Imagining the Future of Food Waste Management in Singapore

In 2019, Singapore wasted 744 million kg of food*



As heavy as **50,000** double-decker buses!

*Source: NEA Waste Statistics and Overall Recycling

A*STAR's Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology (SIMTech) worked with the Singapore Manufacturing Federation Standard Development Organisation (SMF-SDO) and other stakeholders to develop two Singapore Standards on Food Waste Management. SIMTech, A*STAR's Singapore Institute of Food and Biotechnology Innovation (SIFBI), A*STAR's Institute of Materials Research & Engineering (IMRE), NUS and NTU are now working on analysing the entire food value chain and doing R&D to tackle the food waste problem.

> Using SIMTech's Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) platform, stakeholders can identify food waste hotspots and plan initiatives to reduce or recover value from food waste in an environmentally and economically sustainable way.

Here are some ways food waste can be reduced in the near future from production to consumption.

PRODUCTION

Technology: Digitalised Precision Farming

To improve urban farm management processes and yields, A*STAR works with companies to implement technologies in sensors, data science and Internet of Things.

Technology: Microbial Conversion

There are more sustainable ways of converting food waste at the production stage. A*STAR's Singapore Institute of Food and Biotechnology Innovation (SIFBI) uses microbial conversion agents such as black soldier fly larvae to transform organic waste into insect protein for animal feed.





PROCESSING & PACKAGING



Technology: Smart Food Labels

SIMTech has created special labels that serve as freshness indicators to avoid food being discarded unnecessarily.

Technology: Nanotech-based Food Packaging

A*STAR's Institute of Materials Research & Engineering (IMRE) has developed a type of food packaging to extend the shelf life of food.

RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION



Businesses and consumers should donate their unsold and excess food.

Technology: Microbial Treatment

A*STAR's Institute of Chemical & Engineering Sciences (ICES) developed strains of microbes to turn cooked food waste into fertilisers.



CONSUMPTION



Behavioural Change: Avoid buying more than needed.

When consumers do not over-order when eating out or buying too much groceries, food waste can be

lessened.





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