

## MEDIA FACTSHEET

## New roadmap to guide F&B industry on sustainability journey

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- Enterprise Singapore (EnterpriseSG) has launched the Sustainability Playbook for Food & Beverage (F&B) Companies to help them embark on their sustainability journey. This was announced by Minister for Sustainability and the Environment and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Ms Grace Fu, at a visit to the Unilever Campus today. The playbook is part of a series of sustainability playbooks supported by the Enterprise Sustainability Programme (ESP)<sup>1</sup>.
- 2. Said Ms Jeannie Lim, Assistant Managing Director (Services & Growth Enterprises), EnterpriseSG, "F&B companies face several challenges today, from rising consumer demand for sustainable options, to the growing need to cut down significant waste generated. Incorporating sustainable practices into their operations will be integral to help them stay relevant and competitive. The sustainability playbook maps out the tools and practical solutions to help them optimise resource use and reduce waste. We hope that as companies incorporate these solutions, it would help them lower operational costs while driving meaningful change towards a more sustainable and resilient food industry in Singapore."
- 3. The playbook, developed in consultation with the F&B industry and solution providers, guides companies to be more sustainable in three key areas food waste, packaging waste, and greenhouse gas emissions. These areas were identified for their significant environmental and commercial impact, with food waste being the most pressing issue in the industry currently. In 2023, Singapore generated 755,000 tonnes of food waste,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The ESP supports Singapore enterprises to integrate sustainability into their business and capture new opportunities in the green economy. The ESP supports training courses, capability and product development projects, and key enablers in areas such as certification and financing. More information on the ESP is available at <u>www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/ESP</u>.

accounting for about 11 per cent of the total waste in Singapore<sup>2</sup>. It is estimated that close to half of this food waste can be attributed to the F&B industry<sup>3</sup>.

- 4. The playbook outlines a three-stage roadmap to guide F&B companies in developing capabilities progressively, starting with solutions that are easier to adopt. Companies can tailor the approach and implement solutions based on their specific needs and resource availability. The three stages are:
  - a. Account Companies can first conduct audits to measure their food waste, packaging waste, and emissions. Such audits establish a baseline for companies to identify critical issues and areas for improvement in operations, track progress over time, and evaluate the effectiveness of implemented solutions.
  - b. Avoid The optimum approach to managing waste is to prevent generating unnecessary waste. The playbook includes measures that can minimise waste generation at source, leading to more sustainable operations and potential cost savings. For example, the use of technology to forecast demand and aid inventory planning, or implementing flexible food portion sizes and redesigning menus to include versatile ingredients that can be used across multiple dishes.
  - c. Adjust The playbook provides suggestions to reduce unavoidable waste and emissions, as well as recover value from food waste through valorisation. This can potentially help companies create new products and revenue streams. Energy-efficient equipment can also help reduce emissions, while companies can consider donating and redistributing surplus food.
- 5. The full playbook can be found <u>here</u>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Food Waste Management, National Environment Agency

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The 2023 food waste baseline for the F&B industry was estimated based on over 500 data points provided by commercial building owners/operators, F&B companies, and waste collectors. This estimate excluded food waste from residential takeaway orders, hawker centres, hotel operations, and upstream food manufacturing facilities.

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