to prevent unauthorized access or disclosure. Regular audits and reviews are conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with GDPR requirements and to address any potential data security risks effectively.

#### References

#### Trello:

https://trello.com/invite/b/iBCQVz5W/ATTI38c64c788a6940d2be0bf86912bac023FCC875AC/foodwaste project

#### Flat file:

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/env\_wasfw/default/table?lang=enhttps://www.kaggle.com/datasets/kritikseth/fruit-and-vegetable-image-recognitionhttps://champions123.org/target-123

#### API

https://unstats.un.org/sdgapi/swagger/#/

#### **Web Scraping**

https://swnsdigital.com/uk/2023/02/these-are-the-top-20-unwanted-fruit-and-vegetables-from-bagged-sal ad-leaves-to-bananas/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_national\_fruits

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921344921000331?ref=pdf\_download&fr=RR-2&rr= 878c54440e916f0c

#### GitHub Repository (in progress)

https://github.com/krantagat/food waste project