GLOBAL FOOD DONATION POLICY ATLAS

The Global Challenge

One-third of all food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted. Yet, an estimated 821 million people go hungry globally.

More than enough food is produced to feed every person, yet one-third of all food is wasted. Redirecting safe, surplus food can be complicated. Food is heavily regulated and laws often pose barriers to food donation. Around the world, communities are implementing and advocating for policy reforms to move safe, surplus food into the hands of those who need it most.

The Global Food Donation Policy Atlas is a two-year project that will map the laws and policies affecting food donations in 15 countries. This project aims to: **understand** national laws relating to food donation, **compare** laws across countries and regions, **learn** about food donation barriers, and **share** best practices and recommendations.

A Crucial Collaboration

The Global Food Donation Policy Atlas is an innovative partnership between the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC) and The Global FoodBanking Network (GFN), made possible by the generous support of the Walmart Foundation.

FLPC is a national leader in researching, analyzing, and documenting laws and policies related to food donation in the United States. FLPC faculty, attorneys, and students work collaboratively with community organizations and governments to use policy as a lever to support food donation for humanitarian and environmental objectives.

GFN is an international non-profit organization that nourishes the world's hungry through launching and strengthening food banks in more than 30 countries. GFN focuses on combating hunger and preventing food waste by providing expertise, directing resources, and sharing knowledge to reach more people facing hunger. Last year, GFN member food banks rescued and redirected food to more than 9 million people.

Key Food Donation Laws

- "Good Samaritan" or liability protection laws
- Tax incentives for food donation and tax policy disincentives
- Food date labeling laws
- Food safety regulations
- Food waste disincentives
- Other relevant laws or policies that encourage or deter food donations

Together, FLPC and GFN identified 15 countries where research on food donation policies would be beneficial. FLPC and GFN will collaborate with local non-profits, businesses, government officials, and academics in designing and developing the atlas. In Year 1, the project team will assess food donation policies in Argentina, Canada, Chile, Mexico, and the United States. An additional 10 countries will be incorporated in Year 2.

Sharing Findings across Borders and Cultures

The Global Food Donation Policy Atlas will share its findings through several key components:

- A website, featuring an interactive map of food donation policies that allows users to compare food donation laws across countries
- Written legal guides summarizing food donation laws for each country
- Policy suggestions for each country, based on local interviews and comparative research
- Presentation of findings at public conferences and events to share project findings and recommendations

The Global FoodBanking Network®

FLPC FOOD LAW and POLICY CLINIC HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

For more information please contact Harvard Law School FLPC at flpc@law.harvard.edu or The Global FoodBanking Network at info@foodbanking.org.