

*European Economic and Social Committee*  
Public Hearing on the

**Civil society's contribution to a strategy  
for prevention and reduction of  
food losses and food waste**

**Brussels, 24/10/2012**



**FEBA**

Fédération Européenne  
des Banques Alimentaires

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF FOOD BANKS

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# Context

- There are many **good studies**, institutional, national and private (ex. Barrilla Center for food and Nutrition, Food Banks, about impacts on greenhouse of food waste BA Bas Rihn) ;
- There are **several important initiatives** going on, like this one from CESE, from European Parliament (Report and Resolution about “How to avoid food wastage: strategies for a more efficient food chain in the EU” 2011/2175(INI)), and from Commission.
- there are clear **diagnostics and major proposals** for action at European level that get general consensus, such as the analysis of the Working Document of Mr. Somville;



# Universal Declaration of Human Rights

## Article 25.

**Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.**



# Why the Food Banks?

## Mission:

- To fight hunger and malnutrition in Europe, mainly by recovering food that would otherwise be destroyed, in compliance with hygiene and security standards.
- To ensure the implementation of the right to food by providing access to food aid across each territory in Europe.
- To maintain or restore the dignity of people in need, in partnership with the organizations who help them, through the donation of food, foundation of life.
- To promote volunteering and social responsibility.



# Why the Food Banks?

- Food Banks have now a privileged position to act in the prevention and reduction at various stages of the food chain, and simultaneously can profit the food waste to its useful purpose, giving food to those in need;
- Food Banks can be important vehicles of education, contributing to behavior sustainable changes
- As Food Banks work very close to those who produce, process, distributes food products; and also very near to those who can consume (the poorest), they have a privileged position in the chain.



# Food Banks

## A vocation

The Food Banks are private social solidarity institutions to fight against the waste of food products supplying them to the people who need it, without any charge.

## An ethics

Action of Food Banks is based in gratitude, gift, sharing, volunteering and sponsorship.









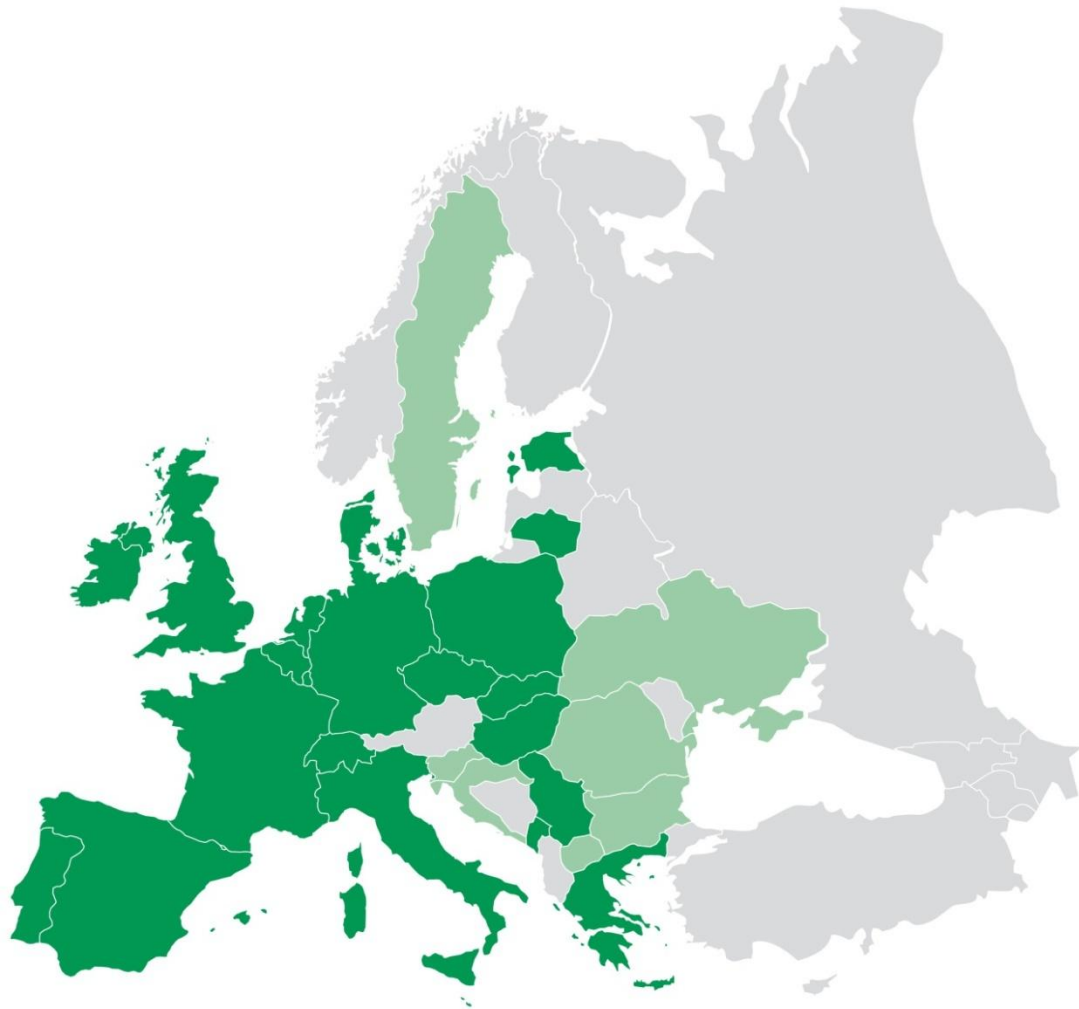


# Food Banks in Europe

247 Food Banks in  
21 countries

151,637 tons of  
recovered food in  
2011 (400,000  
including EU food aid  
program)

distributed to 5,2  
million people in  
need



# Main activity

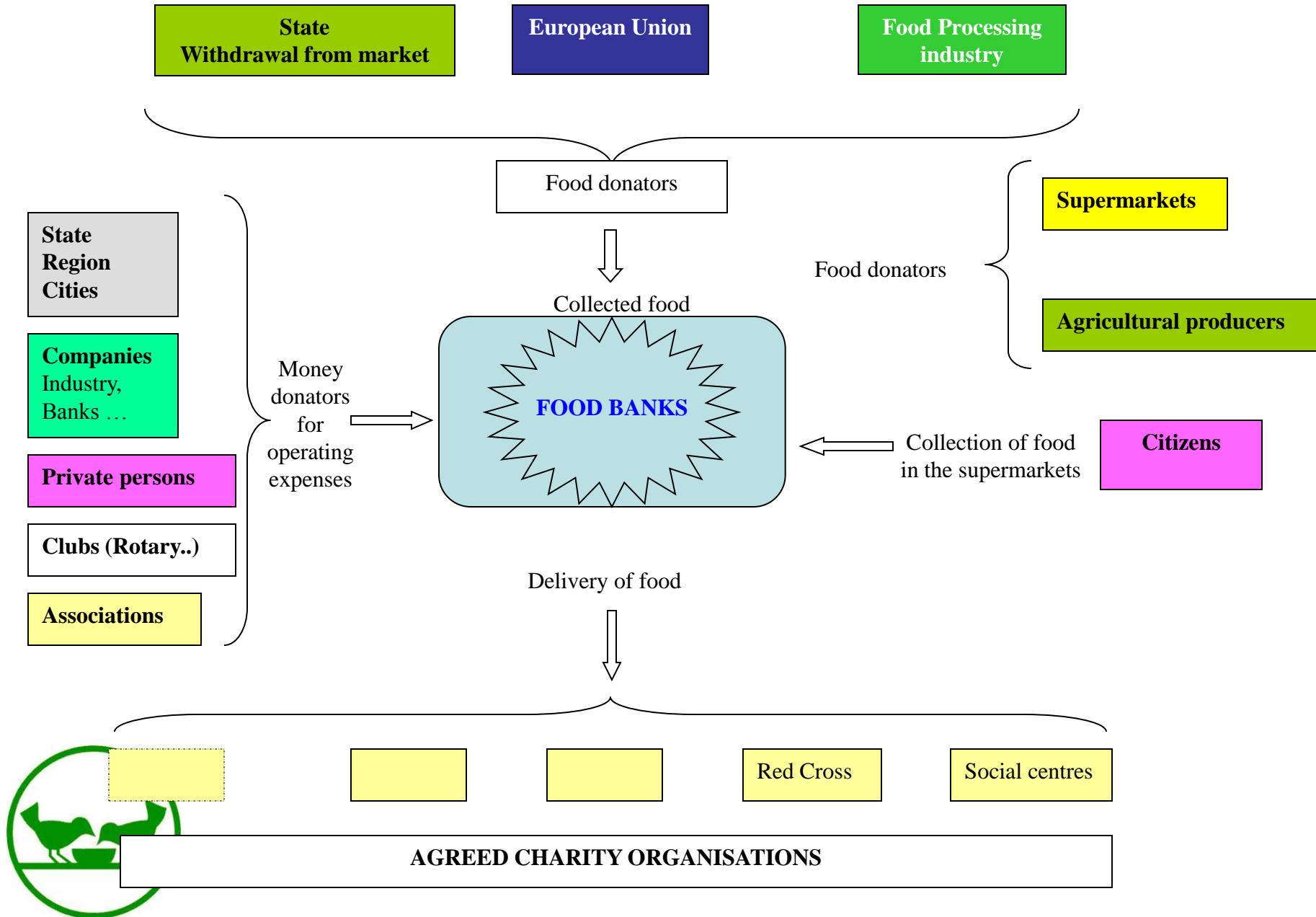
Food Banks recover food from different sources and distribute it to people in need, through a network of more than 31,000 charitable organizations and local municipalities.

Contact with the organisations, logistics and administration management;  
Providing food free of charge;  
Monitoring the distribution.

Distribution in food baskets delivered to needy people/families or cooked meals served in associations /shelters



# Fight against hunger and poverty by fighting waste of food and appealing to solidarity



# Examples of programs on food recuperation in horeca channel

**Siticibo** is a programme of the Fondazione Banco Alimentare Onlus, Italy. It was born in Milan in 2003 thanks to the so-called **Good Samaritan Law** (Law No 155, 16/07/2003).

Siticibo recovers surplus of cooked and fresh food from the Horeca (canteens, restaurants, hotels, schools, hospitals, etc.) and distributes it to charitable organizations that assist poor people. In 2009 Siticibo started to recover surplus food also from the distribution.



# programme Siticibo

**2003 – June 2012**

659 tons of bread; 756 tons of fruit

1.952.298 meals

8 towns

55 canteens

135 schools

6 hotels/catering service

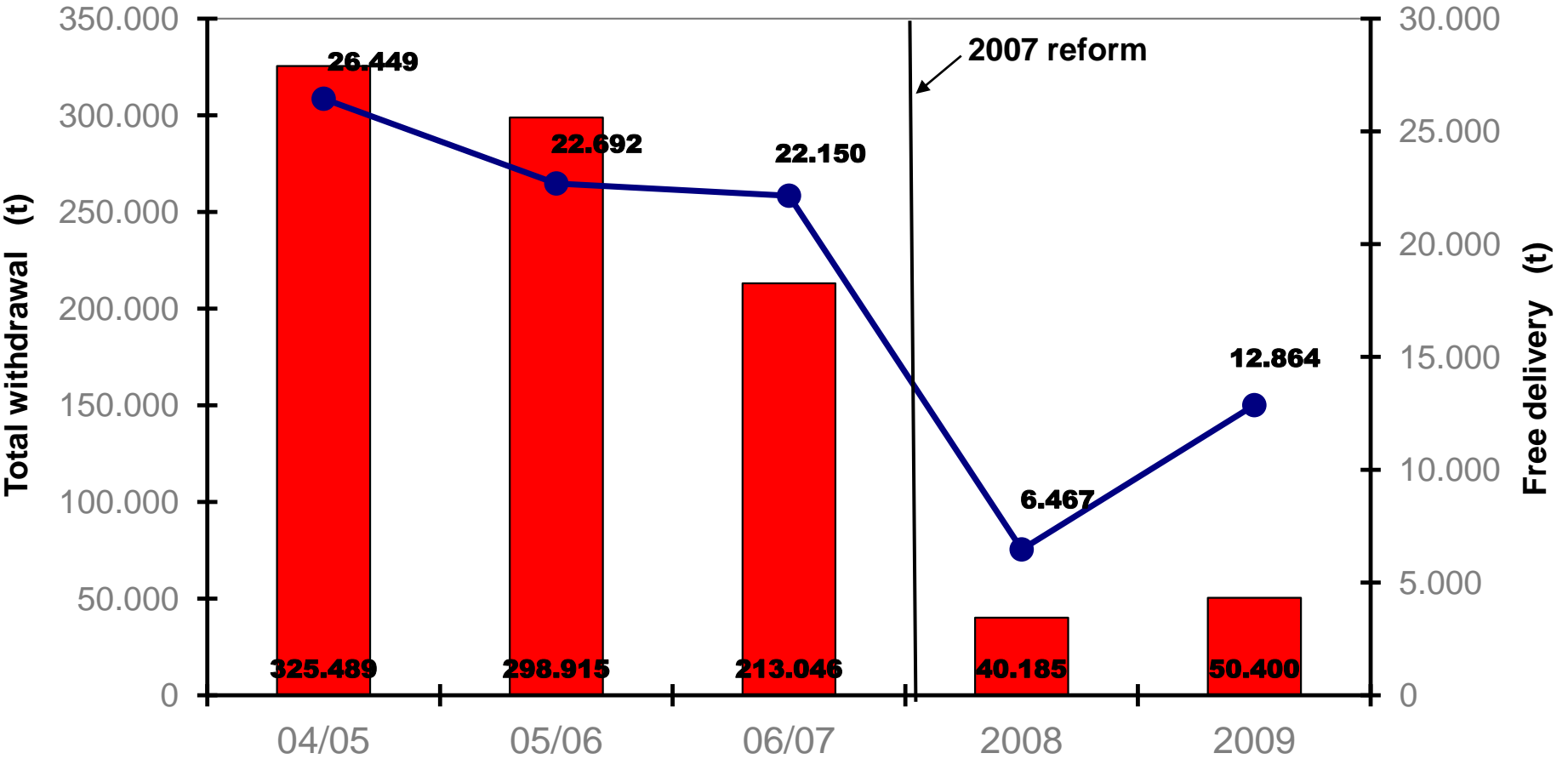
38 retailers



171 volunteers

126 charitable organizations



# WITHDRAWN QUANTITIES EVOLUTION

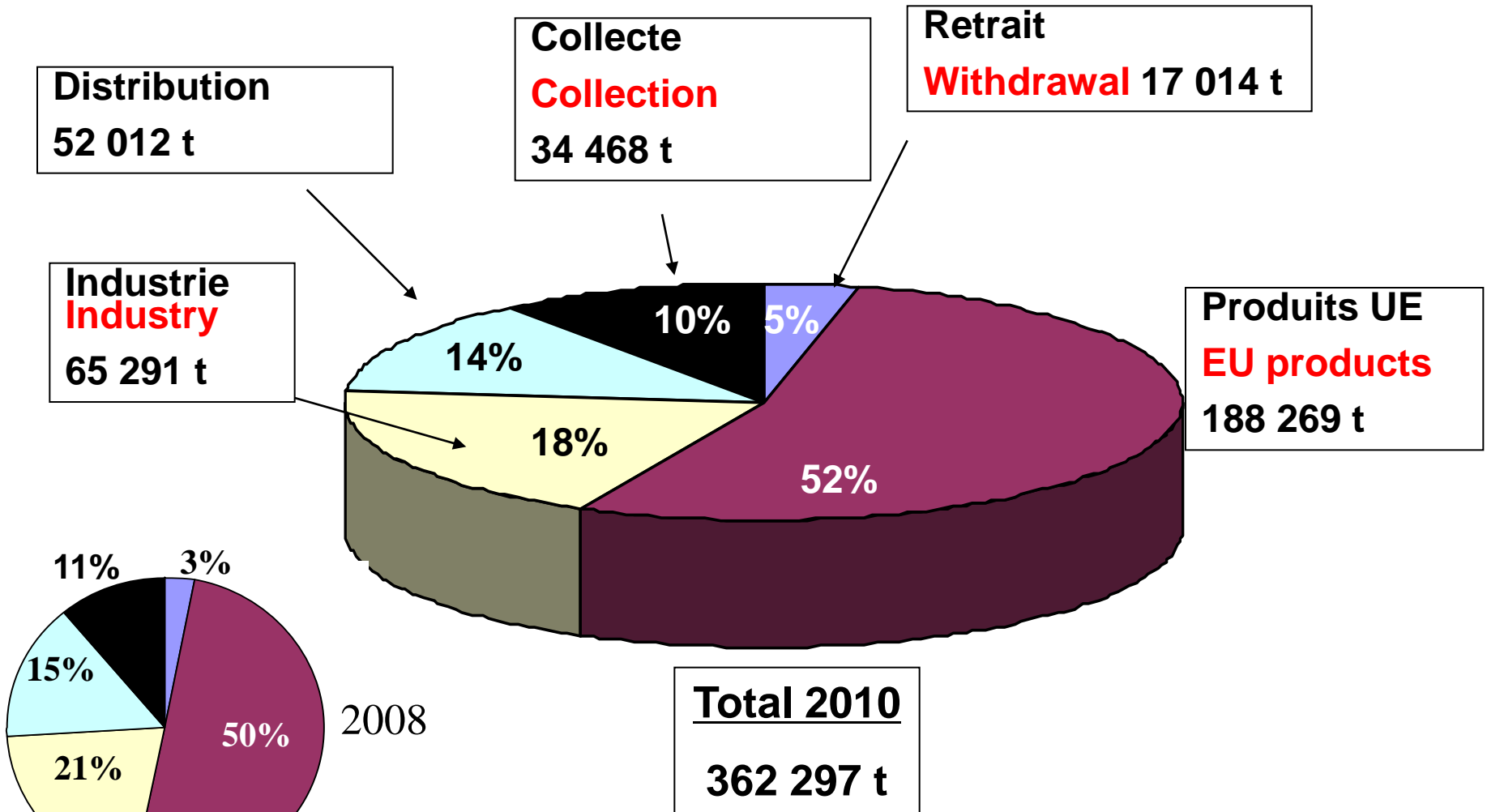


 Total withdrawal  Free delivery



# SOURCES D'APPROVISIONNEMENT DES MEMBRES DE LA FEBA

## SOURCES OF SUPPLY FEBA MEMBERS 2010



Le retrait: une symbiose entre agriculture et la lutte contre la pauvreté

The withdrawal: a symbiosis between agriculture and antipoverty



# Special programme 2 – Fruit&Veg withdrawal

The Single CMO finances 100% of the expenditure incurred by the POs in the case of market withdrawals of fruit and vegetables for free distribution to charitable organisations and foundations (**Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007**, 22 October 2007).

## 2011 data

Member state	Tons
France	6,035
Italy	3,942
Portugal	4,985
Spain	4,500



# Fruit&Veg withdrawal

The withdrawal of Fruit&Veg is already possible and all Food Banks could benefit from the Single CMO.

The following phase will be the development of the **transformation process** (e.g. juices, jams, frozen food, etc.).



# Preventing and reducing food losses and food waste

- ✓ It is fundamental to raise the approach to the basic principle of **efficient use** of resources that challenges food security in Europe;
- ✓ Initiatives based on **common and clear definitions** and concepts
- ✓ **knowing the size** of the challenge, **disaggregated by levels** of the food chain and the categories of consumers is essential



# Food is a value and to spear it is an injustice

Fighting food waste is a responsibility of all the society but it is also a question of solidarity

The issue of food recovery should begin in early education.

“What I can not accept is not that there are rich and poor people:  
is the waste”

Mother Theresa of Calcutta



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Thank you  
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