

# **Ornua Co-operative Limited**

## Dublin, Ireland

Food waste inventory – 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018





### **About Ornua**

Ornua is a dairy co-operative which markets and sells dairy products on behalf of its members; Ireland's dairy processors and, in turn, the Irish dairy farmer.

Ornua is Ireland's largest exporter of Irish dairy products, exporting to about 110 countries worldwide. Headquartered in Dublin, it has annualised sales of over €2.1 billion and has a strong global team of over 2000.

It operates from 19 business units worldwide, including 14 production facilities, and has sales and marketing teams working to bring our ingredients and our brands such as Kerrygold, Dubliner and Pilgrims Choice to market.

In 2017 we signed up to Champions 12.3 and joined the commitment to reduce food waste in our own operations by 50% by 2030. Our initial target is to reduce food waste in our own operations by 25% by 2021.





### What we are doing to tackle food waste

#### Why we got involved

We recognize the huge challenge and the potential benefit to society if we act effectively to reduce food waste. We also realise that through active participation in ground-breaking initiatives such as Champions 12.3, we can take the steps necessary in reaching not only our own business specific targets, but also contributing to industry-wide targets and the success of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

#### What we hope to achieve through participation

Practically, we hope to reduce food waste levels resulting from the products we make including cheese, butter and milk powder processing across all our global operations. Where food is not compatible for sale, for example incorrect packaging, but perfectly safe, we work with partners in Ireland, UK and Germany to link with food redistribution organisations. Many of our sites are sending any food not suitable for human consumption to animal feed so we know we are starting in a good place but we still want to continuously improve what we do.

We are also committed to taking the steps needed to reduce food waste in our supply chain, as well as innovating to make it easier for consumers to reduce waste in their homes.

In our butter production facility Kerrygold Park we have utilized modern technology to reduce our food waste. We introduced a trend control system that allows communication between the packing machine and scales in order to better monitor the weight of the packs, resulting in less packs being rejected from the line. We aim to utilize more technologies and best practices across all our sites to reduce or food waste. We hope that knowledge sharing, in addition to support from valued partners such as Tesco and other organizations involved in Champions 12.3, can contribute to more successes in this area.

Reaching our targets will be a big undertaking but we are proud to embrace this challenge by being part of the first supplier agreement struck between Tesco and its food suppliers.

The 'Our Way Matters' working group, a cross functional team tasked with leading sustainability across Ornua, works on Ornua's food waste commitment to ensure we capture our food waste and to work towards reaching our target. At each site, we have a lead working to gather data on food waste and to look at ways to reduce food waste.





#### Food waste data commentary

- Total food production for Ornua for 2018 was 303,865 tonnes. Food waste accounted for 434 tonnes or 0.1% of production.
- We measured our food waste from January to December 2018 across our global sites across Ireland, UK, Germany, USA, Saudi Arabia, China and Nigeria.
- The waste is comprised of butter, cheese and milk powder, while 43% of our waste is mixed dairy where processes occur that mean it is not possible to separate the products.
- Material type: Food waste resulting from dairy processing for example due to human error or machine error.
- Destination: Food waste in this inventory goes to anaerobic digestion, land spreading and general waste.